



Translating women's rights failures into rights claims in the energy system

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Gender and rights-based framework to energy access

1. Positioning: what have we learned on gender mainstreaming?
2. Conceptual basis for gender and rights
3. Gender and rights-based framework to energy access



Positioning: what have we learned on gender integration?

- Policy as an *interpretative* process
 - Level of policy
 - Level of administration and planning
 - Level of implementation
- Multiple *meanings* of gender
 - Gender as a social relation
 - Rights as beyond the legal
- *Facilitating* conceptual clarity
 - Multiple ways of knowing (biophysical-social)



G&R framework – key elements

- Access to energy as a right
- Rights-holders and duty-bearers
- Institutional barriers: rights failures
 - Redistribution failures
 - Recognition failures



Rights failures of recognition

- Lack of recognition of unequal gender relations in the energy system.
- Lack of recognition of the economic value of women's work making their labour contribution invisible in the energy system at all levels.
- Lack of addressing women's total energy needs (i.e. lack of recognition of the energy needs associated with women's productive and reproductive roles).
- Gender inequitable decision-making at all levels in the energy sector and exclusion of women from decisions affecting their own lives.



Rights failures of redistribution

- Gender inequitable access to and control over resources and benefits from energy related development interventions.
- Insufficient provision of the legal and regulatory frameworks to promote gender equitable access to energy through the market.
- Gender disparity on ownership of land, trees and other productive assets required to access energy services.



G&R framework – key elements

- Access to energy as a right
- Rights-holders and duty-bearers
- Institutional barriers: rights failures
 - Redistribution failures
 - Recognition failures
- Energy system governance
- Rights claiming:
 - Different right failures can be translated into rights claims
 - Different governance channels where rights can be claimed



From rights failures to rights claims

Persistent rights failures	Rights claims
Recognition	
<p>Gender inequitable access to and control over resources and benefits from energy</p> <p>Lack of recognition of the economic value of women's work making their labour contribution invisible.</p> <p>Lack of addressing women's total energy needs (lack of recognizing energy needs rel. to with women's productive roles).</p>	<p>Negotiation over inclusion of gender equality in national energy policies, goals, and targets and the establishment of accountability mechanisms.</p>
<p>Gender inequitable decision-making at all levels in the energy sector and exclusion of women from decisions affecting their own lives.</p>	<p>Process of demanding measures to increase women's decision-making positions in the energy sector.</p>
Redistribution	
<p>Insufficient provision of the legal and regulatory frameworks to promote gender equitable access to energy through the market.</p>	<p>Negotiation over the establishment of institutional and regulatory incentives for public and private sector actors to extend reach to rural, poor women.</p>
<p>Gender disparity on ownership of land, trees and other productive assets required to access energy services.</p>	<p>Process of demanding legislation for women land rights.</p>
<p>Gender inequitable access to credit and other financial services resulting in unequal access to and benefits from renewable energy technologies, programmes and services</p>	<p>Negotiation over the provision of credit facilities for decentralized renewable energy solutions accessible to women as well as men</p>

Channels and mechanisms for claiming rights in the energy system

National level of energy governance

Governance structures	Governance channels	Type of claim - selected examples based on rights failures identified	The methods rights-holders can use to engage
<p>Parliament and political parties.</p> <p>Ministry of Energy and Industry (or similar)</p> <p>Ministry of Forests, Natural Resources (or similar)</p> <p>Other sector ministries: Finance, agriculture, transport, equality etc.</p> <p>National development organizations and NGOs, financing institutions.</p> <p>Private sector organizations, financing organizations, banks</p> <p>Public-private partnerships.</p> <p>International development organizations, including donors, multi-lateral organizations and NGOs.</p>	<p>Policy channels:</p> <p>Public macro-level and sector-level policy and planning</p> <p>Legal system:</p> <p>Legal bodies</p> <p>Private channels: e.g. corporate social accountability</p>	<p><i>RECOGNITION:</i></p> <p>Negotiation over the explicit inclusion of gender equality in national energy policies, goals, and targets and the establishment of energy sector accountability mechanisms.</p> <p><i>REDISTRIBUTION:</i></p> <p>Negotiation over the establishment of institutional and regulatory incentives for the private sector to extend reach to rural, poor women.</p> <p>Process of demanding new legislation for women land rights.</p> <p>Negotiation over the provision of credit facilities for decentralized renewable energy solutions accessible to women as well as men.</p> <p>Process of demanding measures to increase women's decision-making positions in the energy sector.</p>	<p><i>Engagement</i> in formal stakeholder processes about national energy policy, planning and budget processes (examples gender audit processes, gender-budget exercises)</p> <p><i>Collective monitoring</i> of energy service provision: Conduct people's audits/social audits of energy sector interventions.</p> <p><i>Lobbying</i> government representatives in national consultation processes for international meetings (such as SE4A, SDGs)</p> <p><i>Legal action</i> e.g. claim land rights</p> <p><i>Secure support and funding</i> from donors and int. orgs..</p> <p><i>Engagement</i> with banks/financial organization to ensure credit.</p> <p><i>Lobbying</i> private sector actors demanding CSR</p> <p><i>Networking and alliance-building</i> at national level and link up to the international level.</p> <p><i>Informal and invisible advocacy</i> through contacts, e.g. interaction with individuals (public and private decision-makers).</p> <p><i>Formal advocacy</i> (media reporting, campaigning, etc)</p>



Thanks!

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