



Review 2020: Energising the Green Economic Recovery

Protecting Lives and Opportunities during the pandemic



Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Executive summary..... | 3 |
| 2. Introduction – COVID-19 implications on energy access markets | 4 |
| 3. EnDev’s COVID-19 response..... | 6 |
| 3.1 Ethiopia | 11 |
| 3.2 Mozambique | 13 |
| 3.3 Senegal | 15 |
| 3.4 Tanzania..... | 17 |
| 3.5 Uganda | 19 |
| 3.6 EnDev’s COVID-19 response in other countries | 22 |
| 4. Conclusions and outlook..... | 25 |

1. Executive summary

Energising the Green Economic Recovery: At a Glance



A sector in decline

In 2020, progress towards SDG7 and related SDGs were in jeopardy due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The situation had a strong impact in East Africa in particular, whilst worldwide many businesses feared for their survival and a large number of jobs were at risk.

Smaller companies have been more severely affected, such as distributors. Livelihoods were endangered, as the economic and social crisis coincided.

Whilst response mechanisms on loan basis were relatively quick to emerge, the uptake of these were not possible for smaller companies in particular.

Green Economic Recovery Instruments

Against this background EnDev reacted quickly with the roll-out of a dedicated set of [Green Economic Recovery Instruments](#) that were able to **A)** quickly re-direct existing operations towards immediate COVID responses, and **B)** channel new funds effectively and rapidly towards the key sector players in need.

Thanks to additional funding from BMZ and NORAD, EnDev was in the position to direct EUR 14 mln of funding in 2020 towards private sector actors such as

companies and associations, but also towards the critical health centers at the forefront of fighting the pandemic.

In its response EnDev focused on a set of instruments on the demand side, the supply side as well as the framework conditions. EnDev applied a phased approach in which immediate relief interventions to bridge the liquidity constraints of local energy companies were combined with more medium-term support interventions to allow for a post-COVID-19 recovery of local energy companies to strengthen the market and build companies' resilience (build back better).

Examples from the field

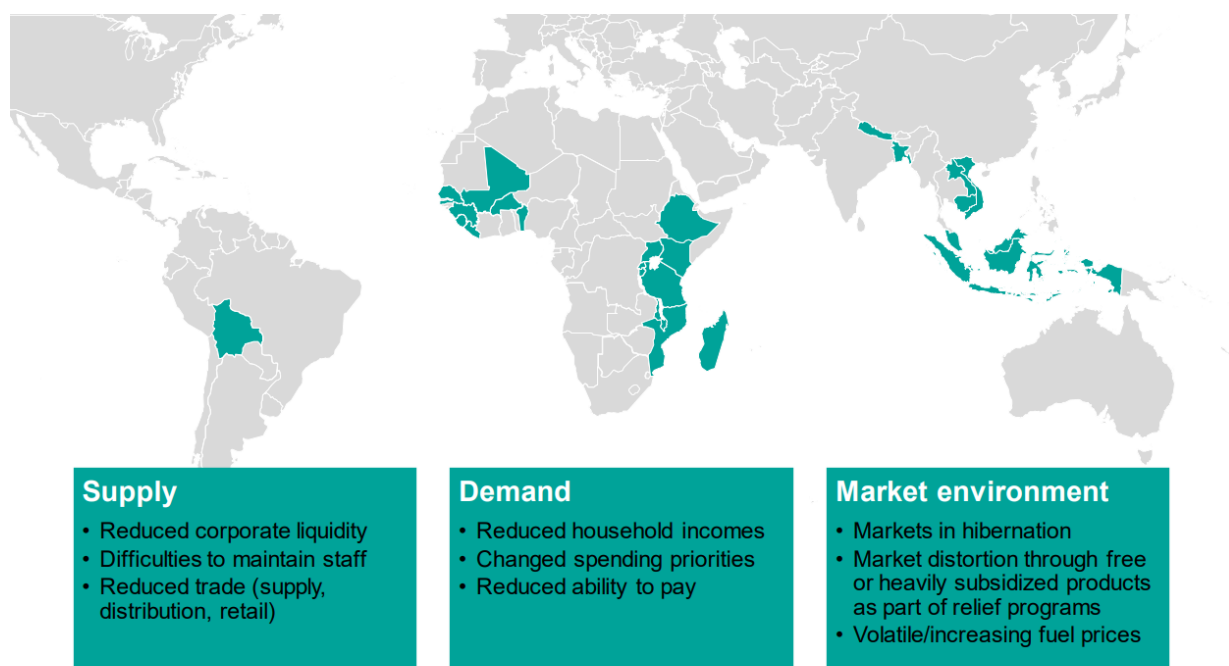
In the context of EnDev's portfolio, and in line with SE4All's high-impact countries, five fast-track countries received additional funds to address private sector needs through existing and new mechanisms (Ethiopia, Mozambique, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda).

Additionally, EnDev redirected funding towards immediate relief measures such as sanitary products or information campaigns in a number of countries. The next pages provide a closer look at some of these interventions.

2. Introduction – COVID-19 implications on energy access markets

The COVID-19 implications on the energy access markets were manifold. Markets were in hibernation, prices were increasing, global supply chains were disrupted. On the demand side, households were struggling with reduced incomes which reduced their ability to pay and resulted in

a re-prioritisation of spending (e.g. sanitary products, masks, etc.). This caused a reduced liquidity on the supply side. Through the reduced liquidity companies had difficulties to maintain their staff and trading operations decreased significantly.



In April 2020, EnDev conducted a rapid [Energy Access Market Survey](#) in order to assess if and how companies in the energy market were affected by the global pandemic. The key finding of the survey was that a large part of companies was severely affected by the pandemic. Companies were foreseeing additional staff lay-off in the short- and medium-term and a

lack of financial capacities to survive in the long-term.

With a view to better understand the rapidly evolving economic situation in partner countries in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, EnDev spearheaded a broad alliance of sector



stakeholders¹ to conduct the most inclusive and global survey of the off-grid energy industry to date – the **Energy Access Industry Barometer**. The results represent feedback from more than 600 companies across 44 countries which provide energy access through mini-grids, clean cooking solutions, household solar products, and appliances. The **Energy Access Industry Barometer**'s main conclusions in **July 2020** were:

- The energy access sector was in crisis and the progress towards SDG7 and related SDGs were at **severe risk**. Responses showed that the situation seemed to have a strong impact, particularly in East Africa.

- Many businesses feared for their survival and a large number of jobs were at risk. Especially smaller companies and distributors had been severely affected by the effects of the pandemic. This led to **endangered livelihoods**, as the economic and social crisis coincided.
- The survey showed that **access to finance** was a key bottleneck. The need for short-term grant relief as well as long-term equity and concessional loans was evident. Respective instruments were scarce, however.

Overall, the message from survey participants, i.e. the affected energy companies was clear: They needed **timely, comprehensive and flexible support**.

¹ The alliance included Africa Minigrad Developers Association (AMDA), Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE), Ashden, Clean Cooking Alliance (CCA), Efficiency for Access Coalition Secretariat, Energy Sector Management Assistance Programme (ESMAP/WB),

3. EnDev’s COVID-19 response

In its effort to provide support to the companies in the energy access markets who are affected by the crisis, and to share lessons learned about new instruments and the emerging response mechanisms, EnDev has actively shaped the discussion in various global fora: the *Energy Access COVID-19 Relief Summit*, the *COVID-19 and the Energy Access Sector: Impacts and Opportunities*, the *Powering Healthcare Roundtable* and the *Health and Energy Platform of Action (HEPA)*.

Utilizing this global network with its focus on ideation and against the backdrop of the strong negative effects on the very sector which EnDev has been building for the past 15 years, EnDev rapidly executed a number of targeted COVID-19 related interventions in its portfolio countries with

the aim of cushioning the negative effects of the pandemic where possible. EnDev was able to finance interventions with existing country budgets in Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Cambodia, Kenya, Liberia, Indonesia as well as Malawi; whereas additional budget was allocated for fast-tracking COVID-19 response implemented in Ethiopia, Mozambique, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda. Besides implementing measures to alleviate the negative impacts of COVID-19 on the energy access markets in the various countries, EnDev teams were able to adjust swiftly to the new normal in terms of field work and daily operations. The below tables provide a glance at the funding efforts and instruments applied, whereas the following pages provide a more detailed account on activity level.

Table 1: Scope and projected targets (2020-2021) for the fast-track countries

| Country | Focus | Number of | | People reached |
|------------|---------|------------|----------------|------------------|
| | | companies | systems | |
| Ethiopia | ICS, PV | 90 | 111,120 | 480,600 |
| Mozambique | ICS, PV | 11 | 25,000 | 130,000 |
| Senegal | ICS, PV | 204 | 36,146 | 140,000 |
| Tanzania | PV | 10 | 70,000 | 210,000 |
| Uganda | ICS, PV | 25 | 12,700 | 48,500 |
| | | 340 | 254,966 | 1,009,100 |

Table 2: EnDev Relief Instruments Inventory

| | Instrument | Focus | Content | Country |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Demand Side | COVID-PAY | <i>Short-term</i> | RBF approach targeting companies working with a PAYGO business model or mini-grid providers to ensure continuous access to electricity of beneficiaries and de-risking increased share of default payments. | Mozambique, Senegal, Uganda |
| | COVID-VOUCH | <i>Short-term</i> | Through a partnership with Microfinance Institutions (MFIs), vouchers for certain products can be distributed to eligible households. With these coupons the households can then buy products from suppliers (ICS/solar). The suppliers in turn can cash the coupon at one of the MFIs for the full price. | Ethiopia |
| | COVID-AWARE | <i>Long-term</i> | Raising awareness about healthier, cleaner, safer and more economical improved cook stoves and cooking practices as well as benefits of quality solar products can help to stimulate demand for certain product categories. Communication channels are often TV documentaries, radio features, messages as well as newspaper adverts and billboards. | Senegal, Uganda |
| Supply Side | COVID-ASSIST | <i>Short-term</i> | Direct support of hardware (e.g., to ensure stocks are re-plenished) and grants ensure that businesses can stay in the market and/or re-boot. | Ethiopia, Senegal |
| | COVID-PLUS | <i>Long-term</i> | With a focused RBF instrument, existing companies in the solar energy and ICS sector can focus on new energy access for vulnerable populations or otherwise specified target groups. | Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Enabling Environment | COVID-BUILD | <i>Long-term</i> | In order to ensure a long-term prospect and strong voice of the off-grid sector in the countries to counter the pandemic, a number of local associations and other local structures have been strengthened. | Ethiopia, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda |
| | COVID-HEALTH | <i>Long-term</i> | Being at the forefront of the pandemic, the support for health centers and clinics is a crucial relief measure. Various activities around electrification such as procurement, installation, services will ensure that vital operational functions such as light, cooling for vaccines, and sanitary installations (water) can be provided. | Ethiopia, Senegal, Uganda |



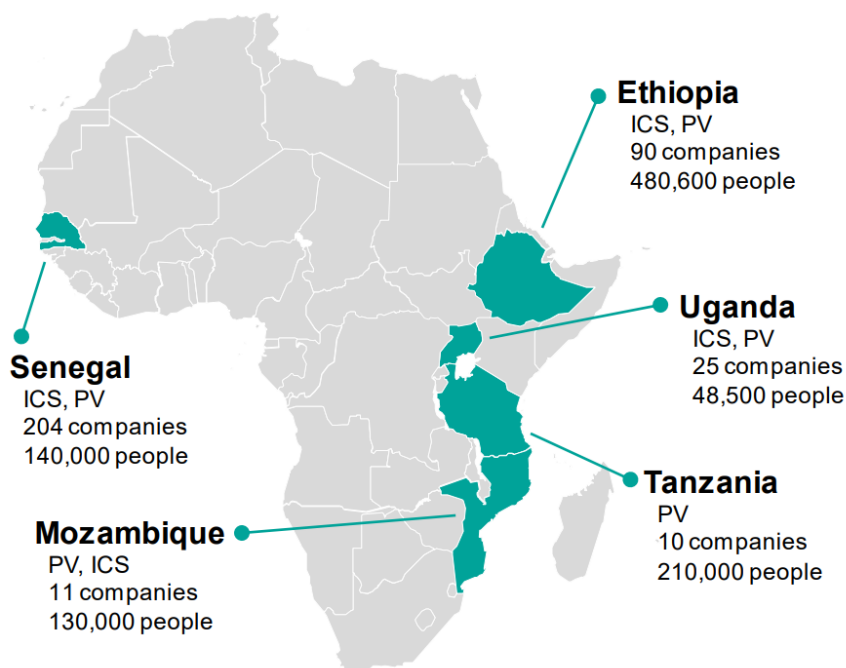
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Energising the Green Economic Recovery: Zooming in

EnDev has been reacting to the emerging crisis on the ground with a set of rapid responses, focusing on short-term relief as well as long-term resilience activities. The five fast-track countries Ethiopia, Mozambique, Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda received additional funding of EUR 10 mln from the Federal German Ministry

for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and reallocated budget elements of existing project budgets in addition. Mozambique received additional EUR 2.1 mln from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD).

Geographic focus



Overview

Supporting companies in off-grid electricity and clean cooking sectors

Budget: 14 mln EUR

Duration: 2020/2021

Focus countries:

- Ethiopia (ICS, PV)
- Mozambique (ICS, PV)
- Senegal (ICS, PV)
- Tanzania (PV)
- Uganda (ICS, PV)



3.1 Ethiopia



Preliminary relief targets for Ethiopia

- 90 enterprises (50 ICS, 40 solar PV)
- 97,200 ICS, 13,920 solar PV systems
- 480,600 people reached
- 10 industry associations strengthened

DEMAND SIDE

COVID-VOUCH for market stimulation

With a subsidy voucher scheme for eligible poor and vulnerable households, EnDev aimed at stimulating demand. Beneficiaries were identified in collaboration with the Ethiopian Government 'Safety Net Program'; for the dissemination of vouchers, EnDev partnered with four Microfinance Institutions (MFIs). The MFIs sold the product coupons at a subsidized price to the eligible households. With these coupons the households could then buy products from ICS/solar suppliers. The suppliers in turn, cashed the coupon at one of the MFIs for the full price.

SUPPLY SIDE

COVID-ASSIST with the Development Bank of Ethiopia (DBE)

Through a grant agreement with the DBE, EnDev will be able to provide grants to some 60 companies selling improved cookstoves (ICS) and solar equipment (PV). These bridging grants, amounting to EUR 5,000-25,000 per applicant, are given to companies to help with cash flow issues and to cover operating costs. Companies participate in a competitive process with certain eligibility criteria.

In addition to the monetary support, the companies selected also receive business development support on topics like scenario planning, risk management, etc.



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ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

COVID-BUILD with industry associations

Eleven national and sub-national industry associations with a focus on the ICS and solar market operation are acting as coordination and resource platforms during the COVID crisis.

EnDev was able to provide these industry associations with technical, operational and material support. The technical support entailed for example,

short-term experts, who assisted in leadership development, professional capacity, networking and visibility. Further, the associations were able to establish a fund for promotion and marketing activities to support the sector.

COVID-HEALTH powering infrastructure

EnDev aims to enable the electrification of rural health posts with smaller systems suitable for 600-2400 Wp. For this, 24 'deep rural' health posts were identified which could serve as COVID-19 isolation centres.



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3.2 Mozambique



Preliminary relief targets for Mozambique

- 8 companies
- 6,000 ICS, 8,000 solar PV systems
- 72,800 people reached

DEMAND SIDE

EnDev's Support for Solar Energy Companies in Mozambique

EnDev has introduced a financial scheme that ensures customers continue to have access to energy, while at the same time supporting companies to remain stable and operational.

The COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted modern energy services in Mozambique. Many customers that buy their electricity from solar “pay as you go” (PAYG) companies have reduced incomes due to the pandemic and may be forced to prioritise buying other essentials such as food and medicine. This means that more people may be disconnected due to defaulting on their monthly electricity payments, which could force them back into traditional use of energy such as candles and kerosene lamps. Defaulting customers also affects the PAYG companies who will consequently have

reduced cash flow, and the inability to pay staff salaries, make customer visits, or maintain their normal operations.

COVID-PAY for continued energy access

EnDev has introduced a Relief Scheme for *Companies Vulnerable to Increased Default of Payments* (COVID-PAY). The aim of this scheme is to ensure that customers continue to have access to energy, as well as supporting companies to avoid bankruptcy and continue to maintain their operations. The COVID-PAY scheme temporarily bridges a time of crisis that heavily impacts company operations and consumers' ability to pay.

How it works

COVID-PAY provides funds to PAYG Solar PV technology providers to allow them to roll-out special and limited promotion programmes that aim at ensuring that customers can maintain their energy service during the COVID-19 pandemic and have an overall lower cost for their energy consumption.

As every company has a unique business model, each company was invited to present a concept for a promotion programme that is adapted to their business and adheres to predefined requirements. The companies provide verifiable proof that the values have been passed on to their customers. The claim and disbursement of funds is results-based, upon the presentation and verification of submitted proof.

COVID-PAY provides an incentive of roughly EUR 10 per customer per month for a period of six months. This corresponds to roughly 50% of the monthly payments customers usually have to transfer to the off-grid technology providers. 100 % of the incentive has to be forwarded to the end-customer.

The fund is executed through a specific window integrated into the already operational result-based financing (RBF) fund “Fund for Sustainable Access to Renewable Energy” (FASER).

Customers thus benefit from continued access to energy, and reduced bills reflective of their reduced incomes. This enables customers to spend their energy bill savings on other essentials such as food and medicine.

The PAYG companies using this scheme benefit from sustained payment collection, less defaulting and disconnected customers, and cash-flow security over the coming pandemic-affected months.

Results of the COVID PAY window so far:

- Three PAYGO companies receive support
- More than 47,000 promotions were granted
- and about 25,000 families benefited from this support.
- Enterprises and consumers benefit during the pandemic-affected months

After its launch in May 2020 with participation of all PAYGO companies being active in Mozambique up to date almost 130,000 people have been reached.

SUPPLY SIDE

COVID-Plus for gaining access

To extend the support to new customers and with a view to also support the supply side, The COVID-Plus support scheme addresses businesses that provide energy access in Mozambique. The measure is built around a RBF targeting solar energy and ICS companies to ensure continued efforts in reaching new customers during the pandemic and beyond (recovery). It is financed by the BMZ with 2.5 ml EUR to reach more than 50,000 people and was launched in Sept 2020. It was upscaled with 5.5 ml EUR by the EU delegation in Maputo with a 2nd call of COVID-Plus in February 2021 to reach additionally more than 100,000 people.

ADDITIONAL MEASURES

EnDev trained 30 women in the refugee settlement Maratane and provided them with equipment and material for sewing face masks, light and radio for their homes – powered by solar energy.



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3.3 Senegal



Preliminary relief targets for Senegal

- 204 enterprises (193 ICS, 11 solar PV)
- 34,766 ICS, 1,365 solar PV, 15 mini-grids
- 140,000 people reached
- 35 small/medium businesses strengthened

DEMAND SIDE

COVID-PAY for rural clients

The Government of Senegal has provided low-income customers of the electricity utility SENELEC with a bimonthly subsidy of their electricity bills. However, the clients of the rural energy service (ERIL) providers have not benefitted from this support. Together with the public partner ASER (*Agence Sénégalaise d'Electrification Rurale*), EnDev thus offers a degressive electricity bill subsidy to the neglected rural populations to address their encountered difficulties to pay for electricity as prior to the crisis and restore a functioning supply and demand system of ERIL installations.

COVID-AWARE: Awareness raising campaigns and Marketing support in the ICS sector

The project will raise awareness among the Senegalese population via TV and radio

campaigns on health-related benefits of ICS. Complementary, ICS sales will be stimulated by short-term promotional offers like “buy 1 get 2 ICS” or promotional textiles (T-shirts, base caps etc.).

SUPPLY SIDE

COVID-ASSIST for off-grid energy systems (mini-grids and SHS)

To stop the deterioration of the installations, re-establish adequate energy supply and implement urgent repairs and component exchanges, EnDev supported private off-grid energy service providers by both emergency measures and interventions to strengthen the resilience of their business operations in the long-term, including:

- Rapid restoration and maintenance of electrical service: Provision of distilled water for batteries, and fuel and batteries for mini-grid generators to bridge time until repair of solar installations;
- Promotion of remote management of mini-grid maintenance: Supply of maintenance kits for local care takers, provision of smartphones to local care takers and development of a mobile application to facilitate communication and remote guidance by operator technicians;
- Promotion of remote fee collection: Investment into smart energy meters with mobile money pre-payment mode (validation in progress) and deployment of mobile money kiosks in isolated villages.

COVID-ASSIST for the ICS market

The COVID-19 economic relief package aimed at strengthening the resilience of ICS companies and to mitigate deterioration risks of the ICS-market caused by COVID-19 in Senegal. As an emergency measure in the ICS sector, EnDev increased the financial liquidity of stakeholders along the entire production

chain through a mix of input-provision measures (ceramic inserts and metal sheets) and bulk orders of ICS. Distributors and retailers received initial stocks of ICS. To protect ICS producers against the pandemic risks at work, the financial relief package provided safety equipment, like handwashing stations, face masks, and hand sanitizers.



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COVID-BUILD to strengthen the Chamber of Crafts' operational capacity

The COVID relief package provided information technology for the Chamber of Crafts to strengthen their operation capacity in order to monitor ICS production and ICS sales in their regions. For that reason, the Chamber of Crafts will benefit from a modern IT infrastructure. Furthermore, every Chamber of Craft receives a display stand to present different ICS types. Within the framework of the electricity bill subsidy applied to ERIL clients (see Demand side – COVID PAY for rural clients) EnDev advises the

Senegalese Agency for Rural Electrification (ASER) in the application of the subsidy on electricity bills to the clients of rural energy service providers.

COVID-HEALTH for rural clinics

To prepare rural health infrastructure for a possible spread of the virus into rural areas, EnDev is investing into solar kits including refrigerators for drug cooling, and solar water treatment systems for 30 dispersed health posts in the zones of the Peanut Basin and the Casamance.

3.4 Tanzania



extended at national scale with attuning of the VAI to include expanded COVID-19 economic impact parameters to ensure that vulnerable regions experiencing the greatest economic downturns receive higher incentives.

Preliminary relief targets for Tanzania

- 10 enterprises (solar PV)
- 150 jobs (including 45 women)
- 75,000 solar PV systems sold
- 210,000 people reached
- 50 Fishing MSMEs reached
- 1 industry associations strengthened

Vulnerability Access Index (VAI)

Socio-Economic Market Factors

COVID-19 Market Status

Population Density

Energy-Water Access

Gender Equality

Child-Maternal Health

Economic Sector Downturn

Solar Firm Presence

SUPPLY SIDE

COVID-PLUS via the Green Economic Recovery Fund:

EnDev established a dedicated national off-grid solar Green Economic Recovery Fund based on a result-based financing (RBF) scheme in Tanzania.

EnDev has successfully operated an off-grid solar RBF Fund for years, focused on the Lake and Central Zone regions. It applied post-sales incentives value according to a Vulnerability Access Index (VAI) to ensure markets with more vulnerable clients and thus higher risks receive higher incentives.

The RBF Green Economic Recovery Fund (RBF-GERF) builds upon successfully established RBF mechanisms and structures support recovery of the firms

The Vulnerability Access Index

By applying a Vulnerability Access Index (VAI), the RBF Fund transparently considers regional socio-economic data (i.e. population versus results density, cooking-electricity access, gender disparities, health and basic resource access) in equal measure against regional levels of part RBF market performance (firm presence, years RBF access).

As a result, market incentive values are highest in regions with the greatest level of socio-economic vulnerability and the lowest level of RBF market activity by firms.

Relative to 2013-18 sales, use of the VAI mechanism has further seen 24% of sales supported by the fund shift from lower vulnerability markets to higher vulnerability markets.

Incentives are further focused to reflect COVID-19 regional economic impacts on tourism and cross border trade by expanding valuation principles of the VAI. A maximum of five (5) VAI levels will be set to act as multipliers to the established energy service level base rate incentives.

The RBF-GERF is a 7-month emergency relief instrument aiming at accelerating the restoration of a cumulative 75,000 systems to the market in the August 2020 to February 2021 sales period with an average incentive of approximately EUR 18.25 per system sold.

As of February 2021, 62,000 solar units were sold, and ten enterprises have benefited from the fund. Thus, 170,000 people have gained renewable energy access.

The GERF works with 10 off-grid solar suppliers that sell VeraSol-approved products (ranging from lanterns to solar home systems). The fund is scaled to all regions of Tanzania with an advance payment instalment to pre-verified firms to accelerate market recovery.

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

COVID-BUILD for associations

EnDev remains in close coordination with industry associations such as the Tanzania Renewable Energy Association (TAREA), supports the policy advocacy work on how off-grid renewables fit into the national universal electrification plan and creates a platform for the private sector voice in light of COVID-19 recovery.



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3.5 Uganda



Preliminary relief targets for Uganda

- Enterprises (10 ICS, 10 solar PV, up to 5 energy kiosks)
- 4,100 ICS, 8,600 solar PV systems
- 48,500 people reached

DEMAND SIDE

COVID-Aware to support Clean Cooking

EnDev implements the Clean Cooking Awareness Campaign “KYUUSA ENFUMBA YO”, developed under the

RVO-financed Clean Cooking Sector Support Program in 2018 and amplified it to awareness raising about the benefits of good quality solar and clean cooking products. Thereby awareness is raised about healthier, cleaner, safer and more economical improved cook stoves and cooking practices as well as benefits of quality solar products by spreading the messages via TV documentary, Radio features, messages and mentions as well as newspaper adverts and billboards.

At the end of the campaign, EnDev conducts interviews with 500 households and 50 sales hubs/companies in order to establish evidence on the change of perception and behavior achieved. Initial impact assessment indicates that 40% of interviewed house bought an improved cookstove due to messaging of the campaign.



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SUPPLY SIDE

COVID-Assist for solar and cook stove companies and training entities

EnDev established the COVID Economic Relief Fund as a special vehicle which aims at providing bridging support to solar and cook stove companies as well as to PAYGO customers and intends to increase resilience of these:

- a. to help maintain current levels of access to energy;
- b. to support companies to survive the crisis; and
- c. to build the energy companies' resilience for future challenges.

Up-to 20 companies from both sectors can receive financial support of between EUR 15,000 and 100,000 to temporarily cover unpaid instalments from PAYGO

customers, to maintain company operations at an acceptable level, to train their staff and to make investments into future resilience.

The Fund provides three windows into which solar and cook stove companies as well as associations and training entities can tap:

- 1) Support for COVID-19 related operational challenges of companies and temporary coverage of unpaid PAYGO instalments.
- 2) Increase resilience of companies by supporting investments into e.g., production and distribution infrastructure.
- 3) Support to sector associations and training entities to provide targeted training measures.



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COVID-HEALTH in refugee settlements

Rural Health Centres (HC) play a vital role for the provision of health services to the local population like the treatment of communicable diseases and illnesses, provision of maternity services and preventative health care such as antenatal and postnatal care, immunization and others.

The measure was prioritized in the COVID-19 response, as the health centres were used as isolation wards in the COVID-19 outbreak. In addition, the solar power supply enabled a fundamental improvement in medical care for Ugandans and refugees: lighting for the different types of hospital infrastructure, cooling of medicines/vaccines, the operation of basic medical equipment, and communication with referral hospitals and other critical stakeholders is made possible in this way.

Through the support of three Health Centres some 25,000 refugees and 8,000 host community members are now able to benefit from the increased services.

COVID-BUILD for the Uganda Solar Energy Association (USEA)

EnDev Uganda has strengthened the capacity of USEA through short-term consultancies to enable USEA to better support its members in overcoming the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic and to maintain and improve USEA's operations.

This approach temporarily supported the implementation of the USEA strategy during the global COVID-19 pandemic by providing membership support to the USEA secretariat, increasing the number of fully onboarded USEA members as well as managing communication activities, promoting the association's corporate image among members and stakeholders, providing program and advocacy support to the USEA secretariat and improving the quality of advocacy actions conducted on behalf of the association's members.

3.6 EnDev’s COVID-19 response in other countries

Besides the five fast-track countries that received considerable additional resources to initiate large-scale response measures, the EnDev project teams in other countries

were also quickly to react with own resources and ideas. The below overview provides more detailed information about the responses taken.

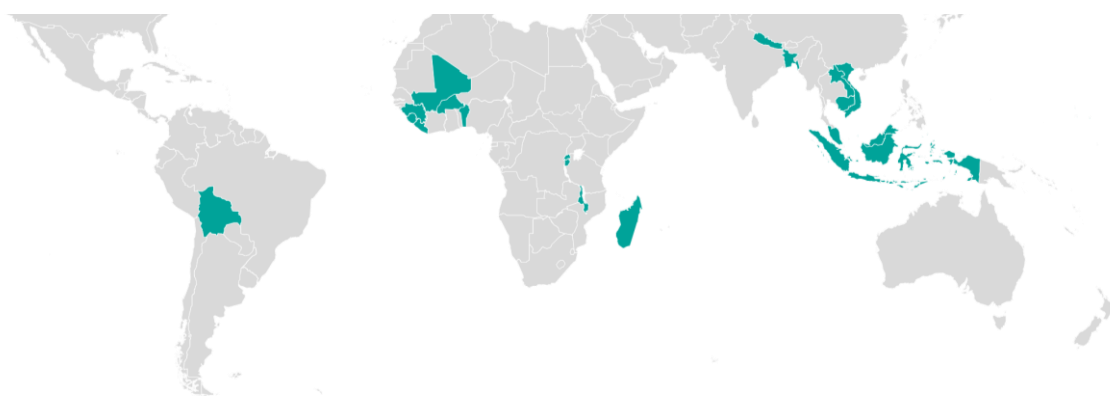


Table 3: EnDev Rapid Response Activities

| Country | Main activities |
|--------------------------|---|
| Bolivia | EnDev Bolivia supported solar handwashing facilities in health centres and clinics, facilitated energy access for remote education for children during school shutdown (solar radios), and provided special support for productive use of energy. |
| Indonesia | Targeted support for constructors of biodigesters during COVID provided stimulating efforts for the biogas sector, a feasibility study to assess strategy for scaling up the domestic biogas market during and post COVID, and a series of online trainings and workshops increased technical capacities. |
| Bangladesh | With targeted grant support to source raw materials companies were enabled to re-start operations. Livelihood support to COVID-19 affected low-income communities was provided. E-boats for transporting health staff and patients, and for distribution of sanitary and hygiene articles were supported as well. |
| Cambodia (Mekong) | The team amended their RBF approach to include a broader product range such as e-cooking (healthier cooking solution). This was embedded into a behavioural change campaign and demand creation via digital media. |
| Kenya | EnDev Kenya supplied protective equipment (e.g. facemasks) and relevant hygiene equipment/materials to local energy companies and provided targeted grant support. |

Benin

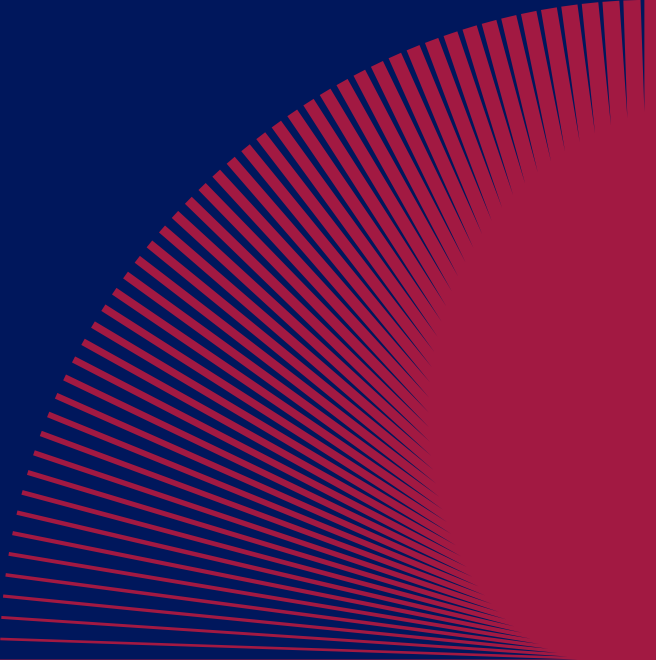
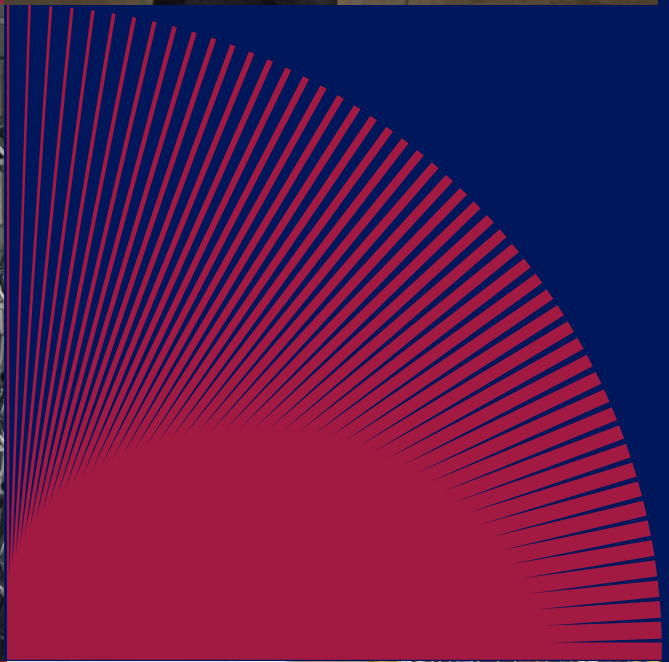
RBF approach to focus on economically weak areas, pro-poor subsidy scheme, targeted grant support for companies to source raw materials for re-starting operations, awareness-raising activities including TV and radio campaigns, provision of marketing gadgets and hand-washing devices.

Malawi

In 2020 EnDev Malawi supported the dissemination of COVID-19 information and other messages (including education, nutrition, health etc.) through solar radios. Further, it helped solar and ICS companies and PAYGo companies to become COVID-19 compliant. Preparations to construct ICS at guardian shelters in up to 50 health centres have started. To de-risk the exposure of PAYGo companies suffering from COVID-19 impacts to further market shocks, EnDev Malawi has started the preparation of a pilot for tailored insurance products against default rates.

**Liberia,
Guinea,
Sierra
Leone**

Access to electric energy through SHS was provided to over 130 health care centers or hospital as a result of the covid budget reallocation in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea in 2020. In Guinea a total of 11 health care centers and impressive 72 hospitals have been provided with access to energy. In Liberia additional 18 health care centers and 15 hospitals got access, too. In Liberia also three big laboratories have been reached. Furthermore another 12 health posts got electrified (Guinea 3, Liberia 9). Another 230 health institutes have been either repaired or taken into the public monitoring system by the project.



4. Conclusions and outlook

The impact of the pandemic in 2020, especially in the African context, has exceeded major other crises in the past. Notwithstanding the impact of the COVID-19 mutation strains in the near future, the immediate response measures and green recovery interventions have proven to provide much needed help for a crucial sector that plays an important role in achieving the SDG 7 and the wider SDG and development agenda. Moving from immediate assistance to longer-term green recovery measures will dominate the agenda in the years to come – if the pandemic is not returning and causing new challenges to businesses, livelihoods and nations.

EnDev has established a new set of instruments that can quickly be adapted and/or scaled if need be. Within the international context the prevalence of loan-based relief mechanisms will – by nature of these instruments – primarily benefit the few bigger companies in the market. From a leave-no-one-behind (LNOB) agenda perspective, the support for small and micro-enterprises in a sector, which to some extent has been built over the last 15 years through EnDev, is an important balance to ensure that also the

poorest people benefit from the public sector support provided.

Moving forward, EnDev will embark on a global learning agenda to ensure that best practices and innovative solutions are shared and replicated. This COVID-19 response measures inventory provided a systematic overview of the EnDev activities in this context, and EnDev will actively engage in international discussions to share its experience and knowledge.

EnDev will further work towards fine-tuning its instruments and readies its internal system to acquire additional resources to support short-term and long-term recovery of the sector. Especially in the health-sector, the potential to combine response interventions with approaches focusing on local health-related industries with links to productive use of energy (producing face masks, distilleries for disinfectants, water pumping, vaccination, etc.) seems to be promising.

EnDev will keep supporting those in need for energy access, together with its partners, funders and the international community.



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Energising Development

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