

SPOTLIGHT SESSION

ENERGY ACCESS AMIDST COVID-19 AND BEYOND

Jointly organized by:

Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL)
(18 June 2020, 10:30-12:00 PHT)

VOICE FROM THE FIELD: OPERATING SMALL ISLAND MINIGRIDS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF RURAL COMMUNITIES

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ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

- **Fear and confusion among personnel and member-consumers**
- **Cashflow problem due to community quarantine**
 - 50-60% drop in collection efficiency
 - Increased consumption by residential consumers
- **Operational difficulties in ensuring continuous service**
 - Procurement and delivery of supplies for remote island minigrids
 - Providing quick O & M response
 - Billing and collection
- **Delays and/or stoppage of on-going projects**



RESPONSE MEASURES TO COVID-19 ENVIRONMENT

- **Oriented Employees about Covid-19**
- **Modified operation protocols**
 - Use of modern technology to connect with employees
 - Localized work force for collection and maintenance work
- **Provided financial relief to EC Member-Consumer-Owners (MCOs)**
 - Deferment of collection
 - Free one-month electricity for lifeline consumers
 - Revert pre-paid metering to post-paid service to assure continuous service
- **Developed Sustainability Plans**
 - Preserve available cash; redefine budget priorities
 - Defer or cancel major CAPEX projects



MOVING FORWARD

- **Strictly implement the health protocols** among employees and MCOs
- **Ensure continuous service**, especially for healthcare and essential service facilities
- **Facilitate transition to RE technologies** – promote switching from diesel-based to RE-hybrid systems in remote island grids
- **Increase energy access among AIEC members** – close to 2 million households unserved and 55,000 households underserved
- **Find reliable partners** to implement more off-grid RE or RE-hybrid projects
- **Seek financing support and engage with government to improve regulatory environment** for off-grid electrification



THANK YOU

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