

# POWERHIVE

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Around 90,000 people living in rural Kenya are set to gain first-time electricity access after REPP approved a US\$3m results-based financing facility for this first-of-kind mini-grid project.

Developer Powerhive is currently building 100 ground-mounted mini-grids that will supply clean energy to rural communities in the Kisii and Nyamira regions of south-western Kenya over the next three to four years. So far, the company has installed 13 operational grids with a total generating capacity of 130kW, resulting in over 11,000 people being connected to electricity for the first time.

Once they are all operational, the mini-grids will provide up to 1MW of generating capacity, and will directly support Kenya's NDC target to abate 30% of its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. Electricity is sold directly to local households and businesses by developer Powerhive East Africa Ltd on a prepayment basis. Each system will include batteries to offer reliable power to customers.

REPP's financing facility is enabling Powerhive to complete the successful roll-out of Phase 2 and grow to a sufficient scale to attract additional debt and equity finance, and continue building microgrids in Kenya.

Up until 2016, mini-grids were not licensed but "tolerated" in Kenya. Powerhive broke new ground when it became the first private company to be licensed for developing microgrids. The success of the venture is expected to make it easier for other private developers to operate in Kenya and will assist in the creation of a sustainable business model.



**Location**  
Kisii and Nyamira counties  
Kenya

## AT A GLANCE

### Technology

Solar PV  
mini-grids



### Project type

Off-grid

### Offtaker

Off-grid  
communities

## KPIs



Greenhouse gas emissions  
avoided: 2,190 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per  
year



People with first-time access  
to clean energy: 90,000



Installed capacity:  
1MW

## FUNDING STRUCTURE

**Signed:** 24 May 2018

**Type:** Debt

**REPP funding:** US\$3m

## SDGs



*"The REPP facility has been critical to unlocking the potential of microgrids [mini-grids] for Powerhive in Kenya. In addition to providing equity investors with a framework to understand how Powerhive's micro-grid projects can be leveraged by project debt, it is also a great show of confidence in our data-driven platform, which we intend to deploy across Kenya and more broadly Africa in the future."*

*Christopher Horner, Founder and CEO, Powerhive*