In early April 2020, ACE TAF discussed the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis with government representatives from energy authorities in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

### Key challenges identified

- Ensuring that the grid is stable for economic centres dealing with the COVID-19 crisis.
- Lack of consensus on the right approach to support the off-grid solar sector.
- Little focus on the option of deployment of off-grid power in rural health facilities to increase COVID-19 response capacity.
- Achieving universal access goals with the COVID-19 restrictions currently in place.

### Actions required

- Continuity plans to support access to energy commitments.
- Credible, current and concise information on the impact of Covid-19 on the sector.
- Stability through additional funding for the off-grid sector.
- Technical assistance and coordination with other ministries such as Ministry of Health.

### Actions Taken by Some Countries:

Recognise power production and distribution as an essential service including the off-grid sector.

For any direct requests regarding this or any other knowledge product please email us at ACEKMHelpdesk@tetratech.com

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