

## Project Fact Sheet

Created: June 2006

### Turning Information into Empowerment: Strengthening Gender and Energy Networking in Africa (TIE-ENERGIA)

<b>Programme area:</b>	COOPENER, Strengthening local energy expertise in developing countries
<b>Target countries:</b>	Kenya, Uganda, Mali, Botswana, Swaziland, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania
<b>Status:</b>	Finished June 2007
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<b>Partners:</b>	<b>TIE-ENERGIA partners:</b> Eco (UK) Practical Action East Africa (Kenya) KuSiNi (Centre for Knowledge on Sustainable Governance and Natural Resources Management, Netherlands) EAETDN (East African Energy Technology Development Network, Regional office, Uganda)  <b>Network partners include</b> Zambia Ministry of Energy and Water Development (MoE), Zambia East African Energy Technology Development Network Uganda (EAETDN), Uganda ENDA-Tiers Monde, Senegal Friends of the Environment (FOTE), Nigeria Ghana Regional Appropriate Technology Industrial Service (GRATIS), Ghana Khalema Redeby & Associates, Lesotho Mali-Folkecenter, Mali Practical Action East Africa, Kenya Renewable Energy Association of Swaziland (REASWA), Swaziland Tanzania Traditional Energy Development & Environment Organisation (TaTEDO), Tanzania The Botswana Technology Centre (BOTEC), Botswana Practical Action Southern Africa, Zimbabwe
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.energia-africa.org">http://www.energia-africa.org</a>
<b>Objective:</b>	Mainstream gender into energy policy, project planning, and programmes as a means of integrating gender and energy into poverty reduction
<b>Benefits:</b>	Training, Human and institutional capacity building, Equality, Improved livelihoods, Poverty reduction
<b>Keywords:</b>	Gender, Policy, Capacity Building, Poverty reduction
<b>Duration:</b>	01/2005 – 06/2007
<b>Budget:</b>	€ 609,800 (EU contribution: 50%)
<b>Contract number:</b>	EIE/04/198/S07.39677



## Short description

The aim was to ensure that gender is integrated into energy issues in Africa by strengthening the human and institutional capacity in Africa. The main objectives were:

- To create a critical mass of gender-sensitive people who can influence policies, programmes and practices
- To increase awareness, knowledge and skills of development practitioners to integrate gender and energy concerns into sustainable development and poverty reduction programmes.
- To identify gender gaps in energy-poverty policies and make such issues visible to a wide audience, through national and international networking and advocacy initiatives to influence energy policies and programmes.

## Achieved results

The project has achieved the following key outputs:

- **Gender and energy training packages** in English and French have been developed, containing new and specifically developed gender-aware tools and techniques, for all stages of the energy project and policy cycle.
- **Accessible and adaptable training packages:** these six packages are modular and include guides for trainers, case studies, and interactive examples, so are comprehensive in providing short courses for policy makers or background for longer courses for energy practitioners.
- **Training of Trainers in East, West and Southern Africa** with 40 trainers having the skills to develop and deliver training on energy, poverty and gender issues in Africa, using the developed training packages.
- **National Training Workshops** were held, in 12 countries, with the trainers developing skills of over 260 development practitioners on how to influence policy and integrate gender into energy issues. The workshops were tailored to the national context, were multi-stakeholder and included action plans and follow up activities.
- **Gender audits carried out in Botswana, Kenya and Senegal** used tools developed and implemented to analyse factors that hinder mainstreaming gender in energy policy. The audit considers energy statistics, communication channels, energy policy, development strategies, and objectives and priorities of key institutions.
- **Validation workshops in Botswana, Kenya and Senegal** were held in order to reach consensus and ownership of the audit findings within the Energy Ministries and to discuss future recommendations and agree a plan of action. The reports produced are considered semi-official documents.
- **Global dissemination** in a variety of different formats and materials has been produced including: a project website; on line availability of all training resources, communication advice, workshop reports and other information; targeted advocacy material such as press releases, articles and flyers.

## Lessons learnt

Four key lessons have been drawn from the TIE-ENERGIA project:

- **Ensuring sustainability:** the majority of the energy policies, programmes and projects in the countries involved are gender blind so there is need for longer term capacity development and support. In order to keep the momentum and translate the development of individual capabilities into institutional capacity for change, there needs to be mentoring, tailored technical support, explicit step by step guides and contextual advice.
- **Involving Government:** Specifically involving government officials in the actual implementation of the activities was paramount in achieving the results, and long term sustainability, as their endorsement of the audits and training will help secure longer term participation and involvement of the key political actors.
- **Why communication is important:** Communication was a key administrative constraint, with long delays in legal and financial transactions. Longer time needs to be built into such projects to allow effective liaison and understanding between stakeholders, when dealing with 12 different countries across 3 regions.
- **Gender audits** have been undertaken in other sectors but not in energy, and it was proven how crucial such audits are in raising awareness and giving a critical understanding of why gender matters in energy policy

## Impacts from project

- **Enhanced resources/capabilities** to mainstream gender into energy policies and programmes across Africa
- **Distinct changes and perceptions** on why it is important to integrate gender and energy, especially among the Institutions and Ministries involved in the audits.
- **Behavioural change in Institutions** on the need to raise awareness and also incorporate practice so that gender is mainstreamed.

**TIE-ENERGIA has been pioneering in laying the groundwork for mainstreaming energy and gender with a comprehensive capacity building initiative across Africa in terms of scope and practitioners targeted**