Mahashakti Foundation (MSF) was established under the Indian Trust Act – 1882, and began operations in October 2004 in Madanpur Rampur, in the Kalahandi district of Odisha. A professionally managed and operated organization, MSF had its origins in the CASHE project (CARE India and DFID) and a program run by Odisha’s leading NGO, the Friend’s Association for Rural Reconstruction (FARR). MSF provides a range of services to the “poor and downtrodden communities” and works towards improvement in livelihood development, health, education, agriculture, renewable energy, micro insurance, sustainable community development, sanitation, organic farming, housing and microcredit. MSF currently operates in 20 branches in eight districts of Western and Southern Odisha; these areas are considered to be among the poorest in the country, with 91 percent of the population residing in villages, and 39 percent belonging to tribal communities where the average daily income per capita is below USD 1. MSF works with over 40,000 poor families, empowering them to address their own socio-economic, political and cultural needs. MSF has a professional, dedicated and growing workforce of 200 staff and in the last six years, it has disbursed INR 120 crores. Its current repayment rate is 98 percent.

MSF started its energy lending program in 2013 with technical assistance from the USAID-funded Renewable Energy Microfinance and Microenterprise Program (REMMP) implemented by Arc Finance, which was expanded further in 2015 under the USAID PACE-D TA Program. As of October 31, 2017, over 26,900 energy loans have been provided to MSF’s clients for the purchase of portable solar lanterns and clean cook stoves. In addition, 45 solar microgrids are supplying basic lighting and mobile charging services to nearly 1,800 families. MSF is a leading player in solar microgrid installations and solar lantern sales across the state of Odisha.
**Mahashakti Foundation’s Microfinance and Energy Loan Products**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>AVERAGE MICROFINANCE LOAN TERM</strong></th>
<th><strong>UP TO 24 MONTHS</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AVERAGE MICROFINANCE LOAN SIZE</strong></td>
<td>2,000 <strong>TO 25,000</strong> INR (USD 35 to USD 400)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MICROFINANCE LOAN REPAYMENT FREQUENCY</strong></td>
<td><strong>WEEKLY OR MONTHLY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ENERGY LOAN TERM</strong></td>
<td><strong>6 MONTHS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ENERGY LOAN SIZE</strong></td>
<td>600 <strong>TO 2,400</strong> INR (USD 10 to USD 40)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ENERGY LOAN REPAYMENT FREQUENCY</strong></td>
<td><strong>WEEKLY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ENERGY INSTALLMENTS TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>24 INSTALLMENTS</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPACT***

**OUTREACH**

- Nearly 26,900 clients (100% women) have received financing for clean energy products
- Over 134,500 household members have benefitted
- 59% of MSF’s client base now has clean energy products

**FINANCIAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Over USD 700,000 has been disbursed as energy loans
- As a result of USAID support, USD 500,000 in debt investments have been leveraged

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

- 70 kW equivalent of solar capacity has been installed
- Over 7,500 tons of CO₂e have been displaced

*As of October 31, 2017

**ABOUT PACE-D TA PROGRAM**: The Partnership to Advance Clean Energy – Deployment Technical Assistance Program (PACE-D TA Program) is a five-year bilateral initiative led by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Department of State, and implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Power (MOP) and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). The Program has three key components: energy efficiency (EE), renewable energy (RE) and cleaner fossil technologies. One of the focal areas of the Program is to provide technical assistance to microfinance institutions to scale up energy lending. Nexant is the key implementation partner for the PACE-D TA Program and is supported by a consortium of Indian and U.S. companies including Arc Finance which leads the microfinance component of the Program. As a part of this Program, Arc Finance is providing technical assistance to seven partner microfinance institutions in nine different states: Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Kerala, Bihar, Tamil Nadu and Chhattisgarh. For more information, please visit www.pace-d.com.

**USAID/India**

**CONTACT**

ANURAG MISHRA
SENIOR CLEAN ENERGY SPECIALIST

**EMAIL**

AMISHRA@USAID.GOV

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