GENDER AND ENERGY TRAINING SESSION
Gender Equality and Energy Access

AFREA GENDER AND ENERGY WORKSHOP

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TOPIC 2: Gender equality and energy access: household energy and rural electrification
Energy access, gender and development

• There are gender disparities in access to modern energy, with women experiencing more energy poverty (lack of access to reliable modern energy) than men.

• Universal access to reliable modern energy is crucial for poverty reduction, shared prosperity and growth.
Poor households and biomass

Poor households use biomass as their main cooking and heating source, affecting women more than men, as they do most of the fuel collection and cooking.

Modern energy services can empower women, through improved indoor air, health benefits, and increased time available for education, income-earning and social and community activities.
Energy and gender-based violence

Increased energy access can help reduce gender-based violence.
Gender–disaggregated health impacts – Peru, Senegal and Ghana

1. Defined as “respiratory illness symptoms” (Peru), “respiratory disease symptoms” (Nepal), average of reported cough, chest pain, and phlegm (Ghana)
2. Defined as “eye discomfort” (Peru), “eye problem symptoms” (Senegal), “eye irritation” (Ghana)
3. Symptoms in the past 30 days. Sample size of N=96 housewives and N=139 adult males in Northern Peruvian Andes.
4. Symptoms in the past 6 months. Sample size of N=227 households in the Bassin Arachidier region around Kaolack
5. Symptoms at any point in the past. Sample size of N=625 households (152 men and 473 women interviewees) in Bongo district, Ghana.
Benefits of modern stoves

Improved cookstoves benefit women through:

• Time savings
• Health improvements
• Status enhancements
• Capacity building
• Economic gains
Clean cooking solutions

Increased access to clean-burning, fuel-efficient stoves for cooking and heating can mitigate the health hazards from the household burning of solid fuels.
Clean cookstoves and women’s economic empowerment

Women not only benefit from improved stoves, but can earn income from the production, distribution and maintenance of clean cookstoves, and provide after-sales services.
About 1.2 billion people, mostly in rural areas, do not have access to electricity.

Rural electrification can be based on off-grid solutions based on renewable energy.
Rural electrification – impacts of lighting and TV

- Reduced indoor air pollution
- Improved access to information
- Reduced time poverty
- Increased women’s mobility after dark, and
- Increased educational and income-generating opportunities.
Access to modern energy has positive impacts on economic opportunities.

Women entrepreneurs often use process heat, such as in the preparation of food for sale.

Electricity supports income earning activities by extending the working day.
Mechanized community services and entrepreneurship

Labor-saving mechanized community services such as water pumping and grain grinding yields time savings which may allow women to set up their own small enterprises.
Consultations

Involving local women in the design and implementation of energy interventions, such as rural electrification efforts, through consultations, can strengthen project effectiveness.
THANK YOU!

Resources on Gender and Energy

LITERATURE AND GUIDANCE
- ESMAP: Gender and Energy Online Resources
- Steps to Strides: Sustainable Development Network’s Companion to the World Development Report
- World Bank: Energy, Gender and Development – What are the Linkages? Where is the Evidence?
- World Bank Data and Guidance Notes on Gender Mainstreaming
- Asian Development Bank: Gender and Energy Toolkit: Going Beyond the Meter
- ENERGIA – Global Network of Energy and Gender Practitioners

VIDEO RESOURCES TO SHOWCASE EXISTING EXAMPLES
Senegal: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_Qn6aQbY&feature=youtu.be
Cambodia: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PLwpSHM1pIY&feature=relmfu
Mali: http://youtu.be/7OR0TiaPpI
South Asia: http://www.esmap.org/esmap/node/286