

ELECTRICITY ACCESS FOR GENDER INCLUSION AND WOMEN'S AGENCY



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SRI LANKA –ADB JFPR 9158 PROJECT**

ADB Grant-9158 REG: Improving Gender-Inclusive Access to Clean and Renewable Energy in Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka

Aim: To increase rural poor women's access to affordable and reliable clean and renewable energy sources and technologies in selected project sites

Component A: Gender review of the national energy sector policies, laws and regulations, regional review

Component B: Interventions on energy-based livelihoods for women, supporting gender-inclusive access to renewable energy and energy-based livelihoods

Component C: Monitoring processes and impacts, and documenting social and gender-related processes and impacts of interventions

Aim: To maximize benefits from electricity

- **Multi-stakeholder engagement:** Utility, NGO, Local administration, service sectors, CBOs, women's groups
- **Package approach:** Electricity provision plus awareness plus enterprise development: to ensure benefits beyond 'energy access'
- **Capacity building and awareness creation:** To use electricity efficiently and effectively.

Turning “energy access” to efficient & effective applications of electricity

- **Access to knowledge:** Awareness, skills, knowledge, confidence, technology, record keeping/internal auditing/monitoring
- **Application based training:** Hands on learning and coaching/hand holding support
- **Women’s extension agency:** ‘women to women’ support
- **Sustainability measures:** Cluster group based motives, round robbin system for upscaling

Educating communities and women on electricity use: Results

- 87% women and 44% men who participated in awareness campaigns demonstrate awareness on electricity use and safety
- Women were found to be more active in transfer of knowledge to children/ other members
- After awareness programmes, users reported reduction in hours of water heating; rice cookers; incandescent bulbs; and in TV usage.
- Behavioral changes include reducing use of rice cookers, reducing the number of times the refrigerator is opened, reducing the use of electric items during peak hours

Best practices learned

- Women can play a key role in expanding access to knowledge, technology and skills
- Interactive learning for problem solving, users' responsibility over utility,
- Women in energy management by household/users
- Improved energy use patterns: New energy behaviour, efficiency through users, hh- decision making, good housekeeping



Challenges

- Make the utility working with grassroots to,
- Extremely heavy cost of distribution
- Women's time poverty
- Financing for poor and women for internal wiring
- Access to information/on opportunities
- Lack of capacity to create demand/ pressure,



Thank You

