



MINI-GRIDS PARTNERSHIP

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



NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2020

Produced by Sustainable Energy for All, co-secretariat of the Mini-Grids Partnership

Interview with Ms. Ayu Abdullah, Regional Director for Southeast Asia, Energy Action Partners

The Mini-Grids Partnership talked to Ms. Ayu Abdullah, Regional Director for Southeast Asia at [Energy Action Partners](#), about their innovative tool [The Minigrids Game](#) – energy planning tool for mini-grids simulation.

[Read more](#)

Op-ed by Tobias Engelmeier, Founding and Managing Director, TFE Energy: Data and digital solutions are changing the mini-grid business model

[Energy Access, Data and Digital Solutions](#) is the first comprehensive assessment on how data and digital solutions are deployed in the challenging energy access market. Tobias Engelmeier, Founding and Managing Director of TFE Energy, speaks about their new report.

[Read more](#)



POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

- [Sierra Leone validates Environment Impact Assessment Guidelines for renewable energy and mini-grid technologies](#)

The Environment Protection Agency of Sierra Leone has validated guidelines for Renewable Energy and Mini-Grid Technologies, in order to reduce cost of acquiring and renewing environmental permits for renewable energy and mini-grid projects. [Read more](#)

- [DRC: Nuru connects 1.3 MW solar off-grid hybrid in Goma](#)

Nuru, a company from the Democratic Republic of Congo, has built a power plant in the Ndosho district in Goma. The facility, launched on 4 February, consists of 4000 panels, each capable of producing 335 W. [Read more](#).

- [Tender open for rural electrification in Senegal with Islamic Development Bank \(IsBD\) financing](#)

Senegal received funding from the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development to electrify 177 villages by mini solar power plants and 133 villages by mini PV solar power plants. The tender is published by the Rural Electrification Agency. [Read more](#).

- [Government of Bangladesh purchases electricity from solar mini-grids to save investors](#)

In order to save mini-grid investors from financial losses from the expansion of the national grid in off-grid project areas, the Government of Bangladesh has decided to purchase electricity from the solar mini-grid power projects. [Read more](#).

- **[West Africa: ADFD funds two renewable energy projects](#)**

The Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) is financing two solar and one hydropower project in West Africa: solar home kits for 45 villages and off-grid solar mini-grids for 55 villages in Niger and a mini hydropower project in Liberia. [Read more](#)

- **[Zambian government lauds Huawei for promoting access to electricity](#)**

The Chinese technology giant Huawei financed the construction of a solar mini-grid in Zambia, which will improve the lives of people in the community. The mini-grid will have the capacity to power 300 households, a school and health facility and several local shops. [Read more](#)

- **[Solar mini-grids to take off in Myanmar, support electrification ambitions](#)**

Solar mini-grids in Myanmar are expected to take off as the private sector sees solar energy as a potentially commercially viable solution in the country's journey towards full electrification. Currently, less than half of Myanmar's population is connected to electricity. [Read more](#)

- **[South Africa: Cenfura and C4D will provide mini-grids to 6,500 communities](#)**

Cenfura platform signed an agreement with Cover 4 Development for the deployment of solar mini-grids in communities of South Africa in order to overcome the lack in the core network of the public utility. [Read more](#)

- **[Asian Development Bank inaugurates project to replace diesel systems with solar hybrid across Maldives](#)**

The Government of the Maldives aims to transform the existing diesel-based mini-grids into hybrid renewable energy systems. It inaugurated the implementation of a solar-battery-diesel hybrid system in 48 islands to help the country tap into solar power. [Read more](#).

- **[How powering food storage could decrease food losses](#)**

In developing countries decentralized renewable energy solutions, such as solar and hydro mini-grids can significantly decrease food loss and carbon production. Mini-grids are by far the least costly solution that can modernize food chains. [Read more](#).



[New report calls for investment in off-grid, mini-grid technologies](#)

In a [report](#), experts from the [Malabo Montellier Panel](#), group of international agriculture experts who guide policy choices that accelerate progress towards food security and improved nutrition in Africa, highlighted that the rapid spread of off-grid and mini-grid solutions can help Africa leapfrog outdated and dirty technologies. Learn more about the report [here](#).

[Canopy Power launches Hornbill v3.0 to optimise renewable energy microgrids](#)

Developed in Singapore, Hornbill – a technology platform for 24/7 monitoring and management of remote microgrid systems – has been updated with new features. [Read more](#)

[Plug-and-play modular microgrids gain market momentum](#)

Peter Asmus of Guidehouse describes the results of his new report on the global potential for modular microgrids, systems that can be “pieced together like Lego blocks, thereby shrinking design and deployment costs”. [Read more](#)



EVENTS

[6th ARE Energy Access Investment Forum](#)

March 18 - 19 2020
Lusaka, Zambia

[Microgrid Innovation Forum](#)

April 22 - 23 2020
Bangkok, Thailand

[3rd International Conference on Solar Technologies & Hybrid Mini Grids to improve energy access](#)

April 1 - 3 2020
Palma de Mallorca, Spain

[2020 Sustainable Energy for All Forum](#)

May 26 - 28 2020
Kigali, Rwanda



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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