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# The Story So Far

**CONTEXT: WOMEN-ENTERPRISE-ENERGY** 

20% of women-led rural enterprises in MSME sector

**85**% of rural enterprises dependent on highly polluting and expensive diesel generators

88%

of the country's energy needs provided by fossil fuels

> of the workforce in the energy sector composed of women

The Change Envisioned

Decouple economic growth and environmental degradation by unlocking the benefits of renewable energy.

Greater and flexible investment to build sustainable, equitable and empowering entrepreneurial ecosystems

Demonstrate role of renewable energy as a catalyst for green and inclusive growth in the local economy

Shift in the discourse on just transition by creating evidence of women-led decentralized energy generation units

Enhanced women's participation in leading the way for just and inclusive transition among local communities



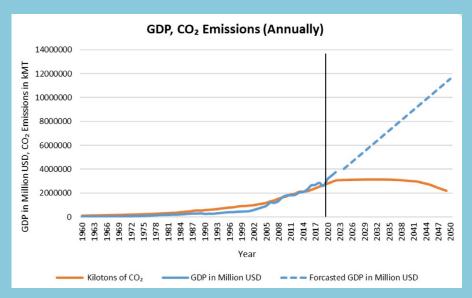
Scan for data sources-



## **Energy Transition for Rural emPowerment**

Transition to affordable and clean energy is fundamental to economic development, fueling innovation and growth. The energy transition carries with it the opportunity to decouple carbon emissions from economic growth, creating a pathway for sustainable development.

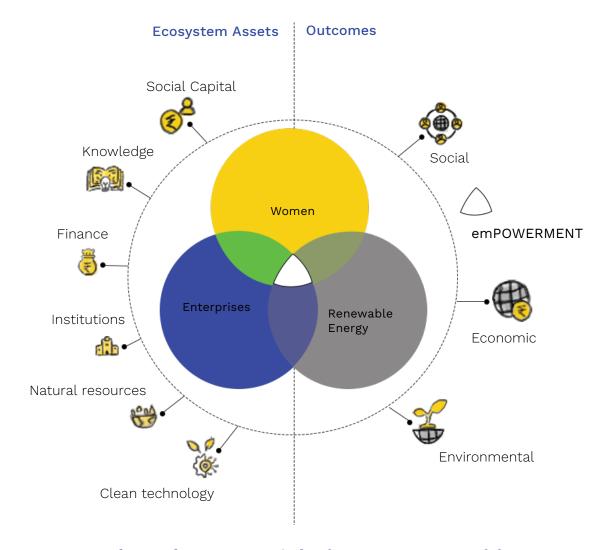
It's crucial that this transition is just and inclusive, ensuring that clean energy acts as an empowerment tool for those who are excluded from the growth trajectory, particularly women and rural communities.



Decoupling of economic growth and carbon emission due to adoption of renewable energy for micro-enterprise development.

Data sources: World Bank Open Data with self analysis by Development Alternatives.

## Transformative Engine



People at the center of the just energy transition...

# The Urja Mandala Model PROMOTING EQUITABLE ENERGY TRANSITION

Recognizing the significance of reliable and affordable electricity for driving innovation and economic growth in rural micro-enterprises, the Urja Mandala model envisions supporting rural communities who are keen to undergo a just and inclusive energy transition.

**Urja Mandala**, the Energy Constellation, is managed and operated by a women's collective, that provides clean, reliable and affordable electricity to rural micro-enterprises. Development Alternatives, in partnership with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) India, aims to establish 8 Urja Mandalas benefitting **7000 individuals** especially women and youth by March 2025.

## Glimpse of Urja Mandala Model

#### Generation



#### **ENERGY SUPPLY COMPANY**

Investment, operation & management by a private Renewable Energy Service Company (RESCO).

A long-term Power Purchase Agreement between RESCO & Women Collective for supply of Solar electricity.

## 36

tonnes of CO2eq. mitigated annually per enterprise

#### **Energy Demand**



MICRO Entrepreneurs



### **URJA MANDALA MODEL**



# anterprises transition towards clean energy

40% increase in income of Urja Mandala Samiti members

## 15%

increase in annual income of entrepreneurs

#### Storage & Distribution



#### WOMEN COLLECTIVE

Investment, energy & revenue management by Women Collective.

Agreement between Women Collective & Micro Entrepreneurs for supply of reliable & affordable electricity.

## The Key Features

To amplify social, environmental and economic impact of the transition towards renewable energy, the Urja Mandala model relies on the following critical components:



#### **INCREASING AGENCY OF WOMEN**

in local economic growth, enabled by decentralized sources of energy.



## LEVERAGING STRATEGIC, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

to ensure sustainability and adoption at scale.



## INTEGRATING LOCAL RESOURCES, FINANCE AND CLEAN TECHNOLOGY

for systemic impact.



### ACCESS TO RELIABLE, CLEAN ENERGY

to foster green and inclusive entrepreneurship.



#### ADOPTING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

for efficient energy and revenue management.



## Urja Mandala in Mirzapur POWERED BY A 30 KWP SOLAR MINI GRID

Public-Private-Community Partnership



#### **Nav Chetna Agro Centre Producer Company Limited**

Owners, managers, and operators of Urja Mandala

#### **Micro-enterprises**

Customers of Urja Mandala undergoing a green transition



#### E-Hands Energy (India) Pvt. Ltd.

Responsible for generation of solar electricity



#### Manviya Drishtikon Sewa Samiti

Responsible for on-ground implementation

## **Expected Outcomes & Impact**

7,500 litres of diesel saved anually

20 tonnes

of carbon emissions mitigated annually

40%

projected increase in annual income of women's collective

## INR 7 million

worth investment infused in the local economy by women's collective and private stakeholder

## **Envisioned Impact by 2025**

7,000

individuals benefited from energy transition through

**8 URJA MANDALAS** 

## 10,000 **TONNES**

of CO<sub>2</sub>eq mitigated from 7.5 MW of distributed renewable energy systems

## **15% INCREASE**

in annual income of micro entrepreneurs

40%

projected increase

in income

of women's

collective

## 35+ STRATEGIC

partnerships to build upon the emerging ecosystem of like minded actors to enable just and inclusive transition locally

## **INR 120 MILLION**

clean energy

leveraged from entrepreneurs, private sector and community level institutions to promote entrepreneurshipdriven transition to



## Partner with Us

Join us in the Urja Mandala initiative to scale the impact of the women-led energy transition movement.

## **JOIN US AS A RESCO\* PARTNER**

to accelerate the energy transition

## **BECOME AN IMPACT PARTNER**

to identify and build many more Urja Mandala sites

## **BE AN INVESTOR**

to invest in the potential of Urja Mandalas

\*Renewable Energy Service Company

ऊर्जा मंडल: ग्रामीण सशक्तिकरण के लिए नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा

## साइट लॉन्च

वीरांगना लक्ष्मीबाई ऊर्जा मंडल समिति के नेतृत्व में

मिहींपुरवा, बहराईच, उत्तर प्रदेश

जनवरी 2024







The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) India is one of the largest banking and financial service organisations in the world. HSBC services around 38 million customers worldwide through four Global Businesses: Retail Banking and Wealth Management, Commercial Banking, Global Banking and Markets, and Global Private Banking.

Since its foundation in 1865, HSBC has adapted to and helped serve the needs of a changing world. HSBC believes, now more than ever, there is a need to develop the skills, business innovation and lowcarbon solutions to secure long-term prosperity for all.



#### **Development Alternatives**

Development Alternatives (DA) is a social enterprise with global presence in the fields of green economic development, social empowerment and environmental management in the developing world. DA focuses on empowering communities by strengthening people's institutions and facilitating access to basic needs, enabling economic opportunities through skill development for green jobs and enterprise creation.

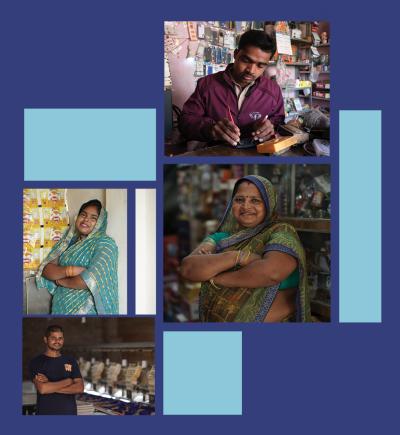
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#### Just Transition for Economic emPowerment

Book Design & Illustration
One Small Design Studio / www.onesmall.in

Images
Society for Development Alternatives









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