

How can Niger improve energy access?

Broadening energy access is a central national development objective in Niger. At present, less than 25% of the population enjoys access to electricity, and the picture in rural areas is bleaker, at less than 5% electricity access. Generation of electricity through renewables has long been viewed as an important way to close this gap.

What is Niger's energy system?

As shown in figure 2, the most striking feature of Niger's energy system is the dominance of biomass. This represents 79% of total consumption and meets 83% of household energy needs. Biomass in the form of fuelwood, charcoal and agricultural residues is used in inefficient cooking appliances.

What is the institutional arrangement of Niger electricity sector?

The institutional arrangement of Niger electricity sector is depicted in figure 4. The Ministry of Energy and Petroleum is responsible for policy development and the Multisectoral Regulatory Authority is the independent regulator.

Is energy access a critical barrier to development in Niger?

Energy access in Niger remains a critical barrier to the country's development. Modest improvements have been experienced in recent years. However, electricity access in Niger remains low at about 24% and almost all the population relies on the unsustainable use of traditional biomass (MP/AT-DC, 2011).

Does Nigeria reliance on electricity undermine Niger's energy system?

The heavy reliance on Nigeria for electricity can potentially undermine the resilience of Niger's energy system, as in 2008 and 2010. Erratic power supplies from Nigeria prompted Niger's government to gradually reduce its reliance on Nigeria by purchasing new diesel-powered generators.

Who is involved in the energy sector in Niger?

The energy sector in Niger contains a multitude of stakeholders, which include government bodies and parastatal organisations, NGOs and associations as well as the private sector. Some of these play multiple roles in policy, regulation, finance, knowledge generation and advocacy.

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RRA confirms, decentralised systems could ensure universal electricity access, despite Niger's dispersed population and largely rural economy, as long as the country continues to address identified institutional and financial gaps.

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This ambition found validation in a 2019 Executive Council Decision during the AU Summit in Niamey (Niger), affirming the AU's commitment to a continental power system. To translate this vision into reality, the African Union Development Agency - New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD) was entrusted with the

Power Africa is providing support to Niger to increase rural electrification rates and signed a formal letter of cooperation last year with the rural electrification agency, ANPER, to outline collaboration to accelerate energy access in the country.

Niger has one of the lowest electrification rates in sub-Saharan Africa. Only one in seven Nigeriens have access to modern electricity services, and just four percent of rural residents have access through the national utility.

collaboration between Power Africa and programs by USAID and other donors in cross-cutting sectors, including agriculture, health, and education. A solar farm in Niger gives local communities access to power.

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