

Gender in Norway's Petroleum Cooperation in Uganda

- Entry Points, Challenges and Achievements



A series of Country Experience Briefs present entry points, achievements and challenges so far documented in Norad's assistance to Norwegian embassies on gender mainstreaming in energy and petroleum sector cooperation at country-level. Two Technical Notes on Gender Equality in Energy and Petroleum Sector Cooperation present the rationale for action and how to operationalize gender equality in sector programmes.

Together the Country Experience Briefs and the Technical Notes may be used as a guide for:

- Communicating the Norwegian position and rationale for gender mainstreaming
- Discussing programmatic priorities with national partners
- Strategic discussions and entry points for possible joint positions with like-minded donors
- Assessing proposals and projects/programmes

Norwegian energy sector cooperation in Uganda encompasses an upstream petroleum sector policy and management programme as well as projects in the transmission sector and rural electrification. In 2012 the Norwegian Embassy in Uganda requested Norad's assistance in developing gender indicators for the Norwegian energy sector cooperation with Uganda. Oil for development (Ofd) and the Clean Energy programme were reviewed. ENERGIA International Network for Gender and Sustainable Energy undertook the reviews and worked with the Gender Task Team in the Department of Petroleum Supply. This country experience brief summarizes entry points, challenges and achievements in the petroleum sector in Uganda.

1. Gender issues are not explicitly mentioned in the National Oil and Gas Policy and its implementation

Since the discovery of commercially significant oil reserves in the environmentally rich and sensitive Albertine Graben region in 2006, Uganda has been setting up the policy, legislative, regulatory and institutional framework required for development of its petroleum industry, with Norway's support and guidance. The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development is on track in its implementation of the 10 objectives of the 2008 National Oil and Gas Policy. There has been ongoing debate and many environmental and social concerns have been expressed by national and international civil society organizations about its implementation. There is

nevertheless no explicit consideration of gender differences and issues in the Policy.

To implement the national gender policy, basic entry points in the energy sector can help facilitate its operationalisation.

Basic entry points

- Aspects of gender equity could be addressed in the Petroleum Bill for Exploration, Development and Production (2012)
- Gender sensitive performance indicators should be considered in monitoring and evaluation strategies and frameworks, and in training of monitors.
- Systematic inclusion of women in relevant learning- and decision making fora, including consultations, communication programmes, conferences etc, should be ensured.

2. Seize the opportunity to mainstream gender into new petroleum management institutions

The current development of new petroleum management institutions presents opportunities for introducing gender considerations in new frameworks, guidelines and procedures, and to ensure gender balance in personnel recruited and trained.

Strategic actions to build institutional capacity

- The petroleum institutions could build knowledge on local impacts and identify local employment opportunities.

For further assistance, please contact Norad's Department for Economic Development, Gender and Governance, Section for Rights and Gender equality, Kari Trædal Thorsen (Norad-Post-Sect-LIRE@norad.no).

For information on key resources and available capacity, see <http://www.norad.no/en/thematic-areas/energy/gender-in-energy>

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- Gender sensitive monitoring procedures in regards to revenues (transparency and accountability), could be developed as part of the formulation process of different policies and legislation on revenue management.

3. Consideration of community needs and impacts is limited, without any gender analysis

The 2004 Energy Sector Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidelines refers to the need to include women and their interests in public consultations. The guidelines provide detailed instructions for carrying out public consultations and mitigating negative social impacts, but the effectiveness of these regulations depends on their implementation.

Initial social and environmental assessments of potential negative impacts of petroleum development have focused on the influx of people (mainly men) coming for work, and the new settlers increased demands on resources. Gender differences are not mentioned. Men are generally the legal landowners, and there is no legislation that provides for sharing of compensation and resettlement benefits between men and women. The petroleum regulator should require and monitor actions to promote gender equity, for the companies involved to tackle these issues.

Strategic actions to strengthen gender in social and environmental impact assessments

- A gender differentiated approach could be included in the requirements for involving communities in assessments and mitigation plans, community development activities and local employment opportunities, and compensation plans.
- Staff of institutions involved in environmental management of

the oil and gas sector could be sensitized on social and gender issues.

- A clear legal framework could be established to address gender equity in compensation and resettlement.

4. Key gender issue of cooking energy are not addressed since downstream issues are out of the scope of the Ofd

The principal energy issue for women, also in Uganda, is the energy they use for cooking and the availability of petroleum products, such as gas, to replace fuel-wood and charcoal for cooking. Improvements in cooking energy access have the potential to improve the situation of women, as well as the environment. Uganda promotes bottled gas (liquefied petroleum gas or LPG) as an important energy source for cooking. The current Ofd programme provides support for the upstream sector, which does not include access to petroleum products for cooking. Key impacts on women of petroleum developments in the downstream sector are therefore not addressed. The Ministry of Energy & Minerals Development requested Norad's assistance gender to provide input on its new downstream petroleum policy.

Strategic action to improve access to cooking energy and technologies

- Explore gender priority areas of downstream petroleum policy.

5. Achievements

- The Petroleum Exploration and Production Department (PEPD) and the Petroleum Supply Department (PSD) have prepared an initial analysis identifying gender issues and actions needed. The staff has increased capacity on gender mainstreaming after having participating in this review and

in the MEMD workshop, and are competent and interested in strengthening the consideration of gender issues in their work.

- Efforts are ongoing by PEPD to ensure that aspects of gender equity are addressed in the Petroleum Bill for Exploration, Development and Production (2012), soon to be enacted into law.

Box :

This brief is based on a June 2012 report "Petroleum Sector – Building Capacity in Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Sector Cooperation in Uganda: Baseline Study", prepared under the broader baseline study by Elizabeth Cecelski, Dorothy Lele and May Sengendo from the ENERGIA International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy'.