

MINIGRID COST REDUCTION

Mlinda Minigrid Projects Jharkhand State, North Eastern India 2016–2020

Mlinda works in over 40 villages in the district of Gumla, building minigrids to power productive use and institutional loads, with a replicable approach. By driving down equipment costs, optimizing design, and strongly supporting load growth, Mlinda can provide affordable energy for rural communities.



**MINIGRID INSTALLATION
BY MLINDA**

THE SITUATION

- Around 13%, or nearly four million people, in Jharkand state do not have energy access. Another 10 million people are dissatisfied with unreliable grid power
- Across India, around 20% or 240 million people are still without power
- Minigrids could reach many of these people more affordably and reliably than grid extension, but costs remain high

THE SOLUTION

Through its Rural Electrification Program, Mlinda engages communities using standardized site selection criteria. Following load analysis, the program then designs, installs, maintains and monitors the grid, working closely with the communities.

Crucially, Mlinda also has a dedicated business development team to ensure minigrid users have the appliances they need for electrified productive use. The grids are set up for modular expansion.

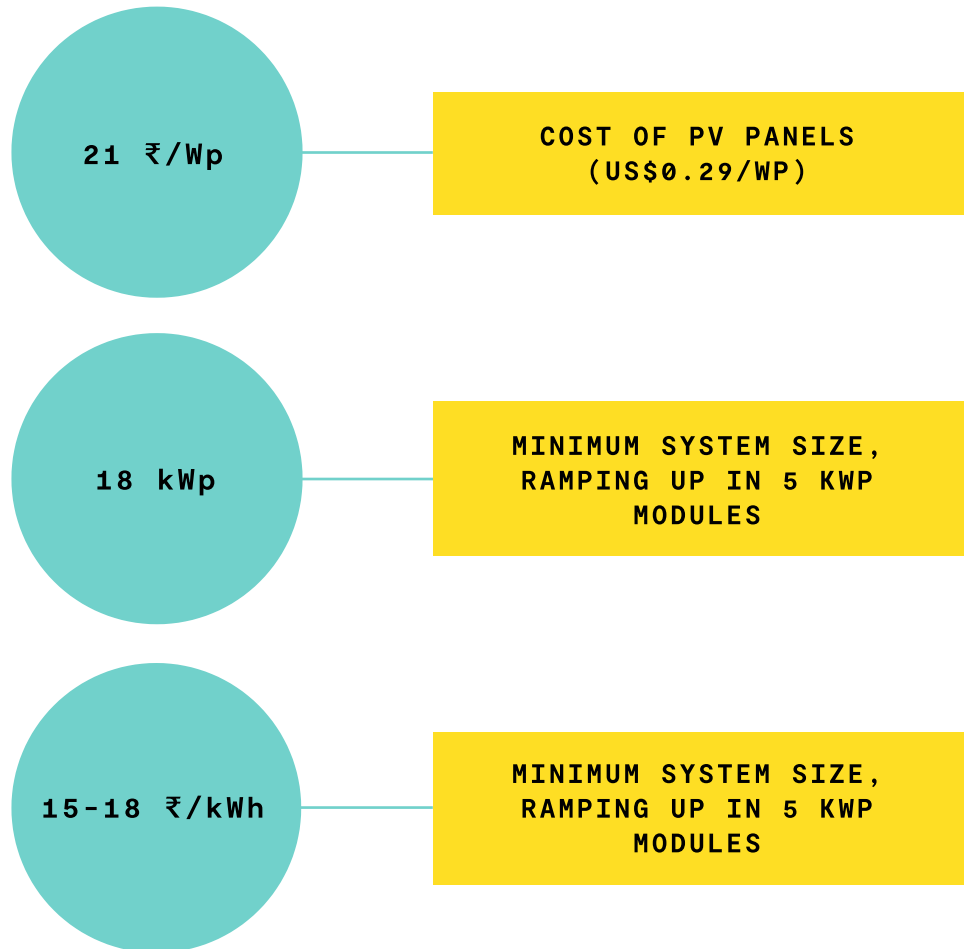


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THE IMPACTS

- 50 villages and 40,000 people now have reliable energy access for domestic needs and productive uses
- Incomes among customers have risen by over 12%
- Minigrid capital costs were reduced by 45% in just over a year as designs were refined
- Engaging consumers drives 2% monthly load growth, allowing modular expansion of the minigrids and dropping costs even further

Graphic of Cost Reduction



MORE INFORMATION

www.mlinda.org

READ MORE ABOUT MINIGRID COSTS

- STATE OF THE GLOBAL MINI-GRIDS MARKET REPORT
Mini-Grids Partnership 2020
- MINI-GRIDS FOR HALF A BILLION PEOPLE: MARKET OUTLOOK AND HANDBOOK FOR DECISION MAKERS
ESMAP 2019
- MINIGRIDS IN THE MONEY: SIX WAYS TO REDUCE MINIGRID COSTS BY 60%
RMI 2018



ELECTRIFYING ECONOMIES

The Electrifying Economies project

demonstrates the role distributed energy will play in ending energy poverty and catalyzing a green and equitable recovery from the Covid-19 crisis. It draws on the latest data and research from around the world to show how distributed renewables can provide sustainable, affordable, and reliable power for all. The project provides information to support policy makers and investors in taking action today, to realize this potential.



#ElectrifyingEconomies
ElectrifyingEconomies.org