

Women's Initiative for Delivering clean Energy to Africa

WidEnergy Africa Ltd
Women Initiative for Delivering Clean Energy

10YEARS OF WOMEN IN ENERGY LEADERSHIP

10 Years of Challenges & Resilience

Global & Macro-Economic Context

- **2020–2023** COVID-19 Crash & GDP ↓ 5.4%
- **2023–2024** National Drought
- **2023–2024** Freight Costs ↑ 180%
- **2020–2024** Economic Instability & Double Digit Inflation
- **2020–2024**

Company Operations Context

- **2020–2023** Limited Access to Finance
- Decrease in Collection Rate
- Buying in USD, Selling in ZMW

Currency & Market Impact

- **2021–2024** High Default Rates
- Rising Import Costs

ZMW / USD Exchange Rate



The local Women-Founded PAYG Company (WidEnergy) has demonstrated strong RESILIENCE over hard times.

2026 Q1 IMPACT UPDATE



WidEnergy Africa Ltd continues to accelerate its mission of powering households and productivity in rural Zambia.

Building on a strong 2025 foundation, Q1 2026 has seen significant growth on the WidEnergy's journey of delivering Productive Use of Energy (PUE) to the hard –to-reach Small and Medium Businesses (SMEs), while continuing to empower households with Solar Home systems.

During the period of January to April 2026, WidEnergy has deployed 14 additional solar-powered freezers and connected 437 new households to electricity with Solar Home Systems. Among the 437 new connection,153(35%)are women-headed households.

The successful deployment of 14 new solar-powered freezers to micro-entrepreneurs marks a crucial step in scaling our Energy-Water for Food nexus strategy, directly tackling post-harvest losses and increasing income for rural hard-to-reach MSMEs.

As of end of march 2026, WidEnergy has connected a total of 28,137hoseholds with SHS, empowered 64SMEs with cold storage and operates 3 Solar water pumping and purification plants.

PROGRESS ON EMPOWERING SMEs with:

Assets- financing of cold storage solutions to the Hard to reach SMEs:



New Deployment (Q1 2026):
14 solar-powered freezers have been sold and installed for small business owners (fishmongers, meat vendors, and dairy sellers) in remote off grid areas.

Impact on Enterprises: These freezers allow businesses to store perishable goods for extended periods, significantly reducing spoilage. Business owners are reporting the ability to purchase stock in bulk during surplus seasons and sell it during scarcity, increasing their profit margins.

Women Empowerment: Of the 14 new units sold, 6 (43%) were purchased by women-led microenterprises, furthering our commitment to women's economic independence.

Leader in PAYGO cold storage solutions for hard-to-reach MSMEs

WIDENERGY IMPACT Update

Since its inception, WidEnergy ha impacted 169.000+ Lives



Rural Households Connected: 28,100+

Female-Headed Households Served: ~36% of connected households.
Direct Beneficiaries Impacted: 169,300+

2025 Baseline: 166,900 + 14 new businesses (avg. 6 family members/business owner = 84 new individuals +2622(437HHx6members/HH)plus 300 additional indirect beneficiaries (50HH) from improved supply chains).

WIDENERGY IMPACT Update

Social & Environmental Impact



Women Directly Impacted: 86,519
2025 Baseline: 85,000 + 6 new female business owners + 150+ female family members/employees, + 1363 (437HHx6 members /HHx52%)

Households with Safe Drinking Water: 100+
60% beneficiaries are women

Rural Microenterprises with Cold Storage: 64+
2025 Baseline: 50 + 14 new MSMEs

Tons of CO_2 per year saved: ~365 Tons/Year

WIDENERGY IMPACT Update

Social & Environmental Impact



Environmental Impact Breakdown (Q1 2026 Specific):
Diesel Displacement: The 14 new solar freezers eliminate the need for diesel generators, saving an estimated 7 tons of CO_2 per year from being released into the atmosphere.
Cumulatively, a total of **460.5 metric tones of CO_2** has been saved from the atmosphere.
Food Waste Reduction: By providing reliable cold storage, we are preventing the spoilage of approximately 2-3 tons of food per month across these 14 businesses. This reduction in food waste is crucial, as decomposing organic matter in landfills releases methane—a potent greenhouse gas.

WIDENERGY IMPACT Update

Economical Impact



Revenue Increase: Early feedback from the 14 new freezer owners indicates a 25-40% increase in revenue due to reduced spoilage and the ability to sell chilled products.
One female customer has paid off her first freezer and opened a new business with a new one.
Each household accessing to solar energy can save up to USD 650 per year from previous expenses on alternative polluting energy solutions.

Financial Inclusion: All 14 units were sold via our Pay-As-You-Go (PAYGO) financing model, making the technology affordable with monthly repayment plans aligned with their sales cycles.

DELIVERING SDGs

A Business with strong Impact



- About **USD 650** saved per annum per household connected with SHS, from previous polluting energy sources.
- Up to **40%** revenue increase for SMES Beneficiaries .



- **Women's share :**
- **64%** : Company ownership
- **60%** : Board of Directors
- **66%** : Management Team
- **37%** of SMEs empowered are women-owned.



27,700+ households connected to electricity with SHS.

- More than **166,500 lives** impacted.



More than **460+ tons of CO2** emission is reduced,
(equivalent of 135,000Liters of diesel.)



More than **100 families** accessing save drinking water

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Mobilising Renewable Energy Investments

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