



UNIVERSITEIT•STELLENBOSCH•UNIVERSITY  
jou kennisvenoot • your knowledge partner



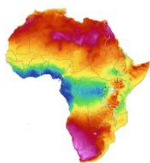
SOLAR THERMAL ENERGY RESEARCH GROUP

# *Feasibility study and business plan for manufacturing a 3 kW- electrical solar Stirling engine and dish, for off-grid electrical power supply units*

L.Kayofa <sup>a</sup>, T.D. van Schalkwyk <sup>a</sup> & R.T. Dobson <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Solar Thermal Energy Research Group (STERG), University of Stellenbosch

<sup>b</sup>Centre for Renewable and Sustainable Energy Studies (CRSES), University of Stellenbosch



[concentrating.sun.ac.za](http://concentrating.sun.ac.za)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual STERG  
SolarPACES Symposium**  
17 July 2014  
Stellenbosch, South Africa



SOLAR THERMAL ENERGY  
RESEARCH GROUP



# Presentation Outline

---



- ❖ Background
- ❖ Stirling Dish Technology
- ❖ Research Problems
- ❖ Research Design
- ❖ Marketing Research
- ❖ Manufacturing Plan
- ❖ Economical Analysis of a Residential 3 kW Stirling Dish
- ❖ Conclusion





# Background



- In 2009 Africa had 587 million people without access to electricity
- Rural areas 80 % of this number (International Energy Agency)
- Table I. Electricity Access in 2009 (International Energy Agency )

|                             | Population without electricity million | Electrification rate % | Rural electrification rate % |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Africa</b>               | 587                                    | 41.8                   | 25                           |
| -North Africa               | 2                                      | 99.0                   | 98.4                         |
| -Sub-Saharan Africa         | 585                                    | 30.5                   | 14.2                         |
| <b>Developing countries</b> | 1,314                                  | 74.7                   | 63.2                         |
| <b>World</b>                | 1,267                                  | 81.5                   | 68                           |





# Background

---

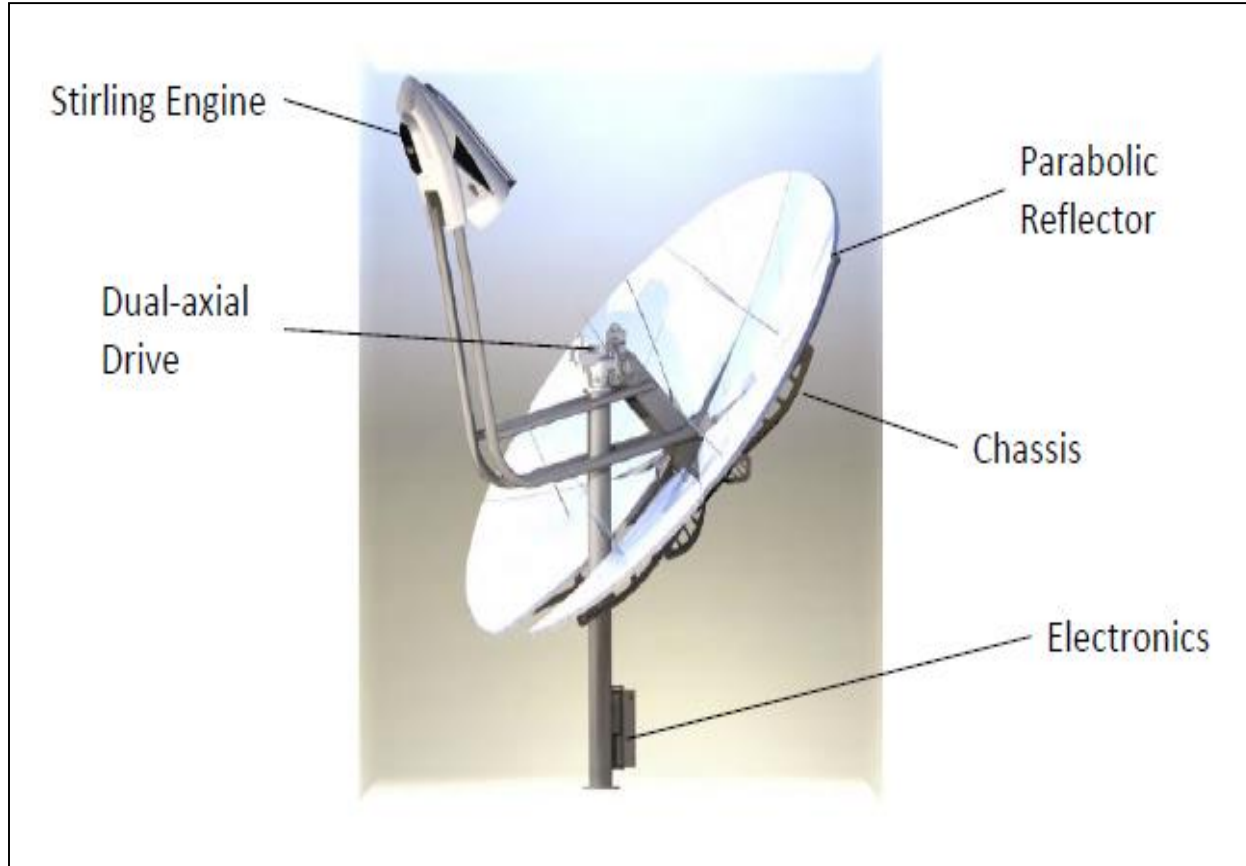


- Rural areas are scattered and isolated
- Have a low population density which makes it expensive to extend electricity grids to rural areas
- One technology Africa can look into : Stirling dish





# Stirling Dish System





# Research Problems

---



- Market potential in Africa has not been assessed
  - Market size
  - Risks in off-grid rural markets
- Profitable business venture





# Research Design





# Market Research



- Customers: needs, attitudes and buying habits
- Conducted a survey in a rural community without access to electricity
- Objectives of the survey:
  - Determining the market interest of the solar Stirling dish amongst the people
  - Formulating an overview of the energy situation in rural communities
  - Determining a realistic price for the solar Stirling dish
  - Identifying the needs of the customers that could be incorporated in the designs of the Stirling engine and the concentrator







# Manufacturing Plan

---



- Plant location : Johannesburg
- Plant layout (physical arrangement) - U-shaped production line
- Space requirement : 4000 m<sup>2</sup>
  
- Costs analysis:
  - **Material costs** : raw materials
  - **Manufacturing costs** : machining
  - **Production costs** :labour and electricity





# Manufacturing Plan



- Results:
- Manufacturing costs of one Stirling dish
- Selling price : R 90 000.00
  
- Number of days needed to complete one unit
  - Concentrator- 1/2 day
  - Stirling engine- 5/6 days
- Number of workers required





# Economical Analysis of a Residential 3 kW Stirling Dish



- Deployment of the Stirling dish in rural areas is not necessary compete with other technologies but to provide electricity
- This type of purchasing plan is suitable for a homeowner with a low income
- Assumptions used in the analysis:
  - Loan = selling price of Stirling dish with 10 % down payment
  - Period : 30 years
  - Discount rate : 10 %
  - Inflation rate : 3 %



# Economical Analysis of a Residential 3 kW Stirling Dish



| ITEM                      | VALUE       |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Levelised Cost of Energy  | 1.38 R/kWh  |
| Life line areas           | 2.11 R/kWh  |
| Discounted payback period | 10.74 years |





## Conclusion

---



- Viable market exist in Africa
  - 24 % households have a total monthly income R 4000- 10 000 or more per month
- Manufacturing of this technology is possible in Africa
- Purchasing plan that can make product more affordable to homeowners



## **Acknowledgements:**

**NRF**

**STERG**

**University of Stellenbosch**

## **Contact details:**

**L. Kayofa**

**Solar Thermal Energy Research  
Group (STERG)**

**University of Stellenbosch  
South Africa**

**[lilongenik@gmail.com](mailto:lilongenik@gmail.com)  
+27 (0)21 808 4016**

**visit us:**

**[concentrating.sun.ac.za](http://concentrating.sun.ac.za)**



# Supporting information



|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Cost of one power supply 3 kW</b> | R 90 000.00 |
| Manufacturing cost of concentrator   | R 447.28    |
| Manufacturing cost of engine         | R 2 997.95  |
| <b>Manufacturing overhead 10 %</b>   | R 3 789.75  |
|                                      |             |
| Material cost of concentrator        | R 40 190.63 |
| Material cost of engine              | R 15 258.47 |
| <b>Material cost overhead 10%</b>    | R 60 994.01 |
| Total costs                          | R 64 783.76 |
| <b>Profit</b>                        | 30%         |





## Supporting information

---



- Machining: welding, drilling, milling, turning and broaching
- Concentrator = 2 workers
- Stirling dish = 25 workers
- PMT ( annual interest rate, years and amount)







## Supporting information



| ITEM                      | VALUE       |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Net Present Value         | R 14 058.44 |
| Internal Rate of Return   | 17.53 %     |
| Levelised Cost of Energy  | 1.38 R/kWh  |
| Life line areas           | 2.11 R/kWh  |
| Discounted payback period | 10.74 years |



# Supporting information

