

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FUND PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

POWERHIVE INC UK

THE JERR-E-CAN: THE ENERGY STORAGE SOLUTION
TO MAKE MICRO-GRIDS ECONOMICALLY VIABLE

The project will create an hourly rental service to make electric vehicles more viable with mini-grids, with a focus on women as the beneficiaries. Each electric vehicle will be powered by a “Jerr-e-can”, a swappable, energy efficient battery. An app will also be developed to help those living in rural areas access cheap and clean energy.

This project will offer an hourly rental service for electric ‘boda bodas’ and three-wheelers vehicles. The vehicles will be powered by a Jerr-e-can, a 72V, energy efficient battery that can be charged by mini-grids or solar home systems. Jerr-e-cans are also swappable. By using Jerr-e-cans, this project helps make electric vehicles cleaner and more economically viable. The project aims to make 20% of customers female drivers. These vehicles will help women transport water over long distances, which is a time-consuming, daily task.

Powerhive will also develop an app for the rural marketplace, which will enable rural communities to purchase excess electricity when prices are low. Ultimately, using the battery and app will encourage the use of more efficient mini-grids, which will benefit all stakeholders. It will also help to make appliances more accessible to off-grid communities. For example, the app will help rural farmers purchase cheaper electricity to power solar water pumps.

Since COVID-19, Powerhive has seen an increase in demand for vital services such as cooking, electricity and mobility. As a result, Powerhive has decided to expand the scope of the marketplace app in this project to include other appliances such as cookstoves.



AT A GLANCE

R&D Awardee

Powerhive Inc UK

Efficiency for Access Funding

£175,176

R&D Funding Unlocked from Powerhive Inc UK

£98,875

Project Locations

Kenya, United Kingdom