

Togo

Introduction

This note was developed by GONGLA with the support of the World Bank Group Lighting Global Program, the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (ESMAP), the Shell Foundation, USAID, Power Africa, The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), and Sustainable Energy for All (SEforAll). It is part of a series of briefing notes that provide a high-level overview of the status of countries' off-grid solar markets, as well as relevant policies and programs¹.

Key statistics²

Demographics

Total Population	8,278,737
Population Density per km	152
GDP per Capita	USD 915
GDP Growth	1.8%

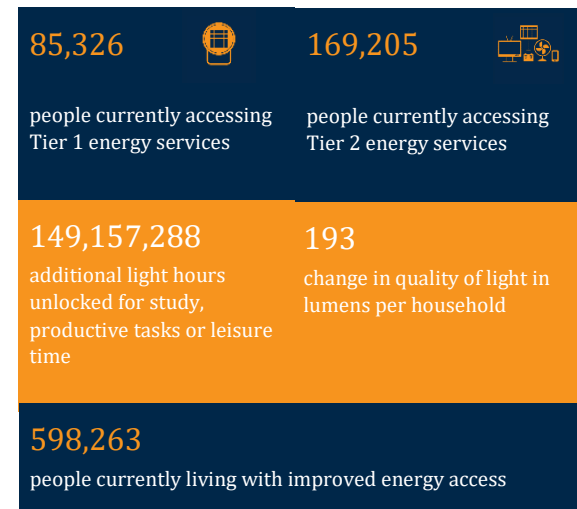
Energy Access Deficit³

National Electrification Rate ⁴	52%
Urban Electrification Rate	92%
Rural Electrification Rate	24%
Number of people without access to electricity	3,843,885
% of quality-verified ⁵ (QV) vs. non-QV products in the market ^{6&7} (H1, 2021)	QV: 98% Non-QV: 2%

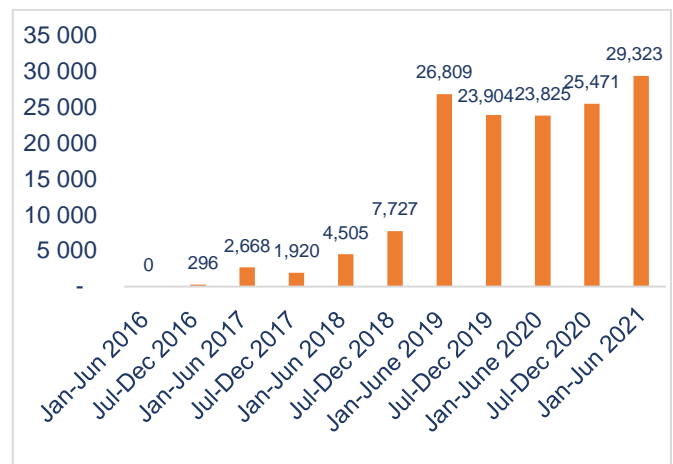
Electrification Planning

Electrification Targets ⁸	Universal access by 2030
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Impact⁹



Sales¹⁰



Sales of Portable Lanterns, Multi-light Systems and Solar Home Systems

¹ The information and views expressed in this brief are GONGLA's alone and are based on our current understanding of the policy situation in this country. We welcome any updates, revisions or clarifications at info@gogla.org.

² <https://data.worldbank.org/> - The demographics data are from 2020

³ <https://trackingsdg7.esmap.org> - The energy access data are from 2019

⁴ No recent data on the national electrification rate has been published by the Togolese government

⁵ Quality-verified products are tested according to the IEC TS 62257-9-8. For more information please see [the Verasol quality assurance programme](#)

^{6&7} Share of quality-verified (QV) and non-QV products sold by GONGLA and Lighting Global affiliates. Data on a specific region, country or product category is only included when it has satisfied the three-data point rule, meaning that at least three separate product manufacturers have reported data for any single data point. When we have fewer than three responses for a region,

country or product category, no results are shown to protect the proprietary interests of the companies who have supplied data in support of this industry report.

⁸ [Togo Electrification Strategy, Presentation Document, 2018](#)

⁹ Impact numbers have been estimated by plugging the most recent sales data into the [Standardized Impact Metrics for the Off-Grid Solar Energy Sector](#). The reported estimates differ from the previous edition of the country briefings due to the use of a smaller, yet more consistent and recent dataset, considering only products sold by GONGLA members and Lighting Global affiliates since 2016. Note that while the numbers shown represent the aggregate impact of key players in the off-grid solar sector, these estimates do not present the full global impact of off-grid solar lighting products sold.

¹⁰ All sales data included in this briefing is derived from the "Global Off-Grid Solar Market Report Database", result of a joint primary data collection effort carried out by GONGLA in partnership with IFC Lighting Global and the Efficiency for Access Coalition. The public version of the resulting report of the effort is available [here](#).

Current Status

Togo has a low rate of electricity access, with great disparity between urban and rural areas. Approximately 52% of Togolese have access to electricity. 92% of the urban population has energy access, while in rural areas, access is still limited at 24%.

Togo's national target is to achieve 100% electrification by 2030. The country plans to include renewable energies to its energy mix to achieve a 20% target by 2030. Solar energy is very often used to provide electricity to social infrastructure in rural areas¹¹.

Togo's off-grid solar energy sector represents a means of expanding access to electricity in the country. The government intends to create an environment favorable to the growth of this market and in 2017 launched the CIZO Program, which translates to "Light up" in Guin, a local language. Through this program, the government aims to achieve 40% rural electrification by 2022 and establish a conducive market to attract the private sector¹². This program is a unique approach to building the off-grid solar market, with support from the International Finance Corporation (IFC). There is also an off-grid plan, which is fully integrated into the national electrification plan¹³.

Under CIZO, companies are licensed to sell solar systems delivering a minimum level of service between Tier 1 and Tier 2 according to the Energy Sector Management Assistant Program's (ESMAP) Multi-Tier Framework. Licensees benefit from import duty waivers as well as logistical support, including low-cost warehousing nationwide, provided by the Togo Post Office. In return, companies must commit to meeting IEC/Lighting Global quality standards, and provide sales, energy consumption and repayment data to the government for monitoring and reporting purposes. This data could be useful in the future for monitoring tax compliance, but also for launching other initiatives in rural areas, for example around access to water or financial inclusion.

In 2020, the program distributed individual SHS kits to 35,000 households¹⁴. It is expected that only 4-5 licenses will be granted between now and 2030. The government aims to ensure that the potential market available to a licensee is big enough to justify market entry, despite Togo being a relatively small country.

¹¹http://www.se4all.ecreee.org/sites/default/files/energie_durable_pour_tous_se4all_programme_daction_national_-_togo.pdf

¹²<https://www.afdb.org/fr/documents/togo-projet-pilote-cizo-delectrification-rurale-hors-reseau-par-kits-solaires-domestiques-en-mode-paygo-au-togo-project-appraisal-report>

To contain the COVID-19 outbreak, Togo took a series of strict measures. The government continued to partner with off-grid solar companies under the CIZO program to guarantee service in return for citizens receiving subsidies towards the cost of SHS electricity access. This meant sales volumes were virtually unaffected in the first half of 2020, and slightly increased in the second half of the year. In December 2020, the government announced a 50% subsidy under the CIZO scheme to halve the cost of solar-powered farming and irrigation systems for 5,000 farmers.

Togo sold 25,000 off-grid solar products between July and December 2020. This is an increase of 7% compared to the first half of 2020 and the second half of 2019. Between July and December 2020, the total recorded number of appliance sales in Togo was 7,474 units. This is a 25% increase compared to the first half of 2020, but a 3% decrease compared to the second half of 2019.

Promoting Quality & E-Waste Management

The government has adopted the IEC standards for solar products, including the technical specification used by Lighting Global. Imported products are required to provide a certificate of conformity from a third-party, recognized testing center¹⁵.

However, borders are highly porous, and standards are unlikely to prevent the influx of counterfeit or low-quality products completely. The government has promoted quality assurance through stipulating that CIZO licensees only sell quality-verified products, but since CIZO only covers products delivering a level of service above Tier 1, little has been done so far to improve the quality of pico solar lanterns.

In Togo, there is no specific legal framework for the management of e-waste.

Taxation

An import duty waiver is in place for CIZO licensees. Some solar products have import duty from 5% to 20% and 18% of Valued Added Tax (TAX) of the cost of goods.

Investments

The government of Togo is assisting CIZO licensees with access to finance and assisted the first licensee to access a local currency working capital loan from Union Togolaise de Banque (UTB). Access to finance is not expected to be a major constraint in future, as

¹⁴<http://www.urbis-foundation.de/files/user/download/Info%20soleil%20Dec.pdf>

¹⁵ [Off-Grid Solar Market Research for Togo, IFC, 2018](#)

concessional financing is likely to be made available through the World Bank's West Africa Regional Off-Grid Energy project (ROGEP), as well as from the African Development Bank (AfDB) and other development finance institutions.

In 2019, the World Bank invested more than US\$200 million to increase access to electricity in West Africa through the Regional Off-Grid Electrification Project (ROGEP) which aims to expand the access to off-grid electricity in several West African countries including Togo. Since 2019, this project has attracted private funds to support off-grid electrification¹⁶.

In 2021, the World Bank approved additional funding of US\$22.5 million for the Regional Off-Grid Electricity Access Project (ROGEAP) in order to support market development of Stand Alone Solar systems in West African countries including Togo. The project will support innovative small businesses to access energy through solar home systems and promote post COVID-19 economic recovery. ECOWAS will execute the project¹⁷.

Sector Support Programs

The CIZO project, began in 2017 and aims to strengthen access to electricity by distributing individual solar kits at affordable costs to more than 2 million citizens, or 300,000 households. It also plans to equip 800 health centers and 3,000 small farms with solar kits by 2022. The distribution of these kits will allow the establishment of PAYGo systems and remote monitoring and manage the payments of the kits. This project which links the Togolese State to Bboxx, extends its partnership to four other operators which are: MOON, FENIX INTL, SOLERGIE and SOLEVA¹⁸.

Solar energy in Togo is experiencing an expansion in the agricultural sector thanks to the support of Electricité de France (EDF) and Bboxx, which in 2020 ensured the deployment of off-grid solar kits and solar water pumps for thousands of farmers to benefit from sustainable irrigation solutions. The Togolese government will subsidize the program up to 50%, in favor of 5,000 farmers who do not have access to the national grid¹⁹.

In 2021, Togo launched a solar electric energy distribution project. This program aims to electrify several rural areas and will focus on the construction of hybrid and off-grid mini-PV systems. This program is funded by GIZ under the supervision of the L'Agence Togolaise pour l'Électrification Rurale et les Énergies Renouvelables (AT2ER). This program is part of the rural electrification strategy which plans to strengthen autonomous solar systems in the country²⁰.

In 2021, Exim Bank of India and the Togolese government concluded a US\$40 million electrification project. This project will electrify 350 localities using solar PV systems. It also plans to install 2,000 solar irrigation systems, 500 solar pumping systems and to electrify 500 schools²¹.

In the same year, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) launched a US\$20.15 million rural electrification project installing mini-solar power plants in Togo. In addition, the Lives and Livelihoods Fund provided US\$10.85 million to improve development in the country by providing sustainable electricity to the rural population. It benefits 372 schools, 22 092 families and 102 health centers²².

In 2020, GIZ launched the Rural Electrification project in Togo (ProEnergy II). The Ministère du Plan et de la Coopération and the Ministère chargé de l'Énergie et des Mines will oversee the project. The initiative runs from 2020 to 2023. It aims to accelerate rural electrification by promoting climate-friendly solutions through mini-grids. Based on economic efficiency criteria, households in rural areas will either be connected to a mini-grid, or individual installations through Stand Alone Solar kits. The project also aims to increase the use of energy for economic, productive and social purposes. In particular the production and processing of agricultural products or the operational capacities of social infrastructures (schools or health centres).²³

In August 2021, The African Development Bank launched the Desert to Power West Africa Regional Energy Program (WAREP), which will end in 2024. The project aims to accelerate solar energy production, transport and decentralized energy

¹⁶ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2019/04/22/world-bank-provides-2247-million-to-help-increase-access-to-electricity-in-west-africa-and-the-sahel-region>

¹⁷ <https://www.banquemonde.org/fr/news/press-release/2021/03/11/world-bank-adds-funding-to-the-regional-off-grid-electricity-access-project-to-promote-solar-products-in-western-and-cen>

¹⁸ <https://at2er.tg/projet-cizo-trois-operateurs-rejoignent-bboxx-et-soleva/>

¹⁹ [https://www.edf.fr/groupe-edf/espaces-](https://www.edf.fr/groupe-edf/espaces-dedies/journalistes/tous-les-communiqués-de-presse/bboxx-edf-)

[dedies/journalistes/tous-les-communiqués-de-presse/bboxx-edf-](https://www.edf.fr/groupe-edf/espaces-dedies/journalistes/tous-les-communiqués-de-presse/bboxx-edf-)

[et-sunculture-s-associent-au-gouvernement-togolais-pour-acceler-l-acces-a-l-agriculture-durable-grace-a-l-energie-solaire](https://www.republiquetogolaise.com/energies/2105-5556-le-togo-veut-des-villages-plus-autonomes-en-energie)

²⁰ <https://www.republiquetogolaise.com/energies/2105-5556-le-togo-veut-des-villages-plus-autonomes-en-energie>

²¹ [https://www.republiquetogolaise.com/energies/2406-5702-le-togo-signe-avec-exim-bank-of-india-un-accord-pour-l-](https://www.republiquetogolaise.com/energies/2406-5702-le-togo-signe-avec-exim-bank-of-india-un-accord-pour-l-electrification-de-350-localite)

[electrification-de-350-localite](https://www.isdb.org/news/islamic-development-bank-provides-us-7355-million-to-finance-new-projects-in-togo-iraq-and-bangladesh)

²² <https://www.isdb.org/news/islamic-development-bank-provides-us-7355-million-to-finance-new-projects-in-togo-iraq-and-bangladesh>

²³ <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/92267.html>

solutions. Togo is among 15 countries that will benefit from this project, carried out by the ECOWAS Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) and the West African Power Pool (WAPP). The first phase of the project will consist of funding pre-feasibility studies aimed at accelerating the regional development of on-grid and off-grid solar power generation across the region.²⁴

Industry Association

The Réseau des Professionnels des Energies Renouvelables (RePer Togo) is a network of renewable energy professionals in Togo. The network supports the government in developing an efficient renewable energy market in the country.

Opportunities and Barriers²⁵

The CIZO program is on track, but there may be a need to accelerate recruitment of additional licensees to speed up market growth to reach the ambitious 2030 targets. In addition, the value of the licenses is yet to be demonstrated, as it has proven to be difficult for some companies to raise equity despite having a license.

Micro-finance institutions have great coverage in rural areas and can support the off-grid solar sector with consumer finance as well as distribution. Local banks have started to support PAYGo companies. Moreover, Togo is a small and densely populated country with rapidly improving road networks, meaning distribution is not a major challenge.

Affordability remains the main challenge to the growth of the off-grid sector in Togo. Another barrier is the influx of low-quality products, which threatens to erode consumer trust and distort price expectations.

To promote the growth of the off-grid solar sector, the government of Togo should create an enabling policy and regulatory environment. This can be achieved through VAT exemptions for off-grid solar products and customs duties.²⁶

In Togolese are familiar with solar products, but there is a lack of understanding about how they work. There is inconsistency between customer expectations and their experience of off-grid solar products. In a study published by IFC on the off-grid solar energy market in Togo, during a survey one customer interviewed purchased a TV but their solar system was not a big enough system to support it. In

many instances uncertified local suppliers do not provide after-sales service support, which represents a barrier to customer satisfaction and market penetration.

Further Information

- [Togo Electrification Strategy, Presentation Document, 2018](#)
- [Togo Fact Sheet, USAID Power Africa, 2018](#)
- [Off-grid Solar Market Research for Togo, IFC, 2018](#)
- [Lighting Africa Country Page - Togo](#)
- [Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy \(RISE\) - Togo](#)
- [Électrification Rurale au Togo \(ProEnergie\)](#)
- [Energie durable pour tous \(SE4ALL\) Programme d'Action Nationale](#)
- [Togo - Projet d'Électrification Rurale CIZO - Rapport final](#)
- [Diagnostic de la situation énergétique au Togo](#)
- [Plan d'Actions National des Énergies Renouvelables \(PANER\)](#)
- [Acteurs du secteur des énergies renouvelables au Togo](#)
- [Énergies Renouvelables au Togo](#)
- [Plans d'actions nationaux des énergies renouvelables, d'efficacité énergétique et de l'énergie durable pour tous \(SE4ALL\)](#)

²⁴ <https://www.afdb.org/en/documents/multinational-desert-power-west-africa-regional-energy-program-warep-phase-1-project-appraisal-report>

²⁵ <https://www.lightingglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Togo-Off-Grid-Solar-Market-Assessment.pdf>

²⁶ http://www.se4all.ecreee.org/sites/default/files/energie_durable_pour_tous_se4all_programme_daction_national_-_togo.pdf