

# Covid Response: Energy Ministries and the Off-Grid Sector

In early April 2020, ACE TAF discussed the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis with government representatives from energy authorities in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

## Key challenges identified



Ensuring that the grid is stable for economic centres dealing with the COVID-19 crisis.



Lack of consensus on the right approach to support the off-grid solar sector.



Little focus on the option of deployment of off-grid power in rural health facilities to increase COVID-19 response capacity.



Achieving universal access goals with the COVID-19 restrictions currently in place.

## Actions required



Continuity plans to support access to energy commitments



Credible, current and concise information on the impact of Covid-19 on the sector.

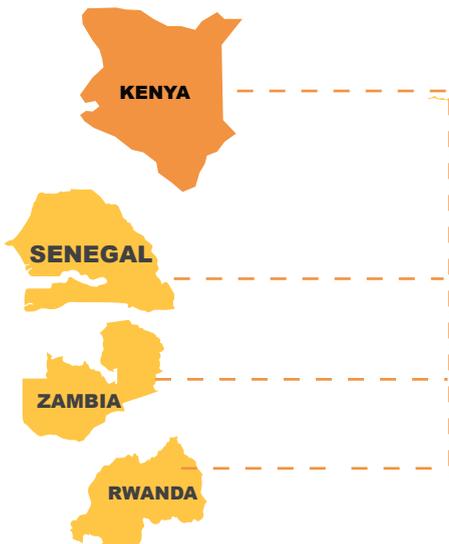


Stability through additional funding for the off-grid sector.



Technical assistance and coordination with other ministries such as Ministry of Health.

## Actions Taken by Some Countries:



Recognise power production and distribution as an essential service including the off-grid sector

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