

## SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA LAGS BEHIND IN ENERGY ACCESS

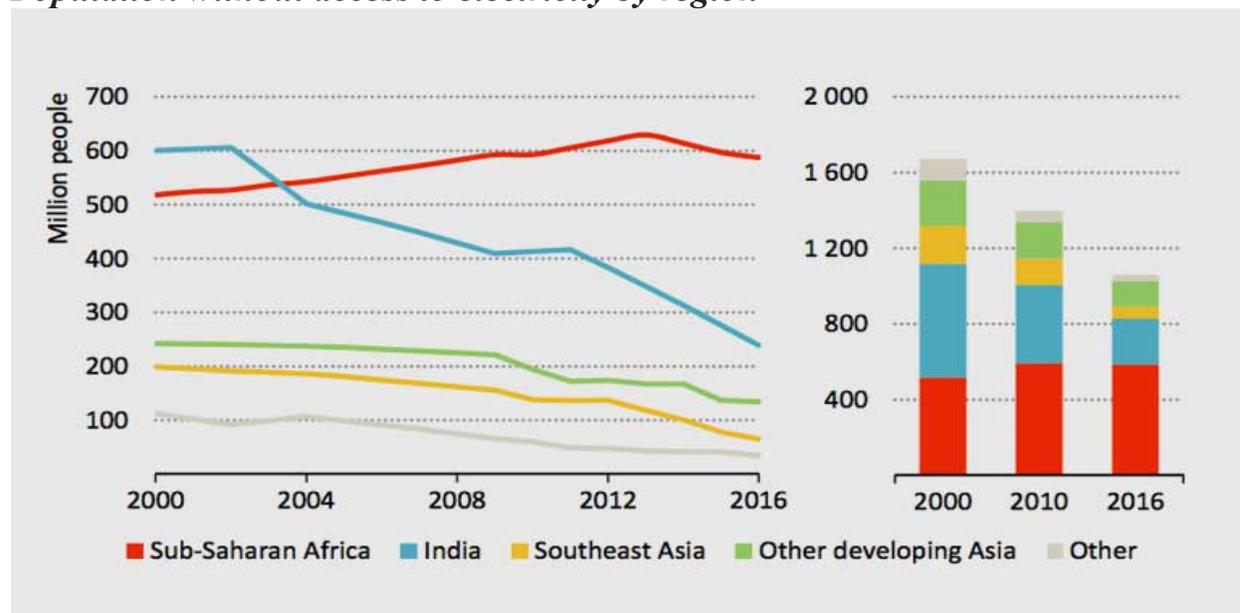
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Claims are that 674 million people in Africa will remain without access to energy in 2030, with 90% of energy poor living in sub-Saharan Africa.

In International Energy Administration's (IEA) 2017 study which analyzed access to energy in 140 countries and captioned 'Energy Access Outlook: from Poverty to Prosperity,' it is reported that the number of people without energy access dropped from 1.7 to 1.1 billion between 2000 and 2016, as a result of a "convergence of falling costs and increasing political will."

The majority of those without access to electricity are in developing countries in Asia and in sub-Saharan Africa. Developing countries in Asia were identified as making the fastest progress during this period, with India on track to achieve universal energy access by 2020. Other developing countries in Asia also registered significant progress, and the electrification rate is now 89%, compared with 67% in 2000.

### *Population without access to electricity by region*



*OECD/IEA 2017*

In sub-Saharan Africa, there are signs of promise as accelerating electrification efforts outpaced population growth for the first time in 2014, however, progress remains uneven and the electrification rate is currently only 43%. Current trends suggest that 674 million will remain without energy access in 2030, with 90% of energy poor living in sub-Saharan Africa.

Within the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) set in 2015, is a target to ensure access to affordable, reliable and modern energy for all by 2030 called SDG 7.1 – universal access to electricity and clean cooking. Achieving the goal would require making electricity available to the remaining 1.1 billion people who are still without electricity and reaching the 2.8 billion currently without access to clean cooking facilities.

An additional cost of US\$31 billion per year, representing an increase of global energy investment of 2% would be required to bridge the energy access gap in Africa. And bulk of these fund would have to be directed to renewable energy development in sub-Saharan Africa.

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