POWER FOR ALL FACT SHEET:
Energy Access Target Tracker

POWER FOR ALL

48
LEAs: COUNTRIES WITH OVER
50% OF THE POPULATION
IN ENERGY POVERTY

80%
PEOPLE WITHOUT ENERGY
ACCESS IN RURAL AREAS

77%
LEAs WITHOUT DECENTRALIZED
RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGETS

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Energy access targets are critical to ending energy poverty

80 percent of the 1.2 billion people living without access to electricity are in rural areas. Yet specific focus on key solutions for rural electrification, including inclusion of distributed renewable energy (DRE) in national energy targets and policy, is not commonplace—and progress in urban electrification has outpaced rural electrification two to one since 2000.

Energy access, rural electrification and DRE targets are critical for addressing energy poverty. Beyond establishing commitment from a country or state, targets increase awareness, send a market signal to stakeholders, provide a starting point for monitoring action, and act as a foundation for further policy development.

Energy access targets in the 48 Low Energy Access (LEA) countries

Poor Performers:
» 35 percent of LEA countries have no energy access targets
» 17 percent LEA countries have only a national energy access target

Mid Performers:
» 25 percent of countries have a rural energy access target but do not have DRE targets

High Performers:
» 8 percent of countries have a DRE target

Best Performers:
» 15 percent of countries have a DRE target integrated into a complete set of energy access goals, which can be monitored and measured

Share the Message

Only 42 percent of LEA countries have a rural energy access target, and just 23 percent have a DRE target. Rural electrification and DRE targets are critical for achieving faster access to modern energy services. Share these messages to #endenergypovertyfaster

» 77 percent of LEA countries lack DRE targets, this must change if we are to achieve energy access by 2030, or before
» To end energy poverty, it is imperative that national governments integrate DRE into their electrification targets, planning and policies

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By the Numbers:

Low Energy Access Countries: Energy Access Targets
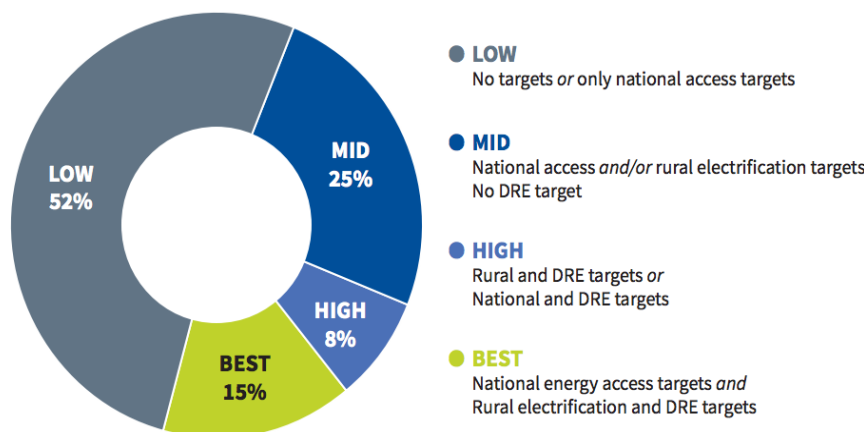
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- **LOW** — No targets *or* only national access targets
- **MID** — National access *and/or* rural electrification targets No DRE target
- **HIGH** — Rural and DRE targets *or* National and DRE targets
- **BEST** — National energy access targets *and* Rural electrification and DRE targets

LOW 52%
MID 25%
HIGH 8%
BEST 15%

Sources and Notes:

This research into energy access, rural electrification and DRE targets was undertaken by the Platform for Energy Access Knowledge team, a partnership between Power for All and the Renewable and Appropriate Energy Laboratory at the University California Berkeley. Research sources, definitions and limitations are noted below:

» Low Energy Access Country defined as one in which less than 50% of the rural population has access to electricity

» National and rural electrification rates taken from WEO Energy access database: www.worldenergyoutlook.org/resources/energydevelopment/energyaccessdatabase

» Energy Access and DRE targets taken from official government documents. For example, SE4ALL provides information on targets and plans for ECOWAS (the Economic Community of West African States) countries, according to the SE4ALL Action Agendas, but these are not necessarily formally adopted or acknowledged by the respective governments. We note all ECOWAS SE4ALL targets but where the corresponding government document cannot be found, we do not include in the count toward target totals.

» Some countries may have very recently established targets that are not captured in this literature search. There may also be unpublished documents establishing targets not readily available for inclusion in this survey, affecting counts.

» According to the Earth Institute (Bazilian et al., 2010) "measurement and reporting is central to the implementation of any global, regional or national target". This ranking does not assess operationalization of targets, only the presence or absence thereof as a starting point for implementation.