



Energy in the SDGs

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&

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See WMG paper with recommendations and critical analysis of the UNTST issue brief at: http://www.womenrio20.org/policy_statements.php



Lack of access to safe energy

- Approximately 2.8 billion people (40% of the world population) still rely on traditional biomass to cook and heat their homes.
- 1.2 billion People don't have access to electricity. Up to a billion more have access only to unreliable electricity networks.



Women: majority of underserved

- Majority of un & under served are rural poor, mainly women who make up 70% of world's poor
- Women in most developing countries, especially in rural areas, are energy managers, they:
 - collect and carry fuelwood (and other biomass) over long distances
 - cook, all too often, on inefficient and polluting cookstoves
 - use inefficient, polluting and often hazardous fuels and energy technologies in small, informal industries
- The lack of energy services disproportionately impacts on women ability to earn an income and lift themselves and their families out of poverty

Health impacts of lack of access to safe and sustainable energy

- 4 million people die prematurely each year from negative impacts of indoor biomass cooking smoke, due to diseases such as
 - acute respiratory illnesses and even cancer
 - 80% of who are women and young children under the age of 5
- lack of energy services is also one of the reasons for the slow progress on MDG 5 which refers to maternal deaths

'Unsustainable' Energy

- Women are particularly affected by **land-grabbing from large biomass investments**. They bear the brunt of food insecurity that is exacerbated by unsustainable biofuels policies
- Women suffer the impacts of **unsustainable fossil fuel extraction, including fracking** and other polluting energy developments.
- Women and children more at risks from **health impacts of radiation**. Example: Fukushima contaminating all Pacific region. Nuclear needs grid infrastructure: no fast solution for the underserved communities.
- There is a need to **reduce energy consumption** in countries that use way too much.

What women want



Goal: Sustainable Energy and Energy Sovereignty

- Goal on sustainable energy and energy sovereignty for all
 - with universal and equitable access to clean energy for cooking, lighting and productive uses,
 - which protects the climate, ecosystems and communities including women's livelihoods and rights
- Aim for renewable, safe, affordable, small scale, community run, and democratically controlled energy for all
- MOI: Global partnerships and initiatives must :
 - Credible accountability and regulatory mechanisms
 - Strong criteria and assessment what kind of energy is sustainable
 - Protect human rights and the environment
 - Participation of the local people who are supposed to benefit
- Target: achieve gender equality in access to and control over safe and renewable energy resources and technologies

Target: women and sustainable energy

Aim: all women should have access and control over/to safe, sustainable, affordable energy for household and productive uses

Indicators resulting from improved access would include:

- Reductions in household air pollution (related diseases);
- Increases in the number of clean cookstoves and productive energy technologies sold, disseminated and used,
- Reductions and redistribution of time spent (e.g. cooking and fuel collection);
- Increased control over and access to sustainable energy services;
- Number of women's enterprises using clean fuels and improved energy technologies;
- Number of women engaged as clean energy technology/service providers and entrepreneurs