



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

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UN Women's mandate

UN Women is the UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women.

A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide.

UN Women Multi Country Office Africa operates in South Africa, Swaziland, Lesotho, Botswana, Namibia



UN Women's Priorities

- a. Women lead and participate in **decision-making** at all levels
- b. Women are **economically empowered** and benefit from development
- c. Women and girls live a life **free from violence**
- d. **Peace and security and humanitarian action** are shaped by women's leadership and participation

(continued)



UN Women's Priorities

- e. **Governance and national planning** fully reflect accountability for gender equality commitments and priorities;
- f. A comprehensive and dynamic **set of global norms, policies and standards** on gender equality and women's empowerment is in place and is applied through action by Governments and other stakeholders at all levels.

- Women are at the frontline of climate change both as the worst affected as well as the change agents
- Women participation is critical for human rights based and equitable climate change agenda
- The ever changing temperature impact negatively on the lives of women because:
 - ✓ Women are largely responsible for food production
 - ✓ Women are responsible for gathering food, fuel and energy
 - ✓ Yet they remain in the background when it comes to participating and contributing to solutions
 - ✓ Lack of information and decision making worsens their vulnerability

- Limited participation and leadership of women in the energy sector
 - Women owned businesses
 - Women in leadership positions
 - Employment
 - Procurement
- Yet they remain the most affected

Women function effectively in the economy

- A focus on economic empowerment of women as it has a multiplier-effect that enables women to defend their rights more effectively in all areas of their lives:
- Proven gender responsive enterprise development strategies
- Advocating for inclusive business practices including procurement and access to finance
- Stronger engagement with private sector, particularly re Women Empowerment Principles

- **Women play a leadership role in promoting decentralized renewable energy (RE) access and benefit from RE for economic empowerment**
 - **Energy planning and policy development is gender inclusive, participatory and responsive**
 - **Investment barriers are removed and equal opportunities are created for women's entrepreneurship and decent employment**
 - **Women's productive use of RE is promoted, and time dedicated to unpaid care and domestic work is reduced**

Energy planning and policy development is gender inclusive, participatory and responsive



- Increased capacity of, and effective engagement by women in energy planning and policy development**
- Targeted energy plans and policies drafted to support women's economic empowerment in the RE sector**
- Gender – sensitive analyses and audits conducted on Energy plans and policies to identify impact on women**

Investment barriers are removed and equal opportunities are created



- Improved access to education and training for women in the RE
- Traditional and innovative sources of finance, financing instruments, and financing models identified and made accessible to women
- Business practices and guidelines developed on safe and bias-free working environments that attract, retain & promote women

Women's productive use of RE is promoted, and time dedicated to unpaid care and domestic work is reduced



- **Women's productive use of RE is promoted, and time dedicated to unpaid care and domestic work is reduced**
- **RE deployed to health centers and schools**
- **Increased household access to reliable and affordable RE to reduce domestic work**
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When more women work, and or create
wealth, economies grow