The project will develop energy efficient washing machine and dryer centres. The dryers will be multi-purpose, with the ability to dry crops, clothes, and dehydrate food for long-term storage. This will be done by incorporating improved cookstove and DC electric fan technology.

Existing solar home systems are limited in their ability to deliver power to appliances with high-energy requirements over long time periods. As a result, productive use of appliances cannot be used at a high capacity, which means that tasks must be completed manually. This includes washing clothes. As a result, one billion women across the globe spend 100 billion hours laundring by hand.

Village Infrastructure Angels are working to adapt a washing machine and dryer to become energy efficient. The company’s research showed that spinning clothes is one of the most power-intensive tasks for a washing machine. This project aims to develop a cost-effective and efficient spinning process for off-grid washing machines and dryers. Village Infrastructure Angels will further develop its prototypes into pre-commercial products in a trial of four washing and drying centres established in Cambodia, Indonesia and Kenya.