

Goal/Objective

To promote/achieve an increased number of access to electricity/electrification

“ Access to electricity” refers to “ household connection to electrical power”

Required Common Understanding

There is a need for a common understanding, in PIESA, of the terms “Access to Electricity” and “Electrification” so that PIESA can influence the adoption of the agreed definitions in all member countries.

Action Plans, Commitments and Communication.

Our strategies will include;

- To ensure the systems are optimally designed to ensure a return on investment and have sufficient capacity to accommodate future load growth
 - Implement tamper proof electrification designs
 - Share policy on Capital Contribution on customer connections (Bulk Supply)
 - To pursue other alternative electrification technologies e,g biomass,wind,solar etc
 - Share experiences amongst members. Provide a discussion forum for sharing experiences.
- PIESA should negotiate access to specific utility documentation on electrification, for member utilities and affiliates when required. (For example the Eskom Power Series, and Eskom Distribution Technology website standards.) If possible there should also be access to other organisations (eg IEEE, EPRI) via PIESA.
 - As a start members must provide details of the technology being used for electrification projects underway and completed in their countries. This information will be made available on the website, and can be used to identify in more detail the information that should be shared.
 - Secretariat to facilitate a visit to the Zimbabwe SWER project for EAC members
 - Exchange and document the electrification rate for each of the EAC members at every meeting

The Roadmap, (Short & medium term.)

(Refer to Action Plans above)

Challenges relating to electrification

- Lack of electrification master plans
- Lack of adherence to implement existing master plans e.g.
 - political interference
 - funding
 - availability of appropriate technology
- Limited funding to implement tamper proof electrification project so that the maintenance cost and vandalism can be reduced
- Limited electricity capacity to customers , due to existing policies, which causes a lot of problems at a later stage due to a vast number of request for electricity upgrades
- Limited coverage of existing power grids
- Lack of adequate skills