9 Nov 2022 | 14:00 CET | Virtual

PWCET Series

Employment & Entrepreneurship in the DRE Sector - a Gender Perspective

© atmosfair
Employment and Entrepreneurship in the DRE Sector - a Gender Perspective

Opening and welcome remarks – Mr. Jens Jaeger, Director of Policy & Business Development, ARE – 5 Mins

Moderator – Mr. Deepak Mohapatra, Senior Officer – Business & Market Development, ARE

Keynote speech – Mr. Thomas Fohgrub, Head of the Coordination Unit for the Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings, UNITAR – 10 Mins

Speaker Interventions – 10 Mins each
- Dr. Laurence Keke, Head of Business Development West Africa, ENGIE Energy Access
- Ms. Laily Himayati, Collaboration and Networking Lead for MENTARI Programme, HIVOS
- Mr. Vincent Renaud, Director, Benoo

Moderated discussion and audience Q&A – 40 Mins

Closing remarks – Mr. Deepak Mohapatra, Senior Officer – Business & Market Development, ARE – 5 Mins
Introduction to ARE

The Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE) is the global association for the decentralised renewable energy (DRE) industry, catalysing private sector driven markets for sustainable electricity services, creating jobs and powering equitable green economies.

#1 Global decentralised renewable energy association
200+ Members
55 Countries
3 Continents

For more details, see ARE Matchmaking Platform
ARE Member Services

- Market Intelligence & Business Development
- Policy & Advocacy
- Communications & Marketing
Relevant ARE knowledge products

www.ruralelec.org/publications
The GBE – ARE Cooperation’s initiative ‘Paving the way for Clean Energy Transition with Decentralised Renewable Energy (PWCET) series’ is commissioned to promote public discourse on the subject of the ‘clean energy transition’ with DRE.

Today’s session will focus on the gender perspective when it comes to entrepreneurial activities in the DRE sector followed by the moderated discussion and Q&A.
Moderator

Mr. Deepak Mohapatra
Senior Officer, Business & Market Development, ARE
Keynote speech

Mr. Thomas Fohgrub
Head of GPA Coordination Unit,
UNITAR
Employment & Entrepreneurship in the DRE Sector - a Gender Perspective

Keynote

Dr. Thomas Fohgrub, Head of GPA Coordination Unit
Globally, close to **4 million** people die prematurely each year from illness attributable to household air pollution.

*WHO, 2021*
Women’s **Health, Safety** and **Quality of Life** can be significantly improved through reliable energy access.
Unreliable energy infrastructure in health posts is a risk for (mainly) women and girls.
The energy sector needs people with passion and not necessarily those with engineering skills. People from all backgrounds can play a crucial role in transforming the entire ecosystem.
Female-led initiatives and female energy entrepreneurs are leading the humanitarian energy sector in some of the most promising energy access projects for displacement settings.
Thank you very much!
Speaker intervention (1/3)

Dr. Laurence Keke
Head of Business Development West Africa, ENGIE Energy Access
EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE DECENTRALISED RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR – A GENDER PERSPECTIVE

Laurence KEKE
Head of Business Development Mini-grids West Africa
ENGIE ENERGY ACCESS
Our Mission: We deliver life-changing, affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy solutions with exceptional customer experience.

Today

1.6 million+ Customers
8 million+ Lives Impacted
1700+ Employees
9 Countries

Addressing ten sustainable development goals
One integrated Portfolio

MySol
Best Solar, Best Life
Off-grid Home Solar Systems

Household Solutions
Irrigation water pump powered by SHS

Agriculture Solutions

Backup Solutions

Mini-grid Solutions

SME Energy Solutions
Gender approach & Impact at the organizational level

EEA split of the employees:

62% 38%

Gender parity commitment:

ENGIE Energy Access, in line with the ENGIE Group, has committed to increase female representation in management positions to 50 percent by 2030 as part of the ENGIE Group “Fifty-Fifty” programme.
Some of the core activities of our minigrids business with a focus on women in rural communities:

MySol Grid, our mini-grid business enables the development of small industrial platforms used by women to process crops, add a higher value to their products and increase their income.

MySol Grid subsidiaries develop training programmes for communities, with a focus on women entrepreneurs.

The companies implement a social electricity tariff that will allow low-income households to access electricity, especially single mothers with children.

 Aside from electricity, the companies provide the electrical appliances on a lease-to-own model to support women as they launch their business.
4.2 Gender approach & Impact at the community level: Specific initiatives

Oil processing platform, Dohouè Village, Benin

Electric Cooking Project, Chitandika Village, Zambia

Traditional palm oil process in Dohoue

- Bunch reception
- Treshing
- Boiling
- Pressing
- Nut-fiber separation
- Purification

Palm oil digester

Palm kernel oil digester
The main barriers to gender equality we identified were:

- Difficulty to find skilled women for technical-related positions
- Lower access to finance for female customers

To mitigate this, we recommend:

- To invest in capacity building and technical training for women
- To implement gender mainstreaming plans with a clear set of targets
- To promote income-generating opportunities for women through the productive use of energy
Thank you
A Gender – Inclusive Clean Energy Access

Laily Himayati
Collaboration & Networking Lead
Climate Justice - Hivos Foundation
We are...

• A non-governmental development organisation, affiliated with Hivos International and guided by humanist values.

• Our basic commitment is to poor and marginalised people, a sustainable improvement of their situation and the empowerment of women in order to achieve gender equality.

• Active in Indonesia, the Philippines and Timor Leste in the area of GEDI, Civic Rights in Digital Age and Climate Justice.
Hivos’ work in rural energy access

2009 - 2021

To provide access to clean cooking for communities that lack access and affordability for energy for cooking; To create a self-reliant Indonesian domestic biodigester sector

2011 - 2020

100% Renewable Energy by 2025 for Sumba community through multi-stakeholder approach and a model that can be replicated in other islands

2020 - 2023

Inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction through increased utilization of low carbon energy in Indonesia

Policy – Brokerage – Demonstration – C&N
Barriers related to G&I in small-scale RE projects*

1. Women and marginalised groups are not properly involved in project planning, leading to weak design and implementation of small-scale renewable energy projects.

2. The social context and cultural norms mean that women and marginalised groups cannot benefit as much as men from the renewable energy opportunities available.

3. Women do not have the same access to jobs in the renewable energy sector as men do.

4. Women and minority groups participate less in formal meetings, have limited decision-making power and fewer opportunities for capacity building than their male counterparts.

5. Women’s safety and security are not often considered in renewable energy projects.

* MENTARI 2020
**BEFORE**

1. No youth-targeted training is available

**INTERVENTION**

1. Allowed equal access through a balanced quota for men and women attending MENTARI-sponsored training at the BLK Don Bosco
2. Reached out to potential trainees by using a door-to-door visits
3. Extended the recruitment process twice to meet the balanced allocation of trainees

**AFTER**

1. Equal access to vocational training for women and youth in Mata Redi

---

**2**

No youth and women groups have either electrical (PV) or woodworking skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocational Training on Electricity (Solar PV) and Woodworking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Vocational Training on Electricity (Solar PV) and Woodworking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The training has provided economic benefit to the trainees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**3**

Women have low participation rate in the village administration. Only one (1) woman was working in the administration in 2020 as the Village Treasurer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender and Inclusion (G&amp;I) Awareness Training for and at BLK Don Bosco in Sumba</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Gender and Inclusion (G&amp;I) Awareness Training for and at BLK Don Bosco in Sumba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Boosted confidence among women participants that encouraged them to take on leadership positions. During the BUMDes management recruitment, two (2) out of ten (10) women who applied were selected for staff positions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**4**

Most young women are steered towards becoming nurses, farmers, or teachers and not carpenters or electricians.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Debunking gender stereotypes and fostering entrepreneurship by building women’s skill sets in working areas previously dominated by men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Equal access to the woodworking and electricity training for women and men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. A Gender &amp; Inclusion Consultative Workshop was held at and for the BLK Don Bosco in Sumba</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Portfolio Energy

• **Frontrunners:**
  - Social Enterprise Support Progr.
  - Solar Kiosks
  - Women Economic Empowerment
  - Hivos Triodos Fund

• **Multi-stakeholder coalitions:**
  - Sumba Iconic Island
  - Domestic Biogas
  - Energy Change Lab

• **Influencing policies:**
  - Strategic partnership DGIS: Green and Inclusive Energy
  - SE4All
  - ENERGIA phaseV and Research programme
Biogas Programmes

Africa Biogas Partnership Programme:
• Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania (since 2009)
• In partnership with DGIS and SNV
• 65,000 households reached

Indonesia Domestic Biogas Programme (BIRU):
• 20,000 households reached

National Biodigester Programme
ENERGIA
International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy

Contributes to ensuring access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for all through:

• Research for policy and practice
• Women’s Entrepreneurship Development
• Advocacy
• Communications and knowledge sharing
• Networking
Women’s Economic Empowerment (WE) Programme

Scales up proven business models to strengthen capacity of women led MSEs to deliver energy services. Target: 2 million consumers

Provides funding and technical support Timeframe:

2012-2017

Partners: NGOs and Social Enterprises;

Where: Kenya, Tanzania, Senegal, Uganda, Nigeria, Nepal, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Bhutan

WE Programme Results (December 2016)
Lessons Learned
from G&I implementation in small-scale RE projects

1 – Conduct a baseline study on gender and inclusion to develop an effective action plan and budget

2 – Apply specific strategies to Involve women and marginalised groups

3 – Link programmes with systems and institutions at the local level
Thank you
Speaker intervention (3/3)

Mr. Vincent Renaud,
Director, Benoo
Rendons l’énergie vertueuse
WE DEVELOP PRODUCTIVE USES FOR SOLAR PROJECTS IN AFRICA

Our clients are off-grid operators and suppliers of productive use equipment.

Our clients are based in Togo, Ghana, Côte d’Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Senegal and Tunisia.
Off-grid productive uses cannot be always addressed with a "tailor-made" approach.

- 11 Billions (USD): Total Sub-Saharan Africa productive uses addressable market.
- 15%: Ability to pay due to low access to finance and constraints to get access to energy.
- 12%: Development cost due to lack of standardisation as an hindrance to reduce development costs.
rubize.io a web platform for fine tuned off-grid C&I projects
Insights
Automated analysis of final customers needs

Foresight
Predictive analysis of energy consumption

Productive use equipment lease & management

-50 % Dev Cost
-14 % CapEx cost
80% load factor
Impacts to date

- Beneficiaries: 600,000
- Surveyed Villages: 300
- Supported Companies: 217
- Extra Turnover: 500,000 €
- Ongoing Development: 4 MW
Gender case 1

Madame Ali - Manager of a cold food kiosk
Hahomegbé, Togo

Meyobi user
Benoo Pilot

- Manages sales to customers
- Manages the ordering of goods from wholesalers
- Takes care of the communication of her activity in order to attract customers
- Benoo tracks activity and monthly payment

Average turnover
1500 €/month
Fresh / frozen products
25 % margin
Gender case 2

Le Partenariat (NGO) - Sénégal

Création of a « green products » retail business for 3 women wholesalers and 80 retailers

- Use Inisght for market survey
- Use Meyobi for account management
- Le Partenariat tracks activity in real time
Our Experience

Digital tools create solvency:
- Real time tracking
- Income prediction by activity and by region

Our social ambition

Income data allows:
- More ambitious loans for projects by local entrepreneurs
- More women and youth beneficiaries
Thank you

Mr. Vincent Renaud
Director, Benoo
vrenaud@benoo.fr
Moderated Panel Discussion

Employment and Entrepreneurship in the DRE Sector - a Gender Perspective

Panellists

Moderator

Mr. Deepak Mohapatra
Senior Officer, Business & Market Development, ARE

Mr. Thomas Fohgrub
Head of GPA Coordination Unit, UNITAR

Dr. Laurence Keke
Head of Business Development West Africa, ENGIE Energy Access

Ms. Laily Himayati
Collaboration and Networking Lead for MENTARI Programme, HIVOS

Mr. Vincent Renaud,
Director, Benoo
Closing remarks

Mr. Deepak Mohapatra
Senior Officer, Business & Market Development, ARE
Thank you and see you at the next PWCET event