Operationalizing the ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessment in Energy Projects

Monica Maduekwe
ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE)
Presentation Outline

1. A brief **background** on the Directive’s formulation (3 Scenarios considered)

2. **Validation to Adoption**: the ECOWAS Process

3. **Where we are**

4. **What to expect** after the final point of adoption
Background: Legal framework for the gender-responsive policy

- The Directive establishes the legal framework for the implementation of the **ECOWAS Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access**

- **Objectives**
  - Ensure that the specific interests of women and men are taken into account
  - Potential impacts are recognized, avoided or mitigated to the extent possible
  - Improve transparency in planning and implementation processes
  - Encourage a harmonized approach across the region in alignment with these principles
Background: 3 Scenarios

Scenario A: ECOWAS Directive
- Commits to a single objective, but allows flexibility on the legal and regulatory mechanism for achieving this.
- Member states could have the choice on implementing as a stand-alone law, an amendment(s) to existing law, or as a series of binding administrative regulations.

Scenario B: ECOWAS Regulation
- General application and all their provisions should be enforceable and directly applicable in each of the Member States, without any implementing action at the national level.

Scenario C: Business As Usual (No new legal instrument)
Validation to Adoption (1)

1. Stakeholder consultations
2. Public review
3. ECOWAS Experts meetings
4. (Pre)validation
5. Ministers’ meeting
6. Heads of State
7. Review by statutory bodies
8. National governments
9. Developing national legislations
Where we are (1)

Experts Meeting

Energy Ministers

Council of Ministers (13 – 15 December 2018)

ECOWAS Experts Meeting (26 - 28 June 2017)
Where we are (2)

Priorities at the regional level

• Supporting the establishment of Gender Focal Units (GFUs) in the ministries of energy.

• Equipping GFUs and NGOs with the knowledge and skills to operationalize the principles of the regional policy and directive.

• Build up a pipeline of case studies starting with ECREEE energy projects

• Support countries to develop national strategies and legislations
Where we are (3): Result of training workshop on the policy and directive

Pre-evaluation (Anglophone training)

1. WHAT IS GENDER? - 80%
2. WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND BY GENDER MAINSTREAMING? - 60%
3. PRACTICAL AND STRATEGIC GENDER NEED RELATED TO ENERGY - 50%
4. 5 OBJECTIVES OF ECOWAS POLICY ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING - 29%
5. WHAT IS GENDER SENSITIVE PLANNING? - 21%
6. 2 GENDER INDICATORS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY - 21%
7. WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND BY GENDER ASSESSMENT OF A DOCUMENT, PROGRAM OR POLICY? - 57%
8. IMPORTANCE OF GENDER IN ENERGY - 71%

Post-evaluation (Anglophone training)

1. WHAT IS GENDER? - 100%
2. WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND BY GENDER MAINSTREAMING? - 86%
3. PRACTICAL AND STRATEGIC GENDER NEED RELATED TO ENERGY - 93%
4. 5 OBJECTIVES OF ECOWAS POLICY ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING - 86%
5. WHAT IS GENDER SENSITIVE PLANNING? - 79%
6. 2 GENDER INDICATORS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY - 64%
7. WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND BY GENDER ASSESSMENT OF A DOCUMENT, PROGRAM OR POLICY? - 79%
8. IMPORTANCE OF GENDER IN ENERGY - 100%
What to expect at the different levels of implementation

**Institutional**
- Circulate provisions of the directive
- Identify competent authority
- Capacity building & Development

**Legal & Regulatory**
- Translation of regional directive into national law

**Operational**
- Establishment of competent authority procedures
- Training of key actors (regulators, NGOs, project developers)
- M &E
Partners: