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#### **Mainstreaming gender in energy**

#### sector: An integrated approach

ENERGIA INTERNATIONAL NETWORK ON GENDER & SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Soma Dutta, ENERGIA WEPOWER 2<sup>nd</sup> PARTNERSHIP FORUM



- 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
- Works in in **18 countries** with 36 partner organisations
- Hosted by Hivos in the Netherlands



### **ENERGIA's Programme Approach**



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



Gender mainstreaming: enhanced awareness and gender-responsive energy policies and institutions

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

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



### The WEE programme

Provide support to NGOs and social enterprises partners to work directly with women in last mile communities to establish and grow micro and small sustainable enterprises and productive uses in renewable energy value

Integrated support package: technical, business and leadership

Ongoing mentoring

Access to finance

Linkage with relevant actors in value chain

Strengthen enabling environment

# Women's businesses receive integrated BDS and mentorship support

**Recruitment** to Wonder Women program **Skill development** on technical, business and leadership aspects

WEs are kitted to start businesses Supplier linkage, finance facilitation Continuous **support and mentoring** support business planning, growth and capital access Participants grow empowered, enjoy improved lives, and have a positive influence in their communities



**Baseline surveys** 



#### Post-training test







Routine communication & monthly monitoring

Follow-up surveys

Integrated and customised mentoring support

### WEE: Results on the ground

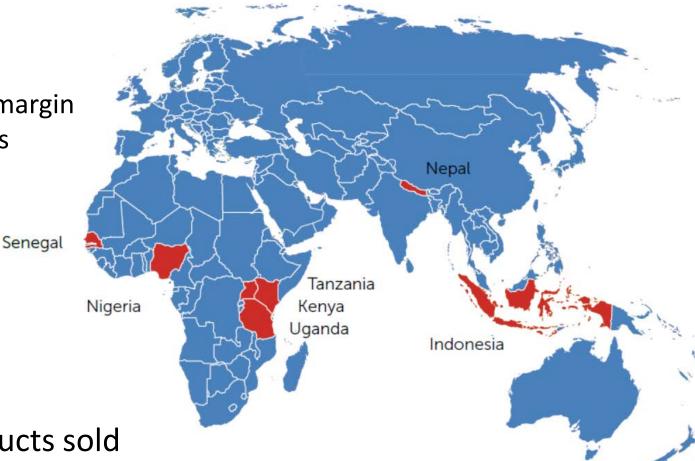


#### 4,153 women entrepreneurs

- 70% recorded a positive profit margin
- > 95% have no defaults on loans
- > 90% have been in operation for an average of 1.9 yrs



#### 5,311 people employed





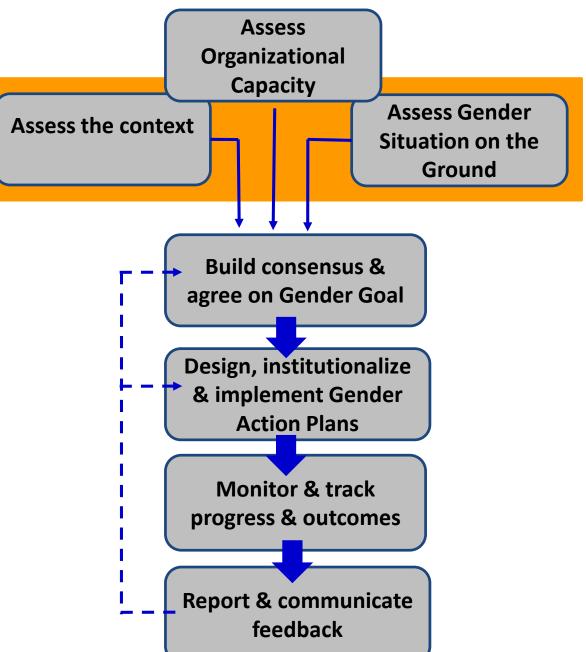
663,097 quality energy products sold

Has reached over 2.9 million households to date

### **Gender Mainstreaming**

Provide technical assistance and capacity building support to electricity utilities, rural electrification agencies & donors to mainstream gender in energy programs and institutions

> Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Kenya, Liberia, Benin, Botswana, Uganda, Tanzania



### Some outcomes of working with Utilities

Nepal GESI strategy and operational guidelines Institutional structure

Gender strategy, gender disaggregation of data, employment targets

Kenya

- Kenya Power
- Botswana Power Corporation
- Rural Electrification Agency, Uganda
- Ministry of land, mines and energy, Liberia
- Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy, Mozambique
- Nepal Electricity Authority
- Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Itd

Botswana

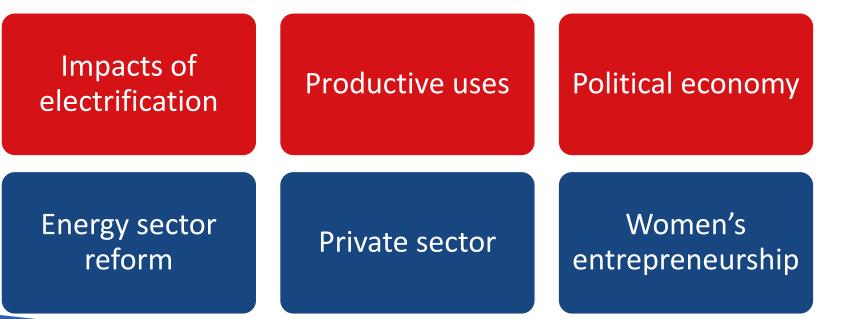
Women headed households Ready boxes Tamil Nadu (India)

Gender friendly work conditions

Mentoring

#### **Gender and Energy Research Program**

#### **Empirical evidence for policy and practice**



Provide support to research consortia to conduct robust evidence of the interactions between energy access and gender for uptake in policy and practice



### **Gender and Energy Research: Results**

- 1. Women are not automatic receivers of benefits of modern energy
- 2. Involvement of women in energy supply chain is good for business, their families and communities
- 3. Improving the affordability, reliability, capacity and convenience of modern energy services is key
- 4. End-use appliances that deliver modern energy services to reduce drudgery and save time can transform gender roles and relations
- 5. Engaging with political processes can help women access modern energy services and change gender norms



#### Advocacy & policy influencing

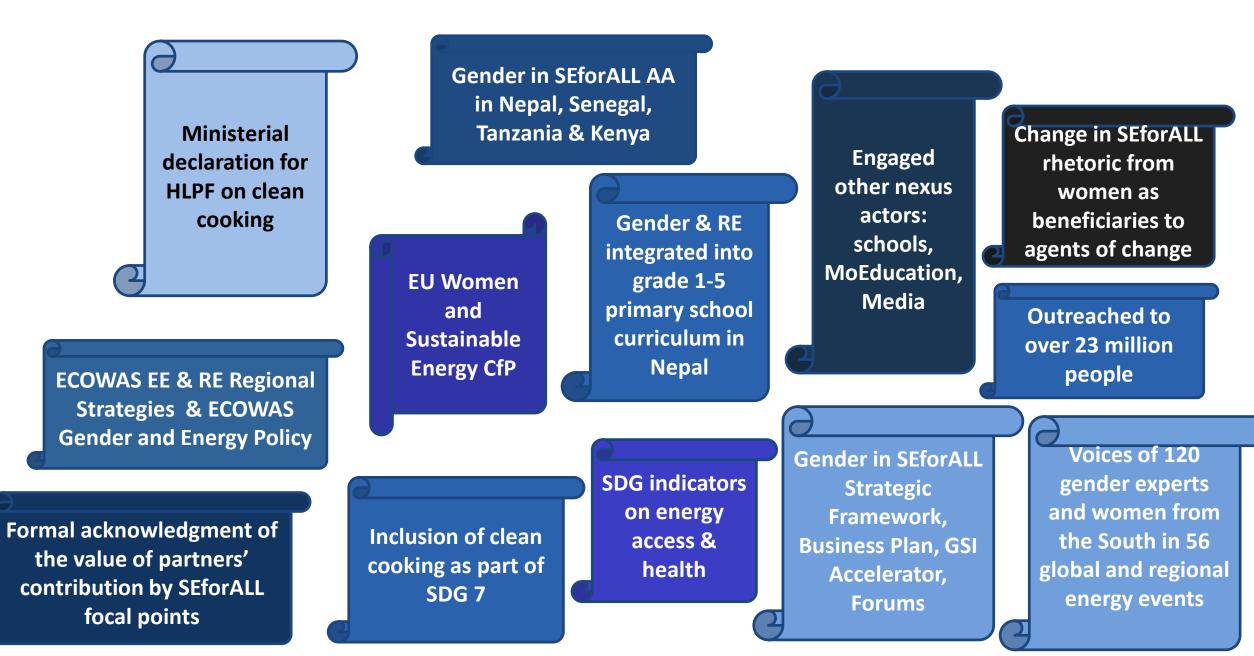
Advocate for inclusive energy policies and markets Local, national, regional, global

Change decision making by energy planners & policy makers

Catalyze interest & collaboration with key energy stakeholders

Strengthen alliances with governments Position ENERGIA in global/national energy and development agenda

#### **Outcomes we are proud to have contributed to!!**



## https://www.energia.org/

