

A photograph showing two women in a rural setting. The woman on the left, wearing a red and white checkered shirt, is operating a green manual mill. She is pouring a blue liquid from a blue container into the mill's hopper. The woman on the right, wearing a purple and white patterned shirt, is looking on. The background shows a wooden wall with some graffiti and a window with a striped curtain.

MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN PLANNING SUSTAINABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

Prof. Anoja Wickramasinghe
Dept. of Geography
University of Peradeniya
SRI LANKA

Technology Options



Challenges

- Skewness in Energy use & access to technology;
- Exhaustion of women's labour- productive time & development partnership;
- Poor technology in the popular energy domain;
- Inadequate transition – continue on same old fashion;
- Excluded areas – women, cooking energy technology, clean/modern energy for cooking, productive use of energy technology.

3 Key Areas

1. Planning SET Taking into account 3 pillars of SD:

Social – acceptable;

Economic – feasible;

Environmental – environmentally healthy;

2. SET in response to Gender:

Recognizing gender specific energy needs, concerns and priorities in planning SETs;

3. Mainstreaming: - Engendering the stream of SET from the stage of designing to extension, monitoring & evaluation by integrating gender; Introduce gender indicators for measures of change.

Mainstreaming Process

- Recognize gender equality as an area of concern - specific energy needs, use, response to make a change in local situation (poverty, women's drudgery);
- Design & Develop technologies responding to men's & women's needs, with special attention to women's practical, productive & strategic needs;

- **Technology extension** for improving/widening access to clean energy technology:
 - for improving quality of life;
 - to facilitate production/income;
 - to provide instruments & means for the poor
- **Technology adoption** – solving practical difficulties through capacity building & financing;
- **Establish indicators** to measure changes expected in gender relations, economy, income, leisure, environment etc.
- **Measure changes** – Build local capacity & build social capital.

Mainstreaming gender in planning SET for Poverty Reduction

Areas of concerns

Improved biomass supply, conversion & utilization

- Better quality wood supply
- In close access
- Improved stoves
- Improved kitchen space
- End use devices
- Biogas
- Dendro-energy

Practical

- Less cumbersome
- Cooking with high calorific wood supply
- Reduce risks & injuries
- Less time in gathering & portaging
- Reduce time in walking & cooking
- Less timing kitchen cleaning
- Improved indoor air
- Improved health

Productive

- More time for productive work & income generation
- Output for women's labour
- Enhanced labour efficiency
- Mechanical power
- Access to information

Strategic

- Improved family wellbeing
- High quality human capital
- Gender equality
- Enterprise

Examples

• *Multiple effects of SET on agriculture & farm women*

Energized water pumping



Modern irrigation system
(Drip irrigation)

- Time & Labour saving
- High water use efficiency
- Reduced water extraction
- Reduced vulnerability

More lands on crops;
Crop rotation;
More yield;
Promising Market.

Agro-Enterprise;
Regular Income.





Gender mainstreaming is to address:

- Women's & men's energy needs & technology issues evolved in relation to the socialized image on women's & men's roles; promote multiple energy options for multiple needs; gender inequality in accessing improved & modern energy technology & its use in reproductive & reproductive work ensuring that **SET** is available, accessible & affordable in facilitating economic advancement for poverty reduction.

Thank You

