

**ACEF 2015**  
**Deep Dive Workshop *Unlocking Energy Access Impacts through***  
***Gender-Sensitive Approaches***



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# 1. Framework for GESI policy dialogue

- Understanding linkages between energy and Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) key to finding solutions to energy access challenges faced by DMCs in meeting targets of *Electrification for All*.
- ADB Gender Team builds on *Energy for All* framework but argues that:
  - Energy access and (rural) electrification is not an end in itself but to supply affordable energy resources and services meeting f/m end-users' needs *beyond* lighting, cooking and heating;
  - Gender differentiated roles, needs and priorities of women as beneficiaries and agents in accessing energy resources and services for productive uses (at HH, industrial and agricultural levels) must be recognized, hence our motto: *Going beyond the Meter*.
- Engagement in (energy-sector) policy dialogue means:
  - Build on DMC Governments' commitments to GESI (in sector policies) and support organizational changes to institutionalize GESI
  - Support inclusive energy sector policy drafting processes voicing women and women's groups needs and concerns (consultative processes) and develop solid argument on the GESI-differentiated impacts of energy sector policies
  - Ensure reflection of DMC Governments' (own) commitments to GE/WE into energy sector policies and project-specific GESI Action Plans [e.g. women's representation in energy planning and decision-making processes and structures]

## 2. GESI review of energy sector policies (South Asia)

Policy commitments      Other enabling provisions

### Energy sector policies

Energy policies (and investments)

- (a) Emphasize commercial energy *petroleum fuels, electricity* [electrification] and reduced subsidies on fossil fuels with limited attention to **noncommercial energy** [clean and renewable energy (RE)], mostly cooking fuels and technologies
- (b) Are silent on gender, with focus on 'people' (terminology used is HH, people, communities and families) with assumption that:
  - Women are included within families and people; and
  - Men and women have equal capacities to use electricity for satisfying their needs

#### INDIA

**Integrated Energy Policy** (2008), points to:

- ... meet(ing) the demand for energy services of all sectors including the lifeline energy **needs** of vulnerable HHs with safe, clean and convenient energy at the least-cost.

- **73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments** (1992) -1/3 reservation for women in elected rural and urban local government; Rural Electrification Policy, 2006 (women's representation on district committees)

#### MALDIVES

**Strategic Action Plan** (2009–2013) commits to:

- (i) Reduce dependence on petroleum fuel by 50% by 2015;
- (ii) Review gender-sensitive impact on women and men in addressing energy related matters.

- **Corporate Governance Code** (amended, 2014) mandates minimum of 2 women on the Board of Directors of every registered company

#### BHUTAN

**Alternative RE Policy** (2013) commits to:

- Develop a range of energy-generation options (such as solar heaters, rooftop and stand-alone systems, wind systems, small hydro, and biogas) ... reducing fuel wood ... and interest in improved cook stoves
- HHs supplied with solar technology have costs fully covered (incl. solar panels, batteries, lights, and installation)
- Duty-free import of appliances such as rice cookers, curry cookers, and water boilers allowed

# 3. Other initiatives supporting policy dialogue

- Sub-regional Conference - **Going Beyond the Meter: Inclusive Energy Solutions in South Asia** [Jaipur (Rajasthan) 1-2 December 2015] objectives include policy development
  - Session 1: GESI Enabling Policy, Regulatory & Institutional Environment to showcase emerging practices, with Thematic Session on: *Gender Assessment of Energy Policies in South Asia: an overview*

## Study on Tariff Appraisal

- Enhancing gender analysis of policies in relation to **affordability**
- Key gender considerations:
  - Baseline tariffs, cross-subsidies, subsidies and schemes, to increase access by poor and disadvantaged consumers [BPL/FHHs] and marginalized (ethnic, caste, religious) groups, in the lower consumption band;
  - HH implications of tariff structures and rates and challenges faced in implementation (incl. extent and reasons for non-payment of bills), based on an analysis that includes a GESI focus.

## Study on: Gender Implications of Energy Technology Innovation

- Enhancing gender analysis of **labour-saving technologies**
- Key gender considerations:
  - Address gender gaps in ‘smart’ energy technology development;
  - Analyze gender determinants of market uptake of new energy technologies and their potential to transform women’s lives and gender relations;
  - **Assess the extent to which gender considerations are capable of influencing Government Policies.**