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for sustainable development

Founding Partners



**AFRICA
WINNER 2015**

Loja de Energias supplies households in rural Mozambique with clean and renewable energy sources. Its energy shops are managed by women who work with community leaders in order to stimulate the purchase of renewable energy systems.



Loja de Energias, Mozambique

BUSINESS MODEL

Women from rural areas in Mozambique apply to receive an initial set of material to manage their own energy shops. Future material has to be bought, but loans are also granted by the enterprise and the women organise in savings groups for cyclical buying.

The shops offer improved cook stoves, photovoltaic systems, lamps, mobile phone chargers, refrigerators and energy saving light bulbs. The women organise meetings with communities to raise awareness and offer the different products.

ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS:

Location	Rural Mozambique
Year founded	2013
Sector	Energy
Product/Service	Renewable energy products

Contact Ms. Gilda Monjane
gilmonjane@gmail.com

Social impacts:

- Providing women with a new set of skills and stable income.
- Offering more lighting hours for households, schoolchildren and businesses.
- Decreasing sexual assaults to women and time spent on collecting firewood.
- Reducing pollution-related diseases with a decreased usage of kerosene and firewood inside houses.
- Contributing to improved nutrition as households save money on kerosene.

Environmental impacts:

- Substituting kerosene, charcoal and firewood as energy sources and therefore reducing deforestation and carbon emissions.
- Disseminating information on the importance of using renewable and clean energy sources among rural communities.

Economic impacts:

- Increasing the number of women in the labour market through entrepreneurial opportunities.
- Providing more affordable energy options for rural households than kerosene.

” By using photovoltaic systems, people reduce indoor pollution, carbon emissions, respiratory diseases, global warming and climate change effects.

Scaling up activities:

- Expand the access to products by opening new shops in various communities across Mozambique and work with UN Women on the implementation of their Women Economic Empowerment initiative in selected rural communities.
- Cater to requests from regional partners from Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe to support them with implementing similar projects.
- Secure funding for the director to attend a management course in order to improve enterprise management and also better train the women in running their shops.
- Finalize the production of the enterprise website and equip the central Energy Shop office.



” The shops intend to fill a gap in terms of infrastructure for the rural areas, while contributing to the economic empowerment of rural women.



Partnership

Loja de Energias is a non-governmental organisation supporting women in the set-up of renewable energy shops.

Phaesun helps women to purchase material by offering a special discount and credit, and provides marketing support and training.

FOSERA offers low-price products and material by credit to pay after some weeks.

UN Women supports the expansion of the initiative in Mozambique and international exchange of experience.



Flanders
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The 2015 SEED Awards in Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia are supported by the Government of Flanders, which is active in Southern Africa.

About SEED

SEED identifies and supports promising small scale social and environmental enterprises around the globe, enterprises who while working towards a greener economy also tackle poverty, marginalisation and social exclusion. SEED provides these enterprises with know-how and networks, taking the lessons learnt at local level up to decision-makers to promote evidence-based policy making. For more information please write to info@seed.uno or visit:

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