

# A VIRTUOUS CYCLE: HOW CLEAN COOKING PROJECTS CAN EMPOWER WOMEN AND HELP CLOSE GENDER GAPS

ESMAP GENDER AND ENERGY PROGRAM

MARCH 17, 2022

# HOUSEKEEPING ANNOUNCEMENTS



- This session is being recorded.
- Please keep your cameras off and microphones muted.
- Use the chat box for questions. Moderation in the Q&A session.
- We will share the presentation with those who registered.
- Also, we will share the link for the publication and the Gender Data Portal in the chat box.

# AGENDA

➤ Opening Remarks

**Gabriela Elizondo Azuela** – Practice Manager of the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (ESMAP) at the World Bank

➤ Presentation: *Opening Opportunities, Closing Gaps : Advancing Gender-Equal Benefits in Clean Cooking Operations*

**Caroline Ochieng** – Energy Specialists of ESMAP at the World Bank

➤ Discussion Panel: A virtuous cycle: How clean cooking projects can empower women and help close gender gaps

Moderator: **Gabriela Elizondo Azuela**

Panelist:

- **Uwera Rutagarama** - Director Off Grid and Alternative Energies of Rwanda Energy Group
- **Sujatha Srinivasan** – Director of Servals Automation PVT LTD
- **Aidan Fitzpatrick** - Head of Development & Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Ireland in Addis Ababa
- **Frank van der Vleuten** - Policy Coordinator Climate Finance and Energy at Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken, Netherlands

➤ Closing Remarks

**Hana Brixi** – Gender Global Director at the World Bank

# Opening Remarks



**Gabriela Elizondo Azuela**

Practice Manager of ESMAP at the World Bank

# Presentation

*Opening Opportunities, Closing Gaps :  
Advancing Gender-Equal Benefits in  
Clean Cooking Operations*



**Caroline Ochieng**

Energy Specialists of ESMAP at the World Bank

# OPENING OPPORTUNITIES, CLOSING GAPS: ADVANCING GENDER-EQUAL BENEFITS IN CLEAN COOKING OPERATIONS

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ESMAP GENDER AND ENERGY PROGRAM

*COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN 66*

17 MARCH 2022

# WHY GENDER MATTERS: RIGHTS BASED ARGUMENT

- 75 percent of the world's total unpaid work is done by women (McKinsey, 2015).
- US\$0.8 trillion per year - The gender cost of inaction, in the form of women's lost productivity associated with time use
- 1.3 hours per day (ranging from 30 minutes to > 6 hours) spent by rural women on average on fuel collection
- 2.7 hours per day spent by women (relative to 0.35 hours by men) on cooking responsibility (WB data from 7 African countries)
- 60 percent of health burden of HAP fall on women and children
- Two times higher exposure of women to HAP than Men in South Asia (WHO 2016)
- Other disproportional impacts: Drudgery, injuries, burns, violence. For instance 41 country survey (World Bank 2012) showed nearly ¼ respondents believed it was acceptable/justifiable for a woman to be beaten if they burned food



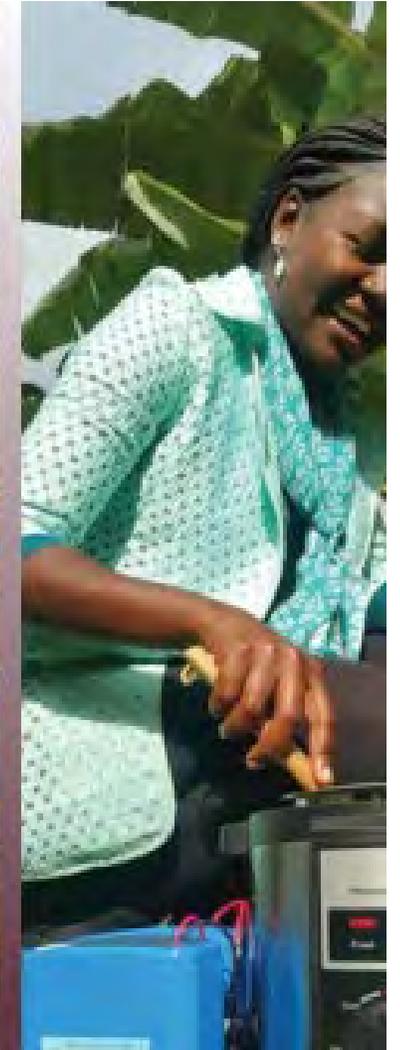
# WHY GENDER MATTERS: WOMEN AS VITAL PARTICIPANTS

- Meaningful engagement of women is critical to success of cookstove programs
- Promoting women's agency leads to welfare improvements for all



# REPORT OVERVIEW

- Part I – Arguments for recognising women as both beneficiaries and agents of change
- Part II - Opportunities for advancing gender equality across the clean cooking value chain
- Part III - Practical steps for tailoring projects to the distinct needs of women and men



# WORLD BANK'S GENDER TAG

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01

Identify gaps between women and men and/or girls and boys, especially in light of the gaps identified in the Systematic Country Diagnostic and the Country Partnership Framework;

02

Identify specific actions to address these identified gender gaps and/or improve women's or men's empowerment

03

Include indicators in the results framework to monitor outcomes from the specific actions identified to address them

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPOWERING WOMEN IN CLEAN COOKING

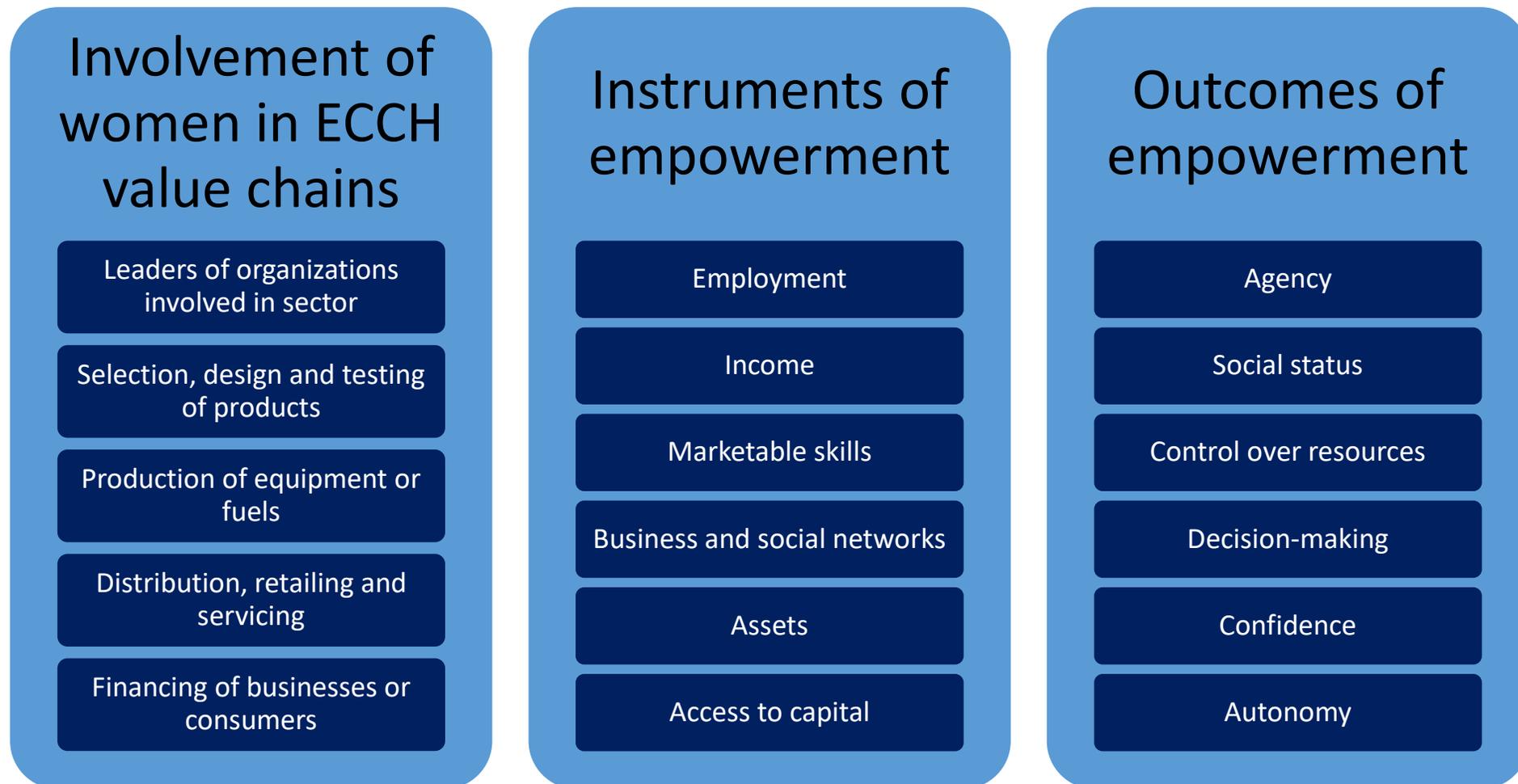
Integrating Gender across the Value Chain

Closing gender gaps in Financing

Gender-enabling policies and market support

# CLEAN COOKING VALUE CHAIN

- i) Design and testing, ii) Manufacture and assembly, iii) Wholesaling and distribution, iv) Marketing and retailing, v) Fuel supply and distribution, vi) After-sales service



# DESIGN AND TESTING

## MANUFACTURE AND ASSEMBLY



# WHOSALING AND DISTRIBUTION MARKETING AND RETAILING



# FUEL SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION AFTER SALES SERVICE



# CLOSING GAPS IN FINANCING

- Supplier Side Financing
- Consumer Side Financing
- Repayment models



# **ENABLING POLICIES AND MARKET SUPPORT**

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# POLICY

- Does the elevation of clean issues in national energy policies, strategy papers, and master plans reflect the will and priorities of both men and women, as well as the importance of cooking and heating in total final energy consumption?
- Does the policy use the terms “gender,” “women and men,” or other equivalent language? Does it recognize women as both beneficiaries and agents of change?
- Does it point out specific gender gaps and propose linked actions to address them?
- Does it acknowledge the need for gender desegregated data and provide relevant indicators on closing gender gaps?



# REGULATION



- Are both women and men substantially involved in the design and creation of the regulation, including during public commenting phases?
- Are the stakeholder consultations and public comments documented in a way that captures the sex of each contributor?
- Is input from men and women incorporated in equitable measure into the final rollout?

# STANDARDS



- Do the standards favour one gender of producer?
- Is there an established link between the sex of the producer/supplier and stoves that fail to meet the performance thresholds? If so, does the existence of new standards diminish those producers'/suppliers' businesses? Are support measures then put in place to aid them in improving the quality of their product?
- Is there balanced representation in the standards-setting committee?
- Are processes of obtaining a standards certification designed with both women and men in mind

# CONCLUSIONS

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- **Women have long been recognized as primary users** of household cooking and heating energy and beneficiaries of projects focused on clean cooking and heating solutions.
- **Need to also recognise women as designers, producers, retailers and promoters** of clean cooking solutions and actively seek and create entry points for their engagement across the entire value chain
- Owing to their knowledge and experience, **women's active engagement can increase uptake of clean-stove products and services** and increase the likelihood of their continued use
- Have higher ambition for women to include levels of the chain with **greatest sales volume, as well as in energy planning and policy making**
- **Men are still decision-makers** on household spending decisions and **need to be engaged**

## Energy Sector Management Assistance Program

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*Discussion Panel:*

Moderator: Gabriela Elizondo Azuela

## A virtuous cycle: How clean Cooking Projects Can Empower Women and Help Close Gender Gaps

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**Frank van der  
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Policy Coordinator Climate  
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Ministerie van Buitenlandse  
Zaken, Netherlands

# Closing Remarks



**Hana Bixi**

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