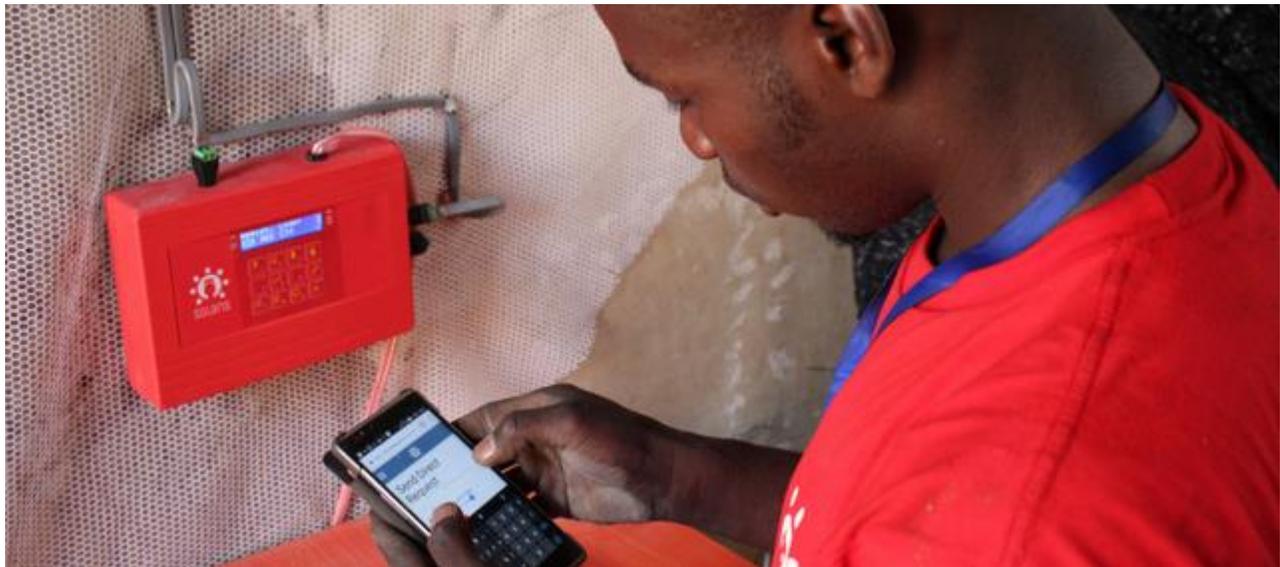




## SPOTLIGHT

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### The Practitioner Network Chats with Siten Mandalia, CEO of Solaris Offgrid

In this issue's interview Spotlight, Siten Mandalia of Solaris talks about the benefits of their innovative, fully-integrated pay-as-you-go software and how distributors can use integrated software to scale up their off-grid operations.

[Watch the Interview](#)

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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## Energy Access Booster: Call for Projects

DEADLINE: JULY 29

Total, ENEA Consulting, SEforALL, and Acumen have launched the “Energy Access Booster” – an accelerator program designed for development-stage energy access projects focusing on green mini-grids, sustainable mobility, refrigeration, and energy for water and agriculture in Africa.

## Zayed Sustainability Prize

DEADLINE: AUGUST 9

The Zayed Sustainability Prize is granted annually and celebrates achievements that are driving impact, innovation, and inspiration across five distinct categories including energy. To join a growing community of sustainable solution innovators, submit your entry today.

## Empower a Billion Lives Competition

DEADLINE: AUGUST 31

The Empower a Billion Lives competition challenges teams to develop scalable solutions that address global energy poverty. The competition has four tracks, arranged by the type of model and the development stage of the solution. The max prize is \$1M.

## MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



# Off-grid solar company Frontier Markets leads woman-powered solar expansion in India

Off-grid solar company Frontier Markets leads woman-powered solar expansion in India  
Description (Max 40 words): Frontier Markets, led by founder Ajaita Shah, has assisted in providing electricity to over 400,000 households across India. This success has been possible largely due to the help of “Solar Sahelis” – a group of women who make up a large sales network throughout the country.

## **SunCulture closes investment with EDF Group**

SunCulture, a Kenyan-based technology company specializing in solar water pumps and irrigation solutions for small holder farmers, has closed an investment round with the EDF Group. This investment from one of the world’s largest utility companies will be used to expand the impact of EDF’s off-grid solutions across the continent.

## **Latest report suggests that six cities of Uttar Pradesh can generate 11.4 GW of electricity from solar energy**

The Center for Environment and Energy Development, an environmental organization based in India, has found in their new report “Uttar Pradesh: Uncovering Solar Rooftop Potential in Urban Cities” that six cities of Uttar Pradesh can generate up to 11.4GW via rooftop solar panels by using only 11% of their built-up areas.

## **SunFunder and ZOLA Electric close new debt facility**

SunFunder announced the close of a \$20 million dollar debt financing facility with a family office for ZOLA Electric, a renewable energy enterprise formerly known as Off Grid Electric for continued expansion in Africa.

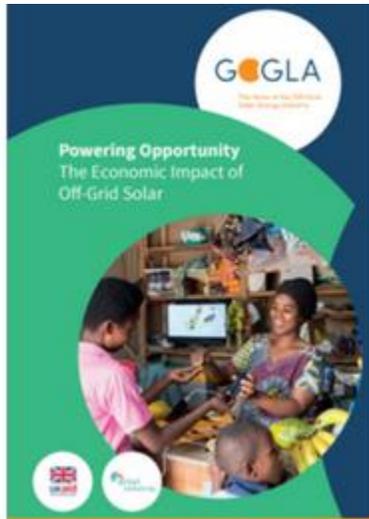
## **NEW PRACTITIONER NETWORK MEMBERS**

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Allied Domecq Finance - Carbon Limits Nigeria - Cedar Creek Energy - Center for Sustainable and Applied Technology Solutions - Energy and Poverty Research Group - Energy Change Lab - Ghana Association for Energy Economics - Ideal Options Control & Energy - Institute of Energy and Sustainable Development - ME SOLshare - National Standard Finance - Ocean Impact Alliance

## FEATURED RESOURCES

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### [Powering Opportunity: The Economic Impact of Off-Grid Solar](#)

GOGLA's new report examines how solar home systems can unlock gains to welfare, productivity, and income generation across Africa and Asia.

[READ MORE](#)

## FROM THE NETWORK

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### [Update on Practitioner Network Activities](#)

Practitioner Network Manager Ruchi Soni gives a recap of the UN High-Level Political Forum, the Ashden Awards, and the Global Plan of Action for Sustainable Energy Solutions in Situations of Displacement.

[READ MORE](#)



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