

ENERGIA Gender and Energy Research Programme
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break-out session

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ENERGIA
INTERNATIONAL NETWORK ON
GENDER & SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

The Need for Research

- Funded by DFID 2014-2019
- Research on gender and energy for policy and practice
- Providing the evidence that taking a gender approach works

What's a gender approach?

Starting point:

- a full recognition of women's and men's different needs for energy, based on consultations that consciously seek advice from both women and men;
- recognition of the potential of women and men to participate in energy supply;
- recognition of the need to tackle institutional barriers that limit women's participation in energy planning and production

Gender approach

- uses gender analysis, and asks : who is doing what, who owns what, who makes decisions about what and how, and who gains and who loses in a planned intervention.
- Gender helps explain household responses to energy interventions, nature of benefits and where they accrue
- Takes into account the external environment (eg formal and informal institutions)

What's wrong with the evidence?

- Little quantitative evidence – this convinces policy makers
- Small-scale, qualitative case studies (little ethnographic work!)
- Self-reporting
- Data gathering unlikely after 6 to 12 months of intervention ‘completed’
- Use of gender neutral terms (eg community, household, people) – even in stoves projects!
- Concepts not clear (impacts, benefits; women ≠ gender)
- Groups are treated as homogeneous (age, civil status, ethnicity, economic group)
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Objectives:

- A stronger understanding of the linkages between energy, poverty and gender
- Improved energy access strategies, particularly to benefit women and girls, by identifying which strategies benefit them most.
- Enable decision making about energy sector investments which brings value for money.

Aim: a significant improvements in the lives of women and girls due to more effective energy sector investments.

Outputs

- Body of robust evidence related to linkages between gender, energy and poverty;
- Compelling and effective research into the benefits of a gender approach in energy sector investments;
- Public dissemination of high quality research findings from the research; and
- Research capacity built and linkages established.
- Research findings, case studies and other outputs
- Indicators for MTF tracking

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Project 1: Electrification and women's empowerment (Kenya, Nepal, India)

Project 2: Productive uses of energy: the informal food sector (Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa)

Project 3: The political economy of energy sector dynamics (India, Nepal);

Project 4: Gender and energy sector reform (Bangladesh, India, Nigeria and Indonesia);

Project 5: Private sector: Female microenterprise creation and business models (Rwanda);

Project 6: Productive uses: Unlocking the benefits (Ghana, Tanzania, Myanmar)

Project 7: Women's Empowerment and Entrepreneurship (literature review and cases studies)

Short terms studies:

Lessons learned: Mainstreaming gender in energy sector practice and policy

SEforAll: Levers of Change: How global trends impact gender equality and social inclusion in access to sustainable energy



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- 7 consortia of Universities, research institutes, NGO's.
- 12 countries: India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Indonesia, South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Nigeria, Senegal, Ghana.

Contextual Factors

RQ3 What is the evidence that contextual factors influence more gender equitable outcomes from energy interventions?

C1 How has the political economy influenced gender equitable energy access?
(See Slide 13)

C2 What are the socio-cultural, economic, geographical and infrastructural characteristics of the location? **How do these characteristics influence gendered outcomes/impacts from energy interventions?**

C3 How has taking a gender approach influenced access? (see slide 14)

C4 How is access mediated by gender ideologies and norms?

C5 How is use mediated by gender ideologies and norms?

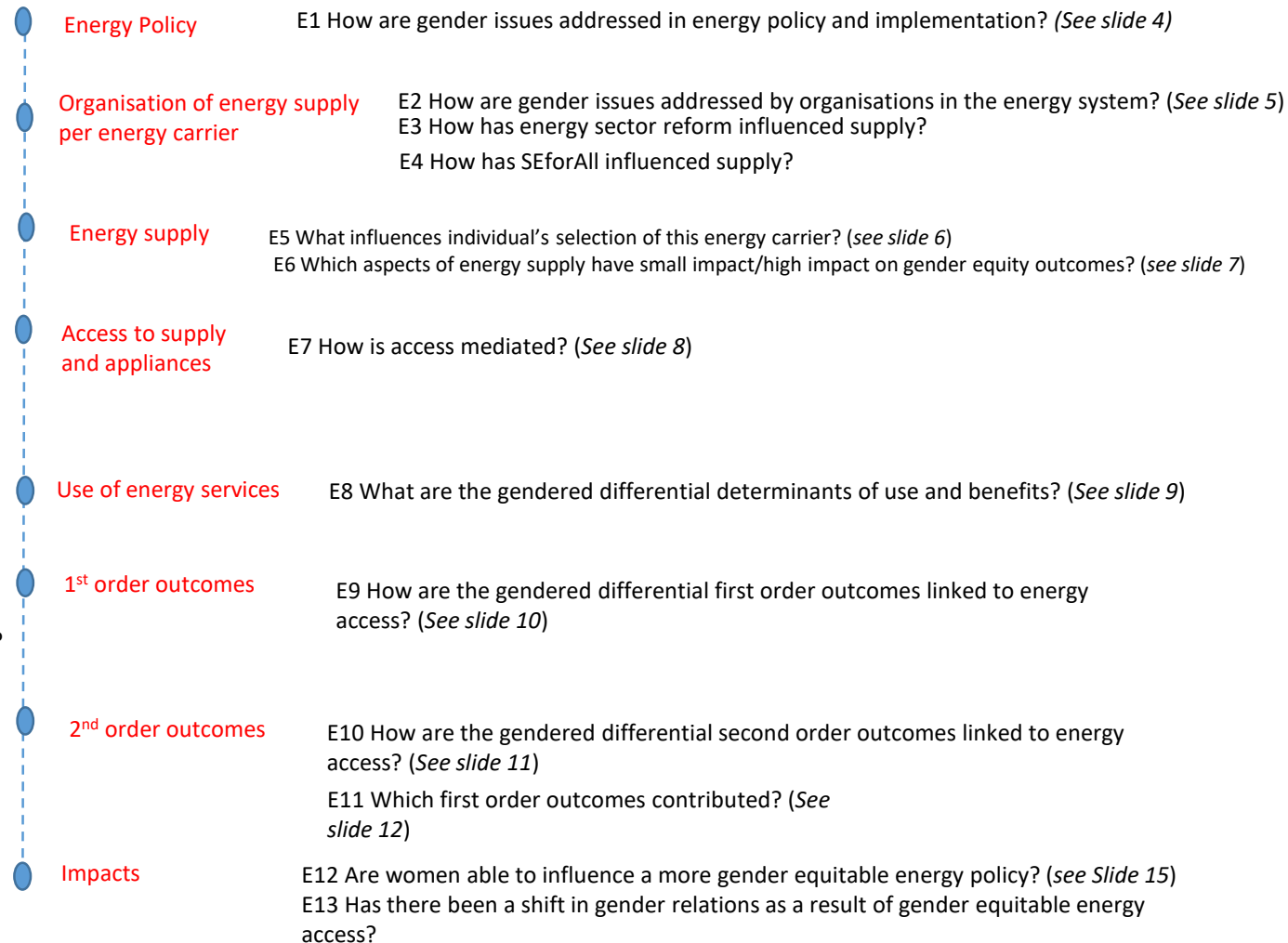
C6 How are outcomes mediated by gender ideologies and norms?

C7 Have government agencies, development agencies and the private sector adopted a gendered approach?

C8 Which specific characteristics of the context are most significant in removing barriers to the equity of benefits **and outcomes** of the energy **results** chain?

Generating Evidence

RQ1: What is the evidence that there are differential outcomes on women/girls and men/boys of current approaches to energy sector interventions? (sub-RQs E1 to E12)



RQ2 What is the evidence that a gender approach in energy sector interventions leads to more gender equitable outcomes? (see Slide 14)

What's different? What's a challenge?

- Emphasis on synthesis
- Teams are encouraged to collaborate – there's a budget
- Getting researchers who normally do qualitative work to do quantitative work
- Researchers doing policy briefs!