



CATAPULT**DESIGN**

CASE STUDY: SOLAR  
FOR HEALTH CLINICS

# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Seven health clinics serve the rural population in the Ruli District that was heavily affected by the Rwandan genocide. In total, the clinics serve 120,000 community members who don't have the means to travel to the local hospital, a 2-3 hour walk from the clinics. The clinics provide both in-patient and out-patient care, and are the source of HIV medication distribution for the local population. HIV medication requires electricity in order to be distributed.

Catapult Design is working with The Ihanganne Project, SELF, and the health clinics to specify and source an adequate, affordable, and reliable photovoltaic power system. The PV systems will be specified for five clinics - three that presently have inadequate systems, and two without any electricity.

Providing adequate electricity to the health clinics will improve the standard of health care to the population. Electricity means lighting for nighttime patient care, computer usage for hospital technicians, and refrigeration of medication. Hospital technicians who are trained to maintain and monitor the system receive a boost in economic status. The majority of the Ruli District's 120,000 community members are living on \$1/day and frequently cannot afford the trip to the main hospital.

In August 2009, Catapult performed an energy and vendor assessment in Nyange and Kigali and worked with The Ihanganne Project to source an on-the-ground organization to lead the evaluation of the monitoring of the system over the next two years. The system for Nyange has a projected installation date of Summer 2010 with the remaining health clinics to follow.

**CLIENT:** The Ihanganne Project

**PROJECT PARTNER:** SELF (Solar Electric Light Fund)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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