



MEDIA BREAKFAST TRAINING ON ENERGY ACCESS PROCEEDINGS REPORT



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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The media breakfast training on energy access was organized by KCCWG with financial support from CAFOD. The workshop took place on 4/2/2015 at The Sarova Pan Afric Hotel, Nairobi. Stakeholders present in the workshop were drawn from Suswatch Kenya, KCJWC, KCCWG, GAF, ITM Africa, HIVOS, media persons from the Kenya News Agency, The Star, Freelance science journalists, the Nation Media Group, XINHUA, K24, KBC, The Sun Weekly, Mtaani Radio, Pamoja FM, Baraka FM, the Reuters as well as freelance journalists. A total of 30 participants took part in the workshop (22 Male, 8 Female).

Stakeholders were also taken through the workshop objectives and what KCCWG does. Presentations made included Kenya's energy needs, issues surrounding access to clean and efficient energy in Kenya and key solutions, gender perspectives on energy access as well as the basics of energy reporting, sources of information as well as selling energy stories. Among the concerns raised by the stakeholders included:

- Whether presenters were aware of the wave energy technology being developed by an Israeli company in Malindi and what their thoughts were on the subject
- When the Turkana Wind Energy project would be operational.
- Whether increasing the energy capacity in Kenya is hot air considering that we have a low capacity to use it and also what led to the collapse of the carbon market
- What is being done to empower men and urban women in energy access as there is a misinterpretation of gender
- Whether there had been any structural and legal changes made to spearhead the campaign on power Africa that had been launched in June 2013, what factors hinder feed in Tariffs from communities since communities could sell mini hydros and solars. He wanted to know to what extent KPLC had been a hindrance as well as how far efforts have gone in empowering people with disability in access to clean energy

As a way forward, participants were urged to consider their effectiveness in using energy, KCCWG would also consider giving an award to a journalist with the best coverage of climate change and energy issues to attend the climate change negotiations at the end of the year.

Participating journalists were also asked to alert KCCWG whenever they cover a story on energy and climate change.

1.1 INTRODUCTION/OPENING SESSION- MODERATOR DR. GEOFFREY MANYARA

Dr. Geoffrey Manyara opened the meeting as the moderator of the first session. He welcomed the participants and thanked them for attending the meeting. The participants were invited to introduce themselves after a word of prayer. Participants at the meeting included media persons from the Kenya News Agency, The Star, Freelance science journalists, the Nation Media Group, XINHUA, K24, KBC, The Sun Weekly, Mtaani Radio, Pamoja FM, Baraka FM, the Reuters as well as freelance journalists. Other participants were drawn from KCCWG membership, Suswatch Kenya, Green Africa Foundation and HIVOS Kenya (**list annexed**). Dr. Manyara acknowledged their presence emphasizing the fact that media should be well versed on issues to do with energy access and be able to report on them accordingly. He then invited Obed Koringo the Program Officer to give a brief background and objective of the meeting.

1.2 About KCCWG and Workshop Objectives –Mr.Obed Koringo, Program Officer KCCWG

Mr.Koringo introduced KCCWG to the participants as an umbrella body of CSOs looking into advocacy on climate change issues. He summarized the objectives of KCCWG as;

- Advocating and campaigning for a positive policy and legislative framework that puts into account the effects of climate change on human development
- Support and coordination of civil society in climate change debates at the local, national, regional and international level, including Subsidiary bodies and Conferences of Parties (COP)
- To reduce climate change vulnerability of poor communities in Kenya through awareness and strengthening the capacity of Kenyan local communities and civil society to implement community based adaptation projects.

He also outlined KCCWG activities as policy advocacy, grass root mobilization, networking and lobbying. The speaker also outlined the structure of the organization. KCCWG is organized into 10 thematic groups and has organizations under each thematic area. The National Steering

Committee which acts as the board are heads of these thematic groups. The secretariat does the day to day running of the organization. Mr.Koringo enlightened the stakeholders that the SE4ALL initiative by the UN is aimed at achieving universal energy access, improve energy efficiency and increase the use of renewable energy. The initiative is aimed at identifying and mobilizing action by stakeholders including the media. He also pointed out that KCCWG has held several hearings to discuss the issue of energy access in communities and the meeting was among some of the activities planned under the wider Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) initiative. He reiterated that the meeting was to train media on issues of energy access as they had a responsibility on reporting on energy issues. Mr.Koringo concluded by stating that access to clean energy is most important in view of climate change.

1.3 KEYNOTE ADDRESS ON KENYA'S ENERGY NEEDS- JOHN KIOLI (CHAIRMAN KCCWG)

Mr. Kioli started his remarks by expressing optimism that the meeting would look at catalyzing discussion on energy access and look at issues surrounding it from a media perspective. He felt that access to affordable and reliable energy services is crucial to the success of the post-2015 development framework adding that shifting to more sustainable and efficient energy systems globally is also crucial for tackling climate change – the most serious threat to future poverty eradication. Mr.Kioli also elucidated that the dual focus of the *Sustainable Energy for All* (SE4ALL) initiative which is promoting universal energy access and a shift to low or zero carbon energy production globally should be supported adding that SE4ALL could form the basis of a standalone energy goal.

The speaker noted that the broad development impacts of energy poverty also make integrating energy targets and indicators in other goal areas crucial. He felt that any energy goal requires a meaningful and holistic definition of 'access' that can capture development outcomes including gender equality which requires a 'total energy access' approach, rather than one that merely measures grid connection. Mr.Kioli also pointed out that the package of energy and cooking services included in Tier three of the SE4ALL *Global Tracking Framework* should be the baseline for measuring access. Concrete targets and indicators are also needed to address the gendered aspects of energy poverty.

In his address, Mr.Kioli acknowledged that increased financial, political and technical support for decentralized, low or zero carbon technologies is critical. He added that financing energy services for the poorest also require a combination of innovative public private partnerships, along with social enterprise initiatives and national government investment. The speaker observed that more finance and technological solutions alone will not guarantee success: a ‘bottom up’, participatory approach to designing and delivering services is also crucial. The post-2015 framework must also recognize the role played by the public sector and civil society in delivering energy to the poor.

Mr.Kioli stated that the current SE4ALL targets for renewable and efficiency must be increased to incentives sufficient action by 2030 to prevent dangerous climate change. This requires a greater investment plus removal of incentives for fossil fuel production and consumption, with adequate protection for poor and vulnerable groups. In conclusion, Mr.Kioli pointed out that poorer countries must also have the means of implementation to incentivize the adoption of low or zero carbon energy systems and appreciated CAFOD for supporting the event.

2.0 PRESENTATIONS

2.1 ISSUES SURROUNDING ACCESS TO CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY IN KENYA AND KEY SOLUTIONS- JOHNSON KIMANI

Mr. Kimani began his presentation by making clarifications on the definitions of clean and efficient energy while clean energy has less particulate matter and less production of Green House Gases. It is not necessarily renewable energy. LPG, for example, is clean. He regretted that even though biogas is clean, it is not easy to package since it cannot be compressed the same way as LPG. Renewable energy such as wind has a base and peak demand and is not necessarily effective since the wind does not blow 24 hours. Mr.Kimani added that coal has calorific content that makes it a good source of energy, but the lignite content can be high making it dirty.

Mr.Kimani informed the participants that in Kenya, 3-8 million shillings can be cut off energy bills just by using energy efficiently. He was happy to note that a lot is being done on cook stoves, charcoal production and street lighting to promote clean energy as well as other

initiatives by lighting Africa. Mr.Kimani also brought to the attention of the stakeholders that the Government has also put in place legislation for manufactures to do energy audits every two years and put measures to ensure that those that use a lot of water that need heating use solar energy.

The speaker also pointed out that domestic needs are different while the uptake of technology is hindered by lack of awareness. He added that initial costs for cleaner energy are also prohibitive hence the figures of indoor air pollution are high through the use of kerosene and charcoal. Some technologies are also deemed as being inferior. The speaker gave an example of how anything made in China is seen to be of less quality. Solar technology from the US and Germany are preferred.

In his conclusion, Mr.Kimani informed participants that Kenya is working on ambitious projects to increase energy yet the country has low energy uptake but the challenge is lack of capacity to use up energy unless they are followed by ambitious projects such as having electric trains.

(Presentation annexed)

2.2 GENDER PERSPECTIVES ON ENERGY ACCESS- MRS.CECILIA KIBE, CEO KCJWC

In her introduction, Mrs.Kibe stated that although gender included both men and women, it is necessary to note that women are agents of social change and development through their unique roles in society. She reckoned that empowering them with the knowledge and finances would create a resilient society as they are very productive.

The speaker outlined the evidence of energy related vulnerabilities related to gender roles such as respiratory complications that result from cooking and lighting needs adding that strategies for enhancing women capacity to address energy access constraints need to be put in place. She also pointed out that access to energy is good for social, economic participation e.g. income generation. Mrs.Kibe also said that there is need for participation of gender in policy processes. She gave an example of how taking policy makers to the grass root level, aided in getting women to speak out on issues that affects them.

In conclusion, Mrs.Kibe challenged the media to document best practices on energy access by women as well as creates awareness on how women and children suffer as a result of energy deficiency.

(Presentation annexed)

2.3 BASICS OF ENERGY REPORTING, SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND SELLING ENERGY STORIES- Ms.WANJIRU KAGO (HIVOS)

In her presentation Ms. Kago urged journalists to link stories to people to give their stories a human face. She reckoned that most climate change and renewable energy stories are marred by half-truths and innuendo adding that journalists need to invest in asking the right questions and cross checking facts through research. She urged those present to be proactive in updating themselves in the areas of climate change and renewable energy. Illuminate the new, gather, filter, organize and interpret simply.

With the help of the participants, the speaker shared the various sources of information that ranged from grass roots, policy makers, and scientists to reports. She emphasized that good story ideas are all around and editors are looking for good stories to publish. She concluded by giving the participants the working principle of KISS which is not just Keeping It Short and Simple but Keeping It Short and Stupidly Simple such that at the end of the day, people understand what is being covered in the way they can relate.

(Presentation annexed)

PLENARY- MODERATED BY MR. FRANK MSAFIRI

Mr. Njeru, a freelance science journalist wanted to know if the presenters were aware of the wave energy technology being developed by an Israeli company in Malindi and what their thoughts were on the subject. He also wanted to know when the Turkana Wind Energy project will be operational.

In his response, Johnson Kimani, agreed that there were indeed many efforts going on in the promotion of energy access, but the process of getting them licensed had proved to be more

tiresome than expected due to bureaucracies within the system. He was however not aware of the wave energy project in Malindi. On the Turkana project, he reported that KPLC has been reluctant to jump on a power purchase agreement given that wind does not blow all the time. He also said that the most of the renewable energy projects were pegged on carbon financing, but the carbon credit market had plummeted.

Geoffrey Khamadi wanted to know if increasing the energy capacity in Kenya was hot air considering that we have a low capacity to use it

Mr. Kimani pointed out that most politicians in Kenya want to leave a legacy of development. Whilst it is true that our uptake is low, Kenya is quickly developing into an industrial hub. It would be wise to tap into these developments and have politicians give solutions to the uptake e.g. the electric train.

In follow up to an earlier question, Fred Njagi wanted to know what led to the collapse of the carbon market

In his response, Mr. Kimani said that energy can be used as a political tool as seen in the plummeting of oil prices against Russia. However, in the carbon debate, the classifications of countries ended up getting countries that are heavy weights compete with underdeveloped countries. The biggest beneficiaries of the carbon market were Russia and China since the monies were being pumped into their economies which impacted directly on some other economies. It was seen as a way of fueling growth of some at others behest hence the collapse.

Stella Mumo wanted to know what was being done to empower men and urban women in energy access as there is a misinterpretation of gender

Mrs. Kibe in response agreed that there has been a misinterpretation of the word gender and therefore she endeavors to do training with men as she empowers the women. In all their forums, men are present. Most are good at making cook stoves and take it up as a business. The aim is to have each appreciated their role in energy access and efficiency. In the case of urban women, they prefer to work with the less privileged.

Reuben Kyama of the standard group wanted to know if there had been any structural and legal changes made to spearhead the campaign on power Africa that had been launched in

June 2013. In a question also directed at John Kioli, Justus Wanzala of KBC wanted to know what factors hinder feed in Tariffs from communities since communities could sell mini hydros and solars. He wanted to know to what extend KPLC had been a hindrance. Another participant, Sarah, wanted to know how far efforts have gone in empowering people with disability in access to clean energy

Mr. Kioli acknowledged that it has been a challenge working with feed in tariffs which was mostly blamed on the monopoly KPLC has. Mini grids make sense where power can be guaranteed. He gave the example of community conservancies that have created sustainable systems that can be replicated by KPLC.

On the power Africa initiative, he reminded the participants that most initiatives take long before their impact can be felt on the ground. We also need to consider the political context in place where in the Kenya power play happen in between elections.

In his response concerning efforts to empower those with disability access energy, he reiterated the fact that every development issue has to have a component of gender and disadvantaged people in it. No manual has been developed for people with disability on energy access, but all the information given is nondiscriminatory.

3.0 CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

- Frank Msafiri called upon journalists to showcase some of the alternative livelihood that promotes energy efficiency and access.
- Journalists should look at hot spots for intervention, i.e. poverty, energy access and policy linkage and clearly show the trend.
- Participating journalists were asked to alert KCCWG whenever they cover a story on energy and climate change.
- KCCWG will consider giving an award to a journalist with the best coverage of climate change and energy issues to attend the climate change negotiations at the end of the year.
- Participants were urged to consider their effectiveness in using energy, e.g. usage of cars.

Many cars on the road are not a sign that we are rich rather; it's a clear indication that we are wasteful.

ANNEX 1: LIST OF PARTICIPANT

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