

Solar Energy Village – ‘Hamari Urja’

THE PROGRAMME

42,000 villages in India are either un-electrified or de-electrified and over 400 million people do not have access to electricity. This is increasingly becoming one of the major inhibitors to achieving equitable growth and building resilience of poor and vulnerable communities. The programme – ‘**Hamari Urja**’, thus, seeks to tackle two of the most commonly identified challenges hampering socio-economic development – availability of basic amenities like electricity and water and adequate livelihood opportunities.

The intervention provides access to Solar based - Renewable Energy (RE) through solar lighting services for households and schools and solar irrigation pumps for farmland irrigation **to augment income and livelihood opportunities**. The USP of the programme is the revenue model, that ensures community participation and an income generation opportunity for the community members.



THE COMPONENTS

- Household & School Electrification
- Irrigation Facilities

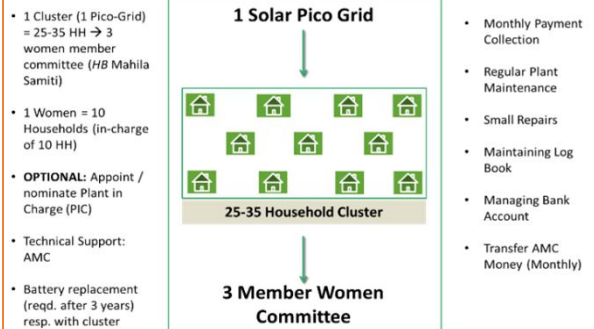
THE APPROACH

- Community Engagement (Social)
- Financial Model (Economic)
- Renewable Energy Solutions (Environment)

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Adoption of RE based village electrification solutions
- New opportunities for employment created
- Enhancement in irrigated land area & agriculture yield
- Increased income level of the farmers
- Reduced usage of diesel pumps for irrigation

Cluster Management



Solar Energy Village – Success Story

Name: Ramkali (Treasurer, Jai Santoshi Maa Urja Samiti)

Village: Khajra Bujurg (Hamlet Chandranagar)

Ramkali, a resident of Chandranagar in Khajra Bujurg village, today proudly invites her *Samdhis* (daughter's in-laws) over for dinner after the pico-grid intervention in her hamlet.

Living in a family of five, she has witnessed electricity in her village after 40 odd years. Life before she opted for the solar pico-grid connection was miserable. Kerosene lamp was the only alternative for cooking and for children to study in the evening hours. Not only did she feel burdened with its monthly expenditure of Rs. 225 per month (\$3.75), but also suffered from unhealthy fumes of kerosene, affecting her eyesight and children's health. Theft during darkness was another major challenge that her family was posed with. Besides, charging mobile phone meant a daily walk of 5 kms. However, she felt humiliated in front of her son-in-law's family and relatives for having no electricity during her daughter's wedding. But, life for her has changed today.

“Since the time electricity has come, day and night feel the same! Daughter's in-laws also state that the village looks all lit up now, looks very bright. My children are also very happy to study in the evening and night hours. My husband feels delighted too, to get clean food everyday.”

