

Electric mobility



Electric mobility business models and exploitation pathways

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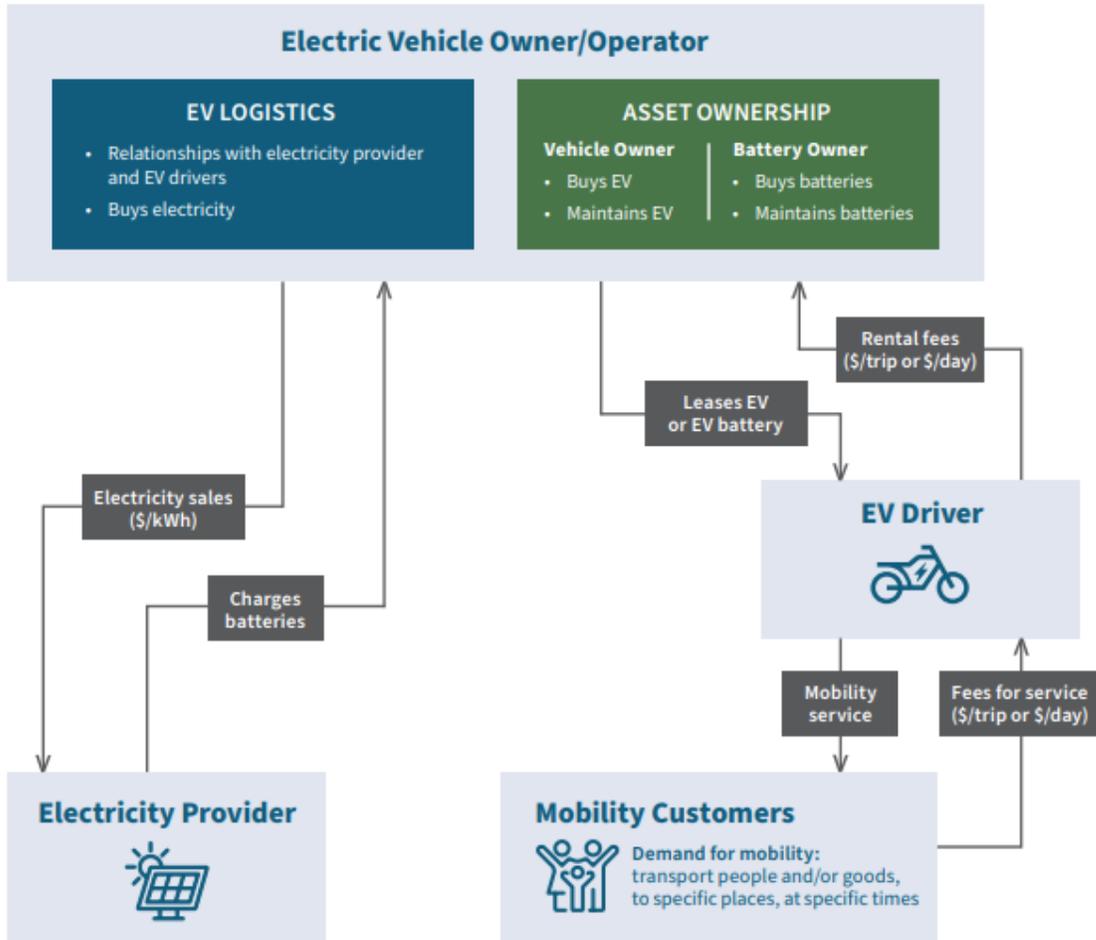
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In this video you will learn:

- Electric mobility service agents and roles
 - Electric mobility business models
 - PAYGO, pay-per-use, Leasing, E-sharing
 - Battery swapping
 - Existing business cases in Africa



E-mobility service agents and roles



- 1 EV owner/operator:** Own charging or swapping stations and E-mobility assets (vehicles and/or batteries).
- 2 Electricity provider:** Offer renewable power for minigrids feeding vehicle batteries.
- 3 E-mobility driver:** Offer mobility services and rent vehicles from EV owners.
- 4 E-mobility customer:** Acquire services related to vehicles.

Figure 1. Principal agents involved in minigrid powered EV business models (RMI, 2022).

E-mobility business models: PAYGO



Pay-as-you-go (PAYGO): it is based on offering fractional payment methods to avoid high initial expenditure. Down payments are offered upfront instead.

Example: Zero Emission Motorcycle Boda, Uganda.

Figure 2. Zembo motorcycles launching in Kampala-Masaka highway in Uganda.

E-mobility business models: pay-per-use

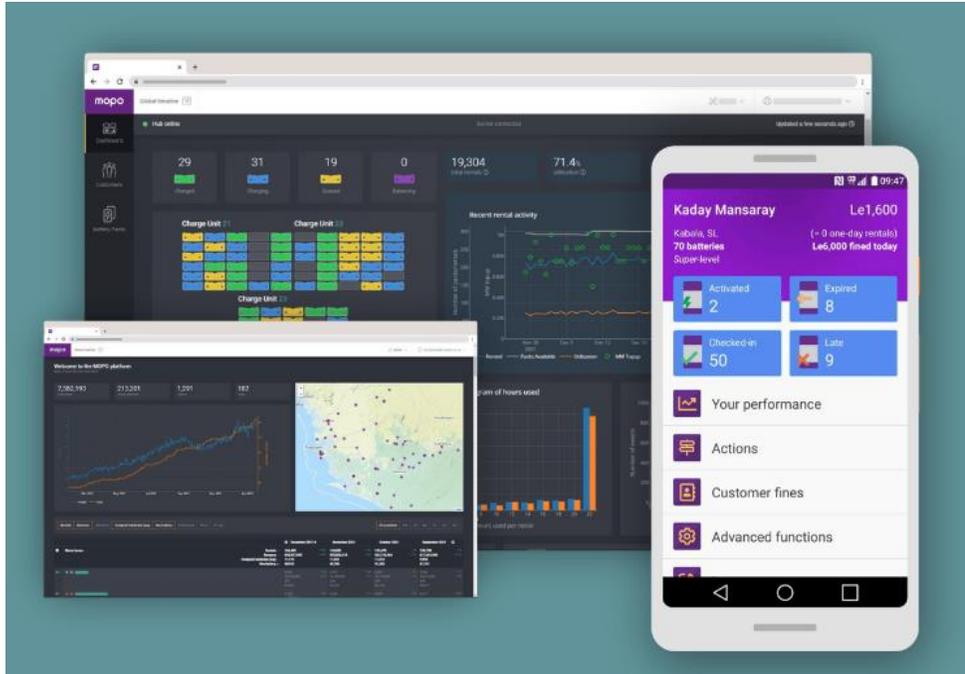


Figure 3. MOPO platform and mobile app for pay-per-use exploited battery swapping station.

Pay-per-use: is based on paying a daily fee for the vehicle use. No vehicle, battery, maintenance or electricity supply costs for the user.

Example: Mobile power, Nigeria.

Both mobile and smaller size stationary batteries are distributed by MOPO agents to users.

E-mobility business models: Leasing



Leasing and/or lease-to-own: is based on paying on a periodical rental basis. The second option allows to purchase the vehicle after a certain period.

Example: ThinkBikes, Nigeria.

Electric cargo bikes are leased to individuals or small businesses.

Figure 4. Thinkbike e-bike boda boda service in Nigeria.

E-mobility business models: e-sharing

E-sharing, car-sharing or carpooling: it is based on sharing a set of e-mobility devices, usually by managing it with a digital platform and a user app.

Example: Jumpin Rides, South Africa.

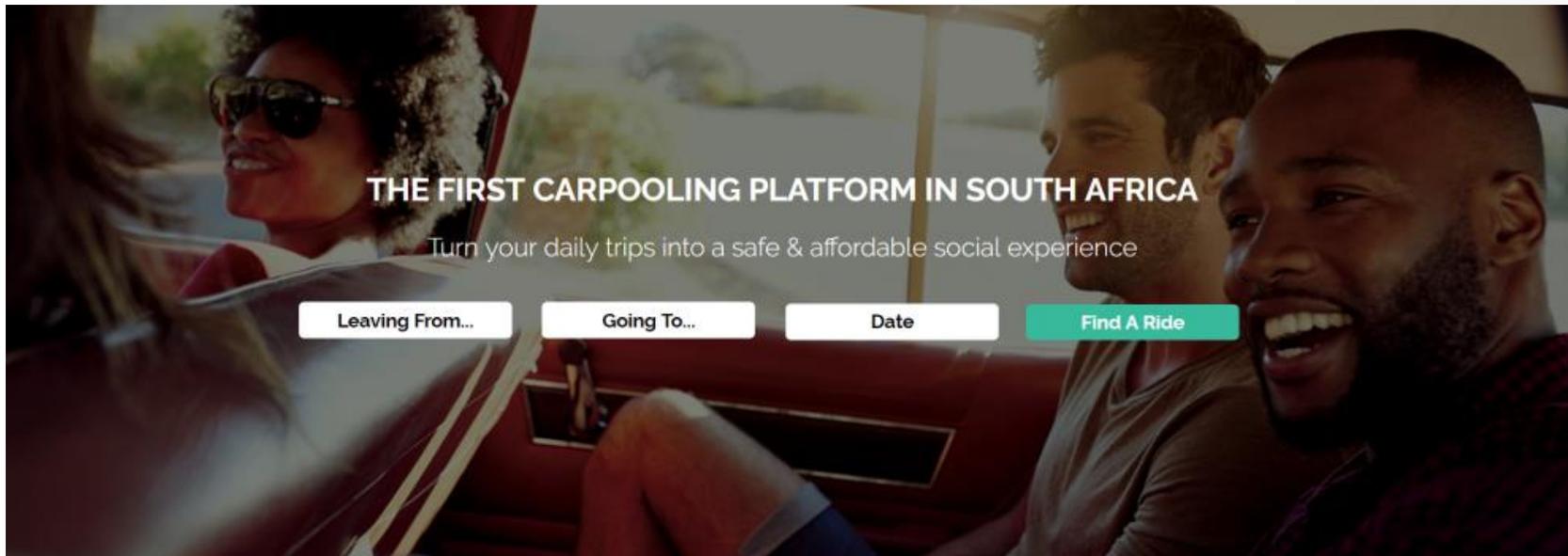
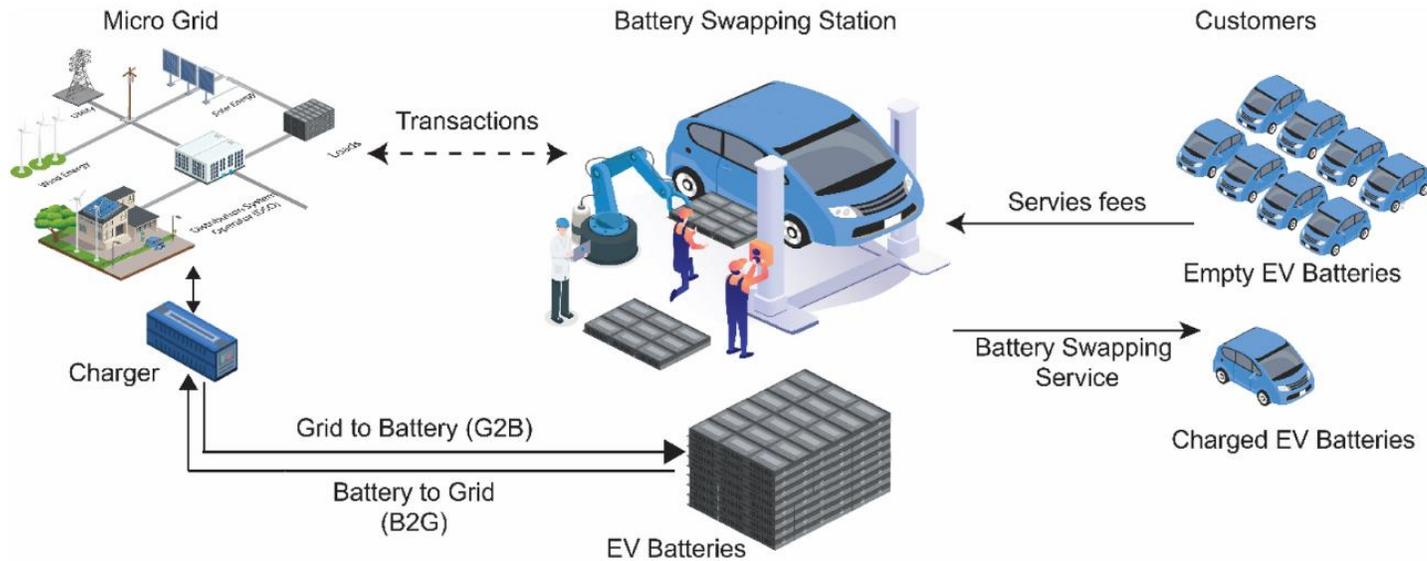


Figure 5. Car sharing platform interface of Jumpin Rides (South Africa).

Battery swapping (I)

Battery swapping is a technology based on replacing the used or completely drained battery with a fully charged battery. Moreover, it is a transversal activity to all business models shown and widely used in other sectors.



Advantages

- Reduces charging wait-times.
- Batteries can act as an energy reservoir during grid emergency events.

Disadvantages

- Interoperability of battery pack/modules needed.
- Lack of regulation.

Figure 6. Battery swapping ecosystem actors and interactions (Lebrouhi et al., 2021).

Battery swapping (II)

Key functionalities for battery swapping stations:

- Standard battery pack dimensions, charging connectors and other relevant components needed.
- Batteries, coupling devices and electrical interfaces must be tested in advance.
- Users should be aware of swapping station location, availability, and real-time pricing, ideally, using a mobile app.
- At all swap stations, the battery charger is plugged direct to the standard AC outlet.
- Specific battery handling and storing systems are needed.
- Swapping stations would have to be connected to off-grid systems like solar PV generators.

Example: Mobile Power, South Africa.

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