



# Ignite

Power on a Different Scale

## Ignite Power Impact Report

2020

Changing  
lives with  
sunlight

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For over 6 years now, Ignite Power has been operating throughout the most impoverished parts of Sub Saharan Africa, bringing clean, sustainable, affordable life-enabling solutions to families for the first time.

With over 1.5 million people across 10,000 villages already connected by the company, impact throughout the region is becoming clearer and more evident every day. In this report, we dive into the communities, villages, homes, and families whose lives have changed with the help of solar power.

# Feeling Secure

Nighttime can be difficult and hazardous for households, as it is the prime time for thefts and break-ins, with agriculture yields and livestock in danger of being taken. Personal security is also an issue, as women are often afraid to go out after dark. Since having a solar home system:

- 90% indicated a better sense of security
- 55% reported fewer thefts



"We used to sleep with the cows because it wasn't safe to leave them outside. Now, because of the light, we can keep them outside for teh night"

**Mukande Qwe, 31**

# An Increase in Social Activities

Living in the dark led to a sunset-based sleep time. With home lighting, families can now enjoy longer days, with added time for social gatherings, quality family time, personal development, and hobbies.

- Over 75% said having light in their home improved their social life
- 40% used the extra time to add a new hobby / permanent activity to their schedule

"Now that we have more time at night, we dance and do drama with friends"

Niyongira lorah, 42



"Every night the kids from nearby houses gather to hear funny stories"

Uteta medious, 51

# Better Education

An early bedtime equals less time for reading and doing homework. With home lighting, children of all ages can now dedicate longer hours for studying, leading to better grades and added opportunities in the future.

- 65% of the families reported more study time for the kids
- 28% of the families see better grades at their children



"The kids are getting enough time to study, and us the parents get more time to give parent love"  
**Celestine Nkundabern, 45**



# Better Health

Rural families rely on combustible fuels for indoor lighting and heating, leading to hazardous fires and multiple respiratory conditions. With electricity at home, the use of these fuels is eradicated.

- 70% of the families reported improved health for both adults and children.



"We no longer get affected by bad petrol and candle smoke"

**Nyirarukundo Esperance, 43**

# Improved Financial Reality

Leaving in the dark hinders chances for economic development. With solar systems, small business owners can keep their place open after dark and provide added services, while new ventures are growing.

- 65% of the families reported higher income since having the system
- 20% more than doubled their monthly income
- 34% opened a new business since having the system



"My retailer business revenues increased from 40k to more than 70k per month"

**Sanyu Janet, 49**

"We started making mats & art at night, and sell them in the market. Our monthly income increased from 30k to 60-70k"

**Nyirangirawonsanga  
counsel, 40**





# Growing More with Solar Irrigation

With only 6% of the regions' agricultural lands properly irrigated, a vast potential is left untapped. Solar irrigation systems allow small farm holders to use drip irrigation for the first time, growing as much as 3 times more crops and leading to higher food security and larger income.



Mukamparaye Jeanne, 63

"We used to sell 200kg of corps. Now we sell 500kg. Before, we used a generator, and had to buy 5L of Petrol per day"



The impacts of solar-based technologies are vast, and their potential is even greater. With hundreds of millions of people still living in the dark, there is no time to waste. Collaboration, smart investments, and determined actions will lead the way to a better, more sustainable future for thousands of communities, and hundreds of millions of people throughout Africa.

Together, we can, and must continue the efforts of establishing an inclusive reality for everyone, everywhere.



**Ignite**

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