

**RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FUND
PROJECT SPOTLIGHT**

EQUATORIAL POWER

IDJWI ISLAND COLD CHAIN CATALYST

Equatorial Power’s Cold Chain Catalyst tests the use of sustainable productive power to support the growth of agricultural value chains from industrial park ice to local shop refrigerators on Idjwi Island.

Equatorial Power plans to create a cold chain intervention on Idjwi Island in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This will be achieved with Equatorial Power’s operational 30kW/300 connection PV mini-grid and a 30kW Productive Power Generation Site, which will enable the growth of businesses and communities across the island.

Ice will be provided to fishermen and made available in marketplaces by using an ice machine, ice storage with freezers and cold boxes. Cold chain interventions at fishing and market level could create positive effects for the value chain through the storage of goods and enable further sales. This will reduce the loss of goods in transport to mainland markets and thus increase business revenue. Equatorial Power will work with communities, including dairy producers, shop owners and restaurant owners, by providing refrigeration to create business growth and enable access to power.

A local team on Idjwi Island will run this project. This has two main benefits. First, a local team’s involvement can help spur economic growth of the community through job creation. Second, local managers will help monitor the project and ensure sustainability throughout its operations and growth following proof of concept.



AT A GLANCE

R&D Partner
Equatorial Power Ltd

**Efficiency for Access
Funding**
£180,850

**R&D Funding Unlocked
from Equatorial Power**
£20,094

Project Location
Democratic Republic
of Congo