



# Microfinancing for clean energy solutions, India

## Essential facts and figures

<b>Project activity</b>	Granting of microloans to households in India for efficient cooking stoves, solar systems/lamps and drinking water purification devices. The programme was registered by the UN in December 2012 as no. 9181.
<b>Project site</b>	India
<b>Project owner</b>	MicroEnergy Credits (MEC)
<b>Start date of operation</b>	2014
<b>Project duration</b>	2014 to 2020
<b>Quantity of emission reductions (in tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>)</b>	3 million CERs

## Project description

Revenues generated by the sale of CERs are used mainly to establish a distribution network for efficient cooking stoves, solar systems / lamps and drinking water purification devices, run by microfinance institutions. This involves an information and marketing campaign designed to encourage demand for such products, the set-up of distribution and service networks, capacity building measures for microfinance institutions, and the distribution of a cloud-based software to process loans. This ensures that more households are given access to products that reduce greenhouse gas and prevents the large-scale distribution of highly subsidised products that do not meet local needs.

A set of products comprising an efficient cooking stove, solar lamps and a drinking water purification device costs 75 USD. Households can apply for a loan, which they must repay within a few months at annual interest rates of 20-30%. The monthly savings made possible by the products are so high that households already save money during the payback period. Once the loan has been paid back, monthly savings per household can reach up to 20 USD.

## Project status (July 2021)

MEC works with various microfinance institutions in India. Together with its partners, MEC will reach around 3'000'000 households by the end of 2021. To date, 2'380'103 CERs have been delivered.

## Project owner

The US company MicroEnergy Credits (MEC) was established in 2007 in order to enable microfinance institutions to distribute products that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The company operates in Mongolia, East Africa and India.

For further information  
Dr Marco Berg, Managing Director  
Tel: +41 (0)44 387 99 02