

MGP

MINI-GRIDS PARTNERSHIP

BRINGING PARTNERS TOGETHER TO BUILD A STRONGER CLEAN ENERGY MINI-GRIDS SECTOR



NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2019

Interview with Mr. Tiem Bolidja, Managing Director of the Togolese Rural Electrification and Renewable Energies Agency (AT2ER)

The Mini-Grids Partnership talked to Mr. Tiem Bolidja about AT2ER's approach to rural electrification, challenges faced in promoting mini-grids, the legal framework in place, including the concept of direct subsidy in Togo (CiZo cheque), and more.

[Read more](#)

Op-ed by Jules Kortenhorst, CEO of Rocky Mountain Institute: Clean energy access is solvable

Distributed, renewable energy is the most resilient, reliable, and cost-effective way to provide electricity access to rural communities. This is a great opportunity for communities that lack energy access to transition to clean mini-grids.

[Read more](#)



POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

- **Ethiopian Electric Utility invites bids for solar mini-grids in 25 villages**

The Ethiopian Electric Utility is seeking proposals for 25 mini-grid projects backed by the African Development Bank. The tender will test efforts by the Ethiopian government to spur the development of mini-grids to provide electricity in rural communities. [Read more](#)

- **Zambian Government approves implementation of National Off-Grid Solar Mini-Grid Project**

The Government of Zambia has approved the implementation of the National Off-Grid Solar Mini-Grid Project, to serve as an alternative to hydro-power generation. The project would contribute to increased electricity access in rural areas. [Read more.](#)

- **Tata Power and The Rockefeller Foundation announce enterprise to empower millions of Indians with renewable micro-grid electricity**

Tata Power Co. Ltd., in collaboration with the Rockefeller Foundation, announced the launch of TP Renewable Microgrid Ltd. to develop 10,000 micro-grids in India to boost access to affordable and reliable electricity to homes and enterprises across the nation's rural areas. [Read more.](#)

- **Where is the middle ground in pricing electricity on mini-grids?**

Mini-grids are crucial for Uganda's agenda to achieve universal energy access. With access to electricity at only 22%, the country depends on mini-grid investors, who are in need of an incentive, with government needing to encourage investment. [Read more](#)

- **Kenya continues to deploy off-grid mini-grids**

The Government of Kenya plans to boost energy access with a regulatory framework in place to foster private sector mini-grid development. Currently, it is launching a USD 6.7 million plan for 23 mini-grids. [Read more](#)

- **Kisumu county in Kenya launches bids for solar power off-grid projects**

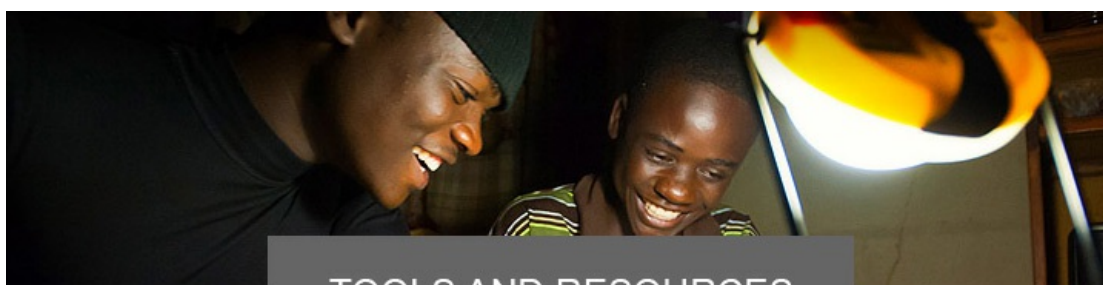
The Kisumu County Government of Kenya has published a tender call for the installation of solar power off-grid system to supply local hospitals, water pumps, streetlights and other infrastructure. Public-private partnerships will be given priority for this project. [Read more](#)

- **Traveling the toughest miles to bring light: The Manipur Microgrid Project**

People in the villages of the Indian state of Manipur have lived in darkness for generations, as the area is hard to reach. This has changed thanks to microgrid developers who have installed DC solar-storage microgrids across 112 villages in the mountainous area of Manipur. [Read more](#)

- **PowerGen targets reliable electricity for 1 million more people, with investment from Shell**

Shell and Sumitomo recently claimed joint ownership of a 15% of stake in African PowerGen. This adds to Shell's growing investments in off-grid energy access. Shell will have a seat on the board, while Sumitomo will have an observer's seat. [Read more.](#)



TOOLS AND RESOURCES

Survey for the upcoming 'State of the Global Mini-Grids Market' report

To be released in May 2020, 'State of the Global Mini-Grids Market' report aims to be the go-to source of information for investors, industry members, policymakers, and other stakeholders in the sector, and present key trends in the mini-grids market. The report will also include a first-ever open-source database for mini-grids (covering Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and island nations), to serve as a baseline for the sector. To participate and ensure your project is captured, please download the [Survey](#), complete it and send it to minigrids@seforall.org.

RES4Africa Micro-Grid Academy

The Micro-Grid Academy (MGA) is a vocational capacity building project led by RES4Africa Foundation. It aims to create a skilled and conscious workforce to deploy decentralized renewable energy solutions within and beyond the East-Africa region. [Read more](#)

Power for All fact sheet: Unlocking demand for rural mini-grids

The utilization of appliances is a success factor for mini-grid's commercial viability. Power for All summarized the latest information and data on demand stimulation for mini-grid consumers. [Read more](#)

Rocky Mountain Institute report: Electrifying the Underserved

A new RMI report showcases a pathway to implementing mini-grids that have the potential to save electricity distribution companies and communities millions of dollars while dramatically expanding the market for distributed energy resources in Nigeria. [Read more](#)

NewClimate report: The role of renewable energy mini-grids in Kenya's electricity sector

This report synthesizes available analyses on the role and potential of mini-grids in Kenya and explores how it can help the country attain its goal of universal electrification by 2022. [Read it](#)



EVENTS

Micro-Grid Academy – Theoretical and Practical Training on: Renewable Energies for Agribusiness Development

November 25 - 29, 2019
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Intersolar India: ARE Micro-Grid Workshop and Pavilion

November 27 - 29, 2019
Bangalore, India

EEP Africa Knowledge Exchange Forum

December 4, 2019 Arusha, Tanzania

The Solar Future of Nigeria

December 4 - 5, 2019 Lagos, Nigeria

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**MINI-GRIDS
PARTNERSHIP**

The Mini-Grids Partnership brings together mini-grids financiers, developers, facilitators and policymakers to share information and ideas and shape policy to help move the clean energy mini-grid market forward.

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