The Effect of Smart Metering on Revenue Collection, Electricity Access, and Supply

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Over a billion people in the developing world are not connected to the electricity grid, and hundreds of millions more, once connected to the grid, receive an erratic supply of electricity. In many low- and middle-income countries, electricity theft and non-payment for use are widespread, and state-run electricity distribution companies lose money on each kilowatt-hour sold. Researchers are conducting a randomized evaluation to test the impact of providing a new technology--smart meters--on consumer payments and service quality. Research is ongoing; results are forthcoming.