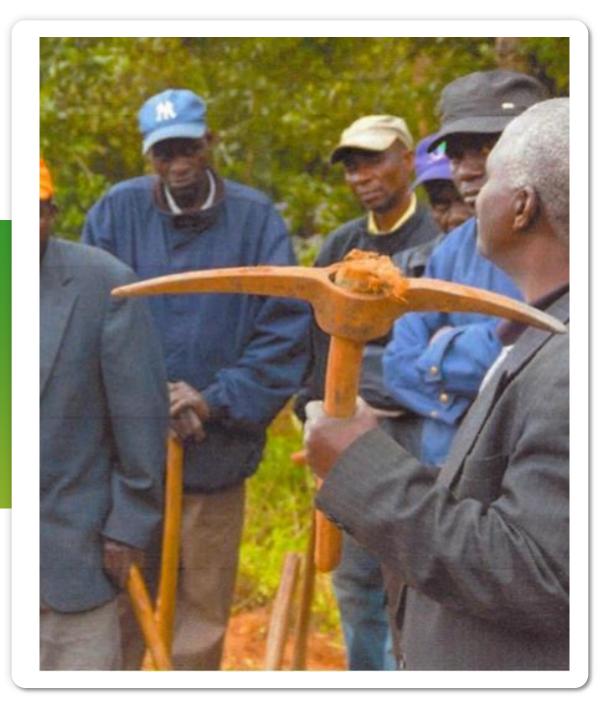
### A Solar Solution to Food & Energy Insecurity

Alex Gerard Dr Jonathan Wilson Dr Carl Telford

## Renewables Forum 21st February 2024

AFRICA TRACTOR

Scotland Malawi Partnership

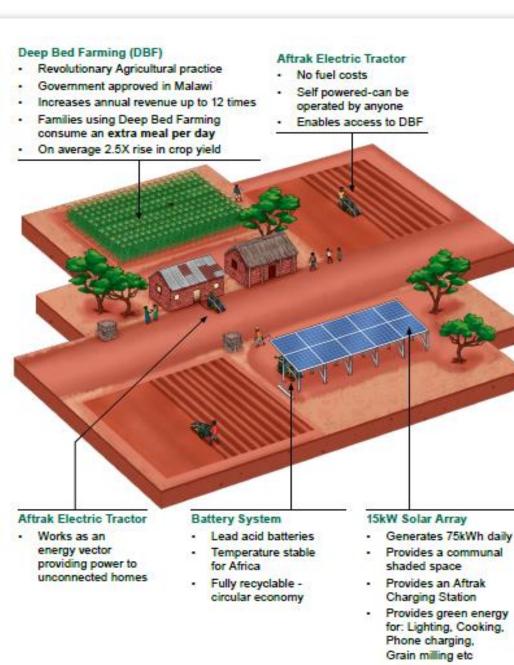


### Opportunity Statement: AfTrak



- **3.1m** smallholder farming families in Malawi
- Almost exclusively using basic hand tools.
- Many do not make subsistence.
  HOWEVER:
- Agriculture represents more than **31% of the GDP** in Malawi.
- Contributes more than 90% of export earnings.
- Supports **85% of the total** population living in rural areas.





- Aftrak is a solar microgrid capable of generating
  70kWh per day and supplying an entire village.
- It is supported by micro electric tractors powered by the array.
- These tractors enable **Deep Bed Farming** (DBF) for all.
- DBF massively **increases revenue**
- Increased revenue allows revenue generation from energy sales.



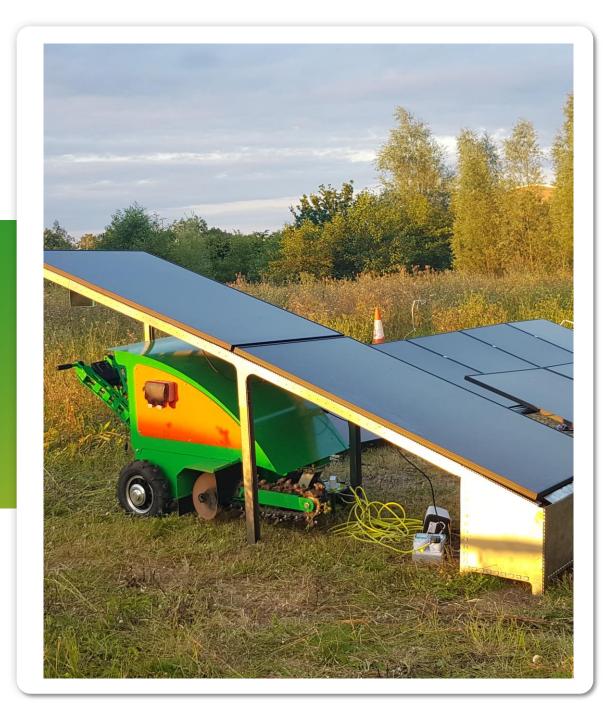
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The Tractor:

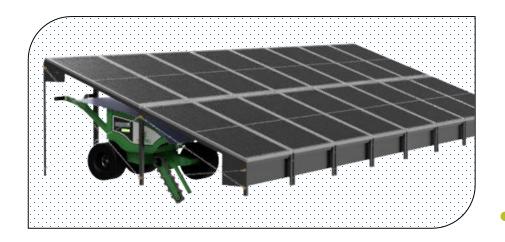
- Solar Battery Powered
- Prepares earth to 400mm Depth
- Works as an Energy Vector with AC power and USB charging
- Self-propelling usable by anyone.

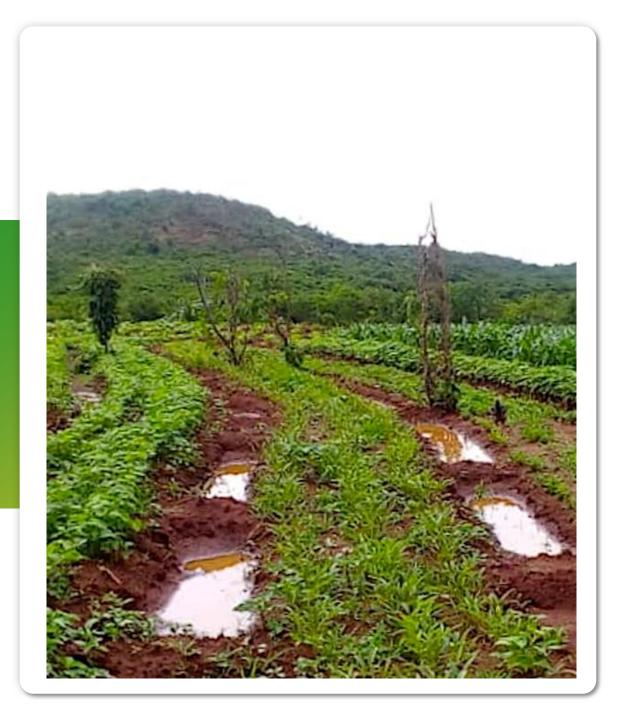




### The Microgrid:

- Modular IkW units
- Integrated Battery
- Produces 70kWh / day
- Provides hardwired power to homes
- Charges Aftrak Tractors.

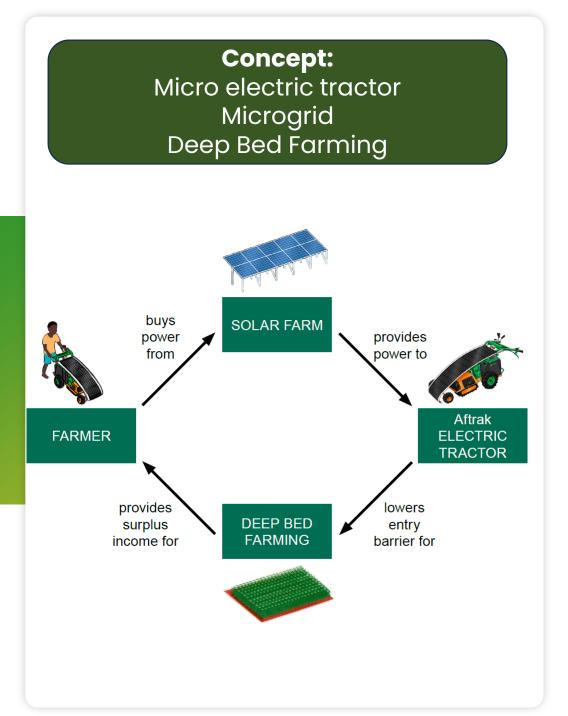




#### **Deep Bed Farming:**

- **30,000** Farmers Already Onboard!
  - **50%** are women.
- **Approved technique** preparing earth deep enough for crops to flourish.
- 3-fold increase in yield
- 12-fold increase in farmer profit.
- Excess profit used to support Microgrid.





#### Market:

- **3.1m** smallholder farming families in Malawi
- 8.9% of population is grid connected
- 89% of Malawians are without electricity
- Over **30,000** farmers <u>already</u> practising DBF
- DBF doubles crops yields and harvests
  water
- Model is applicable across Africa

#### **Customers:**

• **100k** Solar Microgrids needed in Malawi

• 100-300k Supporting Aftrak Micro tractors

#### **Different revenue models:**

- Farmer owned
- Farmer leased
- Solar revenue supported

# Ti)eni



### Loughborough University



#### CONSORTIUM FOR BATTERY INNOVATION



## ENERGY WITH AGRICULTURE:

#### Three KEY partners to deliver Aftrak:

**Tiyeni**: Operate in Malawi with an extensive network of champions and farmers deploying Deep Bed Farming.

**Loughborough University:** Centre for renewable energy system technology is highly experienced in solar and Agri technology development and development.

**Consortium for Battery Innovation**: Manages a worldwide network of battery and technology manufacturing partners.