

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe: Energy Profile

Population:	12.6 million (Rural 62%, Urban 38%) ¹
GDP per capita:	591 USD
GDP:	7.5 billion USD

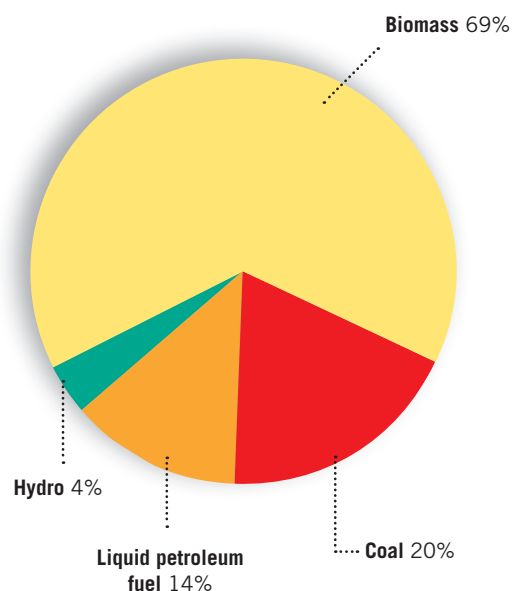
Zimbabwe currently has a national electrification rate of **41.5%**. While electricity has reached **79%** of the urban households, rural electrification is still below **19%**. Only **32%** of the population has access to modern cooking fuel.

Current Energy Access Situation²

		National	Rural	Urban
% of population with access to electricity		41.5	19	79
Fuel used for cooking	% of population with access to modern fuel for cooking (Electricity, Gas or Kerosene)	32.8	3.5	88.5
	% of population using wood for cooking	66.8	96	11.3
	% of population using charcoal for cooking	0.1	0.2	-
	% of population relying on solid fuel for cooking that use Improved Cook Stoves	3.1	2.9	6.2

Current Energy Supply Situation³

- Zimbabwe's energy requirements are met through a combination of biomass, domestic coal-fired and hydroelectric power plants and imports.
- Total installed electricity capacity (2008): 1,990 MW (Hydro 57% and Thermal 43%)
- More than 35% (2009) of electricity required is imported from neighbouring countries.
- Inadequate power generation, unreliability of sources and financial constraints to importing has led to frequent power shortages resulting in significant under-utilisation of capacity in manufacturing, mining and agriculture sectors.
- More than half of the total energy supply is still from biomass products.
- The large unsustainable fuel wood consumption (primarily for cooking) has caused severe wood shortages in most rural areas.
- Renewable energy generation and potential:
 - Solar PV has a technical potential of over 300 MW, whilst only 1% of the technical potential for water heaters is being exploited.
 - Co-generation potential (bagasse from sugar cane industry) is estimated at 633 GWh.
 - Geothermal potential was identified to be 50 MW
 - Out of the 17500 GWh/year hydroelectric potential only 19% has been exploited
 - Large potential exist for producing Biogas from animal waste



¹ World Bank Data

² Energy Access Situation in Developing Countries (WHO, UNDP 2009) and World Energy Outlook (IEA 2009)

³ Renewable Energy Country Profiles (IRENA 2010), Policy and regulation review (REEEP), Zimbabwe NEP 2009

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Energy Targets³

- The government has set a target of boosting the electrification rate to 85% by 2020.
- 10% share of biofuels in liquid fuels by 2015

Relevant Policies and Key Players³

The **Ministry of Energy and Power Development** has overall responsibility for energy issues in Zimbabwe. The responsibilities include policy formulation, performance monitoring and regulation of the energy sector as well as research, development and promotion of new and renewable sources of energy.

An **Electricity Act** was enacted in 2002, bringing about the restructuring and unbundling of the **Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA)** into separate successor companies, focusing on generation, transmission & distribution and service companies. The reforms were meant to encourage Independent Power Producers (IPPs). A few small IPPs operate either providing stand-alone systems in remote communities, or back-up systems by large urban companies in schools and hospitals. These reforms have also led to the creation of an independent, dedicated rural electrification authority, and the establishment of a regulator for the electricity sector.

The **Rural Electrification Fund Act** formed a **Rural Electrification Agency (REA)** in 2002 that has the mandate for the total electrification of all rural areas, funded by electrification levies and government stipends. The main functions of the agency are the planning of projects, the raising and accounting of rural electrification funds and the monitoring of project implementation.

Medium Term Development Plan (2011-2015) is the country's economic development strategy. The programme will work with energy and development extension services to develop tools and embed in national policy and strategies community based approach to energy planning particularly focusing on small scale decentralized renewable energy schemes for poverty reduction.

Zimbabwe Energy Efficiency Project (ZEEP) aims to increase industrial efficiency and produce government standards for efficient appliances and equipment, for example, lighting, water heaters and refrigerators.

National Energy Policy was launched in 2008 with the objectives,

- Increase access to affordable energy services to all sectors of the economy; through optimal use of available energy resources and diversification of supply options;
- Stimulate sustainable economic growth by promoting competition, efficiency and investment in the sector;
- Improve institutional framework and governance in the energy sector to enhance efficiency and energy services delivery;
- Promote research and development in the energy sector; and
- Develop the use of other renewable sources of energy to complement conventional sources of energy.

The Ministry works with international and regional organisations such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the African Energy Commission (AFREC) among others etc.

¹ World Bank Data

² Energy Access Situation in Developing Countries (WHO, UNDP 2009) and World Energy Outlook (IEA 2009)

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