



Momentum for Change: Financing for Climate Friendly Investment Category

Beyond the Grid Fund for Zambia

Zambia

Off-grid clean energy solutions offer a reliable, clean, affordable, and quick-to-deploy alternative to grid electricity, and people are willing to pay for them. However, companies selling these solutions face many challenges establishing themselves in markets like Zambia, due to a lack of investor confidence, a lack of market intelligence, a lack of an enabling regulatory environment and a high poverty rate.

Funded by Sweden, and designed by Sida and REEEP, the [Beyond the Grid Fund for Zambia](#) (BGFZ) tackles these challenges by providing results-based financing to de-risk companies' entry into the Zambian market. To do this, the project works with the Zambian government and other stakeholders to build a more off-grid business-friendly regulatory environment.

Key Facts

- Launched in July 2017, the Beyond the Grid Fund for Zambia (BGFZ) intends to bring clean, affordable off-grid energy services to 306,000 households, businesses and institutions, or 1.6 million people, by 2021.
- As of September 2019, the contracted companies have connected over 145,000 households, translating to 750,000 people in all provinces of Zambia. They are on track to reach their goal of 1.6 million people well ahead of schedule.
- Beyond the Grid Fund for Zambia's (BGFZ) 145,000 connections represent 3.4MW of capacity and have led to a CO2e emissions avoidance of 358 tonnes per year.
- In July 2017, the four contracted companies employed 79 full-time staff and 94 agents in Zambia. Since the launch of BGFZ, they have hired an additional 301 employees and 1204 commission-based agents. Around 20% of these agents are women.

More information

Digital assets are available for download at <http://bit.ly/mfc-2019>

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