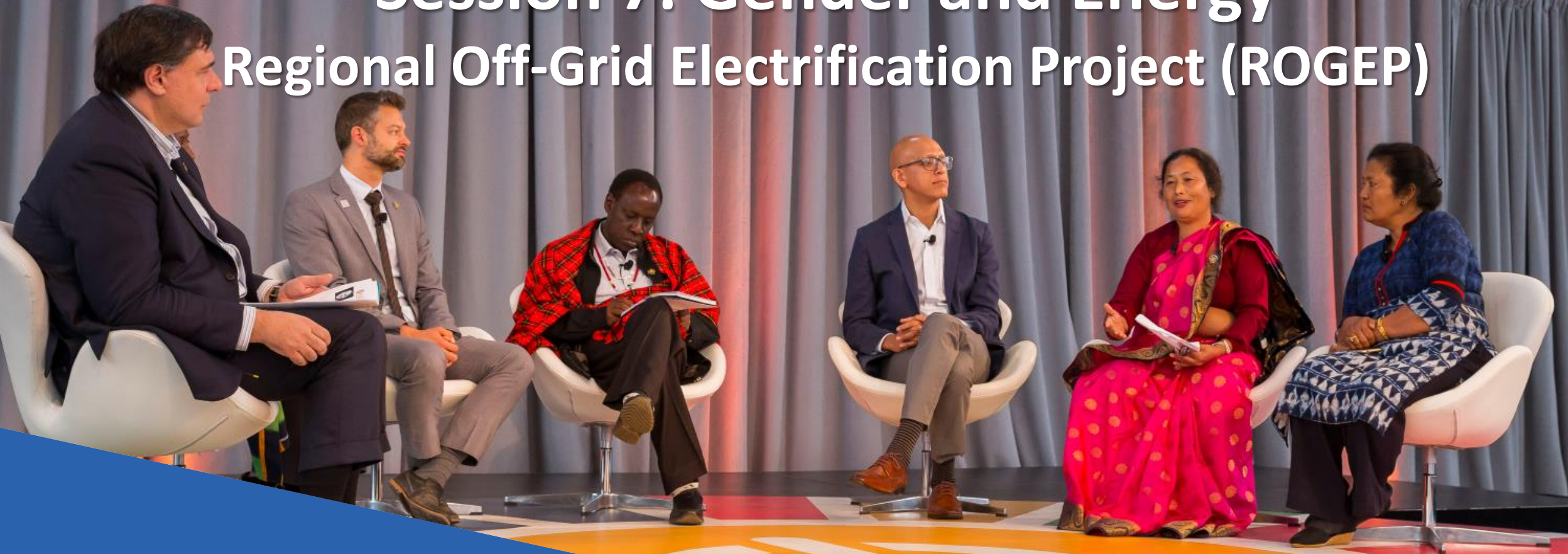


Session 7: Gender and Energy

Regional Off-Grid Electrification Project (ROGEP)



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Outline

- Why work on Gender AND Energy
- Introduction ENERGIA
- Evidence and lessons learned incorporating gender in energy projects, programmes and policy
- Recommendations for ROGEP

Why work in Gender and Energy & Introduction ENERGIA

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A woman wearing a patterned headscarf and a red and black patterned top is sitting on the floor in a rustic kitchen. She is looking towards the right, where a fire is burning in a hearth. A pot is hanging over the fire, and steam is rising from it. The background is a dark, textured wall.

1 billion people lack access to electricity

Energy poverty is gendered!

- Poorest of the poor
- Household Air Pollution
- Time poverty

3 billion people lack access to clean fuels for cooking

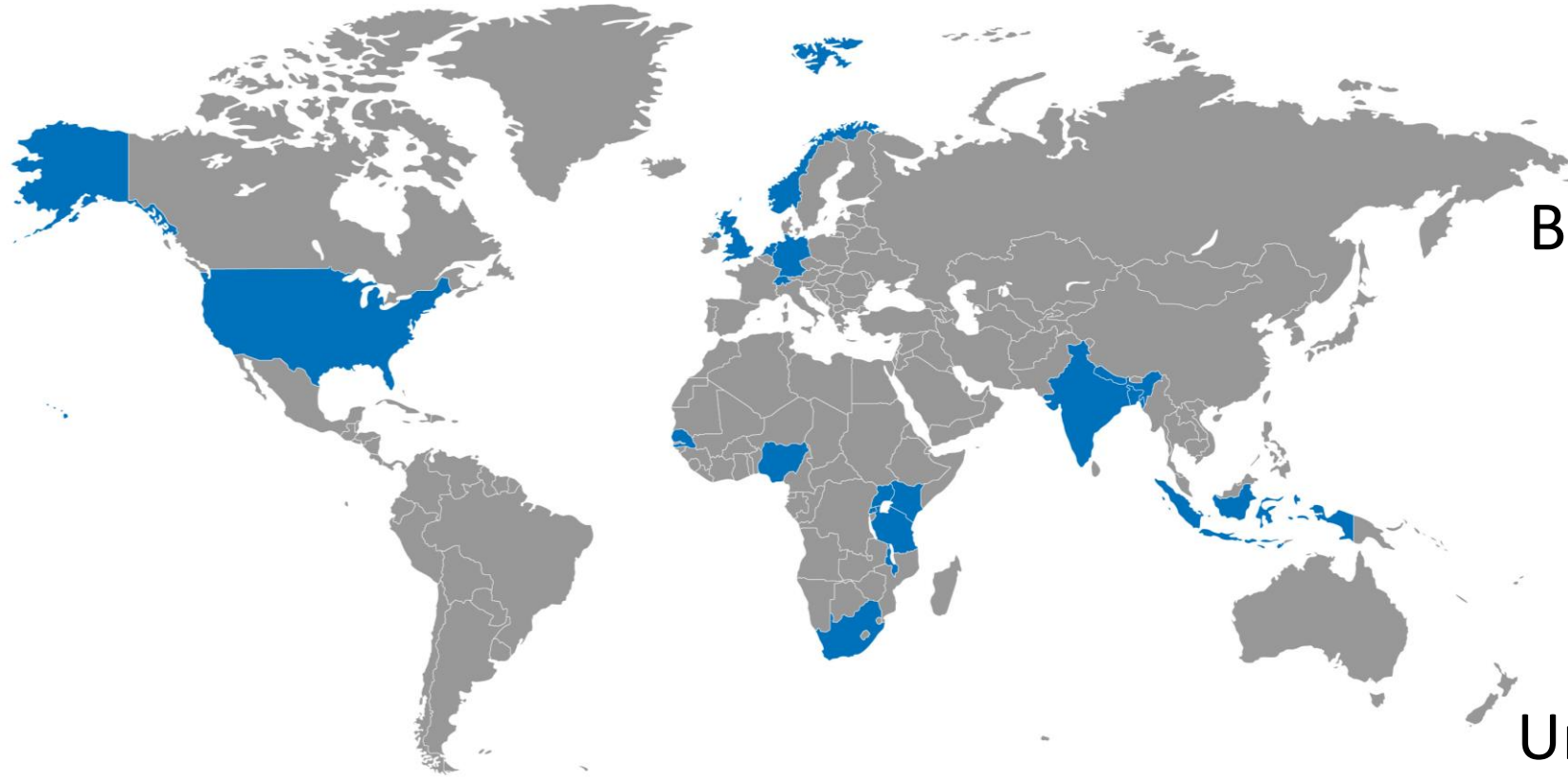
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- An international Network
- Established in 1996
- To create an institutional base for mainstreaming **gender equality** and **women's empowerment** into the energy sector in developing countries
- Hosted by Hivos in the Netherlands

Current program of work



Bangladesh, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Switzerland, Tanzania, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States

18 countries, 36 partner organisations

ENERGIA's Programme Approach



Women's Economic Empowerment: last mile entrepreneurship development, access to finance, markets & supply chains



Enabling policy environment: enhanced awareness and gender-responsive energy policies and institutions



Thought leadership: robust evidence base that informs energy policy and practice



Networking: facilitates alliances & strategic partnerships to act as global voice for change

Gender and Energy Research Programme

- 5-year research project (2014-2019) funded by DFID

Aim: Provide robust evidence on the interactions between energy, access and gender

- 9 teams, 12 countries, 29 partners

Five thematic areas: (i) electrification, (ii) productive uses of energy, (iii) energy sector reform, (iv) the role of private sector in scaling up energy access, (v) energy and related sector policy dynamics

Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) Programme (2012-18)

4,153 women entrepreneurs

- 70% recorded a positive profit margin in each quarter
- >95% who had taken loans not defaulted
- 82% involved in major household purchase decisions
- 72% taking business decisions for their enterprises.

2.9 million poor people in difficult-to-reach locations with energy access

Nepal, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Tanzania, Senegal, Uganda, Nigeria

Gender mainstreaming

- >40 medium/large scale energy access projects in Africa and Asia
- Assisted through a process of background assessment, gender action planning, and institutionalisation of GM processes





Sven Torfinn/ENERGIA

Key Findings of the Research

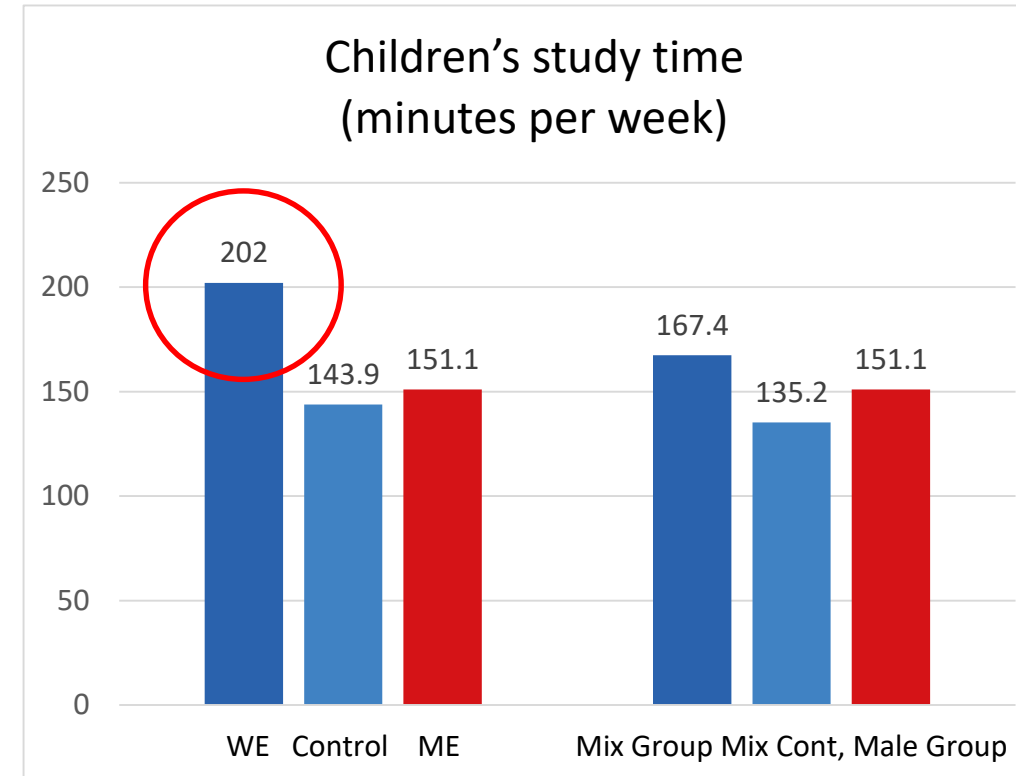
1. Universal energy goals are unlikely to be met unless energy policies account for women's specific energy needs

- ➔ Men and women have different energy needs
- ➔ Gender-neutral projects often reflect & reinforce gender roles in society
- ➔ Achieving gender equality requires a transformation in energy policy AND a change in processes, and changes within energy sector organisations.

2. Involvement of women in energy supply chain is good for business, their families and communities

- Women perform just as well if not better than men in enterprises charging small LED-lights
- Development impacts are seen at multiple levels

Source: University of Cape Town, IPA (2019)



3. Modern energy services for women's productive uses contribute to women's empowerment

- Men are more likely to benefit from PUE interventions
- Women are involved in businesses that require more fuels
- PUE contributes to women's empowerment
- PUE for women needs a number of complementary inputs



Five lessons ENERGIA has learned in working with women in energy sector

- Universal energy access = both women and men, as full participants in energy access interventions
- Strategy should combine mainstreaming and a targeted approach
- Women entrepreneurs (WEs) have a comparative advantage in last mile energy access
- Supporting WEs requires comprehensive, long term support
- An ecosystems approach is central to women's enterprise development



Recommendations for ROGEP

1A. Enabling environment (I)

To increase equal access to and benefit of energy access projects:

- Engage both women and men in the design, implementation, and M&E of energy policies & programs
- Align project interventions with national policies
- Use gender assessment, targeted interventions, and gender-responsive M&E to overcome gender norms and barriers

1A. Enabling environment (II)

To support women's businesses in renewable energy:

Overcome structural barriers that create bias against women within policy

- Enabling fiscal policies for off-grid clean energy products
- Industry standards and certification of products
- Improved ease of doing business for women, i.e. registration

1B. Entrepreneurship technical support

- Women entrepreneurs are unlikely to join on their own
- Type of support that enhance women's businesses :
 - At the individual level,*
 - Business education and skills development
 - Training to foster Leadership and personal agency
 - At the business level,*
 - Access to finance (investment and working capital)
 - Access to coaches, mentors and networks
- Local institutions are a good route to reaching new markets
- Ensure complementary inputs through linking with other players

1C. Entrepreneurship financing support

Access to finance is important, but must be accompanied by a combination of other measures.

- Barriers go beyond finance: linked to legal, regulatory context AND to socio-cultural norms
- Providing complementary services makes finance more effective
- Consider innovative models that take into account the cultural context: actively linking entrepreneurs with financial institutions, leasing models

1 D: Barrier Removal for Challenging Markets

- Women's enterprises provide a ready springboard for energy access interventions
- Women and their networks are well positioned to reach poor, difficult to reach markets
- Complement the private sector



Gender in the transition to sustainable energy for all:
From evidence to inclusive policies

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Supporting last-mile women energy entrepreneurs:
What works and what does not

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THANK YOU!

<https://www.energia.org/>

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