FACT SHEET

Oda, Dida & Adi mobile charging & barber, MSE



Business Details

266

Number of Powerblox

Business operators empowered

Number of locations

June

Date of installation

89,600 ETB

Total cost paid

Loan percentage paid back within 5 months of installation





The Energy for Rural Start-Ups initiative, a joint venture between Caritas Switzerland and Power-Blox AG, pioneers rural electrification in Ethiopia. Utilizing Swiss-developed Powerblox (PBX) swarm battery technology, it aims to provide last-mile connections to off-grid rural households by applying a nano-grid approach, bridging gaps between solar home systems and larger mini-grids. In its first phase June 2023 - January 2024, 87 Powerblox were installed in 49 locations, empowering 14 micro-enterprises, 2 cooperatives, and 6 public institutions in rural areas of Oromia Region. With a 100% Powerblox payback rate within 10 months, the initiative demonstrates business viability and fosters economic growth, household resilience, and social inclusion. Scaling up, the aim is to install 7,000 Powerblox, electrify 100,000 households, 1,000 health centres, and empower 5,000 SMEs, supported by a sustainable financing and operation model.and public institutions.

Top appliances & revenue streams



HOUSEHOLD ELECTRIFICATION

Providing reliable and affordable electricity to households, empowering them to power their daily lives.

Light bulbs



MOBILE CHARGING SERVICES

Offering convenient and accessible mobile charging solutions, catering to the growing demand for mobile connectivity.

Charging station



BARBER SHOP

Supporting the growth of small businesses, such as barber shops, by providing them with the necessary power to operate efficiently.

Hair clipper



Key Achievements

3 Additional jobs created

3 Lamps powered for own use

Lamps powered for income

From 0 to 2710 ETB

Weekly income increase since electrification

From 0 to 132

Weekly customer increase related to energy

8

Total lamps powered

The Odo, Dida & Adi Mobile Charging & Barber MSE, serves as a valuable asset to the community by providing essential services such as household electrification, mobile charging, and barber shops. Through its operations, the MSE not only meets the needs of community members but also creates economic opportunities for its operators, contributing to local economic development and empowerment. The MSE plays a crucial role in improving the quality of life and fostering socio-economic development in the area.

Mobile phones charged per day

Join the effort

Partner with us to revolutionize rural electrification in Ethiopia. Learn more about our initiative and impact and discover how to get involved on our website today.



*The PBX are currently 50% subsidized to support the pilot phase and simulate the landing price during commercial scaling.



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