Year in Review:
The year 2017 saw a lot of activities take off in JUMEME’s pilot project in Bwisya village (Ukara Island). Both positive outcomes and challenges (steep learning curves for the organization) were experienced as the organization grew and strived to further improve its services rendered to the customers, as well as improve on the back-end technology.

The following are notable changes and ventures on the island:

An increase in Productive Use of energy has been experienced as new businesses came up and others expanded, as well as household users converting to productive users of energy, depicting an improvement in the village’s economy. This in turn led to the increase of JUMEME’s customer base in Bwisya (especially on the commercial/productive use of energy), whereby the increase in customer base reflected into increased revenues (highest revenues ever realized since the start of the pilot project) as the year closed.

Bwisya village also saw a few small scale (looking to expand the ventures in the coming months) electric irrigation projects pick up thanks to Excel Hort Consult’s [http://excelhort.com/](http://excelhort.com/) expertise (one of JUMEME’s partners) and initiative on sensitizing and organizing farmers, and thanks to JUMEME’s electricity production and engineering which enabled the tapping of water for irrigation along the lake shore.

Figure 1:
The Introduction of sunflower farming in Bwisya village
The inclusion of more women in the productive use of energy and business was also realized in collaboration with GIZ who are taking the lead in gender mainstreaming in the energy sector in Tanzania. These efforts saw women come up with novice (in relation to the village) business ideas such as the introduction of a laundry business using a washing machine; and electric powered tailoring machines.

Links: "Unlocking Benefits of Electrification for Women - Video"

"Unlocking Benefits of Electrification for Women - PDF"
Strong collaboration between JUMEME and Energy 4 Impact (E4I) has also enabled the analysis of socio-economic and the general economic status in Bwisya in relation to local businesses and with regards to energy whereby conditions pre-JUMEME and post-JUMEME can be analyzed. Bwisya has changed after electrification by JUMEME providing more opportunities to its inhabitants and better quality of living.

Project Roll Out:

The year 2018 shall see JUMEME Rural Power Supply supported by the European Union (Co-Funding the project), and together with its partners expand its operations into nine new islands in Lake Victoria. The planning of the expansion of the project got underway in mid-2017, power houses and solar PV support structures have been constructed. Installation of power generation equipment and distribution networks is expected to commence in the first quarter of 2018.

Sensitization programs (JUMEME Days) have already been conducted on nine (9) islands and nineteen (19) villages in the lake region where by household customers were the target in the fourth quarter of 2017, and 2,386 customers have already signed up to be connected to JUMEME’s solar electricity.

The sensitization and sign up of productive users of energy will take place in the early stages of the first quarter of 2018 as a further step on the expansion of the project.

This new dawn will also see JUMEME put up two 1 MW capacity solar farms on mainland Tanzania, feeding into TANESCO (Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited) operated mini-grids. This is considered a big step and opportunity opener for the organization as it grows. These projects will be laid in areas where TANESCO uses massive diesel generators for electricity production and hence JUMEME will have assisted this public organization in highly reducing its carbon footprint, which is one of the long-term goals of JUMEME as an organization.