Gender Screening Tool

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for the
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**Purpose of the Gender Screening Tool**

Enables Energy task teams to assess whether and extent to which:

- Energy-related inequalities between women and men could negatively impact the energy sector strategy or project outcomes
- The sector strategy or project could potentially increase inequalities between women and men
- The sector strategy or project could inadvertently place women at greater risk than men regarding negative impacts of the project on people
- The sector strategy or project ignores serious energy-related risks faced by women
- Whether and the extent to which the gender issues identified need to be addressed in specific energy operations.
Country Context Gender Screening Questions

Bangladesh Example
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<tr>
<th>Gender Screening Questions</th>
<th>Why Ask?</th>
<th>Where to Find Information</th>
<th>What to do? Examples of design features that can reduce risks and enhance development effectiveness</th>
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<tr>
<td>Does the country have policies or laws related to gender equity or equality (e.g. gender equality policy, Laws on labor rights, property ownership, civic participation)?</td>
<td>Projects that ignore gender policies risk unintentionally undermining of the ability of the country to implement them.</td>
<td>--Bank and other country gender assessment --Ministry responsible for women/gender --UNDP National Human Development Reports</td>
<td>--Include the gender related policies in the background section of the PCN and PAD, and the operational manual for the project implementation team.</td>
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<td>Do the energy sector strategies/policies address gender issues?</td>
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Social Development Department
Does Bangladesh have policies or laws related to gender equality?

- 1971 Constitution focused on equality and liberty.
- National Five year Plans stressed gender equality
- 1997 Women and Development Policy
- 2009 PRSP States that women’s advancement and is essential:
  - to achieve efficiency in poverty reduction
  - to achieve sustainable development
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<td>Are there key social, cultural or legal constraints on female participation in and benefits from the project?</td>
<td>---Traditional land tenure often limits women’s access to energy assets and modern energy business opportunities. ---Energy is often viewed as a male domain. Men predominate in public and private energy jobs and decision-making. ---Traditions often limit women’s mobility and access to employment and other project benefits. ---Gender segregation of the labor market ---Women often lack control of</td>
<td>--Bank and other country gender assessments --Poverty and Vulnerability Impact Assessments --Rapid appraisal</td>
<td>--Set targets for female participation on energy decision-making bodies --Include women in project consultations --Strengthen gender awareness and capacity of implementing agency to address gender issues in energy --Coordinate with the Ministry in charge of gender/women’s affairs as well as women’s NGOs concerned about female mobility and empowerment.</td>
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Does Bangladesh have social, cultural, or legal constraints on female participation, benefits?

- **Gender segregation** – traditionally women’s place was within Households, limits women’s mobility
- Son preference; limited investment in girls
- Women have little or no control over property
- However, government commitments and investments, situation has changed, female stipend program for secondary education, gender parity in school enrolment. Still low female labor force participation.
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<td>Do women and men have different energy needs and access to energy assets?</td>
<td>Males and females have different energy needs based on their gender roles and responsibilities. For example: --Women and girls often spend hours collecting fuelwood --Women often lack the resources to pay for cleaner, safer cooking fuels --Men may place higher priority on energy for irrigation pumps</td>
<td>--Bank and other country gender assessments --Demographic and Health Surveys --Household Budget Surveys/Income and Expenditure Surveys --Special studies --Rapid Appraisal</td>
<td>-- Consult women as well as men about energy needs and constraints -- Address these differences in project component designs.</td>
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Do women and men have different energy needs and access to energy assets?

- Research has shown that women and men in Bangladesh use electricity differently.
- Women are responsible for labor-intensive tasks with no monetary return such as: collecting fuel, water, processing food, childcare.
- Women engage less in agriculture than men and in limited areas such as homestead gardening, poultry, livestock.
- Men engage in crop cultivation, non-farm services, business, transport operation.
Project Design Gender Screening Questions

- Bangladesh Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Project

**PDO:** to support Bangladesh's efforts to raise levels of social development and economic growth by increasing access to electricity in rural areas
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<td>Could the project place poorer people at greater risk of harm and livelihood loss?</td>
<td>--When key gender issues are not taken into account, women and minorities bear more of the risks and men and elites receive more of the benefits of energy projects, negatively effecting poverty reduction and gender equity.</td>
<td>--Stakeholder analysis --Poverty and Social Impact Assessments --Consultation</td>
<td>--Conduct gender inclusive risk analysis --Involve women and other excluded groups in energy project planning --Ensure that low interest loans for connection fees are available to women headed HH as well as men’s Headed HH --Design projects to response to women’s energy needs and priorities are well as</td>
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<td>Could this risk be greater for women than men?</td>
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<td><strong>Is the project failing to address important risks faced by women and men?</strong></td>
<td>--Women and children are disproportionately affected by indoor air pollution from cooking on wood fires. --Lack of street lighting is a greater personal security risk for women --Construction sites with transient labor increase exposure to HIV/AIDS?</td>
<td>--Stakeholder analysis --Poverty and Social Impact Assessments --Consultation</td>
<td>--Conduct gender inclusive risk analysis --Involve women and other excluded groups in energy project planning --Design projects to respond to women’s energy needs and priorities are well as men’s --Use social accountability tools</td>
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Does the project design ignore significant energy-related risks to women?

- 95% of households use biomass to cook
- 7%- use kerosene for lighting
- Women and children have the greatest exposure to indoor air pollutions (IAP)
- Respiratory diseases from IAP account for 8% of the disease burden.
- IAP is the leading cause for infant deaths
- Women spend many hours daily collecting biomass
- **Project will reduce IAP by reducing use of kerosene for lighting**
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| **Does the project include restructuring of energy generation, transmission, and distribution companies?** | **In commercialization of the energy sector, women may be affected more negatively than men.**  
This includes the wives of redundant government male workers as well as redundant female workers.  
If tariffs increase, the **-- National Labor statistics**  
**-- Living standards measurement surveys**  
**-- Provide alternative livelihoods training for women and men (including redundant female workers and the wives of redundant male public utilities workers as well as the men)**  
**-- If tariffs are increased provide social safety net/subsidies to ensure affordability of energy for the poor, particularly** |
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| Will the project create employment and entrepreneurial opportunities? | --Energy sector is often viewed as a male domain. This may exclude women from economic opportunities and limits inputs into decision-making to the male perspective. | --National labor statistics | -- Equal pay for equal work  
--Gender equitable hiring practices.  
--Targeted communication to females on opportunities in energy at technical and nontechnical levels.  
--Skills training for females in energy enterprise development. |
| Will women have access to these opportunities? | | | |
| Will women be employed in decision-making | | | |
Will women as well as men get opportunities to earn income?

- Project supports initiatives in rural areas for productive use of electricity to increase household income.
- Project facilitates development of small power projects, using renewable energy sources, where feasible, owned and operated by the private sector or by NGOs/community-based organizations.
- Women advisors on rural energy boards.
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<td>Will the project trigger involuntary displacement and resettlement, indigenous peoples, or environment safeguards?</td>
<td>--Women are more vulnerable to negative impacts of relocation and loss of livelihood because their assets are more limited. --Indigenous women are usually the most vulnerable. --Compensation to male heads of households does not necessarily benefit other members of the household. --Groups of women can be effective mobilizers for participatory resettlement planning.</td>
<td>Environmental and social impact Assessment</td>
<td>--Minimize displacement and resettlement- --Sex disaggregate the census of persons affected -- do inclusive, participatory resettlement planning --provide livelihood options for displaced street vendors, squatters, --ensure that females also receive compensation (joint titles to property, cash in individual account, training)</td>
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Will the project trigger safeguards?

- Environmental safeguards triggered
  - Health risk from exposure to electromagnetic field of power lines
  - Lowering water table
  - Water pollution risk
  - Clearing of plants, trees in throughway for power lines
Thank you

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