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"How will global climate change impact women's fuel situation?" The photograph shows a woman from the rural areas in South African transporting fuelwood. (Photo: Courtesy of Elizabeth Cecelski, Germany)

News from the Editors

Gender and Energy Policy at CSD9

Welcome to this special issue of **ENERGIA News**, which has been prepared in the run-up to the CSD9 meeting in New York in April 2001. Under our new policy, this issue has been edited by a member of the Editorial Board, **Margaret Skutsch**, together with a guest editor, **Njeri Wamukonya**, who is working with the UNEP Collaborating Centre at Risø in Denmark.

The 1992 Rio UNCED conference was a milestone in getting sustainable development onto the international agenda. The process is continued with the annual CSD meetings, which focus on a different sector each year. They provide a forum at which Environment Ministers from at least 60 countries and high-level UN officials mingle with NGO activists, they therefore offer a unique opportunity for dialogue and exchange of opinion. At these meetings, national policies can be influenced as well as international ones. CSD9, which will take place in April in New York, has Energy and Transport as its sectoral issues. *ENERGIA* is of the opinion that this is a golden opportunity to highlight the gender issue in energy and to promote the idea of gender mainstreaming in the energy sector. Most of the participants in CSD9 will probably be well informed, in general terms, about gender in development and will be sympathetic to this; but the question of how

to integrate it, in concrete ways, into energy policy and planning may be one they have never stopped to think about. Not only do government officials need to consider this question, but also many of the NGOs.

In this issue it is seen that gender in energy is not only a Southern issue but also a Northern one. Poor Northern women might be facing energy problems just as Southern women are, and that they are generally worse off than their male counterparts, especially in war torn zones.

At international meetings on environmental matters there are many burning issues which compete for attention. For example, at the CoP6 meeting on climate change in The Hague last November, negotiations broke down mainly over the question of sinks. When conflict becomes centred on one key issue there is an unfortunate tendency to forget that environmental questions are multi-faceted. As reported in the article by Njeri Wamukonya and Margaret Skutsch, the gender question was hardly raised during the CoP6, despite the fact that it was considered a serious issue by the Chairman of the meeting. Jens Mackensen's article notes the failure of LULUCF climate policy to address the gender issue, despite the fact that the effects of its operationalisation are likely to be quite gender specific. An interesting statement from the World Youth Organisation for Climate Change points out that not only women, but also youth, have been so far ignored in the international discussion on climate change.

If gender is to take its place among other issues at such gatherings this cannot just be left to chance: plans need to be made, policy recommendations need to be clear, and the issue needs to have a physical visibility. Fortunately, for CSD9, there have been a number of very important inputs well in advance. *ENERGIA* has prepared a position paper on gender and energy as a basis for further discussion at the meeting. You can download this from the *ENERGIA* website (www.energia.org) or from the CSD NGO site (www.csdngo.org/csdngo, look for 'women' under 'major groups'). This paper identifies all the major commitments made by the UN and other organisations in support of gender mainstreaming and highlights what we feel to be the major issues and needs as regards gender in the energy sector.

Minu Hemmati's paper in this issue explains how the CSD9 is organised and how the NGO forum works, including the role of the Women's Caucus. On the topic of gender and energy, a CSD preparatory meeting in Berlin last December proposed a large number of very concrete actions, including the development of gender-related guidelines for investment policies in the energy sector, seeking the commitment of shareholders in all multilateral development banks, signalling the missing gender analyses in NGO and other campaigns on energy, and targeting all energy-related research to ensure that it includes a gender component (you can access a report on this meeting and its results at www.earthsummit2002.org/workshop).

Other meetings, such as that on Women and Energy held in Durban in December 2000, reported in this issue by Washington Nyabeze, and the Village Power Meeting at the World Bank, described here by Mukami Rimerberia and Johanna Gregory, have resulted in strong policy statements which can also be taken up at CSD9. These statements highlight the need to design practical frameworks to integrate gender into policy as well as the importance of partnerships between men and women in addressing gender issues.

In this issue it is seen that gender in energy is not only a Southern issue but also a Northern one. Joy Clancy's paper indicates that poor Northern women might be facing energy problems just as Southern women are, and that they are generally worse off than their male counterparts, especially in war torn zones. She notes that the proportion of women workers in the energy sector in the North is quite low, and that they often feel a sense of isolation. Networking can play an important role in overcoming this.

All these issues are up for discussion and further development at CSD9. *ENERGIA* and ENDA Energy have opened a gender and energy CSD9 e-group, and are jointly hosting a side event to which a variety of groups have been invited to present their views and strategies as regards gender and energy, in the form of a market. This open format is meant to stimulate ideas and to attract participants from all fields present at CSD9, to show them what is being done and how ideas are developing for mainstreaming gender in energy.

For those not able to travel to New York, there is every opportunity to participate through the ether. Minu Hemmati's paper concludes with a goldmine of useful addresses and websites through which you can join the discussion and make your views known. You can join the CSD Women's Caucus at www.csdngo.org/csdngo. This is the time to make your voice on gender and energy heard. ■



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News from the Secretariat

Dear Readers,

We are now in the second year of the second phase of *ENERGIA*. A lot has happened since its inception and we would like to share this with you. To help us do this, we have introduced a new section in *ENERGIA* News entitled “News from the Secretariat”. In this, we will endeavour to bring to your attention the most important issues and activities that *ENERGIA* has been involved in, or is planning for the future. We hope that you will find this informative, and that it will provide you with a greater insight into the network’s progress.

The Principles of *ENERGIA*

At the *ENERGIA* Advisory Board meeting in November 1999, a request was made for *ENERGIA* to define its basic principles. Based on *ENERGIA*’s mission statement, draft principles were prepared by the *ENERGIA* Steering Committee. These were then circulated to the *ENERGIA* Support Group (made up of more than 30 members active globally in gender and energy initiatives who support, advise on, and participate in, *ENERGIA* activities) for comments and approval. After revisions were made to incorporate the very useful comments received, the following final principles have been adopted:

The mission of *ENERGIA* is to empower women and to engender energy for sustainable development.

To empower women means:

- to help provide women, and particularly poor women, with more options and better choices of energy for household use

- to help provide women, and particularly poor women, with energy for income earning activities, both existing and new
- to reduce health risks to women from the collection and use of traditional energy sources
- to facilitate women’s access to credit and banking facilities and the means of producing energy for community level energy supply
- to increase the amount of information available to women on energy technologies and resources, to help them make informed choices
- to stimulate the provision of training of women in technologies, and in the marketing and business skills necessary for them to become effective energy entrepreneurs
- to help women contribute to, and participate more effectively in, energy policy and planning processes by a variety of means
- to raise awareness of the importance of energy in women’s lives, among all development practitioners.

To engender energy means:

- to increase the awareness of all professionals in the energy sector of the benefits from, and the need to, mainstream the gender approach, so that it becomes integral and inherent in every energy planning decision and not a separate activity
- to consciously seek advice both from women and from men in planning energy, and to identify, explain, and respond to the differences in their advice
- to increase the participation of women and improve their status relative to men in the energy sector at all levels, and in particular to support and encourage the professional development of women in this area.

Sustainable development has been defined in a variety of ways, for example in the Brundtland Report as “development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. It implies not just the sustainable use of physical resources but sustainability of institutions and social equity. Specifically, *ENERGIA* defines sustainable development as:

- development that promotes the health of both the environment and the people
- development that furthers social and economic equity (between men and women, between societal groups, between North and South)

- development that is self-sustaining and ongoing, financially and otherwise
- development that works towards poverty alleviation and ensures sustainable livelihoods for women as well as for men.

The gender approach implies not just analysis of the differential impacts of proposed projects on women and on men, but a full recognition of men’s and women’s different needs for energy, based on consultations which consciously seek advice from both men and women; also recognition of the potential of men and of women to participate in energy supply; and of the need to tackle institutional barriers which limit women’s participation in energy planning and production, and in their access to energy for a variety of end uses.

From Women to Gender

We are happy to announce that because gender is now a more familiar term than it was six years ago when *ENERGIA* started, the network’s name has been changed from “*ENERGIA*, An International Network on Women and Sustainable Energy” to “*ENERGIA*, An International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy”. This decision was made after consultation with the *ENERGIA* Support Group.

ENERGIA is open to both women and men from the South and the North who are interested in promoting its goal of sustainable energy development that is equitable for all. *ENERGIA*’s goal continues to be to engender energy and empower women, through the promotion of information exchange, research, advocacy and action aimed at strengthening the role of women in sustainable energy development.

Partnering with the South on *ENERGIA* News

The vision of *ENERGIA* from the start has been to “southernise” not only the membership but also their influence over the network and thus its has consciously strived to avoid Northern domination. In particular there is a strong commitment to enabling the grass roots to participate effectively in the network.

In doing so, *ENERGIA* aims to support capacity building at the national and regional level in all its activities. *ENERGIA* has now adopted the policy of having a guest editor from the South for each issue of *ENERGIA* News. This year, four issues are

planned with the following themes and guest editors:

- *Gender in Energy - CSD9* with Ms Njeri Wamukonya from Kenya, who is working at UNEP Collaborating Centre on Energy and Environment (UCCEE) in Roskilde, Denmark
- *Gender in the Energy Supply Side* with Mr Estomiah N. Sawe from Tanzania, who is working with the Traditional Energy Development and Environment Organisation (TaTEDO) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- *Energy, Gender and Health* with Jyoti Parikh from India, who is working at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR) in Mumbai, India and Yasmin von Schierding, who works for the World Health Organisation
- *Gender, Energy and Social Development*. A guest editor for this issue has still to be identified.

Information Officer

We have recently appointed a part-time Information Officer, Anja Koerhuis. Anja has worked on Gender and Energy in Tanzania. She is busy updating our web page and producing an electronic newsletter.

CSD9

The Commission on Sustainable Development, which was founded in 1993 to oversee the implementation of Agenda 21, will have its 9th session (CSD9) from 16th to 27th April 2001. *ENERGIA* will participate in CSD9 as a member of both the CSD NGO Women's Caucus and the NGO Energy Caucus.

ENERGIA and ENDA Tiers Monde – Programme Energie/Senegal are jointly preparing a one-day side event for CSD9. So far *ENERGIA* and ENDA have been involved in preparations for CSD9 in the following ways:

1. Prepared a position paper on behalf of *ENERGIA* and the CSD NGO Women's Caucus, as input to the Secretary-General's report, the EU and NGO Dialogue Sessions, etc. This is now posted on the *ENERGIA* web site and NGO Women's Caucus Site <http://www.earthsummit2002.org/wcaucus/csd9/CSD9.htm>
2. This edition of *ENERGIA News* is a special issue on CSD9
3. Joy Clancy, a member of the *ENERGIA* Steering Committee, is acting as technical advisor to the book of case studies that UNDP is preparing for CSD9
4. *ENERGIA* identified two participants, one a member of the Support Group, Lalita Balakishnan, and Hespina Rukato to attend the Berlin meeting on gender and CSD9 in January 2001 - sponsored by the German government and organized by UNED Forum to provide inputs into the Earth Summit 2002. Hespina Rukato presented a background paper on gender and energy perspectives from the South and Ulrike Roehr prepared a background paper on gender and energy perspectives from the North
5. *ENERGIA* participated in the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Energy and Sustainable Development (IGEESD) meeting held from 26th February to 2nd March in New York at UN Headquarters. The objective of *ENERGIA*'s participation was to lobby for the inclusion of gender in the outcome document of the meeting, which will form the basis of the negotiations at the CSD session itself in April
6. ENDA Energy, has been actively involved in climate change and participated at the Rio Summit and at each Climate Change, Conference of Party meeting since ENDA was entrusted with a GEF capacity building project to assist four African countries in their national communications. Equally, ENDA Energy

has played a huge role in training, advocacy and lobbying for African countries through awareness raising and capacity building in climate change. In the area of desertification, since the Rio summit in 1992, ENDA Energy has played an active role in the implementation of the Convention, including acting as the African focal point for the International Network of NGOs on Desertification (RIOD)

7. Currently ENDA Energy is launching a gender and energy network in Senegal which will subsequently be extended and linked to other like-minded networks and institutions in West Africa.

ENERGIA News Volume 4 Issue 2: Gender in the Energy Supply Side

This issue of *ENERGIA News* will focus on the supply side of energy. It is more common to think of women as users of energy (the demand side). Their role as producers of energy (supply side) is traditionally perceived to be limited to biomass for rural household fuels, for example from wood lots and agricultural residues. Men are usually regarded as the suppliers of energy. *ENERGIA News* 4-2 will explore these perceived roles. For example, are women involved in commercial charcoal production? How does energy supply impact on women's lives? How do women respond to large-scale energy projects in their communities? Are women taking up new opportunities to become energy entrepreneurs? ■



◆ Sheila Oparaocha
ENERGIA Coordinator
On behalf of the *ENERGIA*
Steering Committee

VACANCIES/FELLOWSHIPS

Ford Foundation International Graduate Fellowships Programme

The Ford Foundation's \$330 million International Fellowships Programme aims to broaden the talent pool of future leaders by recruiting exceptional individuals who would otherwise lack opportunities for advanced study. The IFP will award 350 new graduate fellowships annually, assisting a total of 3,500 Fellows over the next decade.

Full details about the International Fellowships Programme can be found at: <http://www.fordfound.org>

Three job opportunities at Rural Area Power Solutions (RAPS)

RAPS is a multidisciplinary energy company providing management, consultancy, project development and investment facilitation services in the field of rural (often renewable or off-grid) energy supply. Rural energy project development, implementation and consultancy activities are currently expanding, and thus one officer at a senior level, and one at a project officer/researcher level are needed. In addition, the roll-out of an exciting new product for the rural off-grid market is planned, an integrated Energy Services Management System. To help in this process, someone with IT and electrical engineering skills is needed. Although RAPS operations are focused in South Africa, we also work actively in other Southern and East African countries. For further information, please visit:

<http://www.raps.co.za> or contact us at: Tel: +27.(0)12.9988280.

Networking Around the World

A Report on the Workshop on Women and Energy, Durban, South Africa

Washington Nyabeze

In most African countries there is a need to explore ways of using policy to promote safer and healthier energy services, and to empower women to meaningful and effective participation in meeting their energy needs.

The Women and Energy Workshop was held in Durban, South Africa, on the 11th and 12th December 2000 to discuss such policy. It preceded the Women in Energy Ministerial Meeting (13th December), which was part of the second Africa US Energy Ministers' conference (14th and 15th December). The Workshop attracted over 200 participants including decision-makers from across Africa and from other parts of the world to share information on some of the key themes at the interface of women and energy in development.

Key Issues from the Conference

Effective Engagement and Participation of Women

An increasing number of African countries are establishing gender desks, agencies, ministries, and gender sensitive policies, and these are helping to raise the gender profile at a national level, but the impact on action plans, programmes and projects remains marginal. Supportable user-friendly multi-sectoral frameworks to integrate policy decisions into action plans are needed in all the relevant sectors.

Women Leaders

Winrock International has a programme on leadership training to prepare women to participate in change processes and generate the much-needed critical mass



Key presenters at the Women In Energy Ministers' Conference in Durban, South Africa. From left to right: Susan Shabangu - Deputy Minister of Minerals and Energy - South Africa; Syda Bhumba, Minister of Energy and Mineral Development - Uganda; Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka - Minister of Minerals and Energy - South Africa. (Photo: Courtesy of the Village Power 2000 website)

of women leaders. More such programmes should be developed.

Socio-Cultural Issues

There is need to challenge conventional social relationships, and to change the structural position of women in society. Use of gender-disaggregated data has allowed points of divergence and complementarity to be identified. Improving the energy status of women elevates the social status of a family.

Technology Shift and Pricing Policies

Women desire the energy service and not the technology per se. A shift from demand and supply issues to service and impacts can help clarify the linkages between energy services and the circumstances in which women use them. Subsidies enable accessibility to energy services for development and their provision should be supported.

Best Practices for Increasing Women's Participation

The ESMAP experience has shown that participatory approaches have great potential and new business models, and new models of concessions, are emerging. However there are still major constraints on microlending, which include issues of access, lending costs, affordability, and in some cases

the identification of suitable microlenders. Cases from Kenya, Senegal and Zimbabwe have demonstrated that using participatory approaches from project planning through to implementation can lead to greater involvement of women but that much effort is required to break through socio-cultural barriers and to capacitate women so that they can reap rewards commensurate with their contribution. Other constraints to women becoming effective partners include organisational weaknesses and limited access to financial resources. Essential areas of training for women include leadership, self-analysis and change processes.

Coupling Energy Development Services

It is now being recognised that, at the women and energy in development interface, energy is not the goal but rather development services such as health, transport, and water. This relates to a large number of activities including food production, preparation, processing and storage. However coupling energy with these services requires a clear understanding not only of the linkages between energy and these services but also between the services themselves. Thus a high level of collaboration is needed between different sectors and among different institutions to intensify the move towards an integrated approach to development.

Financing and Compensation Issues

Project experience in various countries has shown that very few women are involved in activities that attract the better levels of remuneration such as transportation, equipment manufacture, installation and specialised construction because of a lack of skills. Concerted effort is required to involve more women in those elements where they can obtain meaningful financial compensation for their inputs.

Looking Ahead of the Workshop

A **key output** of the workshop was the **Durban Declaration**. The main points of the draft declaration are:

- To support the Beijing Platform of Action on energy matters and all other energy initiatives geared to consolidate the position and status of women in society
- To involve women in decision making, and enhance the capacity of women in the energy sector
- To support the participation of women in

the conceptualisation, development and implementation of energy policies, projects and programmes

- To review the gender sensitivity of the existing policies and develop national energy policies that are gender sensitive and that fully acknowledge the role of women in energy development
- To replicate best energy practices
- To support integrated and sustainable energy development and utilisation that will impact positively on women's lives in terms of their health, income generation, status and overall welfare
- To support endeavours that enable women to participate in, and gain access to, appropriate energy technologies
- To support the development and utilisation of energy resources in an environmentally friendly manner, and
- To prioritise and accelerate programmes for rural electrification to benefit women

The declaration also included follow-up support by the US Department of Energy for leadership training of women

selected by African nations, and support to capacity building, policy formulation, knowledge generation and dissemination by the World Bank in partnership with other donors in ESMAP and RPTES.

The African Energy Ministers agreed:

- To communicate the outcome of the conference to their heads of states, development partners and key service sectors
- To facilitate strategies, action plans and programmes that will benefit women at national and regional levels
- To review the financial implications and make necessary plans for this initiative
- To encourage financial institutions, including microcredit institutions, to facilitate women in accessing modern energy services
- To make progress reports annually at the Africa US Energy Ministers meeting

To achieve progress will require joint efforts on implementing the commitments and agreements. ■



◆ Washington Nyabeze holds a BSc (Hons) degree in engineering from the University of Zimbabwe. In 1992 he joined the Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG) as a Project Engineer responsible for micro hydropower projects. In 1999 he was awarded an MSc degree in engineering by the University of the Witwatersrand and the same year he joined WEDS Development Services as one of its directors. In 1999 Washington was awarded a research grant from the Water Research Fund for Southern Africa to study for a doctoral degree in Water Resources Engineering with the University of the Witwatersrand. He is currently involved in various assignments on water resources planning, energy provision and environmental management in Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe. Washington co-ordinates the Gender and Energy Network for Zimbabwe (GENEZ) on behalf of WEDS. He has written several papers on energy issues in the Southern African context and

continues to be actively involved in seeking solutions for the region to achieve sustainable development.

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Internet Resources



NREL Report: Farhar, B and T.C. Coburn. A Market Assessment of Residential Grid-Tied PV Systems in Colorado. NREL/TP-550-25283. This report analyses the willingness of homeowners in the US State of Colorado to pay for residential PV systems linked to the grid. Gender is one of the factors analysed. The report can be found at: www.osti.gov/bridge/product.biblio.jsp?osti_id=766189

A report on the proceedings of the workshop 'Moving toward Equity and Sustainability in Rural Energy; Putting Gender Concepts into Action', that was

held as part of the 8th Village Power Conference in Washington DC, in December 2000, can be viewed at the following address: http://www.rsvp.nrel.gov/vpconference/vp2000/vp2000_workshops.html#Thursday

The **Village Power 2000 Website** provides several reports and abstracts of papers presented at the "Women in Energy Ministerial Meeting", held on 11-12 December, 2000 in Durban, South Africa. These include:

1. Durban Declaration: resulting from the "Women in Energy Ministerial Meeting", held from 11-12 December, 2000 in Durban, South Africa
2. An abstract of the report presented by Wendy Annecke on Energy Laws and their impact on Women
3. A report of the session on the Role of Energy in Poverty Alleviation and
4. An abstract of the paper presented by

Yvette Stevens (UN Special Co-ordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries) on Linkages Between Energy and Development Strategies to Empower Women.

For these and other interesting information, go to: <http://www.villagepower2000.org>

The **Women's Energy Network of PETROTRIN**, the integrated State Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago, has been urged to play a lead role in keeping gender issues to the fore as the company's development activities proceed. More information is available at: http://www.petrotrin.com/petrovision/archiv_e/novem99/energyindustry.htm

Euronet provides contact details for women's organisations in several countries. Have a look at the list at: <http://www.euronet.nl/~fullmoon/womlist/womlist.html>



Johanna Gregory

Cross-Sectoral Professionals Meet to Strategize about Putting Gender Concepts into Action



Mukami Rimberia

On December 7th 2000, more than 100 decision-makers, analysts and practitioners from the energy and other development sectors gathered at the World Bank in Washington, DC, for a workshop on "Moving Toward Equity and Sustainability in Rural Energy: Putting Gender Concepts into Action." The workshop was held as part of the 8th International Village Power conference.

The workshop – organised by Winrock International, the Energy Sector Management Assistance Programme (ESMAP) and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) – was an effort to build on the growing consensus, among energy planners, multilateral development banks, NGOs and private sector companies, that gender approaches can have a significant impact on the equity and long-term sustainability of energy-related projects and programmes.

The workshop's aim was twofold: 1) to bring together a diverse group of energy professionals and professionals from other fields within development to share lessons on how to incorporate gender-based approaches in energy; and 2) to work towards increasing global understanding about the linkages between energy and other development sectors. Discussions centred on identifying barriers and opportunities that affect the mainstreaming of gender and energy, and defining a common agenda for policy change, analysis and "operationalising" the concepts.

A diverse panel of speakers from energy and other development sectors – including water, agriculture, health, transport, microfinance – shared their experiences with applying gender methods. Key issues highlighted included:

- the importance of supporting local institutional capacity building in both gender and energy;
- learning to "speak the same language"; to bridge the gap between energy, gender and other sectors within development;
- the importance of addressing rural household energy needs;
- the need for energy programmes and other development interventions to be end-user, rather than technology, driven;
- the use of participatory gender approaches in assessing energy needs;
- practical tools that can be adopted from other sectors to incorporate gender perspectives into energy;
- key factors in ensuring that women will be involved in the development of policies that affect them;

- the need to build greater energy awareness within groups that are already applying gender methods in their work; and
- seeing energy as a development input, rather than as a separate sector.

The workshop was an excellent forum for addressing critical gender and energy issues that were largely absent from the Village Power plenary sessions, and for breaking down gender stereotypes commonplace in technological fields. Further, the workshop provided a unique opportunity to recognise that the demand for energy services from rural households and communities is much more diversified and complex than suggested in the plenary discussions. It also stressed the need to provide energy services for productive purposes, in order to create employment and generate cash income to enable improvements in quality of life and the efficiency of other social services. The workshop highlighted the importance of promoting energy development in the contexts of: ensuring sufficient nutrition for the entire family, improving health, safety and education, and other positive social impacts, instead of simply creating a wider market for energy technologies. Among the outcomes of the workshop was a consensus that gender considerations should become an integral focus of each Village Power conference.

In order to move the gender and energy agenda forward, we must take on board the lessons available to us from other sectors, and take advantage of the opportunities for partnership within and among sectors in order to strengthen the global capacity for advancing these important issues. ■

◆ Johanna Gregory has worked in sustainable energy and development for many years. She has a MA in Energy & Environmental Policy – her Master's thesis was entitled, "Meeting Needs, Not Creating Demand: A Women-Centered Energy Agenda" – and a BA in Anthropology and Environmental Studies. Johanna has worked with energy, anti-poverty, and human rights organizations in the U.S., and with development, women's, and microcredit organisations internationally. She currently serves as a Program Associate for Winrock International's Clean Energy Group.

◆ Mukami Rimberia has a BA in Geography from the University of Nairobi, an MA in Population Studies, and a Diploma in NGO Development and Management. Since 1995 she has worked with Winrock's Women's Leadership Program. Her work includes programme management, assisting in the management of the EAT Monetization Program in East Africa, (backstopping agriculture, Renewable Energy, ARPAN and AWLAE), in addition to assisting the Training Centre with training on gender and multimedia.

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Netherlands Development Assistance is well known for its support for women and gender issues, particularly since the former Minister for Development Assistance, Minister Pronk, introduced the 'Women and Autonomy' policy. Has the policy changed much in recent years?

Basically the policy has not changed, although there is more emphasis now on the mainstreaming of gender, rather than on treating women as a separate issue. Compared to the issue of the environment, which should also be mainstreamed, we have been more successful with gender, I think. Many people now really do accept gender as an integral part of the planning process, while environment is still often seen as an additional cost, complicating decision-making.

How well do you feel that gender has been integrated into energy in development assistance?

That's a difficult question; I don't know quite how to answer it. The point is, internationally there have been lots of changes in the energy sector recently; moves towards privatisation, re-shaping the way the delivery of energy services is conceptualised. Such techno-economic ideas are dominant and are at the forefront, so more sophisticated ideas such the interrelationships between energy and poverty, and energy and women, are often forgotten. In our own policy, we struggle to ensure that these issues are considered. What I would like to see is more substantiation of what the gender aspects of these new tendencies in international energy policy are likely to be: we need to analyse these and get the arguments onto the table.

Are there some projects in particular which you could mention, supported by Netherlands

Meeting **ENERGIA** Members



Paul Hassing

**Head of the Climate and Energy Division,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
The Netherlands**

Interview by Margaret Skutsch

development assistance, which were really gender sensitive and actively helped women?

The biogas project in Nepal (see **ENERGIA News** no 1.2, 1997, Ed.) certainly was a great success in this regard. I would also mention the Energy Training Programme that we sponsored for the SADC countries, which included special gender training for energy planners from all over East and Southern Africa. Also, the RPTES programme, the Regional Programme for the Traditional Energy Sector, currently operating in West, East, and Southern Africa, is also doing its best to really bring out

gender aspects (there is a link to the RPTES website on the Energia Website, Ed.).

You, yourself, are clearly very well aware and supportive of the gender issues in energy. Did you ever undergo gender training yourself?

Well, it was a long time ago! I did do a training course in the 1980s at the Royal Tropical Institute in Amsterdam. Last week there was a 2-day workshop being given here in our ministry, I signed up, but in the end I was just too busy to go.

Is there a particular area in which you think gender training is needed, or special types of training?

I think what is needed is for training to focus on the new questions – privatisation, for example, as I mentioned earlier. People need to be trained to analyse the new situation to see what the gender impacts of these kinds of policies are going to be. Maybe they won't have any negative gender effects – if so, we should be clear about this and say so. But one would expect such policies to have effects on poverty, and if they have effects on poverty they are likely also to have gender effects. We need to be more specific, we need to present the evidence rather than talking in generalities.

Thank you, Paul, for taking the time to share your views with us. And thank you for your continued support of ENERGIA. ■

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Climate Change, LULUCF and Gender Dynamics

Jens Mackensen

Those who followed the climate change negotiations in The Hague in November 2000, know that LULUCF (Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry) was one of the most contentious topics discussed, ultimately causing the suspension of the global climate talks.

LULUCF concerns the role of sinks (that is, forests and other biomass) in the carbon dioxide balance. Atmospheric carbon dioxide is naturally trapped in plant material and thus increasing the number of sinks offers a way of mitigating high atmospheric CO₂ levels. If, for example, forests are planted on areas which are unforested they would absorb carbon and thus counterbalance anthropogenic emissions.

Countries that have agreed to reduce their carbon emissions could thus offset part of their obligations by investing in such forestry. Reducing atmospheric carbon through the use of sinks is in many cases much cheaper than actually reducing emissions.

One question under discussion is whether developed countries should be allowed to establish carbon sink projects in developing countries under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). But how would LULUCF (sink) projects influence gender dynamics?

For Sub-Saharan Africa the statistics clearly show that women, far more than men, play a vital role in agricultural management. Any changes in this sector through large-scale LULUCF projects can thus be expected to affect gender dynamics. However, any proposals for LULUCF projects under CDM are likely to be restricted to forest projects, and not concern agriculture directly.

To be continued on p. 14



International Programmes: Focus on

Energy at CSD9 and the Role of the Women's Caucus

Minu Hemmati

This paper describes the set-up of the forthcoming CSD9 meeting, which will focus on energy and transport. It explains the role of the NGOs in the CSD process and highlights the activities of the Women's Caucus and how this can be a vehicle for the promotion of gender mainstreaming at the CSD. The relevant addresses and websites for getting involved in the CSD discussions are at the end of the article.

The CSD

The **UN Commission** on Sustainable Development (CSD) was created after the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992. It is the principal focus for the international follow-up to the United Nations Commission on Environment and Development (UNCED) and the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. Its mandate is to coordinate the activities of other UN bodies as they relate to issues of sustainable development; to analyse progress at national, regional and international levels; and to promote the implementation of Agenda 21.

CSD9: Focus on Energy and Transport

The **ninth session** of the CSD (16th – 27th April, 2001) will deal with the

following issues: energy; transport; atmosphere; information for decision-making and participation (incl. indicators); and international cooperation for the enabling environment.

The **two Ad Hoc** Intersessional Working Groups (ISWG = CSD Intersessional) are meetings to prepare CSD9 itself (5th – 16th March 2001, New York). They often offer the best opportunities to promote issues to be taken up by governments. One working group (1st week) will focus on the sectoral cluster (transport, energy and atmosphere) and the other (2nd week) on the cross-sectoral cluster of information for decision-making and participation, and international cooperation for an enabling environment.

CSD9 itself consists of a stakeholder dialogue segment, a ministerial segment, and negotiations in parallel working groups to finalise CSD decisions. At CSD9, negotiations will be based around the ISWG outcomes as well as deliberations in the dialogue and ministerial segments. Side events are also held: these are a popular part of the CSD, and allow NGOs, governments and agencies to showcase their projects or issues.

Multi-stakeholder Dialogue Segment

The **purposes of** the multi-stakeholder dialogues on energy and transport are to generate action-oriented dialogue between governments and major groups, and to identify future policies and actions that will increase the positive impact of this economic sector on sustainable development objectives.

Topics of the Dialogue Segment are: 1. Achieving equitable access to clean energy: incentives, subsidies; regulations or voluntary measures? 2. Eco-efficiency, eco-effectiveness or business-as-usual? - choices for producing, distributing and consuming

energy; 3. Public-private partnerships for decarbonising the transportation system; 4. Sustainable transport planning: choices and models for human settlements, designs and vehicle alternatives.

The **partners participating** in the dialogues are: NGOs (NGO Caucus on Climate Change and Energy, and the NGO Caucus on Sustainable Transport); Workers and Trade Unions; Business and Industry; Local Authorities; and Scientific Communities. Partners have produced background papers on the four dialogue topics, available at http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/entrsegment_csd9.htm.

The **Energy and Transport Dialogue Segment** will have four sessions scheduled during the early part of the two-week CSD session (tentatively scheduled from the afternoon of the 16th April through to the morning of the 18th April 2001). Each session of the Segment will start with seven-minute presentations by the NGO, trade union, local authority, business and scientist delegations, followed by two ten-minute governmental reactions (one southern and one northern). Participants will then engage in dialogue for the remaining two hours of the session.

NGOs at CSD

There is an NGO Steering Committee that operates within clear Guidelines, with Northern and Southern co-chairs supported by the Northern and Southern Clearing Houses, and maintains a gender balance as well as regional balance in its activities. Its role is to organise and manage the CSD Dialogue process for NGOs; to organise training for newly attending NGOs; to organise the morning NGO briefings; to provide and distribute information (incl. web site, list servers and a documents library at CSD); to organise meetings with key people, incl. Govt/NGO dialogues; to facilitate the NGO Caucuses; to act as the link to the CSD Bureau for dealing with problems concerning speaking rights and accreditation problems. (All NGOs wishing to participate have to be accredited with the UN in advance). The Steering Committee is composed of regional representatives, representatives of major groups, and issue-based caucuses. It will meet formally at least twice, during the CSD Intersessional and the CSD itself. Anyone can attend as an observer. It operates through issue, regional and major groups caucuses (such as women, young people, indigenous peoples). Guidelines agreed by the Steering Committee require a caucus to have two co-coordinators, regionally- and gender-balanced, at least ten accredited organisations as members, and a brief

statement of purpose. Caucus members work together to prepare united NGO position papers, and to lobby government delegates. Caucuses are also a place for members to network and share information and ideas about approaches to sustainable development.

As an individual you can participate in a caucus by opening the www.csdngo.org/csdngo web page, and then going onto the caucus pages and joining the caucus you are most interested in. All caucuses maintain web pages giving access to their material, and operate list servers which you can join.

For those planning to actually attend the meeting, NGOs will probably be meeting on March 5th and April 15th at the Church Centre to prepare for CSD9. NGO strategy sessions are being held each morning at 9.15 in one of the UN conference rooms. Women's caucus meetings will be held daily, probably at 6pm in one of the UN conference rooms. These, and other caucus, meetings will be announced in an NGO Diary being produced by the CSD NGO Steering Committee / Northern Clearinghouse.

Participation at the CSD provides an opportunity to put pressure on your own government to review its policies that have negative implications through exposing these to their peers. There will be opportunities to influence governments to sign up to policies that they might not have wanted to while at home. One of the great things about the UN meetings is the access you gain to Ministers and top civil servants. It is equivalent to being allowed on to the floor of your parliament. You can walk up to any country desk and talk to the relevant civil servant.

Even if you do not plan to attend the CSD, you can still make very important contributions to the debate by submitting relevant material to your government on your concerns and wishes, or by working with NGOs that are going to participate. Copies of any submissions made to a

government should also be sent to the Steering Committee's issue caucus, major groups or regional representatives.

The CSD NGO Women's Caucus

Women were a key group in setting the agenda in 1992. The CSD NGO Women's Caucus is picking up the challenge of the process towards 2002, aiming to ensure gender mainstreaming in all decisions to be taken. The CSD NGO Women's Caucus grew out of the 1991 Miami Conference, organised by WEDO, and its outcome document - Women's Action Agenda for a Healthy Planet.

The women's caucus is a working group of both women and men who are interested in, and working towards, the mainstreaming of gender in sustainable development policies and practical implementation strategies. The caucus works towards the recognition of gender issues and adequate action on gender-related aspects of sustainable development issues by providing information and research, and by lobbying for recommendations based on up-to-date analyses and consultations within the caucus.

Aware of the need to target not only governments but also NGO colleagues and other stakeholders, the women's caucus uses several strategies: members work within issue caucuses, such as the energy caucus, to ensure gender mainstreaming of their positions, and the caucus aims to convene joint meetings with issue caucuses. The women's caucus also produces its own position papers, and written and oral statements. The caucus meets daily, publishes articles in the NGO daily newsletter (OUTREACH), organises side events (and encourages member organisations to do likewise), attends government-NGO briefings, and lobbies individual delegates. As the negotiations move into their final stages, we produce line-by-line amendments to draft texts and discuss these with delegates. Quite often, the women's caucus will be asked for its opinion or suggested "language".

Strategies include general advocacy for gender justice and women's participation, as well as providing detailed knowledge and concrete recommendations. The women's caucus also creates linkages with women's groups around other processes

In the past, women's caucus activities have had various effects. For example, we contributed to advancing the debate on tourism in 1999 to focus on economic and social aspects. In 2000, the women's caucus successfully highlighted the problems of women's land rights. As regards the future, the CSD Women's Caucus has started its preparations for the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (Earth Summit 2002) which will take place in Johannesburg, South Africa, 10 years after the first one in Rio; primary goals are effective information dissemination and networking; effective advocacy and media relations. Small groups of organisations are going to take on various areas of work. WEDO, with a small coordinating team, is planning to re-launch the Women's Action Agenda for a Healthy Planet, on a number of issues relevant to the Summit process (more information on the women's caucus website or from the caucus co-ordinators).

In general, one can say that many government delegates and other stakeholders in the CSD process are aware of the need for gender mainstreaming and many are willing to improve decisions in that direction. However, there is a lack of the expertise needed within many government delegations to provide detailed knowledge and produce substantive, concrete input into CSD decisions. The women's caucus and its members have been working to advance the debates beyond general recognition of the need for women's participation in decision-making. At CSD9, expertise on gender and energy will be needed to provide concrete recommendations, and to help make the CSD worthwhile taking home and working with it at regional, national and local levels. ■

Useful websites:

- **CSD NGO Steering Committee** www.csdngo.org/csdngo (includes all caucuses, list servers, schedules, meeting reports, guide to CSD, etc.)
- **Women's Caucus:** Go to www.csdngo.org/csdngo and click on "Women" under "Major Groups" (includes schedules, meeting reports, position papers, etc. and the ENERGIA et al. position paper on gender & energy for CSD9)
- **"Gender Perspectives for Earth Summit 2002: Energy; Transport; Information for Decision-making".** Workshop January 2001, Berlin at www.earthsummit2002.org/workshop

(includes background papers, reports, information on CSD and 2002, etc)

- **UN Sustainable Development Site** www.un.org/esa/sustdev
- **UN 2002 site** www.un.org/rio+10
- **UNED Forum 2002 site** www.earthsummit2002.org
- **Rio+8 Coalition:** www.rio8.dk
- **IISD Linkages** (incl. Earth Negotiations Bulletin) www.mbnet.mb.ca/linkages/csd/
- **UN Daily Journal** www.un.org/docs/journal
- **NGO Link** (lists UN Headquarter events) www.ngos.net/events/upcoming
- **Energy Exhibition** www.etf-2001.org

Addresses:

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UN:

- **NGO Unit in DPCSD:** (For accreditation) One U.N. Plaza, DC1-14th floor, (1st Ave btw. 44th and 45th St), Tel: +1.(0)212.9638652, Fax: +1.(0)212.9639248 or 9634114, E-mail: Hanifa Mezoui mezoui@un.org
- **UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service:** One U.N. Plaza, DC1-1106, Tel: +1.(0)212.9633125, Fax: +1.(0)212.9638712, Email: ngls@un.org

Earth Summit 2002 Contacts in South Africa:

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Youth and Climate Change: A Statement from the WYOCC

Yvonne Khamati

In chapter 25 of Agenda 21 on the rights of the child, all countries agreed that young people must be involved in all issues that influence their future.

Climate Change is one such issue.

For this reason, in May 2000, all participating countries in COP6 were invited by Minister Jan Pronk of the Netherlands to send two young people from their country to The Hague as part of their government delegation. This became the birth of the world youth organisation on climate change (WYOCC).

A lack of co-ordination between climate change efforts and other international cooperation efforts can negate gains, and the opportunities for developing countries to develop. As youth, we acknowledge that massive climate changes are occurring, with devastating effects on people, their livelihoods and the environment, yet we are excluded from important decision-making in our countries and globally as regards climate change.

The creation of WYOCC shows that young people are prepared to take drastic steps to secure the future. However, we are in need of sponsors who will ensure that meetings/conferences/summits on climate change can include youth participants, and that funds are allocated to the WYOCC to establish a research and communication centre to promote public awareness on issues related to climate change.

We have spent a long time blaming governments and huge industries for climate change. WYOCC also blames the individual. The fight against climate change should include those that suffer. It is the youth of today that will have to deal with the more serious consequences of climate change tomorrow. ■



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Gender and Energy: a Northern Perspective¹

Joy Clancy

This article arises out of a study in which I am involved, assessing from a gender perspective the energy component of the European Commission's

Fifth Framework Research programme

(see ENERGIA News 3.3).

The study attempts to identify whether, in the North, there are gender differences in what women are doing as academics, as activists and as workers in the energy sector. Do they face different problems to men in terms of their career development? What do women in the North think about energy? Are their lives affected differently to men's in terms of energy choice, and does this then impact on their health? Some of the findings are reported here.

I hope that readers in the South will find this article of interest. Women in the energy sector in the South and the North can provide mutual support, as for example was seen between the Canadian and Pakistani Oil and Gas Sectors (ENERGIA News 2.3). Women in Pakistan benefited from the support given by Canadian women in developing strategies for overcoming obstacles to their career development. Participation in this project made Canadian women aware of how few women there were in the sector in Canada and they began to question what lay behind this.

Women and Energy Poverty in the North

There is little published information about how energy impacts on the lives of women in the North. Decision makers in the energy sector are unaware of the need to consider gender. For example, a recent detailed household energy survey in New Zealand, which set out to identify the technical and behavioural factors that determine energy use, did not disaggregate household members by gender. However, demographic evidence would suggest that this should not be ignored. In the North, there are more women than men living below the poverty line, for example, in the USA, 15.4% of women and 12% of men live below the poverty line². Poor women are disproportionately found as heads of households, either in single parent families or, due to their greater longevity than men, living alone at pensionable age.

How does poverty impact on energy choices? Northern climates create the need for space heating and/or cooling for significant parts of the year. Young children and older people have special heating requirements to reduce their vulnerability to illness. In the UK, spending more than 20% of household income on fuel is defined as "living in fuel poverty". In 1991, seven million households (36% of the total) in the UK came within this category. Heating and cooking for poor people can be problematic if they have a restricted choice of energy forms: electricity is expensive; and solid fuel produces smoke which has negative health impacts. Poor people often live in housing with poor insulation and frequently use second-hand equipment with poor energy efficiency. Poor people often have to pay

for their electricity and gas using pre-payment systems at higher unit costs than those available to households with monthly billing systems. All these factors contribute to the high energy costs of poor people. From this brief analysis and the demographics mentioned above, we can reasonably conclude that there are more women than men living in energy poverty in the North. *This may, in some cases, have the unfortunate consequence that poor women, relative to their incomes, actually contribute to global warming disproportionately more than higher income groups.*

We should also not forget that some areas of the North such as Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, and Chechnya are presently war-torn or recovering from strife. These areas often have severe winters with a high fuel demand for heating and cooking (Stillman, 2000). Women have to search for fuel and are exposed to the sorts of dangers not unfamiliar to women in the South.

Northern Women's Energy Choices

There is no doubt that there are many women in the North active in renewable energy, either running co-operatives (for example, the Windfang women's wind energy cooperative in Germany - reported in ENERGIA News 3.1) or in the political arena (for example, the New Zealand MP Janette Fitzsimmons is a prominent energy activist and the Co-leader of the Green Party). However, the majority of respondents in a sample survey of European female and male energy professionals considered that there were no differences between men and women in their priorities for energy research. Those who did see differences considered women to be interested in "soft" energies and men in "hard" energies.

Barbara Farhar and her colleagues at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in the USA are among the few researchers to have conducted any sort of systematic enquiry into gender differences in energy in the North. A nationwide survey, conducted between 1973 and 1979, showed little discernable gender difference in energy preferences, although women had a slightly stronger preference for energy conservation and a slightly greater antipathy towards nuclear power. More recent data exist but have not, unfortunately, been published. Gender disaggregated data would provide us with a more comprehensive picture of the way women and men in the North view energy policy options. This could be done relatively easily within Europe since the European Commission surveys European citizens at two-year intervals on their attitudes to a key range of policy issues including energy. At present, the data is not published on a gender-disaggregated basis. A simple adjustment could provide us with a wealth of information.

Women have been leading activists in the anti-nuclear movement. For example, the Plutonium Free Future Women's Network (Rainbow Serpent), based in Japan, has campaigned to promote its demand that governments shift their investments and subsidies away from nuclear and fossil fuels, towards safe, renewable energy systems and has published the "Women's Handbook on Safe Energy". However, women are not a homogenous group and it should be of no surprise to find groups of pro-nuclear women. There is a very active network of women working in the nuclear industry (WIN) who lobby vigorously for non-military uses of nuclear energy.

Women working in the energy sector

There is a small but growing band of women working in the energy sector. However, the sector suffers from the perception that it offers a professional career dominated by male technocrats in their

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1. This article is based on a paper entitled "Gender and Energy – Women's concerns in Energy: Background and State of the Art" to be published later in 2001 by the Research Directorate of the European Communities.

CoP6: The Gender Issue Forgotten?

Njeri Wamukonya and Margaret Skutsch

Everyone is likely to suffer from climate change: from changing rainfall patterns that threaten to disrupt agricultural and fish production, from forest fires, from heat and water related diseases, and from storms that will certainly devastate lives and property.

It is also clear that countries in the South will suffer disproportionately because of their already vulnerable situations and because they do not have the financial, technical, information and social capital that will enable the North to adapt to change and to defend itself against the consequences. How to tackle this problem is the major focus of the UNFCCC, and of the latest round of discussions of the Conference of Parties, CoP6, which took place in The Hague in November 2000.

An interesting question is whether the interests of men and of women differ as regards climate change, and whether this has a S-N dimension, and therefore whether gender is an issue which should be brought up in the negotiations. Very little appears to have been written on the subject, the article by Fatma Denton in **ENERGIA News 3.3** being a rare exception. However, there are many areas in which gender interests may play a role: for example women are likely to be disproportionately vulnerable to the effects of climate change, particularly in the South, because of their greater overall involvement in subsistence production. Moreover, the proposed vehicles for carbon reduction through flexible mechanisms, particularly the CDM, offer long needed technology transfer to the South, and could benefit women provided that their needs are properly taken into account: this is a new opportunity which should be planned with gender as a major consideration. In a paper to be presented at CSD9 we argue that one should look at all aspects of the climate change process: mitigation of emissions, vulnerability, adaptation, and capacity building; and analyse the gender issues in each of these separately (Wamukonya and Skutsch, From CoP6 to CSD9: Is there a gender angle to the climate change negotiations?).

At the CoP6 meeting in The Hague in November 2000, however, very little was said on the topic of gender. A sole speaker, the youth representative, mentioned the issue in her speech very briefly noting that "in developing countries where the woman's role included management of energy in the home, women need to be given incentives and recognition to promote clean energy" (<http://youthcorner.climatechnage2000.org/modules/none.asp?pageid=48>). But it was clearly not an issue that held the attention of the majority. This, despite the fact that the spokespeople for three of the major NGOs - WWF, Friends of the Earth and Climate Action Network - were all women, and nearly 20% of all the environment

ministers present were female¹, some of whom had key negotiating roles as heads of discussion groups. A women's group, which had been formed at the 1995 Bonn Climate Conference, under the wonderful name "Solidarity in the Greenhouse" appears to be no longer active and was not represented in The Hague.

The silence on gender at CoP6 in The Hague however did not go unnoticed. The issue came up as one of the very first conclusions at the International Conference for the Earth Summit 2000, held shortly after CoP6 in Berlin (www.earthsummit2002.org/workshop). Participants at this meeting, which was partly in preparation for the CSD9 in New York, called for the development of a gender analysis in all international energy related processes, including the Climate Change Convention, and more immediately for a Women and Climate Change Forum at the resumed CoP6 in May 2001.

Moreover, Chairman Pronk, interviewed after the proceedings in The Hague were over, said: "Encouraging the widest participation in the process of promoting and cooperating in education, training and public awareness related to climate change is crucial. In developing country households women are often the primary providers and users of energy. Therefore, the participation of women and women's organisations is crucial."

So there is hope that from now on gender will take its place on the international climate change agenda. The topic has already been raised for consideration within the Women's Caucus of the CSD9 (see email to caucus group members from the co-facilitators, 7.10.2000). Hopefully, CSD9 can be a forum for stimulating further awareness on the mainstreaming of gender in the battle against climate change, and that a start can be made to develop the necessary concepts and practices. ■

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¹ Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Egypt, El Salvador, EU, France, Gambia, Guinea, Honduras, Iceland, Iran, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Surinam, Tunisia, Venezuela, South Africa.

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fifties. Currently in Australia, women make up 20% of the workforce in the Electricity, Gas and Water sector but fill less than 5% of the technical posts. These statistics are representative of other Northern countries.

Women's skills can be complementary to men's, leading to a more balanced and efficient organisation. Recent initiatives to recruit more women include the ENEQO project within the European electricity industry, which aims to advance equal opportunities by promoting the positive benefits that employing women brings to the working environment.

Due to their small number, women working in the energy sector can feel a sense of isolation. Sometimes this leads them to abandoning their careers; sometimes they leave to set up businesses with other women (as in the Windfang example referred to above). Networking can play an important part in supporting women in their work. There are a small number of national networks, for example, in Colorado USA, a group of women energy professionals have formed a "Women in Energy Group" (Helen Reddy Kilowatt), and in Germany, there is "Energiefrauen" (Women in Energy), a national informal network of more than 150 women students and professionals.

Should more attention be given to women and energy in the North?

ENERGIA in the past has not really addressed the issues of women and energy in the North, although a number of its support group members have advocated that it should. The EC's study is not an isolated activity in this area, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment has, for example, commissioned a paper on Gender and Energy in the North as part of its preparations for CSD9 (see elsewhere in this issue). It therefore seems an appropriate moment to ask what **ENERGIA News** readers think about this. If you think **ENERGIA** should do more, what type of support do you think is needed? How could this be funded? Do readers in the South find

From p. 8

Thus the expected impact on women might be relatively small, as long as they retain their agricultural land and their labour is not diverted to forestry.

Forest projects are expected to be the dominant LULUCF project type under CDM. However, since LULUCF projects will be set up by private investors, who will later sell the "carbon credits" earned, it is unlikely that such projects will be small scale involving local farmers. International large-scale enterprises will tend to invest in large-scale, industrial schemes. Women, being predominantly small-scale entrepreneurs, are unlikely to benefit by becoming owners of sinks if the situation is left to market forces.

The IPCC 2000 Special Report on LULUCF reviews the experiences with 27 carbon sink projects in 19 countries. They include soil enhancement projects in Canada, tropical and temperate forest rehabilitation and conservation in Belize and the Czech Republic, and agroforestry projects in Guatemala and Mexico. The creation or strengthening of local economies, and improvements for women, are explicitly mentioned in only one project (Scole Fe Pilot Project for Community Forestry and Carbon Sequestration, Oriapas, Mexico, IPCC 2000).

In conclusion, LULUCF projects in developing countries have the potential to influence gender equity. These projects provide development opportunities as well as risks for poor and small-scale farmers, and for women in particular. When deliberating on the role of LULUCF as a mitigation option, this should be taken into consideration. ■

articles on women in the North useful? **ENERGIA** would welcome your views. ■

References

- Jeanne Stillman: Strategies for Development, Inc. USA, personal communication to **ENERGIA**.
- "Gender Perspectives On Energy For CSD9" a position paper prepared by the **ENERGIA** Support Group and NGO Women's Caucus



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Looking at gender and energy in a Northern context is a complete departure from her usual research field. Joy is also **ENERGIA** Director for Regionalisation and Capacity Building.

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2. Poverty is a relative state. Many in the South would not consider women classified as "poor" by Northern standards as living in poverty. In terms of their material possessions, this might well be true. However, in terms of having opportunities and the ability to make choices which impact on their, and their families', health and creativity, poor women in the North also face barriers due to their low income relative to others in their society. It is important to remember that poverty in the North also has a race dimension. For example, in the USA, African-Americans make up approximately 12% of the population but form 28% of the poor. Poverty in the North means people are not afforded the dignity and respect of wealthier members of society.

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- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), 2001. Third Assessment Report on Climate Change. UNEP & WMO, Geneva.



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Indonesia. He has also gained experience as a freelance consultant for German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and the Australian Greenhouse Office. Jens holds a PhD. in forestry from the University of Göttingen, Germany.

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The Bulletin Board

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Global Women Petroleum and Energy Forum; 24 and 25 May 2001

This is a new global initiative and one which is already drawing much interest from around the globe. The forum will consider such issues as: The Role of Women in Energy, Corporate Expansion Policies, International Negotiations, Technical Training and Development, Strategic and Competitor Analysis and Investors Relations.

◆ For more information, please contact:
Tel: +27.(0)11.7784360,
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International Conference "Gender Perspectives for Earth Summit 2002 - Energy; Transport; Information for Decision-Making. Berlin, 10-12 January, 2001. Co-Chair's Summary of the Discussions

This Co-Chair's summary, by Minu Hemmati (UNED Forum) and Barbara Schaefer (German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety), aims to give an overview of the discussions and recommendations from the Conference. A full report will be available in February. To view the summary, please go to:

www.earthsummit2002.org/workshop

◆ For more information contact Minu Hemmati at: minush@aol.com

CSD NGO Energy & Climate Change Caucus and the CSD NGO Transport Caucus. Dialogue Paper for the CSD9 Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Segment on Sustainable Energy and Transport

This dialogue paper for the Commission on Sustainable Development, Ninth Session (CSD9), to be held from 16-27 April 2001 discusses four key issues. The two energy topics dealt with are "Achieving Equitable Access to Sustainable Energy" and "Sustainable Choices for Producing and Consuming Energy", these are prepared by the CSD NGO Energy and Climate Change Caucus. Topic 1, point 11, acknowledges the importance of integrating gender equity into all energy policies and programmes. The paper's full text can be viewed at:

www.igc.org/csdngo/csd9_dialogue_paper.htm

◆ For more information about the CSD NGO Energy and Climate Change Caucus, visit:

www.igc.org/csdngo/energy/ene_index.htm#Caucus%20Coordinators

STATEMENT: African Regional Perspectives on Energy and Sustainable Development for the Ninth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in April 2001

A statement has been made by the Ministers responsible for energy, and their representatives, from United Nations Member States in Africa during the African High-level Regional Meeting on Energy for Sustainable Development, held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 10-13 January, 2001. The statement recognises the need for gender sensitive frameworks and aims to strengthen the capacity of women groups, and others, to facilitate participatory approaches to energy for sustainable development.

◆ For the statement's full text, please contact one of the NGO Energy and Climate Change Caucus Co-ordinators: Rajat Chaudhuri at rajat.chaudhuri@cuts-india.org, or Deling Wang at: deling@igc.org

PUBLICATIONS

Julie A. Smith. Solar-Based Rural Electrification and Microenterprise Development in Latin America: A Gender Analysis. November 2000 - NREL/SR-550-28995

This NREL (National Renewable Energy Laboratory) study describes the use of decentralised renewable energy systems as one approach for meeting the energy needs of rural areas in Latin America. It outlines the advantages of a decentralised energy paradigm in achieving international development goals, especially as they relate to women.

◆ For more information, please contact: rredc@nrel.gov

Women and Energy in South Africa

By Wendy Jill Annecke.

This article provides a brief overview of the historical absence of women from the formal energy sector, and their invisibility as users and clients in South Africa. Although this has changed over the last decade, Annecke argues there is still much to be done to change the fundamentally unequal relationships between those people with access to power and resources in South Africa and those without.

This article was published in: **Energy for Sustainable Development, Volume IV, No.4, December 2000**, or contact Wendy Annecke at: wendy@energetic.uct.ac.za

EU Evaluation: Gender and Energy Participation of Women Researchers in FP5 Energy Calls

The European Commission is conducting research into women's participation within all

aspects of Framework V, R & D programmes. One of the vital feedback mechanisms for this project uses a set of questionnaires regarding Framework 5, Energy.

The aim of the first questionnaire is to determine whether women and men have different gender-based research priorities for energy; to ascertain if there is gender equity in access to research resources; and to make recommendations for future Calls for Proposals. From the results of this questionnaire, an anonymous Stakeholder Analysis approach will be developed, with the confidentiality of each respondent assured. The aim of the second questionnaire is to determine why there are not more women researchers participating in FP5 Calls.

◆ For more information about the research, and to access the questionnaires, please go to the IT Power website at: <http://www.itpower.co.uk/gender>

Lack of Rural Energy Development Policies that Focus on Agriculture - FAO

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations has recently published a contribution on "the Energy and Agriculture Nexus" for the 9th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development to be held in April 2001. In it they underline the key role of energy in economic and social development, and highlight the general lack of rural energy development policies that focus on agriculture.

◆ For further information, and details of how the report may be downloaded, visit the HEDON web page: <http://www.ecoharmony.net/hedon>

PROJECT

Sustainable Energy Books for Africa

The Shell Foundation, together with ITDG Publishing, have recently completed the pilot phase of this project and are now seeking help in identifying energy institutions (including NGOs) across Africa to take part in the main phase of the project. The purpose of the project is to provide better access by African institutions to literature on understanding and dealing with energy and poverty. A catalogue on small-scale energy systems is now being prepared, providing reviews of what each book contains. A copy of the catalogue will be sent to each participating organisation, which are then invited to select the books that are most relevant to their needs, up to a value of £500. About 120 organisations across Africa are expected to participate.

◆ For information about how to join this project, contact Miriam Forde at: itpubs@itpubs.org.uk

Next Issue

The theme of the next **ENERGIA News** (vol. 4.2) will be gender issues in supply side aspects of energy. Your contributions, articles and/or case studies (1500 – 2000 words) are most welcome. The special issue on “Gender and Sustainable Energy in Asia” has been further rescheduled for 2002. The deadline for submissions of articles for the issue on “Gender, Energy and Health” has been brought forward to 4th May 2001.

Using material from ENERGIA News

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ENERGIA is an international network on Women and Sustainable Energy, founded in 1995 by a group of women involved in gender and energy work in developing countries. **ENERGIA**'s objective is to “engender” energy and “empower” women, through the promotion of information exchange, training, research, advocacy and action aimed at strengthening the role of women in sustainable energy development.

ENERGIA's approach is to seek to identify needed activities and actions through its membership, and then to encourage, and if possible assist, members and their institutions to undertake decentralised initiatives. **ENERGIA News** is the principle vehicle for this approach.

ENERGIA News is produced jointly by Energy, Environment and Development (EED, Kürten, Germany), the Technology and Development Group (TDG, University of Twente, Enschede, the Netherlands), and ETC Energy (Leusden, the Netherlands) which houses the secretariat. The focus is on practice, with a conscious effort to *interpret* and *learn* from this practice.

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Themes for future ENERGIA News

Gender in the Supply Side of Energy: Volume 4 > Issue 2 > June 2001 edition. Deadline for submissions: 4th May 2001

Gender, Energy and Health: Volume 4 > Issue 3 > September 2001 edition. Deadline for submissions: 4th May 2001

Gender, Energy and Social Development: Volume 4 > Issue 4 > December 2001 edition. Deadline for submissions: 17th September 2001

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