



Unlocking Energy Access Impacts through Gender-Sensitive Approaches A Deep Dive Session at the Asia Clean Energy Forum, 2015

2:00pm to 6:00pm

15th June, 2015

Manila, Philippines

Background

The United Nations General Assembly declared the decade 2014-2024 as the Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL), with the first two years dedicated to a global campaign on energy, women, children and health. Access to energy at all levels, from household to productive use to institutions, is an essential input to development and is critical for health, gender equality, and overall wellbeing. At the same time, since women are engaged in large numbers in micro- and small enterprises, they benefit tremendously from modern, more efficient energy sources. Gender-informed approaches are known to reach consumers better, support women in the value chain, and enhance the overall adoption and effectiveness of energy solutions.

Emerging evidence shows that women are increasingly playing a central role in expanding energy access, especially for the poor and underserved. The role goes beyond women as users of energy services to women as change agents in energy access: in selling, maintaining, and financing energy products and services. They can become critical game changers when they enter the distribution and marketing chain of bottom-up energy solutions. When women are empowered, the benefits have been shown to have multiplier effects in terms of increased incomes and opportunities for families, communities and economies.

Workshop objectives

The objective of this event is to lay out concrete evidence on the following:

- Addressing gender issues is central to achieving energy access goals; gender-informed approaches are imperative for scaling adoption of energy services and technologies.
- Initiatives that are gender-sensitive and empower women by involving them in the energy value chain and by enhancing their employment and leadership in the energy sector are a sustainable pathway to scaling up energy access.
- Scaling up affordable and reliable energy services through women's entrepreneurship can provide a dynamic engine for economic development, poverty elimination and women's economic empowerment.

A number of recent initiatives including good practices and lessons, tools and techniques, analyses frameworks, and resources will be shared at this Deep Dive workshop.

Agenda

2:00 – 2:10pm	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asian Development Bank - Soma Dutta, ENERGIA - Corinne Hart, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves
2:10 – 2:40pm	Where do we stand: core gender and energy access issues in Asia Pacific <i>This session will provide an overview of latest data and research around gender and energy issues and demonstrating the importance of access to energy in achieving gender equality.</i> Panel presentations, moderated by Samuel Tumiwa, ADB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Francesco Tornieri, ADB - Dr Susan Mercado, World Health Organization Regional Office for the Western Pacific - Alan Townsend, the World Bank - Muhammad Zakria Zakar, University of Punjab, Pakistan
2:40 – 3:30pm	Approaches to Scaling Access to Energy through gender sensitive approaches <i>a. Innovative approaches towards inclusive energy access</i> <i>This session will feature innovative approaches and business models that are demonstrating results in expanding energy access as well as in empowering women.</i> Moderated by Soma Dutta, ENERGIA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dagmar Zwebe, SNV Netherlands Development Organization - Japhet E. Miano Kariuki, World Energy Council - Sally Bolton, Kopernik Solutions, Indonesia - Lachana Shreshthacharya, CRT/N, Nepal
3:30 – 4:00pm	Coffee Break
4:00 – 4:45pm	Approaches to Scaling Access to Energy through gender sensitive approaches <i>b. Reaching scale in expanding energy access through gender sensitive approaches</i> Moderated by Corinne Hart, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harish Hande, SELCO India - Mohammad Alauddin, Joint Secretary, Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, Government of Bangladesh - Els Rijke, Els Consults - Nicola Armacost, Arc Finance
4:45 – 4.50pm	Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sonomi Tanaka, ADB
4:50 – 6:00pm	Summarizing lessons through a Practitioner Discussion: Lessons and Best Practices <i>In these interactive breakout sessions, a facilitated discussion will be undertaken on the broad contours of emerging good practices in the areas of (a) Expanding access to electricity (including off-grid solutions); and (b) access to clean cooking. The results will be compiled into a best practices summary as an output from the session.</i> Facilitators: Ajaita Shah, Frontier Markets and Francesco Tornieri, ADB Closing remarks by facilitators