



CCDA-V

Africa, sustainable development and climate change
Prospects of Paris and beyond

ClimDev-Africa



Women's Role Towards A Just Energy Transition

The case of wPOWER

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Sustainable Development vs. Climate Change

“Women, through their roles as community leaders, farmers, entrepreneurs, producers and household managers are disproportionately impacted by the burdens of Climate Change”

- Schalatek & Burns (2015)

Differentiated energy needs

Women and men, are users of energy and natural resources

- Gendered Divisions of labour
- Women and men have differentiated energy needs

Biomass

- 68% of Kenya's national energy needs – Practical Action (2010)
- High energy demand vs. Low energy potential



Women as Energy Entrepreneurs

Partnership on Women's Entrepreneurship in Renewables, '*wPOWER*'

- Accounts for needs & technological capacities of women in relation to men
- Clean Cookstoves Vs. Traditional 3 Stone Fire Stoves
- Translate knowledge and skills into opportunities for enhanced energy efficiency & economic empowerment
- AIM: deliver clean energy access to 3.5 million Africans by 2016
- Liberates women and girls from household tasks



Lead up to COP 21: Findings

Women are essential to Climate Change solutions

Gaps in the representation of women at the UNFCCC

- African Continent has lowest representation of women (24%) – (WEDO 2014)
- Power dynamics; local gender responsive initiatives become highly important



Expectations of women & gender equality advocates at COP21

Integration of women's priorities into technology development & transfer provisions

Specific calls for action from the WGC:

- Systems change not Climate Change
- Avoiding a 1.5 C global temperature rise
- Ensuring gender equality & human rights in climate actions
- Commitments by developed countries to take the lead, provide developing countries the means to mitigate & adapt to Climate Change

Conclusions

Paradigm shift

- Role of women as agents of change, *not* victims.

wPOWER

- Involves women in various value chains of development strategies

‘Women will not be mainstreamed into a polluted stream’ – (Bella Abzug)



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