

Electricity access in Sub-Saharan Africa doubled between 2000 and 2014, reaching 374 million

The total number of people with access to electricity in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) increased from 186 million in 2000 to 374 million people in 2014. With access rates of about 38%, almost two-thirds of the population in SSA lacks an electricity connection attributable to many factors including high connection charges. A number of SSA countries have made progress in increasing access to electricity since 2000; Ghana, Senegal and Kenya have each seen an increase in access of above 20% between 2000 and 2014.

In 2014, 26% of total electricity output in SSA was from renewable sources, higher than the global average of 22%. While millions of SSA population have no access to electricity, there remains vast energy resources available; 30% of oil and gas discoveries over the recent years have been in Africa, less than 10% of Africa's estimated hydropower potential has been used, wind potential in Africa is estimated at around 1,300 GW and solar irradiation is abundant throughout Africa at 2,000 kWh per square meter annually.

