

# FEEDBACK TO THE PIESA PLENERY SESSION

**Electrification Advisory Committee  
Meeting Feedback**

**Sun Square City Bowl Hotel, CTN  
13 May 2019**

# Outputs of the Meeting

- The core issues discussed in the advisory committee were:
  - **The membership, interactions and attendance of meetings**
  - **The national electrification statistics of member countries**
  - **The committee strategies**
  - **Bracing for the new challenges such as the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial revolution**

- On membership and attendance
  - It was noted that the membership and attendance of meetings remains low (*five member countries now in CTN*)
  - The secretariat through the various available channels to keep pursuing and encouraging participation especially the top management (e.g CEO's) of member utilities
  - Continue using the Whatsapp group and include, webinars, Zoom, Skype, GoToMeeting which has proven welcome and effective

## 3. Progress

- On national electrification statistics:
  - The countries present gave their stats
  - South Africa: 83% grid electrification, 10% non-grid (*approx.*)
  - Lesotho: +/-40%
  - Zimbabwe: +/-40% national (*and 21% of rural areas*)
  - Uganda: +/-20%
  - Zambia : +- 29%
  - Other countries are requested to share and update these statistics with the secretariat

## 1. Strategies

- The committee reviewed its strategies and the following were the main outcomes:

1. **Align the electrification strategies to Africa Agenda 2063 in activities.**

**(Action: Be guided by Africa Agenda 2063 document)**

2. **Focus on further and accelerated training, developing, upskilling, mentoring of core and key competencies to include e-mobile knowledge mentoring, e-Learning, etc to execute on the electrification projects.**

**(Action: Arrange relevant training courses)**

- On the committee's strategies (*cont...*)

3. Procurement of **cost effective funding** and especially grant funding for electrification projects

**(Action: Negotiate & access available grant funding)**

4. Increased incorporation of **cost effective alternative energies** in the respective member country energy mix to include renewable energies, energy storage

**(Action: Push for cost effective and affordable tariffs)**

5. Explore **alternative business models** to mitigate against revenue erosion, increasing non-technical losses, increasing ingress of distributed generation by third parties

**(Action: Explore available evolving business models in the market place )**



- On the committee's strategies (*cont...*)

6. Continued focus on grid and off grid electrification.

**(Action: Special focus on off grid e.g. microgrids)**

7. Explore electrification & "formalising" of so called "informal settlements" in proclaimed areas.

**(Action: Increased focus than now )**

8. Focus on "densification" (in an existing electrified areas) and "intensification" (expanding electrification geography)

**(Action: Increase focus)**

9. Exchange Rural Electrification funding models

**(Action: Share learnings)**

- On the committee's strategies (*cont...*)
  10. Explore the use of relevant but cost effective 4IR technologies to fast track electrification, development of evolving business models, incorporation of alternative energies and energy storage in the energy mix.

**(Action: Impact of 4IR on electrification to be prioritised)**

**11. Focus on group procurement of long lead items e.g. mini subs, transformers, cables, switchgear, services to fast track and avoid delays w.r.t electrification projects**

**(Action: SA to share the MISA National Framework document)**

# Outputs of the Meeting

- On the committee's strategies (*cont...*)
  12. Explore partnership with third parties e.g. DFI's, private sector, etc to assist in fast tracking electrification

**(Action: Explore appropriate partnerships with relevant stakeholders)**

- On the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution the committee agreed to focus on:
  1. Electrification
  2. Non technical losses
  3. Revenue collection
  4. IOT
  5. Data management
  6. Analytics
  7. Energy Storage



- On the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution (*cont...*
  7. Digitalization
  8. Smart metering /smart “tariffs”
  9. Cyber-security (*what percentage of capital investments into smart projects should be allocated for cyber security – is 10 to 15% sufficient*)

## 4. Highlights

- The possible impact of 4IR to increase electrification
- The availability of cost effective renewables to increase electrification
- Use of off-grid technologies e.g. microgrids to increase electrification

## 5. Lowlights

- **Lack of available funding**
- **Unreasonable political influence**

**Thank you for your  
attention**