

Concept note and Agenda



ECOWAS GENDER AND ENERGY WORKSHOP

Validation of the ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessment in Energy Projects

26 – 28 June 2017

Kempinski Hotel
Accra, Ghana

Co- organized by:



In partnership with:



1. INTRODUCTION

The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) is organizing a 3-day Gender and Energy Workshop to validate the draft ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessments in Energy Projects. The workshop is scheduled to take place from 26 – 28 June 2017, at the Kempinski Hotel, in Accra, Ghana.

The ECOWAS Gender and Energy Workshop is organized jointly with the ECOWAS Department of Gender and Social Affairs, the West African Power Pool (WAPP), the ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERERA), the West African Gas Pipeline Authority (WAPGA) and the ECOWAS Infrastructure Projects Preparation and Development Unit (PPDU), and in partnership with PowerAfrica/USAID and the Clean Energy Solutions Centre.

The workshop will bring together people from the Ministries of Energy and regulatory agencies in the ECOWAS region, civil society organizations (CSOs), academia and research institutions, development partners, and representatives of other relevant stakeholder institutions who are interested in taking part in the movement to create a more gender inclusive energy sector in ECOWAS.

The workshop will provide a platform to introduce and deliberate on the draft ECOWAS Directive that will mandate gender assessments in energy infrastructure projects. With a consultative process, the aim is to ensure that the Directive addresses the concerns of the region and the Member States in promoting gender-responsive energy infrastructure development.

The event will feature:

- Training sessions on regulating gender assessments in the energy sector;
- Technical sessions to present and discuss the findings from the Background Study report on “Developing a Legal Instrument for Gender Assessment in Energy Infrastructure Planning and Development within ECOWAS”
- Technical sessions to present and review the draft ECOWAS Directive for Gender Assessment in Energy Projects as well as the Model Regulation that will guide implementation at the Member State Level.

The envisaged outputs from the workshop will include:

- The validated draft of the ECOWAS Directive for Gender Assessment in Energy Projects;
- The endorsed Background Study Report and Training Program Framework.

2. BACKGROUND

Countries of the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) have been taking significant steps to ensure that the way energy projects are planned and implemented incorporates and addresses the concerns of the male and female members of its community.

Recognizing the gender disparities in the energy sector, the Energy Ministers of the ECOWAS Member States, on the 9th of December 2016, adopted the ECOWAS Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access to address barriers to the equal participation of men and women in the expansion of energy access. Their

decision to adopt the Policy was preceded by the endorsement of the ECOWAS Energy Experts, who, on 5th June 2015, unanimously agreed that a Policy that created a level playing field for both men and women to contribute to the energy sector was needed to achieve the goal of universal energy access for the ECOWAS populace by 2030. At that meeting, ECREEE was requested to go even further to develop a legal instrument that mandated actors in the energy sector to incorporate gender assessments in energy infrastructure projects.

As a first step, a Background Study was conducted to:

- Analyse the gender related issues associated with energy infrastructure development, to document negative impacts from past interventions that demonstrate the risk of gender-blind energy planning and implementation;
- Understand the current energy regulatory framework in the ECOWAS region, to identify the extent to which gender assessments were being incorporated in energy project planning, causes for the lack of it and strategy for addressing this; and
- Set the stage for the creation and adoption of an ECOWAS regional legal instrument for conducting gender assessments of energy infrastructure projects.

The Background Study, 'Developing a Legal Instrument for Gender Assessment in Energy Infrastructure Planning and Development within ECOWAS,' revealed that energy sector governance was largely gender-blind. Moreover, compared to widely used environmental impact assessment practices, incorporating gender considerations in energy infrastructure planning is not widespread, even though gender-differentiated risks, impacts, and benefits are in many cases significant. Case-studies from West African energy projects reported on how the lack of gender-responsive energy projects led to expensive work stoppages from community members who felt their needs and interests were not taken on-board.

3. SCOPE AND PURPOSE

The ECOWAS Directive for Gender Assessment in Energy Projects is premised on the fact that without consideration of gender equality and inclusivity, the region is both limiting its ability to become a better community steward and more importantly to reach its full economic potential. ECREEE is taking the lead with ECOWAS energy agencies in developing the ECOWAS Directive to help ensure that gender considerations are taken on-board when energy infrastructure projects and investments are planned and executed. A 3-day workshop is planned to undertake a full and transparent validation process to review, debate and provide input on the draft Directive.

To help build understanding of the importance of gender assessments and to introduce the participants to the current practices vis-a-viz gender assessments in energy project development, the first day of the training will provide the opportunity for participants to be well-informed on:

- Gender and energy linkages and the role that gender assessments can play in energy planning and development;
- Global trends and best practice in conducting gender assessments;
- Tools for monitoring and enforcing compliance; and
- Skill-sets and knowledge required to successfully regulate the sector.

The objective of Day 1 of the training will enable participants (Member State representatives, Regulators, and other stakeholders) to appreciate the contents of the draft Directive and to assess its adequacy in addressing the issues identified in the Background Study Report.

Day 2 of the workshop will feature a presentation of the Directive and training on its implementation. The activity will be a deep dive into the provisions of the Directive and the range of considerations in adopting the Directive. It will lead to better understanding of the Directive and what it will mean for Member States to implement this in their country.

Day 3 of the workshop will focus on an in-depth review of the draft Directive by the Member State representatives.

4. PARTICIPANTS

The workshop will bring together a select number of experts from the Ministries of Energy, Regulatory Agencies, Ministries of Gender, ECOWAS institutions, development organizations, and academia, as well as all other stakeholder groups concerned.

Specifically, this will include:

- The Directors of Energy and the Ministries' representatives on the ECOW-GEN Technical Advisory Group (TAG)/ECOWAS Gender Focal Points;
- Representatives of Energy Regulatory Agencies in the ECOWAS Member States
- Representatives of ECREEE, ECOWAS Gender Department, ECOWAS Legal Department, ERERA, WAPP, WAPGA, and PPDU;
- Civil Society Organizations, particularly women groups;
- Energy project developers;
- Academia and research institutions;
- Development partners; and
- Representatives of other relevant stakeholder institutions.

5. OUTCOMES

The expected outcome of the Workshop is the validation of the ECOWAS Directive for Gender Assessment in Energy Projects, at the ECOWAS Energy Ministries' technical/operational level.

It is also envisaged that the workshop will result in the endorsement of the Background Study Report as a comprehensive informational material on gender in energy infrastructure development in ECOWAS.

Lastly, the workshop will lead to a clear understanding of the methods and support available to put the Directive into operation, at the ECOWAS Agency level and at the Member States level.

ECOWAS GENDER AND ENERGY WORKSHOP

FOR

VALIDATION OF THE ECOWAS DIRECTIVE ON GENDER ASSESSMENT IN ENERGY PROJECTS

26 – 28 June 2017

Kempinski Hotel
Accra, Ghana

Work Programme	
08:30	Day 1 26 June 2017 Registration of participants
Opening session	
09:00	Welcome remarks by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECREEE, Mr. Mahama Kappiah NREL, Mrs. Victoria Healey Power Africa, Mr. Alex Deprez Opening Speeches by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECOWAS Commissioner for Energy and Mines, Dr. Morlaye Bangoura Spanish Ambassador to Ghana, Her Excellency, Maria Alonso Minister for Energy, Republic of Ghana, Honourable Boakye Kyeremateng Agyarko
10:30	<i>Group picture</i> <i>Coffee break</i>
Setting the Stage Facilitator: ECOWAS Gender Department/ Gender Development Centre (EGDC)	
11:00	Election of Bureau Introduction of the Workshop: Scope, Objectives and Outcomes Ms. Monica Maduekwe, ECREEE
Training Workshop Gender Assessments in the Energy Sector: why, what, how Facilitator: ECOWAS Gender Department/ Gender Development Centre (EGDC)	
11:30	Training on Gender Assessments in the Energy Sector: why, what, how Mrs. Gabriela Factor, Community Insights Group
<i>Questions and Discussions</i>	
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30	Training on Gender Assessments in the Energy Sector: why, what, how Mrs. Gabriela Factor, Community Insights Group
Questions and Discussions	

15:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
	Presentation of the Background Study Report Facilitator: ECOWAS Gender Department/ Gender Development Centre (EGDC)
16:00	Presentation of the Background Study Report for the ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessments in Energy Projects Dr. Ellen Morris, Sustainable Energy Solutions (SES)
	Questions and Discussions
17:00	<i>Close of day</i>

Work Programme	
	Day 2 27 June 2017
9:00	Recap of Day 1 Member State Representative Objectives of Day 2 Ms. Monica Maduekwe, ECREEE
	Presentation of ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessment in Energy Projects Facilitator: Mrs. Obii Onouha, ECOWAS Legal Department
09:30	Legal Background and Context to Draft ECOWAS Directive for Gender Assessment in Energy Projects Dr. Sam Saunders, Sullivan and Cromwell (S&C)
	Questions and Discussions
11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
	Presentation of ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessment in Energy Projects Facilitator: Mrs. Obii Onouha, ECOWAS Legal Department
11:30	Presentation of Draft ECOWAS Directive for Gender Assessment in Energy Projects Dr. Sam Saunders, Sullivan and Cromwell (S&C)
	Questions and Discussions
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
	Training : Operationalizing the ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessment in Energy Projects Facilitator: Mrs. Obii Onouha , ECOWAS Legal Department,
14:30	Training : Implementing the ECOWAS Directive for Gender Assessment in Energy Projects in each Member State Dr. Sam Saunders, Sullivan and Cromwell (S&C)
	Questions and Discussions

	Presentation of the Model regulation and training framework for the ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessment in Energy Projects
16:30	Training : Implementing the ECOWAS Directive for Gender Assessment in Energy Projects in each Member State: Model Regulation and Training Framework Dr. Sam Saunders, Sullivan and Cromwell (S&C) Dr. Ellen Morris, Sustainable Energy Solutions
17:00	Close of Day 2

Work Programme	
	Day 3 of Workshop 28 June 2017
08:30	Recap of Day 2 Member State representative Objectives of Day 3 Ms. Monica Maduekwe, ECREEE
	Validation Process of the ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessment in Energy Projects: Facilitator: Dr. Morlaye Bangoura, ECOWAS Commissioner for Energy
09:00	Election of Chairperson
	Validation of the ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessment in Energy Projects Chairperson (Member State representative)
10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00	Validation of the ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessment in Energy Projects Chairperson (Member State representative)
12:30	Presentation and review of Workshop report Chairperson Closing of Validation Workshop ECOWAS Commissioner for Energy, Dr. Morlaye Bangoura
	Press Conference
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>

Workshop Contact Person

Ms. Monica Maduekwe

Coordinator – ECOWAS Programme on Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access (ECOW-GEN)

Email: mmaduekwe@ecreee.org

Phone: +238 9809689