

Advancing gender equality and women's self-empowerment



Equal access to energy is crucial with regards to gender equality. In line with SDG 5, EnDev is striving towards gender-transformative impacts. By making energy more accessible, the practical needs of women and girls can be better addressed. Further, the productive use of energy has the potential to increase incomes and contribute to economic self-empowerment.

EnDevs Ambition Level

'**Leaving no one behind**' is a key element in EnDev's strategy with a heightened focus on poor and vulnerable population groups and a specific focus on women and refugees. To further amplify its impact on gender, EnDev is now focusing on gender-transformative actions and re-calibrated its whole project architecture to better serve and capture gender-based impacts. To that end, EnDev utilised the vast existing knowledge from the field teams and further benefitted from the strategic cooperation with the gender-network ENERGIA. The new ambition level propels EnDev to the forefront of international best practices in the energy-access-sector.

EnDev's Gender Strategy

EnDev's Gender Strategy aims to promote gender equality and women's self-empowerment through expanding access to modern energy services for households, social institutions and micro, small to medium-sized enterprises in developing countries. EnDev's strategic goal hereby is:

"To promote gender equality and women's self-empowerment through expanding access to modern energy services for households, social institutions and micro, small to medium-sized enterprises in developing countries."

This will be achieved through the following impacts:



Poverty alleviation (through reduction in time and effort spent on domestic chores)



Economic development (increased income through energy entrepreneurship & productive use of energy)



Improved health (through reduction in indoor air pollution/ reduced drudgery in household chores, improved healthcare)



Improved education (through energization of educational institutions)

Further, an **Operational Guide** that outlines best practices and approaches for gender-transformative project design, implementation as well as monitoring ensures high-quality impacts and outcomes are achieved.

In Numbers: Gender in EnDev

- **12.9 million women and girls** gained access to energy
- **72,463 women have been employed** in MSMEs that gained new or improved access to energy
- **2,02 million women gained access to cleaner cooking energy** and thus 4,04 million women and girls have a reduced exposure to household air pollution
- **2,135 health centres** received access to energy which also improves essential health services for women and children

EnDev's Gender Transformative Approach

EnDev applies a rigorous and specialized screening process to ensure compliance with highest gender and safeguards standards. Further, EnDev has upgraded its vast monitoring system to better reflect gender-sensitive datapoints. Additionally, EnDev is rolling out dedicated Gender Action Plans in subsequent waves across its portfolio.

EnDev Gender Highlights



In **Tanzania**, EnDev (implemented by SNV) not only supports improved cookstoves (ICS) producers to scale up their businesses, but also engages the ICS producers' wives and husbands in a workshop to understand how the ICS business fits into the families' visions.



In **Ethiopia**, EnDev (implemented by GIZ) is cooperating with the Ministry of Water, Irrigation & Energy (MoWIE) and the Ethiopian Women in Energy (EWiEn) association for the yearly international women's day celebration to offer a

platform for women in the energy sector to network and exchange experiences on career development and leadership.



In **Bolivia**, EnDev (implemented by GIZ) is organizing the Fondo Energía de Mujer (also called FEM), a fund that supports rural SMEs led by women or with at least 40% of their active members being women via energy access as well as business level support including capacity building. This enables them to upscale their business ideas.



In **Uganda**, EnDev (implemented by GIZ) is supporting Africa Clean Energy (ACE) – a manufacturer and distributor of higher tier cookstoves – to construct a new production facility in northern Uganda, where the company committed to recruiting 50% female staff across all production processes. Furthermore, the manufacturer will receive gender-specific training to ensure that men and women are valued equally in the company.

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