

# Embedding Gender Perspective in the Energy Transition: the GENDER4POWER Experience

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Workshop: So what does "Gender Dimension in Research" actually mean? - An overview across disciplines

Organised by DLR Project Management Agency



LIFE project GENDER4POWER is co-funded by the European Union under contract n° 101167565

## WHO WE ARE



WIP Renewable Energies is a consultancy operating at the intersection of **science, business, and policy** in the field of renewable energy.

Through EU-funded **projects**, in-depth **studies**, targeted **training**, as well as international **conferences** and networking **events**, we promote the development and implementation of innovative energy solutions.

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# Why Gender Matters in the Energy Transition

- Energy poverty affects millions of Europeans
- Women are disproportionately affected:
  - > lower average income and pensions
  - > higher share of single-parent households
  - > greater unpaid care responsibilities etc.
- Energy poverty is not gender-neutral
- Effective solutions require gender-responsive approaches



# What Do We Mean by "Gender Dimension in Research"?

The gender dimension asks:

- Who participates?
- Who benefits?
- Who is excluded?
- Are impacts different for different groups?

**Better research quality**



# Gender Dimension and Energy Transition

- A transition is not automatically just because it is green
- A truly just transition must ask:
  1. Who benefits?
  2. Who bears the costs?
  3. Who participates?
  4. Whose voices are heard?



# Introducing GENDER4POWER

- Duration: 01.11.2024 – 31.10.2028, 48 months, LIFE
- Budget ~1,89 Mio € EC contribution
- Coordinator: WIP Renewable Energies, Germany

Disclaimer: GENDER4POWER (Grant Agreement No. 101167565) is co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are, however, those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or CINEA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



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# Research Challenge: Gender and Energy Poverty



- How can energy poverty interventions become more effective by integrating gender-responsive approaches?

# OBJECTIVE: REDUCE ENERGY POVERTY



Energy Poverty

↓  
Gender-responsive design

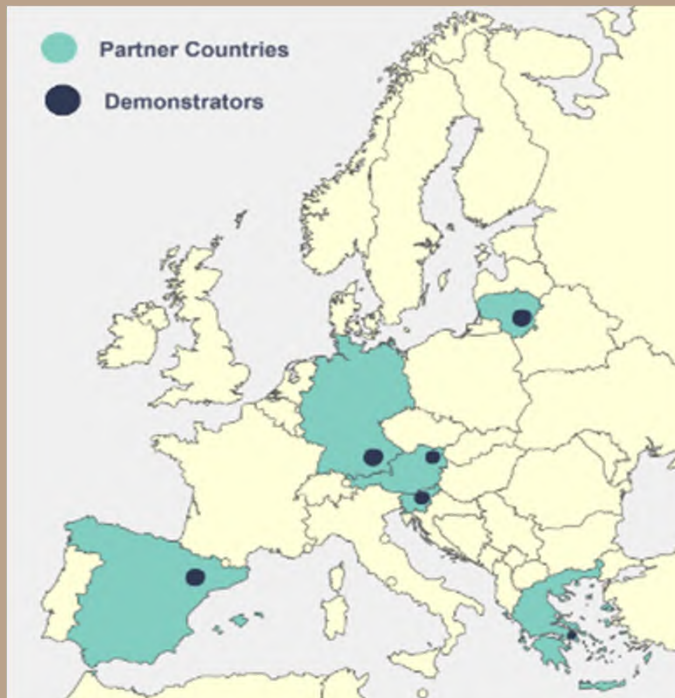
↓  
Participation + Capacity Building

↓  
Energy Efficiency + Renewables

↓  
Socially Just Energy Transition



# Testing Solutions Across Six European Demonstrators



**Six demonstrators across Europe test how gender-responsive approaches can be embedded in local energy poverty interventions**

# The Gender-Energy Poverty Nexus

## Traditional Approach

Technical problem

Energy user

Generic solutions

Measure energy savings

## Gender-Responsive Approach

Socio-technical problem

Diverse users

Tailored solutions

Measure social impacts too



# From Beneficiaries to Co-Creators

## Traditional Model

- Citizens receive support

## GENDER4POWER Model

- Citizens co-design solutions (participatory workshops, community engagement activities, local ambassadors)
- Citizens become knowledge holders rather than passive recipients



# Gender-Responsive Methods

- **Method 1:** Inclusive stakeholder engagement (separate focus groups)
- **Method 2:** Gender-sensitive communication (adapted language and outreach)
- **Method 3:** Capacity building and energy literacy
- **Method 4:** Inclusive financial mechanisms (support for vulnerable households)
- **Method 5:** Support for women's leadership



# Example in GENDER4POWER

- Traditional workshop invitation: generic communication
- Gender-responsive approach: adapted timing, accessible language, childcare considerations, targeted outreach
- Result: higher participation of women and vulnerable households



# Gender Dimension and Energy Transition

- **Level 1 – Gender Balance** Who participates?  
Examples: women in stakeholder groups, women in governance bodies
- **Level 2 – Gender Mainstreaming** How are decisions made?  
Examples: inclusive engagement, participatory methods, gender-responsive communication
- **Level 3 – Gendered Innovation** How does gender improve research outcomes?  
Examples: gender-sensitive energy advice, inclusive energy communities, targeted support for vulnerable households

**A green transition is not automatically a just transition**



# Gender KPIs in GENDER4POWER: Summary

- **Participation**
- $\geq 50\%$  women in co-development
- $\geq 60\%$  women in trainings
- **Impact**
- $\geq 60\%$  women-led households reached
- Increased ability to participate in sustainable energy solutions
- **Governance**
- Authorities applying gender mainstreaming
- Policymakers co-creating recommendations



# Overview of Gender KPI (GKPI)

- GKPI 1: Percentage of women-led vulnerable households benefiting from challenges removal of renovation, energy efficiency and renewable energy measures: at least 60 % (on average)
- GKPI 2: Percentage of women involved in collaborative development and implementation strategies to reduce energy poverty: at least 50 % (on average)



# Overview of Gender KPI (GKPI)

- GKPI 3: Percentage of women involved in trainings and workshops: at least 60 % women (on average)
- GKPI 4: Perceived increase in the ability of women to participate in sustainable energy solutions: at least 40 % (vs baseline on average amongst surveyed participants in trainings/workshops)



# Overview of Gender KPI (GKPI)

- GKPI 5: Regional/local authorities express interest and willingness to apply gender mainstreaming: at least 30 % of the involved authorities (through feedback meetings and interviews)
- GKPI 6: Evidence of quality of stakeholder engagement: diverse voices, including those of women and marginalized groups, are heard and incorporated into discussions and decision making processes related to energy poverty alleviation

# Overview of Gender KPI (GKPI)

- GKPI 7: Policy-/decision-makers at national / EU level participating in the process of co-creating gender-just recommendations for alleviation of energy poverty: at least 15 (total number)



# What We Learned About the Gender Dimension

- Gender dimension is not an add-on
- Gender dimension improves project uptake
- Participation improves solution quality
- Monitoring creates accountability
- The gender dimension is a research quality issue



# Thank you!

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## GET IN TOUCH



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