

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY NEWS

Newsletter for **INFORSE** International Network for Sustainable Energy

Special Edition: Compilation of Articles on Gender in 2001-2012



GENDER

2001-2012

Compilation: Gender in Sustainable Energy News, 2001-2012

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Feel free to use the information, but please state the source.

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EDITORIALS



Gender in Sustainable Energy News

This Compilation of articles on women and gender that have appeared in Sustainable Energy News from 2001 through 2012. Some of the articles have historical value, but many are relevant today. The aim is to make these articles more visible.

Beyond all, a recent important achievement is covered: “woman balance” got included in the agreed text at the Climate COP18 in Qatar.

During the years the terminology changed from “women” to “gender”, recognising that you cannot fight the inequalities between men and women by addressing women alone. On the other hand, calling a theme “women” is more direct, as the word “gender” is not a common word that people use.

Concerning “energy”, we also speak more about “climate” and “poverty” issues as reasons for shifting to “sustainable energy”. The background is that women are disproportionately affected by unsustainable energy options due to roles requiring them to cook in smoky kitchens and to collect fuel wood for inefficient cookers as well as to make domestic decisions for the entire household. The issues are broader than that, as well. Shifting to sustainable energy, i.e., renewable energy coupled with more efficient use of energy, is not “only” about reducing the smoke in the kitchen and using the time to go to school instead of collecting fire wood. Sustainable energy is a tool to combat climate change, as it reduces fossil-fuel use; and it reduces poverty, as poor people can generate income, can reduce fuel costs, and can use spared time to acquire more education.

The first Chapter includes the **Editorials** of the five gender-themed issues.

The next two Chapters are devoted to UN policy:

- The **UN CSD9** in 2001 and **Rio+20** in 2012.
- The **UN Climate Convention** up to COP18.

This is followed by two policy Chapters:

- The “**Planning-Policy**” articles. These are analyses, proposals paving the way the inclusion, and specific mention, of women in the UN policy-making process as well as in the policies themselves. Several of these analyses were done by NGOs and some came from UN bodies, e.g., UNDP. During the last 10 years, several women’s networks were established. They have produced more analyses, planning tools, and proposals of solutions. In these ways, they strive to influence the official policy processes.

- The “**EU Policy**” articles. Women demand gender equality in EU climate policy as well as equal decision-making authority. The articles also include the EU debate on a quota system, a nuclear poll in Estonia, and a new publication on gender and climate change in EU27. Additionally, there are web resources offering gender statistics for the EU.

The next two Chapters deal with concrete solutions:

- “**Micro Credit**” is one of the financial solutions. It brought success in Bangladesh. The system can be a good example for the future in other countries.

- “**Technical Solutions**” articles review solar cooking kits used in refugee camps, family biogas plants, solar home systems, efficient cookstoves, solar lanterns, solar fruit driers, micro-hydro power plants, and water mills. INFORSE also made a manual of renewable-energy technologies that help to reduce poverty.

The articles on women’s “**Anti-Nuclear**” views appear as a separate Chapter: Women became active in the anti-nuclear movement mainly because they reacted to the harmful effects of nuclear power accidents. Women often take this issue more seriously than men, as they are more likely to approach the issues as mothers of their children and to think about the next generation. During the years, the confrontations have increased, with the nuclear industry marketing itself now as “sustainable”.

The “**Publications**” include reviews of several books on gender and climate. Additionally, there is a review of a film (“The Age of Stupid”) made by a woman filmmaker and a publication by a woman professor on climate science.

The “**Who is Who**” Chapter lists the women’s organisations that contributed to the articles. Many are INFORSE members.

I would like to thank:

- *Reinhold Pappe* who has urged me to produce this compilation and who has supported the publication of these articles through AirClim, Sweden.
- *Lajos György*, alias “Piros”, the grand old guy of the environmental movement in Hungary, from whom I learned a lot during the “Tuesday” meetings, where he was always there to discuss global issues. He has made a compilation called “Gaia Press Reviews” where, among others, he reviewed publications of famous ecologists who were unknown in Hungary. I was humbled and encouraged when he translated one of my first gender editorials to Hungarian because he valued it so highly.
- *Charlotte Søby* for the inspiring new layout.
- *Niki Fowler* for comments on the language as well as on contents.



Judit Szoleczky
editor

Let Women Have A Say, Too! It Would Matter !



Women and men have different experiences with energy use, stemming from their different roles and different priorities. While women are the main users in and around the households, the men often control the types of energy used, via decisions from the household level to the formulation of national energy policy. Many of these decisions do not reflect the best interests of the female users or of families in general.

Where should the PV-powered lamp be placed? Men prefer it at the entrance where they chat; women want it in the back, where they cook. Who decides? This is a simple choice, which shows in small part of the problem. -

Look around; who are the decision-makers around you and in your national energy sector? Who are the ones that steer society towards increased centralised unsustainable energy supply rather than schemes to meet demands with end-use efficiency and local solutions? Men or women? Almost all men, - and more and more so, the higher you go in the hierarchy.

Would the world's energy supply be different if women were equally involved in decision-making? Would there be more solar and wind energy used, and fewer health and environmental problems connected to energy use? Would nuclear power have been phased out by now?



Yes, we hope so. There are growing numbers of women calling for more responsible management of resources leading to a sustainable future. Women have many and various kinds of knowledge and experience of energy through their traditional and non-traditional roles. Probable, our resources could be better managed, if women's knowledge influenced the relevant decisions.

For the first time, Sustainable Energy News focuses on "women and energy". We hope it will inspire men and women alike to get more women more involved and to give them more leverage in energy choices! Energy-related issues affect the future prospects of families as well as of national economies.

We must listen to and understand those who use and suffer from the present energy system; use this understanding when we organise the shift to sustainable energy technologies. In this process, women must be more engaged in the development of technologies and in decision-making at all levels.

In this issue you can also see an energy supply vision for 2050. I, personally, would like to see a world powered by sun and wind energy no later than 2025. A world in which our daughters and sons participate equally in decision-making and household tasks.

Judit Szoleczky
Editor

What Shall I Say to My Daughters?

How to explain an unequal world?
How will the world look in 2050?



As a mother, I need to answer the questions of my daughters. I need to explain how the world looks. And they ask: "Why is it so?"

And I try to explain: Well, the world does not look like what I would like it to be. There are people in this world who are very poor. And people who cause a lot of pollution, harming nature as well as the health of all of us. Living in Europe, you contribute to the pollution by the very ways in which our technologies are used.

Unfortunately, there are few women among our leaders, few involved in the decisions. Just looking at the news on television, you can see they are all men who are signing agreements and sitting around the negotiating tables. Maybe if there were more women involved in decisions there would be less war, less pollution, and less poverty in this world?

"Why is it that there are so few women who make these decisions?" -

This is difficult for my daughters to understand! And ... watch ! What shall I answer ? Obviously, now I need to tell them that women have fewer opportunities, and that they often bump into an invisible "glass ceiling" if they try to become leaders, - and it hurts.

If I tell them that the glass ceiling is there, they can avoid bumping into it ! But then I should tell them not to be so ambitious, so they might become happier in their private lives.

This is a dilemma.. And even in the most gender-sensitive countries, unwritten rules exist. In the kindergarten, the boys play more with weapons, make more technical constructions, have more physical fights. *Nice brave boys.*

But when a girl does the same, we tell her that *a nice girl should not do such things*. And then the girls play with dolls, act out family role plays, and make nice drawings.

When the boys grow up, they are the ones who make the decisions in favour of wars and "fantastic" but polluting, technical solutions. At least, they are the main supporters of nuclear power (see page 5). The choices for peace and clean, simpler technical solutions are there, but decision-makers - mostly men - have not been rewarded for looking for those. And the women do not have a say.

I do believe that there is need of a change in our way of thinking! We need to tell that when you shoot, people die; when you pollute, people, plants, and animals get ill; and when you get richer, others get poorer. - This is what I tell my children. - But we need to be many to change the status quo. And we need to work on many levels. Education of children is part of this. More gender equity in our society is another part. And the gender perspectives in energy that we cover in this issue is an important part of that.

The world is changing. There are more women than ever before that get education and regular jobs. Cleaner technical solutions like wind and solar energy technology are continuously improved, increasing the opportunities to choose a softer path. There are more and more voices - also from men - for a more sustainable development. And at home the household chores are more equally shared than before, at least in some parts of the world.

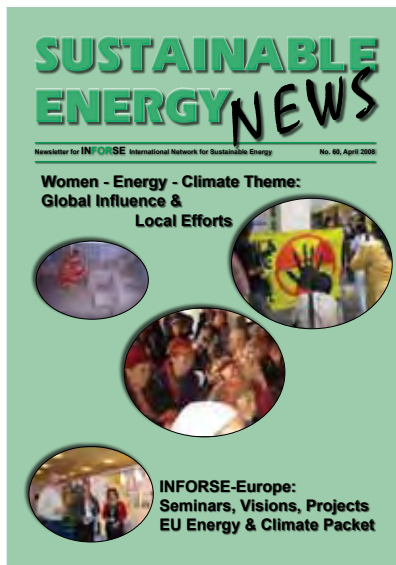
But how long time does it take before we see a change to sustainability and equality on a world scale? Or just to make the world so much more sustainable and equal that our children can have better messages for their children than we have for them?

I do not know. *But we should work for it! And sometimes changes come sooner than we think.*

With this issue of Sustainable Energy News, we focus for the second time on women, and sustainable energy. The first time it was in 2001. Since then, there have been continued efforts to bring gender issues - and sustainability - into energy and climate issues. *There is still a lot to do; but we continue.*

Judit Szoleczky
editor

More Women Needed for Decisions Break the “Glass Ceiling” on Sustainability



Women are underrepresented in decision-making.

Even though women got voting rights in Finland in 1907 and throughout Europe in the following years, the number of women in the parliaments of EU countries is still only 24 % on average. In the world the average is only 17%.

It is also well known that women still get lower wages for the same job; and the typical “woman jobs” like teaching and nursing pay less than most “men jobs”.

Though there is a substantial positive tendency in the development, e.g., the increase in the number of women students allows a certain optimism that the “glass ceiling” will disappear some day.



While less empowered than men, women are more concerned about environmental risks, and they are more in favour of sustainable solutions, in energy as well as in many other fields.

Mothers were also among those who started the antinuclear movements in Ukraine and in many other countries. It seems as though women remember better than men. Or maybe men just have a selective memory, such as the many male state leaders that argue for nuclear power as a means to avoid climate change. Nuclear industry proponents pressure decision makers into behaving as though it were better to build big nuclear power plants than to build more of the smaller renewable-energy power plants. They refuse to acknowledge, let alone address, obvious issues, e.g., that if a solar- or wind-power plant has a failure you just won't have electricity for a while, but if a nuclear power plant fails it can cause far larger problems, including illnesses and/or deaths in many people. .. as the wind blows....

To increase the gender balance the society can use regulations such as gender quotas for boards, educational institutes, and work places. Do we need these? Do we need to force men to share the childcare leave? - The male establishment is against, but examples show that some of these instruments actually do work. More women among decision makers, and boards members are assets that make companies, and states more competitive and creative as women tend to look for new alternative solutions to problems.



Judit Szoleczky
editor

INFORSE, the NGO network that produces this newsletter, has shown that technically it is possible to have a 100% renewable energy supply by 2050 or earlier. We, together with the NGO community, work to spread the required knowledge and to secure the political will for the transition. There is a process ahead. Renewable-energy and energy-efficiency solutions are available and their use is increasing. The EU leaders have set targets, and the EU Commission has proposed legal frameworks by which to achieve them. The change has started, but it needs to be made faster.

I think there are *two main scenarios* for the future: Either there will be an *environmental catastrophe* or there will be a *cleaner planet supplied with renewable energy*, where nuclear and fossil-fuel plants will be shown as museums, much as abandoned coal mines are shown nowadays.

Which way the world goes is depending on us who live now, and on the young people who will be the politicians of tomorrow. It makes me optimistic when I see that more young people and more women can see the risks of the present solutions and the possibility for a sustainable future.

I am looking forward to a new era, to a time when women are more equally represented in parliaments, governments, and boards of companies. I believe that they can make the necessary changes in their countries, in the EU and at the coming international climate negotiations in Poland, in Copenhagen, and beyond.

In this issue, we collected articles from NGOs showing their activities on gender, climate and energy. Some of them are seeking global influence, while others are concrete local efforts in developing countries, where women's legal and social status as well as educational level are often much lower than men's. Women are exposed to the health hazards, developing smoke-related illnesses when they cook on inefficient stoves in a smoky kitchen. The girls are the ones who spend their time collecting firewood instead of going to school. Here and in the earlier Women-Theme issues of SEN you can also read about the improvements that could be brought about in women's lives through sustainable energy solutions.

Women in Focus

In this issue we publish a *Women Theme* for the 4th time in Sustainable Energy News. Since the first time, the focus on gender issues is increasingly recognised internationally and within many countries. When you look through the articles in this Theme you can see that there has been progress towards improving the situation. In this respect, at least part of the world has been changing for the better.

In the UN climate process, GenderCC and other NGOs lobby for integration of gender issues into the outcome of the negotiations. They speak with negotiators, organize side events, submit positions, etc. The NGO Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF) actively works to change the CDM project framework to allow easier participation for smaller projects with a focus on poverty reduction, which could benefit many poor women. WECF, Gender CC and other NGOs also protest any attempt to finance nuclear power through climate financing mechanisms.

Publication and readership of resource guides and of books on gender and energy are booming. Many of them are published by the Global Gender and Climate Alliance, which includes the UN and NGOs like the INFORSE member ENERGIA. In addition, the Boell Foundation has just published a book that offers great recommendations on all levels to realise the goal of equal participation by women.

At the same time, Gro Harlem Brundtland and two other well known women have launched "road-to-copenhagen.eu", using internet-based methods to involve the public in the UN Climate negotiation process.

In EU, the Swedish Presidency wants to speed up the process to balance gender representation on boards of private companies as well as in leadership of public institutions.

In the energy sector, women often feel like a "special species". This happens, though, not only in Brussels, and not only in the energy sector, but also in most other places.

To reform the UN, 307 NGOs launched a campaign called GEAR towards a gender balance in the UN system.

Also on the EU level, the European Women's Lobby's 50/50 Campaign for democracy, to get more women into the European Parliament, has reached a major milestone, having delivered fact sheets, analyzed legislation, and obtained 19,000 signatures so far on a petition on the issue. After the election, the Campaign continues for the European Commission and other "EU top" jobs.



Judit Szoleczky
Editor



Through all these efforts, the world is slowly changing. However, at the G8 meeting there was only 1 woman present among the all the leaders - There is still a long road ahead before equality is reached!

But why is gender equality important at all? One basic argument is that half of the world's human population is women and therefore they have the right to be represented fairly in all levels of society. But more importantly, studies show that women are more concerned about environment, family well-being, social justice and peace than men.

Women as 'mothers' are more concerned about their children's environment than men are. Women are more concerned about stopping a development that could lead to an environmental and health catastrophe caused, e.g., by radiation from a nuclear accident or from nuclear waste.

Also, women and children are more vulnerable to climate changes and suffer more from poverty.

Therefore, we need not only a better balance of the two sexes among decision-makers but also more focus on women's problems concerning climate change and poverty for sustainable development.

In preparation for the UN climate conference in Copenhagen in December, it is crucial to support initiatives to include gender issues in the results, and to try to have a greater number of concerned women take part in the decision-making processes together with the men.

Only then can we hope for an outcome that will lead to a more stable global climate and to improvements for those worst affected, not the least of whom are women living in poverty.

5th Theme on Gender, Climate & Energy



"No climate justice without gender justice"

Photo by
GenderCC.



by Judit Szoleczky, editor, Sustainable Energy News

In this issue we publish a Women/Gender Theme for the 5th time in Sustainable Energy News since 2001.

On the following 5 pages you can read about facts and NGO views that often are marginalised in the media.

- Read about women's voices advocating for a nuclear-free world.
- Gain insight into the continuous efforts to influence the UN to include in its texts vital considerations of gender, which it has watered down yet again.
- See positive developments, as "gender and climate" issues are raised, often for the first time, in many forums and organizations, e.g., at the 5th World Urban Forum and at the 54th UN Status of Women Conference.
- Learn about new publications available on the web and about coming events in which you can participate.
- Finally, be surprised again and again at facts such as that, among decision-makers, only around 5% - 35% are women, despite the roughly 50%-50% balance of the population between women and men.

We hope that you will enjoy reading our coverage and that it will inspire you to send us input for future gender-theme issues.



Ulrike Roehr speaking on behalf of "Women and Gender" at COP15.

UNCSD & RIO



Why Women and Energy?

Gender Perspectives on Energy for CSD-9, 2001



Photo taken in South America by ETC Energy, the Netherlands

The ENERGIA Network has made a thorough analysis of women's roles and interests in sustainable energy. This work was done in close collaboration with the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) NGO Women's Caucus and through a very comprehensive process. On the basis of this analysis, general recommendations for all agencies involved in working for a sustainable energy future, as well as specific recommendations for the 9th meeting of CSD in April 2001 (CSD9), have been worked out.

The INFORSE Network supports the recommendations and suggests that other networks do the same. In the article, a summary of the recommendations and important facts from the analysis are presented.

Recommendations

- Address poor women's development needs for labour saving, for timesaving, for improved health, for security, and for income in rural energy projects and technology research by:
- Assign high priority to the cooking fuel crisis and its impacts on women's health,
- Increase the efficacy and the numbers of renewable installations as well as of sustainable public transport systems;
- Support capacity-building (education and resources) for women and men involved in energy to enable the devel-

opment of a critical mass of women and men who can act to change the policies, programmes, and practices affecting women and their energy choices;

- Adapt and apply specific, proven "best practice" development-sector approaches to overcome institutional factors such as women's lack of access to credit, to training, and to employment in the energy sector;
- Integrate energy access and financing for income generation in a holistic approach, offering a bundle of services to enable women to access improved energy, while at the same time enhancing women's entrepreneurial skills, self-respect, and self-confidence;
- Support and allow institutional representation of women in the decision-making of organizations that affect women's vital energy interests;
- Address issues of energy insufficiency in war-torn countries and in refugee camps, where women and children are especially vulnerable;
- Disaggregate information by gender at all levels in the energy sector (target groups, beneficiaries, project staff, planners, policy, etc.);
- Create more knowledge, analysis, and understanding of gender/energy linkages and needs;
- Provide technical, catalytic, moral, financial, and political support to efforts

This position paper was prepared by
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 - Njeri Wanukomya, UNEP Centre for Energy and Environment, Roskilde, Denmark;
 - Beth Woroniuk, Goss Gilroy Inc, Canada.
- More information: CSD NGO Women's Caucus www.earthsummit2002.org/wcaucus/csd9/csd-9.htm, and www.csdngo.org, and ENERGIA.

to promote joint initiatives between the (sustainable, ed.) energy sector and development-sector professionals, organisations, and projects;

- Support networks and partnerships for and about aid to women and their needs for energy.

Specific Recommendations for CSD9

The Commission on Sustainable Development in April 2001 (CSD9) should:

- Establish an ongoing, multi-stakeholder process on gender and sustainable energy, hosted by an appropriate organisation such as the World Bank or the UNDP.
- Quickly address the high-priority issues recommended (see above) and include them in the budget for the different areas.

Solar Cooker evaluated by an Ethiopian woman.
Photo: GTZ / ENERGIA



Facts from the Analysis

Fuel Scarcity

Rural women (and their children) are the primary collectors of wood and residue fuels, which account for 80% of all household energy use in many developing countries. The proportions of rural women affected by fuel wood scarcity range from 60% in Africa, to nearly 80% in Asia, and nearly 40% in Latin America. Time spent in fuel collection in fuel-scarce areas can range from 1 to 5 hours per household per day.

Real Energy Crisis: Women's Time

The real rural energy crisis is rural women's time, with women working longer work days than men to provide human energy for survival such as fuel and water carrying, cooking, food processing, other household duties, non-monetised work which is largely invisible in national energy accounts and labour force statistics. Many income-generating activities of women in the informal sector - often critical to family economic survival - are fuel-intensive, and the viability of these activities is affected by energy prices and energy availability.

Energy/Water Scarcity

Energy scarcity impinges on the provision for other basic needs, such as water, health, and education. E.g., the proportions of rural women affected by water scarcity are estimated to be 55% in Africa, 32% in Asia, and 45% in Latin America, with the

median time for collecting water in the dry season about 1.6 hours per day.

Health

Women are victims of environmental pollution due to energy use. More than 50% of the world's households cook daily with wood, crop residues, dung, and untreated coal. They have the highest exposures to indoor air pollution, which is linked to, e.g., acute infections, chronic lung diseases, low birth weights, lung cancer, and eye problems. Women are also particularly vulnerable in their reproductive roles because of radiation after nuclear accidents.

Violence Against Women

Physical and psychological violence against women has been reported e.g. rapes while gathering fuel wood and bride suicides related to women's inability to meet their family's wood fuel needs.

Women as Activists

Women are effective activists on energy questions in health, environmental, children's and peace-related organisations and issues, ranging from community education for recycling, lobbying for sustainable energy, to anti-nuclear protests.

Women are considered to be more favourable to energy conservation and renewable energy. In Sweden, in the late 1990's, 80% of young women were found to be against the long-term use of nuclear power.

Poor in the North

There is an increasing population in the North who are poor, and who are suffering energy poverty as well. Moreover, space-heating is needed for a larger part of the year in the North than in the South. 15.4% of women and 12% of men are below the poverty line in the USA. In 1991, in the UK, 7 million households (36% of total) suffered from fuel poverty.

Also in the North, poor single-parent families are often headed by women. Old women are left alone to struggle for meeting their energy needs, because they live longer than man.

Male Preserve

The energy industry is perceived as a male preserve. In the energy sector, in the industrialised countries more than 80% of employees are men and more than 90% of all managers are men. Women occupy less than 5% of technical positions. Despite the increased access by women to science and engineering education, women still make up less than half of students enrolled in energy courses.

In the developing countries, the situation is even worse. There are few women who have access to the education, financing schemes, and support systems necessary to negotiate careers in the energy sector. This also hinders the development of energy policies and of technologies better suited to the needs and wishes of women, who are actually the major users of the energy.

Poverty/Gender Analysis Examples

If you were an expert on the project, would this give you ideas about how to work with women? Examples from Ghana:

EXAMPLE 1:

What do you see in these photos?

Both show a solar PV street light installation in a village.

Here, men are using the solar lighting to play table soccer.



Now, how are the women using the PV-powered street light?



They are preparing and selling food by its light, an income-earning activity.

EXAMPLE 2:

Where should the light be if there is only 1 lighting connection point in the house?

Women want to use the light

- in the kitchen (for preparing food),
- in the workroom (to income generating activity),
- in the bathroom (to bath children in the evening).

Men prefer to use the light

- in front of the house (for entertaining friends, playing cards),

Policies strengthening the position of poor men, may not have the same impact on women.

More: Elizabeth Cecelski, ENERGIA



Input to UNCSD-15: Regional Reports

Women and Energy from ENERGIA



As one of the organizing partners of the Women's Major Group, and responsible for facilitating the input of Women into UN CSD-14 & 15, International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy (ENERGIA) (member of INFORSE) has published national reports accompanied by regional reports, which compile a broader geographical view on the situation of women and energy.

For the 15th conference of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-15), ENERGIA has prepared a regional document for Africa entitled "Gender and Energy in Africa: Regional Initiatives and Challenges in promoting Gender and Energy", which focuses on the interrelationships between energy and gender, with specific reference to the African context.

This paper reviews policies and actions, then makes recommendations for ensuring that gender concerns play a greater role in energy and environmental decision-making.

Its aim is to enhance discussions on sustainable energy at CSD-15 and to ensure that policy documents developed at CSD-15 include concrete commitments as well as actions to incorporate gender and energy considerations into decision-making in Africa. (Edited by ABANTU for Development, Ghana, 15 pages, August, 2006).

On the same topic, in October, 2006, ENERGIA also published new national reports for the following countries:

Lesotho: Mainstreaming Gender and Energy in Lesotho (11 pages). The paper is based on a consultative process in connection with CSD preparations among members of the Gender and Energy Network of Lesotho (GENOL), a national affiliate of ENERGIA, which includes representatives from the government's Departments of Energy and Gender, National Environment Secretariat, and Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, as well as NGOs, academics and energy experts.

Nigeria: Engendering Nigerian Energy Policy (9 pages). Written by Friends of the Environment, the report is based on an examination of Nigeria's sustainable development reports to the UN and its National Energy Policy of 2006, with inputs from government officials, energy experts, development planners, women's groups and NGOs.

Senegal: Gender and Energy in Senegal: the paths to sustainable development. (10 pages) Prepared in September 2006 by ENDA Tiers Monde, Energy, Environment and Development Programme.

South Africa: Gender and Energy in South Africa (8 pages). The paper, prepared by the Centre for Innovation and Development (NovAfrica), is the product of a gender- and energy-stakeholder consultation process. Participants included representatives from government, energy organizations, research institutes, human rights groups, and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

Vietnam: Gender and Energy in Vietnam (8 pages). The report was written by the Vietnam Women's Union, and reviews achievements and challenges related to mainstreaming of gender into energy policies and discussions in Vietnam.

It incorporates the views and ideas of many different stakeholders, including government bodies, non-government organizations, civil society groups and energy agencies.

Previously, for CSD-14 (1-12 May, 2006), ENERGIA finished eight of the national papers: Ghana, India, Lao PDR, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, as well as regional reports for Asia, Pacific and Latin America.

All of these reports include Case Studies and Conclusions, and have something in common: gender inequalities result from culturally established differences in the roles and status of men and women in these countries.

Thus, as the main actors in the energy economies of rural areas, women, and their energy needs, will have to be addressed specifically if energy and chronic poverty are to be reduced.

By incorporating a gender perspective into energy policies and programmes, planners can ensure that women's concerns and experiences, as well as men's, will be addressed adequately.

The reports were published in a book and can be downloaded in PDF format from ENERGIA's website.



Where is the Gender Perspective in the Rio Conventions?

The United Nations Convention on Biodiversity, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), known as the Rio Conventions, are the three main international legally binding agreements for sustainable development.

They represent the legal outcome of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

The agreement signed by heads of state on that occasion, Agenda 21, which identifies the priority action for sustainable development, states clearly that empowerment of women and men is indispensable for sustainable development.

However, throughout the convention texts and implementation mechanisms, the gender perspective of Agenda 21 seems to have been unevenly upheld.

Read a comparative overview of the level of gender mainstreaming in each of the international instruments relating to the Rio Conventions in the report titled: "Gender Perspectives on the Conventions on Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Desertification" by Yianna Lambrou and Regina Laub.

The Report is published by the Gender and Development Service, Gender and Population Division, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO).

*October 2004, 32 pages.
Available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.*

Download the overview report from www.fao.org/sd/dim_pe1/pe1_041002_en.htm.

Climate at UN Status of Women Conference



Climate was also one of the issues at the 54th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW54 - Beijing +15), and the NGO parallel events on 1-12 March 2010.

About ten side/parallel events were organized on gender and climate change. There were also Climate Change Caucuses organized by the NGO/CSW Sub-Committee on Women and Climate.

Speeches addressed the topics of gender, climate change from point of equity, crisis response, agriculture and food security, and poverty.

Concrete experiences of the impact of climate change were presented from Nigeria and Asia Pacific.

Among the organisers of these side events were many organisations, which until now have not dealt with climate change issues. Among the organisations are: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), International Alliance of Women (IAW), Korean Institute for Women in Politics, Asia Pacific Women's Watch (APWW), Feminist Task Force of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty (FTF-GCAP), International Alliance of Women, Women's Climate Initiative, Heifer International, Women of Color United, and Temple of Understanding. Among the UN organisations were: UNDP, UNIFEM, WEDO, WHO, and Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA), which is a programme by WEDO, UNEP, UNDP, and IUCN.

How to go forward after COP 15 was discussed heavily, among others on sessions: "Post Cop 15: The Environmental Dilemma" and "Gender and Climate Change: The Untold Story of COP 15".

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*List of side events on gender and climate at the GenderCC 's web site:
http://www.gendercc.net/fileadmin/inhalte/Dokumente/Related_meetings/Climate_Change_Events_at_CSW.pdf*

*Womenwatch web site:
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing15/index.html>
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing15/parallel.html>*

Link to videos of speeches from the official and parallel events, which can be downloaded from Isis International's website:

http://www.isiswomen.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1381:speeches-from-the-parallel-events-of-the-un-commission-on-the-status-of-women-54th-session&catid=166:csw54-on-beijing-15&Itemid=173



Rio+20 from Women's Perspectives

Women as a "Major Group" to the Rio+20 Process has submitted a position statement, which represents the positions of over 70 women's organisations. It was compiled by a steering committee including the two INFORSE members, WECF and ENERGIA.

This article features some parts of the position that are especially relevant to the promotion of sustainable energy.

Key Problems highlighted:

- **2.4 billion people** in developing countries still depend almost entirely on traditional **biomass fuels** (wood, charcoal, dung and agricultural residues). It is mostly women who are tasked with collecting and managing these fuels. Cooking indoors, without chimney, causes widespread **respiratory diseases**.

- **70 % of the 1.3 billion** people living on **less than one dollar** per day are women. The situation is worsening due to current food and fuel crises caused by climate changes (flooding, draught), and financial crises.

- **Women are more affected by the adverse impacts** of nuclear radiation, and climate change than men.

- **Unsustainable energy use** (nuclear, fossils, and coal) **is threat** for our generation and to that of our children. This is demonstrated by effects of nuclear disasters, climate changes, and environmental pollution.

- **Women are deeply underrepresented in decision making bodies** all over the world. Without true representation of their needs, women are left without a voice.

Women call for that the Governments agree:

- to make a decisive position to immediate **phase out of nuclear energy** and take the path to **promote the use of renewable energy**.

- **to create incentives and a fair legal environment** for renewable energy, and for women's access to these resources.

- **to invest in access** to clean sustainable renewable energy sources and energy efficient technology.

- **to stop direct and indirect subsidies** to unsustainable energy supplies (nuclear, shale gas, tar sands, and coal) currently estimated at 7-9 billion Euro annually.

- **to commit a legally binding mechanism to address the cost** of decommissioning and **clean up of nuclear power plants**, nuclear waste and uranium mines, to be paid by the nuclear industry.

- **to make gender equality as a pillar of governance** including the further promotion of the Rio Principle 20 towards the full participation of women.

This can be done by *quotas or time-bound targets* of minimum participation of women e. g., 40%.

Supportive tools can include: *changing governance cultures, capacity building, gender sensitive indicators, spreading technologies that free women's time, supporting anti discrimination labour laws, and ensuring equal pay.*

- **to reform the fiscal system** internalising external costs
- **to going beyond GDP** with new economic indicators which take women's contributions and natural capital into account.

- **to reallocate military funds** to sustainable development.

*Read the full Position under Major Groups, Women at: www.uncsd2012.org
You can also sign it at www.womenrio20.org*



Disappointments at Rio+20

Women's Major Group followed the negotiations at Rio+20. The expectations were high and the results were generally disappointing. Moreover, two issues were raised during the negotiation process that women found shocking:

Reproduction Rights

The Vatican state pressed successfully for the removal of "reproductive rights" from the final agreed text for the achievement of sustainability.

The Vatican could have an influence as it is an observer organisation at the UN under the name of "Holy See" with the right to propose text during the negotiations.

The proposed deletion received support from Poland and Chile, so the EU and develop-

ing-country negotiators did not scrap over the issue as they could not agree. At the end the proposed text was deleted, even though it was agreeable by a large majority of the countries.

The issue is important for sustainable development. Where poor families are able to decide to have less children, they do not reproduce poverty, children are less likely to die early and are more likely to get into school.

Nuclear Issue

Destruction of health and environment by nuclear power and mining were not even mentioned in the final document. This is in contrast with other parts of the document, where chemical pollution is included.

It is supposed that it is the result of the European and Japanese nuclear lobby that would like to sell the technology in Latin America and Africa.

▲ Women participants of the Women Major Group at Rio+20.
Top: Anti-nuce demonstration, Women major Group meeting photos.
Down: From left to right: Sheila Oparaocha (ENERGIA), Judit Szołeczky (INFORSE), Ananya Dasgupta, (AIWC), Lilian Bosboom (ICJW), and Sascha Gabizon (WECF), and on screen: Hala Yousry delivering the Women's Major Group Speech.

Statement of Women's Major Group, Rio+20 Plenary Session, 20th of June, 2012

Delivered by Hala Yousry, Egypt

" Thank you chair for giving me the floor.

I am Hala Yousry from Egypt. I am speaking on behalf of the Women Major Group.

The women of Egypt have been on the forefront of the revolution. We were fighting, and we will keep fighting, for democracy, dignity, human rights and gender equality. All of these are preconditions of sustainable development.

We women around the world continue our struggle for our rights, basic needs, health, decent jobs, social and environmental protection – which are the very basis of our lives and our future.

High-level representatives should know that there are many strong, committed, courageous and inventive women and men in each and every country.

It is a shame that there is such a timid text prepared here in Rio:

- *no commitment to our reproductive rights, as agreed in Beijing and Cairo*
- *no high commissioner for our girls*
- *nothing about the destruction by nuclear power and mining and no action to protect our health and the rights of affected populations,*
- *no commitments for concrete targets and timelines for women in leadership positions.*

The Rio outcome document does not give us the urgently needed means to address the very big challenges of our times.

What did we women get in Egypt? Less than 2% of the seats in the last parliamentary elections.

And what did we women get in Rio? So far, much less than we hoped for. Thank you "



More on the Women Major Group at Rio:

WECF at www.wecf.eu/english/articles/2012/06/interventionsRio-womenmajorgroup.php

INFORSE at www.inforse.org/europe/Conf12_rio20.htm

UN Web-TV: webtv.un.org. Rio 20 -Ring: www.women-rio20.ning.com .

UN CLIMATE



Gender Issues Missing in Climate Talks: Action Needs to be Taken

An informal meeting organised by LIFE, GENANET and ENERGIA, took place in Milan December 2003 during the 9th Conference Of Parties (COP9) of the Climate Convention.

The 30 participants, from the NGO world, from indigenous people's groups, and from bi-lateral parties, evaluated the COP processes and agreed that gender has been a missing factor in the climate-change negotiations. A consensus emerged that COP organisers and participants need to be pressed to make gender issues much more visible.

The participants agreed that gender, like poverty, is a cross-cutting issue in climate change and that it needs to be recognised as such. In fact, gender and poverty are interrelated and create mutually reinforcing barriers to social change. There is a need to be strident to overcome the uninformed view of many involved in climate-change that climate change is gender-neutral, and real-life examples are needed to make the alternative case clear and convincing.



Five Main Issues & Groups

Five main issues were identified:

- Lack of gender specificity in the criteria related to the climate-change instruments.
- Lack of gender specificity in relation to the vulnerability/adaptation discourse.
- The need for case studies that illustrate how climate change itself and projects, of mitigation as well as of adaptation, affect men and women differently.
- The underlying gender connections between climate-change agreements and other international processes such as the Biodiversity Convention, and health-related treaties on pesticides, etc.
- The lack of participation of women in the whole process.

A number of cross-cutting issues were also identified, including how to tackle the lack of awareness of these problems at the national and local levels.

Subgroups were set up to deal with each of the 5 themes listed above. The subgroup coordinators are: Ulrike Roehr, Anne Pinto, Leanne Wilson, Roselyne van der Heul, Olga Speranskaya, and Stella Lamang.

The participants also initiated a new network, "Gender and Climate Change Network".



COP10 Event

At COP10 in Argentina, a new meeting was organised as a side-event.

The title was "From theory to practice: analysing gender impacts of climate change policies and mechanism" (December 10, 2004).

At the event there was a discussion on how instruments to analyse gender issues fit to climate change mechanisms.

Read more about the new network and a report from the side-event at COP10: <http://www.gencc.interconnection.org>.





Left: Demonstration at COP10 in Buenos Aires.
Photo by FOE Argentina.
www.amigosdelatierra.org.ar

Is the Perception of Climate Change Gendered?

Do women see both the risks and the solutions to climate change in a different way from men?

This was one of the issues debated by a group of men and women from developed and developing countries during a day of side events on gender and climate change at COP-10 in Buenos Aires. Although hard and fast answers to this question are difficult to establish – as well as the question of whether any such difference is the result of nature or nurture – a number of ways in which women's attitudes tend to be different from men's could be observed.

First, cases were cited in which women had a risk perception which seemed to suggest that the threat was wider than the single event. For example, in Bangladesh, women linked the flood to difficulties in obtaining food and potable water, as well as to protecting their assets. Not for them the abstract "big bang" view of the disaster. Rather, they viewed this extreme event within the context of their chronic day-to-day problems. Men in the same context, on the other hand, tended to focus on impacts on longer-term income and food security.

Secondly, within the discussions that took place, it was noticeable that many women present had less faith that the global and national solutions being proposed in the Kyoto process would, on their own, be sufficient. They looked in addition for a grounded approach that would explore, in a participatory way, local community solutions, particularly those that involve behavioural change and structural change

as well as technological innovation.

The doom scenarios which see environmental collapse on every corner from desertification through coastal erosion to ecosystem collapse were discussed. Several women professionals present, however, demonstrated optimism in their arguments, based on recognition that lifestyles could and would change, a view which perhaps relates to an ideology of the women's movement, that the personal is the political. It is an optimism that recognises that people (individually, and then collectively), rather than things, power change.

The lack of representation of women's organisations in the whole Kyoto discussion process is quite noticeable. But this may reflect not so much a lack of interest by women as these discussions are so very narrowly focused on technological and market solutions. Few women would deny that technology and the market have an important role to play in mitigating climate change, but many would like to see a broader approach recognising that people are at the centre.

There are of course many other issues regarding gender and climate change apart from differences in women's and men's perceptions of the problem.

Above all there is a need for differences in gender to be picked up and highlighted in any tools and instruments used to design and access interventions (both mitigation and adaptation).

*Report from workshops at COP-10 in Buenos Aires (SEN #48 March 2005)
Sent by Ulrike Roehr, LIFE/WECF.*



A detailed paper that makes recommendations are available
- UNFCCC website, on the
- Gender and Climate Change website www.gencc.interconnection.org, and
- LIFE/genanet website www.genanet.de.

*For more information please contact:
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and Phil O'Keefe, ETC Foundation e-mail: phil@etcuk.org.*

This article is a follow-up on the "Women and Energy" Themes in the Sustainable Energy News issue Nr. 47, December '04, & Nr. 32 in February '01.

Gender - Forgotten Pillar of Climate Policy

With the Kyoto Protocol entering into force early next year, international climate policy will become increasingly important for the design of policies and measures in the energy sector.

A focus on “Gender & Energy” is important in shaping the future framework conditions set in this policy field.

Taking stock: Gender in the Climate Regime

Analysing the two key agreements that constitute the basis of the climate regime reveals that neither the Climate Convention nor the Kyoto Protocol contains wording on the need for active contributions of climate policy (like all policy areas) to the internationally agreed-upon goals of improving gender justice and empowerment of women. A closer look at the decisions adopted at the annual climate conferences (COPs) confirms the impression that the activities and regulations in this policy arena are designed from men’s perspective, doing little to ease the climate issues affecting women the most.

Almost 15 years of negotiations have produced no decisions that deal with gender issues. Only one deals with the problems of gender asymmetries, and that one focuses on procedures of participation and not of substance. Adopted at COP7 in 2001 on the initiative of the Moroccan COP President, it “invites Parties to give active consideration to the nomination of women for elective posts in any body under the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol” and “requests the secretariat to maintain information on the gender composition of each body (...) and to bring this information to the attention of the Parties whenever (...) a vacancy occurs”.

By Bernd Brouns (left), and
Meike Spitzner (right),
senior research fellows at
the Wuppertal Institute for Climate,
Environment and Energy, Germany.

Edited by the editors.



As a result, the secretariat includes a reference to this decision in each COP agenda and provides a spreadsheet of the gender composition of bodies to the negotiators. Reminding negotiators with a leaflet in their office mailboxes appears to be the only activity concerning the gender problems in the formulation of climate policy.

This singular weak measure is not really the kind of policy action that was envisioned with the adoption of the Rio Declaration at the World Summit on Environment and Development (1992), and in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action at the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995).

The latter calls explicitly for a paradigm change in designing *all* policies and measures, to act upon the international (agreed) consensus that sustainable development is impossible if dimensions of gender justice are not integrated.

It also prescribes the implementation of the following instruments: gender analysis of all programmes, measures, and actions; gender budgeting in all respective areas; generation of knowledge on the linkage of gender and environment; full participation of women in decision-making processes; and actively securing their access to power and resources (“empowerment”).

It is not only politicians who have ignored gender issues in climate policy, but also most of academia and most NGOs. For this reason, there are hardly any resources available for knowledge generation, competent debate, and exchange on the (inter) national level, and no stable research and no lobbying networks. This has resulted in a lack of gender-balanced concepts and instruments of climate policy.

The handful of literature available, mainly focusing on the impacts of climate change, clearly shows that climate change is very likely to exacerbate the already existing gender inequalities. One of the reasons for this is that, especially in developing countries, the environmental degradation caused by climate change will disproportionately affect women as they are often primary natural resource users and managers. This is so because women (and not men) are given the responsibility for subsistence economy and for the work of caring for others. Therefore, climate change tends to increase women’s already unfairly large workload while further limiting their access to natural resources. Another reason is that the poor classes of the population, most of them, women in both the South and the North, are more vulnerable to climate change, as they lack resources to adapt to the impacts.

In comparison to this work on the impacts of climate change, it is evident that there is a lack of gender analysis focusing on the production of climate change. Such expertise exists only in a few areas, e.g., in transport. An important help for gender analysis is the focus on *androcentrism*: production of problems by using as a standard for all the special perspective of middle-aged employed men. Feminist transport research in several European countries has shown that androcentric policy orientations *produce*, rather than mitigate, climate-damaging effects and



Climate negotiators discussing key issues at the Special Climate Fund's “Chairman”’s desk, 2003, COP9 in Milan, Italy.

Photo: www.iisd.ca/climate/cop9

expenses that public space and private households have to cover. Researchers found significant examples of this effect in traffic planning and “scientific” mobility methodologies as well as in policies of infrastructure and transport, affecting, e.g., transport volume, requirements, and expenditures. In each of these cases, once again, progress towards gender equality is damaged and women are disproportionately harmed. This happens over and over again, despite the fact that women, more than men, tend to use means of transport that cause fewer social, environmental, and climate-harming effects; women use more public transport, own fewer cars, etc. Women in the North have fought this deeply entrenched male-dominated planning structure with its problematic “rationales” and infrastructure policies, thus far with little success.

Not only climate change impacts, but also the political responses to deal with climate change – namely mitigation and adaptation – need to be looked at with a “gender lens”. Till now we have no analysis of the design of climate policies proving that concepts, negotiations, and instruments that are free of androcentrism and gender-counterproductive effects are sustainable. In theory, instruments like the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol could offer an opportunity to promote gender equality, e.g., by facilitating access to renewable-energy technology for women. The concern about the CDM is that its implementation nevertheless leads to projects that tend to yield profits and burdens along existing gender-hierarchical lines.

All in all, the dominant debate on a supposedly “common” climate policy that completely neglects gender-related issues is irrational. Current knowledge tells us that climate change especially impacts women, in both North and South. Women are especially likely to be poor; to be the caregivers; to be potential victims of men’s violence and of hierarchical structures of society. These concerns are exacerbated by the problematic role of men in North and South. Nor is the extent of debate very understandable, as the dominance of men’s participation and the rationalities of societal masculinity – for instance, the overvaluation of technologies, markets, and large-scale projects – have been obvious.

The small debate on gender and climate policy has focused up to now on climate change and, within this, on the impacts of

neglecting the gender dimensions of policies and of the dynamics leading to climate change. Geo-economically, most research and political articulation focuses on developing countries. Current perspective on gender fails to illuminate the harmful effects of men’s dominant role within the gender hierarchy. It focuses instead on women as victims, not on their time, and other investments to help prevent climate change. Few analyses have focused on industrialised countries. The causes of climate change in the energy and transport sectors, as well as the concepts and effects of climate-protection activities, are irregular and are affected considerably by gender-biased policies.

Post-2012 Negotiations: New Opportunity for Gender Reliability of Climate Policy!

However, despite this rather devastating assessment, there are opportunities for effective re-orientations within the climate regime towards gender justice and sustainability in the near future. Starting in 2005, climate negotiations will enter a new phase that focuses on the further development of the Kyoto Protocol beyond its first commitment period (2008-2012).

This means that there is a chance to broaden and modify the conceptual framework and the setting of instruments laid down in the Protocol by influencing the agenda-setting of negotiations at an early stage. Starting points are abundant.

A recent publication of Genanet includes a most worthwhile list of proposals aiming at a gender-competent climate policy. Some of its conclusions are:

- All climate-protection measures and programmes, as well as all instruments for slowing climate change or adapting to changes in climate, must be submitted to a gender analysis.
- Women must be involved at all levels of negotiations and in all decisions on climate protection. However, this does not only mean a representation based purely on numbers, but also ensuring the participation of gender experts from relevant areas (energy, transport, agriculture etc.).
- The gender perspective must be universally integrated into climate negotiations and into the formulation of climate-protection policy at the national and international levels.
- Policies and programs must take into account the differing situations of women



Cooking using biogas is also reducing climate impacts. Photo by ENERGIA

and men, including within the structural gender hierarchy, along with their different needs, opportunities, and goals.

- All analysis of problems and the description of situations in the area of climate change and climate protection must be analysed with data on gender-problematic dimensions, each in a gender-differentiated way. Rewriting the guidelines to elicit gender-sensitive input for the national reporting scheme of the Convention about climate-related policies and measures could provide these valuable data from each country. It’s precisely in the North that these data are lacking!
- Gaps in knowledge of the connections between gender and climate protection must be closed. The first steps involve designing and financing research projects specifically engineered to illuminate such connections.
- A monitoring system must be set up at national and international levels to ensure the universal integration of the gender perspective and, where necessary, to call for its implementation.

Taking into account these issues would provide a basis for the *start of a new era* of truly multilateral international climate policy that accords equal authority and participation to women.

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Women's Role in the UN Climate Process: from Berlin to Bali and Beyond



Ulrike Roehr,
GenderCC –
Women for
Climate
Justice,
Life/Genanet

COP13 in Bali:

From a gender perspective, it looks like a landmark.

For the first time in UNFCCC history, GenderCC, a worldwide coalition of women, has drafted position papers with the women's and gender perspectives on the most pressing issues negotiated. And for the first time, many activities from various women's organizations and institutions took place.

Side events of development organizations, women's and women ministers' networks, and governmental departments were the most visible signs of this new situation. All in all, six side events addressing primarily women's/gender issues took place, with others integrating it into a broader framework; the highest rate of women's representation ever. Issues addressed were forestation/deforestation, adaptation, financing, energy, future climate regime and so on. Thus, it was not only the number of events that set new records, but also the variety of issues addressed.

Close cooperation with observer groups, like trade unions, or the emerging movement "Climate Justice NOW" were proving excellent entry points for gender issues.

The new "Global Alliance Gender and Climate", initiated by International Organizations and WEDO, a Women's NGO, committed themselves to support gender mainstreaming in the negotiations.

A press briefing by the network gender-CC (women for climate justice) during the conference and media coverage in various countries gave additional attention to the issues beyond the closed conference area.

Daily women's meetings helped to draft positions and statements as well as to coordinate lobbying efforts among the women participating.

Achievements in Bali during COP13 were based on a long-term involvement and strategy developed in recent years.

Long Way from Berlin to Bali

Gender issues are rarely addressed in the UN climate-change negotiations, even though there was an encouraging start at the First Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention in 1995 in Berlin. An international women's forum, "Solidarity in the Greenhouse", then attracted 200 women from 25 countries to discuss their views on climate protection. Unfortunately, there was a lack of follow-up.

The first (and so far only) official mentioning of women is contained in the text of a COP7 Marrakech resolution in 2001. It calls for more nominations of women to UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol bodies. It also tasks the UNFCCC-Secretariat with determining the gender composition of these bodies and with bringing their results to the attention of the Parties.

At the following COPs, several side events on gender and climate change as well as meetings of gender experts took place, aiming to bring gender aspects to the attention of participants and to discuss strategies towards increasing cooperation and improving lobbying efforts for a stronger integration of gender perspectives into the negotiations.

A milestone was achieved at COP11 in 2005 in Montreal. In preparation for the conference, a strategy paper was drafted by Genanet/LIFE/WECF (see p. 9) identifying possible entry points for gender aspects into the climate change debates.

According to the strategy, women engaged in three complementary activities:

- Raising awareness and disseminating information;
- Building women's capacity and joint strategizing on gender mainstreaming in climate policy;
- Developing a future research agenda, strengthening the gender and climate-change network (genderCC).



These activities helped to pick up the path from COP1 again, finally resulting in growing attention to and sensitization in gender dimensions of climate change in Bali. *There was strong support and affirmation by a growing number of delegates concerning gender issues,*

but in the end, there is no reference to gender in the outcomes, the so-called 'Bali roadmap'. Furthermore, the majority of climate experts are not yet convinced that integrating gender into climate-change policy will make it more efficient and more effective and – last but not least – more just. Most of these experts are natural scientists or economists who give more credit to technical facts than to individual case studies or glaring inequalities. Viewing climate change and climate protection more as a scientific than a political process, they also tend not to link political goals like social and gender justice to climate-related policy-making. They will need further, preferably quantitative, evidence of gender sensitivity in climate change in order to draw their attention to gender issues.

Future Steps: Diversity in Gender Activities

Because of the rising coverage of climate change by the media, women's organisations and gender experts are also taking up these issues. They carry out campaigns in order to make women's voices heard and to build their capacity. On the other hand, UN organisations are starting to train their climate-change staff to integrate gender into their programmes. Development organisations were among the first to analyse their local adaptation projects from a gender perspective. Researchers are starting as well to include questions related to gender in their research programmes and proposals. Hopefully the results of such activities will be presented at the upcoming UNFCCC conferences.

Additionally, the debate on climate equity is receiving increasing attention and the climate justice movement is growing; both provide excellent entry points for gender debates. This will help to broaden the gender and climate justice movement and to spread the vision of gender-just climate-change strategies.

More: www.gendercc.net



At the UNFCCC/COP11 in Montreal from November 28 to December 9, 2005, the countries had agreed to more than 40 decisions on the Kyoto Protocol and the Climate Convention, including:

- a compliance regime for the Kyoto Protocol;
- the formal start of Joint Implementation and Clean Development;
- a five-year action plan of adaptation to climate change and the modalities of a fund to help the least developed countries adapt to climate change;
- the start of “a process to consider further commitments” for developed nations beyond 2012.

A working group will start to work on this in May 2006. More than 150 countries participate, but not USA. The mandate of the group unfortunately lacks a clear end date for negotiations; as such, 2008 was proposed by many NGOs;

In parallel, an exploratory global “dialogue” on future steps to combat climate change without “negotiations leading to new commitments.” USA will participate in this dialogue.

One of the key issues during the negotiations was the reluctance of the USA to make any meaningful commitments on emission reductions.

While the solution was the above-mentioned double approach, another possible way around the “US problem” would be to expand the Kyoto Protocol to include cities, states and other non-status actors such as multi-national corporations. This was discussed at the conference, but no formal agreement was made.



Montreal Marked a “New Era” for Gender and Climate

Report sent from Montreal by Ulrike Roehr (left) and /Minu Hemmati (right).

Gender & Climate exhibition booth in Montreal.

Learning from experiences at COP 10 in Buenos Aires, when two side events on gender and climate change did not attract as much as interest as anticipated, this year’s women’s events at UNFCCC COP11/MOP1 marked a ‘new era’.

A variety of different activities were organised to draw more attention to gender aspects in climate change. This strategy was based on three pillars:

- Awareness-raising and disseminating information via an exhibition booth ‘gender - justice - climate’ and two ‘Climate Talk’ events
- Women’s meetings to build capacity and strategise on how to integrate gender, and
- A research workshop aiming to develop a future research agenda and to initiate a gender-and-climate-change network.

Awareness-Raising

A growing interest in gender aspects of climate change became evident at the booth: many participants took away lots of material. Not all, but some of them were really interested in learning more, asked in-depth questions and engaged in discussion. Although there are some gender-differentiated results of research and experiences, e.g., from climate-change adaptation projects and especially from community-based disaster management, there is a conspicuous lack of good practise. Therefore, one of the ‘lessons learnt’ from these discussions should be to work towards a compilation of good practises/projects. As the article is written during the COP, reactions to the ‘Climate Talk’ events cannot be reported yet. They will take place at the second to last day of the conference. ‘Climate Talks’ are web-cast via the UNFCCC website and are intended to explain specific issues to the broader public. This year’s common theme for all talks is “Time for Action”. In our view, this can be interpreted as a call for gender mainstreaming into the negotiations. And that’s why we asked for two slots.



One talk was to be given by the authors of the article focusing on some examples of why it makes a difference to address gender in climate change.

The other one, given by the chairs of the ‘Network of Women Ministers for the Environment’ (Swedish Minister for the Environment, Lena Sommestad, and South African Deputy Minister for Environment and Tourism, Rejoice Mabuda-Fahsi) about actions in their countries.

Capacity-Building and Strategising

The strategy meetings also generated a lot of interest. In the first meeting, participants expressed their need for clarifying details of the UNFCCC process, and we focused on discussing the basics of the UNFCCC process and explaining some of the decisions that were on the agenda at COP11/MOP1. The lesson learnt from this situation is that a capacity-building workshop should be held before or at the very beginning of the next COP.

However, by the second strategy meeting in the beginning of the second week of the conference, we worked on recommendations and demands that women would want to put to negotiators. Issues raised included the need to broaden the debate and place it firmly into the context of sustainable development, peace and justice, as well as raising the numbers of women on delegations and in decision-making positions.

The group decided to work on a brief statement / position paper.

For the next COP, we are planning to ask for a room for daily Women’s Strategy Meetings.

continued from p. 9



From the gender & climate meeting in Montreal.

Research Agenda

One starting point of the women's activities at COP11/MOP1 is that there are considerable gaps in research on gender and climate change that impact the ability of the global community to integrate gender aspects appropriately and effectively into developing policies and instruments for climate-change mitigation and adaptation.

The workshop was meant to bring together researchers working on gender and climate change and related issues to develop a research agenda that can be pursued over the coming years.

Because participants came from very different areas - not only research, but also from practice and from policy advocacy - it wasn't easy to find a common language and understanding of the problems. Some of us, having been involved in UN processes (CSD) for years, felt that gender is already sufficiently mentioned in the UN documents and that the great gap is in implementation. However, although gender is mentioned in many UN documents, it is completely absent in the UNFCCC as well as in the Kyoto Protocol.

In addition, gender is often only mentioned in a very general way and as such doesn't help to argue why it makes a difference to take gender into account, especially not in climate-change policies. Of course we know that poverty and domestic / reproductive work are the basis for most inequalities between the sexes, but this awareness is not enough. We have to link it to the particular situation, to the specifics of the issues. Hence, what we need to know and need to provide are 'hard facts' and in-depth case studies relating the real-life 'stories'. This information should con-

vince those dealing with climate change that they will not succeed in mitigating climate change or in appropriate planning for adapting to climate change if they don't address gender aspects adequately.

The most needed types of data include gender-differentiated information from North and South about consumption behaviour (energy use and emissions) as well as impacts on health, and in relation to risks. Participants were aware that much of this information is already available - but 'hidden' in reports not primarily dealing with gender or climate.

The group concluded that it would be extremely useful to conduct a survey obtaining a comprehensive overview of available research relating to gender and climate change.

Numerous questions for future research were raised during the workshop. They may serve as the basis for a 'bank of research questions' to link questions developed in practical projects to research projects to be developed by academia.

The questions discussed include: What's the impact of education on behaviour relevant to climate? What are the differentiated impacts of economic incentives vs. awareness-raising and education? What are the gender aspects of these different behaviour-change instruments?



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Next Steps

Workshop participants agreed on several next steps: among others, requesting that the IPCC produce a report about existing research on gender and climate change, and the request for a comparative evaluation of mitigation and adaptation measures in different regions from a gender perspective.

Participants agreed that growing the network further with gender- as well as climate-change experts and researchers was useful. They also agreed that such a network could only survive with

a) network members' continued active participation, and

b) coordination / service to the network.

Participants committed to participate actively in a growing network on gender and climate-change research, and they welcomed the organisers' commitment to provide the services required. LIFE e.V. will explore additional means for exchanging references to gender- and climate-change-related research - e.g., a web site and a mailing list providing space for exchange and discussion. A workshop report will be available soon.





No Climate Justice without Gender Justice

UNEP, WAVE, WECF Women Ministers,
2008 in Monaco

By Chantal van Denbossche, Sascha
Gabizon, and Sabine Bock, WECF
(from left to right)

Women's participation and experience are central when it comes to human rights and climate change. That's why the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF) organized a high-level 'Women as the Voice for the Environment' (WAVE) and Network of Women Environment Ministers side event during the UNEP Governing Council Meeting in Monaco in February 2008.

WECF Advocacy Work

The UNEP's Conference in Monaco was called 'Mobilizing Finance for Climate Action' but, we can put as much money in Climate Change as we want, it can still increase poverty and injustice. We see this happening in the area of CDM funding for Climate Change, which is not reaching the poorest. EU funds, needed for climate change mitigation and adaptation, going to nuclear research, which supports an industry, that creates great injustice when we look at the lack of human rights for people living near uranium mines. And in all countries, as UN statistics show us, women are the majority of the poor, and often doubly affected by injustice and poverty, as they are mostly the caretakers of the ill and disabled. WECF is concerned about the effects of climate change and the burdens that climate-related changes and disasters put on women, men and children, including health, environmental, and economic impacts in our region and globally. Thus, there cannot be climate justice without gender justice. We therefore demand a strong political commitment from every Government in the world to work for a far-reaching post-Kyoto regime. This regime can only be successful if the perspectives of women are fully taken into account.

Ministers' Dialog with NGOs

The joint UNEP and WECF WAVE-High Ministerial Side Event 'Financing climate change from a gender and rights perspective', on February 21, 2008 was a follow-up to the activities of the Network of Women Environmental Ministers and GenderCC – women for climate justice at the UNFCCC in Bali last December and to the WAVE events that took place in Belgrade last October during the Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference.

Eleven Ministers of Environment and Development Cooperation took part in the side event and high-level representatives of 6 governments, the African Union, and two UN agencies also joined in the discussions. In addition, various civil-society representatives attended the meetings and participated in the session. The Ministers had dialogues with civil-society representatives on the gender aspects of key policy issues including bio-fuels, nuclear, mitigation and adaptation programs and their impact on women and the poor.

The outcome of the event is very positive: Firstly, the agreement to work together to ensure the inclusion of gender criteria in the post-Kyoto regime, to mainstream gender criteria in funding programmes, and/or to guarantee that 20% of funding be allocated specifically for mitigation and adaptation projects for women and by women. Secondly, ministers made the recommendation to the executive director of UNEP to set aside a full day during the next UNEP GC/GMEF for the Network of Women Environment Ministers to deliberate on various gender issues arising in environmental management.



*The civil society facilitating committee at the
UNEP 10th special session elected
for a 2 year term*

Green Jobs - Towards Sustainable Work in a Low-Carbon World

Aside from the WECF event, UNEP presented during the Governing Council Meeting the first finding of their Green Jobs Report, together with the International Labour Organisation and the International Trade Union.

WECF welcomed the new UNEP report, and stressed specifically its gender sensitivity. We were glad to see that the UNEP / Trade Union report stated clearly that jobs in the nuclear industry were not considered green at all. Nuclear energy is again too often being promoted as a solution for climate change. But so far the global environmental community managed to keep nuclear out of the Kyoto protocol. Promoting nuclear energy is irresponsible, as none of the countries currently using nuclear technology have been able to find a solution to protecting populations from radiation. All the money going into new nuclear energy would be much better spent in energy conservation and renewable energies. The potential for them is enormous. WECF works on the local level to give people access to safe energy. So we look for decentralized sustainable energy for ALL sectors of society, also for poor communities in rural areas, which will be a benefit for the local economies. Decentralized sustainable energy can be for them the way out of poverty. Therefore, we call for the participation of the public, especially women, in decision-making on energy sources and management and we call on governments and the private sector to shift investments from nuclear industry to renewable energies, which allow more and safer jobs to be created.

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Gender Side Events during the Sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies of the UNFCCC Bonn, June 1- 13, 2008

June 9, 2008 1-3 pm. - IFE and Gendercc: More Effective Policies & Measures – Engendering Better Results Through Integrating Gender Aspects.

June 11, 2008 1-3 pm. - WECF, Gendercc, and partners: Nuclear Power: Roadblock to Effective Climate Change.

Women in Bonn '09

Lobby for the Integration of Gender into the Copenhagen Outcomes

Women and gender experts are extremely busy lobbying for the integration of gender into the Copenhagen outcomes of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP15).

GenderCC, a global network of women, gender activists and experts working for gender and climate justice, organised the following joint efforts with several NGOs during the Preparatory Sessions in Bonn, June 1-19, 2009:

- **Daily Women's Caucus** to strategize and to share information, as well as to undertake further steps towards being recognized as a constituency in the UNFCCC process.
- **Side Event**, "*Gender Mainstreaming and Beyond. National Strategies to Engender Climate Change Policy*" on 5 June, organised together with Life eV. Achieving true justice between women and men in relation to climate change involves fundamental cultural, structural and institutional change and the strengthening of individual capacities. Women from various world regions presented their strategies for meeting challenges and overcoming obstacles.

- **Conference and film festival**, "*Survival at Stake? What is Needed in Copenhagen for the Most Vulnerable?*" on 6 June, organised together with Germanwatch e.V., and several other NGOs. The event was geared to put a focus on those people, communities and countries whose survival is at stake, who are most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

- **Side Event**, "*Gender, Migration and Climate Change*" on 9 June, organised together with WECF. Climate-change-related migration patterns have different impacts on women and men: migration is influencing and changing social roles while increasing prevailing gender imbalances. Migration is perceived as a humanitarian challenge by the international community. At the same time, climate-change-induced migration is treated increasingly as a security issue by countries and international institutions.

- **Intervention** of the Women's Caucus during the closing plenary of the 8th session of the Ad-hoc Working Group of the future of the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) was presented by Khamarunga Banda, South Africa (ENERGIA/WEDO).

- On behalf of women and gender NGOs, GenderCC issued a joint statement with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), speaking on behalf of the trade unions at the Final Plenary Session

of the Ad-hoc Working Group Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA) 5th and 7th sessions.

• "Don't Nuke the Climate" Actions

Banner Rally
organized by Eco-defense, GenderCC, and WECF.



Carrying banners reading "No Nuclear in CDM, JI and technology transfer" and "More Equity in Climate Protection", activists from all over the world e.g. Russia, Georgia, Germany and the USA stood in front of the Maritim Hotel, where the UNFCCC talks took place, and asked the delegates for an intelligent and sustainable strategy to cope with climate change without resorting to nuclear power.

The action protested any attempt to finance nuclear power through market mechanisms like CDM/JI and technology transfer.

Side Event: "*Both Feasible and Nuclear-Free: A Safe and Sustainable Energy Scenario for post-2012*" organised by WECF on June 9, 2009.

WECF to Simplify CDM Rules for Poor Community Projects



By Sabine Bock,
WECF, Coordinator
Energy & Climate
Change

Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF) seek to influence the UN

Climate negotiations to create a simplified Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) for sustainable-energy projects in households and in communities, including improved funding conditions for smaller-scale and cutting-edge technology projects.

Such projects should be developed in consultation with local communities, in particular with women, who are more vulnerable to climate change due to their limited access to resources and assets.

In order to achieve this, we see the need to introduce simplified registration

procedures for micro projects (<15.000 tCO₂ eq/year) and to appoint specialised Designated Operational Entities (DOEs) for small community projects.

Background: For many communities in the world who are living in poverty, survival is dependent on access to energy. Currently, many poor communities suffer health effects from the burning of dirty fuels, lack of heating in cold winters, and lack of energy for lifesaving medical devices and other supplies. Women bear the brunt of these negative effects.

Just in the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia region (EECCA), 21,000 people, mainly women and children, die of indoor air pollution every year, according to the WHO.

These communities would require relatively little funding to improve greatly the health and life expectancies of their residents, if they were able to invest in

safe renewable energy sources and energy-efficiency measures.

At the same time, these investments would contribute significantly to reducing CO₂ emissions and, especially, would improve the situations of women and children. Currently, however, the poor communities have hardly any access to funding via the CDM.

Keep Nuclear Out of CDM

WECF also calls for keeping nuclear power out of the CDM as a high risk technology.

In the coming months, world governments will take the decision on whether to make nuclear power eligible for the CDM under the UNFCCC. If the wrong decision is made, the nuclear industry will have secured access to new sources of financing. *WECF made a statement at UNFCCC talks in Bonn, Germany, June, 2009, along with joint submissions.*

Gender Justice at COP15: Half of Nothing is Nothing



By Marion Rolle and Nina Somera,
GenderCC – Women for Climate Justice

After months of negotiations, the outcome of the Climate Conference in Copenhagen (COP15) is extremely alarming. For those who are already suffering the effects of climate change, the essential failure of the Summit is utterly devastating.

Most of the delegates, throughout the Conference, stressed the urgent need for a fair and ambitious agreement, including serious emission reduction targets as well as sufficient financing.

It is thus all the more counter-intuitive and alarming that the Conference produced no firm worthwhile commitments. Further, although some progress has been made in the inclusion of gender-related considerations in the texts since Poznan, the language remains weak.

Perhaps most strikingly, although COP15 saw the strongest commitment of civil society ever seen within the climate-change negotiations, it was marked by the most blatant exclusion of civil society in the history of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Women and Gender Groups in the UNFCCC-process

COP15 was the first UNFCCC conference in which women and gender-based NGOs were recognized as discrete constituencies. It seems that UNFCCC increasingly acknowledges the often disproportionately harsh gender-specific impacts of climate change on women's lives and of the importance of gender considerations in Conference structure and process.

Once the COP15 process was closed to civil society organizations (CSOs) and social movements, however, the civil constituency was disenfranchised. It could no longer realise its potential to intervene effectively.

To make matters worse, women's share in the delegations of parties remained small, constituting only about 30% of registered country delegates and approximately 10 % of the heads of delegations.

Gender in the Outcome

The so-called "Copenhagen Accord" is far from the "fair and ambitious agreement" that CSOs have demanded, and it does not consider gender justice at all. While the document underlines the need to limit global warming to (insufficient) two degrees centigrade and urges all nations to reduce their emissions, it is silent on concrete measures and time frames. Moreover, not only was it produced in a manner that betrayed the supposed character of any UN process, but it also lacks substantive strength and political support, especially but not only from the global South.

However, the *Copenhagen Accord* is not the only contentious aspect of COP15. Gender language in the draft texts of the Ad-hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperative Action (AWG LCA) increased slightly during the preparatory meetings; *even this small improvement was watered down* and partially deleted near the end of the process. Further, the thinking and the language continue to paint women as a sidelined, "vulnerable" minority interest instead of as strong, vital, 50%-of-the-population stakeholders.

Not unexpectedly, considerations of gender-specific difficulties are completely absent in the AWG LCA texts on mitigation and financing. This was also true of drafts of AWK-KP (Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol).



Beyond Copenhagen

Instead of signalling a climate- and gender-just future, COP15 produced toothless political declarations that preserve long-standing

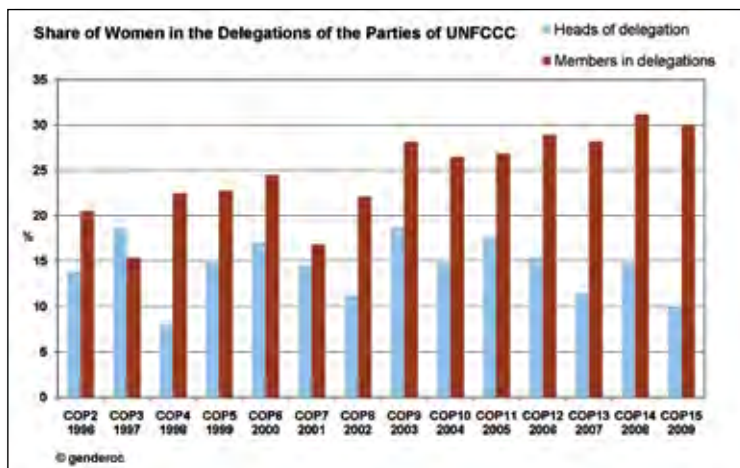
global imbalances at the expense of poor and marginalized countries and peoples. Even so, we must engage the UNFCCC by starting immediately a redoubled collective learning process geared towards achieving genuine and lasting solutions. Countries and their delegations need to work on a binding post-2012 agreement to be approved in Mexico in December, 2010 (COP 16).

GenderCC calls for urgent and concrete action. *"Not a political declaration, but commitments. Not 'continued high growth' but fundamental changes of how we live and consume in industrialized countries and how we share the Earth's resources nationally and globally. Not lukewarm reduction goals but deep emission cuts and significant public funding that can really bail us out from this climate crisis."* (Ulrike Röhr, Intervention in the plenary of the High Level Segment, on behalf of Women and Gender.)

GenderCC, together with women and gender experts from all over the world, advocates for this agreement to be fair and ambitious, based on a strong gender perspective, with forceful, meaningful involvement of women as equal stakeholders in all processes and at all levels of decision-making.

In this context, GenderCC welcomes the decision to appoint a woman as the next UNFCCC Executive Secretary, and hopes that the Costa Rican diplomat Christiana Figueres will put people's interest and gender equity at the core of the process.

There is no climate justice without gender justice.



Share of Women /Men in the Delegation of the Parties at UNFCCC COPs. Graph made by GenderCC.

Women towards UNFCCC COP-18



Pictures from the exhibition of GenderCC at UNFCCC COP15 in Copenhagen. From left to right: Gotelind Alber (GenderCC), Ulrike Röhr (GenderCC & Life e.V.), Sascha Gabizon (WECF), Zareen Myles (WAFD & INFORSE).

Women Constituency got Full Status

The UNFCCC Women and Gender Constituency was formally recognised with full status just before the COP 17 in Durban in 2011. This is a result of an active effort of a working group consisting of five women's organisations, i.e., GenderCC, ENERGIA, LIFE, WEDO, and WECF. The focal point is GenderCC, and it works according to its Charter, which outlines the goals and principles.

The Women's Constituency is one of the 8 Civil Society Constituencies. The other Constituencies are the environmental non-governmental organizations (ENGO), youth (YOUNGO), indigenous peoples (IPO), business and industry (BINGO), local government (LGMA), research (RINGO), and trade unions (TUNGO).

Increase Women's Participation

Women account for only between 10-15% of all Heads of Delegations at the UNFCCC, and around 20-30% of all party delegates.

Recognizing the need for increased access and participation of women in this process, the Women Delegates Fund (WDF) was established in 2009 by WEDO, GGCA, and UNDP with the support of the Government of Finland, and since 2011, with the support of the Government of Iceland.

It is administered by WEDO. The Women Delegates Fund provides support to women delegates from developing countries, and specifically from the least developed countries, to participate in the UNFCCC negotiations.

More Women in Climate Media

The UNFCCC also launches a new initiative called "*Momentum for Change: Women for Results*" at the COP 18 in Doha, Qatar. The aim is to highlight the role of women in responding to climate change by supporting activities to inform governments, media and the public about climate change activities led by women. The initiative is supported by the Rockefeller Foundation for a three-year period.

Daily Women's Caucus

During climate meetings, the Women's Caucus is organised on a daily basis similarly to the other caucuses of major groups.

More: WEDO, GenderCC

INFORSE and Gender at COP18

INFORSE mounted an exhibition and a side event at the UNFCCC COP18 in Doha. A new issue of Sustainable Energy News was also published and distributed. Gender was also one of the focus areas of both the exhibition and the presentations.

Zareen Myles from WAFD and Usha Nair from AIWC made presentations focusing on their women-based NGOs' work on sustainable energy and climate.

Their presentations focused on helping women to use sustainable energy and, at the same time, to reduce poverty. These activities covered solar-device maintenance training, solar driers, LED lamps and lanterns, common solar charging of lamps, efficient cookstoves, and use of biogas for cooking.

More: INFORSE
www.inforse.org/INFORSE-UN.php3



Top: Usha Nair from AIWC (left), and Zareen Myles from WAFD. Down: INFORSE side event (left) and INFORSE Exhibition at COP18



History Made: "Gender Balance" Adopted - in the Fossil Patriarchy

The UNFCCC COP18 in Qatar delivered a historical step: The COP adopted a target for "gender balance".

The decision marks a crucial initial step (the first of many necessary ones) towards a gender-responsive climate convention.

Many years of intensive lobbying work prepared the ground for this move, which ironically happened in Qatar, a fossil-fuel- and male-dominated society.

Some of the promising results are that:

- All countries and observer organizations are to submit proposals by September 2, 2013, and commit to holding a workshop at the next COP.

- The UNFCCC Secretariat and its Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres personally commit themselves to institute a "gender day" at each COP, following the successful premier of such a designated day at COP 18 in Doha.

"Gender Equality" / "Gender Balance"

While welcoming the decision, many are disappointed at the dilution of the wording from the initial insistence on "gender equality" to its present position on "gender balance" as well as at the exclusion of crucially necessary references to gender expertise.

Gender "balance", though important from an equity and human rights perspective, falls far short of the substantial gender "equality" needed to accomplish fundamental changes in human behaviour. Gender equality moves us beyond the numbers to deal with issues of substantive equality. Substantive equality would require us to begin to rephrase both climate science and climate politics from a gendered perspective, making true empowerment of women an issue.



Photo from <http://thehoopla.com.au>

All in all, the decision on "gender balance" offers opportunities for further steps to strengthen the gender agenda in the UNFCCC process.

Source: Reviews by Gotelind Alber from GenderCC; Lili Fuhr and Liane Schalteck from Heinrich Böll Foundation.

November 27, 2012
GENDER DAY
#BeyondRhetoric



First Ever Gender Day of UNFCCC in Qatar

November 27, 2012, - UNFCCC COP18 Gender Day -

A list of high-profile speakers took to the stage to speak about women and the important role they need to play in the fight against climate change.

The event participants and organisers represented a broad range of women organisations including WEDO, GenderCC, WECF, GGCA, AIWC and ENERGIA.

"Gender must be in climate change as a **cross-party** issue, otherwise we will not succeed in the efforts we are doing to save the planet, to save the world."

"The eyes of seven generations of children looking back at me, at us, and asking 'what did you do?' "

"The experiences and impacts of climate change on women are usually more severe"

"Every journey begins with a step in the right direction."

"This is not about empowering women to dis-empower men. This is about empowering both." "We want gender balance because the contribution of both is essential."

More: http://www.gendercc.net/fileadmin/inhalte/Bilder/UNFCCC_conferences/COP18/FINAL_agenda_nov-27gender.pdf and COP18 web site: <http://www.cop18.qa/>

Photo: Panel: (right to left): Mary Robinson, president of the Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice, Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary, UNFCCC; Hon. Albreu, Minister of Environment, Mozambique.



PLANNING & POLICY



Gender is NOT Something to Ignore!

Why gender issues need to be more strongly integrated into renewable energy policies, planning, and projects, to increase sustainable energy access for women

Shortened and edited by the editors of SEN, from ENERGIA's position papers (INFORSE member), and materials provided by Ulrike Röhr from LIFE and GENANET on the northern perspective.

Empowering women and improving their status are essential to realizing the full potential of economic, political and social development. Empowering women is an important equity- and human-rights goal in itself. Yet, gender disparities continue, despite economic growth highlighted at the Beijing conference in 1995 and at Beijing+5 in June 2000. For instance:

- 70% of the approximately 1.3 billion people living in poverty are women;
- Women have access to a disproportionately small share of credit from formal banking institutions, e.g., only about 10% in Africa;
- Women in general receive much lower average wages than men;
- Globally, women occupy only 10% of all parliamentary seats and only 6% of cabinet positions;
- Throughout the world, women face unequal treatment under the law, and they often face violence and abuse as both girls and women.

Women's Key Roles and Interests in Energy Consumption and Production:

North AND South Perspective:

- Women are the **principal consumers and users** of household energy and transport, together a major portion of total energy use; they are also purchasers of stoves, automobiles, and other energy-using appliances as well as the selectors of cooking fuels;
- Women are the **main actors in determining their household's direct and indirect energy consumption** - use of heating, air conditioning, hot water, and electrical appliances; the choice of time of use (and therefore of peak use); household purchases, which may be more or less energy-intensively produced; and the use of household transport;
- Women are **victims of environmental pollution due to energy use**, particularly vulnerable due to their reproductive roles and household responsibility for cooking; and as victims of high energy prices and expenditures, especially female-headed households that make up a large portion of the poor;
 - Women in the North have been particular victims of exposure to nuclear radiation and, as a consequence of their exposure, suffer higher levels of stress than men following radiation incidents.
 - Women in the South have been victims of unregulated pollution caused by old, improperly maintained equipment exuding pollutants into the air.
 - Women are more frequent users of public transport and pedestrian walkways than men;
- Women are the **primary educators and formers of their children's** future energy conservation and consumption habits;
- Women are **effective activists** on energy questions in health, environmental, children's, and peace-related organisations and issues, ranging from community education for recycling, to lobbying for sustainable energy, to anti-nuclear protests.

Southern Perspective

Bearing in mind that, in developing countries, energy security is related to health security, food security, and livelihood security because

- Rural women (and their children) are the **primary collectors of wood and residue fuels**, which account for 80% of all household energy use in many developing countries. Based on FAO estimates, the proportions of rural women affected by fuelwood scarcity range from 60% in Africa, to nearly 80% in Asia, and nearly 40% in Latin America. Time spent in fuel collection in fuel-scarce areas can range from 1 to 5 hours per household per day. Where fuel is commercialised, women's work must pay for purchasing household energy.
- The real rural energy crisis is rural women's time, with women **working longer work days** than men in providing human energy for survival activities such as fuel and water carrying,

cooking, food processing, transport, agriculture, and small enterprises, non-paying work which is largely invisible in national energy accounts and labour force statistics.

- Many **income activities of women** in the informal sector - often critical to family economic survival - are fuel-intensive, and the viability of these activities is affected by energy prices and availability.
- **Energy scarcity** impinges on the provision of other basic services, such as water, health, and education. For example, the proportions of rural women affected by water scarcity are estimated to be 55% in Africa, 32% in Asia, and 45% in Latin America, with a median time for collecting water in the dry season of about 1.6 hours per day.
- More than **half the world's households cook daily** with wood, crop residues, dung, and untreated coal, as a result of which women and children have the highest exposures to indoor air pollution, linked to acute respiratory infections, chronic obstructive lung diseases, low birth weights, sinus headaches, lung cancer, and eye problems.
- Women deal with **risky and hazardous environments** as gatherers; they move through difficult terrains as porters. Other occupational health hazards for women involved in energy use and production include bone fractures, repetitive-strain injuries, sprains, back disorders, and miscarriages due to fuelwood-load carrying; also, exposure to burns and smoke as well as skin diseases in informal-sector enterprises.
- Physical and psychological **violence** against women have been reported: rapes while gathering fuelwood around refugee camps in Somalia, facing sniper fire to gather fuel in Sarejevo, and bride suicides related to women's inability to meet their family's wood fuel needs in India.
- There are **few women who have access to the education** and support systems necessary to negotiate careers in the energy sector, hindering the development of energy policies and technologies better suited to women's needs and wishes.

Northern Perspective

At a first glance, the different roles of men and women in northern society may not seem so clear as it is in the South. A closer look shows that gender is still not something to ignore.

While ever more women join the paid workforce, they continue to shoulder responsibility for household tasks as well as for child care, making them, of necessity, one of the major users of energy within the household.

In the North, more women than men live below the poverty line, suffering from fuel poverty in a colder climate than in the South.

- Surveys taken in the North show that: *Women have a greater concern for the environment than men.*
- *Women tend to be more favourable than men to "soft" energy measures, i.e., renewable energy and energy conservation.*
 - In Japan, women were found to be more inclined than men to turn off lights in rooms not in use, to adjust air-conditioners to moderate temperatures, and to use public transport in preference to cars.
 - Considering transport use, a survey in Sweden shows that, among households with roughly equal incomes, women used less energy than men. This finding is not only related to work patterns, but also to leisure activities: women tend to pursue leisure activities that are closer to home than those of men.
 - Women scientists within the EU were found to have a strong preference for research in renewable energy and energy conservation.
- *Women reject the use of nuclear energy considerably more firmly than men.*
 - In Finland, only 14% of women, compared with 46% of men, support the long-term use of nuclear energy.
 - In Germany, 46% of women, compared with only 20% of men, fear that nuclear power stations could become the target of terrorist attacks.
 - In Sweden, in the late 1990's, 80% of young women were found to be against the long-term use of nuclear power, and 63% of men had no objection to waste being stored in their own municipality as opposed to 34% of women.
 - Women have been leading activists in the anti-nuclear movement. Women even established new organisations in this cause, e.g., MAMA -86 in Ukraine and Rainbow Serpent in Japan.

The correlation between gender, level of education, and attitude to nuclear energy is also striking: the more educated women are, the more negative is their attitude toward nuclear energy, while the opposite applies in the case of men, whose attitudes are more positive the higher their level of education.

Bearing in mind that in the North, women have shown a deep concern with energy choices, yet are under-represented in the sector:

- Despite the social changes since the 1960s related to women's emancipation, women and men still do not play equal roles in the public life; men still dominate in political spheres as well as in science and engineering.
- Despite women's increased access to educations in science and engineering, they still are a minority in engineering- and technology-related fields, including energy studies.
- The energy industry is perceived as a male preserve. The sector suffers from the perception that it offers professional careers dominated by 50-year-old males, particularly in the technical areas. For example, the share of women in the technical staff in the energy industry in Germany is around 6%; in decision-making positions, 4 %; and in the top management, less than 1%.

Despite the very small representation of women in decision-making in general, a sign of possible paradigm change is that many women active in the antinuclear and environmental movements managed to put many issues in the political agenda, also successfully contributing to the founding of the Green Parties in Germany and in New Zealand.

Energy companies are beginning to recognise that women bring particular benefits to workplaces, and, hence, that women contribute to more balanced and efficient organisations.

Networking

Due to the under-representation of women, women in the energy sector, like any other minority members, can often feel isolated. Networking has proven valuable to women in the energy sector, both in the North and in the South. Often, networks include working with men who are interested in gender issues.

You can find links to several national networks on the web site of ENERGIA and GENANET.

The term "North" as used above covers the industrialised countries belonging to the OECD Countries, extended to include the Eastern European countries.



Women represented as stakeholder group at REC 2004 by ENERGIA, LIFE, WECF. LIFE organised a side event at COP10 together with the newly formed "Gender and Climate Change Network".



Ulrike Röhr, LIFE e.V. / Frauen Umwelt Netz, GENANET.



Joy Clancy - (TDG), University of Twente



Sheila Oparaocha, ENERGIA Secretariat

More information:

*International Network on Gender & Energy -ENERGIA, the Netherlands
www.energia.org*



*LIFE e.V. GENANET focal point
gender justice & sustainability Germany.
www.genanet.de, www.frauenumweltnetz.de, www.life-online.de*

UNDP Analyses and Assists

An "Energy and Women" Project aims to generate opportunities for women in the energy field in Africa. It has produced national reports, a guideline for decision makers, and a series of case studies. Pilot projects are in progress in Mali and Uganda.

By Gail Karlsson, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), USA.



In February, 1999, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) initiated a project entitled "Energy and Women: Generating Opportunities for Development" which is

being co-ordinated by UNDP's Sustainable Energy Program.

Shared Concerns

In order to gather information, the Project began by sponsoring national consultations in southern Africa in the spring of 1999. National experts, government officials, and leaders of community organisations discussed the particular energy situations in different countries in relation to women's development needs and priorities. Reports were prepared by representatives from Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, and were presented at a regional workshop held in South Africa on June 21 and 22, 1999.

- The "Energy and Women" Project looks at linkages between women and energy as an entry point for addressing both sustainable development and the advancement of women, two of UNDP's major priorities.
- The Project assumes that access to more efficient and environmentally sustainable energy services can provide benefits to women and girls in developing countries, including more time, improved health, and increased opportunities for income-generating work. The geographical focus is on Africa.
- The main elements include:
- Analysis of sustainable energy projects regarding their impacts on women;
- Networking and information sharing;
- Training and advocacy activities; and
- Technical assistance to countries that are developing energy projects and policies to benefit women as well as men.
- Financial support for the project has been provided by the Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (SIDA) and by the UNDP's Sustainable Energy Global Program.

At the regional meeting, there were many shared concerns about the need for more attention to women's energy problems, especially in rural areas, and for more involvement of women themselves in solving those problems.

There were also similarities in the kinds of energy projects discussed, many of which dealt with improved cook stoves, briquette-making, wood lot management, solar electric panels, and solar cookers or food dryers. Participants expressed frustration that past donor-driven pilot projects did not involve consultation with the expected users, and ended when the donor funding was finished, without sufficient follow-up or analysis.

Some of the major concerns raised in the country reports were the following:

- Lack of energy services creates particular hardships for women.
- Energy planning processes, policies, and projects generally have not been gender sensitive.
- Participatory approaches are needed in energy project planning.
- Education and training of women is needed to increase their role in energy plans and projects.
- More public information is needed about possible energy options.
- Financing arrangements are essential for project continuity.

Gender Agenda

The Program has prepared an introductory briefing paper entitled "Gender and Energy: How is Gender Relevant to Sustainable Energy Planning?"

This paper has been distributed to UNDP country offices, energy planners, and to gender specialists, as well as at the UN General Assembly meeting in June, 2000 to review progress 5 years after the international forum on women held in Beijing.



It has been included in a new publication: "Sustainable Energy Strategies: Materials for Decision-Makers".

The Project is currently putting together case studies as an input to the 9th meeting of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in April, 2001.

Technical Assistance for Pilot Activities

The Project is involved in promoting certain pilot activities identified through national and regional consultations. E.g.;

- Expansion of an ongoing multifunctional platform project in Mali. The project engages village women in acquiring motorised equipment that can be used for a variety of productive purposes, including producing electricity, pumping water, and grinding grain.
- Monitoring and evaluation of a UNDP/GEF project in Uganda designed to establish financial and institutional mechanisms for supplying solar photovoltaic electrical services to households, businesses, and communities on a commercial basis. The managers are currently working with a women's bank, Uganda Women's Finance Trust Limited, to establish a pilot credit mechanism to allow women to purchase PV systems.

In addition, discussions are in progress with other UNDP country offices in Africa concerning technical assistance in designing new proposals.

More information:

Energy and Women Project, UNDP,
Michael Pedersen, Gail Karlsson,
<http://www.undp.org/>

UNDP Mali project: Laurent Coche,
W: <http://www.ptfm.net>

UNDP/GEF project in Uganda:
Alexandra Karekaho

Gender-Sensitive Framework for Rural Electrification Projects



by Johanna
Gregory Partin,
Winrock Interna-
tional

There is a growing emphasis on *demand-based*, rather than *supply-driven*, infrastructure services for less developed countries.

Simultaneously, there is increasing evidence that end-user needs and impacts, with their implications for issues involving poverty and gender, must be analyzed and addressed when designing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating investment projects.

It is also recognized that increasing program responsiveness to the specific needs of all customers (men, women; rich, poor) is good business; the more the services respond to specific needs, the more successful the projects are likely to be. However, most often the rural poor, and women in particular are underrepresented in the context of conventional rural energy projects, and there is still much uncertainty about how to apply gender-sensitive approaches at the operational level in the energy sector.

This transition in strategies and operational practices toward greater gender-aware energy projects has created a need to develop planning and management tools that assess end-user *needs* and monitor and evaluate social development-related *impacts* of investments in the energy sector.

An initiative sponsored by the World Bank Asia Alternative Energy Program / Energy, Poverty & Gender Project and the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program to develop a *demand-focused* framework for designing, monitoring and evaluating rural electrification projects with specific focus on gender and poverty in an attempt to respond to this challenge.



Participatory energy system mapping in Columbia.

The framework builds on two different types of techniques:

- Participatory assessments at the community, institutional, and policy levels; and a
- Socioeconomic impact survey at the household level.

The typical rural electrification project cycle has four stages: preparation, design, implementation, and post-project impact assessment. The approach advocated by the Framework, however, begins the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) process at the preparation stage of the project, so that the input of the potential beneficiaries is taken into consideration in the initial phases of the project cycle. Beneficiaries' input is then addressed during project implementation and incorporated into the M&E strategy (Table)).

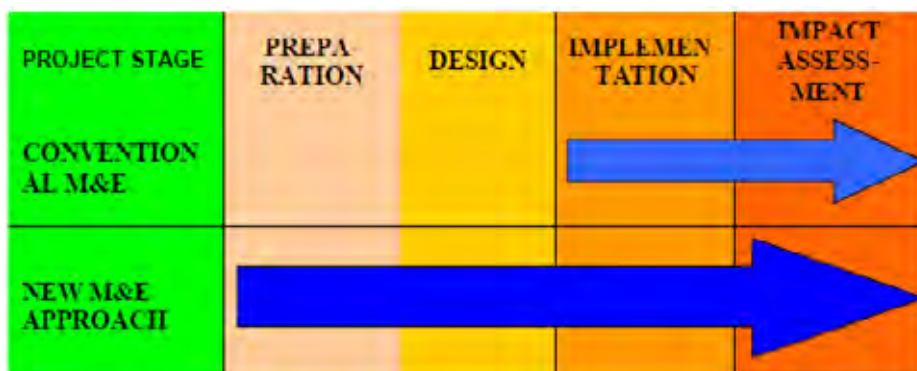
Understanding the implications of rural electrification initiatives on social development, especially poverty and gender, is critical to the success of rural electrification projects. The use of both qualitative and quantitative tools can help provide a complete picture of different groups' needs and priorities and of how they are

Key Variables of the Demand-based framework:

- Effectively sustained
- Equitable access and use
- Degree of change in cross-sectoral social development indicators
- Division of burdens and benefits
- Participation in service establishment and operation
- Institutional support for gender & poverty sensitive demand responsive participation
- Policy support for gender and poverty sensitive demand responsive participation

impacted by the project. Monitoring and evaluation should not be used as a post-project data-collection exercise, but rather as a means of generating the information necessary for making project improvements throughout the life of the project. The demand-focused framework projects is an initial step toward incorporating the socioeconomic development impacts of rural energy services as an important component of the project development process.

The methodology's tools were tested as part of the preparation for the renewable energy component of a World Bank-supported rural electrification project in Cambodia. The methodology has been applied in a USAID program providing improved energy services for community development in Georgia.



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*By Nurzat Abdyrasulova,
Unison, INFORSE
member, Kyrgyzstan*

Women's Grass-Root Participation

Unison, a small Kyrgyz environmental NGO (INFORSE member), with support from WECF (See on p. 9) will help empower local rural women to develop their village, Kommuna, in southwestern Kyrgyzstan from April through December of this year. The project is aimed at improving part of the town's infrastructure by installing better sanitation and energy-saving technologies and by training local community members in the use and care of the new equipment.

The area surrounding the village faces the typical problems that plague developing countries. Poverty is rampant, unemployment is high, most of the labor pool has migrated, the area is prone to ethnic conflict and the infrastructure is crumbling. Yet, this isn't just one town in a country suffering; this is a recurring story in most rural areas of predominately rural Kyrgyzstan.

Grass Root Participation

The question is, what makes Kommuna village different? Why does it stand alone, when so many other similar places face identical problems? The answer is grass-roots participation. It is not usually expected that villages will solve their own problems. Unlike many townspeople, the villagers in Kommuna, who are predominately women because the men have left to find jobs elsewhere, recognize their problems. Part of the solution has been recognizing that Kommuna needs outside help and committing to receiving from outsiders the training needed to help local residents improve their village. Major support from the government and from the town's women has been a driving force in the selection of Kommuna by Unison as the implementation site for this project.

Development requires an environment that encourages innovation. For the school system, this means that one must create a context in which pupils can develop themselves through learning and, in turn, develop their community. There will always be a debate on the best way to improve education. There is no question that qualified teachers are needed or that teachers can stimulate students, but student self-motivation is also needed.



Both teachers' and pupils' motivation is sorely tried in class during the winter months when the heating system is so strained that it is often overloaded and doesn't work. The school's sanitation system, which consists of outdoor pit toilets, is in terrible shape. The build-up of human waste contaminates ground water and is a perfect facilitator for the spread of water-borne illnesses to teachers, school children and the entire village. The situation doesn't improve when the pupils and teachers leave at the end of the school day. Lack of heat and power, coupled with poor sanitation, are also found in homes.

Energy Improvements

The project will install equipment to improve the energy and sanitation situation in the village. We will improve the learning environment through energy-saving measures such as thermal insulation of floor and ceiling and insulation of heat pipes. We will also install new doors and windows that are more energy-efficient. These measures will reduce the effect of the outdoor temperature on the indoor temperature. The school will retain heat and ease the strain on the overburdened energy system.

Sanitation Solution

The sanitation problem will be dealt with by installing a urine-diverting toilet. A urine-diverting toilet diverts the urine, which helps prevent human waste from contaminating the ground water and reduces the likelihood that flies will carry diseases from the waste back to humans. The urine is also used to help fertilize certain crops. The urine-diverting toilet reduces illness and disease while providing the community with a renewable natural fertilizer for food production.



Pictures of local community beneficiaries and of the old school that is to be rehabilitated.

Intensive Training

Installing new equipment is only one facet of improving an area. Training must also be incorporated into any project to explain the benefits of the new technology as well as to enable the local community to care for the equipment. Unison has selected local community members to take part in an intensive training course throughout the year. The training will emphasize the importance of energy-saving measures, teaching participants how to take care of energy-saving devices and how the village can reduce its consumption of energy. In turn, the trainers will train more individuals, so that the entire village will learn to understand energy issues via small seminars. A local team of community members will learn firsthand by witnessing the construction of the urine-diverting toilet. The community members will also be taught about hygiene and sanitation issues and how to prevent diseases caused by poor sanitation.

Energy Globe Award to Unison 26 May, 2008

Unison won the Energy Globe Award with its project "Promotion of Energy Service Companies in Kyrgyzstan" in a competition among 853 projects from 109 nations. Award ceremony at the European Parliament.

Gender, Cities and Climate Change



Gotelind Alber,
GenderCC
– Women for
Climate Justice

Recently, at the World Urban Forum in Rio de Janeiro, everybody was talking about cities and climate change. The crucial role that cities play in the combat of climate change as well as the urgent need to enhance their resilience are increasingly acknowledged by researchers and policy-makers.

Huge Differences with Common Characteristics

Although there are huge differences between the challenges facing cities in the global North and South, some common characteristics exist:

The range of inequalities can be very large in urban areas, ranging from virtually zero to very large in terms of citizens' carbon footprints, and from extremely high to relatively low in terms of vulnerability. These differentials are connected to income, age, ethnicity, and so forth. Along with other inequalities, gender leads to a further differentiation. In most cases, women are more at risk due to their social roles, their lower incomes, their lack of leverage on decision-making and, in many societies, constraints in their mobility.

Research findings indicate that there are more fatalities among women than among men during disasters, which are the most severe climate hazard for cities. After disasters, women's household chores and care work are likely to increase, for instance due to additional care for the sick and elderly, decreased availability of drinking water, and food insecurity. Income-generating activities are jeopardised, in particular for the high percentage of women who work in the informal sector.

As for the causes of climate change, there are indications from recent research that women have smaller carbon footprints. Moreover, in terms of mobility, housing, food security and water, health and sanitation, and other services, women and men often have different needs.

The Role of the Cities

Cities must fold the measures of these disparities into programmes of adaptation and mitigation. Otherwise, especially with the intractable male domination of planning and decision-making, gender inequalities will be aggravated by climate change.

Gender and climate change are two cross-cutting issues relevant to most aspects of urban life. Urban structures reflect both the carbon economy and the power relations between women and men.

The fundamental changes needed to overcome these problems require mainstreaming considerations of both climate and gender as well as striving for climate justice.

To address social and gender inequalities properly, it is essential for cities to pursue a multi-dimensional approach towards sustainable development rather than focusing solely on short-term greenhouse-gas emissions reductions. Emphasis should be placed on reworking urban areas to make them resilient, equitable, inclusive and low-carbon. In particular, cities in developing countries should improve infrastructure and services, address poverty as well as affluence, and ensure equitable access to resources and services.

In practical terms, this includes upgrading slums in collaboration with community initiatives, implementing inclusive policies for disaster-risk reduction, improving food security, energetically retrofitting programmes targeting the poor, and effecting transport policies that favour non-motorised transport modes.

Due to their role and knowledge as resource managers of households and communities as well as their proven ability to change behaviour at need, women can benefit the city's climate-change strategies greatly and, thus, should be seen as key players in constructing helpful local climate policy.



9 - 40% larger footprint of male single-person households compared to female in Europe for all age groups and income groups

Source: Rätty, R. and A. Carlsson-Kanyama (2009)

City networks should play a key role in sensitising cities on issues both of climate and of gender. They should provide guidance on gender-sensitive approaches and methodologies. Ensuring equitable participation of women and men in planning and decision-making and collection of sex-disaggregated data are first steps, followed by rapid assessments of gender dimensions of existing plans, projects and policies.

Governments and international agencies should support these efforts. They should offer incentives to stimulate local action that integrates gender considerations fully into climate policy and that ensures gender-balanced participation.



Information:
World Urban Forum 5, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil,
March 22-26, 2010:
W: www.unhabitat.org
Presentation by GenderCC:
W: www.gendercc.net/uploads/media/gender-cities-cc.pdf



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EU POLICY



Gender Equality & EU Climate Policy

In 2003-2005, the EU project *Climate for Change: Gender Equality & Climate Policy*, was designed to raise awareness of decision-makers and exchange ideas of best practice to improve the participation of women in decision-making in fields related to climate protection.

Climate Alliance-Europe served as the coordinator, and the partners included 10 European local authorities from 4 countries, along with the Union of Baltic Cities. The consultant was Ulrike Roehr from LIFE e.V./Women's Environmental Network. The results of the projects are a Toolkit along with other reports.

The Project partners collected practical tools known to increase women's employment in jobs with real authority over matters of climate protection.

The partners' findings indicate that a balanced participation of both genders would produce a more comprehensive approach to climate protection, which would lead to improved measures, greater acceptance, and better results.

The products of the project include:

- **Facts and Arguments:** Project findings, along with extensive background information from all over Europe.
- **The Gender Checklist:** Includes 15 test-yourself questions for department or unit leaders.
- **Tools for Promoting Women in Executive Positions:** Implementation guidelines, instructions and suggestions as well as a variety of examples.
- **Poster and Leaflet:** To post and to distribute for the purpose of promoting awareness of the issue.
- **National Reports:** Finland, Germany, Italy, Sweden.
- **City Surveys:** Berlin, Dresden, Ferrara, Frankfurt, Genova, Lahti, Malmö, München, Napoli, Venezia.
- **Presentations, and documents.**

Contact: Climate Alliance- Europe.

W: www.klimabuendnis.org

W: www.climateforchange.net

The project is one of the transnational projects supported under the Program relating to the Community Framework Strategy on Gender Equality (2001-05), W: http://www.europa.eu/legislation_summaries/other/c10932_en.htm

This article continues our coverage of the theme of "Women & Energy".

We will continue in the next issue.



Are there Gender Equality Support Criteria in EU's Energy & Climate Programs?

As part of the "Climate for Change – gender equality and climate change policy" project, research was done to establish how gender concerns are reflected in the EU's financial support programs on climate protection. Here you can read a shortened overview of the programs that were examined:

Intelligent Energy Europe 2003-06

Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) promotes efficient energy use as well as the use of renewable energies through the removal of market barriers and through awareness-raising.

The "Annual Work Programs" set out the priorities for each individual year and the financial framework for the projects to be supported in that year. However, there is no mention of gender equality or of any criteria that would include it in the decision-making about such support, either in the currently available "Annual Program 2004" or in the "Call for Proposals". Similarly, there is no mention of gender issues in the tender for applications from experts for the selection procedure.

Sustainable Urban Development

The now completed "Framework for Cooperation to Promote Sustainable Urban Development" program of the Environment Directorate-General was a development program for all European city networks working in the area of sustainable development. In addition to supporting individual projects by the networks, it coordinated cooperation between them.

A perusal of the call for proposals guidelines and forms did not bring to light one single instance of criteria for the consideration of equality-related aspects.

LIFE

The LIFE program is one of the most important instruments for the implementation of EU environmental policy, as laid down in particular in the 6th Environment Action Program.

On the introduction to the "Application Guide 2005" for LIFE-Environment, the following statement appears: "The LIFE program promotes equal opportunities and therefore encourages applications from organizations who themselves implement such principles and from organizations that represent women's issues."

While there is no mention of the consideration of equality-related aspects in the "Guidelines 2005-2006 for 'LIFE-Environment' preparatory projects", the

"Guidelines for LIFE-Environment demonstration projects" states: "The LIFE program promotes equal opportunities and therefore encourages applications from organizations who themselves implement such principles."

In the application forms, however, there is no mention of it, apart from a specific question relating to the consideration of equality in the project.

Research Framework Programs (RFP)

In the ongoing 6th RFP, one of the seven priority subject areas is "sustainable development, global change and ecosystems". The research programs on energy, transport and climate protection also fall within this area.

The gender aspects of research are supposed to be taken into account in all areas and so-called 'thematic priorities'. This happens at the application, evaluation and reporting levels.

Despite this progress, consideration of the gender perspective in the RFP could still be improved, as it does not play a crucial role in the evaluation process. Nonetheless, of all the EU funding programs, this one has the most far-reaching plan for integrating the gender perspective.

Summary and recommendations:

As mentioned above, the Research Framework Program has the most extensive experience of integrating the gender perspective. All funding programs should be reviewed to establish how the gender perspective is currently being integrated or is to be integrated in future. This procedure will make the applicants aware of issues of gender equality and make sure that the procedure is implemented consistently.

For the purposes of an integrated impact assessment, as proposed by the European Commission, all projects funded by the EU should contribute to improving gender equality. It is a question of paying attention not just to the quantitative level of the participation of women, but also to the impacts that projects could have on the social situation of men and women in different areas of their lives (paid employment, leisure, care work).



Post-Soviet Changes - Shocking Report

A new report shocks the readers - The structural adjustments in economy have resulted in economic crisis, which changed women's status:

- Although women are generally better educated than men, women find it harder to get jobs. Women occupy lower positions than men do, and they have limited choices of profession.
- A woman's salary is about 55%-70% of a man's salary. The wage gap increased by 50% over the last 10 years.
- Women are still overloaded with the "double burden" of professional duties and housekeeping.

- Women spend more time to search for cheap products and cannot not allow themselves to use washing and other social services because of high prices.

- The poverty rate among females doubled.
- The birth rate is decreasing. Women have no confidence in the future, and this influences their desires to give birth.

- The paradox is that women still live longer in this region. They could not allow themselves to die?

Source: "Women in Transition Economies", prepared for the Regional Hearing on Beijing + 5.

More info: MAMA-86

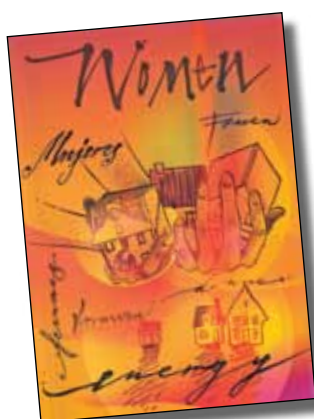


One of the typical picture of a decision making group with only a few women.

Photo: Leaders of the EU-25 European Council, "Enlargement day" Dublin 2004.

Only 21 % of all employees in the German energy and water sectors are women.

Of middle- and top managers, only 2.8 % are women. Even within the construction sector, which typically is dominated by men, women hold 14% of management positions, close to the average rate of 15.4 %. (From the Women's Energy Club Book)



Brussels Women's Energy Club

This book contains a series of articles written by 28 women who are energy experts based in

Brussels, networking informally to exchange information and experiences in the Women's Energy Club since 1999.

The network includes women from many roles relevant to the energy business, representing many different views. The book is dedicated to all women, who comprise more than half the world's population.

It offers women's essays on combatting climate change and on achieving energy security, as well as historical views and insights into the world of lobbyists in Brussels.

The authors are struggling to cope with the fact that women are an exotic species in the male-dominated energy sector: Why is it so? What does it imply? Would the world have been different if it were rather ruled by women?

- Margot Walström urges that ensuring gender equality be placed at the forefront of energy policy initiatives, which is a must to reach democracy. Democracy means including stakeholders, and excluding women from decision-making means excluding half of all stakeholders. She makes it clear that women's increased participation in decision-making is a key to the fight against climate change and to struggles for peace, as women are more concerned about environment, social policy, and peace-building than men are.

- Sabina Froning calls for a European energy revolution involving more than just technical innovation. After brief historical views of energy crises, she points out that all crises are, at the same time, opportunities. She admits that targets and research in new technologies are important to success, but she believes that we all need to change our habits even though it is not always comfortable, and to accept that sustainable living has a price.

- Teresa Luis-Ruis's children tell her that energy is a treasure to preserve, as it has great importance in our daily life. She concludes that, to avoid global warming,

"We have to act!", to produce and use power more efficiently and to exploit wind, solar and energy crops. It is not an easy task, but what is life without challenges?

Unfortunately, women's critical views against nuclear energy are not included in the essay collection, even though many women have been active politically against nuclear power, realising its danger to health and environment after the Chernobyl catastrophe. We can read about women who were active in nuclear-energy research, but the historical view of women finding out the dangerous sides of nuclear energy and radiation are not part of the book. There are no authors from the renewable-energy industry either. It is a pity, because including these two angles would have made the book more worth reading.

2008, 175 pp. 24 EUR.

Published by Energiewirtschaft und Technik Verlagsgesellschaft mbH (ETV), Germany. ISBN: 978-3-925349-56-0

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50-50 Campaign for Democracy

Launched by the European Women's Lobby

The European Women's Lobby (EWL) – an umbrella organisation of over 2,000 women's organisations in 30 countries across Europe – launched their "50/50 Campaign for Democracy" on 16th September 2008.

The aim of the Campaign is to achieve gender balance in the EU Parliament and Commission.

The Campaign was very active in relation to the European elections of June 2009 and was successful in the sense that the number of women increased from 31% in the outgoing Parliament to 35% in the new Parliament.

The campaign now continues in relation to the nomination of the European Commission and "EU top jobs".

A representative democracy without gender equality is a contradiction in terms!

Women make up just over half of the voters in Europe. Logic dictates that they should account for half of the elected politicians and half of the top-level policy-makers, but this is not the case at present. Some exceptional governments, such as that of Spain, have achieved gender balance, but most European governments are largely made up of men. The same is true at EU level: less than one in three Members of the European Parliament is female; and only 10 out of 27 Commissioners are women.

It is high time we take action and urge European and national political parties, European governments and high-level European decision-makers to apply principles of gender balance, for there can be no modern democracy without gender equality.

EWL was established in 1990. An organisation can be voting or associate member; individuals can be supporting members.

19,000 Signatures

The Campaign is personally endorsed by Margot Wallström (EU Commissioner), together with over 150 well known personalities across Europe. 19,000 people had signed the petition by the time of this writing in July, 2009.

To support the Campaign, a 30-page Gender Audit Report, Summary, Press Release, and Fact Sheets were published, May, 2009, in English and in French.

The Campaign held a Conference on June 29, 2009.

Do you agree that women and men should be equally represented in all EU institutions?

*Support the 50/50 Campaign!
Sign the Supporting letter on-line at
www.5050democracy.eu
www.womenlobby.org*



Join the EWL 50♀/50♂ Campaign

Swedish EU Presidency - Full Speed on Gender Equality

When Sweden takes over the EU Presidency in July, 2009, it intends to highlight gender and equality issues in Europe.

Learning from the Norwegians: Quotas actually helped!

Presently the percentage of women among top leaders in the 27 EU countries is *very low; only 11% are women*. Norway is an exception, where 41% of the persons in private companies' boards are women. This development was sparked by the implementation of new legislation a few years back that requires at least 40% representation of women in company boards. "We can learn from the Norwegian example", says Margot Wallström, who is the vice-chairman in the EU Commission. She is Swedish and ensures that Sweden will put full speed to gender and equality issues when it takes over the EU Presidency in July, 2009: "I am a strong supporter of a quota system in favour of greater women representation. This is very important! We strongly need more women in top positions in order to get a positive change in development."

Women are underrepresented in top leadership positions despite the fact that 60% of all graduates of universities and of other higher education in Europe are women.

Quota or Not Quota

"I think quota is a useful tool to improve equality. We are now in a situation where there are enough of qualified women to take over top positions in the boards," says Margot Wallström, who also acknowledges that the EU does not have the mandate to impose quota legislation onto its member countries, but has to work through various methods of pressure on each country. One example is that the Danish Ministry for Gender Equality launched a Voluntary Charter for More Women in Leadership to be signed by at least 100 bigger companies. Other examples are mentor, and motivation programs.

One important factor is to promote equality in the homes. Women do not look for the top leading positions if they also have to shoulder primary responsibility for running the homes. The EU-equality report from March, 2009 spells out what we already know: Women are by far the

main caretakers responsible for the homes. On average, women spend 25.5 hours per week working in the home whereas men only lay down 7.8 hours. Margot Wallström continues: "If women shall have equal chances as men to get top leader positions they need to have the practical possibilities to do so!" As long as they work three times more than men in the homes this will never happen. The EU needs to work intensively to change this scenario.

Gender Equity Benefits the Environment and Thereby Everyone

Women tend to be more concerned about the environment and about social inequalities. They are often particularly gifted peacemakers. Evidence shows that when women form a "critical mass", legislative priorities reflects the women's interests in social policy. Therefore, in the long run, the participation of more women should have an impact on issues of environment as well. There can be no sustainable development without equitable development; and there can be no equitable development without gender equity.

Source: Politiken.dk 19.06.2009 and blog and publications by M. Wallström.

Road to Copenhagen - Wiki



The "Road to Copenhagen" is a unique initiative enabling YOU to contribute to the UN negotiating process that we very much hope will result in a new international climate-change agreement for the post-2012 period, to be agreed in Copenhagen in 2009. This initiative is chaired jointly by Margot Wallström, current Vice President of the European Commission, and former Environment Commissioner; by Gro Harlem Brundtland, former Prime Minister of Norway, current UN Special Envoy on Climate Change and member of

the Club of Madrid's Global Leadership for Climate Action (GLCA); and by Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, Vice President of the Club of Madrid and member of the GLCA.

On the website you can listen to the avatars to hear why these three eminent women are chairing this unique initiative.

A Communiqué will be developed from the input to the forums, via the Wiki, and during the final Road to Copenhagen III Conference in 8-9 December 2009.

www.roadtocopenhagen.org

79% Women Against Nuclear in Estonia

July 2009 - A poll made in Estonia shows that 76 % of women and 39 % of men are against a nuclear power plant. In average 60 % of Estonian residents are against establishing a nuclear power plant in Estonia.

In opposition to the majority of the population, the state owned Estenergo wants to build a nuclear power plant, either in Estonia or together with other power companies in Lithuania.

More on Sustainable Energy Scenarios in Estonia, Lithuania, and Latvia:

<http://www.inforse.org/europe/vision2050>

40% Women in Boards in EU by 2020?



◀ The Governing Council of the European Central Bank.
Note: There is not a single woman in the Board in 2012.

Across the EU, company boards are currently dominated by one gender: Only 13.5 % of board members are women and only 2.5% of the chairpersons are women. Despite an intense public debate, statements of good intentions, and many promises, the situation has not changed significantly in recent years.

Progress is only visible in countries where quota laws were introduced. For example, after adopting a quota in January 2011 aiming for 40% by 2017, France has seen the number of women on boards increase from 12 to 22 % in the space of a year. Another example is Norway, which

has successfully enforced a 40 % quota since 2009.

Women and men should have the same opportunities to take leadership positions. This principle was clearly set out in the European Commission's 2010 Strategy for Equality between women and men. In the Commission's Work Programme for 2012, a legal instrument was announced to improve gender balance on company boards by the end of 2012.

New EU legislation is on the way insisting on 40%-female quotas for company boards across Europe with stiff penalties for non-compliance by 2020.

The proposal is heavily debated.

To understand the debate, read a new background report published by the EC-Directorate-General for Justice: "Women in Economic Decision-Making in the EU: Progress report. 2020 Initiative", 28 pages.

Read the report at ec.europa.eu/justice/gender-equality/files/women-on-boards_en.pdf.

Read more: Publications by the new institute established in 2009: "European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)" in Vilnius, Lithuania.

MICRO CREDIT



Micro Credit Introduces Renewable Energy

By Nancy Wimmer

Today Grameen lends ca. \$ 30 million a month to over 2 million borrowers, 95% of them women. The Bank employs 12,000 bank workers, who serve the poor in half the villages in rural Bangladesh. The Grameen model is so successful that it is being replicated in 58 countries worldwide.

Create Your Own Environment - NO Need for Charity

The **Grameen Bank** was created in Bangladesh to serve the rural 85% of the 125 million inhabitants, whose inability to provide collateral barred them from obtaining commercial bank loans. Money-lenders were taking advantage of this situation to charge many of the landless poor interest at the rate of 10% a day or more than 3,000% a year. In spite of their potential to become self-employed, these borrowers were helplessly trapped in debt and poverty. Muhammad Yunus, the professor of economics who later founded Grameen, first gave loans of only a few dollars from his own pocket, and was amazed at the result. It took one enterprising woman only a few months to establish her own business making bamboo chairs, to increase her income seven-fold, and to repay the loan. Yunus concluded that the poor are credit-worthy! They possess both ideas and skill. They do not need charity. Thus, the idea of a bank for the poor in rural Bangladesh was born.



The solar cooker offers a splendid way to cook on the top of a house - even during the terrible flood in 1998 in Bangladesh. This cooker was evaluated to be the best in a European comparative study of cookers. (32 minutes to boil water in a 12 liter pot). There is no need for charity - microcredit for renewables generates income. Photo by EG Solar, Germany.

Microcredit for the Poorest: The Grameen Bank

The **Grameen Bank** is the outcome of an experimental program launched by a university in 1976 for rural landless people who were desperately in need of credit and to whom the banking system remained inaccessible. Grameen, working at the village level with rural populations, revolutionized poverty alleviation efforts by offering very small loans to poor entrepreneurs, most of whom are women. These loans, initially on the order of \$50 to \$100 US, allowed the entrepreneurs to acquire capital for crafts, food production, and animal husbandry. Members join the Grameen Bank in groups of five, agreeing that if any member defaults on a loan, the others will not be able to receive loans. This peer support network has led to 98% loan recovery rates, far higher than those of most commercial banks. Grameen Bank found that *women*, in particular, tend to use their profits to improve the quality of life of the family, which also improves women's status in the society. Thus, loans to women have been especially productive

Innovation and Success

Innovation transforms an obstacle into an opportunity. Imagine a program to overcome poverty: a bank that gives loans to the poor for self-employment. Imagine a *bank for the poor* that has achieved a 98% repayment rate, and that has now introduced innovative companies to increase its clients' income: *Grameen Uddog* (rural initiative) to market the textiles they weave; *Grameen Telecom* to provide them with cell telephones; *Grameen Shakti* (rural energy) to introduce solar, biogas, and wind energy. This is innovation at work in one of the poorest countries in the world, Bangladesh.



Top: Woman with cell telephone. An example of Grameen Telecom and Grameen Shakti.

The beginning of a microcredit program for poor women in Nepal, NIRDHAN, a replication of the Grameen Bank model. The woman from the bank is disciplining them. Since 1995, the program grew from 500 to 3000 members - all women - in 3 years and is now in the process of becoming chartered Bank.

Photos by Nancy Wimmer.

Solar PV demonstration by Grameen Shakti



Financing Energy Services

Grameen Shakti was also created to serve the poor, this time by bringing them electricity and modern technology. Despite the great demand, only 15% of the total population have access to electricity, with little chance that the grid will reach the rural areas in the near future. Bangladesh is behind in the development of renewable energy sources, offering little institutional or financial support.

Grameen Shakti is a rural power company that was established in 1996 in affiliation with the Grameen Bank to promote and supply renewable energy resources to the rural households of Bangladesh.

In the process of bringing renewable-energy technologies to rural Bangladesh, Grameen Shakti has developed new ways of financing them. New employment, income generation opportunities, and acceptance of new technology have arisen in the process.

To date, the best local approach has been the **Solar Home System (SHS)**, which has the following components: solar panel, battery, charge controller, DC Lamp, and other DC applications. Grameen Shakti further develops local expertise in selling, maintaining, and repairing renewable energy systems. Shakti-trained and -certified technicians can then provide on-site training and maintenance.

Grameen Shakti customers take loans to buy renewable-energy systems costing between US\$ 300 and US\$ 500. These customers then use their energy resources both to increase their income and to improve their standard of living. Because most of Grameen's borrowers are women, many of the microenterprises are keyed to work that women can do at home, e.g., basket-making, weaving fishing nets, sewing. Loan can be given to a husband of a Grameen Bank member also.

Like it was done to Mr. Manik helping him to operate his repair shop for electrical appliances. With the help of a solar system, he is using a DC soldering iron and solar light in his shop, which enables him to work at night.

Grameen Shakti had installed 412 SHSs as of August, 1998 with a capacity of 16.740 KWp. It has a plan to install 6000 systems within the next 3 years. This will require opening 8 more branch offices, making a total of 20 Grameen Shakti offices in rural Bangladesh. There are also plans to open some special branches through which Grameen Shakti can do research on marketing policy. This network would allow Shakti to move quickly to disseminate and commercialize any improvement in the technology.

Microcredit - a Catalyst for Change

The environment in which the Grameen Bank was created supported no access to credit for the poor in rural Bangladesh. Until Grameen Shakti was created, that same environment also failed to support rural access to electricity and to renewable energy. With the introduction of the Bank and Shakti, the environment and the lives of the rural poor started to improve.

What we have learned from both enterprises is that you have to create a new environment for new ideas and innovation to flourish. We have to create a *new* environment to remove the obstacles that keep poverty in place. Through the experience of Grameen, we see the poor in a new light: they are good business partners, open to modern technology. They can and must be integrated into the economy. Microcredit creates not only purchasing power, but acceptance of new ideas and technologies. Microcredit is a catalyst for change. Our challenge is to create an environment that allows change to take place; to create an environment that finances sustainable development. Sustainable development is everybody's business.

Nancy Wimmer studied Political Science and Law in the United States and received her Masters of Arts in Philosophy in Germany. She worked as a Systems Analyst



in the field of conceptual modeling for German industry and did university teaching before visiting the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh in 1990. She became National Director of Resultate Germany to mobilize support for microcredit and savings programs, later designed the project European MicroCredit Support and studied microcredit programs in Nepal, Peru, El Salvador, Honduras, India and Bangladesh. She has expanded her role to promote the introduction of renewable energies through microcredit and to advise business and industry of their role in integrating the poor into the economy. She is also Project Leader for Microcredit for Terra, One World Network, and designing innovative ways for private enterprise to support the poor to start their own businesses- particularly in India with Grameen Bank Uttar Pradesh.

In summary:

Solar Home System (SHS)

Cost: \$US 300-500

Benefits:

- Increased income; longer working and selling hours.
- Use of solar energy for electric motors, refrigerators, lamps, telephones.
- Improved standard of living and communication in rural Bangladesh.

Business areas:

- Repair of appliances.
- Rental of lamps.
- Provision of cell phones.
- Many other crafts, e.g., basket-weaving, sewing, fishing-net weaving.

Women weaving and children study under the solar powered lamp .

Photos by Nancy Wimmer and Grameen Shakti.



Micro Credit to 100 Million Poor Women, India

By Lalita Balakrisnan, AIWC, INFORSE National Focal Point, India

The AIWC began playing a leading role in support of the International Summit on Micro Credit in February 1-5, 2001 in New Delhi.



Improved Chula (woodstove) Training, September 2000: Less smoke, reduction in cooking time, saves fuel. Photo by AIWC.

The objective is to open avenues of access to economic resources through micro-credit for at least 100 million poor women in the Asia Pacific Region.

I think that there is a lot more to be done in this field. I find that poor women, who cannot buy commercial energy like electricity, are coming forward in larger numbers to benefit from these schemes. Among the Conference objectives are that we should

- help women to understand the concept of safe, viable renewable energy, including its linkages with family health and living standards.
- train women in the use of improved technologies and of credit management for energy projects
- devise training for women's groups for planning and implementing projects as well as for collective action

Our ultimate aim is:

- to save as many women as possible from smoke-related diseases through the use of improved stoves and biogas burners.
- to reduce drudgery, improve the quality of women's lives, and to free time for other activities such as income generation.

It has been my experience that rural energy

initiatives have empowered women at the village level. Often, as a result, the role of women in decision-making at village levels as well as at local governance levels has improved.

More information: AIWC, and www.microcreditsummit.org/newdelhi/.

*Trainees in the computer center
AIWC headquarters.*



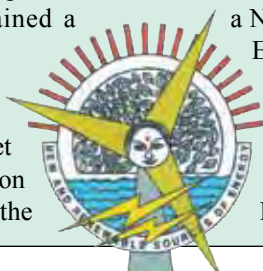
By Lalita Balakrisnan
Hon. Secretary General of All India Women's Conference (AIWC) and chairperson, Rural Energy Department, AIWC.
Lalita was born in 1932 in South India. She is educated in the social sciences. She earned a postgraduate diploma in journalism in India and obtained a Diploma in Company Law in the UK.

AIWC is one of the oldest pioneer volunteer organisations, established in 1927 by an Irish lady, Margaret Cousin. The AIWC are working for the emancipation of women. After India gained its independence, the

organisation grew rapidly. Today, it has over 100,000 members in 500 branches. The AIWC is a core member of INFORSE and an Indian focal point. On behalf of INFORSE, AIWC organised a sustainable energy exhibition at the World Women Conference in Beijing.

AIWC is also active in the World Renewable Energy Network and in the ENERGIA network. AIWC was identified in 1984 as a Nodal Agency by the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources, as a key actor involving national and grassroot NGOs in the implementation of the improved cook-stoves and biogas programs.

AIWC has obtained consultative status with the UN and with the Government of India.
More information: www.aiwc.org.in



Grameen Shakti Micro Credit in Bangladesh

Women's way from darkness to light, from carrying wood to mobile phone and internet

By Rubina Hossain, Grameen Shakti, Bangladesh

Let there be light.....for everybody in Bangladesh, a country of no electricity for 80% of the population, was the main motto of Grameen Shakti, which emerged out from the Grameen Bank family in Bangladesh. We found that the appropriate technology to meet the increased need for energy is renewable energy.

Meeting the Needs

We opened 25 branches in rural areas and provided micro credit to more than 3,000 PV solar home systems between 1996 and 2000. In the last 2 years, the rate of sales was more than 1200 systems / year. This is a huge success in a country with a per-capita income of less than US\$ 240, considering that the cost of a system is more than US\$ 300.

We opened up 2 types of financing model to buy a PV system:

1st type:

- 15% down payment.
- 85% payment/month in 3 years
- Service charge: 12% per year.

2nd type:

- 25% down payment.
- 75% payment/month in 2 years.
- Service charge: 8% per year.

Customers reported increases in income due to extension of working hours after dusk. They started new businesses, like a radio/TV repairing shop, telephone service, power selling service, etc. Grameen Shakti has a desire to develop an area as a micro-enterprise zone. The targeted options of these micro-enterprises are: electric sewing machines; ice-making, rice-husking, and other post-harvest machinery.

Why Women?

Why does Grameen Shakti place the emphasis on women?

Grameen Shakti emerged out from Grameen Bank family and it has been working in the field of renewable energy since 1996.

The Bank's earlier experiences giving micro credit to women shows that:

- Village women have already shown their potential in growing businesses and small entrepreneurship, then have proved their sincerity by repaying loans in due time.
- The Grameen Bank has 2.3 million borrowers from 38,951 villages. It contributes up to 1-1.5% of the GDP of Bangladesh. It is a Bank of women. Presently, 94% of its member customers are women.
- Women often play a very significant role in popularizing renewable energy. They are also good publicizing ambassadors. Starting from the family level, a woman can be a good motivator to introduce renewable energy into the household. Due to a demonstration effect, the neighbors will be inspired to do the same in their own houses. In this way, the use of renewable energy may expand.
- Village women's quality of life can increase radically with the blessings of solar energy. Solar energy will remove the darkness of their household as well as that of their fate
- The solar light eliminates the health hazard arising from kerosene lamps and providing a better light.
- Solar home systems allows housewives to be involved in new income-generating activities like basket making, net weaving, tailoring, etc. Hence, the sufficient light obtained from solar systems not only brings them economic solvency but also ensures the equal participation of both men and women in development processes.



"Hallo! I am calling from a village in Bangladesh." Ms. Abeda, a member of Grameen Bank, bought a solar home system for lighting her home and charging a mobile phone. The phone is also available to other villagers, who pay a fee to Ms. Abeda. This brings her a significant income of about US\$ 100 per month.

- The bright light improves the quality of their work after dusk in their households and in post-harvest or money-making activities. It helps to ensure the women's security.
- Beyond meeting their everyday needs, it presents other new opportunities as well. They can also enjoy television along with their families, and children can study in the evenings. Moreover, in the future, a PV system along with wireless mobile phone connection and computers with Internet access will bring them some of the advantages of modern technology. Thus, real empowerment will enhance their lives. Hopefully, this will halt the tragic practice of migration to unknown destinations, which commonly are city slums.

More: Grameen Shakti, Bangladesh.

The author, Ms. Rubina Hussain, has been working in Grameen Shakti as an Assistant Manager since its inception in 1996.

She received a Master of Social Science degree in Economics from Dhaka University.



Grameen Shakti Success Continued - 2005

Grameen Shakti's Continued Success in Solar Systems

With the help of an innovative financing policy, Grameen Shakti (GS) is installing 1300 solar-home systems (SHS) per month in Bangladesh. The number of installations was over 35,500 SHS with a capacity of 1.75 MWp at the end of 2004. High initial cost of the technology has created the main barrier for promotion of SHS. GS's "soft" financing policy challenged this financial obstacle and proved successful. It allows:

- 15% down payment and 36 monthly installments with 12% service charge.
- 25% down payment and 24 monthly installments with 8% service charge.
- 15% down payment and 36 monthly installments through 36 postdated cheques with 10% service charge.
- 4% discount for cash purchase.
- 10% down payment and 36 monthly installments without any service charge with a condition of using it in market places after dusk.

Grameen Shakti solar-mobile-phone van shops, and solar PV transported by a boat in Bangladesh. Photos by Grameen Shakti.

One key to this success is that GS not only promotes the system but also ensures maintenance service. Every SHS acts as a demonstration system for others. Many people are encouraged to incorporate a system after observing their neighbour's system.

One new use of SHS is for mobile phone charging devices. At present, almost every corner of Bangladesh is covered by mobile phone signals, but many people cannot utilize this technology due to lack of mobile phone charging capabilities. GS has developed mobile phone charge sets. Every month about 500 mobile phone charging sets are sold with the SHS.

The mobile phone set is also used on solar-mobile-phone van shops, in which the entrepreneur moves through the village and offers the phone call service to villagers, at the same time also selling various types of grocery goods.



The number of SHS systems installed by Grameen Shakti since 1997. In 2005, the target is 18,000 systems. Up to February 2,500 systems were installed

\$1.5 Million to Bangladeshi Women - 2009



Grameen Shakti, an INFORSE member in Bangladesh, won Zayed Future Energy Prize

Dipal Chandra Barua, the managing director of the non-profit organisation Grameen Shakti (INFORSE member), was awarded the first Zayed Future Energy Prize in Abu Dhabi in January 2009.

The Prize was given in honour of his innovation and commitment through Grameen Shakti, which enabled more than 200,000 homes of rural poor to purchase solar energy systems through micro-credit schemes.



The Prize includes a cash award of US\$1.5 million, which Dipal plans to use to fund a scholarship programme for women entrepreneurs helping to create 100,000 green jobs in Bangladesh.

Grameen Shakti is part of the Grameen Bank, which developed the micro-credit scheme into an important instrument in the struggle against poverty. Micro-credit has proved to be an important liberating force in societies where women in particular have to struggle against repressive social and economic conditions. In honour of these efforts, Grameen Bank and its founder of Muhammad Yunus received a Nobel Peace Prize in 2006.



As part of INFORSE-South Asia, Grameen Shakti contributed to a manual on the role of renewable energy in reducing poverty. The Manual is available in several South-Asian languages.

More info: www.gshakti.org, www.grameen-info.org, as well as at www.inforse.org/asia.



TECHNOLOGY



Portable CookKit to Save Millions of Lives

Cooking is generally a women's activity and one that most policy-makers too easily ignore



By Pascale Denner,
Solar Cookers
International, USA

The challenges are daunting:

- 2.3 billion people rely on traditional biomass fuels for cooking and heating;
- 1.6 million people, mostly women and children, die each year as a result of smoke from indoor fires;
- the majority of families in developing countries lacks sufficient fuel to pasteurize drinking water to protect children against waterborne diseases.

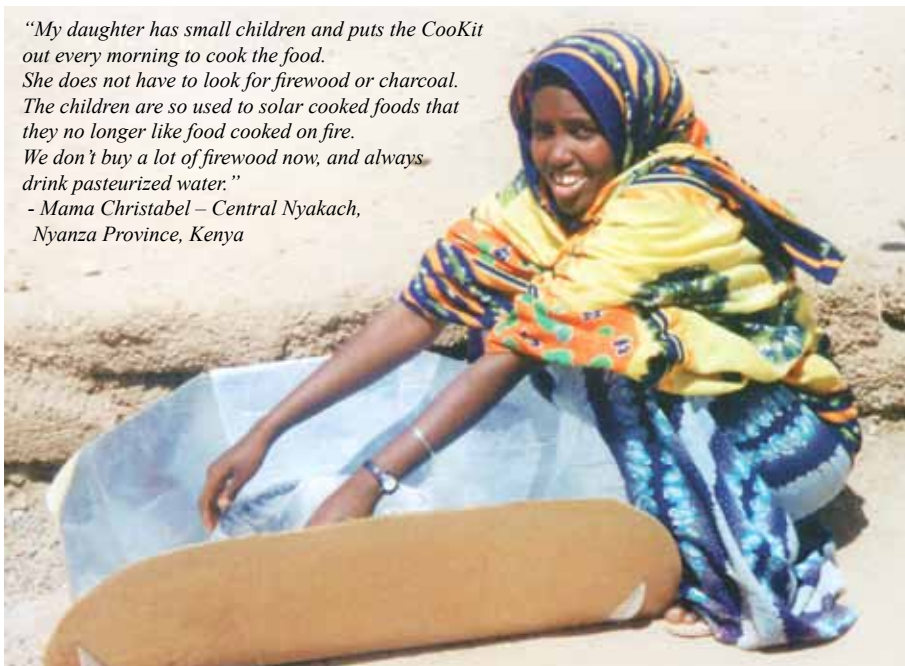
Clean, renewable solar energy can be used not only to generate electricity (for lighting and other applications), but also, directly, to cook meals. Simply put, solar cookers concentrate heat from the sun to cook food and to pasteurize water. Use of solar cookers has been proven to reduce consumption of wood and charcoal by an average of one-third.

CookKit for US\$ 3-7

A simple, portable, panel-style solar cooker, called the "CookKit," was developed by Solar Cookers International and has empowered over 30,000 African families to cook with the sun. The basic design for this cooker has been copied, adapted, and reproduced using a variety of materials - in 25 countries.

Its cost (US \$ 3-7) means many women can purchase one with their own money. For these women, solar cooking allows for longer intervals between trips to collect firewood and for reduced fuelwood expenditure, with savings to meet other household needs, less time spent tending smoky fires, and more time for income-generating activities. Young girls in solar-cooking households have more time for studies when freed from firewood-gathering. Some men now solar-cook, given that they no longer need to tend a smoky fire. Additional benefits of solar cooking include retention of nutrients and flavors during the cooking process and the fact that long-cooking, fuel-intensive foods such as beans and stews can be reintroduced into diets.

"My daughter has small children and puts the CookKit out every morning to cook the food. She does not have to look for firewood or charcoal. The children are so used to solar cooked foods that they no longer like food cooked on fire. We don't buy a lot of firewood now, and always drink pasteurized water."
- Mama Christabel - Central Nyakach, Nyanza Province, Kenya



Cooking is generally a women's activity and one that most policy-makers too easily ignore. Investment in energy innovations such as photovoltaic systems, small-scale hydropower, and next-generation fossil-fuel technologies often has more appeal than investment in technologies that address directly the extreme cooking-energy famine in dry, sunny, environmentally depleted areas. That said, policy-makers, donors, and civil society are coming to a better understanding of the relationships among access to energy services, sustainable development, and economic growth. The next step is adoption of supportive policies that increase local commercial access to all kinds of affordable and renewable energy services.

Expanding access to modern energy services is critical to achieving United Nations Millennium Development Goals and carbon emissions targets. As one of these services, solar cookers cannot be overlooked any longer. Solar cookers use a decentralized, renewable, emission-free energy source, and many are quite portable. In addition to family-level benefits, widespread solar cooker uptake reduces regional dependence on local, wood-based resources and imported fuels.

More than a half-billion people currently experiencing severe cooking fuel scarcities living in climates where solar cookers could be of most benefit.

For them, tapping solar energy for cooking is a prerequisite for a sustainable, healthy, and more prosperous future. *Urgent action is needed today* to integrate solar cooking fully into the menu of available energy services and to improve living standards for women and families worldwide.



More info:
Solar Cookers International,
www.solarcookers.org

See also the next article in Sustainable Energy News issue # 32, 2001

«This is so simple, and it really works!»

“Come teach us”



the project started. How did it happen that women who had never signed up for anything in 20-some years of being in refugee camps registered to take the course?

Edited from an interview with Jay Campbell (left) and Barbara Knudson (right) from Solar Cookers International.



9,500 Families Now Solar Cooking at Kakuma Refugee Camp. An insight into how

When you go through the refugee camp in Kakuma, you can see a large number of the cookers. They really are being used.

Of course in a refugee camp you have a desperate need. They're not doing this for environmental reasons. They're doing this to survive.

Solar cookers are most apt to be adopted when people are desperate, but do we have to wait until the whole world is desperate before we adopt this? We hope not.

How did it get started?

We'd always talked about doing solar cooking in refugee camps, but we always knew that box-style cookers were too expensive.

In 1994, the refugee situation in Rwanda exploded. We read about people dying from cholera, and we said, "Don't we wish we could transport thousands of solar cookers there, so people wouldn't have to die from not having clean water!"

The New Design

At roughly the same time, the new version of the panel solar cooker (the solar foldable cooker "CooKit"; See box) had arrived.

It was tested, and people were saying, *"This is so simple, and it really works!"*

There were 2 camps which were willing to have us. We decided to start with Kakuma mainly because it was a more stable camp with 30,000 people where we could do longer-term follow-up.

One of us spent 2 weeks in the camp before we started, just talking to people, telling them a little about solar cooking and seeing their reaction, looking at their fuel-efficient stove program, getting to know staff people, and getting to know what kind of people were at the camp. This turned out to be a really good idea because we found out exactly what we'd need to bring with us, and it gave us an idea of how to proceed.

Wood vs Food

Each person in the refugee camp is given one "stick" every two weeks. A stick is about 5 cm in diameter and a little less than one meter long.

So a family of 5 would have 5 of these sticks to cook all of their meals for two weeks. This is not very much. They scrounge to find whatever they can find around the camp; but only inside the camp because the local people own the land communally and they have made it clear that no refugee should go onto their land. You can imagine that it is a very neat camp without much left to scrounge.

What this means is that they have to trade their food for wood. Each person is allotted 1,800 calories per day, and they have to trade some of this with the local people who bring donkey carts of wood into the camp.

We've often talked about the fact that solar cooked food is more nutritious, but more to the point, you get more food! It's really a very direct trade-off.

Food to Start with

So we went in January of 1995 and were there for 2 months. We started almost immediately. Here's how it worked: women arrived and we'd have them mix the ingredients themselves and put the food into a few cookers along with water for tea.

Then we'd introduce ourselves and talk about basic solar principles. On the break we'd use the hot water to make tea. We gave our first workshop for staff people and a few refugee leaders.

On the following Monday we did our first workshop with refugees who had been designated by their leaders as appropriate possibilities. When we had gone out to invite this second group we told them that we wanted to teach them to cook with the sun, and they laughed hysterically; they thought it was the funniest thing they had ever heard.

Then we said, "and then we'll feed you. We'll give you some food to try out in your new cooker." This was something else then; they would come to the class.

Why the Oromos Spark!

This first refugee group consisted of Oromo women. Afterwards people said to us, "Why did you take these Oromos? They're the most backward group of the whole lot! Why would you start with them?"

They never go to school; they never send their kids to school. They turned out to be just wonderful! They picked it up just like that. A funny thing happened with these women later. All of sudden, the entire class from this original Oromo group showed up to register for a class in tailoring. And these were women who had never signed up for anything in twenty-some years of being in refugee camps! Some sort of spark had been lit in them.

Next week, we had a meeting with them to see what kind of problems they had, and they brought rolls they'd baked in their cookers as refreshments for this meeting. We hadn't taught them this; they just chose to do it. By the following week, they were trying soups and they were asking us how to make pasta.



Success on our Hands

Then we did 6 more workshops like this with various ethnic groups. We decided that the participants in any workshop had to live near each other. We also didn't use the standard diffusion model where you start with the leader and the others will follow. Before the last workshop was done, it was clear we had a success on our hands. So we identified the two most capable and enthusiastic participants from each group and invited them to become trainers.

We asked twelve and eventually got sixteen because the Sudanese said they needed more. We made contractual arrangements with them for incentive payments. We hired a coordinator and two monitors: People knew about the cooker pretty quickly.

Within a week we had people coming up to us with lists of names saying, "We have this group. Come teach us!" They didn't understand that we couldn't be everywhere first.

Incentives for the Trainers

We set the incentives at the maximum allowed by the camp administration, within the guidelines for similarly-skilled work. In return for a \$4 incentive payment, each trainer identifies a group to train, conducts the training, does home visits, and leads a follow-up group meeting with all the participants. During the home visits she interviews the participant and fills out a form describing the woman's experiences and difficulties. When she turns in the completed paperwork, she turns in the form and receives payment for her work. She may do these trainings as often as once a week. A monitor then makes a follow-up visit to each household involved.

Shiny vs Black Pot

Each participant receives a cooker, a plastic bag, a black pot, and some food to try out the cooker with (so that they don't have to risk their own food).

When we first went there, the decision had been made not to give them a pot along with the cooker. But people had one pot. How could you tie up your one pot for a whole day of cooking. And they were not as willing to paint their pot black.

Now, there is where we put our foot down, and said, "You are not going to ask people to paint their pot black before they have had a demonstration that this works!"

These are women who had killed themselves to keep these pots shiny. It's an endless job trying to keep your pot looking decent. After the demonstration we painted their pots black if they asked us to do so.

Later, we found a company in Nairobi that made spun aluminium pots for US\$3 each and we found a latex paint from a hardware store. Bear in mind that this almost doubled the cost per participant in the workshop. But that cost is only \$10 - \$12 for the whole package.

540 Cookers/ Month

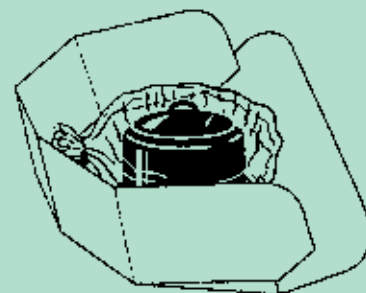
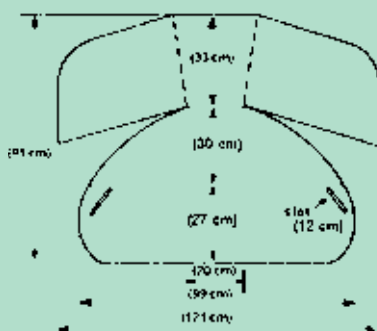
In the last 5 years (1995 - 2000), about 15,500 CookKits were received in Kakuma. Roughly 6,000 have worn out, leaving 9,500 families equipped for solar cooking. During the same period, the camp size grew from 5,000 families to 13,000 families (meaning an increase from 30,000 to 80,000 people). In the starting year, in 1995, about 1,500 households got the CookKits, and 24 trainers were training about 340 families per month. In 1999, 35 refugees served as trainers and monitors, resulting in 540 new solar-cooking families per month.

Surveys show 25%-50% fuel-wood savings for families using solar cookers on sunny days. There are fewer water-borne diseases, the food does not burn, and people have more time to go to other useful activities like courses.

New Developments:

- A group of blind refugees received solar cooking training and cookers, which made their life more bearable.
- A plastic-bag recycling program started. High-quality baskets, mats, and ropes are woven from used, worn-out plastic bags used to insulate cooking pots in the solar CookKit.

"CookKit" We couldn't have done the project without the new design. That's really the bottom line. For the cost of one box cooker we could have 25 panel cookers. We were able to spend all our time on how to use the cooker. We didn't spend any time on construction. You just fold it up and insert the two tabs into the slots and that's it.



Production of the Cookers The cardboard manufacturer takes a large roll of corrugated cardboard, laminates aluminium foil on one side, and sprays a waterproofing lacquer on the other side. This is then die-cut to form the cooker, complete with the folds and slots. Then they are bundled into lots of 25 (which is about as large as one person can handle).

Biogas, Solution for Rural Women, India

Several INFORSE members in India have been involved in promotion of biogas, including training of masons and promotion programmes.

The NGOs sees biogas as a way of improving living conditions for rural women as follows:

- Time is saved in cooking.
- Time is saved in collection of fuel wood, which is basically a task for women in rural areas.
- The kitchen becomes a smoke-free environment, thus less hazardous to women's health.
- Slurry can be used in the kitchen garden, which increases nutritional status of family and possibly its income.
- Lower demand for fuel wood also frees money for other uses, as poor households often must buy wood.
- Women may be masons and generate income from building and installing biogas, which promotes self-reliance.



The INFORSE South Asia members active in the biogas area are including:

- INSEDA and its members,
- Action For Food Production (AFPRO),
- Women's Action for Development's (WAFD),
- Grameen Shakti.



Photo (left-top): Construction of Deenbandhu biogas plant with a dome made of bricks, in India a job for men, but the produced biogas benefits women who are cooking.

Photo (right-top): The preparation of a bamboo reinforced cement dome of a biogas plant includes basket weaving, a typical job for women in India.

The photos are from the Women's Action for Development's (WAFD) project near Bharatpur, Rajasthan in India.

Carbon Credits for Household Biogas Plant

For the past four years, INSEDA (Integrated Sustainable Energy and Ecological Development Association), with the assistance of the Carbon Procurement Unit (CPU) of the German development organisation GTZ International (India), has been involved in the development of a small-scale biogas project to obtain carbon credits.

The project includes around 4,000 household biogas plants in various districts of Kerala and Madhya Pradesh. The project is developed under the Gold Standard VER (Voluntary Emission Reduction).

With the project, biogas from household (family size) bio-digesters is utilized for cooking, etc. This leads to reductions in greenhouse gas (GHS) emissions by displacing conventionally used firewood for cooking, reducing deforestation, and leaving more biomass for other purposes such as replacing fossil fuels. In addition, these household biogas plants (bio-digesters) are also reducing the drudgery faced by rural women in the collection of firewood and in cooking, while reducing indoor pollution. The residues (biogas-digested manure in the form of slurry) are used as enriched organic fertilizer.



The project's verification process started in 2008, but it will only be finished by the end of 2011, a very long time for small projects like family-size biogas plants.

Conclusion and Recommendations:

The present carbon-credit mechanisms are not only too cumbersome, but also time-consuming. They are very heavily loaded in favour of external consultants, as they involve detailed documentations, baseline surveys, validation, verification, monitoring, etc. The transaction cost becomes very high and the main project developer does not know until the end whether the carbon-credit project will be approved



for registry or not. If the project fails, the project developer has to pay heavily, and a small developer can be bankrupted.

In view of the above, it is recommended that the process be completely revamped to cut down the roles of external consultants, reduce transaction costs, and reduce project registration time. There is also a need for providing some kind of development funds in the form of grants to sustain the NGO project holders, members, and partners until the project is registered.

Source: INSEDA/INFORSE-South Asia, India

1000 Women Trained to Solar & Cookstoves, Bangladesh

By Abser Kamal,
Grameen Shakti
(INFORSE member), Bangladesh



Mossamat Sahenoor is a young woman from a rural village in Bangladesh. Like many other young women in thousands of rural villages in Bangladesh, she was born into poverty with few opportunities to earn an income and to become a contributing member of her society.

Grameen Shakti Brings Changes

Grameen Shakti (GS) has changed all that. It has set up twenty Grameen Technology Centers (GTCs) in the rural areas to train local women as Solar and Improved Cook Technicians. These GTCs are making huge contribution to gender balance by transforming rural women, who are the main victims of energy crisis, into agents of social change to bring light, energy and income to their communities.

Massomat Sahenoor was one of the young women who participated in the Women Technician Training Program arranged by Grameen Technology Center, Potuakhali. She learned how to install, repair and maintain solar home systems and improved cook stoves. She was taught all these by women, engineers who run the local GTCs.

Now Sahenoor is a confident and efficient Solar Technician who is helping her neighbors to solve their solar-home-system related problems. She is also promoting improved cook stoves. She has constructed an improved stove in her home and she has also constructed these stoves in several neighbouring houses. She says "Now I can solve my own problems and help others to solve theirs "

Women technicians trained by Grameen Shakti in Bangladesh

Photos by Grameen Shakti (left) and Nancy Wimmer (right)

Renewable Entrepreneurs

More than 1,000 rural women have been trained just like Sahenoor – many of them are fabricating accessories at the local GTCs and others are marketing, installing, and repairing solar home systems and improved cook stoves. Many of them will soon set up their own business to promote renewable energy technologies in their communities. These women are the forerunners of the entrepreneur and community forces that Grameen Shakti is creating to propel its program ahead.

Training, Credits and more

Grameen Technology Centers also train women from consumer families in simple trouble-shooting of solar power systems. In addition, GTCs conduct Renewable Energy Awareness Program sessions for rural school children, over 5000 of whom have participated. These programs are empowering the rural women to take care of

their systems and at the same time building awareness in rural families, including the next generation.

Grameen Shakti has developed sustainable models for taking renewable energy technologies to the rural people, blending innovative applications of micro-credit with grass-roots community participation along with free efficient, effective after-sales service and consumer-friendly options such as buyback.

1,000,000 Solar Homes

Grameen Shakti has installed more than 130,000 solar home systems, with around 5,000 systems installed per month.

Grameen Shakti plans to install one million systems by 2015. Women technicians-cum-entrepreneurs mentored by Grameen Technology Centers will play a crucial role in this effort.

Source: Grameen Shakti, Bangladesh

Micro-hydro in the Himalayas

By Pranai Thapa, Programme Coordinator, LEDeG, India

Ladakh Ecological Development Group (LEDeG) has been working for more than 30 years for the people living in isolated, remote areas in the harsh climatic conditions of Ladakh's cold deserts.

The 57 micro-hydro units installed have significantly improved standards of living by reducing drudgery, mainly for women, but also for children. They can work/study much longer at nights without using kerosene lights, which are harmful to health in closed rooms. LEDeG also promotes decentralized water supply; it has installed 63 hydraulic ram pumps, which have increased substantially the income of the marginalized farmers in the past three decades.

The involvement of people from each community has been proven as the most crucial factor in the successful integration of technologies and initiatives at the grass-roots level. LEDeG believes that systems should be operated and maintained by the users themselves. This not only gives the villagers a sense of ownership but also makes systems (more) self-sustaining. Each village has its own committee, which makes decisions on power distribution and tariff fixation as well as penalties for defaulters in the villages. These committees are backed by a village council for purposes of advice and major conflict resolution in the villages.



Churning butter: traditional way (right) and electrical way powered by hydro-power unit.

Project 2005-09 for 1,500 Families

In an on going project to increase income generation activities, LEDeG works with partners to benefit 1,500 families.

The project aims to equip 20 villages with micro-hydropower with a capacity of 5 to 10 kW, paid 70% from the project and 30% by local communities. The project also aims to equip the villages with electric machines for both income generation as well as basic services.

LEDeG has already installed 9 micro-hydro units in remote villages. In 2007, 14 machines were installed which are powered by the micro-hydro units, including flour mills, butter churners, one

oil-expeller, and one nut cracker in 5 villages with 25% subsidy from the project. This has remarkably reduced drudgery of women as these machines saves lots of time and hard labour in butter churning, and grinding of barley or wheat; tasks where mostly women are involved.

Some women self help groups have also bought electrical wool spinning and carding machines that give them opportunities to earn some extra income. The project provides 30% subsidy for these.

Source: LEDeG, India.

Community Micro Hydro Power in Kenya

The Tungu-Kabiri micro-hydro power project is a good demonstration of the generation of community participation in energy planning through decentralization of the energy supply. It also leads the way in ensuring energy access to poor communities. Moreover it influenced legislation.

The 14-kWe scheme is owned, operated and managed by a community group that has about 150 members. The project started in 1998, and produced first electricity in 2001.

The "run of the river" systems do not require a dam or storage facility to be constructed. Instead they divert water from the stream or river, channel it in to a valley and drop it in to a turbine via a pipeline called a penstock.

The project was funded by two grants totalling \$ 64,000 from the Small Grants Programme of the UNDP/GEF. Implementation was done through ITDG (now Practical Action), the Ministry of Energy and the community. The community contributed labour to the project estimated at 30% of total costs. Practical Action continues monitoring the project and providing technical support.

As a result of this project, the Ministry of Energy has set official standards for the micro hydro power sector, capacity has been strengthened to undertake micro hydro feasibility studies; capacity was built to manufacture and repair system components; and two other similar schemes have been started.



Locally the project benefits, among others, a business centre, where the power is supplied during the day. The power is used for welding, hair salon, charging of mobile phones, selling of cold beverages, a video show room and others.

Source: Practical Action, Kenya

Improved Water Mills Replace Diesel & Electric Mills, Nepal

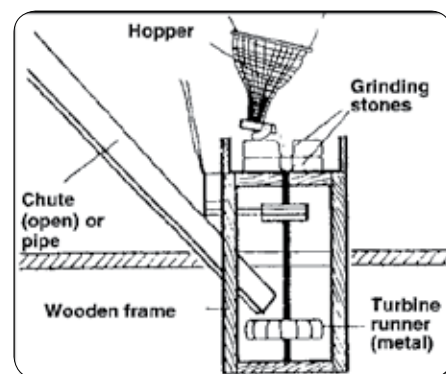
Since January 2011, the Alternative Energy Promotion Centre has been executing the Improved Water Mill (IWM) Program with support under its Energy Sector Assistance Program. CRT/N is the technical service provider.

This Program is a continuation of previous phase implemented since 2003 by CRT/N.

The Program has been able to improve 6554 watermills (ghattas) as of June, 2011.

The Program has provided its services to indigenous, dalits and marginalized people in rural areas. From the improvement of the ghattas, people are getting additional benefits from diversified services such as rice-hulling, oil-exPELLing, sawmilling, and the generation of electricity.

The Program also raised the economic and social status of ghatta owners and customers.



Source: Centre for Rural Technology (CRT-N), Nepal

Mostly women and children are getting direct benefit from reductions of drudgery and savings of time required for agro-processing.

There are also millers, who change a traditional ghatta to a long shaft ghatta that, in addition to the traditional grain mill, had a rice husker and polisher, chiura beater, and saw milling services.

At a specific case such an upgrade had about a total investment of 200,000 Nepalese Rupees (2,000 €).

The miller received a 10% subsidy and a 50% loan.

With this investment, the miller's family income increased from 17,000 NRs to 44,000 NRs per year.

Gender Energy Project Training in Asia



By Rekha Maskey,
CRT Nepal.

Recently, the Centre for Rural Technology Nepal (CRT/N), an INFORSE member, has been selected by ENERGIA as Regional Secretariat for the Asia Region for the period 2007-10.

The ENERGIA National Focal Points are in 9 countries of the region, namely, India, the Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Lao PDR and Nepal.

Gender and Energy Training

The first successful events of the start was an international training course on "Mainstreaming Gender Concerns in Energy Projects" in Chiang Mai, Thailand on October 22-26, 2007.



The training course was organized by ENERGIA in collaboration with UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok and the logistical support was provided by CRT.

The goal was to increase the capabilities of development agents to mainstream gender concerns into energy access projects and policies.

The training course brought together energy-project practitioners and trainers, who came away with new knowledge to apply to their respective project work situations and who will form a core of resource persons at the national level within Asian countries.

The training program was conducted by Joy Clancy from the University of Twente and Christina Aristanti from the Asia Regional Cookstoves Program.

The 32 participants who were trained included both practitioners and trainers. Of the total, there were 22 female and 10 male participants. They came from the Asian region, i.e., from India, Lao, Vietnam, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Indonesia, Nepal, Bhutan and China.

Contact: www.crtnepal.org
rekha@crtnepal.org



Solar Fruit Dryers, India

AIWC started its work with projects for solar dryers to support income generation for poor women in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil-Nadu and Delhi. These projects have shown that solar dryers add value to products, and thereby increase the income of the users. AIWC then identified an efficient model and persuaded the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy in India to give a 50 % subsidy on the cost of this type of solar dryer.

Source: All India Women's Conference (AIWC), India.



Common Solar Charger, India

It costs less to have one common solar charging station for many solar lanterns than to have an individual solar panel for each lantern. Sharing costs makes them more affordable for the poor.

Based on this logic, AIWC has helped to establish solar lantern charging stations for, typically, 50 lanterns each. Central charging also delivers a more careful charging and thereby keeps lanterns functioning better.

Source: All India Women's Conference (AIWC), India.



Solar LED Lamps, Mali

The recent development of lighting technologies, such as energy saving light bulbs, light emitting diodes (LED) with small solar panels of capacity between 1 to 2 watts, has open the way to cleaner and economic lighting solutions especially for rural household.

In Mali a solar lantern distribution model combines training of retailers in products marketing and maintenance with dedicated revolving fund for lending to retailers and final consumers.

Source: Mali Folkecenter.

Innovative Improved Cook Stoves, Sri Lanka

There are several good examples in which an improved stove entered the market as a result of a commercialization program. One such example is the 2-pothole Anagi stove of burned clay.

The commercialization has passed through a number of phases since 1974, with growing results. The process included, training, awareness raising, improved design financial schemes, and maintain the quality as well as the level of the consumer service. As a result, the Anagi stove has become the Sri Lankan standard stove. It is now produced in a fully commercialized stove production. It is distributed via a marketing infrastructure that supports the production of 300,000 stoves annually without government subsidies.

These stoves save 40% of the time and 30% of the firewood required for use of traditional stoves. They also prevent about 1 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions annually.

The consumers like the fact that the Anagi was saving time and fuel. Due to the efficiency of the stove and the 2-pothole design, they can cook two types of food simultaneously and quickly.

The design of the stoves has incorporated concerns about social acceptability to maximize the adoption of the stoves amongst all sections of society. E.g., the stove can use many different types of biomass fuel, including coconut husks.

The NGO IDEA has been an important partner in the successful development of the Anagi stove.

These stoves aren't accepted for CDM (Clean Development Mechanism) projects because the biomass used in the stoves is labelled as a sustainable source, even though the use of the stoves have reduced the demand for wood.

Source: Integrated Development Association (IDEA), Sri Lanka.





▲▲ New efficient fish smoking oven.
▲ Fresh fish before smoking.



◀ Women using the old oven to smoke fish.

Energy Efficient Fish Ovens

While traditional fishing in Africa requires very little external energy, smoking the fish, a traditional method to preserve fish in Africa, often uses a lot of wood. The current tradition in Senegal is to use ovens of cement bricks, but often the ovens are wrongly sized, leading to high wood consumption, problems with product quality, and risk of burns for the operators, who are mainly women.

Improved stoves are now being introduced. They are made of reinforced concrete and are sized more optimally. They use substantially less wood, increase the quality of the smoked fish, and improve working conditions for their operators.

Source: ENDA-Energy, Senegal.

PHOTOS: ABDOU NDOUR

Solar Device Training of Women

A lack of trained technicians at the local level is affecting solar energy programmes initiated by the Government of India's Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

To fill this gap, funding from MNRE enabled All India Women Conference (AIWC) to train women and teenagers in 2010.

One group of trainees were identified by the President of the 'Waste Pickers Association' from Rangpuri Pahari in total about 40 women and 20 teenagers (college- as well as high-school-students).

They became experts in assembling, installing, maintaining, and dismantling solar devices e.g., solar lanterns, solar home-lighting systems, solar box-type cookers, and parabolic solar cookers, as well as vermi-composting systems. Now they are in a position to start their own income generation from Solar Services Centres.



▲ Training on assembling solar lanterns at AIWC, India.

Source: All India Women's Conference, (AIWC), India.

Multi functional Bio Centers, Kenya

Toilets, Offices and Biogas in one Building



◀ Three-storey building of the Bio-Center under construction in Kenya.

The Bio-Centers are three-storey multifunctional buildings, which include sanitation facilities (i.e. toilets, showers, water), offices, meeting rooms, and space for education.

1200 Users per Day

The primary users are the 600-700 pupils and teachers of the schools at which they are constructed.

It is estimated that the families living approximately 100 meters from the Bio-Centers will use the facilities on a daily basis, which means another 500-600 users. Finally, the improved and safe sanitation facilities will attract other users from the surrounding communities.

The pupils can use the Bio-Centers free of charge. Other users will pay a nominal fee decided by the bio-center management group. The income from the bio-centers is shared by the community groups and put into a communal development fund for further investments.

Biogas Production

The human waste is collected in situ in a biogas reactor beneath the Bio-Center to produce biogas for heating water and for use by the school kitchen.

The biogas will replace firewood as fuel and will reduce the overall expenditures by 15%-20%.

In the long run, the project is designed to make use of the biogas by establishing a central biogas-storage facility and composting plant to be managed for profit. The products, biogas for cooking and organic fertilizers, will be marketed and sold to restaurants and commercial farms or farming cooperatives, respectively.

The overall objective of the project is to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs), to increase income for vulnerable communities in informal urban settlements, to increase the use of organic fertilizers in agriculture, and finally, to create income-generating activities for the stakeholders.

The Bio-Centers are under construction in Kenya in the framework of a DANIDA supported project in 2010-2014. The Danish INFORSE NGO member, SustainableEnergy (VedvarendeEnergi) is coordinator. The partner NGO in Kenya is Umande Trust.

*Source: SustainableEnergy, Denmark.
<http://ve.dk> and Umande Trust, Kenya
<http://www.umande.org>.*



*Biogas dome under the sanitation building.
At the Kibera School for Girls, located in Nairobi's
Kibera slums, biogas generated from the school
latrine can help to cook for more than 100 students*

Local Centres & Improved Cooking Stoves in Mozambique



Over 80% of the Mozambican population depends exclusively on biomass for cooking. The lack of information and accessible technology keep the communities in this situation. The result is severe economical, environmental and health related impacts, local as well as national. To address these problems, the Local Energy and Development centres (CLEDs) have been established.

Local Ownership and Decentralization

During the last 5 years 8 CLEDs have been established in 8 districts in the Province of Sofala in northern Mozambique.

The establishment of the centres has been initiated by ADEL-Sofala in a partnership with the Danish NGO SustainableEnergy. The centres are organised and run by members of the communities. The centres are working as combined information, training, and community centres with a focus on local energy solutions and local economic development. An integrated part of the centres is an “energy shop” where the local communities can buy energy products with a focus on improved stoves and PV products to produce electricity.

At the centres, communities are trained in production of improved stoves that use biomass energy, savings and credit groups, micro maintenance of, among others, PV systems, and promotion of education for development.

The strengthening of local capacity is carried out by activists who are part of communities. During the last five years more than 60,000 people have been trained in several topics including in the local

finance methodology “ASCA” (Accumulating Savings and Credit Association).

More than 200.000 USD has been saved in communities where the vast majority has a daily income below 1 USD. The saving mechanism has been linked to buying energy products that previously were not available to these communities.

Production of Improved Stoves

Economically, socially, and technically, sustainability of the centres has been crucial. In this sense, one of the main focuses is the production of improved stoves for firewood and charcoal.

Traditionally charcoal stoves are made of metal while firewood is used in the traditional three-stone fires.

The improved firewood stoves are 100% ceramic and are produced exclusively for the rural market. The products are made at the centres using clay from the area.

The improved charcoal stoves are serving the needs of the urban population. In addition to a ceramic part, these stoves

have a metal part that is made by local artisans in the urban areas.

All of the products are made by members of the local communities.

The improved stoves are 50% more efficient than the old ones.

The sale of the stoves brings in alternative income for more than 50 people, and the impact on end-users' consumption of wood and charcoal has been significant.

In total 28.0000 stoves have been produced, and the ambition is to make a radical change in the use of traditional stoves in Mozambique.

From Local to National

The approach behind the centres has caught the interest of communities in other provinces of Mozambique.

People from the centres are now involved in empowering associations in other provinces.

These associations increase the confidence of the local communities and open their eyes to the importance of coming together to address the challenges now facing the population of Mozambique.



The establishment of the Centers started in 2006. It is part of a project together with SustainableEnergy (VedvarendeEnergi), Denmark, supported by DANIDA.

Source: ADEL - Sofala, Mozambique

*Photos by
ADEL-Sofala*

Jatropha Biofuel in Mali

Decentralised Jatropha biofuel rural electrification project: the Case of the Garalo Project A New Paradigm of Energy for Sustainable Development

The objective of this project by Mali Folkecenter (MFC) is to reduce poverty of the village population and to help “green” the planet. The Project involves setting up and operating village electricity systems with Jatropha-fuelled generators for 10,000 people in the Commune of Garalo, Mali. It has three main components: the Jatropha plantation, the Jatropha oil production facility, and the electricity production/ distribution component.

The Jatropha plantations are made up of small parcels of land ranging between 0.5 and 5 hectares. Around 70% of the Jatropha plantations intercrop with other crops such as sunflowers, peanuts, and beans. Farmers in each village work together in Jatropha producers’ village committees to organise & manage key activities at the village level, e.g., seed collection and transport. More than 326 farmers are involved.

The oil production facility has two mechanical presses. Each has a capacity of 140 kg/hour.

The electricity production system consists of a power plant made up of 3 x 100kW diesel-generating sets.

The engines have been modified to run on pure Jatropha oil, pure diesel, or any combination of the two fuels. From the power station the electricity is distributed via a low-voltage distribution system providing 380V 3-phase and 230V single phase at 50Hz to approximately 400 customers serving more than 10,000 people. The total size of the grid is 13 km.

The Garalo project clearly shows that properly designed biofuel projects have the potential to stimulate the local economy through provision of new income sources and jobs. It provides access to modern energy services and other byproducts like organic fertiliser as the residues from the Jatropha press is used as fertilizer. It also provides a stable income to farmers who traditionally rely on cotton as cash crop. It shows that biofuel projects can and should benefit the local population first in order to be sustainable.

Source: Mali Folkecenter (MFC)



*Jatropha oil presser.
Photo by Finn Tobiesen.*



*The three generator sets in the power plant of Garalo, Mali.
Photo by Mali Folkecenter.*

*Read more sustainable energy cases from Africa and Asia:
www.inforse.org/energyaccess.php3.*

ANTI-NUCLEAR



Mothers' Respond to Chernobyl

Politics Needs More Women Fear lead to a strong mother group to influence politics

By Anna Golubovska-Onisimovo, MAMA-86, Ukraine

My path to environmental activism was quite simple: after my first child was born, my viewpoint changed. Maternity made me worry in what environment my child would live and what future he would have in the motherland of the biggest environmental catastrophe. In 1990, after four years of the Chernobyl disaster, my son was one year old. There was a lack of reliable information about Chernobyl. My friends have children born in 1985 and 1986. We didn't know how the radiation would influence our children, but we knew that its impact could cause serious disease and even death. It made us scared, but also indignant, because the state was not going to give us the information that we needed to protect our children and ourselves. The feelings of helplessness and fear were combined with the desire to get free from it, to be saved.

"Help ourselves!" and "Rescue of the drowning is the business of those who are drowning" were very valid slogans for us when we were starting "MAMA-86". When we registered our NGO with Kiev's city administration in 1991, it was the first time that a group of citizens, simply applied to be registered. But we succeeded after a lot of troubles. Today, "MAMA-86" is the network of many environmental mothers' (women's) groups and activists in Ukraine.

We raise public awareness of environmental and health issues, focusing particularly on women, through information-gathering and -dissemination, as well as through education and the organization of intersectoral debates. We aim to empower women - who are essential to achieving sustainable development - through promotion of public participation in decision making.

Why is Kiev's "MAMA-86" mainly a mothers' group? Sometimes men or even fathers drop in, but they can't hold such work for a long time in the conditions of post-Soviet Ukraine. They usually leave the group quite soon. This is mainly because the environmental NGOs' activities need much dedication and patience, sometimes even sacrifices, and it doesn't give a stable and high income. Thus, you can understand that the women who are working in our NGO are very strong, this in addition to the general spiritual strength which is typical for Ukrainian women. Indeed, it is not easy to work or live with strong women! Additionally, maternity gives a sacred feeling: a feeling of responsibility for life and for the future.

The basic concept of femininity, for me, is love as a lifestyle, although on a personal level this goal is hardly achievable for women. And, as women perceive it, there is no love without responsibility - here you are, women are responsible for the Earth!

Photo: Anna Golubovska-Onisimovo with her child.
<http://www.mama-86.org.ua/>



Science Needs More Women We should make science more responsible!

By Cathy Foley, Australian physicist

Looking down at my perfectly formed baby, I could not remove from my mind the contrasting image I had seen that morning in a scientific journal: a picture of a Ukrainian baby horribly deformed as a consequence of the mother's exposure to nuclear radiation before she had even conceived her child. That devastating image made me reflect again and again: how can I participate in a profession that contributes to the knowledge that causes these disasters, which have destructive and long-term effects on our children, ourselves, our environment and our future generations?

How can I morally be a scientist, even worse a physicist, and be part of a profession that takes little or no control or responsibility over what research is undertaken and how its outcome influences our world? As I pondered these thoughts while nursing my child, I realized that this situation exists because there are not many women working in scientific careers. Science needs more women.

Scientific research depends for its existence upon grants of money. The grant process determines the subjects of research. Grants are usually allocated by committees of eminent senior scientists, dominated by men for whom participation is a feather

in the cap. This method of allocating funds and directing research in technology and science argues for a single voice, a single responsibility, and the problem with it is that a kind of silliness comes over collective decision-making. *Is this collective stupidity or collective cowardice?* A. Squires observed in 1986: "Males in our culture learn early to admire chance-taking and mistake it for courage. Men in numbers often do not speak up against a bit of daring that few would accept if given sole responsibility."

For too long, scientists have claimed they can have no responsibility over how others use their scientific findings. *We publish and then wash our hands of it all. This must change!* Knowledge and how it is used is the responsibility of us all. I believe a very different science would exist today if there were more balance in the female-male ratio. A lone woman does not change things. Look at the governments where a single female has risen to power. The lone woman, to survive, needs to mimic the masculine behavior of her male peers. *Equal numbers of males and females with equal standing could change all this. Chernobyl will not happen again if we have more women in science.*

Source: *Beyond Chernobyl. Women Respond.*
Compiled by Corin Fairburn Bass, et.al., 1993.
Envirobook ISBN 0858811227.

The source of the 2 articles:
Women Special for Men, WISE,
<http://www.antenna.nl/wise>,
e-mail: wiseamster@antenna.nl



"Don't Nuke the Climate"

Women Strongly Opposed Nuclear at UNFCCC, Bali

By Sabine Bock, energy and climate change coordinator, WECF

From Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF), we were present with a delegation of 6 women environmental leaders at the UN Framework Climate Change Conference in Bali. There, we voiced the concerns of the WECF network over the renewed strong push for nuclear energy, which is being promoted as a solution to climate change. WECF members work in regions that have suffered severe nuclear damage near Chernobyl, Ukraine, and Mayak, Russia, as well as near uranium mines in Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan and Armenia.

We addressed the immense negative health effects of nuclear energy at every step of production and highlighted the experience of the more than 94 member organisations from WECF, which show especially the long-term negative health effects on local populations living near nuclear production plants or near uranium mines, and the struggle of the victims to obtain any support when they have lost family members or have become too ill to work.

WECF and partners like the Munich Environmental Institute, Germany, followed the negotiations closely and immediately raised their concerns in the NGO conference newspaper ECO with the article



"Keep nuclear energy out" when

Japan complained on day 3 of the conference, that nuclear energy was not included in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

The position paper *"Women from all regions of the world strongly oppose including nuclear energy into the clean development mechanism"* published by WECF together with GenderCC (women for climate justice) pointed out the total failure of nuclear-energy proponents to face climate change and the fact that the nuclear industry is a threat to our health, our environment and human rights.

The paper also highlighted the even worse negative effects of nuclear energy on women as radiation sensitivity depends on age and sex. The sensitivity to radiation of women is about double as high as for men with regard to the relative risk. Especially high is the radiation sensitivity of the unborn child. Women are also more affected by the burden of the negative health impacts as they usually are the caretakers of the family who look after their sick and handicapped family members.



"Don't nuke the climate"
Action made by WECF,
Munich Environmental Institute, WISE,
Ecodefense and other partners, in front
of the UNFCCC conference centre,
Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia.

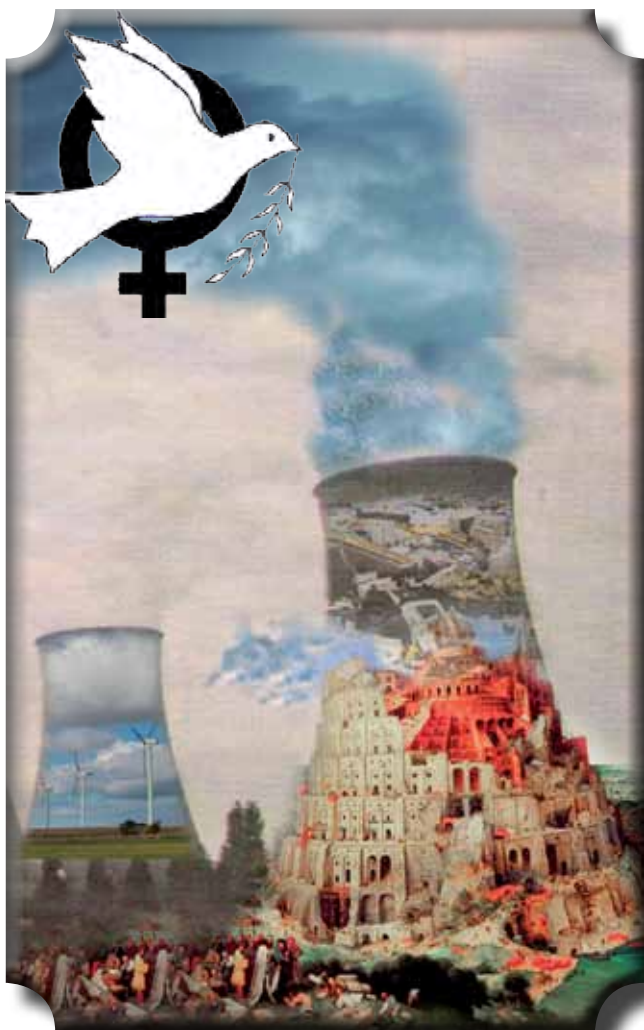
At the WECF exhibition booth, together with our partners, we provided throughout the conference expert information on the nuclear issue, sharing their knowledge and experience.

Furthermore, we organized a side event, *"Regional experience and information on nuclear energy – scientists, witnesses, and activists speak out"*.

The jointly organized press action *"Don't nuke the climate"* with anti-nuclear activists from all over the world in front of the conference center at the final count-down of the conference reached the delegates and the general public worldwide via a front page photo of the demonstration on the UNFCCC website as well as through coverage on BBC, television and radio stations and different newspapers.

WECF also advocated, together with GenderCC, for integrating gender into the whole process and into climate-change planning.

More: sabine.bock@wecf.eu
<http://www.wecf.eu>



"Nuclear is a Problem, NOT a Solution" says Women, COP15

During the UNFCCC COP 15 in Copenhagen, side events marked the civil society's wish to keep the nuclear energy out from the climate negotiations.



Dr. Helen Caldicott's Speeches

All of the three events mentioned above included Dr. Helen Caldicott's speeches. She explained the medical hazards of exposure to radiation in the course of using nuclear power. Nuclear exposure can affect many generations and is known to cause leukemia and other cancers as well as congenital birth defects. She explained, e.g., the effects of the radioactive waste, which gets through the water into the fish, the milk, the food, human breast milk, fetuses, babies, and children. She spoke about the 12,000 who got cancer in Belarus after the Chernobyl accident and the effects in the food chain for 600 years in Europe.

"Nuclear power is about disease, and it's about death. It will produce the greatest public health hazard the world has ever seen for the rest of time. We must close down every single nuclear reactor in Europe and throughout the world."

She called urgently to end all the destruction of the environment and of the public health that is caused by nuclear energy and waste.

She proposed that the several billions of dollars typically used to finance nuclear power be invested instead in solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal energy, as well as in energy conservation. She stressed, that **a sustainable energy future is possible.**

Illustration from the event "Nuclear Power is the Problem, not a Solution"

Among the organizations were several INFORSE members.

The side events were:

"Women's Perspective on Nuclear Energy: Nuclear Power is the Problem, not a Solution", 8 December, 2009, DGI-Byen, NGO Climate Forum. Organised by WILPF- Denmark, WECF, Ecodefence, WISE and others.

"False Promises of Nuclear Energy", 12 December 2009, Bella Center.

Organisers: WILPF, WECF, IFG, Sortir du nucléaire, NIRS, the Environmental Institute of Munich, Greenpeace, Ecodefence and WISE.

During the event, the organisations showed the true face of nuclear energy and presented a proposal, supported by citizens from all over the world, for a nuclear-free post-Kyoto regime.

Speeches at the end of the Climate Walk, 12 December, 2009.

The Demonstration Walk started at the Danish Parliament building and ended at the Bella Center. About 100,000 people walked the 6 km route.

More info:

- WILPF - Women's International League for Peace and Freedom:

W: www.wilpfinternational.org

W: www.kvindefredsliga.dk/klimatopmde.html

- WECF - Women in Europe for a Common Future:

W: www.wecf.eu

- Don't Nuke the Climate Campaign:

W: www.dont-nuke-the-climate.org

- Helen Caldicott's publications:

W: www.helencaldicott.com

- Helen Caldicott's speeches on 12 December, 2009:

W: <http://envirobeat.com/?p=1993>

W: <http://envirobeat.com/?p=1761>

PUBLICATIONS



Women, Energy and Water in the Himalayas, ICIMOD, UNEP, 2006

DVD and 3 Books

Across the Himalayan region, rural women face a daily struggle to collect enough firewood and water to meet the basic needs of their families. Women – and their children – walk for hours to collect wood from diminishing forests, and haul water from drying springs. There are many simple technologies available that would help women collect and use fuel and water more efficiently. For real impact, women and their needs must play a major role in policy and decision-making. Women must be empowered to choose and adapt the technologies they need, and women must benefit through savings in effort and time, through better health, and through opportunities to earn income – and thus improve their status in society.

What is striking is that a few simple technologies and methods can have substantial impact on the lives of women even within the short time frame of the project. A woman-centric approach can make a difference in reducing poverty by integrating women into the decision-making and into the management of their household's energy and water initiatives.

The film tells the story of a two-year project designed to enable women to do just this in Nepal, India and Bhutan. The three reports summarise the outcome of the project. The project focused on building women's capacity to organise themselves, to identify and prioritise needs, to introduce technologies that save time and effort, to improve health and education of children, and to use the time saved for income-generating activities.

The Project “*Capacity Building of Women for Energy and Water Management in the Rural Areas of the Himalayas*” was carried out in 2002-2004 through the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and its national partners: the Royal Society for Protection of Nature (RSPN) in Bhutan, the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) in India, and the Centre for Rural Technology (CRT/N) (member of INFORSE) in Nepal.

The project was supported by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (SIDA).

Published by ICIMOD, and UNEP, 2005. Edited by Bikash Sharma, Kamal Banskota and Samira Luitel. More information: ICIMOD in Nepal. W: www.icimod.org.



Project Learning

Description of the process involved in the implementation of the project, along with the response and the impact on the

communities selected. It highlights the training provided to the women's groups formed, including training in energy-related technologies such as improved cooking stoves, solar lanterns or solar driers. It also describes their involvement in creating and managing a zero-interest loan system of revolving funds. It gives examples of proven methods to soften patriarchal attitudes and initial resistance from men, e.g., by demonstrating the benefits with door-to-door visits, and community meetings, showing the income-generating possibility, and convincing the men who are the leaders of the community. The effective ways to diffuse the necessary knowledge are to train women as trainers and to show successes to the community. (113 pages)



Policy Guidelines

Describes the background, framework and steps towards the introduction of gender-sensitive policies. Includes

a useful list for each country on policy gaps and issues such as lack of critical mass of women in policy/decision making and lack of serious attention to integrating women's active participation on different levels. Details lessons that emerged from the project experiences, e.g., that more resources are needed to increase the skills and confidence of women, and that full participation of local people is needed; also covers suggested policy and procedures; for instance, documentation of project development and of good practices is essential for future planning and policy formulation; and video documentation is a very good visual aid. (64 pages)

Training of Trainers Manual

A compendium of the training activities and materials that were used during the project implementation, including useful worksheets and handouts with mapping resources, analysing matrices, indicators, planning flowcharts, and evaluation form. Learning tools for carrying out planning, gender analysis, mobilising communities, and identifying prioritised needs and solutions, as well as for designing and using gender-sensitive participatory action-planning. (107 pages)



DVD Film

The film provides a clear view of how women benefit from working in groups, bringing new hope to women in mountain communities. The film includes interviews with some of the participants. (Duration: 18 min.)



Generating Opportunities, Case studies on Energy and Women, UNDP, 2001

The cases are from Bangladesh, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Nepal, South Africa, and Uganda.

The topics include: battery operated lamps, energy to rural women's enterprises, stove, briquette, , micro hydro, women input to national policy, and PV for rural electrification. Edited by Gail V. Karlsson. Executive editor Salome Misana.

Published by UNDP, USA, 95 pp, 2001 ISBN 92-1-126124-4, Download: <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/Gender%20and%20Environment/Generating%20Opportunities-%20Case%20Studies%20on%20Energy%20and%20Women.pdf>

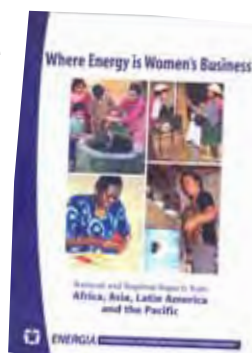


Gender and Energy for Sustainable Development - Toolkit and Resource Guide, 2004

By Gail Carlson (consultant), and Joy Clancy (University of Twente).

Published by UNDP and ENERGIA. 99 pp. 2004. Download: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/environment-energy/sustainable_energy/energy_and_genderforsustainabledevelopmentatoolkitandresourcegui/

Where Energy is Women's Business, ENERGIA, 2007



Where Energy is Women's Business: National and Regional Reports from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific

Compilation of national and regional gender and energy reports in preparation for discussions on access to energy at the 14th and 15th session of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development. (UN CSD) See article on the input to UN CSD-15 on page 13.

Published by ENERGIA, pp. 127, 2007 <http://www.energia.org/knowledge-centre/energia-publications/> http://www.energia.org/fileadmin/files/media/pubs/karlsson_csdbook_lores.pdf



Gender and Climate Finance Heinrich Böll Foundation, 2009 Double Mainstreaming for Sustainable Development

This is a study on the need for financing instruments and mechanisms committed to climate-change activities to take gender-differentiated impacts into account.

It includes an overview of cost estimates for global mitigation and adaptation measures.

It also presents an analysis of gender points of view, looking closely at the climate finance mechanisms, the new climate and environment funds, CDM, adaptation finance, REDD, and domestic emissions permit sales or auctions.

Key recommendations are offered to eliminate decision-makers' reluctance to consider, and ignorance about, the relevance of gender in making climate financing mechanisms effective contributors to long-term sustainable development.

On the global level, one of the main recommendations is:

- **Shift the focus** of the global discussion on climate change away from a primarily technocratic exercise to one employing the language of global justice and human rights, including the right to development and gender equity.

This is more than a semantic shift; it acknowledges that a North-South deal on climate change can only be completed when it incorporates a financial agreement that considers the questions of equity and fairness on par with the need to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions fast. In such a climate-just deal, gender-equity will have to feature prominently.

On a multilateral level, the recommendations are e.g.:

- Develop a set of gender-sensitive criteria for all new climate-finance mechanisms supporting adaptation, mitigation, capacity-building and technology transfer. This includes the funds administered under the UNFCCC and the GEF as well as the bilateral funds.

- Strive to incorporate gender-specific language and gender considerations in the outcome document of the COP15 in Copenhagen so that gender does feature explicitly in a post-Kyoto agreement under the UNFCCC, specifically with reference to financing, capacity-building and technology transfer.

- Require the UNFCCC Secretariat to develop a Gender Plan of Action.

- Ensure the generation and collection of sex-disaggregated data in all sectors relevant to climate change by governments, international organizations and financial institutions.

- Demand mandatory periodic gender-audits, the workings and results of which should be publicly accessible.

- Develop publicly disclosed gender budgets for projects and programs financed via recent and future publicly financed climate-funding mechanisms.

- Improve the participation of women in stakeholder and consultation processes for climate-finance instruments.

Edited by Liane Schalatek.

Published by Heinrich Böll Foundation 29 pp. May 2009, pdf 1.6 MB.

Contact: HBF, www.boell.org,

Download link: www.boell.org/docs/DoubleMainstreaming_Final.pdf



Resource Guide on Gender and Climate Change, 2009

Poor women's limited access to resources, restricted rights, limited mobility, and muted voices in shaping decisions make them highly

vulnerable to climate change. This resource guide aims to inform practitioners and policymakers of the linkages between gender equality and climate change.

The themes of the book are: Climate change: reference framework; Gender and climate change; Energy and gender; and Mitigation and adaptation.

The publication includes a 40-page bibliography, and a section including specialized guides and manuals, information sheets, web sites and portals. Every entry includes a web-site link.

Edited by Lance W. Garmer. The book is a collaborative effort between the UNDP Gender Team in the Bureau for Development Policy and the UNDP Country Office in Mexico. The original version is in Spanish.

Published by UNDP, May 2009, 151 pp., 2.9 MB pdf file.

ISBN: 978-92-1-326031-9

Download: www.undp.org/women/publications.shtml.



Training Manual on Gender and Climate Change, 2009

To meet the demand for improving skills in gender and climate change, and to build up a pool of trainers in different regions and countries, the Global

Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA) has developed this training manual.

The purpose of presenting the concepts in this manual is to inform policy- and decision-makers such that efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change will be more gender-sensitive. The training manual draws on existing in-house materials (research data, analyses and extracts from

international frameworks) that have been adapted or expanded, but also includes newly compiled case studies to illustrate the concepts in each module. It presents key conceptual and methodological advances in gender relations in the context of climate change. The topics covered in this manual relate to the topics covered in the Bali Action Plan.

Edited by Lorena Aguilar

Produced by the IUCN and UNDP in partnership with the Gender and Water Alliance, ENERGIA (INFORSE member), UNESCO, FAO, WEDO as part of GGCA. March 2009, 262 pp. pdf 5.98 MB

Contact: www.gender-climate.org www.iucn.org/resources/publications/



Report: Small-Scale Bioenergy Initiatives, 2009

Brief description and preliminary lessons on livelihood impacts from case studies in Asia, Latin America and Africa.

15 case studies are examined to assess the impacts that different types of local-level bioenergy initiatives can have on rural livelihoods. The report concludes with recommendations for further work.

Edited by Steven Hunt, Practical Action Consulting.

Published by FAO and PISCES Project. PISCES (Policy Innovation Systems for Clean Energy Security - New Knowledge for Sustainable Bioenergy) is an Energy Research Program Consortium (2007-12) coordinated by the African Centre for Technology Studies.

January 2009, April update, 142 pp.

Contact: PISCES, www.pisc.es.or.ke

Download: www.fao.org/bioenergy/home/en/ 1.2 MB, or 2.4 MB April: www.pisc.es.or.ke/pubs/index.html.

Biofuels for Sustainable Rural Development and Empowerment of Women, 2009



This book is a collaborative effort to explore the potential of biofuels to provide sustainable livelihoods and local sources of energy for people in rural areas of developing countries, with a special emphasis on women. The book includes case studies from Cambodia, Nepal, Ghana, India, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, and South Africa. Although there are many forms of bio-energy that can be useful in this regard, our focus in this book is on plant products, mostly seeds, used to produce oil that is then either utilized directly in engines or equipment or processed into biodiesel. The book was presented at the current 17th session of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD 17) in New York and was developed with support from IUCN.

Edited by Gail Karlsson and Khama-runga Banda.

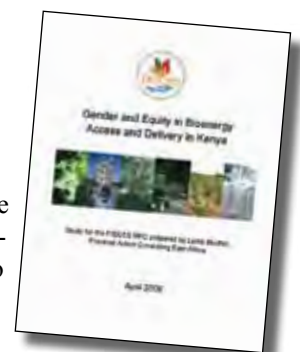
Published by ENERGIA, the Netherlands. May 2009, 54 pp. pdf 2.7 MB.

Contact: ENERGIA, www.energia.org

Download: www.forestrynepal.org/publications/reports/4287

Gender and Equity in Bioenergy Access and Delivery in Kenya, 2008

A comprehensive assessment of gender as it relates to bioenergy access, delivery, supply, and production. Policy dimensions and other issues are also considered.



Edited by Lydia Muchiri, Practical Action Consulting East Africa

Published by PISCES.

April 2008, 24 pp., pdf file 268 kB,

Download:

www.pisc.es.or.ke/pubs/index.html.

Eco-documentary Film to Change History

We are in 2055 - We watch an animation starting from the Big Bang and follow the Earth's history through dinosaurs, mammals, and humankind. The animated timeline stops in 2055 in a devastated world. Only an old man, "the Archivist", is alive, who is looking through a digital representation of human history and wondering why humanity didn't stop climate change when it had a chance.

Next, we can watch the films and historical data how our species got it all wrong in the "*Age of Stupid*", which is the period between 1988-2015, when humanity had become aware of the likely consequences of continuing to increase greenhouse-gas emissions and still had time to avert global catastrophe but largely chose to ignore the warning. We watch documentaries of several stories that the Archivist collects before beaming them out into space.

Wake UP! The aim is to make the public wake up to the impending climate disaster! The film ultimately aims to help bring about an exponential change in global awareness needed to force governments to introduce and pass strong legislation that cuts global carbon emissions, increases renewable energy and allows life to continue on this planet. "Gotta aim high, right?"

www.ageofstupid.net

Crowd funding: You Can Still Buy A Share!

The film-makers introduced an interesting way of funding called "crowd funding". Hundreds of people invested in a share or donated money to cover the film's expenses. In turn, people got a credit on the film's website and will get a percentage of the profit, if there is any. Now, in July, 2009, you can still buy a share to help cover final costs for the Global Premiere on September 21-22, 2009.



The Filmmaker -

The director of the film is Franny Armstrong, who got the idea of making this documentary and managed it with exceptional commitment through about five years. Her enthusiasm for the film's idea attracted Oscar winner, John Battsek to the production of the film, and won over Oscar nominee Pete Postlethwaite, one of Britain's most respected and best loved actors, for the role of The Archivist. These leading lights along with the rest of the outstanding cast and crew contribute greatly to the film's success.



Want to Change History? Join Not Stupid Campaign!

The "Not Stupid" Campaign is supported by Greenpeace, WWF, FOE, Low Carbon Communities, Transition Towns, Stop Climate Chaos, and others. It was launched in November, 2008. 89-minutes film available as DVD from: <http://notstupid.org/>.



What Science Tells Us Today, and What Can We Do?

Synthesis Report: "CLIMATE CHANGE: Global Risks, Challenges & Decisions" - The International Scientific Congress in Copenhagen, March 10-12, 2009.

Background for and the explanation of six key messages towards COP15.

The report is intended to be an inspiration for politicians and a tool for broadening the understanding of global warming, its causes and consequences with only six months to go before the COP15 takes place in Copenhagen.

The report gives an important overview of what science can tell us today about global warming, and perhaps most importantly, what we can do about it. The report presents the very newest scientific evidence that has emerged since the IPCC report came out in 2007.

The report is based on the outcome of the Congress, where over 2000 scientists from over 70 countries participated in 16 plenary talks and 58 parallel sessions. The report has been written by a team of 12 international climate experts and it has undergone an extensive international review.



Edited by Professor Katherine Richardson, Chair of the Scientific Steering Committee of the Congress, et al.

Published by Copenhagen University, Denmark, as part of the International Alliances of Research Universities.

June 2009, 39 pp., pdf file (5.6 MB)

ISBN: 978-87-90655-68-6

Translation to the UN languages is in progress.

Download from:

W: www.climatecongress.ku.dk

Katherine Richardson:

"I hope the busy negotiators will have time to study the report carefully before they meet in Copenhagen, because a lot of new data have emerged".

The report was launched at a press conference in Bruxelles, Belgium, on June 18, 2009, where it was handed over to the host of COP15, the Danish Prime Minister. It was presented on June 3, 2009, at the UNFCCC meeting in Bonn.



WEN, UK: Why Women & Climate? - 2010

Gender And the Climate Change Agenda, 2010, 65 pp. pdf file
Why Women and Climate Change, Briefing, 2010, 4 pp. pdf file
 Published by Women's Environmental Network (WEN) , UK
 Download pdf files from:
<http://www.wen.org.uk/resources/> .



UN FAO on Gender, 2010

Publication/Fact sheets:

- **Does gender make a difference in dealing with climate shifts?**

2010, 4 pp.

- **Women and Rural Employment**

2009 4 pp.

<http://www.fao.org/gender/gender-home/gender-resources/gender-publications/en>

- **Agri-Gender Statistics Toolkit:**

<http://www.fao.org/gender/gender-home/gender-resources/gender-toolkits/en> .



UN WomenWatch , 2010

The Threats of Climate Change are not Gender-Neutral Fact Sheet

11 pp, 2010, pdf file

http://www.un.org/womenwatch/feature/climate_change/ .

UNDP Report: Powerful Synergies Gender Equality, Economic Development and Environmental Sustainability, 2012

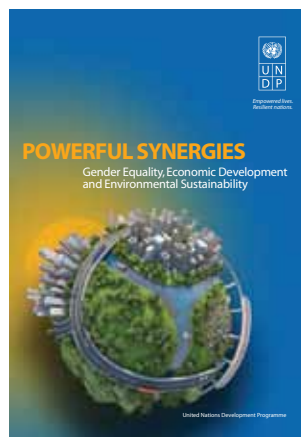
The report provides evidence that gender equality in access and control over resources ensures environmental sustainability and improves lives. The chapters include detailed recommendations for policy makers and practitioners.

Edited by Gender Team, Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP. Published by UNDP.

212 pages. September 2012

Download from:

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/womens-empowerment/powerful-synergies/>



Gender Policy for Community Radio, 2009

Women have a larger role in community radio than in any other form of media. Easy to use, easy to access, and low in cost, community radio helps women's voices to be heard in countries as diverse as Afghanistan and

Australia. As community radio spreads, particularly across the Asia-Pacific region, it is helping to empower women. Isis international organizes series of seminars teaching women to make radio programs.

At the latest seminar in February, 2010 in India, thirty women from south and central Asia participated. The 6-day cross-cultural seminar was training women to make

community radio programs to strengthen women's participation in climate-change adaptation, disaster mitigation, and peace-building.

The programme is called "Women Making Airwaves for Peace" (WMAF). It involves the sharing of experience and skills as participants learn to produce radio programmes. Attendees function as resource persons, trainers, trainees, and radio journalists all at the same time.

More: Isis International

The publication "Gender Policy for Community Radio" was translated into 18 languages in 2009.



See video, facts, and FAO's recommendations on "Men and Women in Agriculture: Closing the Gap"
<http://www.fao.org/sofa/gender/en/>

Read more on Gender issues at the FAO's web site:
<http://www.fao.org/gender/en/>

Publications



Renewable Technology Manual to Reduce Poverty

Published by INFORSE South Asia in cooperation with INSEDA, India, Grameen Shakti in Bangladesh, CRT in Nepal, IDEA in Sri Lanka, and the Danish Organisation for Sustainable Energy (VedvarendeEnergi).

The technologies include biogas, solar dryers, micro-hydro all those covered in the articles on this Reader and much more.

Available in 5 languages: English, Hindi, Nepalese, Bangladeshi, Sinhalese. Published in 2007.

Can be downloaded from:

<http://www.inforse.org/asia>

Direct link is: http://www.inforse.org/asia/M_energy_solutions_poor.htm

Extended version with financial guide and other project material are available on CD.



The Manual was produced by the Project "Capacity Building of NGOs for Poverty Reduction in South Asia through Sustainable Energy Solutions".

More: Energy Access Cases: <http://www.inforse.org/energyaccess.php3>

Online Training on ENERGIA's web site

Training Materials:

www.energia.org/knowledge-centre/training-material/

E-Learning: The Gender Face of Energy.

Modules: Gender & Energy Concepts. What is gender and what is energy? How are they interlinked?

<http://www.moodle.energia.org/>

Online Gender & Energy Publications

370 publications searchable according to topics, publishing date.

<http://www.energia.org/knowledge-centre/publications-database/>

Women Active Against Nuclear Energy, 2006

- from Rage to Visions.

20 years Chernobyl

2006, Published by Genanet

Editor: Ulrike Röhr

ISBN 3-8334-4592-0

The full book in German includes the stories of some 30 authors, who narrate how their experiences 20 years ago changed their lives; how not only the nuclear catastrophe, but also the involvement in a political movement, impacted on their plans, their political activities, their career decisions. 12 the articles are available in English, in a pdf document of 46 pages, available free, Download pdf from:

www.genanet.de/fileadmin/downloads/themen/Themen_en/Chernobyl_en.pdf



Green Energy for a Billion Poor, 2012

How Grameen Shakti Created a Winning Model for Social Business

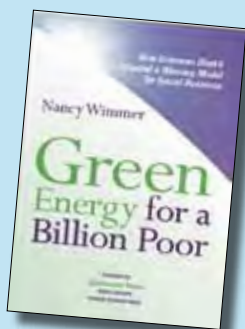
Bangladesh: The story of the micro credit scheme for 0.5 million solar home systems, which bring light in the evenings, charges mobil phones, powers sewing machines and gives women employment as technicians. See also articles under "Micro Credit".

2012, by Nancy Wimmer
ISBN-13: 978-3943310009

www.mcreverlag.de

More on Grameen Shakti,

www.inforse.org/asia

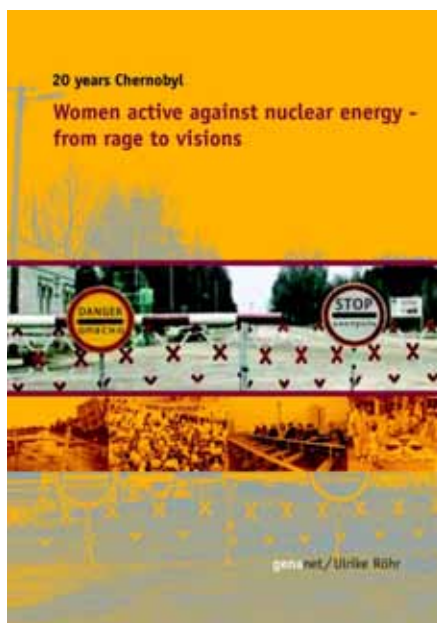


By ENERGIA, International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy (INFORSE member).

New separate web sites

for Africa: www.energia-africa.org,

for Asia: www.energia-asia.org



Gender & Climate Change in the EU27

First EU-wide report on gender equality and climate change that provides comparative data at the EU level. It also introduces the first indicators to support policy-makers in measuring progress in climate.

This Report is based on a study prepared by Milieu Ltd and Life e.V. for use by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE).

Published by EIGE.

June 2012; 128 pp.

Available from: <http://eige.europa.eu/sites/default/files/Gender-Equality-and-Climate-Change-Report.pdf>



Women in Economic Decision-Making in the EU

Progress report.

A Europe 2020 Initiative

28 pp., 2012. Published by the EU.

ISBN-13: 978-92-79-23283-1

See review on page 41 under "EU Policy" Chapter.

Download the Report from:
http://ec.europa.eu/justice/gender-equality/files/women-on-boards_en.pdf.



EC's Website on Gender



The Gender Equality Website of the European Commission (EC) is under "Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities"

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/employment_and_social_policy/equality_between_men_and_women/



Report on Equality between Women and Men - 2010

English, French and German,
56 pp., pdf file.

Strategy for Equality between Women and Men, 2010-2015

48 pp., pdf file



Gender Pay Gap Campaign, and its first results on the Gender Pay Day April 15, 2010.

The average pay gap in EU-27 is 17.6 % (the lowest: 5%, highest: 30 %)

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/gender-equality/document/index_en.htm



EC Database of Statistics:

Women & Men in Decision Making

National and EU average statistics, e.g., the EU/EU-27 average percentage of men:

Largest publicly listed companies: 89%
European Central Banks and Financial Institutions: 82-89 %
European Committees: 80%
Ministers in national governments: 75%
European Parliament: 65%
European Commission: 65%

Websites:

<http://ec.europa.eu/justice/gender-equality/gender-decision-making/>

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/gender-equality/gender-decision-making/database/index_en.htm

WHO IS WHO ?



Who is Who ?



GENANET Gender, Environment, Sustainability

Branch of LIFE e.V., with a special focus on mainstreaming gender into environmental policy. It started its work in 2003.

Genanet has been created to raise awareness of gender equity issues in environment and sustainability policy as well as to integrate it into research and to implement gender mainstreaming in environmental policy making and in the activities of environmental organisations. Genanet carries out campaigns and conferences. Genanet is cooperating closely with women's networks in Germany and elsewhere in Europe.

Contact: www.genanet.de.



LIFE e.V. – Women Develop Eco- Technics

Organisation created in 1988 by women working at the Technical University of Berlin.

In the beginning, the most prominent aim was to increase the share of women in eco-technics and in particular in renewable energy. In 1994 the eco-technical training center for women was built up in Berlin. Today, the activities and aims have broadened; there are more than 40 persons working in several projects.

Financial support for the projects is given by, e.g., the Senate of Berlin, German Federal Ministries, foundations, EC and UN Programs. LIFE is member of INFORSE.

Contact: www.life-online.de.



ISIS International

It was founded in Rome, Italy in 1974 and moved its office to Manila, Philippines in 1991.

For 36 years, Isis International has been working through media as well as through information and communications technologies towards achieving women's human rights, facilitating networking and information-sharing for women's movements in the global South. Isis international has an email list and a regular publication "Women in Action". Isis has a community radio projects, and makes video films of speeches of CSW54 and its parallel events.

Contact: Isis International, Nina Somera (climate), Bianca Miglioretto (community radio) <http://www.isiswomen.org/>.



GenderCC - Women for Climate Justice

Network created by women (and some men) from around the globe during UNFCCC COP9 in Milan in 2003 in order to bring gender into the climate change regime. Since then, the network has organised activities during the COPs as it grew and became slowly but steadily more recognized. Today, there are more than 100 gender & climate-change experts from all world regions involved in the network.

The GenderCC network has received funding supporting women's participation in the UNFCCC conferences and creating an internet platform from UNDP and from the German Environmental Ministry.

Contact: www.gendercc.net,



WECF - Women in Europe for a Common Future

Network of over 90 organizations in Western and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia working on sustainable development, health and environment, and poverty reduction. WECF strives for a healthy environment for all. WECF promotes safe and sustainable energy for all, i.e. ecological, fair and locally produced energy. WECF was established at the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992. It receives support from the Dutch and German Ministries of Environment and from other foundations.

Contact: www.wecf.org.



WILPF - Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

WILPF history starts in 1915, when 1,200 women gathered during the First World War, to study, make known and eliminate the causes of war. At UNFCCC COP 15, WILPF-Denmark made a series of events against using nuclear power. Contact: www.kvindefredsliga.dk/ www.wilpfinternational.org



MAMA-86

MAMA-86 is a Ukrainian National Environmental NGO established by women as a protest after the Chernobyl catastrophe in Ukraine. It has 17 branches, It is active on chemical, water, energy and green economy issues. It is member of INFORSE, WECF and the European Ecoforum.

Contact: www.mama-86.org.ua



ENERGIA International Network on Gender & Sustainable Energy

Network founded in 1995. It links individuals and groups concerned with energy, sustainable development, and gender. ENERGIA is aiming to empower women and to introduce gender-sensitive approaches into the area of energy for sustainable development especially in Africa and Asia. The Secretariat is in the Netherlands. There are national and subregional focal points in Africa and Asia.

ENERGIA has received support from Dutch and Swedish international cooperation agencies (DGIS, SIDA). It also conducts activities together with UNDP.

ENERGIA is member of INFORSE.

Contact: www.energia.org.



AIWC - All India Women's Conference

Organisation founded in 1927 to function as an organization dedicated to the empowerment of women. AIWC today has over 156,000 members in more than 500 branches across India. It is recognized as a premier organization working for women's development and empowerment and has been involved in a large number of projects including projects on renewable energy for reduction of poverty. It has received support from a large number of national and international organisations as well as private donations.

AIWC is member of INFORSE and focal point for gender issues in India. AIWC is also member of ENERGIA

Contact: www.aiwc.org.



WAFD Women's Action for Development

WAFD is an NGO established in India aiming to reducing women's poverty and to creating better environment. It promotes women using renewable energy e.g., solar lanterns, and biogas.

WAFD is member of INFORSE.

Contact: www.wafdindia.org

Who is Who ?



INSEDA Integrated Sustainable Energy and Ecological Development Association

INSEDA is a national organisation in India formed by grass-roots NGOs that are involved in the promotion of renewable energy and natural resources development programmes with a focus on biogas development in rural areas. INSEDA /INFORSE South Asia coordinates a capacity building programs and published a manual on renewable energy technologies in 5 languages of the region. INSEDA works together with AIWC and WAED on women capacity building.

INSEDA is the regional coordinator of INFORSE South Asia.

W: www.inseda.org

W: www.inforse.org/asia



MFC Mali Folkecenter

MFC is an NGO that is active in environmental protection along with provision of clean renewable energy services to meet the needs of rural and un-served areas. MFC also participates in energy & environment policy work with the Malian government. Its three main programs are local economic development; good governance and decentralization; and environment, energy and climate change. Some of the projects benefits women directly. MFC is a member of INFORSE and regional coordinator.

W: www.malifolkecenter.org

W: www.infose.org/africa



ENDA Environmental Development Action in the Third World

ENDA was formed in 1972. Energy and climate is one of the 11 thematic teams of ENDA.

Some of the projects targets women as the efficient stoves for smoking fish.

ENDA is member of INFORSE and regional coordinator

W: www.endatiersmonde.org/

W: www.infose.org/africa



Grameen Shakti

Organisation formed in Bangladesh in 1996. It is part of the "Grameen family" of organisations together with Grameen Bank. Its aim is to promote the use of renewable energy among rural households as a mean against poverty and to protect the environment. Its main success has been promotion of solar home systems with a combination of micro-credits and technical assistance; but it is also promoting biogas and other forms of renewable energy. The majority of its users are women. It has received support from USAID, the World Bank, and others. Grameen Shakti is member of INFORSE and focal point for Bangladesh.

W: www.gshakti.org.



ADEL Sofala

NGO promoting economic development and poverty reduction in the Sofala province of Northern Mozambique. It disseminates sustainable energy solutions actively within its region and is involved in training, technical assistance, management of natural resources, promotion of income-generating activities. It also facilitates micro-financing.

ADEL-Sofala is member of INFORSE

W: www.adelsofala.org.mz, and www.ve.dk



CRT/N Centre for Rural Technology

Organisation established in 1989 in Nepal. It is engaged in developing and promoting appropriate/rural technologies in meeting the basic needs of the rural communities and improving their life. Its expertise spans all appropriate renewable energy technologies for rural use, climate change issues, CDM projects, gender issues, and poverty reduction. It has received support from UNEP, the German GTZ, UNDP, and many others. CRT/N is member of INFORSE and focal point for Nepal. CRT is also focal point to ENERGIA.

W: www.crtnepal.org.



IDEA Integrated Development Association

NGO based in Kandy, Sri Lanka, and has been active in Improved Cook Stove Programmes since 1992. One of the biggest success of IDEA is the commercialization of the Anagi stove. In addition, it also promotes kitchen improvements, efficient brick kilns, and other local sustainable energy solutions.

IDEA has received support from GEF, UNDP, development programs of governments e.g., UK, Sweden, and the Netherlands.

IDEA is the national focal point of INFORSE.

W: www.ideasrilanka.org



LEDeG - Ladakh Ecological Development Group

Organisation formed in 1983 in Ladakh in India. Its goal is to promote sustainable development of Ladakh. Among its many activities in the field of appropriate technology, the organisation has worked on a wide range of renewable energy technologies, adapting them to suit local conditions. LEDeG has received support from EC, government of India, and others.

LEDeG is member of INFORSE

W: www.ledeg.org.



SCI - Solar Cookers International

Solar Cookers International (SCI) was founded in 1987 by a small group of volunteers with the aim that "By the year 2000, 2.4 billion people will know how to cook with the sun." In 2000, the movement that SCI started reached about 1,900 supporting members from all over the world, and 40,000 refugees are benefiting from solar cooking projects of SCI.

SCI has provided information services to tens of thousands of individuals from over 120 countries. SCI publishes the "Solar Cooker Review" 3 times a year, which reports about the ongoing projects of SCI and about the members as well. On the website, you can review many types of solar cookers, in many languages.

SCI is member of INFORSE.

W: www.solarcookers.org,

W: www.solarcooking.org.



VE SustainableEnergy / VedvarendeEnergi (previously OVE)

It is an NGO with 2000 individual members in Denmark. OVE was established in 1975 as OVE. It changed its name in 2012. Nationally it has 10 offices giving advice to the public, and working on a 100% renewable vision for Denmark. Internationally it is leading projects together with partner NGOs, which also benefits women in Africa and Asia. The projects are supported by the Danish development assistance (DANIDA). It hosts the INFORSE Global Secretariat, and promotes the networking of INFORSE-West and East Africa through the Southern Voices on Climate Change programme in 2011-2014.

W: www.ve.dk



Practical Action (previously ITDG)

Practical Action is a UK-based charity NGO with regional offices e.g., in East Africa and Kenya. It was established in 1998 and as Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG). It changed its name in 2008. The projects are supported by the British Lottery and the British Government. It is member of INFORSE.

W: www.practicalaction.org



AFPRO

Action For Food Production

NGO in India giving technical service, guidance to grassroots NGOs. AFPRO was established in 1966 in response to a drought, and it is involved in family biogas development since 1980. It is member of INFORSE.

W: www.afpro.org



UNISON

NGO established in Kyrgyzstan in 2002. Its aim is achieving an environment-friendly Kyrgyzstan. UNISON has carried out projects on education for sustainable development, promotion and use of renewable energy including PV for health facilities, and other issues. It has received support from European Commission (EC), Slovakia, UK, and private foundations. UNISON is member of INFORSE as well as member of WECE.

W: www.unison.kg



INFORSE

- International Network for Sustainable Energy

Network of 150 NGOs formed in 1992. INFORSE is working for sustainable energy solutions to reduce poverty and protect the environment. The members include some of the most active NGOs on gender and energy. INFORSE receives support for cooperation NGO projects. The gender articles in Sustainable Energy News have been supported by AirClim, Sweden.

INFORSE follows gender and energy issues regularly, in *Sustainable Energy News* and on www.inforse.org/europe/sen_gender.htm. The articles are edited by Judit Szoleczky.

INFORSE W: www.inforse.org



GGCA Global Gender and Climate Alliance

A UN-NGO alliance united front on 'gender and climate change'. GGCA was officially launched in 2007, at UNFCCC COP-13 in Bali. The network consists of 13 UN agencies and more than 25 civil society organizations working together to ensure that climate change decision-making, policies and initiatives, at all levels, are gender responsive. UN members include: UNDP, UNEP, FAO, UN-Women, WHO, IUCN, UNICEF. NGO members include: WEDO, ENERGIA, ENDA, Action-Aid, Oxfam, JVE, ICIMOD.

W: www.gender-climate.org



UN NGO CSW SC-WCC

The **NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO/CSW)** was created in 1972 as a Committee of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the UN (CONGO). Committees were later formed in Geneva and Vienna. The members are representatives of about 80 organizations that actively participate in the UN events and have Consultative Status with the UN through ECOSOC. Membership in the NGO/CSW/NY is open to individuals, but they have neither voting rights nor access to events inside of the UN territory. The need for a new Task Force on Climate emerged in 2008 and the new **Subcommittee on Women and Climate Change (SC-WCC)** of the NGO/CSW/NY was established in 2009.

W: www.ngocsw.org



WEDO Women's Environment and Development Organization

WEDO was emerged to influence the Earth Summit in 1992. It organised World Women's Congress for a Healthy Planet, bringing together more than 1,500 women from 83 countries to work jointly on a strategy towards the Earth Summit. The result was the Women's Action Agenda 21, and integration of gender equality issues in the official UNCED final documents, Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration. WEDO became a leader for promoting international women's rights – particularly on environmental issues. W: www.wedo.org



UN GEAR

"UN Gender Equality Architecture Reform"

GEAR is a Campaign, which became a network of 307 civil society organisations.

It was launched in 2008 to follow up a UN reform started in 2006. It is a result of pressure from all over the world to put gender equality on the agenda of the UN's current reform process.

UN GEAR was collecting signatures to a petition to the UN and to the EU countries urging decision-makers to create a strong UN agency for women's rights in 2009. The desired agency will not only speak for women but will ensure that at long last, women's own voices can be heard at all levels of society and in the decisions that affect their lives.

W: www.un-gear.eu/takeaction.shtml
www.thepetitionsite.com/1/GEAR



UN Entities: UNFCCC, UNSCD, UNDP, UNEP, FAO

UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. W: www.unfccc.int

UNSCD: United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

UNDP: United Nations Development Programme, W: www.undp.org

UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme W: www.unep.org

FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. W: www.fao.org



About the Editor

Judit Szoleczky has been editor of Sustainable Energy News for the last 18 years. She has edited the gender-theme articles compiled in this publication for the last 11 years.

She holds a MBA as well as degrees in civil engineering, and in environmental science and policy.

Her work on environmental issues began with her participation in a Balaton Group meeting of system thinkers, including the authors of the report "Limits to Growth".

Her thesis work on the Earth Summit (UNCED) in 1992 opened her eyes to the importance and possibilities of the UN system and to the NGOs' roles in the process of achieving better environment.

The Earth Summit's Tree of Life made up of the "leaves of hope" (see illustration), in a symbolic way, paved her way to later work at the INFORSE network.

Judit's editorial work on gender has been inspired by her many years' experiences of INFORSE networking across the world and by inputs to the UN processes. She also takes inspiration from her two daughters, who remind her of the concerns vital to the next generations living on the earth.

