

# RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FUND PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

## Simusolar Limited

Solar-powered Agri-processing Equipment with Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) Financing

### Project Summary

This project will develop Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) control systems for agricultural processing machines, and enable financed, affordable, solar-powered processing equipment to farmers and rural processors.

### Project Description

Simusolar has identified a range of agricultural equipment needed by farmers in East Africa to gain value from their harvests, reduce transportation costs and cut post-harvest losses. However, this small-scale equipment has been slow to gain traction because of cost, availability and running expenses. Farmers struggle to get asset financing from financial institutions due to high risk factors.

Simusolar aims to solve the problems of access, affordability and service for solar-powered productive equipment. Using their unique PAYG control systems, which are Internet of Things (IoT) enabled for remote operation, they provide financing of productive use agricultural equipment. They have successfully introduced solar water pumps to the market in Tanzania. This project will develop a new product line, using processing equipment that has not been offered with financing before. Simusolar's objective is to develop controls for both grid or solar-powered equipment so they can finance equipment that is used in both settings.

The combination of financing and energy access paves the way for smallholder farmers and rural small and medium-sized businesses to increase productivity and incomes, supporting the rural economy.



### R&D Partner

Simusolar

### Organisation Founded

May 2014

### Technology

Agricultural Processing

### Project Location

Tanzania and Uganda

