Gender in Access to Clean Energy
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Contents

- Reminder about:
  - why access to clean energy is important and links to poverty
  - energy and poverty have gender dimension
- Why gender is important in energy access
- ENERGIA’s experience in enabling the transition
  - engendering the policy process (energy audits)
  - women & energy projects
- Is there a gender dimension to the Oil and Gas Sector?
Poverty and Energy

- Poverty is the focus of development
- What are the energy dimensions of poverty?
  - Poor households use more biomass in low efficiency equipment
  - Collection is often by human physical effort
  - Health implications (eye & lung disease; spine damage; hygiene)
  - Little access to modern clean energy forms
Energy access situation in developing countries

Population without access to modern fuels

Share of population in developing countries without access to modern fuels (2007)
Energy access situation in developing countries

Population without access to electricity

Share of people without electricity access for developing countries, 2008
Major environmental issue: Indoor Air Pollution

Premature deaths per year associated with kitchen smoke

- Malaria: 1.2 million
- Smoke from biomass: 1.3 million
- Tuberculosis: 1.6 million
- HIV/AIDS: 2.8 million

Source: WHO (2006), and World Energy Outlook 2006
Poverty and energy has a gender dimension
Why gender matters in energy

- 2 billion people lack access to modern energy, rely on traditional fuels mainly for cooking and heating
- Women represent up to 70% of the rural poor many as head of household, ...earn 10% of the world’s income
  ...own only 1% of the world’s property
  ...account for 2/3 of the total number of illiterate people.
Why gender matters in energy

- Women & men have different energy roles
- Women bear the main burden of biomass collection
- Women’s invisible human energy crisis needs modern clean energy
- Women are generally disadvantaged compared to men from the same group:
  - Women have less access to credit etc.
  - Women & men have different knowledge
  - Women & men experience energy poverty differently
Three important reasons for focusing on women in energy

- Women are recognised as key to family and community well-being and food security (cf MDGs)
- Women’s role to provide household energy for cooked food, boiled water and warmth
- Women’s income generation needs clean energy which contributes to their empowerment and family well-being
Women need clean energy

Cooking energy crisis

Human energy crisis

Transition

Energy for micro-enterprises

Increased well-being

Energy for modern lifestyles

Poverty
How can we enable that transition?
Expanding access to clean energy services for the poor

Conceptual Underpinning

**Upscaling**
- Build awareness and ensure political commitment
- Develop Consensus and act on a vision
- Assess energy needs and targets
- Evaluate policy options
- Evaluate financing options

**Mainstreaming**
- Increase effectiveness of energy services delivery
- Integrate energy access into budget
- Measure and monitor energy access
- Expanding energy access focusing on women

**Financing**

**Replication**

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Expanding access to clean energy services focusing on women.
How to do this?
ENERGIA’s experience
Why is role of women and energy neglected in programmes related to poverty?

Our research and experiences shows three important factors:

- **No data – no visibility; no visibility – no interest**
- **No ownership – Ministry for Women? Energy? Finance (PRSPs)?**
- **Lack of understanding on how to incorporate gender/women into energy policy/programmes/projects**
Entry points for donor support within energy sector

- Support for energy sector commitments to: CEDAW/Beijing Platform for Action MDGs – where women and children are at the core

- Challenges: Energy people don’t know how Gender/Women’s ministry reluctant to engage
Gender “audit” of energy policy

- ENERGIA has developed a methodology – absence of which is often stumbling block
- Based on ENERGIA’s conceptual work of how to engender energy policy and an understanding of the gender, energy, poverty nexus.
- ENERGIA has carried/is carrying out audits in: Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Botswana, Senegal, India, Nepal, Pakistan and the Philippines
Gender “audit” of energy policy as entry point

- National team assembled consisting of key stakeholders (core members Min En; Min of Women; Statistical Office)
- Creates ownership of output by relevant government departments plus establishing cross ministry cooperation
- Participatory process involving private sector and civil society – creates consensus and vision of gender sensitive energy policy
- Team conduct (after training) gender audit – broader than gender budget assessment
- Start with stakeholder workshop – finish with validation workshop and development of action plan
What’s in a gender audit?

- Analyses policies, processes and institutions through a gender lens
- Identifies gaps in knowledge and data for developing gender sensitive energy policy
  - Underlines need for and benefits of gender disaggregated data
- Identifies factors hindering gender mainstreaming
- Analyses energy sector budgets
  - (specialised work - civil society needs support here)
What’s in a gender audit?

- Work with stakeholders to formulate policies to close gaps
- Develop indicators for monitoring and evaluation
- Conduct organisational assessment for gender sensitivity in delivery and staff policy
What are the benefits of carrying out gender audit?

- Creates awareness of gender and energy amongst wider audience of decision makers
- Generates political commitment
- Process is capacity building of stakeholders – provides them with motivation and tools
Next steps: Implementation (1)

- Country partners need support to implement action plan
Follow Up Action – Gender Audits

- Integration of gender in Kenya Rural Electrification Plan and Biofuels Strategy (ethanol for household use)
- Integration of gender in Botswana Power Cooperation Rural electrification Program
- Integration of gender in Ghana Oil and Gas Policy Framework, Ghana
- Gender desk officers in MoEs in Kenya, Ghana, Botswana, Senegal
- Pilot project to collect sex-disaggregated CSO energy data collected by CSO in Botswana and Zambia
- Methods in gender and energy audits part of curriculum of at University of Makerere
Next steps: Implementation (2)

- Identifying viable entry points for gender in energy projects
- Women’s income generation important part of household income & moving/keeping households out of poverty
- Focus on projects which promote women’s productive uses of energy
Energy for micro-enterprises

- Many of women’s informal sector activities are energy-intensive: food processing, fish smoking, baking, beer-brewing, restaurants, pottery, salt extraction...

- Severely affected by rising energy costs & fuel shortages (20-25% of food processing costs).

- Labour- and effort-intensive, tiring, unhealthy & dangerous.

- Critical source of income to families, even when part-time & seasonal.

- Women need improved clean energy access to increase profitability, improve safety/health and save labour in income-earning activities.
Women can also be energy entrepreneurs

- Successful women energy entrepreneurs need not only technology but:
  - CREDIT (women receive only 10% of credit given by formal institutions)
  - Access to raw materials (incl. land ownership & control over cash crops)
  - Management & organization
  - Training
  - Marketing

- Women can do maintenance and repair
- Women can be in project management
- If issue of physical strength is raised – think about the daily loads of fuelwood and water women carry!
Final comments on gender and access to clean energy

- Gender needs to be taken into account in energy for equity and project efficiency reasons
- Focusing on women offers an entry point for promoting access to clean energy which promotes family well-being, food security and reduces vulnerability and poverty
- Women’s productive activities and clean energy access are mutually re-enforcing
- Energy audits enable support to country partners – capacity building important element
Is there a gender dimension to the Oil and Gas Sector?
Gender in Oil and Gas Sector

Three main entry points:
Women as employees in Sector
Women as ESCOs
Women as consumers
Women as employees in O&G sector

- Equity issue for women – access to well-paid (at all levels) jobs – this has development impacts
- Companies – human capacity issue – can you afford to disregard a pool of talent
- Creating the approach in institutions that sees contributions people make as capable individuals rather than as members of designated groups
Getting women into the O&G sector

- Supporting partner organisations to introduce gender policy
- Gender disaggregated employment statistics at all levels – helps raise awareness
- Improving women’s education to increase their employment chances for all skills levels
  - University scholarships
  - Holiday internships (paid!)
  - Provide adult education & re-training for older entrants
- Making sector an attractive & supportive place for women to work
  - Separate toilets for women & men
  - Protective clothing designed for women
  - Childcare provision
  - Designated staff member for harassment
  - Advertising campaigns to promote the industry as woman friendly
Women as employees need support
to stay in the O&G sector

- Women will initially in the minority – this can be lonely
- Forming professional networks can help with exchange of information and provide support (see ENERGIA News Issue 2.3, August 1998 Gender Equity in International Petroleum Projects: Women in the oil and gas sector – article describes CIDA supported programme in Pakistan)
- Work with HR departments to develop gender mainstreaming in their organisations
Oil and gas sector make a difference to women’s lives

- Supporting policy development – taxation policy
- Working with LPG companies to develop small-sized cylinders – considered key in Kenya and India for reaching low-income consumers
- O&G exploration and extraction – working with communities – make sure women are consulted in EIAs and benefit from any CSR
Women as energy entrepreneurs

- ESCOs which supply petroleum products (kerosene and LPG) and conversion devices can be run by women.
- While arguments about physical strength are sometimes used as barriers for women’s participation, their management skills cannot be disputed!
- Women are users of these devices so may be more sensitive to customers’ requirements and will be more acceptable as demonstrators of cooking with new fuels to women.
- Women can more effectively market to women (particularly where there are cultural constraints related to contact with men who are not family members).
Women in management and decision making bodies

- Women should be supported to participate in management positions and decision making bodies
  - they may need their capacity built & men need their capacity built to support women’s participation

- Women lead campaigns for transparency and fighting corruption – they can bring these values to the Board Room
Is there a gender dimension to the Oil and Gas Sector?

- The answer is an emphatic “yes”!
- Both as an employment opportunity for women and for the industry in increasing the pool of talent
- It needs a conscious policy effort to develop a gendered approach to the sector – asking the question “what are the gender issues within the sector?” is a first step
- The World Bank’s work on “Mainstreaming Gender into Extractive Industries Projects” has many lessons for O&G sector
Thank you

- Slides 4, 5, 6 and 13 adapted from UNDP
- More information from ENERGIA: www.energia.org