Scope, Objectives and Outcomes

Regional Validation Workshop for the ECOWAS Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access

Theme: Promoting Social Inclusion for Sustainable Energy for All

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The Process Leading to Now:

Conception
- ECOWAS RE & EE Policies
- SE4ALL
- NREAPs and NEEAPs

Development
- Policy Inception Workshop
- Drafting stage

Deliberation
- Validation Workshop
Validation Workshop: Scope and Purpose

**Scope: The workshop will**

- Create a platform to deliberate on the gender and energy issues and barriers that hinder the equal participation of men and women in the expansion of energy access in the region.
- Review and provide input on the draft Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access, with a critical assessment of the adequacy of the measures proposed to address the issues and barriers identified by the Member States.
- Examine the practicality of the draft Implementation Strategy for the ECOWAS Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access, with a focus on the activities, budget and timeline proposed at the regional and national levels.
- Facilitate exchange of experience and knowledge on operationalizing the Gender and Energy Policy, at the regional and national level.

**Purpose:**

- To promote collaboration and cooperation among the Member States through the establishment of enabling frameworks to support the region in harnessing and utilizing both its male and female human capital in addressing energy poverty.
Objectives & Envisaged Outcomes

Objectives:

• A technical session to present and review the draft ECOWAS Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access;
• An ECOWAS Member States’ session to present the status of gender mainstreaming in energy access in their respective countries; and
• A learning and experience exchange session, on the operationalization of the ECOWAS Gender and Energy Policy.

Outcomes:

• The expected outcome of the Workshop is the validation of the ECOWAS Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access and its Implementation Strategy, at the ECOWAS Energy Ministries’ technical/operational level.
• It is also envisaged that the workshop will result in the endorsement of the Situation Analysis Report as an appropriate reflection of the local realities as it pertains to gender and energy in the ECOWAS Member States.
• Lastly, the workshop will lead to a clear understanding of the methods and instruments to put the Policy into operation.
ECOWAS Programme on Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access (ECOW-GEN)
The 3 Action Pillars

Closing the gap that exists in energy production and consumption patterns in West Africa by addressing gender disparities at the supply side and at the end-users, so that the benefits of the ECOWAS region’s energy interventions are equally shared among men and women.

Levelling the playing field for women and men in the development and expansion of sustainable energy infrastructures in West Africa.

Promoting inclusiveness and equality in energy development in West Africa.
Strategic Areas of Intervention

- Addressing gender inequality in energy access through innovative policy instruments
- Creating a critical mass of gender-aware policy makers and empowered women entrepreneurs
- Bridging knowledge gaps among Gender and Energy Practitioners
- Transforming business ideas in energy into real, commercially viable enterprises.

Policy development

Capacity building

Awareness & advocacy

Investment Promotion & Business development
The ECOW-GEN 5 High Impact Initiatives

- ECOWAS Women’s Business Fund
- Women’s Technical Exchange Program
- Women’s Economic Empowerment through Energy for Productive Uses
- Mainstreaming Gender in Energy Programs and Projects
- Youth Leadership Development in Energy

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Notable achievements so far

The pilot phase of ECOW-GEN (2013 -2014) led to the following:

• Over 70 energy experts trained on mainstreaming gender in energy policies.

• 250 participants – gender & energy ministers, women groups and others – trained on developing Gender Action Plans.


• Through the Women’s Business Fund, implementing demonstration projects in Ghana and Senegal that would lead to 1000 women street vendors having access to improved LPG stoves in Ghana and the installation of 13 clean and improved modern furnaces for fish smoking in a fishing community in the rural areas of Senegal.

• Establish a Gender and Energy Network (ECOW-GENetwork www.ecowgen.ecreee.org )

• Youth Writing Competition/Global campaign (#Standtall)

• ECOW-GEN is pioneering the development of the first regional gender-sensitive and gender-responsive energy policy.
Merci beaucoup!