One Earth, Volume 2

Supplemental Information

Satellite Observations Reveal Inequalities

in the Progress and Effectiveness of Recent

Electrification in Sub-Saharan Africa

Giacomo Falchetta, Shonali Pachauri, Edward Byers, Olha Danylo, and Simon C. Parkinson

Supplemental Information

			TIER 0	TIER 1	TIER 2	TIER 3	TIER 4	TIER 5	
ATTRIBUTES	1. Peak Capacity	Power capacity ratings ²⁸ (in W or daily Wh)		Min 3 W	Min 50 W	Min 200 W	Min 800 W	Min 2 kW	
				Min 12 Wh	Min 200 Wh	Min 1.0 kWh	Min 3.4 kWh	Min 8.2 kWh	
		OR Services		Lighting of 1,000 lmhr/ day	Electrical lighting, air circulation, television, and phone charging are possible				
	2. Availability (Duration)	Hours per day		Min 4 hrs	Min 4 hrs	Min 8 hrs	Min 16 hrs	Min 23 hrs	
		Hours per evening		Min 1 hr	Min 2 hrs	Min 3 hrs	Min 4 hrs	Min 4 hrs	
	3. Reliability						Max 14 disruptions per week	Max 3 disruptions per week of total duration <2 hrs	
	4. Quality						Voltage probler the use of desir	ns do not affect ed appliances	
	5. Afford- ability					Cost of a standa 365 kWh/year <	dard consumption package of < 5% of household income		
	6. Legality						Bill is paid to the utility, pre- paid card seller, or authorized representative		
	7. Health & Safety							Absence of past accidents and perception of high risk in the future	

Figure S1: Multi-tier matrix for measuring access to household electricity supply. Source: ref 1.



Figure S2: Validation plots for the electricity access estimates. Panel A: ESMAP/World Bank data; Panel B: IEA Access Database; Panel C: DHS province-level surveys.

Figure S3 shows a line plot – by country – of the electrification levels reported by the *Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report 2019* (ref. 2). It reveals that a large number of countries seem to have kept quasi-linear changes in their reported electricity access level. Testing this hypothesis in a regression framework yields to a highly significance of the linear time trend (at a 1% level), but conversely it points to a rejection of the existence of a quadratic or cubic time trend at a 5% level of statistical significance.



Figure S3: Electricity access level progress (2010-2017) according to the database of the Tracking SDG7 report database (ref. ²).



Figure S4: Distribution of nighttime light radiance and thresholds identified to define electricity access tiers for national, urban, and rural areas.



Figure S5: Share of the national, urban, and rural population with access to electricity in each access tier according to this paper estimates and the World Bank Multi-Tier Framework field data for Ethiopia, Rwanda, and Zambia.

	Dependent variable:						
	Electr. access level 2019	Elect. progress 2014-2019	Average access tier	`TV ownership	`Refrigerator ownershup	Mobile telephone ownership	Radio ownership
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wealth distribution: Gini coefficient	-1.463***	0.093***	-4.790***				
	(0.142)	(0.034)	(0.483)				
Average access tier				19.823***	13.181***	10.054***	6.812***
				(0.923)	(0.681)	(0.830)	(0.745)
Constant	1.045***	-0.020	2.588***	20.924***	11.405***	46.493***	38.608***
	(0.067)	(0.016)	(0.226)	(2.843)	(2.098)	(2.557)	(2.293)
Observations	188	188	188	216	216	216	216
R ²	0.579	0.412	0.464	0.828	0.780	0.780	0.670
Adjusted R ²	0.542	0.361	0.418	0.814	0.762	0.762	0.643
Residual Std. Error	0.194 (df = 172)	0.047 (df = 172)	0.659 (df = 172)	10.257 (df = 199)	7.570 (df = 199)	9.225 (df = 199)	8.274 (df = 199)
F Statistic	15.776 ^{***} (df = 15; 172)	8.040 ^{***} (df = 15; 172)	9.945 ^{***} (df = 15; 172)	59.987 ^{***} (df = 16; 199)	44.016 ^{***} (df = 16; 199)	43.988 ^{***} (df = 16; 199)	25.236 ^{***} (df = 16; 199)
Country fixed-effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table S1: DHS surveys data regression results

Note: *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

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ZWE Zimbabwe	UGA ZAF ZMB	Uganda South Africa Zambia

Table S2: ISO3- country names codebook

Dataset	Unit	Source	Time step	Spatial resolution	
High-resolution settlement layer	People	Ref. ³	1 year	30 m	
Global Human Settlement Layer – built up areas and settlement type layers	Class	Ref. ⁴	5 years	250 m	
VIIRS-DNB nighttime light radiance	µW · cm⁻² · sr⁻¹	Ref. ⁵	1 month	450 m	
GADM shapefile	-	Ref. 6	-	-	
DHS surveys	% of people with access	Ref. ⁷	Multiple years	Province-level	
IEA Energy Access database	% of people with access	Ref. ⁸	1 year	Country-level	
Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report database	% of people with access	Ref. ⁹	1 year	Country-level	
Atlas of the Sustainable Development Goals from World Development Indicators database	% of people with access	Ref. ¹⁰	1 year	Country-level	
ESMAP Multi-tier Framework Surveys	kWh/household/year	Ref. 11	1-2 years	Household-level	

Table S3: Datasets used in the modelling framework

Supplemental References

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