
Energy Access Metrics in the World Bank's RISE Data

The World Bank's Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE) is a set of indicators intended "to help compare national policy and regulatory frameworks for sustainable energy."

Under the RISE Hood

The RISE indicators for 2017 offer a full suite of reports and data for 111 countries. The energy access section contains 8 indicators (see Table) with 29 sub-indicators, based on 59 questions. They can be roughly categorized as (a) planning, (b) regulations for system types, and (c) economics and finance. Each indicator, scored between 0 and 100 and stop light colored, measures how far a country is from offering an attractive policy environment.

RISE Finding Highlights

- *Grid is a common roadblock.* A framework for grid electrification (Indicator 3)—the mainstay for universal access progress—has the most countries (33) in the red zone. This covers provision of dedicated funding, rural subsidies, consumer finance, and performance standards.
- *Many countries are not planning.* 44 percent of countries—primarily fragile, low-income, often in Sub-Saharan Africa—do not have electrification plans.
- *Those with plans are tracking.* 90 percent of countries with an officially approved plan have established a dedicated entity for monitoring progress.
- *Affordability is a barrier.* In just over half of access-deficit countries, electricity is unaffordable for the poorest.
- *Transparency is uneven.* Across all four segments (retail, distribution, transmission, and generation), around 50 percent of the utilities make their financial statements public. Among the four key performance metrics, the transmission loss rate is the least available.
- *Utility creditworthiness is poor.* Only 11 countries are in the green zone while 27 countries are in the red zone.

What can be learned from RISE or used in future decision-making?

- The RISE "scoring" is likely less useful for future policy and regulation design and development than the rich databases that underlie the project.
- Policy frameworks for grid densification and expansion, the mainstay of electrification efforts, remain insufficient for the scale of the challenge, including increased urbanization.
- Financial viability of utilities is a core problem, with follow-on impacts for investment, service delivery, quality of supply, etc.

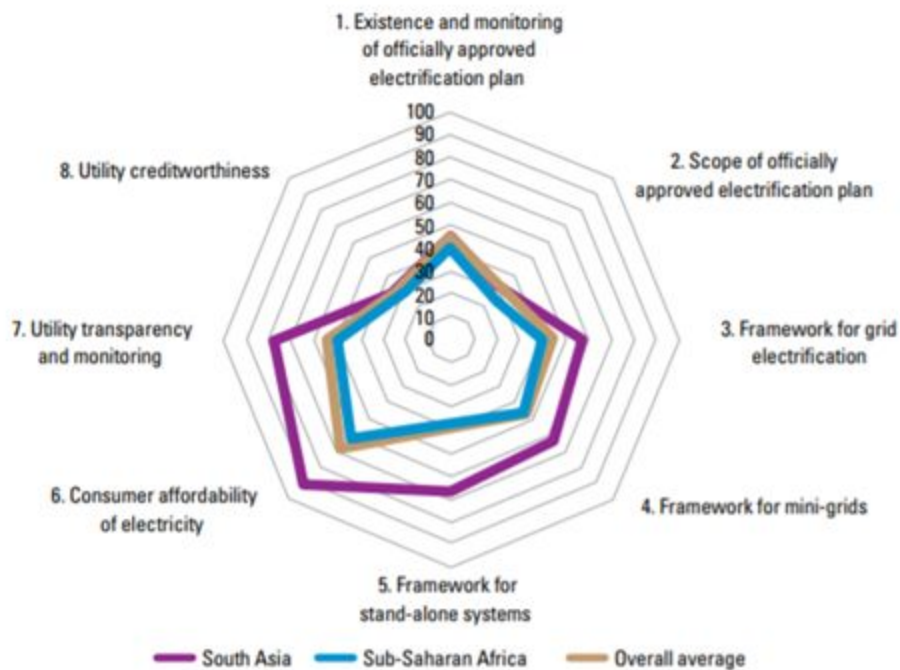
FIGURE 1: Energy access scores per indicator for top 10 countries with the highest access deficit

Energy access score	1. Existence and monitoring of officially approved electrification plan	2. Scope of officially approved electrification plan	3. Framework for grid electrification	4. Framework for minigrids	5. Framework for stand-alone systems	6. Consumer affordability of electricity	7. Utility transparency and monitoring	8. Utility creditworthiness
India	84	80	75	100	77	69	100	96
Nigeria	22	0	0	17	35	22	100	0
Ethiopia	28	0	0	50	40	69	50	17
Bangladesh	68	80	25	33	74	80	100	54
Congo, Dem. Rep.	46	0	0	33	53	82	100	42
Tanzania	75	100	50	100	96	73	100	83
Kenya	82	100	50	67	66	93	100	96
Uganda	78	100	63	67	64	93	100	79
Myanmar	59	100	38	33	48	67	100	8
Sudan	35	0	0	100	35	11	50	50

Source: RISE database, World Bank.

Legend: ■ ≥67 ■ 33<x<67 ■ ≤33

FIGURE 2: South Asian countries score higher on nearly all aspects of energy access policies than their counterparts in Sub-Saharan Africa



Source: RISE database and *Doing Business*, World Bank.