



UNITED STATES  
AFRICAN  
DEVELOPMENT  
FOUNDATION

# Igniting Energy Access

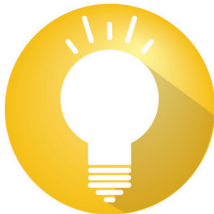
## Creating Pathways to Prosperity for Underserved Communities in Africa

The U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF) is an independent U.S. government agency established by Congress to invest in African grassroots organizations, entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises. USADF's investments promote local economic development by increasing incomes, revenues and jobs, and creating pathways to prosperity for marginalized populations and underserved communities. Utilizing a community-led development approach, USADF provides seed capital and local project management assistance improving lives and impacting livelihoods while addressing some of Africa's biggest challenges around food insecurity, insufficient energy access, and unemployment, particularly among women and youth. Over the last five years, throughout Africa, with an emphasis on the Horn, Sahel and Great Lakes regions, USADF has invested more than \$115 million dollars directly into over 1000 African owned and operated entities, and impacted over four million lives.

### The Impact

USADF began its energy portfolio in 2014 to bring affordable and sustainable energy to communities across Africa.

### Energy Portfolio To Date



**112**

Off-Grid Energy  
Enterprises



**15**

African  
Countries



**\$11M**

Invested

in enterprises creating access to energy using solar, wind, hydro, biomass, and biogas technologies



**300K+**

People  
received first-time  
energy access

At least 24 African-owned energy companies USADF has supported have gone on to purchase products and services from U.S.-based companies, illustrating how USADF's investments can spark two-way trade between the U.S. and Africa.

### Beyond the Grid

USADF's off-grid energy portfolio is a key element of the Beyond the Grid program of Power Africa, a U.S. Government-led initiative that seeks to create 60 million new energy connections in sub-Saharan Africa by 2030. In partnership with Power Africa, USADF has launched several funding programs including the Women in Energy Off-Grid Energy Challenge and the Smart Communities Coalition Off-Grid Energy Challenge, focused on refugee settlements.

[www.usadf.gov](http://www.usadf.gov)



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# Investments in **Off-Grid Energy**

The United States African Development Foundation (USADF) supports African-led development in off-grid energy by investing in African-owned enterprises that utilize renewable energy solutions, reaching communities not served by existing power grids.



## **DASSY Enterprise — Rwanda**

The majority of Rwandans live in rural areas, and many don't have access to the electric grid. USADF provided \$150,000 in grant funding to DASSY for the purpose of selling solar home systems and solar-powered appliances. As the company scaled up, it secured a bank loan, propelling it to become one of the first in Rwanda to offer solar irrigation and refrigeration to farmers. The return on USADF's investment continues, as DASSY has expanded operations to Malawi.



## **Deevabits Green Energy — Kenya**

In rural Machakos and Makueni counties in Kenya, 80 to 90 percent of residents don't have access to electricity. Utilizing \$175,000 in funding from USADF, Deevabits partners with Village Social Entrepreneurs (VSEs) who sell solar home systems to customers on a pay-as-you-go basis. Families now save 15 to 30 percent on home energy costs. Deevabits has reached more than 8,000 households and businesses to date, and the company has secured a loan from Kiva.



## **Havenhill Synergy — Nigeria**

While Nigeria is the most populated country in Africa, half of its population lacks access to electricity. USADF has invested \$225,000 in Havenhill since 2016, helping the company design and install solar mini-grids in the villages of Yebu, Kwaku, and Kigbe. Through these mini-grids, Havenhill is on the way to connecting approximately 500 households and businesses. Havenhill has since secured funding from USTDA to conduct a series of feasibility studies to deploy 110 solar mini-grids across Nigeria, to impact more than 300,000 people.



## **Joint Energy and Environment (JEEP) — Uganda**

Commercial fishing is vital to communities around Lake Victoria in Uganda, where women primarily handle the processing, though they often don't have adequate electricity and cold storage to preserve the fish. USADF awarded JEEP a \$100,000 grant to improve the infrastructure of local women's groups, which used the funding to purchase solar-powered refrigerators and build storage facilities. JEEP purchased the solar equipment from SunDanzer, a U.S. company based in Texas.

## **USADF's Partnerships in Energy**



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