

Gender in the Transition to Sustainable Energy for All

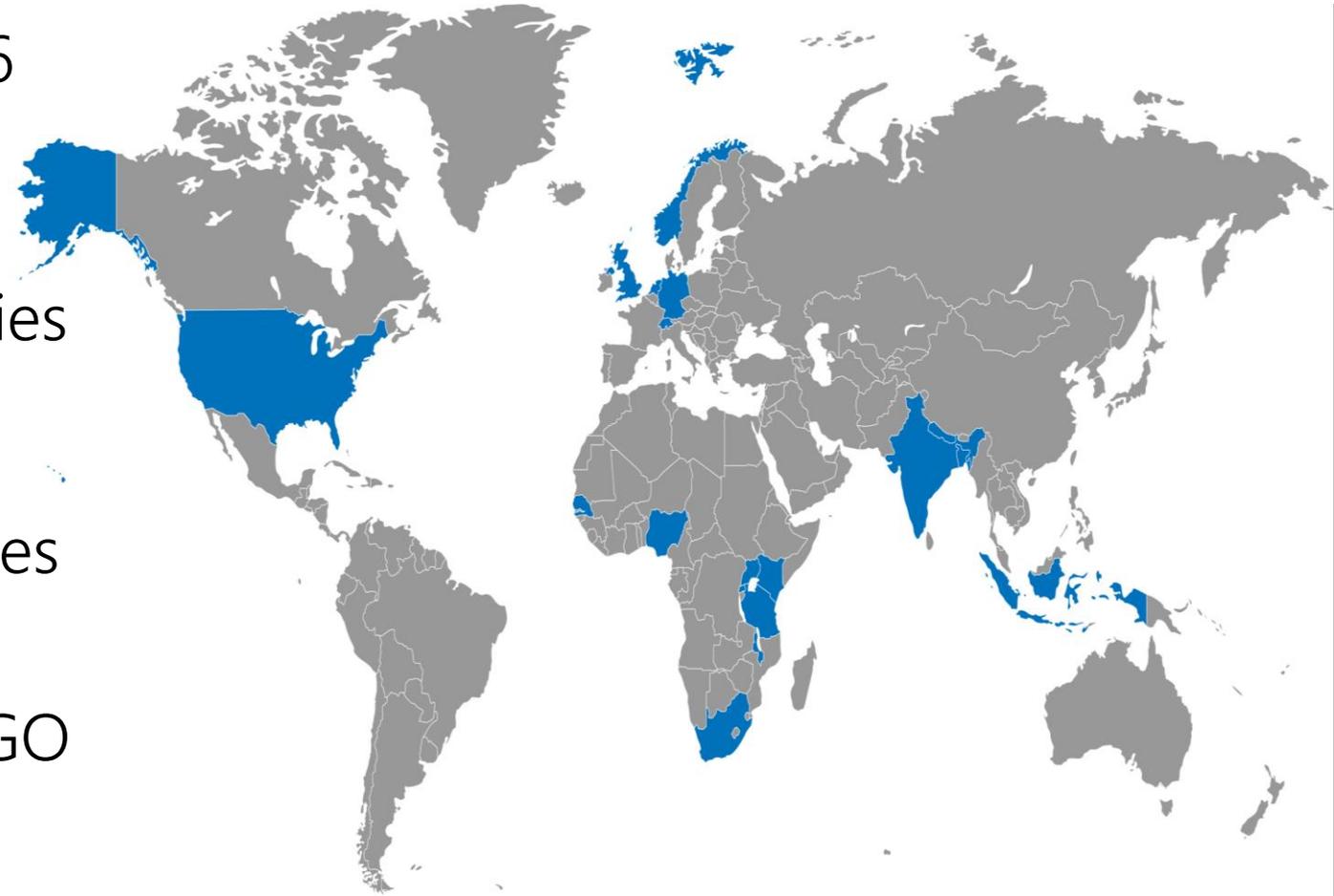


Sheila Oparocha
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ENERGIA
INTERNATIONAL NETWORK ON
GENDER & SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

ENERGIA International Network on Gender & Sustainable Energy

- International network set up in 1996
- Creating an institutional base for mainstreaming gender into the energy sector in developing countries
- 36 partners in 18 countries
- Ongoing programmes in 12 countries in Africa and Asia
- Hosted by Hivos Foundation, an NGO based in the Netherlands



Key Messages

1. Energy policies that do not include both women and men cannot achieve the targets of SDG7 on energy.
2. We have made a lot of progress in the last few years to make gender and energy nexus more visible and better understood, but there are still gaps in both research and action.
3. The Covid-19 pandemic has shone a spotlight on these gaps and inequalities in the energy sector, including on gender that we must address in order to reach SDG7 objective of universal access to energy by 2030.

Global Framework for SDG7

Stand Alone Goal

Sustainable Energy for ALL

The Solution
(3 Targets)

Universal
Access

increase
Renewables

Double
Efficiency

Interlinkages
(Other Goals)

Gender

Health

Water

Food

Climate
Change

For the first time clean cooking set on equal footing as electricity



- Indicator 7.1.1. is the proportion of population with access to electricity.
- Indicator 7.1.2 is the proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology.

Changing gender narrative in energy policy

1. SDG 7 on energy recognised as an enabler to SDG 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment
2. Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG 7 Action positions women as leader and change agents in the energy transition rather than victims/beneficiaries
3. Gender strategy required for climate investment funds
4. "ECOWAS Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access", 15 ECOWAS countries have committed to address existing barriers that hinder the equal participation of women and men in expanding energy access in West Africa
5. Some utilities implementing gender diversity policies for boards and HR policies for employees

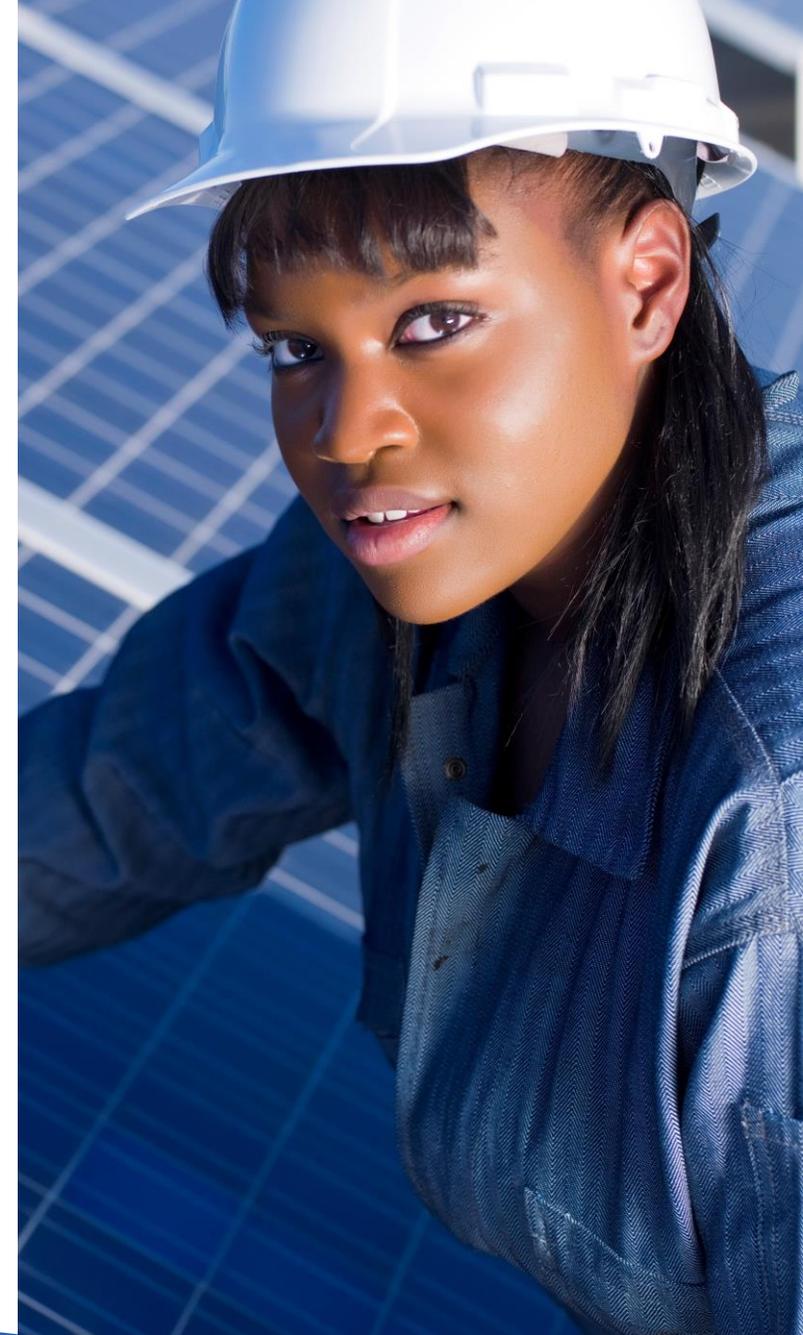
Progress also at national energy policy level (IUCN/ENERGIA, 2017)

Key Findings, 1

- From a sample of 192 documents from 137 countries, nearly one-third of national energy frameworks include gender considerations to some extent.

Key Findings, 2

- Of the frameworks that include gender considerations, **57 frameworks (93%) come from developing countries**, particularly from **sub-Saharan Africa (32 frameworks, or 56%)**.



ENERGIA's theory of Change

Working towards



Mission



Drivers for Change

7 AFFORDABLE AND
CLEAN ENERGY



5 GENDER
EQUALITY



1 NO
POVERTY



We envision a world where women and men have **equal and equitable access to and control over sustainable energy services** as an **essential right to development**

Women economically empowered in the energy value chain & PUE

Enabling policy, institutions and market environment for gender equality in the energy sector

Thought leadership through robust evidence, knowledge development and innovation

Shared coherent voice, discourse and synergies through partnerships

ENERGIA Committed to SDG7



POLICY BRIEFS IN SUPPORT OF THE
HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM 2020

ACCELERATING SDG 7 ACHIEVEMENT
IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

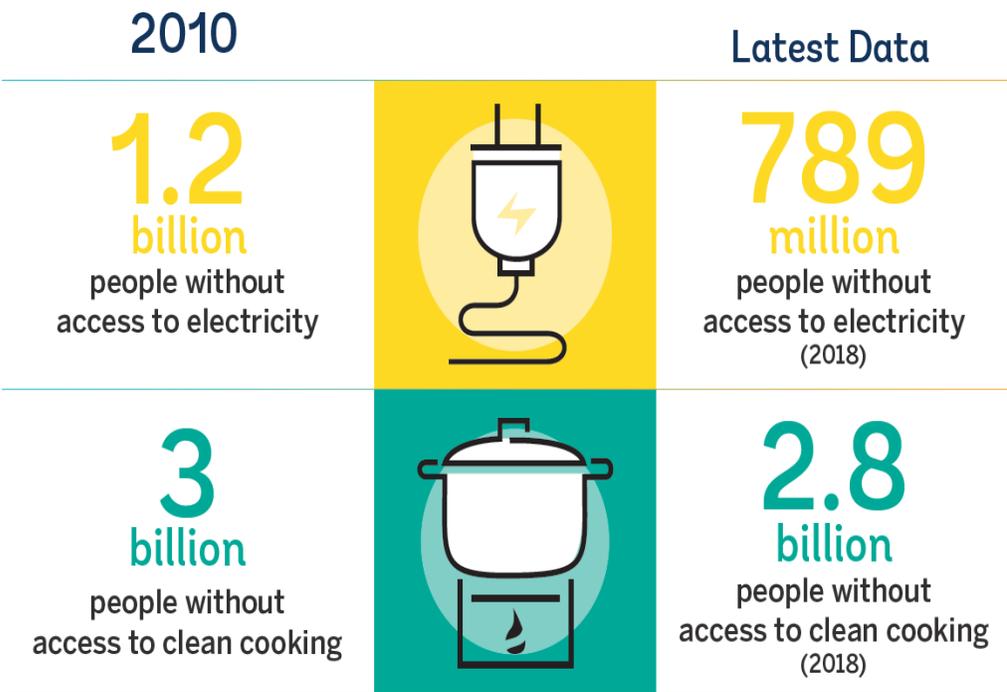


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In spite of this progress, women continue to be disproportionately impacted by the energy access gap.....

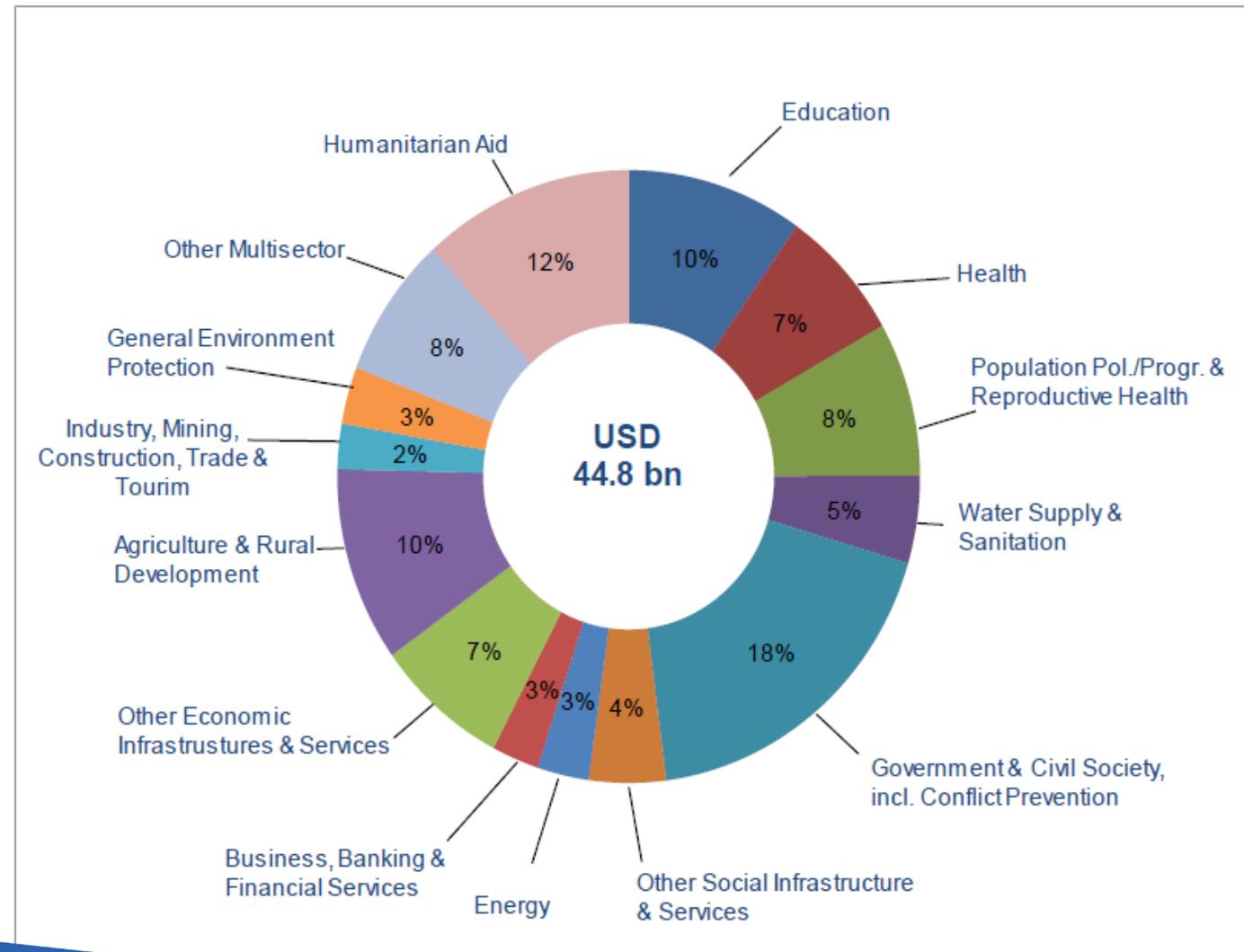
Key Findings of the Tracking SDG 7: Energy Progress Report for 2020



1. More than 4.3 million deaths every year, mostly among women and children due to indoor air pollution
2. Women perform 76.2 per cent of total hours of unpaid care work, more than three times as much as men
3. Only 28% of healthcare facilities in Sub-Saharan Africa benefit from reliable electricity contributing to preventable maternal death during pregnancy & child birth

Very small portion of ODA for the energy sector is focused on gender equality and women's empowerment

Gender Equality Focus of DAC Members' Aid by Sector
Average annual value of commitments in 2016-2017
constant 2016 USD 44.8 billion



Gender, energy and COVID-19

Include mitigation of gender-based vulnerabilities in COVID-19 energy response plans

Integrate clean cooking & fast-track electricity access for healthcare facilities in government pandemic emergency response plans

Improve affordability to electrical appliance and ability to pay bill via promotions, flexible payments/appliance rentals, targeted subsidies, etc

Increase women's access to protection messaging by powering communication appliances such as solar radios and mobile phone chargers

Ensure COVID-19 social protection packages to salvage operations of women RE enterprise & PUE

Promote gender differentiated energy companies/organization support policies/practices for remote working and operations & women's engagement in COVID-19 decision making

Measuring progress on gender & energy

- Umbrella statement for SDGs says all indicators are to be disaggregated by gender, but...
- Lack of an agreed approach to measuring progress on gender within the SDG 7 indicators
- World Bank Global Tracking Framework: Female headed households with and without access to electricity and clean cooking is incomplete view, missing intra-household dynamics or other male-female differences
- Most research has focused on energy access with very little attention to the other two targets of SDG7: energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Work done has not yet informed the SDG intergovernmental dialog and the SDG agenda to the extend required

Moving forward we kindly propose

- Consensus proposal by key stakeholders on indicators of gender inclusion in SDG7,
- Informed by “state of the art” empirical evidence on the situation of women, poor and vulnerable communities, and
- Driven by a political process to put gender inclusion in SDG7 on the radar of member states and UN organizations.

ENERGIA is eager to partner with researchers and practitioners to continue to advance towards sustainable energy for all, so that no one including women are left behind.

Thank you

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