

ENERGY for AFRICA

A shortage of electricity is one of Africa's greatest development challenges. Much of the continent experiences regular blackouts and brownouts, and emergency power sources cost too much for many homes and businesses.

600 million people,

70%

of the population of sub-Saharan Africa are without electricity

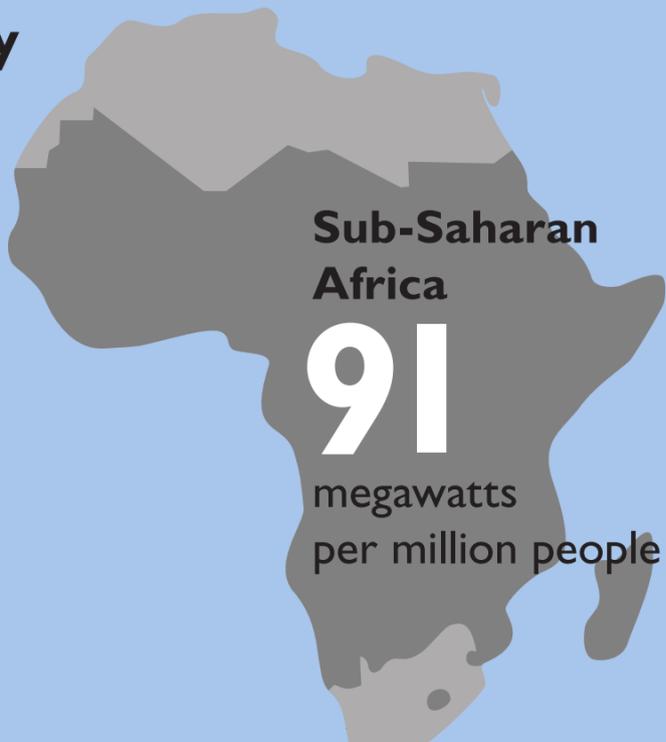


Generation Capacity

United States

3,360

megawatts per million people



Lack of access/unreliable power force businesses to use diesel generators.

Diesel Generators pollute

65x

more than

Clean Renewables



Imagine the possibilities...

Increasing access and reliability of electricity will:

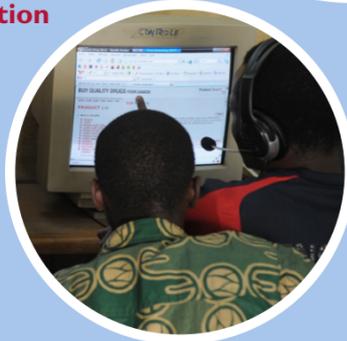
Introduce better learning conditions and enhance education by allowing students to study after dark



Increase safety such as outdoor lighting so families can feel safer in their communities



Improve communication through telephones, TV, radio and computers



Foster productivity, since electricity also allows for irrigation, crop processing, food preservation and other income producing activities to enhance economic growth



Improve health care conditions by providing drinking water pumps and lighting for rural health centers



Sources: International Energy Agency, World Bank. Photo Credits: Sections 1 and 3—Shutterstock; Section 4 (clockwise from top left)—Ben Edwards / USAID, Riccardo Gangale / USAID, Morgana Wingard for USAID, Morgana Wingard for USAID, Issouf Sanogo / AFP. Graphic Design: Nan Dearborn / USAID