#### **SPEED**

## SMART POWER FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY-SOUND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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## The SPEED Concept

- Sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation, the SPEED program aims to expand livelihoods and enhance quality of life of rural populations by providing affordable, reliable, clean energy services for social and economic development.
- The initiative harnesses telecom towers as "anchor tenants" for renewable mini-grids.
- SPEED is currently being piloted in India and aims to stimulate large-scale investment in rural energy services in order to drive equitable and inclusive economic growth.

# The Opportunity: 400 million people in India lack electricity

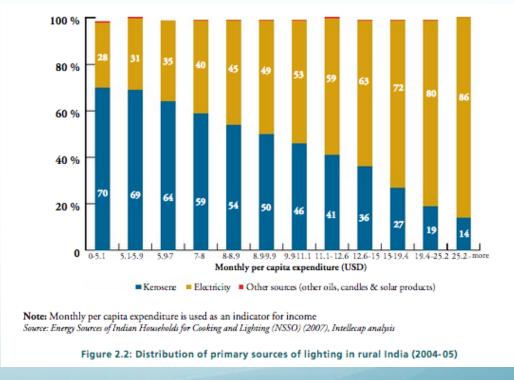
Approx. 75 million households lack access to electricity

Over 60,000 villages remain classified as unelectrified (in

realitly, even more)

 Rural households spend \$1.8 billion per year on kerosene for lighting

Government spends
 ~\$4 billion per year on kerosene subsidies



Source: Lighting Asia, IFC, 2012

# The Opportunity: Capitalize on telecom infrastructure to electrify off-grid communities

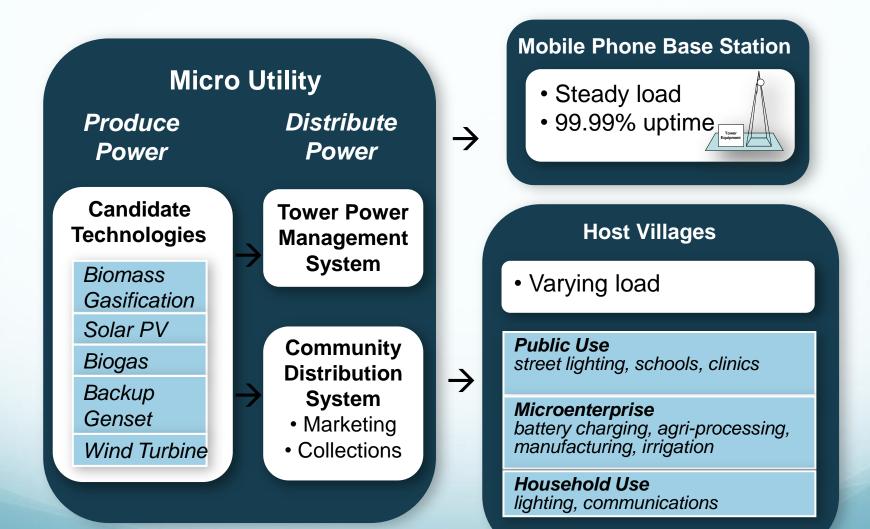
- India has over 300,000 telecom towers, including 150,000 off-grid towers
- Vast majority of off-grid towers powered by diesel, which is both costly and polluting



 SPEED vision: introduce RE-based minigrids to green telecom towers while extending energy services to surrounding communities



### The SPEED Approach – An Integrated Solution

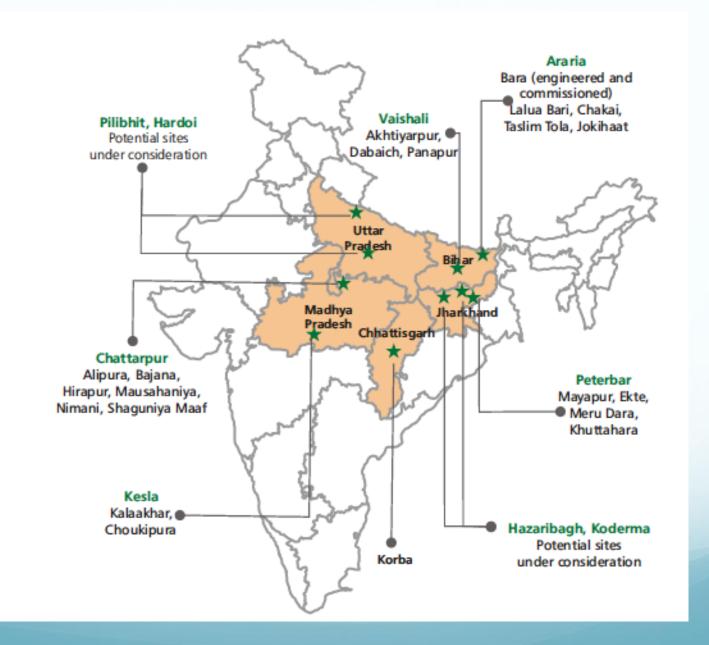


## **Project Status and Timeline**

SPEED connects diverse private companies to village sites

- Currently working in 4 states
  - 44 sites identified
  - 9 clusters under development
  - 9 ESCOs engaged
  - 4 NGO partners
  - >70 telecom towers targeted (0-3) per site
- Anticipated rollout of pilots
  - 4-6 by March
  - 12 by June
  - 30-50 villages by 2014

#### **States and Clusters**



#### Focus on under-electrified states

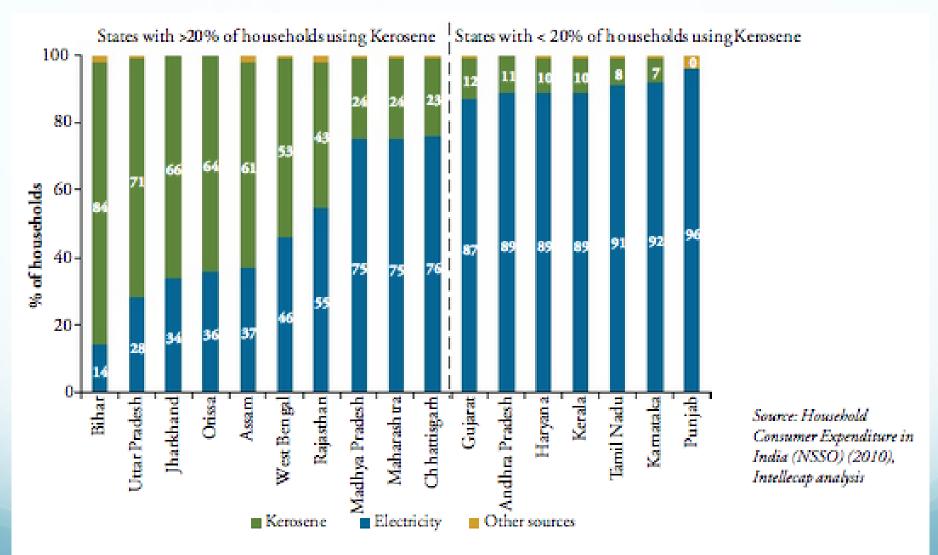


Figure 2.3: Primary sources of lighting in households across states (2007-08)

## **ESCO** Engagement and Cluster Development

State	Cluster	ESCOs	No. of Pr	ojects
			Sites Assessed	Sites Committed
Bihar	Araria	DESI Power	5	4
	Saran/ Araria	AST	0	10
	Vaishali	Telesolar	5	2
	Araria	Greenfields	2	4
Jharkhand	Bokaro	G P Green Energy	2	2
	Hazaribagh	AST	3	5
	Koderma	AST	2	5

## **ESCO** Engagement and Cluster Development

State	Cluster	ESCOs	No. of Projects	
			Site Assessed	Site Committed
Uttar Pradesh	Faizabad	Greenfields	2	4
		Gram Power	1	1
	Bundelkahnd	First ESCO	2	2
	Jaunpur	AST	1	
Madhya Pradesh	Hoshangabad	Gram Oorja	1	5

# Plant Types

	Type A	Type B	Type C
Local Economic Development	Relatively High	Medium	Low
Load Profile	Assured anchor (e.g., poultry farm, silk production); small local enterprises; irrigation pumps; household lighting	Small local enterprises; irrigation pumps; household lighting	Primarily household lighting; possibly some irrigation; SPEED will support enterprise development
Typical Plant Generating Capacity	> 50 kW	25-50 kW	< 25 kW

## **DESI Power – Baharbari biomass plant in Bihar**







# **Powering Productive Activities**









# **Pricing System for Baharbari Plant**

	Cost to Consumer	Diesel/Kerosen e Comparison	Notes
Irrigation	Rs 50/hour of pumping = ~Rs 15/kWh	~ Rs 60/kWh (based on diesel price of Rs 50/L and 1.2 L/hour)	DESI operates 6 pumps at 3kW each
Agri- processing enterprise	Rs 12/kWh	Rs 20-25/kWh	Uses 8-10 hours of electricity daily
Household Lighting	Rs 4-5 per 100W light bulb for 4-5 hours/day = ~Rs 1/hr/bulb		Charge by point of consumption, not kWh; Provide lighting from ~6 pm to 10-11 pm

Source: DESI Power

# **Biomass Supply Chain**



- 2 acres planted produce ~60 tons/year
- 50 kW plant requires ~400 tons/year



### **Chakai: Site Currently Under Development**



← Gasifier to power 2 telecom towers, mill, ice factory, market and nearby households

30-35 kW gasifier primarily to irrigate fields →



## Challenges

#### Operational

- Shortage of well trained personnel
- Demand assurance (understanding existing demand and scheduling, developing new demand)
- Revenue assurance (metering, remote monitoring, pre-paid systems)
- Biomass supply chain (seasonality, type, price sensitivity)

#### Financial

- Difficulty of unlocking private sector finance, especially commercial debt
  - Economically viable projects may not be bankable due to: small ticket size, low IRRs, high due diligence costs, unproven business model, policy uncertainty, etc.
  - Employ aggregation strategy: develop portfolios of projects in order to increase ticket size, reduce risk, attract finance, achieve scale

#### Policy

- Uncertain policy environment, e.g., surrounding grid extension, future tariffs
  - Need clear and enabling legal and regulatory environment, including dedicated off-grid renewable energy policies

#### **SPEED Program Partners**

Organization	Function
TARA	Overall Program Coordination and Capacity Building, Policy Dialogue, Knowledge Management, Communications
CII – Godrej GBC	Industry Anchor and Investment Influence
cKinetics	Analytics, Business Modeling and Investment Outreach
DESI Power	Technology & Innovation Partner
Pradan	Community Engagement and Micro-enterprise Development
Prayas	Policy Research
Sambodhi	Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation
SAIS Energy, Resources & Environment Program	Research, Analysis and Global Outreach

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