

POWER AFRICA IN SIERRA LEONE



Sierra Leone Energy Sector Overview

Sierra Leone's power sector is relatively small, with less than 100 MW of operational capacity and roughly 130,000 connected customers. Following the passage of national electricity legislation, the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) has spent 2016 focused on unbundling the National Power Authority (NPA) into two utilities – Electricity Generation and Transmission Company (EGTC) & Electricity Distribution and Supply Authority (EDSA) – and standing up an independent regulator. Significant progress has been made despite the impact of the Ebola crisis. Sierra Leone's Minister of Energy is a strong champion for reform and private sector participation, and is in discussion with several potential independent power producers (IPPs) for heavy fuel oil, thermal, solar, and hydro projects. The World Bank is planning investments in the transmission system as well as a management contract for EDSA.

Sierra Leone

Electricity Profile

13%
Access to
electricity

1%
Rural access
to electricity

100MW
Current installed
generation capacity



Sierra Leone's national electrification rate of 5 percent (estimated at 11 percent in urban areas and less than 1 percent in rural areas) reflects factors including the country's limited transmission and distribution network and the high upfront cost of household connection and wiring. The current electricity tariff regime is heavily subsidized by the Government of Sierra Leone and will need to be revisited by the two new utilities and independent regulator to identify a path toward cost recovery.

Power Africa Support

Power Africa is supporting Sierra Leone through a \$44 million partnership agreement between the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) and the Republic of Sierra Leone. The Millennium Challenge Corporation's Threshold Program in Sierra Leone includes approximately \$18 million to strengthen sector institutions through targeted technical assistance, including support to operationalize Sierra Leone's new regulator, technical skills development for the utilities, and project development, management and integrated planning support.

Power Africa also supports improved energy access through a USAID Global Development Alliance focused on Ebola Response, Recovery and Resilience in West Africa. Expanded electricity access will directly assist countries like Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone as they recover from the post-disaster impacts of the Ebola crisis and rebuild more resilient energy, educational, and health care systems.

About Power Africa

Power Africa is a multi-partner initiative launched by President Obama in 2013. Power Africa's goals are to increase electricity access in sub-Saharan Africa by adding more than 30,000 megawatts of cleaner, more efficient electricity generation capacity and 60 million new home and business connections.

Power Africa works with African governments and private sector partners to remove barriers that impede sustainable energy development in sub-Saharan Africa and to unlock the substantial wind, solar, hydropower, natural gas, biomass, and geothermal resources on the continent.

Mobilizing Partnerships & Investments

Power Africa draws on the combined expertise and abilities of 12 U.S. Government agencies, the World Bank Group, the African Development Bank, the Government of Sweden, the Government of Norway, the Government of Canada, the UK Department for International Development, the Government of Japan, the International Renewable Energy Agency, the Government of Japan, African governments, and private sector partners. Power Africa's "Toolbox" approach offers a range of resources to advance key projects on the electricity grid and, through the *Beyond the Grid* sub-initiative, in places where the national grid doesn't reach.

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