

Online Resources for Integrating Gender into Energy Operations

Step 1: Gender Assessment Resources | Desk Review/Screening

Available on www.ESMAP.org

ENERGY POLICY ANALYSIS – QUICK SCAN¹

This energy policy analysis provides a comprehensive overview of the gender and energy situation in a country by quickly reviewing the key policies. It helps to identify entry points and actions needed for integrating gender and other social dimensions of energy into country policy dialogue in order to reduce gender inequities and increase development effectiveness and sustainability.

Approach

Desk study

Sources of information

Energy Policy; Gender Policy; Household Energy survey, Country Assistance Strategy (CAS); Country Gender Assessments (CGA); Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). Reports by regional agencies, including African Development Bank, Nepad, UNIFEM, SADC, and ECOWAS. National gender and energy analysis reports by NGOs and other organisations eg ENERGIA.

Method

This tool encompasses four main areas, including:

- A. National policy context
- B. Policy measures
- C. Policy in the local context
- D. Policy in the international context

A. *The national policy context*

1. What are the key policy issues in the energy sector?
 - 1.1. What gender issues are identified in the review documents?
 - 1.2. What are the gender dimensions?
- (Table T1.1 below gives some examples)

| Issues | Gender dimension |
|---|---|
| <i>Investment decisions</i> | Policy determines which energy sectors receive attention and support. For example, large-scale expansion of the electrical grid without support for household connections may bypass poor women. On the other hand, support for village-level initiatives focused on renewable energy sources may provide women with both new energy services and employment. |
| <i>Access and availability of energy supply</i> | Availability can affect women and men differently (for example, black outs when preparing meals can mean more work for women). Elements of energy access (cost, physical distribution, new technologies, etc.) can also offer more benefits to men than women. Access is also affected by the choice of technology supported by policies, hence impacting on men and women differently (For example, use of non-standard valves and regulator for LPG cylinders). |

¹ Adapted from: Skutsch, Margaret and Clancy, Joy and Leeuw, Hanke (2006) *The Gender Face of Energy : A Training Manual Adapted to the Pacific Context from the ENERGIA Commissioned Training Manual*. Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission ENERGIA Gender Face of Energy.

Online Resources for Integrating Gender into Energy Operations

Step 1: Gender Assessment Resources | Desk Review/Screening

Available on www.ESMAP.org

| Issues | Gender dimension |
|---|--|
| <i>Tariffs and pricing</i> | Lifeline tariffs and specific tariffs for different areas may influence access for different groups in the population, particularly since women are over-represented amongst the chronically poor. Gender differences in both access to and control over household income mean pricing decisions about tariffs and connection fees can affect women and men differently. |
| <i>Infrastructure construction</i> | Large-scale energy projects raise gender equality issues relating to both social impact (how are women and men differently affected by large-scale dislocations?) and to employment possibilities (do women benefit from the increased economic activity?). |
| <i>Community participation strategies</i> | Specific attention to addressing gender inequalities, based around cultural tradition and education, is required if women are to participate along with men. |
| <i>Human resources planning</i> | Personnel strategies (including hiring, promotion, and access to training) should include measures to increase women's contribution to policy making and to ensure women's access to opportunities in non-traditional fields. |
| <i>Environmental issues</i> | Given women's work in the home, they are more vulnerable to certain energy related environmental problems such as cooking smoke. Men tend to be more exposed to environmental hazards while working in energy-related sectors (work in nuclear plants, exposure to dangerous chemicals or live electrical wires). |
| <i>Finance</i> | Lack of collateral for women limits their access to financial resources thereby limiting their opportunity to move up the energy ladder, or opportunity to use energy resources for productive end use |

2. Who are the policy makers and stakeholders in the energy sector?
 - 2.1. What are the sources and strengths of support to engendering energy policy?
 - 2.2. What are the sources of resistance to engendering energy policy?
3. Which national and international mandates on gender have been adopted by the government?
 - 3.1. Which institutions or agencies are involved in gender in the country? (national, regional international?)
 - 3.2. What is their level of involvement?
 - 3.3. What is their primary focus?
4. To what extent does the ministry of women/gender engage in the energy sector?
5. What is the Gender Profile of the country?
6. What are the poverty levels
 - 6.1. Number of female-headed households;
 - 6.2. Situation in relation to MDG indicators (such as literacy, water & sanitation, land

Online Resources for Integrating Gender into Energy Operations

Step 1: Gender Assessment Resources | Desk Review/Screening

Available on www.ESMAP.org

- access, workload, political participation);
- 6.3. Roles of women and men in household, agriculture and income
- 6.4. Generation/employment (including the informal sector and if possible the energy sector).
- 6.5. Transport (including women's mobility)

(This requires collection of some basic data on the differential situation of women and men which can provide ideas for possible actions for addressing gender issues in the energy sector. Suggestions: Data should be energy policy specific, perhaps can use household energy survey).

B. Policy measures

1. What measures have been put in place to implement policy?
2. How does the energy policy define gender in its application (for example is it men/women issues, or does it recognise the other special needs groups e.g. disabled, elderly, minority, children and other vulnerable groups etc)?
 - 2.1. Are they considered by policy makers to be gender neutral?
 - 2.2. Are gender issues explicit? Are they articulated as "women's issues"? Is taking gender (or women) only considered relevant when small-scale energy initiatives are planned?
 - 2.3. Are policies translated only into technical solutions?
 - 2.4. How are resources allocated to address these measures?
3. Through what institutions and organisations are these measures channelled?
 - 3.1. What is their attitude to engendering energy policy?
 - 3.2. Do the institutions have the capacity to engender policy (See tools for institutional assessment)

C. Policy in the local context

1. In what form do policy making institutions and organisations on gender and/or energy exist locally?
 - 1.1. Who are the key actors?
 - 1.2. What links and networks exist between them?
 - 1.3. Do they favour gender mainstreaming?
 - 1.4. What is the gender capacity of these institutions (skills/tools/ resources, etc)?
2. What other institutions and organisations affect local responses to gender and/or energy policy?
3. What other local institutions and organisations might gender and/or energy policy affect?
4. What processes might affect gender and/or energy policy?

D. Policy in the international context

1. To what extent does energy policy explicitly contribute to meeting the MDGs?
2. To what extent does energy policy meet obligations under Beijing Platform for Action?