

Partner Profile: Azuri



Roughly 580 million people in sub-Saharan Africa (48% of the region's population) have no access to electricity.¹ Efforts to increase energy access in the region, which is home to three-quarters of the global off-grid population, have been hindered by the Covid-19 pandemic. The population without electricity is projected to increase in 2020 for the first time since 2013.

Azuri is a partner within Global Partnerships' (GP) Solar Lights initiative.² Azuri is a solar home system manufacturer and distributor in Kenya that aims to increase energy access for off-grid households.

WHO IS SERVED:

Azuri primarily serves households living in poverty, with an estimated 60% of clients living on less than \$3.20 per person, per day.³ Before purchasing the Azuri solar home system, nearly three-quarters of clients used kerosene lamps as their main source of lighting.⁴

WHAT IS DELIVERED:

Azuri provides high-quality solar home systems with pay-as-you-go leases that enable affordable access for low-income households. Azuri has sold more than 150,000 solar home systems to date, through both direct sales and partnerships with local distributors.

WHY IT IS IMPACTFUL:

Access to affordable solar home systems can improve the economic position and quality of life of off-grid households. A 2018 Lean DataSM

study of 270 Azuri clients found that 97% of respondents reported improved quality of life and 94% reported reduced spending on lighting and phone charging. Among clients who previously used kerosene for lighting, which is associated with increased health risks from household air pollution,⁵ 99% reported reduced kerosene use since purchasing their Azuri solar home system. Additionally, among surveyed households where children used the solar home system for homework, 98% reported increased study time.

1. Source: International Energy Agency, *SDG7: Data and Projections*, November 2019, <https://www.iea.org/reports/sdg7-data-and-projections/access-to-electricity#abstract>

2. Azuri is a current borrower of Global Partnerships Social Investment Fund 6.0, LLC as of September 30, 2020.

3. \$3.20 PPP/person/day (PPP stands for purchasing power parity), based on findings from a 2020 Lean Data survey of 472 Azuri clients

4. Source: 2018 Lean Data survey of 270 Azuri clients

5. Source: World Health Organization 2018 <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/household-air-pollution-and-health>