



NEPAL RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAMME



Gender equality and social inclusion Strategy

Authors: Kavita Rai, Susmita Sharma

Updated: March 2021



Table of Contents

Acronyms	5
1. INTRODUCTION	7
1.1 Understanding GESI and its practice in the renewable energy sector	8
1.1.1 Gender equality and social inclusion within the Nepal context	8
1.2 Leaving no one behind.....	9
1.3 Existing provisions in the renewable energy sector	11
1.4 GESI TERMINOLOGIES FOR NREP	12
2. KEY GESI ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED BY RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR	14
3. NREP GESI Framework	18
3.1 GESI framework for NREP.....	18
3.2 Guiding principles	19
3.3 NREP Theory of Change (ToC) and expansion of GESI framework.....	20
4. OPERATIONALISING THE NREP GESI/LNOB FRAMEWORK	22
4.1 GESI in project cycle management and guiding principles	22
4.2 Mainstreaming across outcomes.....	22
4.2.1 Outcome 1: Enabling environment established for increased RE investment in Nepal as part of the overall energy plans.....	22
4.2.2 Outcome 2: RE investments significantly scaled up by financial institutions and the private sector resulting in rapid expansion of access to sustainable energy services in Nepal, contributing to inclusive, low carbon economic growth and sustainable energy access for all	25
4.3 Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting	26
4.4 GESI consideration in Value for Money (VfM)	27
4.5 GESI in Risk Identification.....	27
4.6 In NREP Management	28
4.6.1 Formulation and implementation of GESI policy and practices.....	28
4.6.2 Capacity development	29
4.6.3 Office environment.....	29
4.7 Tools, guidelines and templates.....	29
REFERENCES	30
ANNEXES	32

ANNEX 1: ENERGY RELATED ENABLERS AND NON (INCLUSION OF GESI)..	32
ANNEX 2: SUBSIDY PROVISION FOR TARGETED BENEFICIARY GROUPS....	35
ANNEX 3: EVENT SUMMARY SHEET	35
ANNEX 4: EVALUATION OF THE SECF CONCEPT NOTE	35
ANNEX 5: SUSTAINABLE ENERGY CHALLENGE FUND-CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION FULL APPLICATION.....	38
ANNEX 6: SUSTAINABLE ENERGY CHALLENGE FUND PORTAL-APPLICANT FORM.....	42
ANNEX 7: GESI STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.....	54

Acronyms

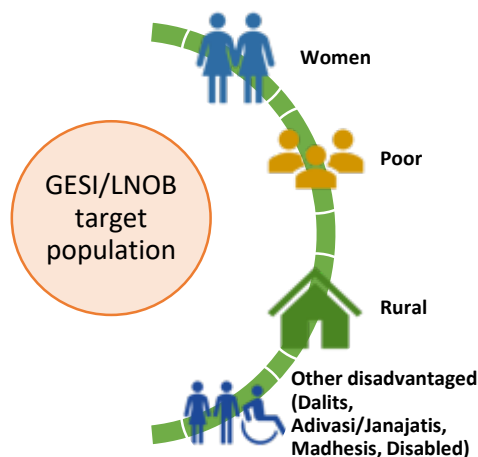
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AEPC	Alternative Energy Promotion Centre
BPfA	Beijing Platform for Action
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CREF	Central Renewable Energy Fund
F	Federal
FI	Financial Institution
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GoN	Government of Nepal
I	Integration
I/NGO	International/Non-Government Organization
ICF	International Climate Fund
kWh	kilo Watt hour
LG	Local Government
LGBTI	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex
LNOB	Leave No One Behind
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
M	Mainstreaming
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning
MIS	Management Information System
MoEWRI	Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation
MoHP	Ministry of Health and Population
MOPE	Ministry of Population and Environment
MW	Megawatt
NEA	Nepal Electricity Authority
NPC	National Planning Commission
NPR	Nepalese Rupees
NREP	Nepal Renewable Energy Programme
P	Provincial
PG	Provincial government

RE	Renewable Energy
SECF	Sustainable Energy Challenge Fund
RET	Renewable Energy Technology
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
ToC	Theory of Change
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
VfM	Value for Money

1. INTRODUCTION

The UK Aid supported Nepal Renewable Energy Programme (NREP) envisions a *supportive, coordinated and sustainable environment for increased investment in a vibrant and inclusive, market based clean energy sector in Nepal*. To achieve this vision including gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) and leave no one behind (LNOB) is integrated into NREP's results area, key performance indicators and key activities outlined in this strategy including a framework as well as operationalization plan. The document is for NREP staff, partners and collaborators to understand the context, definitions and principles in the operationalization of the programme for achieving results.

NREP recognizes the need of improving women, poor, rural, and disadvantaged people's



access to renewable energy distribution and technologies as well as in policies, decision making and empowerment to lead in the sector¹.

NREP will use GESI as the key terminology to include LNOB (see next chapter for full description). As per MEL – *the terminology GESI is commonly used in Government of Nepal and development partner documents*;

GESI is central to achieving LNOB. Thus, this report makes an

Figure 1: GESI/ LNOB target

attempt to use “GESI” more when operational aspects of programme planning and implementation are discussed and use ‘LNOB’ for broader concepts.

The framework envisions to support at the sectoral level on the following:

- To contribute in the integration of GESI elements in national and sub national laws, policies and plans on energy/ renewable energy sector
- To support the private sector and sub national governments to integrate GESI in their projects/ businesses to access finance, employment opportunities and enhance skills.
- To improve access to renewable energy services and products including to women, poor and disadvantaged groups.
- Work towards achieving transformation in the energy sector by providing equal opportunities to women and the disadvantaged to participate, hold decision-making positions and influence decisions. This will help address power relations and seek institutional and societal change.
- Emphasis on GESI specific lessons learnt and knowledge replication.
- To empower women and disadvantaged groups by helping build capabilities and opportunities

¹ Definitions are outlined in Section 1.4 of this document.

And, at the programmatic operational level:

- To create uniform understanding and show benefits of promotion among NREP team members and other stakeholders on the project approaches of GESI/ LNOB consideration, its integration in overall theory of change, activity design, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), Value for Money (VfM) and capacity building.
- Guide the team including investment in capacity building to integrate, implement and monitor the project through GESI lens throughout project implementation.

1.1 UNDERSTANDING GESI AND ITS PRACTICE IN THE RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR

1.1.1 Gender equality and social inclusion within the Nepal context

The preamble of the Constitution of Nepal (2015) envisions the country as an inclusive state and guarantees the right to equality for all its citizens. It has embraced multi-caste, multi-lingual, multi-cultural and diverse geographical specificities by ending discriminations relating to class, caste, region, language, religion and gender including all forms of racial untouchability, to protect and promote unity in diversity, social and cultural solidarity, tolerance and harmonious attitudes. It expresses determination to create an egalitarian society based on the principles of proportional inclusion and participation, to ensure equitable economy, prosperity and social justice.²

The Government of Nepal (GoN) has undertaken several efforts and measures to address and mainstream GESI issues. The Constitution provides the principles, frameworks and process to ensure it in every sector of the state. Affirmative actions are provisioned in the Constitution to address historical disadvantage and promote substantive equality among citizens. The equality is further elaborated by introducing a special legal protection mechanism, empowerment or development of citizens, including those described by the constitution as “socially or culturally backward.”

Additionally, Nepal has ratified and adopted international instruments including the UN Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the UN Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the International Labor Organization Convention on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, 1989 (No. 169) and Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) 1995 – all of which shows the country's commitment on the issue. Nepal is also committed to the Sustainable Developments Goals (SDGs); for Goal 5 on gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, the proposed target for 2030 includes elimination of gender disparity in all levels of education, wage discrimination at similar work, physical and sexual violence, and all harmful practices, and raising the presence of women in the national parliament and public service decision-making positions (NPC, 2015). In addition, the SDG Goal 10: reduce inequality within and among countries is also important to Nepal within the current context of potentially increasing vulnerabilities and income inequality.

The GoN has also adopted different laws³ like Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, Caste Based Discrimination and Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act, 2011 to ensure

² <http://www.lawcommission.gov.np/en/archives/987>

³ <http://www.lawcommission.gov.np/en/category-prevailing-law-statues-acts>

equality among citizens as guaranteed by the Constitution. Different plans and sectoral policies are onboard such as the formulation of GESI policies, guidelines and strategies which emphasize participation of women and disadvantaged communities in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of sectoral policies, plans and programs. They recognize the need to identify the specific barriers faced by women, poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in the sector concerned.

In planning, prioritization to mainstream gender equality and enhancement of the welfare of women and disadvantaged groups started with the 10th Plan (2002-2007). The 15th Five Year Plan of National Planning Commission (NPC) reinforces its emphasis on economic prosperity and social justice. It aims at longer term vision of '*Prosperous Nepal, Happy Nepalis*' by including poor and socio-economically backward communities, regions, classes and marginalized groups in the overall development process. It aims for conscious efforts on gender equality and addressing the issues of marginalized groups through meaningful participation, targeted programs, productive employment, reducing income disparity and opportunity to equal access and distribution of resources.⁴ Further, NPC on Sustainable Development Goals, 2016-2030 elaborates:- "*Nepal is marred by gender, social and geographical exclusion and inequality in Millennium Development Goals and human development outcomes so needs to better target the delivery of development to the hardest to reach segments of society, those who have been excluded from development and those who have been overlooked*" (NPC, 2015).

1.2 LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

The 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development has global goals to end poverty, reduce inequalities and tackle climate change. At the heart of the Goals is the commitment to ensure that 'no one is left behind' and that no Goal is considered met unless it is met for all nations, peoples and groups in society (Civicus, et al. 2016). Nepal as a member of the United Nations signed up to the Agenda agreed by all Members in September 2015. It was formally conceptualized as 'Leave No One Behind' (LNOB), the key messaging that actions for poorest and marginalized need to be prioritized and fast tracked.

In Nepal, a national dialogue was held in August-September 2016 which concluded that transparency, good governance (government systems and machineries, elected representatives at the local level, political commitment), weak management capacity, patriarchy and environmental degradation, and natural hazards all contributed towards the marginalization and inequality of people, particularly in rural areas. Thus, strong leadership, stable government and capacity at all levels needed to be increased to be more responsive, responsible, accountable and people-centric with available resources optimally utilized including for marginalized and vulnerable groups, and to reduce gender gaps (ibid).

As mentioned in Section 1.1, Nepal is committed to the SDG goals. Goal 7 is to 'ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all'. Unless the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged have access to clean and affordable energy, Nepal's commitment to the SDG 7 target will not be met. In 2018, the United Nations Committee for Development Policy addressed multiple dimensions of the pledge to LNOB and although certain countries showed progress, a '*generalized shift towards development that leaves no one behind requires the*

⁴ https://www.npc.gov.np/images/category/15th_Plan_Approach_Paper2.pdf

transformation of deeply rooted systems - economic and political systems, governance structures and business models - that are often based on unequal distributions of wealth and of decision-making power⁵. The Committee also recognized the complexity of practical implementation and that the trade-offs in the path towards the achievement of LNOB must be understood and addressed; and policy choices need to be a combination of macroeconomic, fiscal and transformative social ones that combine universal and targeted actions, as well as pre-market, in-market, and post-market redistribution.

The UK Government has committed to ‘*putting the last first*’ and to ‘*prioritise the interests of the world’s most vulnerable and disadvantaged people; the poorest of the poor and those people who are most excluded and at risk of violence and discrimination*’⁶. The pledge is to ensure that:

- Every person has a fair opportunity in life no matter who or where they are
- People who are furthest behind, who have least opportunity and who are the most excluded will be prioritized
- Every person counts and will be counted

Further committing to LNOB by⁷:

- Listening and responding to the voices of those left furthest behind
- Holding ourselves and each other accountable for designing policies and building inclusive institutions that put the furthest behind first and sustainably address the root causes of poverty and exclusion
- Taking steps to enable all people to reach their full potential
- Challenging the social barriers that deny people opportunity and limit their potential, including changing discrimination and exclusion based on gender, age, location, caste, religion, disability or sexual identity
- Building inclusive and open economies and societies, where there is rule of law, inclusive political systems, action to address corruption and where all people can hold their governments to account
- Achieving gender equality, prioritize the empowerment of girls and women and end violence against girls and women, and stop modern slavery
- Working with young people to help break the cycle of discrimination, exclusion and poverty
- Supporting a data revolution, to ensure timely, accurate and high-quality data is used to achieve and measure sustainable development and to monitor progress and assess whether targets are being met by all peoples and all segments of society.

⁵[https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2754713 July PM 2. Leaving no one behind Summary from UN Committee for Development Policy.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2754713%20July%20PM%202.%20Leaving%20no%20one%20behind%20Summary%20from%20UN%20Committee%20for%20Development%20Policy.pdf)

⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/leaving-no-one-behind-our-promise/leaving-no-one-behind-our-promise>

⁷ From the UK Government pledge, some sentences shortened for this text

1.3 EXISTING PROVISIONS IN THE RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR

Energy policies and plans are technical in nature and at most, there is reference to a wide understanding of ‘rural’ or ‘community’ when it comes to inclusion especially in the older enabling frameworks and policies. The 2006 Rural Energy Policy initiates a slightly better precedence to the inclusion of GESI. Off-grid renewable energy enablers such as the Renewable Energy Subsidy Policy, 2013 aims to enable low-income and remote rural households to use renewable energy technologies, recognized the need to enhance access and affordability of women and socially marginalized groups. In addition, the policy also recognized the governance structure for the disbursement⁸. The following 2016 subsidy policy directly provides more benefits for ‘targeted beneficiary groups. One of its strategies is ‘to maximize service delivery and efficiency in the use of renewable energy resources and technologies in rural areas and to use renewable energy solutions thereby reducing regional disparity, creating rural employment and enhancing livelihoods of rural people particularly households from single women, low income, natural disaster victims and socio-economically disadvantaged groups’⁹. Details of the key policy enablers in Nepal for the energy sector and the mention or (non) inclusion of GESI are provided in Annex 1 and some of the provisions for targeted beneficiary groups are described in Annex 2.

The Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPCC) established to promote renewable energy in the country has internalized GESI priority in its objective. Its objectives as highlighted in the GESI policy 2018 are as below:

- Improve the living standard of rural women, poor, marginalized groups, vulnerable population and socially excluded groups through optimal use of the RE technologies and create employment opportunities by reducing dependency on traditional energy.
- To ensure meaningful participation of women, poor and the marginalized people in the energy system mechanism and their improved decision-making capacity.

In the same way, its GESI mainstreaming strategies includes:

- Improving women’s access to renewable energy through the provision of grants and credit services;
- Increasing men, women and the deprived sectors’ access to the renewable energy technology through different approaches;
- Creating special mechanism for energy distribution to deprived, poor, men and women groups that are out of reach of energy in the remote and backward areas;
- Encouraging women and the deprived groups to actively participate in the energy projects including in the management of infrastructure development;

⁸ Representation of GESI Unit in the internal technical review committee as well in the local bodies formed such as user committees, Economic Development Committee. This policy has specific categorization criteria for identifying the single women, poor, the ethnic groups as well as the aged. For example, single women identification is through an ID provided by the District Development Committees on recommendation from the Village Development Committees (VDC). The poor will be identified as per recognition by Ministry of Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation which is also responsible for administering the Poverty Alleviation Fund and the indigenous groups.

⁹ [https://www.aepc.gov.np/uploads/docs/2018-06-19_RE%20Subsidy%20Policy,%202073%20\(English\).pdf](https://www.aepc.gov.np/uploads/docs/2018-06-19_RE%20Subsidy%20Policy,%202073%20(English).pdf)

- Meaningful participation of women and deprived groups in the project cycle;
- Capacitating women and the marginalized groups for effective decision-making process;
- Creating enabling environment with additional inputs for promoting women and groups that are socially excluded to be renewable energy service provider;
- Necessary arrangements on addressing gender and social inclusion issues through amendment of organizational policy and working procedure in the energy sector;
- Increasing diversity in the work place especially for the excluded groups, developing and implementing programs and activities to reduce GESI Gap due to climate change impacts and;
- Developing joint models with local people and the concerned stakeholders to maintain transparency in distribution and use of renewable technologies are also considered as main issue of GESI mainstreaming.¹⁰

1.4 GESI TERMINOLOGIES FOR NREP

A majority of the definitions follow the Nepal International Development Partner Group (IDPG) framework definitions which in turn has mostly integrated the GoN definitions. In some, NREP specific definitions are laid out.

- **Caste and ethnicity:** NREP classification as Brahmin/Chhetri, Dalit, Adivasi/Janajati, Madhesi, Others (to specify-not covered by other categories)
- **Disadvantaged groups** are groups of people who have been systematically disadvantaged over a long time due to economic, caste, ethnic, gender and geographic reasons and include sexual and gender minorities. For NREP, the disadvantaged are defined as 'groups of people particularly women across castes and ethnicities including Dalits, Adivasi/Janajati and Madhesi, living in geographical regions without electricity or clean energy access'.
- **Family size:** The average size of family in Nepal is 4.5 person which is 4.3 in urban and 4.7 in rural area (CBS/NPC, 2017).
- **Gender:** socially constructed power relations between women and men that establish the roles, responsibilities, opportunities and decision-making authority of women and men in society (UNDP, 2017). For NREP disaggregation on gender – male, female, others (gender and sexual minorities)
- **Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)** is a concept that addresses unequal power relations experienced by people on the grounds of gender, wealth, ability, location, caste/ethnicity, language and agency or a combination of these dimensions. It focuses on the need for action to re-balance these power relations, reduce disparities and ensure equal rights, opportunities and respect for all individuals regardless of their social identity (UNDP, 2017).

¹⁰ Reference - AEPC's GESI policy 2019

- **Household:** As per the Nepal Living Standards Survey (NLSS) [CBS/NPC, 2011], Nepal follows the principles and recommendations laid down by the United Nations whereby household is based on the “arrangements made by persons, individually or in groups, for providing themselves with food or other essentials for living”. A household may consist of one person or a group of two or more persons. The persons in the group - may pool their incomes, may have a common budget, may be related or unrelated or may constitute a combination of persons both related and unrelated.
- **Poor:** As per the 2011 NLSS poor are the households or persons who consume an average of less than 2,220 kcal of food per person per day and spend less than NPR 11,929 per capita per year on food and less than NPR 7,332 per person on non-food items. The Ministry of Health and Population’s (MoHP) Social Security Unit Guidelines (December 2012) define the poor as those who have sufficient food for more than six months but less than 12 months of each year from their land, business or occupations.

NREP will consider ‘energy poor’ – those populations without access to clean energy and electricity. The energy poor in Province 5, Province 2 and Karnali Province are 18.2%, 19.8% and 28.9% of the total population respectively (NREP Energy Profiles, April 2020).

- **Targeted beneficiary groups:** Subsidy policy definition to include women-led households with dependent children, earthquake victims from earthquake affected districts, endangered indigenous community identified by GoN and Dalit.
- **Urban and rural:** In Nepal, the urban is classified as those designated urban areas also based on population size, annual revenue and level of infrastructure facilities available in the municipalities. They are also categorized as metropolitan (Mahanagarपालिका), sub-metropolitan (Upa-Mahanagarपालिका) and municipality (Nagarपालिका). The GoN has set a benchmark to declare certain areas as urban or rural (details in MOPE, 2017). Specific districts as per different categories are also in Annex 1 of LGOA 2017.

For NREP, rural will be the households or inhabitants living in the Gaunपालिकाs of the Provinces and urban will be the households or inhabitants living in Mahanagarपालिका, Upa-Mahanagarपालिका and Nagarपालिका of the Provinces.

- **Vulnerable:** For NREP, this includes people who are affected by economic and natural shocks and disasters, those that are disabled or differently challenged.

2. KEY GESI ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED BY RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR

There have been GESI initiatives from GoN, and various stakeholders including multilateral agencies, development partners, I/NGOs and the private sector to expand the RE sector development benefits to women and disadvantaged groups. Despite several measures, there continues to be major gaps in the energy sector to recognize the differential needs and vulnerabilities, social inequities and barriers to participation across different gender and social groups and address these issues in the design, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation at all levels.

The major GESI issues to be addressed in this sector can be broadly classified under the following categories:



Figure 2: Key GESI issues in RE sector

a) Access to information on energy and emerging opportunities in the sector:

In the energy sector, women and disadvantaged groups are often behind other groups in receiving information on various opportunities in the sector including jobs and skills development. It is important that appropriate information is delivered to women, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. In addition, there is a need for more women to be engaged in developing and making decision around information dissemination, as a generic approach may be insufficient to reach women and disadvantaged groups. The language used, timing and which sub-groups to target are all important to be considered.

b) Low levels of disaggregated data/evidence

A major barrier is the level of disaggregation of data and evidence especially on GESI in the energy sector. This goes beyond the energy sector as the Nepal profile in 2016¹¹ concludes that *'current data is not good enough to tell us exactly who is being left behind, where they live*

¹¹ Development Initiatives (2016) Nepal Country Profile <https://action4sd.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/NepalCountryProfile.pdf>

and why,' and thus, 'to better target resources and track their progress we need to better understand who they are. To achieve this, we need more, and better data disaggregated by at least geography, gender, age and disability'. Such differentiation would allow for targeting better policies and plans.¹²

c) Inclusive policies/plans/mechanisms

Many policies have been developed and adopted in the fields of energy, water, agriculture, food and economic development, but these have been developed as standalone policies and lack harmony and linkages to each other. As elaborated in section 1.2, energy and specifically renewable energy policies and mechanisms are being initiated. However, the focus is mainly on provision of subsidy and less on economic empowerment (O'Dell K et al, 2014). In addition to structural concerns, policy provisions also affect the ways in which benefits from energy projects are realized (ADB, 2018). The benefits accrued from subsidies and from renewable energy projects are yet to be fully understood as the monitoring of implementation is weak and there is no analysis on the topic thus far.

Nepal's energy policy, strategy and guidelines on GESI remains to be more effective in its implementation. Policies have particularly failed to recognize, and address barriers faced by women, poor and marginalized groups, especially in getting employment or access to credit for productive end use related to RETs (UN Women, 2015).

d) Accessibility to renewable energy technologies and skills

The access to modern energy technology and basic needs such as water and supply is fundamental to reducing poverty and gender inequality and moving towards sustainable development. Populations that are currently unserved by the national grid or modern energy are mainly from remote and poor communities. **People, especially women and children spend hours each day collecting fuel wood and water for their daily household needs, many continue to rely on inefficient cookstoves.** Similarly, gaining access to electricity connections are often marred by remote locations and are tied to land or house ownership, which prevents those without land/house entitlements from getting connected.

e) Capacity¹³ and skills are needed to be continually provided/upgraded but often are not highly prioritized particularly for public funding. With development partners withdrawing from the off-grid sector, there is less funding for 'soft interventions' with an increased focus also on 'electricity access via the grid'. Direct employment or via utilization of electricity from grid/off-grid to generate income needs a more cohesive and strategic approach. **New technologies such as electric cooking and improved productive use applications can assist women (and men) to further reduce their work burden. Affordability and access to finance**

¹² One of NREP reporting indicator is the International Climate Fund (ICF) key performance indicator 2 - *Number of people with improved access to clean energy as a result of ICF projects* that asks for results disaggregation by gender in line with UKAid's Inclusive Data Charter action plan.

¹³ The NREP Capacity Needs Assessment and Draft Capacity Development Strategy details more on this issue. GESI integration is a key guiding principle for capacity development.

The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)¹⁴ that 28.6 percent of the Nepalese population is multi-dimensionally poor (NPC, 2018). **Many households are unable to afford modern and efficient technologies. Their inability to afford electricity could mean that they are not able to derive the full benefits such as rising income, better educational attainment of children, and reduction in healthcare expenditure following smokeless cooking facilities, etc. (Pandey R, 2009).**

Despite the availability of nationally sponsored subsidies and grants related to renewable energy, many households are not able to enjoy the benefit due to their inability to make the initial payment, further excluding the poor from schemes designed for their benefit. Rural and disadvantaged groups including women lack the means to achieve the necessary level of economic and financial inclusion to access renewable/modern energy technologies some reasons being:

- Lack of access to long term financing from formal financial institutions for accessing renewable energy technologies. This is due to reasons such as no bank account and limited access to the full set of financial products, mainly because banks are located long distances away and lending/other requirements are difficult to meet: these include inability to meet requirements for collateral, minimum permissible loan values¹⁵ are too high for the needs of poorer prospective borrowers and interest rates are inhibiting as they have very little means of repaying the loan.
- Often, the private sector responsible for supplying the technologies do not reach the potential customers in the remote areas and poor households because it is not financially attractive for them to do so.

Efforts are required to identify differential needs and risks of target populations so that customized solutions can be designed to ensure access to sustainable energy for all. In addition, there is a need for better delivery models that positively encourage access to energy such as inclusive finance mechanisms via formal financial institutions or via the private sector.

Benefits of increased accessed also need to be documented, monitored and evaluated.

f) Representation, participation and decision making

Limited opportunities for women and disadvantaged populations to participate and influence decisions at all levels (particularly higher) of public life is a well-established fact in Nepal. And at the household level, the head is often male and often holds decision making responsibilities. However, in Nepal, women headed households are gradually increasing; but information does not reach them in timely manner. This situation is changing considerably with measures such as mandatory inclusion of all beneficiary or affected households and mandatory representation of marginalized groups in bodies such as users' committees (The Asia Foundation, 2012).

Despite these policy measures, the participation of women in decision-making positions, especially in energy projects and institutions, continues to be limited (ADB, 2018). For example,

¹⁴ The MPI is measured through three dimensions: education, health and living standards and is based on indicators related to malnutrition, minimum education, electricity facilities, drinking water and sanitation.

¹⁵ Agricultural Development Bank norms state that the minimum loan amount is NPR one hundred thousand.

at the NEA, only a small percentage of women were found to be at mid and lower level of professionals (overall, only 10.4% women and 89.6% men as per October 2015 data); there was also an overrepresentation of advantaged groups (Bahun, Chhetri and Newar) and a severe underrepresentation of Dalits, Muslims, Janajatis, and Madhesis, especially at the higher levels of the organizational hierarchy. This is also same for policy and planning as the energy sector is highly male dominated. The AEPC performed slightly better but representation of women in high level positions are low (ibid).

The situation is common even in non-energy sector. An exploratory study surveying 190 women elected leaders in 20 rural and urban municipalities across all 7 provinces by Samjhauta Nepal and The Asia Foundation (2018) confirms that the ‘road to women’s substantive participation in leadership and decision-making roles is littered with manifold challenges’¹⁶

In addition to representation, studies have also shown that the process of empowerment and inclusion should be equally considered (Sankalpa, 2015). This includes the strengthening of women leaders and civil servants to be efficient and effective, and that legal structures and policies need to give special attention to women especially those from amongst minority and marginalized communities. The position of women in decision making may be able to bring different perspectives and experiences even in the renewable energy sector but needs increased engagement and meaningful participation at all level of decision-making structures. It will be important because the provision of modern energy not only opens new opportunities for women but also creates opportunities for new gender discourses if done rightly, such as using women as technical resources rather than relegating them to the role of end users only, a fact that can also be extrapolated to those marginalized sections of society (Standal and Winther, 2016).

¹⁶ As per the Election Commission 2017, 91% of the deputy positions - deputy mayors in municipalities and vice chairpersons in rural municipalities were won by women, but men won 98% of chief positions—mayors and chairpersons. Out of 753 mayor/chairperson positions, women were nominated for mayor/chairperson in only 190 positions - 25% of the total (Samjhauta Nepal and TAF, 2018).

3. NREP GESI Framework

This framework will remain as the integral part of the project which will be referred during all stages of project implementation.

3.1 GESI FRAMEWORK FOR NREP

The NREP approach is based on the premise that GESI concerns must be considered and addressed at all stages of the programme cycle – from high-level vision to implementation, monitoring and evaluation. This requires learning and ongoing adjustments as well as trialing initiatives (adaptive management). Interventions must be sensitive to the assumptions and situation (access, agency) of women and men from different social groups. Setting social inclusion objectives is insufficient without initiatives aimed at removing barriers. The new federal system presents a good opportunity especially at sub national level for bottom-up processes that respond to local needs.

NREP's GESI framework is designed with a combination of IDPG framework with a view that *'people shape institutions and institutions shape people'* keeping at the center UKAid's LNOB concepts of *'understand, empower and include'* (See figure 3)

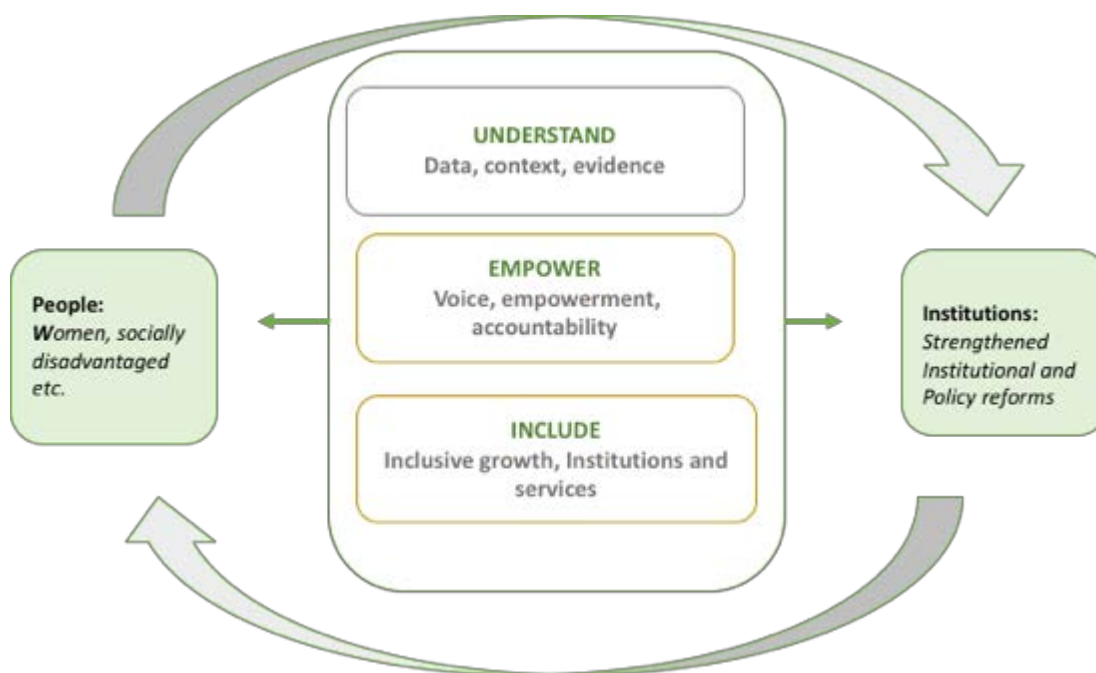


Figure 3: NREP Framework, adapted (combined) from frameworks of UKAid's LNOB and IDPG Nepal, 2017

As per the IDPG framework, the 'relationship is reciprocal between people and the state, economy and society in which they live and the institutions that impact them'. Institutions can be formal such as laws and policies of the state, and informal that are often embedded in socio-cultural contexts such as gendered norms and perceptions, patriarchy, social and caste structures, patronage and political structures including networks.

The IDPG GESI working group identified three areas and interventions to achieve gender equality and social inclusion:

- i) *Right to be represented and participate in decision making*: addressed through reforms in laws, policies, governance structures to level playing field; and efforts to increase influence of women, poor, vulnerable and excluded through political representation
- ii) *Right to equitable human development*: addressed by targeting health, education, skill training, access to finance and productive resources
- iii) *The right to recognition of cultural and linguistic diversity*: addressed through awareness raising among the powerful as well as among women, poor, vulnerable and excluded and by legal reforms

NREP recognized that these are all relevant to current times and aims to implement its programmatic activities with a view to understanding these within the context of the energy sector and to further be a catalyst for increasing positive change. In addition, UKAid's LNOB concept with its three pillars provides a further strengthening of the framework whereby women, excluded groups including the poor can be the agents of change through:

- a) **Understand for action**: strengthen data, context and evidence; establish who and why, what works?
- b) **Empower for change**: enable voice, empowerment and accountability; shifting in legal and social norms
- c) **Include for opportunity**: catalyze inclusive growth, institutions and services; including in economic inclusion and access to services.

Nepal's governance system is starting to be more inclusive but the role of women and disadvantaged especially in the energy sector remains to be promoted or even understood. The integration of the IDPG and LNOB concepts will assist NREP to further provide a clearer path to understanding and implementing within the RE sector.

3.2 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

NREP's GESI framework is primarily guided by the national laws/policies and UKAid's policy paper on 'Leaving no one Behind: Our promise'. The guiding principles adopted for the project and related initiatives such as the Sustainable Energy Challenge Fund (SECF) are as below:

- a) **Appropriate and relevant**: The project strategies and activities will reflect the need and the priorities of women, poor, rural and marginalized people. The activities will be designed based on the review of existing barriers and gaps to reach them and existing capacities and initiatives.
- b) **Participation and feedback**: Project will take measures to involve women, poor and other marginalized people and/or their representative organizations throughout project implementation. The thrust is to ensure that their concepts, interest and concerns are integrated and addressed. A feedback mechanism will be established to listen, respond, address and incorporate their concerns, suggestions and feedbacks throughout the project cycle. In addition, safeguarding mechanisms will be established to protect women and disadvantaged from all forms of abuse, harassment and exploitation.

- c) **Promote empowerment:** NREP will push for the empowerment of women and socially disadvantaged in decision making processes particularly in the government institutions. This will include building their capabilities and seeking out more opportunities for women and marginalized groups.
- d) **Evidence based:** Disaggregated and other inclusive data will be gathered and analyzed to provide evidence. Appropriate methods will be adopted in different components such as risk monitoring and management (including safeguarding), ensuring value for money, project design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting.
- e) **Learning and adaptation:** Emphasis will be on documenting, sharing and replicating the project learnings both among the project team members and concerned stakeholders through an ongoing process including taking appropriate corrective measures and adjustments. Learning from other similar projects in Nepal and other developing countries will be also part of the process.

3.3 NREP THEORY OF CHANGE (TOC) AND EXPANSION OF GESI FRAMEWORK

The Theory of Change statement and the log frame indicators encompasses LNOB dimensions systematically.

NREP Theory of Change:

- If NREP supports Ministry of Energy, Water Resource and Irrigation, Ministry of Finance, Alternative Energy Promotion Centre, partner provincial governments and relevant government organizations to agree, develop and effectively deliver policies for market-based development of the renewable energy sector as part of low carbon economic development and least cost universal energy access, And if NREP successfully develops market instruments to finance RE service delivery using public funds to significantly mobilize private investment (national and international) and climate funds, And if NREP supports the private sector, public sector and financial institutions to develop and implement viable and sustainable projects focused on energy service delivery model.

Then, Governments, the private sector and financial institutions will have established an enabling environment for increased RE investment in Nepal as part of the overall energy plans. Then, financial institutions and the private sector will significantly scale up RE investments. Then access to renewable energy services in Nepal will expand more quickly, contributing to inclusive, low carbon, economic growth and sustainable energy access for all.

The outcome and outcome indicators formulated in NREP log frame feeds in disaggregated data and evidence. Few examples of such indicators¹⁷ are as below:

- Outcome Indicator 2.6: Number of people with improved access to clean energy as a result of NREP support (ICF-KPI 02)
- Output Indicator 2.1.2: Number of viable DRE businesses that received technical assistance from NREP including projects either owned or led by women(Annual)

¹⁷ Indicators are as per revised NREP logframe, May-June 2020 awaiting endorsement by FCDO.

- Output Indicator 2.1.3: Number of disadvantaged people benefitting from viable NREP supported projects(Annual)

The following figure puts together the NREP framework including key outcomes and activities to fulfil them.

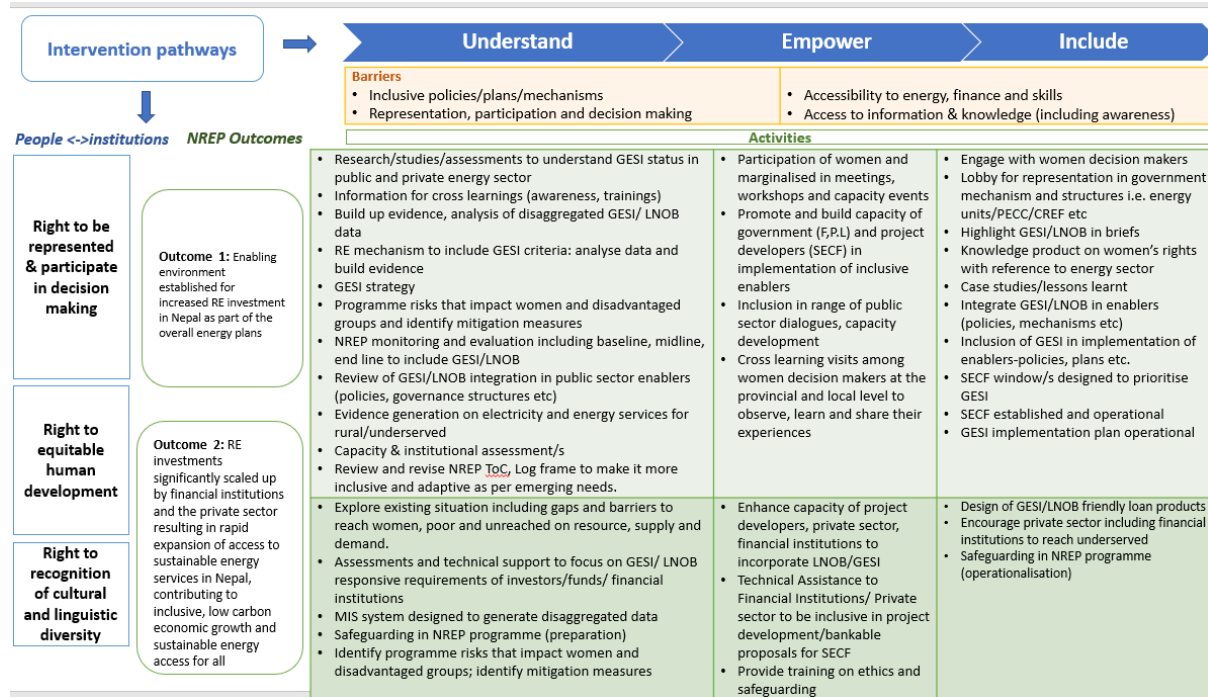


Figure 4: Expansion of NREP GESI framework

Details of operationalization of the above are presented in the following Section 4.

4. OPERATIONALISING THE NREP GESI/LNOB FRAMEWORK

4.1 GESI IN PROJECT CYCLE MANAGEMENT AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

GESI remains as one of the major components of NREP project cycle with its careful consideration in design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, learning and adapting. The figure below depicts how NREP is considering and integrating GESI issues in its project cycle.

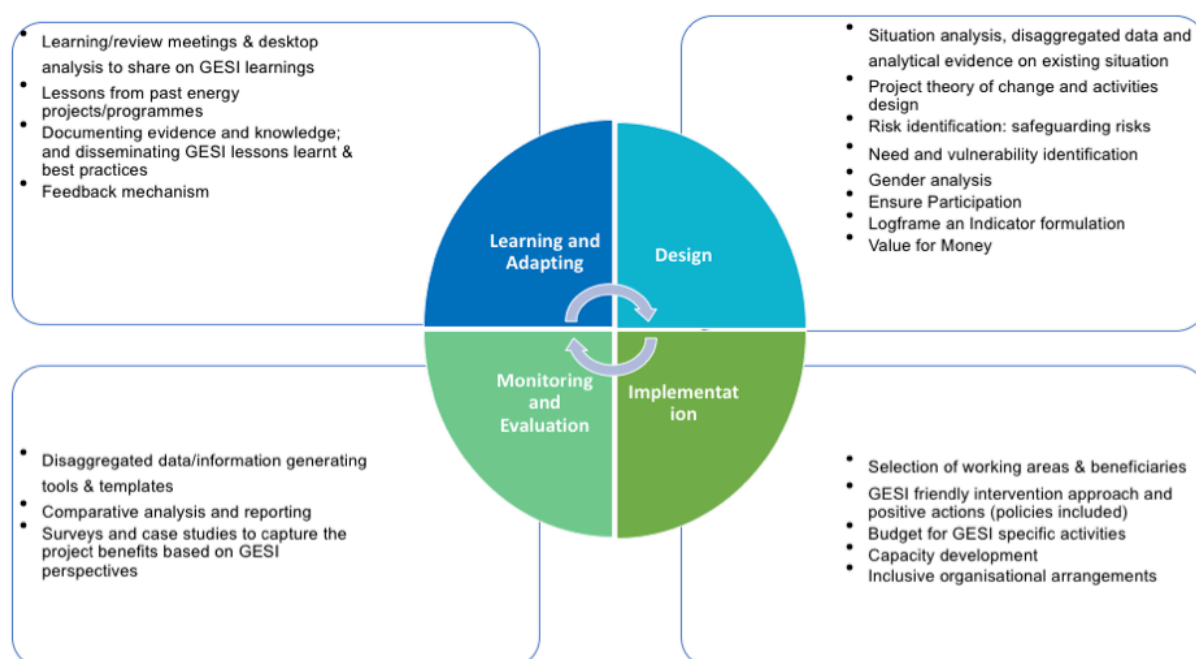


Figure 5: GESI in project cycle

4.2 MAINSTREAMING ACROSS OUTCOMES

Described below are the measures and tools through which NREP will prioritize and integrate their needs in each outcome area as per the Theory of Change:

4.2.1 Outcome 1: Enabling environment established for increased RE investment in Nepal as part of the overall energy plans

The effort in this results area focuses on creating a favorable environment for increased investment in the renewable energy in Nepal. To aid this, it primarily aims at supporting in developing national and sub-national level Acts, policies, regulation, guideline, mechanisms, plans, strategies, proposals and market instruments which include private sector (national and international) and climate fund investment provisions; generating high quality evidences for governments, private sector and relevant stakeholders for developing policies, making investment for market-based development of distributed sustainable energy sector and strengthening institutional capacity of national and subnational governments; private sector and financial institutions on market-based development of distributed sustainable energy sector;

Three outputs are directly related to the outcome as mentioned below:

Output 1.1: High quality evidence generated for governments, private sector and relevant stakeholders for developing policies, making investment for market-based development of distributed sustainable energy sector

Output 1.2: Strengthened institutional capacity of national and subnational governments; private sector and financial institutions on market-based development of distributed sustainable energy sector

Output 1.3: Developed national and sub-national level Acts, policies, regulation, guideline, mechanisms, plans, strategies, proposals and market instruments which include private sector (national and international) and climate fund investment provisions

This result area provides a good entry/ opportunity for integrating gender and social equity in different energy/RE enablers that NREP will work upon including policies and plans at the federal and sub national level, and at institutional level (e.g. AEPC, CREF, SECF Projects etc.). It aligns well with IDPGs first right in representation and participation, that it can be addressed through reforms in laws, policies and governance structures to level playing field; and efforts to increase influence of women, poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged/excluded through (political) representation.

Some of the key activities to include GESI under this outcome will be:

- ◆ **Provide technical assistance to the federal, provincial and local government in drafting inclusive energy policies, plans, act, strategies and mechanisms and further support in implementation (*Understand, Empower and Include*):** Specific needs and priorities will be important to differentiate between and amongst various provinces and local governments. Analysis of policies and plans and other enablers will be a continual process during NREP implementation. Specific GESI related analysis can be integrated into the overall policy analysis or even as stand-alone evidences for drafting inclusive policies. Specific mechanisms can also benefit the rural underserved. The voice of women and disadvantaged will be included in the formulation of enablers.
- ◆ **Strengthening SECF and CREF mechanisms:** Tools will need to embed GESI indicators including SECF MIS system to generate disaggregated data from the projects supported. The funding windows will be encouraged to reach underserved; applicants encouraged to design projects with inclusion of women and disadvantaged. Additional scores will be provided to SECF applicants targeted to or including strong elements supporting women and disadvantaged groups. It is expected that improved oversight and compliance systems should ensure delivery of rights. For example, evaluation of notes has separate scoring for GESI to increase probability of shortlisting. Also, financing windows such as demand aggregation and reverse auctions will address demand from remote, rural areas and include women and disadvantaged. Technologies such as clean cooking and better lighting will benefit women directly. Annexes 4,5 and 6 provides the forms for the SECF.

For CREF, the representation of women members is being difficult as Investment Committee are formed of ex officio members. Such challenges remain but NREP will provide suggestion on inclusion and as mentioned above encourage more participation in operations and delivery.

- ◆ **Evidence on electricity and energy services for rural populations** will be analyzed by programme and will be utilized for recommendations and potential follow up actions.
- ◆ **Assessment and studies** to explore the existing situation including gaps and barriers to reach women, poor and unreached households on resource, supply and demand. Study on representation and decision making in both the public and private sector will be conducted and actions designed accordingly for implementation.
- ◆ **The knowledge products and policy briefs** will highlight women's participation (also of disadvantaged groups) in the political arena and private sector development for increased public and private investment in renewable energy. The knowledge products like report findings, brochures and other communication materials will include gender sensitive (and inclusion) and in local language where applicable.
- ◆ **Market intelligence reports** will cover gender gaps and issues to support GESI integration in RE market development.
- ◆ **Finalize Clean Cooking Solutions working Modality** will be submitted to AEPC for approval. This modality includes the provision to benefit a certain percentage of targeted beneficiaries of selected LGs.
- ◆ **Capacity and institutional assessments and actions (*Understand, Empower and Include*):** both gender and social inclusive queries will be included in the assessment/s (PG/LG/ CREF). A key principle of capacity plan is to include GESI to integrate it within NREP activities but in the longer term expect to be mainstreamed into all activities. Capacity assessment will include analysis of organizational GESI policy, staff diversity, GESI in administrative structure, process and procedures, staff performance and organizational culture including human resources. Ensuing actions in capacity (dialogues, trainings, awareness) will need to include the same principle, in as much participation from women and disadvantaged will be included.
- ◆ **Lobby to form inclusive energy units in the provincial and local government (*Empower and include*)** with representation from women and the marginalized people. Strengthen through capacity and institutional strengthening actions. NREP staff will be provided guidance on addressing GESI in such actions.
- ◆ **Women in decision making in the energy sector (*Empower, Include*):** The role of women decision makers in Nepal especially within the energy sector is not documented or analyzed. NREP will carry out analysis on this including strengthening inclusiveness through workshops, dialogues and visits as applicable. Experiences from within the country will also be included.
- ◆ **Policy briefings and knowledge products** will be important to drive inclusion in policy, planning and its practice/s.

4.2.2 Outcome 2: RE investments significantly scaled up by financial institutions and the private sector resulting in rapid expansion of access to sustainable energy services in Nepal, contributing to inclusive, low carbon economic growth and sustainable energy access for all

This outcome area focusses on developing viable and sustainable energy projects with focus in service delivery model for inclusive low carbon economic growth and sustainable energy access for all and promoting increased electric and electric transportation through distributed sustainable energy generation.

Two outputs are directly related to the outcome as mentioned below:

Output 2.1: Developed viable and sustainable distributed sustainable energy projects with focus in service delivery model for inclusive low carbon economic growth and sustainable energy access for all

Output 2.2: Increased electric cooking and electric transportation through distributed sustainable energy generation

Some of the measures and key activities for GESI mainstreaming and integration under this outcome area remain as below:

- ◆ **Enhance capacity** of the project partners (including SECF projects), private sectors including banks, associations, companies in incorporating GESI in their strategies and activities and capacitating them for service delivery. In addition, need of participation of women and socially marginalized will be encouraged in capacity building plans including trainings.
- ◆ **Providing technical support** to the financial institutions and private companies to reach out the entrepreneurs that are women and those from the marginalized communities.
- ◆ **Support entrepreneurs and project developers prepare bankable business plans and proposals for SECF.** This will include support to women and the marginalized people. Women entrepreneurs will be encouraged.
- ◆ **Assist the SECF project targeted financial institutions** in designing women-friendly loan products.
- ◆ **Assessments and technical support** to focus on the GESI responsive requirements of investors for increased opportunities and participation in the RE market.
- ◆ **Inter-province knowledge exchange** will be designed to collect voice of women and marginalized and to assess whether women are active in decision making or as implementers. The barriers for women in decision making will be analyzed with activities to address those barriers in the working areas.
- ◆ **Participation of women and marginalized groups** in meetings, workshops, discussion programs and capacity building events will be prioritized.
- ◆ **Promoting E cooking and smart subsidies:** Electric cooking is increasingly being recognized as one of the potential clean cooking solutions for Nepal where majority of population still relies on solid biomass for cooking and heating (WECS 2014; CBS 2017).

The Government of Nepal has recognized the need to develop sustainable energy sources and has supported efforts to promote renewable energy systems including improved cooking stoves to reach unserved areas, particularly the rural population. The use of e-cooking would bring many benefits to Nepali households including healthier air in and around the home, greatly reduced time needed to collect firewood and dung, reduced costs in comparison to LPG, and the possibility of local jobs creation which will ultimately improve people's quality of life mostly women who are primarily engaged in day to day household tasks. NREP will partner with cooperatives, MFIs and other development partners like CCA and NEA for e-cooking promotion through its different activities. Access to reliable source of renewable energy helps significantly improve not only socio-economic condition of the poor but also reduces indoor pollution being created by traditional cooking techniques using firewood or similar material that are hazardous to health and has benefit in terms of time and cost savings as well. Similarly, NREP will work together with AEPC on "smart subsidies" formulation based on households' income and thus ability/willingness to pay.

- ◆ **Environmental and social impact assessments (ESIA)** will be conducted to assess and identify the potential environmental & social risks and impacts of a proposed sustainable energy project. Based on the findings, alternatives will be evaluated and an appropriate mitigation measures i.e. Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) will be designed and implemented.

4.3 MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The NREP programme will monitor and evaluate GESI actions closely as follows:

- Project indicators are specifically designed for disaggregated data or evidence to capture the status of women, poor and marginalized people.
- M&E database (tools, templates) and reporting will include disaggregated (gender, caste and ethnicity, poor and disability) data and results.
- Surveys like baseline, mid-line and end line entails methodology to capture and analyze the data based on perspective of these groups. NREP will conduct studies and surveys by incorporating GESI in its survey design, questionnaire development, data collection tools, analysis and reporting. This will be supplemented with qualitative analysis around differential project impacts among these groups.
- Periodic monitoring visits, surveys, case stories will be conducted to draw perspective of women and marginalized groups perspective; consider their issues and; identify the ways in which interventions impact them differently.
- Documenting the 'best practices' of GESI/ LNOB integration, gender mainstreaming in the project.
- Exploring the programme effectiveness through comparison among these groups during monitoring and reporting.
- Lessons learnt focusing on observations and inferences drawn from implementing activities in these groups.

4.4 GESI CONSIDERATION IN VALUE FOR MONEY (VFM)

The Value for Money (VfM) framework explains about the targeted approach that the project is taking towards women, poor and remote communities. There is a focus to best design programme interventions in a way that women, poor and disadvantaged people are encouraged to capitalize the programme benefits. The VfM indicators are designed to measure and track on how these groups are benefitting aided by the VfM tracking sheet which informs and reports the disaggregated data.¹⁸ Following are the examples of inclusive VfM indicators formulated by the project.

Table 1: Examples of inclusive value for money indicators for NREP

Approach	Indicators
Equity	Additional cost of delivering to "vulnerable" communities
	Enhanced outcomes/impacts due to targeting
	Opportunity cost

4.5 GESI IN RISK IDENTIFICATION

NREP has recognized four safeguarding risks related with women and the marginalized in terms of data protection and delivering intended results and equally benefitting women and the disadvantaged. The mitigation measures in the risk register highlights the project approach to GESI with appropriate capacity of staff and partners, systems and structures and feedback mechanisms, monitoring for the timely improvement and secure data management practices.¹⁹

The project identified safeguarding risks and the planned mitigation measures are as below:

Table 2: NREP Safeguarding risks and mitigation measures for GESI

S.N.	Safeguarding Risks	Mitigation Measures for GESI
1.	Failure to deliver intended benefits to women (in practice)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearly articulated approach Appropriate capacity building within team as well as with NREP partners to ensure that GESI is articulated through all activities. Ensure that NREP provides structure and capacity to ensure that the GESI policies are recognized and adopted more broadly Monitor for implementation and set actions with NREP partners to hold them to account regarding GESI implementation

¹⁸ VfM Framework, NREP, DAI, WINROCK, May 2019

¹⁹Annex 9.1 Risk Register, NREP, May 2019

S.N.	Safeguarding Risks	Mitigation Measures for GESI
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up complaint and redress mechanisms- All staff, partners and beneficiaries are aware of the hotlines and other avenues • Beneficiary/community feedback system is in place
2.	Disadvantaged groups in society do not benefit equally from NREP initiatives; representation may be weak.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GESI related processes as articulated above • NREP and other programmes include awareness raising to specifically target the rights of the disadvantaged (orphans, people with disabilities elders) • Programme M&E to identify such failures and advise on improvements to implementation tools. • Continual evidence gathering and dialogues as well as lobbying will be considered.
3.	NREP or implementing partner staff are accused of abuse and exploitation (gender-based violence, modern slavery) e.g. by their staff, external partners, clients, beneficiaries, children, women, vulnerable adults or vendors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During project implementation phase, the implementing partners (IPs) will be briefed on safeguards and zero tolerance policies on harassment. Once SECF is operationalized, NREP will provide orientation and induction on issues of safeguarding. • Monitoring measures are put in place to ensure that program personnel adhere to safeguarding policies and practices. • Regular training/ briefing for IP personnel • UKAid's principles of safeguarding are followed ensuring quality of the interventions based on globally developed criteria. • Carry out spot checks and quality assessments to ensure safeguarding principles • Ensure that all NREP associated offices clearly display escalation information regarding to whistleblowing, individual rights and how these are protected
4.	Lack of data confidentiality may expose data of children, women and minority groups to unauthorized persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NREP to develop and implement Data Protection Policy and Guide lines • Secure data management access and data utilization in place • Effective use of passwords and data-protected protocols

4.6 IN NREP MANAGEMENT

4.6.1 Formulation and implementation of GESI policy and practices

NREP emphasizes GESI as an integral part of organizational policies and practices. Likewise, it will also be included in the selection criteria for all suppliers and partners. NREP also provides higher priority to women and disadvantaged in staff recruitment.

NREP Operational Manual provisions equal employment opportunity to all with the working environment that is free of harassment based on sex, race, religion, color, nationality origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, marital or veteran status, sexual orientation or any other basis protected by federal, state or local law, ordinance or regulation²⁰. Maternity and paternity leaves are provisioned recognizing the need of the gender integration in the organizational system. It is also reflected in the provisions of staff recruitment and management. GESI issues will also be included for staff in the field such as in child care, accommodation, and will be also included in staff performance evaluation.

4.6.2 Capacity development

Gender and social equity enhancement are one of the principle guidelines for NREP capacity assessment and strategy. It outlines the strategic approaches to embed GESI and partnership with women and disadvantaged people to reduce the gap.²¹

The key stakeholders like federal and local government representatives, private sector, partners, beneficiaries will be capacitated to ensure the sustainability of GESI integration and mainstreaming efforts and equitable access. This will ultimately support to reinforce the project results as women, Dalits, Janajatis, disabled, poor and other disadvantaged people will take the ownership of the project activities and results.

A focal person will be designated to facilitate and ensure GESI integration in the project and office environment. Periodic capacity building events will be organized for staff and partners for sound understanding and application of GESI components. The capacity building events will prioritize and include the participation from these groups.

4.6.3 Office environment

NREP believes in creating GESI sensitive enabling office space and environment. The office amenities and infrastructure will be made women and disadvantaged group friendly. For example: Provision of separate toilet facilities for the women staff, zero tolerance for discriminatory jokes and language denigrating lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) group or women or people of disadvantaged social groups and so on. A complaint mechanism has been established to provide an outlet to staff and others for registering their grievances, feedback, suggestions and reporting incidences of harassment and mal practices if any. Two safeguarding focal persons (a male & female) are appointed to handle such cases. Staff will also participate in all mandatory trainings on DAI's Code of Conduct and Ethics as well as Harassment Prevention, to ensure integrity and ethical behavior in all NREP's activities. Similarly, signposting with Gender Based Violence (GBV) messages will be posted in NREP Kathmandu Office and Province Offices to increase the gender-based awareness.

4.7 TOOLS, GUIDELINES AND TEMPLATES

NREP will make considerable efforts in developing and utilizing tools to assist implementation of the strategy. The objective is to focus on judicious planning, implementation and reporting of programme gender equality and social inclusion aspects. These tools, guidelines and

²⁰ Section 6.1, NREP Operations Manual V1.0, March 2019

²¹ Annex 3: Capacity Needs Assessment and Draft Capacity Development Strategy, NREP, DAI, WINROCK, 2019

templates will be reviewed and improved as necessary to make it relevant to meet the emerging needs. Some of the important templates are added in the Annexes 3,4,5 and 6.

REFERENCES

ADB (2018). *Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Assessment of the Energy Sector: Enhancing Social Sustainability of Energy Development in Nepal*. Manila, Philippines.

Central Bureau of Statistics, National Planning Commission Secretariat, Government of Nepal, 2017, *Annual Household Survey 2016/17 (Major Findings)*, CBS Kathmandu, Nepal

Central Bureau of Statistics, National Planning Commission Secretariat, Government of Nepal, 2011, *Nepal Living Standards Survey, 2010/11*, CBS Kathmandu, Nepal

Civicus, Development Initiatives, Project Everyone (2016). *Leave No One Behind: National Dialogue Analysis Report, Nepal*, Supported by UKAid

Ministry of Population and Environment (MoPE) 2017. *National Population Report 2017*, Singha Durbar, Kathmandu

Ministry of Population and Environment (2016). *Renewable Energy Subsidy Policy, 2073 BS*, Government of Nepal (Unofficial translation)

MoSTE (2013). *Subsidy Policy for Renewable Energy 2069 BS* Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, Government of Nepal February 2013.

MoSTE (2006). *Renewable (Rural) Energy Policy 2006* Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, Government of Nepal Available at http://www.aepc.gov.np/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=87&Itemid=116

National Planning Commission (2018). *Nepal Multidimensional Poverty Index- Analysis Towards Action*. https://www.npc.gov.np/images/category/Nepal_MPI.pdf

National Planning Commission (2017). *Nepal's Sustainable Development Goals Status and Roadmap: 2016-2030*. Published by Government of Nepal National Planning Commission Singha Durbar, Kathmandu Nepal

National Planning Commission (2015). *Sustainable Development Goals, 2016-2030, National (Preliminary) Report*. Government of Nepal, National Planning Commission, Kathmandu, Nepal

National Planning Commission (2010). *Three Year Plan (2010/11 - 2012/13)*, National Planning Commission (NPC), Government of Nepal, Singh Durbar, Kathmandu, Nepal, Available at [http://www.npc.gov.np/new/navigationMenu/navigationRedirectPage.php?catId=10 &&name=Plans / Programmes](http://www.npc.gov.np/new/navigationMenu/navigationRedirectPage.php?catId=10&&name=Plans%20/%20Programmes)

National Planning Commission (2002). *The Tenth Plan 2002-2007 (Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper)*, National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal.

Nepal Renewable Energy Programme (2020). Energy Profiles. Province 2, Province 5 and Karnali Province.

O'Dell K, Peters S and Wharton K (2014). Women, energy, and economic empowerment. Applying a gender lens to amplify the impact of energy access, Deloitte University Press

Pandey R. (2009) *Rural Entrepreneurship through Electricity*. Hydro Nepal: Journey of Water, Energy and Environment. No. 4. pp. 36–39.

Samjhauta Nepal (2018). *Nepal's Locally Elected Women Representatives Exploratory Study of Needs and Capacity*. Supported by Australian Government, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) – The Asia Foundation (TAF)

Sankalpa (2015?) *Study on Inclusive Women's Participation and Representation in State Organs*. Sankalpa Women's Alliance for Peace, Justice and Democracy,

Standal K and Winther T (2016). *Empowerment Through Energy? Impact of Electricity on Care Work Practices and Gender Relations*. Forum for Development Studies. 43 (1). pp. 27–45.

The Asia Foundation (2012). *Political Economy Analysis of Local Governance in Nepal with Special Reference to Education and Health Sectors*. Kathmandu.

UNDESA (2007). *Creating an Inclusive Society: Practical Strategies to Promote Social Integration*. New York: UNDESA.

UN Women Nepal (2015). *Renewable Energy Policy in Nepal and its Gender Responsiveness: Briefing Paper to Guide further work of UN Women Nepal*.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: ENERGY RELATED ENABLERS AND GESI ASPECTS

National enablers	Gender and social inclusion clauses/ aspects
Electricity Act, 2049 (1992)	No mention on both
Electricity Regulation, 2050 (1993)	No mention on both
Electricity Rules, 2050 (1993)	<p>Gender: Differentiation between ‘him/her’ such as in Clause 15 referring to the ‘Secretary’ that examines application; or in Clause 16 for the person who publishes public notice; or in Clause 18 on applicant for licensing for production, transmission and distribution of electricity</p> <p>Social inclusion, no clear mention. Only for licensing of transmission lines (Clause 13), there is mention of <i>benefits to be taken by local people after the completion of the project, training to be provided for local people in relation to construction, maintenance and operation</i></p>
Electricity Tariff Fixation Rules, 2050 (1994)	<p>Gender: No mention</p> <p>Social inclusion: No clear mention. Chapter 3, Clause 6: 2 on fixation of tariffs, there is mention that <i>‘the Commission may fix the tariff rate and other charges taking into consideration of the types of consumers, social liability, cross subsidies....’</i></p>
The Hydropower Development Policy, 2001	<p>Gender: No mention</p> <p>Social inclusion: The only reference is in section 4.1 on strategies: <i>To extend hydropower services to the rural economy from the perspective of socio-equity with the realization of the fact that development of power sector, having a direct concern with agricultural and industrial development, is a pre-requisite.</i></p> <p>Generic reference in policy to both grid/off-grid: to <i>electrification for rural areas (5.10) and creation of competitive environment for encouraging community involvement (5.17); and local body, community/cooperative body and private sector shall be encouraged in the operation of electricity distribution system (6.15.2)</i></p>
Rural Energy Policy, 2006	<p>Gender and social inclusion: There is mention of rural energy for social purpose and for social and economic activities (1.2); and that community management through social mobilization will be encouraged (3.10). Other specifics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduction mentions <i>that there has also been adverse impact on the health of rural population mainly women and children because of use of traditional energy resources (page 1).</i> ▪ Section 3: Policies: <i>Special programmes of promotional activities will be implemented that emphasize on access to rural energy and role of rural energy in</i>

National enablers	Gender and social inclusion clauses/ aspects
	<p><i>sustainable development, poverty reduction and positive impacts on women and children. (3.17)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Section 6 Resource mobilization: <i>The formation of user and community organizations will be done through community mobilization and arrangement of the representation of women, low caste (dalits), marginalized (janjatis), disadvantaged (utpidit) and backward groups (6.1.4)</i> ▪ Section 10: On other arrangements - <i>the rural energy is directly linked to activities traditionally carried out by the women, programmes of rural energy technology will be implemented considering it as an integral part of the women's enabling activities (10.6)</i>
Rural Energy Subsidy Delivery Mechanism (2013)	<p>Subsidy policy and mechanism primarily with emphasis for 'rural' areas in general, not GESI. For particular renewable energy technologies, as follows:</p> <p>4.1.1.2 Medium and Large Solar Dryer and Clause 4.2.2.2 on Subsidy delivery for Rural Community Solar Water System: While forming the users committee, special priority will be given to the poor, single woman, victim of natural calamity, conflict affected and endangered ethnic nationality.</p> <p>4.1.1.3 Household Solar Cooker: (a) The priority should be given to use the household solar cooker in the rural area. (b) The backward group shall be given the first priority for the subsidy in household solar cooker.</p> <p>8.2 Provision Regarding Additional Subsidy: For the additional subsidy to the renewable energy system and project ... In the absence of identity card in the case of "single woman", the letter of recommendation of concerned body or VDC in the case of "deprived group", letter of recommendation of the District Administration Office in the case of "natural calamity victim" and "conflict victim", the identity card issued by the concerned body or the document to show the identity of the household of the community identified by the Poverty Alleviation Fund in the case of "poor" and the letter of recommendation of VDC in the case of "endangered ethnic people identified by the Government" must be submitted compulsorily.</p>
Renewable Energy Subsidy Policy (2016)	<p>Specific mention and subsidies for 'targeted beneficiary groups' referred to "women-led households with dependent children, earthquake victims from earthquake affected districts, endangered indigenous community identified by GoN and Dalit" for various renewables (biogas, biomass, cookstoves, micro and mini hydro, productive use, wind) .</p>
Biomass Energy Strategy 2017	<p>To ensure the participation in the production, collection and commercialization of biomass energy for the general public, women, indigenous people, dalits, disaster victims and the people from the marginalized areas, as well as ensure their access to the benefits of the same.</p>
Energy, water resources and irrigation sector's current status and roadmap for future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For section related to 'alternative energy' there is mention that GESI will be mainstreamed in plans and programmes of renewable energy (96). ▪ Targets to enhance the living standard of impoverished, dalit, endangered tribes, indigenous people and those living in cultural and touristic areas through the use of renewable energy. The government plans to install energy meters free of cost

National enablers	Gender and social inclusion clauses/ aspects
(White paper, MoEWRI), 2019	to impoverished people. ²² In addition, mention of 'rural' areas and populations and their need for electrification and energy.

²² Energy White Paper, MOEWRI, 2019

ANNEX 2: SUBSIDY PROVISION FOR TARGETED BENEFICIARY GROUPS

RE technology	Details for 'targeted beneficiary groups'
Mini/micro hydropower constructions and for solar mini-grids (clause 11.1.3/ 11.2.4).	Additional subsidy of NPR 4,000 per household
Domestic Biogas (clause 11.5.1.2.)	Additional 10% of the subsidy amount on top of specified primary subsidy per plant per household
Biomass energy (clause 11.6.1)	Local bodies are encouraged to provide financial support to install mud ICS
Metallic improved cookstoves (clause 11.6.7.)	Additional subsidy amount of NPR 1,000 per stove per household
Wind energy (clause 11.7)	Additional subsidy of NPR 4,000 per household will be provided to areas which are not connected through the national grid and other sources and with potential of electricity generation through wind energy
Productive energy use (clause 11.9.5)	Additional subsidy of up to 10% but not exceeding NPR 10,000 will be provided to enterprises operated by households

Source: Renewable Energy Subsidy Policy, 2073 BS, Ministry of Population and Environment

ANNEX 3: EVENT SUMMARY SHEET

GENDER				CASTE/ETHNICITY					Total	LOCATION		Disabled
Male	Female	Others ²³	Total	Brahmin /Chhetri	Dalit	Adivasi/Janajati	Madhesi	Others ²⁴ (Please Specify)		Rural	Urban	

ANNEX 4: EVALUATION OF THE SECF CONCEPT NOTE

- maximum Score=100

²³ Gender and sexual minorities

²⁴ Refers to the category that does not fall under existing disaggregation

SN	Criteria to be used and areas to focus in each of the criteria	Weightage given (max 100)	Score obtained	Remarks
1	<p>Eligibility of the Applicant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type of organization Registered in appropriate government agency (company, financial institution, cooperative or Special purpose vehicle formed under Public Private Partnership Model) Working in the NREP program provinces <p>Not in the blacklist of the ministry, AEPC, CREF and Nepal Rastra Bank</p>	<p>Mandatory: In case the applicant and project are not eligible to apply as per the annex 1 of SECF Operational Regulation, further evaluation will not be done.</p>		
2	<p>Alignment of the concept with the objectives of the SECF</p>	10		
3	<p>Innovativeness in the proposed Renewable Energy Technology (RET) to reduce cost and better impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovation in proposed technology to generate and distribute Innovation in targeting Innovation in cost minimization Innovation in tariff collection and maintenance <p>Other appropriate innovation</p>	20		
4	<p>Potential for commercial viability for the proposed RET Business model</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed element of sustainability and its relationship with existing financial performance <p>Reasonability of estimated budget and its potential revenues and cost for the project</p>	20		
5	<p>Expected results of the project and impact of the project after implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of households or enterprises or institutions benefited Number of women benefited <p>Number of systems installed in remote locations</p>	15		

6.	<p>Targeted to the remote areas of the targeted Provinces 2,3 and Karnali where access to energy is limited</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed districts and areas <p>Targeted households/institutions</p>	10		
7.	<p>Reasonability of cost sharing proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasonability of the market price of the proposed technology Based on profitability, whether the proposed cost sharing is reasonable <p>Looking at the technology and amount of generation of energy, proposed sharing is reasonable</p>	10		
8.	<p>Potential of technology to upscale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If there are adequate elements that demonstrate that the approach can be replicated in other similar areas <p>Example of such replication elsewhere if any</p>	15		
	Total Score	100		

Overall remarks of evaluation:

Name and Signature of the Evaluator:

Date:

ANNEX 5: SUSTAINABLE ENERGY CHALLENGE FUND-CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION FULL APPLICATION

S. N.	Evaluation Criteria	Scoring guide	Allocated max score	Score Obtained	Remarks				
Alignment of with the objectives of SECF									
1.	Contribution toward the objective of the project to NREP objective to meet the following targets (please tick as appropriate) Key target: <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr><td>Generating 16 MW</td></tr> <tr><td>Reaching 95,000 HHs</td></tr> <tr><td>Reaching 500 MSMEs</td></tr> <tr><td>Reaching 200 Public Institutions</td></tr> </table>	Generating 16 MW	Reaching 95,000 HHs	Reaching 500 MSMEs	Reaching 200 Public Institutions	No need to scores			Mandatory to be matched with SECF objective
Generating 16 MW									
Reaching 95,000 HHs									
Reaching 500 MSMEs									
Reaching 200 Public Institutions									
2.	Types of Renewable Energy Project proposed (please tick as appropriate) <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr><td>Energy access</td></tr> <tr><td>Productive use of energy</td></tr> <tr><td>PPP projects with LG/PG</td></tr> <tr><td>Commercial and industrial application</td></tr> </table>	Energy access	Productive use of energy	PPP projects with LG/PG	Commercial and industrial application	No need to score			Mandatory to be one of the fours
Energy access									
Productive use of energy									
PPP projects with LG/PG									
Commercial and industrial application									
Technical Aspects of the project – 30									
3.	Total Energy Generation Capacity of the proposed project ²⁵	>200 kW- 10, 100-200 kW- 7, <100- 5,	10						
OR									
	Number of Households or MSMEs or institutions to be benefitted	Over 500 HH or 100 MSMEs or 10 institutions- 10, 200-500 HH or 50-100 MSMEs or 5 institutions 7,							

²⁵ In the case of biomass, biogas and other energy related projects, the total production will be converted into kW using standard formula

		less than 200 HHs or less than 50 MSMEs or less than 5 institutions - 5			
4.	Types of innovation (both technical and managerial) proposed and feasibility of such innovation in the context	Innovative ²⁶ & Feasible in Nepalese context -5 Innovative and feasible in the targeted areas & feasible-3 Innovative with marginally feasible-2	5		
5.	Technical feasibility of the project and appropriate technology to solve the problem	Technical feasibility and appropriateness demonstrated with detailed feasibility study - 10 Formal Pre-feasibility study – 7 Rough feasibility study- 5	10		
6.	Reliable supply of power to the industry and business operation Or reliable supply of energy for households/institution/enterprises	Demonstrated with detailed load and power assessment – 5 Assessment through pre-feasibility assessment - 2	5		
Social Aspects of the Project -20					
7.	Number of women and DAG to be benefitted	Over 50% of beneficiaries are women and DAG-5 30-50% of beneficiaries are women and DAG-3 Less than 30-50% of beneficiaries are women and DAG-2	5		
8.	Number of direct or indirect employment created	Over 50 - 5 20-50 - 3 1-20 - 2	5		

²⁶ Innovation in the form of efficiency, scalability, VfM, not tested technology etc.

9.	Number of employments created for women and DAG	50% and more - 5 40%-50% - 3 Less than 40%- 2	5		
10	Justification for Community benefits ²⁷ (social, economic and environmental) as envisaged by the project	Larger community benefits- 5 Limited community benefits- 3	5		
Financial aspects of the project – 40					
11	Financial health of the lead institution and its consortium partner in the last Balance Sheet	ROA over 5% and ROI over 12% after tax-5 and ROA 5% and ROI 12 % after tax-2 and less than that 0	5		
12	Adequacy of reserves to invest in the proposed project-both Lead and consortium members	Adequate as per current balance sheet-5, Adequate from current reserve and next year's profit-2 Reserve seems not adequate-0	5		
13	If loan is proposed to obtain from Financial Institution (in case of interest buy down support requested, letter of intent from the bank is required) ²⁸	Almost approval stage or approved - 5, Process started-4 Process yet to start but decision has made-2 No loan required, all equity - 4	5		
14	Clear demonstration of viability Gap and appropriateness of propose cost items in the project	Strong gap assessment with appropriate cost - 15 Justifiable assessment with reasonable cost - 10	15		

²⁷ Larger community benefits should ensure over 100 households directly or indirectly benefit whereas limited covers less than 100 HHs

²⁸ This indicator will be void if the project does not need bank loans

		Weak assessment and estimated cost- 5			
15	Appropriateness of justification of the SECF need in the project and proposed amount to be received from SECF	Strongly appropriate- 10 Appropriately justified- 7 Justified but weak- 3	10		
Risks assessment/monitoring and other aspects -10					
16	Appropriateness of Risk assessment and its mitigation measures proposed	Highly relevant -5 Somewhat relevant -3 Not properly assessed but discussed- 1 Not discussed- 0	5		
17	Use of MIS ²⁹ system in the organisation and its appropriateness to the MIS for the proposed project	Established MIS system and nicely articulated for the project- 5 Established MIS but not articulated to the project- 2	5		
	Total Scores		100		

General comments and observations:

Recommendation:

Evaluated by: Name and signature of evaluator

Date:

²⁹ Whether or not the Applicant institution is currently using any form of MIS system for their institution to help make appropriate decision

ANNEX 6: SUSTAINABLE ENERGY CHALLENGE FUND PORTAL-APPLICANT FORM

1. Applicant Data	
Applicant Name (Lead applicant) *	
Street number and name*	
Ward number	
Town or municipality	
Zip code	
Email*	
Telephone*	
Key Contact Person: *	
Are you in Consortium?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If Yes, Name of the consortium members*	
Type of company	
Company Registration no*	
Company Registration date (YYYY-MM-DD) *	
PAN No: *	
Major objectives of the company and key business areas	
Name of Major shareholders/ Partners*	

Name of Directors*	
Number of employees	
Details of past assistance from Development Partner including UKAid	
Has your company audited in the last two or three years (external)	
If Yes name of the auditors (Year wise) *	

2. Project Data – Part I	
Project province*	<input type="checkbox"/> 2, <input type="checkbox"/> 5, <input type="checkbox"/> Karnali
Project's geographical coordinates	
Type of renewable energy (RE) system	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Grid, <input type="checkbox"/> Off-Grid
Project's renewable energy (RE) technology *	<input type="checkbox"/> Solar Photovoltaics, <input type="checkbox"/> Solar Thermal, <input type="checkbox"/> Wind Energy System, <input type="checkbox"/> Solar Wind Hybrid System, <input type="checkbox"/> Large Biogas, <input type="checkbox"/> Micro/Mini Hydro, <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Cooking Technologies, <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Fuels, <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Storage System Charged with RE <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Other renewable energy (RE) technology*	
3. Technical Data	
Solar Photovoltaics	<input type="checkbox"/> Solar Home System <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional Solar <input type="checkbox"/> Solar Water Pumping System <input type="checkbox"/> Solar Refrigeration <input type="checkbox"/> Solar PV Rooftop <input type="checkbox"/> Solar Mini Grid <input type="checkbox"/> Solar PV Net metered <input type="checkbox"/> Solar PV Utility Scale Solar

	<input type="checkbox"/> Solar Photovoltaics - Others
If following Solar Photovoltaics technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Solar Home System ✓ Institutional Solar ✓ Solar Water Pumping System ✓ Solar Refrigeration ✓ Solar PV Rooftop ✓ Solar Photovoltaics – Others 	
Technical Features	
System Capacity *	Wp
Capacity of Refrigerator * (If Solar Refrigeration is chosen)	Liters
Numbers per System Capacity *	
Total Number of Systems *	
Total Watt Peak of Systems *	Wp
Current Source of Energy	
Current sources of Energy (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Kerosene, <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel, <input type="checkbox"/> Grid, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
If following Solar Photovoltaics technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Solar Mini Grid ✓ Solar PV Net metered ✓ Solar PV Utility Scale Solar 	
Technical Features	
Proposed Installed Capacity *	Wp
Capacity Factor *	
Annual Energy Generation *	kWh
Current Source of Energy	
Current sources of Energy (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Kerosene, <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel, <input type="checkbox"/> Grid, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Proposed % of electricity consumption contributed by this investment? self-consumption/local supply *	
Proposed % of electricity sales to grid contributed by this investment	
Solar Thermal	<input type="checkbox"/> Solar Dryer <input type="checkbox"/> Solar Cooker <input type="checkbox"/> Solar Water Heater <input type="checkbox"/> Solar Thermal - Others
If following Solar Thermal technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Solar Dryer ✓ Solar Cooker ✓ Solar Water Heater ✓ Solar Thermal – Others 	
Technical Features	
Model *	
Type (Multi Select) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct,

	<input type="checkbox"/> Indirect
Numbers *	
Current Source of Energy	
Current sources of Energy (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Open Sun drying, <input type="checkbox"/> Biomass, <input type="checkbox"/> LPG, <input type="checkbox"/> Firewood <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Wind Energy System	<input type="checkbox"/> Wind Energy Utility Scale <input type="checkbox"/> Wind Energy - Others
If following Wind Energy System technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wind Energy Utility System <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wind Energy - Others	
Technical Features	
Capacity *	kW
Capacity Factor *	
Annual Energy Generation *	kWh
Current Source of Energy	
Current sources of Energy (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Kerosene, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Hybrid System	<input type="checkbox"/> Solar Wind Hybrid
Technical Features	
Capacity of Solar PV System *	kWp
Capacity of Wind Energy System *	kW
Capacity Factor *	
Annual Energy Generation *	kWh
Current Source of Energy	
Current sources of Energy (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Kerosene, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Large Biogas	<input type="checkbox"/> Large Biogas – Electricity Generation <input type="checkbox"/> Large Biogas – Thermal Use
If following Large Biogas technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Biogas – Electricity Generation	
Technical Features	
Plant Size *	Cu.m.
Capacity of Generator *	kW
No. of Operational hours/year *	Hours
Annual Energy Generation *	kWh
Current Source of Energy	
Current sources of Energy (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Diesel, <input type="checkbox"/> Grid, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Proposed % of electricity consumption contributed by this investment? self-consumption/local supply *	

Proposed % of electricity sales to grid contributed by this investment	
If following Large Biogas technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Biogas – Thermal Use	
Technical Features	
Purpose (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-Consumption, <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial
Mode of Distribution	<input type="checkbox"/> Gas Cylinders, <input type="checkbox"/> Pipeline distribution <input type="checkbox"/> Gas Station
Plant Size *	Cu.m.
Gas meter reading *	Cu.m.
Annual Energy Generation *	kWh [Conversion using (gas meter reading*1.02264*40)/3.6]
Current Source of Energy	
Current sources of Energy (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Diesel, <input type="checkbox"/> Grid, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Micro and Mini Grid	<input type="checkbox"/> Micro and Mini Grid
If following Micro and Mini Grid technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Micro and Mini Grid	
Technical Features	
Proposed installed Capacity *	kW
Annual Energy Generation *	kWh
Type of Support needed (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> System Improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Grid interconnection
If System Improvement (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Management Improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Improvement
Current Source of Energy	
Alternative sources of Energy (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Small House System, <input type="checkbox"/> Kerosene, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Clean Cooking	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean Cooking - Biomass <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Cooking – Biogas <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Cooking – Electric <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Cooking – Others
If following Clean Cooking technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean Cooking - Biomass	
Technical Features	
Numbers *	.
Types of Stoves (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Metallic Improved Cook Stoves <input type="checkbox"/> Rocket Stoves <input type="checkbox"/> Gasifier Stoves
If Rocket Stoves (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Portable Metallic (Please specify tier level and model)

	<input type="checkbox"/> Composite (Mud + Metal) (Please specify tier level and model)
If Gasifier Stoves (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Up draft <input type="checkbox"/> Down draft <input type="checkbox"/> Cross draft
NIBC Compliant? *	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Current Source of Energy	
Current sources of Cooking fuels in Households/MSMEs (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> LPG <input type="checkbox"/> Firewood, <input type="checkbox"/> Loose Biomass, <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
If following Clean Cooking technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information ✓ Clean Cooking – Biogas	
Technical Features	
Plant Size *	Cu.m.
Number per Plant Size *	kW
Annual Energy Generation *	kWh
Current Source of Energy	
Current sources of Cooking fuels in Households/MSMEs (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> LPG <input type="checkbox"/> Firewood, <input type="checkbox"/> Loose Biomass, <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
If following Clean Cooking technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information ✓ Clean Cooking – Electric	
Technical Features	
Clean Cooking Type (Single select) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Induction <input type="checkbox"/> Infrared <input type="checkbox"/> Hot plate, <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Pressure Cooker, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Number of units *	
Current Source of Energy	
Current sources of Cooking fuels in Households/MSMEs (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> LPG <input type="checkbox"/> Firewood, <input type="checkbox"/> Loose Biomass, <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
If following Clean Cooking technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information ✓ Clean Cooking – Others	
Technical Features	
Type of Cooking Solution Proposed *	
Number of units *	
Current Source of Energy	

Current sources of Cooking fuels in Households/MSMEs (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> LPG <input type="checkbox"/> Firewood, <input type="checkbox"/> Loose Biomass, <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity, <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Clean Fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> Pellets <input type="checkbox"/> Charred Briquettes <input type="checkbox"/> Non - Charred Briquettes <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
If following Clean Fuel technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pellets <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charred Briquettes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non - Charred Briquettes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others	
Technical Features	
Annual Production Capacity *	.Tons
Targeted Client Base *	
Energy Storage System	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Storage System
If following Energy Storage System technologies are chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy Storage System	
Technical Features	
Total Capacity *	AH
Individual Battery Capacity *	AH
Individual Battery Voltage *	V
Number of batteries *	
System Voltage *	V
Number of batteries in series *	
Number of batteries in parallel *	
Source of Energy (Multiselect) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Grid <input type="checkbox"/> Solar PV <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Please Upload Technical Details file(s)	
4. Project Data – Part II	
Business model proposed *	<input type="checkbox"/> RESCO <input type="checkbox"/> Asset Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Rent to Own <input type="checkbox"/> PPP <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Other business model proposed *	
Objectives of the project *	

Explain how the project addresses above objectives*	
Project start date (tentative) *	
Project commercial operation date (tentative) *	
Project's salient features	
In case of the consortium being formed for this project, how will the project be managed between consortium members?	
5. Project Beneficiaries Information Data	
Beneficiary Information. Who is the target groups and or Institution and in which areas (province, districts, (R)municipality)? How will the project improve their access to clean energy or reliability of energy supply or productive use of energy for enhancing livelihoods? Please describe the key achievements and results you expect in qualitative and quantitative terms in the proposed project.	
Beneficiaries Target Groups *	<input type="checkbox"/> Households <input type="checkbox"/> Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Health Centers <input type="checkbox"/> MSMEs <input type="checkbox"/> Industries/Commercial Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
Number of people to be benefited?	
Basis of beneficiaries count	
Gender Male Female Others	
Caste and ethnicity Bahun Chhetri Dalit Janajati/Adivasi Madhesi Other caste	
Basis of caste and ethnicity count	
Socioeconomic strata Poor	
Basis of poverty count	
Disability inclusion	
Potential for job creation	
Number of potential jobs creation Male Female Others	

If following Beneficiaries Target Groups chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Households	
Total beneficiary households to be covered	
If following Beneficiaries Target Groups chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MSMEs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industries/Commercial Institutions	
Number of female led enterprises	
Basis of female led enterprises count	
If following Beneficiaries Target Groups chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others	
Target group name	
6. Economics Data	
Status of the Project development (Select one or more) *	<input type="checkbox"/> Project Idea developed, <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-assessment Study done, <input type="checkbox"/> Detailed Feasibility Study Done
In case, pre-assessment study or DFS is done, please upload the document.	
In case of commercial project (Is pre-feasibility study or detailed feasibility study completed?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, <input type="checkbox"/> No
Project window * (Select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Private Partnership, <input type="checkbox"/> Demand Aggregation, <input type="checkbox"/> Viability Gap Funding, <input type="checkbox"/> System Improvement, <input type="checkbox"/> Reverse Auction, <input type="checkbox"/> Others Innovative ideas
If following Project Window chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Demand Aggregation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reverse Auction	
Year 1	
Enter Year in AD	
Market Development Costs	NPR
Pre-Development Costs	NPR
Year 2	
Enter Year in AD	
Market Development Costs	NPR
Pre-Development Costs	NPR
Year 3	
Enter Year in AD	
Market Development Costs	NPR
Pre-Development Costs	NPR
If following Project Window chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Private Partnership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Viability Gap Funding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Innovative Ideas	

Estimated Cost of Project	
Installation Cost *	NPR
Operation and Maintenance *	NPR
Others	NPR
Total	NPR
Source of Financing	
Company or Institution's Equity *	NPR
Bank Loan	NPR
Support from Local Government	NPR
Support from Provincial Government	NPR
Support from Other Sources *	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, <input type="checkbox"/> No
If Yes, Name of the Development Partner *	
If Yes, Amount of Support from Other Sources *	NPR
Total	NPR
Type of support expected from SECF: * (Select one or more)	<input type="checkbox"/> Interest Buydown <input type="checkbox"/> Tariff Top-Up <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Pls. specify)
If following Support chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information ✓ Interest Buydown	
% of Interest Buydown Support expected	%
If following Support chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information ✓ Tariff Top-up	
Tariff Top-up per kWh	NPR
If following Support chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information ✓ Others	
Other Type of Support	
Support expected from SECF (NPR) *	NPR
If following Project Window chosen from above list, please provide below mentioned information ✓ System Development	
Details of system improvement expected *	
Support expected from SECF (NPR) *	NPR
Project Budgeting	
NPV	NPR
IRR	%
Payback period (in years)	Years
7. Financial Status	
FY BS 2074/75 (2017-18)	
Turnover	NPR
Earnings Before Interest & Tax	NPR

Earnings Before Tax	NPR
Net Profits	NPR
Total assets	NPR
Loan	NPR
Financial Statement of Past 3 years required (Attach Audit Report)	
FY BS 2075/76 (2018-19)	
Turnover	NPR
Earnings Before Interest & Tax	NPR
Earnings Before Tax	NPR
Net Profits	NPR
Total assets	NPR
Loan	NPR
Financial Statement of Past 3 years required (Attach Audit Report)	
FY BS 2075/76 (2019-20)	
Turnover	NPR
Earnings Before Interest & Tax	NPR
Earnings Before Tax	NPR
Net Profits	NPR
Total assets	NPR
Loan	NPR
Financial Statement of Past 3 years required (Attach Audit Report)	
8. Declaration *	
I hereby certify that we (Lead Organization):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are a registeredcompany on(date) with necessary approval/certification and our consortium members are also legally registered in Nepal. • Have the relevant permissions/consents to promote and produce Renewable Energy services in the proposed areas for proposed institution from local governments. • Are willing to abide by the requirements of the SECF, AEPC and NREP. • Are willing to provide all reasonable information as requested by NREP, SECF and AEPC. 	
Name of Applicant: *	
Designation: *	
Date: *	

Note: Field with (*) mark are mandatory field.

ANNEX 7: GESI STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

GESI/LNOB Elements	Key Activities	Responsible Component	Timeline
Understand (Data, Context, Evidence)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and revise NREP ToC, Log frame and indicators to make it more inclusive and adaptive as per emerging needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NREP team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 2020
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct research/studies/assessments to understand GESI status in public and private energy sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enabling environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 2020
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop NREP GESI/Equity strategy to facilitate inclusive programme implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enabling environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 2021
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish programme MIS and database system to facilitate collection and analysis of disaggregated data/information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Development, Universal energy access and Enabling environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify programme risks that impact women and disadvantaged groups; identify mitigation measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Development, Universal energy access and Enabling environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and monitor equity related VfM indicators that includes additional cost of delivering to disadvantaged" groups and opportunity cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance and Operations Lead and Enabling environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a safeguarding mechanism in NREP (preparation) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NREP Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 2020
Empower (Voice, Empowerment, Accountability)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and build capacity of the staffs, government (FG, PG, LG) and project developers (SECF, FIRM) in implementation of inclusive enablers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Development, Universal energy access and Enabling environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular Year 3 Year 3 March 2021 Regular
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design SECF window/s to prioritise GESI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Development Component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 2021 March 2021 Year 3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacitate staffs on the issues of sexual abuse, harassment and exploitation to enable them to better recognize, report and take actions to reduce safeguarding incidents(operationalization). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Annual Year 3 Regular Year 3 March 2021 Regular
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritise/Ensure GESI participation in meetings, workshops, interaction, capacity building events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Development, Universal energy access and Enabling environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular
Include (Inclusive, Growth, Institutions and Services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobby for representation in government mechanisms and structures (FG, PG, LG). For eg: PECC, Energy units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Development, Universal energy access and Enabling environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate GESI/LNOB enablers in policies, mechanisms, strategies and plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross Cutting Component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage private sector including financial institutions to reach underserved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Development and Universal Energy Access Component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce and disseminate GESI/LNOB focussed communication materials and knowledge products (reports, brochures, photographs, videos, policy briefs, case studies etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Development, Universal energy access and Enabling environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular