



## PRESS RELEASE

### INENSUS launches free cloud version of MicroPowerManager

Decentralized Utilities may now use the next level of MicroPowerManager to lower their operational cost, increase their operational efficiency and maximize customer satisfaction

Local entrepreneurs are increasingly emerging in the form of Decentralised Electric Utilities to reach and serve the deep rural unelectrified communities in Africa and Asia. These handle a vast amount of technical and financial data for their operations. However, only larger utilities can afford the customization and integration of commercially available software solutions. Therefore, smaller Decentralised Utilities depend on the manual handling of technical and transactional datapoints, which hinders business growth and prevents cost reductions.

To fill the above gap, in 2020 INENSUS launched the software MicroPowerManager Open Source which facilitates the entire data management for Decentralised Electric Utilities within a single software platform. It incorporates customer-, asset- and O&M-management features.

As Decentralized Utilities were hesitant to establish and operate the software on their own server, INENSUS developed the concept further and is presenting an upgraded version of the MicroPowerManager: the MicroPowerManager-Cloud (MPM-Cloud). MPM-Cloud makes day-to-day operation of utilities easier on three key fronts:

**IT Infrastructure.** With MPM-Cloud, the Decentralized Utility does not need to operate and pay for its own server anymore. Instead, it can simply sign up, select the applicable set-up, transfer existing data to the platform and start using the software from the cloud straightaway! INENSUS runs the server for the user.

**IT Capacity.** The utilities do not need to worry about installing the software manually. The required IT knowledge is minimal with MPM-Cloud. INENSUS runs the backend while the utilities can focus on their mini-grid business. INENSUS' software-development team takes care of reliable and safe operation for the users, whereas the users will receive easy-to-follow guidelines on how to fully utilise the features of the software.

**Data Protection.** The software is built in 'One website, many databases' format where data of one Utility is never mixed with data from another Utility.

The platform now comes with the seamless integration of both, the systems from leading meter manufacturers' as well as country-specific mobile money operators, to effectively monitor the flow of cash and electricity. The key features of the MPM are all available free-of-cost with the cloud version, including electricity and appliance

sales (via deferred payment schemes) using mobile money, SMS marketing campaigns as well as for monitoring revenue, staff and asset performance. An Android App for customer/meter registration including geo-tagging and another for establishing a bi-directional SMS gateway for customer communication are available with the use of MPM-Cloud.

Nico Peterschmidt, CEO of INENSUS says: *“With this free-of-charge and easy-to-use service, we want to help especially smaller mini-grid companies professionalize their operations, reduce operational cost and maximize electricity customer satisfaction.”*

INENSUS would like to thank all users and sector stakeholders who had provided feedback on MPM Open Source, thus contributing to take MPM to the next level and making it a cloud-based software. INENSUS continues integrating the software with various mobile money providers and metering technologies in cooperation with Decentralised Utility companies to make this solution available to more countries and regions.

The development of the MPM-Cloud is financially supported by the DOEN Foundation. Jitske Harms, program manager at the DOEN Foundation: *“The DOEN Foundation is proud to support the development of the MPM from the start and is seeing its open source and free of cost character as very valuable for the mini-grid sector as a whole. Especially smaller mini-grid providers can professionalize their client monitoring and service and reduce their operational costs at the same time.”*

## **About INENSUS**

INENSUS is a leading mini-grid consulting firm providing holistic technical, business and policy expertise based on years of experience as mini-grid investor, project developer and operator in West and East Africa. Its clients range from private and public mini-grid project developers to international development organizations and financiers, to governments in the target countries. With MicroPowerManager, INENSUS has ventured into IT services for Decentralized Utilities.

## **About DOEN Foundation**

The DOEN Foundation believes in a green, socially inclusive and creative society. DOEN supports innovative initiatives and gives pioneers a flying start. These pioneers show that things can be different and thus inspire new initiators.

## **More information**

[www.micropowermanager.com](http://www.micropowermanager.com)

[www.inensus.com](http://www.inensus.com)

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