

## Activity Brief – Small Hydropower Project

<b>Location:</b> Kerugoya-Kutus Municipality, Kirinyaga County, Kenya	<b>Sector:</b> Energy
<b>Investment Size:</b> £2.44m ~(Ksh406m)	<b>Seed Fund Contribution:</b> £612k~ (Ksh101m)
<b>Household Impact:</b> 9,100+	<b>Other Benefits:</b> Climate resilience
<b>Date Deal Signed:</b> March 2024	<b>Date Operational:</b> June 2024

**Project Synopsis:** The UK Government through its Sustainable Urban Economic Development Programme (SUED) is supporting Hydrobox Kenya to set up a small hydropower project with the capacity to produce 703KW in Kirinyaga County. The project will be located along River Thiba to take advantage of the County’s permanent rivers to generate electricity. The project is geared toward providing sustainable solutions through the development and operation of compact hydropower facilities and mini grids in remote areas in Kenya to ensure full electricity coverage. SUED’s support is increasing the capacity of the power plant to be able to supply power to around 3,000 households, 10 schools, 3 medical centres, at least 3 large business and 100 small and medium sized businesses.

**Financials:** Hydrobox is investing £1.834m~ (Ksh 304.8m) into the project to set up the operations in Kirinyaga. The UK Government has played a key role in unlocking this investment by providing technical assistance in the deal structuring as well as providing £612k~ (Kes 101m) in seed fund support.

**Impact:** It will impact 3,000 households with average occupancy of 3, 10 schools with an average of 500 enrolled, 4 medical centres that serve 300 people in their locality and 3 large business and 100 SMEs. The project will create 28 jobs. The project will contribute to the reduction of 1,857 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year.