

Generating skilled employment

Musa Haonga is employed as an Assistant Technician by REDAVIA, pursuing his career ambitions in his home town of Shitunguru

Musa had been unemployed for six months before becoming a security guard for REDAVIA in 2015. Patrolling the solar farm inspired him to learn more about how the mini-grid system works. By watching and learning from the company's experienced electricians, Musa developed a keen interest which, combined with training provided by the company, helped him acquire the skills he needed to be promoted to Assistant Technician for Shitunguru in 2018.

Musa now supports the Head Technician in maintaining the Shitunguru solar farm and works with a team of specialist home wiring technicians to connect new customers. Musa aspires to be a Head Technician himself one day.

"Working for REDAVIA has taught me so much, I have learned about internal wiring, meter installation and maintenance, troubleshooting faults and health and safety." He continues, "I love that my job never gets boring! There are new things to learn and solve almost every day!

I love the feeling when I connect a new customer, it is exciting when a customer gets power for the first time. I also really like working with the other technicians and learning from them."

With the arrival of reliable solar power, Musa has also noticed a shift in the mindset of young people in the villages. Before, they often moved away to the city for work and it was a significant problem for villages like Shitunguru. Now, some of his friends are returning from urban areas, a change which he believes reflects the new opportunities REDAVIA power has brought to the villages.

Musa added, "as a young man, it is important for me to stay connected with current news. Previously, when I needed to charge my radio batteries, I had to travel to Mwanjelwa or Mlowo, travelling up to an hour each way along unsealed roads which can be impassable in the rainy season. Now I can use REDAVIA's electricity to stay up to date."

