



ISVx Adopt a Smart Village

Introduction

The IEEE Smart Village (ISVx) philosophy is “Power a Village, Empower a Community.” With close to one billion people in the world with little or no access to electricity, there is a great need and great opportunity for people around the world to help with the electrification of existing villages without electricity to help empower the villagers with electricity, educational and business opportunities. This is where we can make a simple, relatively inexpensive contribution to humanity.

ISVx Adopt a Smart Village Program

ISVx has the goal to bring electricity to villages around the world primarily through utilizing renewable energy sources such as solar photovoltaic (PV) systems. Along with bringing electricity to these villages, the intent is to empower the villagers with education and entrepreneurship. Imagine living without electricity for a day let alone a lifetime.

ISVx is proposing a program for businesses, IEEE societies and others to adopt a village in order to help develop and support a microgrid to serve the people of that village. This is much like a mentoring program where the business or IEEE society is helping mentor the fledgling village electric system to become self-sufficient and self-sustaining. It will allow new startup businesses to thrive and children to be better educated. The present use of kerosene for lighting will be replaced by LED lights and hand-me-down textbooks can be replaced by tablets and computers.

Support Now

One billion people need our support. While this may seem like a monumental effort, which it is, it is like any large project. For example, how do you write a book? You start with writing the first page! With a little bit of time and effort, we have the opportunity to make a difference to a child, mother or father who do not have the opportunities that most of us take for granted. Obviously, financial support is needed and encouraged. However, adopting a village to support the development of their small microgrid is the first step. After that, the opportunities to support and adopt villages are unlimited. ISVx envisions these adopted villages to develop micro-grids which eventually will be interconnected to other villages and to ultimately develop utility grids comparable to first world systems. Please contact ISVx now to offer your support. smartvillage@ieee.org