POWER AFRICA
A U.S. GOVERNMENT-LED PARTNERSHIP
Updated June 24, 2020

Power Africa is a U.S. Government-led partnership, coordinated by USAID, that brings together the collective resources of over 170 public and private sector partners to double access to electricity in sub-Saharan Africa.

Since its launch in 2013, Power Africa has connected 16 million homes and businesses to on- and off-grid solutions, bringing first-time electricity to 74 million people across sub-Saharan Africa.

Power Africa has helped bring 141 power generation deals to financial close with a generation capacity of over 11,123 megawatts (MW) and a value of over $22 billion. Of these deals, 62 are operational and generating over 4,000 MW of new and more reliable electricity.

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HOW WE WORK
Power Africa partners with African governments, the private sector, international organizations, NGOs, and bilateral and multilateral donors to stimulate investment in sub-Saharan Africa’s energy sector.

Our unique approach is defined by:

Transaction Focus: By addressing the critical barriers that hinder progress of a particular deal, we create a ripple effect for other deals facing similar issues in the country.

On-the-Ground Support: Power Africa’s in-country advisors identify the technical, financial, and political solutions needed to facilitate faster access to power.

Working Beyond the Grid: With numerous investors and partners committed to finding small-scale and off-grid renewable energy solutions, Power Africa is providing millions of people access to reliable and sustainable electricity for the first time.

Bridging the Financing Gap: Power Africa’s aim is to de-risk investments to enable public and private investors to fund projects that drive systemic reforms.

African-led Reform: Power Africa works with African governments to fill critical skills gaps, drive reforms, and build and maintain power sectors for generations to come.

Empowering and Powering Women: Power Africa supports projects, programs and policies that strive to reduce gender inequalities and promote engagement of both men and women.

POWER AFRICA’S GOAL

2/3 people in sub-Saharan Africa lack access to electricity

Add more than 30,000 MW of new electricity generation capacity

Connect 60 MILLION new homes and businesses to power by 2030

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The Power Africa partnership now includes 178 of the world’s leading companies, multilateral development agencies, and partner governments.

**OUR PRIORITIES**

- **POWER GENERATION**
  - Providing in-country transaction advisory to help projects reach financial close
  - Tracking 700 projects with 40,000 MW of potential generation capacity

- **ON-AND OFF-GRID CONNECTIONS**
  - Supporting 250+ private solar home system and mini-grid providers in 18 countries
  - Advancing rural electrification and grid densification with African government partner

- **TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION**
  - Financing transmission infrastructure and unlocking cross-border electricity trade
  - Strengthening distribution companies and modernizing power grids

- **TRADE & INVESTMENT**
  - De-risking investment opportunities in sub-Saharan Africa’s energy sector
  - Opening markets for U.S. businesses eager to expand into Africa

Since 2013:

- 141 transactions supported by Power Africa reached financial close
- 11,123 MW reached financial close
- 70+ transaction advisors and embedded advisors deployed in 20 countries
- 62 power projects commissioned and operational
- 4,000 MW of new and more reliable electricity
- 2,300 kilometers of transmission lines reached financial close
- 16 MILLION new connections to homes and businesses on and off the grid
- 74 MILLION new beneficiaries gained access to electricity through Power Africa assistance

Lights On!