

02) External Environment

Overcoming the Dragon Threat

You live a slum neighborhood, lack engineering education but have carpentry skills. In addition, you are a self-employed young electrician who has to replace your electrical extension cables very often, almost 12 times a year, because the cheap polyethylene extension cables made in the Dragon land just break too often due to the rough handling and their low quality. There has been a flood of such cables in your country. As a result, your neighbors are also complaining about the Dragon cables. What would you do?

- A) Buy cables made in a different place.
- B) Make qualitatively better and durable cables using the same materials.
- C) Make durable cables using wood.

Answer

You probably would not consider the third option, make durable cables using wood, but that is exactly the solution *adopted by a young man from Kiandutu slums in Thika, Kenya, to overcome the Dragon threat. He had always wanted to be an electrical engineer, but lack of fees denied him a chance to further his studies. And yet this has not dampened his resolve to put his mark on the world of electrical engineering. For starters, he devised a way of making wooden extension cables.*