

# Micro-Enterprise

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## Introduction

The micro-economy is thriving in the developing world. It needs energy and has an income to pay for it, but until now there has been no direct conduit through which to target this population with renewable energy resources. With the advent of the micro-credit banks and their associated micro-enterprise development programs there are now local organizations that serve as an interface with this sector.

## Domestic Lighting Systems for Micro-Enterprise

Small household lighting systems increase the capacity and profitability of micro-enterprise through longer working hours, longer selling hours and the use of small motors or appliances. In Bangladesh, Grameen Shakti targets micro-entrepreneurs as part of their solar home systems marketing program.



*Grameen Shakti customers include a hardware shopkeeper, a saw mill owner, and an electronics repairman*



*Bangladesh Rice Mill*

## The Renewable Energy for Micro-credit and Micro-enterprise Applications Guidebook

NREL and Global Transitions Consulting are teaming up to create a renewable energy applications guidebook for micro-credit banks and micro-enterprise development organizations. The guidebook will take a critical look at the opportunities and challenges in bringing renewable energy to the micro-enterprise sector.

## Micro-Enterprise Zones

Many income generating activities require more power than a typical solar home system can provide. To supply these higher quality energy services, Grameen Shakti is developing the micro-enterprise zone concept, creating an electrified center where rural villagers can come to establish workshops and businesses with the benefit of AC power.



*A Grameen Bank branch office*