

2020 GSK supplier awards winner case study

Winner of the large-sized company category



Schneider Electric overview

- Schneider Electric provide energy and automation digital solutions for efficiency and sustainability. They combine energy technologies, real-time automation, software and services into integrated solutions for homes, buildings, data centres, infrastructure and industries.
- Schneider have over 135,000 employees in over 100 countries, with 41% of revenues coming from “new economies” and 5% of revenues devoted to R&D.

Schneider Electric's Access to Energy programme

The Access to Energy programme involves running innovative projects that help people get out of poverty through capacity building, access to clean energy and impact investing. The programme was launched in 2009 and has three targets:

- One million people trained in electricity trades by 2025.
- 80 million people provided with clean energy access solutions by 2030.
- Three investment funds created/invested in, focusing on Sub-Saharan Africa, Europe & Asia by 2030.

The Clean Energy Entrepreneur's Network (CEEN) is a pilot project as part of the training and entrepreneurship objective and focuses on creating local employment for millions of youths whilst improving access to energy. It does this by supporting the setup of micro-enterprises that distribute clean energy solutions, and training young entrepreneurs in technical electricity skills to work for them. These young entrepreneurs are typically from underprivileged social backgrounds and living in remote areas from all over India. Many are young people who have dropped out of school.

Micro-enterprises created include:

- retail shops in rural areas or small towns, distributing clean and energy-efficient solutions such as solar lighting solutions, solar agricultural solutions, home electricals, or power back-up solutions
- Contractors offering services such as rooftop installation, solar water pumping installation, house electrification, etc.



Environmental achievements

- 300 micro-enterprises have been set up, and have hired 512 youth entrepreneurs over 1.5 years, with the potential to scale up even further.
- These micro-enterprises are distributing clean and energy-efficient solutions in rural areas: this includes retail shops and contractor services for solar installations.
- Energy solutions include solar-powered homes, solar micro-grids and solar water pumping systems.
- Over 246,000 young entrepreneurs have been trained in electricity trades.
- Since the start of the programme, over 27 million people have been provided with access to clean energy solutions
- Investment in 20 new ventures for energy access
- The programme contributes to social and environmental SDGs tackling major global challenges: access to energy and digital, and access to skills and jobs.