

# LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

Conflict sensitivity, human rights based approach and  
gender mainstreaming in priority sectors of the Multi-  
Annual Indicative Programme in Nigeria

---

**CTR300050710**

A HUMAN RIGHTS, GENDER & CONFLICT ANALYSIS –  
THE POWER SECTOR

European Commission

Date: April 2023

# Contents

<b>1.</b>	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Context analysis.....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1	EU's priorities .....	7
<b>3.</b>	<b>Analysing legal and policy frameworks .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Stakeholder mapping and capacity analysis.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Risk assessment .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Gaps in research and data .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Recommendations: key entry points and strategies.....</b>	<b>12</b>
7.1	Setting objectives and indicators .....	14
<b>8.</b>	<b>Resources .....</b>	<b>17</b>

---

# 1. Introduction

This report presents an analysis of the human rights, gender and conflict dimensions of the energy sector in Nigeria. The analysis attempts to identify and investigate discrimination, human rights violations, and root causes and structural barriers of the non-realisation of human rights, gender equality and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The findings are crafted in a way to inform the design and implementation of European Union (EU) actions and wider engagement at the country level to address the most pressing needs of all people in Nigeria, and those living in vulnerable situations, in particular.

The purpose of this sector analysis report is to assist the EU's operational staff in implementing the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA)<sup>1</sup>, advance the EU's Gender Action Plan (GAP) III<sup>2</sup> and align with the EU's Integrated Approach to External Conflicts and Crises<sup>3</sup>.

The report is part of a series of sector analyses being produced on the EU's priority sectors for Nigeria, one of which is power, as part of the project "Conflict sensitivity, human rights based approach and gender mainstreaming in priority sectors of the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme in Nigeria".

The report is part of a series of sector analyses being produced on the EU's priority sectors for Nigeria, one of which is the energy sector, as part of the project "Conflict sensitivity, human rights based approach and gender mainstreaming in priority sectors of the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme in Nigeria".

A human rights-based, gender and conflict-sensitive approach is crucial to ensure that all interventions promote inclusive, sustainable development, while respecting the rights of everyone. Human rights related to the power sector include the right to an adequate standard of living, the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress, the right to health, the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and intersects with women's rights, child rights and labour rights.

The HRBA helps focus interventions on root causes of rights violations. A conflict-sensitive approach helps prevent aggravating resource competition and promote cooperative, transparent natural resource governance. Gender mainstreaming and the GAP III commits the EU to support women networks in green transition sectors such as sustainable energy and support women's entrepreneurship and employment in the green, blue and circular economy, including clean cooking and sustainable energy.

Reviving the power sector is crucial to achieving sustainable development, poverty alleviation, and job creation in Nigeria. Attempts by the government to implement new projects to improve power generation intersects with human rights issues, gender inequality<sup>4</sup> and conflict dynamics in the country. However, power generation has proven to be undermined by Nigeria's political economy.<sup>5</sup> With the right policies and investment, the energy sector holds great potential for reducing poverty and

<sup>1</sup> [https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-07/swd-2021-human-right-based-approach\\_en.pdf](https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-07/swd-2021-human-right-based-approach_en.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-01/join-2020-17-final\\_en.pdf](https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-01/join-2020-17-final_en.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-5413-2018-INIT/en/pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Edomah, N., Foulds, C., & Malo, I. (2021). Energy Access and Gender in Nigeria: Policy Brief. *Global Sustainability Institute, Cambridge*, 1-3.

<sup>5</sup> Ogunleye, E. K. (2017). Political economy of Nigerian power sector reform. *The political economy of clean energy transitions*, 391.

improving the wellbeing of Nigerian women and men and will help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and especially SDG 7 on 'affordable and clean energy'.<sup>6</sup>

The analysis is divided into six sections: [context analysis](#), [analysis of Nigeria's legal and policy frameworks](#), [stakeholder mapping and capacity analysis](#), [risk assessment](#), [gaps in research and data](#), and sets out [recommendations on key entry points and strategies](#), with a table of sample results and indicators. A list of useful [resources and tools](#) is provided at the end.

## 2. Context analysis

Nigeria, Africa's largest economy and most populous country, faces **significant challenges** in its energy sector. Nigeria is endowed with large oil, gas, hydro and solar resources. The country currently has the potential to generate 13,000 MW of electric power from existing plants. However, it currently generates and transmits around 5,000 MW. This is far from meeting the energy needs of the country. Currently, Approximately 40-45%<sup>7</sup> of the population or 90 million people **lack access to electricity**, with 84% in urban areas and only 26% of rural areas being connected.<sup>8</sup>

Nigeria has one of the world's **lowest per capita electricity consumption rates**.<sup>9</sup> Nigeria's energy sector is characterised by an inadequate supply of electricity, overdependence on fossil fuels, weak infrastructure, and limited access to clean and renewable energy sources. This results in frequent power outages, high energy costs, and a reliance on generators.<sup>10</sup> Furthermore, the energy sector's job creation potential remains untapped, especially for women and youth.<sup>11</sup>

The lack of access to electricity disproportionately affects **women and girls**, exacerbating gender inequality and increasing vulnerability to poverty and violence. Women and girls bear the burden of energy poverty and are more vulnerable to negative health impacts, the burden of household chores, gender-based violence, access to education and information and reduced economic opportunities. Nigeria ranks 161 out of 190 countries in the Gender Development Index, reflecting persistent gender disparities in education, health, and economic opportunities.<sup>12</sup>

According to the UN, approximately 65% of public primary and junior secondary schools in the country lack electricity.<sup>13</sup> Moreover, a lack of power in households, curtail children's ability to do homework or study at home.<sup>14</sup> Turning to the impact on health, according to Sustainable Energy for All, only 30-40% of primary health centres (PHC) facilities across the country are fully functional due to limited energy

<sup>6</sup> <https://nigeria.un.org/en/sdgs> ; Ogwumike, F. O., & Ozughalu, U. M. (2016). Analysis of energy poverty and its implications for sustainable development in Nigeria. *Environment and development economics*, 21(3), 273-290.

<sup>7</sup> <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EG.ELC.ACCS.ZS?locations=NG>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2023/06/09/the-world-bank-approves-additional-financing-to-consolidate-the-gains-of-nigeria-s-power-sector-recovery-program#:~:text=Nigeria%20has%20the%20world's%20largest,people%20not%20connected%20to%20electricity>.

<sup>9</sup> <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EG.USE.ELEC.KH.PC?locations=NG>

<sup>10</sup> Leahy, P., Olowoseje, S., & Morrison, A. (2019). The economic cost of unreliable grid power in Nigeria. *African Journal of Science, Technology, Innovation and Development*, 11(2), 149-159.

<sup>11</sup> Ozughalu, U. M., & Ogwumike, F. O. (2019). Extreme energy poverty incidence and determinants in Nigeria: A multidimensional approach. *Social Indicators Research*, 142, 997-1014.

<sup>12</sup> <https://hdr.undp.org/gender-development-index#/indicies/GDI>

<sup>13</sup> <https://guardian.ng/features/65-of-nigerian-schools-lack-electricity-says-un-chief/>

<sup>14</sup> [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/342369404\\_The\\_impact\\_of\\_access\\_to\\_electricity\\_on\\_education\\_and\\_health\\_sectors\\_in\\_Nigeria's\\_rural\\_communities](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/342369404_The_impact_of_access_to_electricity_on_education_and_health_sectors_in_Nigeria's_rural_communities)

and 40% are without access to electricity.<sup>15</sup> They receive 6 -10 hours of average power supply from various sources. This lack of energy to PHC can worsen the already bad maternal<sup>16</sup> and infant<sup>17</sup> mortality rates (electricity affects pregnant women in rural areas during child delivery, dying from postpartum haemorrhage when the bleeding is not identified).

Compliance with international human rights obligations in the energy sector has been assessed by UN Treaty bodies. For example, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) has expressed concerns about the limited efforts of the state to explore investment and employment opportunities for women through its investments in renewable energy.<sup>18</sup>

Implementation of legal frameworks and policies on energy remains weak, resulting in a lack of progress toward achieving SDG 7, despite some positive trends. SDG 7 focuses on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all by 2030.

Overview of progress towards achieving SDG 7 and other relevant indicators:

- **Reliance on clean fuels:** The proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology increased from 5.0% in 2015 to 15.0% in 2020.
- **Renewable energy:** Nigeria has significant potential for renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and hydropower. However, the share of renewable energy in the total final energy consumption is still low, at around 16-20%. Investment in renewable energy projects has been increasing, but progress has been slow due to policy and regulatory challenges, as well as financing and infrastructure constraints.
- **Access to electricity:** Nigeria's electrification rate was around 55-60% (2021), leaves a significant portion of the population without access to electricity. There are regional disparities, with urban areas enjoying better access than rural areas. Gender/sex-disaggregated data is not readily available, but women in rural areas are disproportionately affected due to limited access to electricity, negatively impacting their health, increased household chores, and limiting access to information, education and employment opportunities.
- **Access to clean cooking fuels and technologies:** It is estimated that only about 10% of the Nigerian population has access to clean cooking fuels and technologies (2021). Most households, especially in rural areas, rely on traditional biomass (wood, charcoal, and animal dung) for cooking. This situation disproportionately affects women and girls, who are primarily responsible for cooking and thus exposed to harmful indoor air pollution. Firewood collection is a burdensome chore that often falls under the responsibilities of women and is becoming increasingly difficult due to scarcity of wood. This leads to women walking further distances in search of wood, with related risks.
- **Energy efficiency:** Nigeria has been working to improve energy efficiency through various policy measures, such as the implementation of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP). However, as of 2021, progress in this area remained limited, with much potential for improvement in both the public and private sectors.

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.seforall.org/system/files/2022-03/nigeria-roadmap-powering-healthcare-March-22.pdf>

<sup>16</sup> 512 per 100,000 live births

<sup>17</sup> Infant mortality ratio of 79 per 1,000 live births while for under-fives are 128 per 1,000 live births.

<sup>18</sup> <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N17/227/55/PDF/N1722755.pdf?OpenElement>



- **Gender equality in policies and laws:** The degree to which legal frameworks promote, enforce and monitor gender equality with respect to employment and economic benefits stood at 30.0 points on a 0-100 scale.

In Nigeria, there are also **specific barriers to energy access** for end users (rights-holders). Research shows that the majority of Nigeria's population living in rural areas in both Northern and Southern regions experience several barriers to energy access. Primarily, barriers to energy access include region of residence, household composition as well as age, gender and educational level of household head.<sup>19</sup> Specifically, the disproportionate distribution of energy across the country, especially between urban and rural areas reflects more fundamental economic disparities between these geographical divisions. Energy access has lately been defined by the ability of people to afford the costs of power. However, low-income households, and especially female-headed households, and those dependent on subsistence agriculture in rural areas have limited purchasing power which limits their access to energy. This shows that energy poverty in Nigeria is linked to overarching economic challenges experienced across the country.

Another research<sup>20</sup> identifies the **five key policy challenges that impact on gender-equitable energy access** in Nigeria:

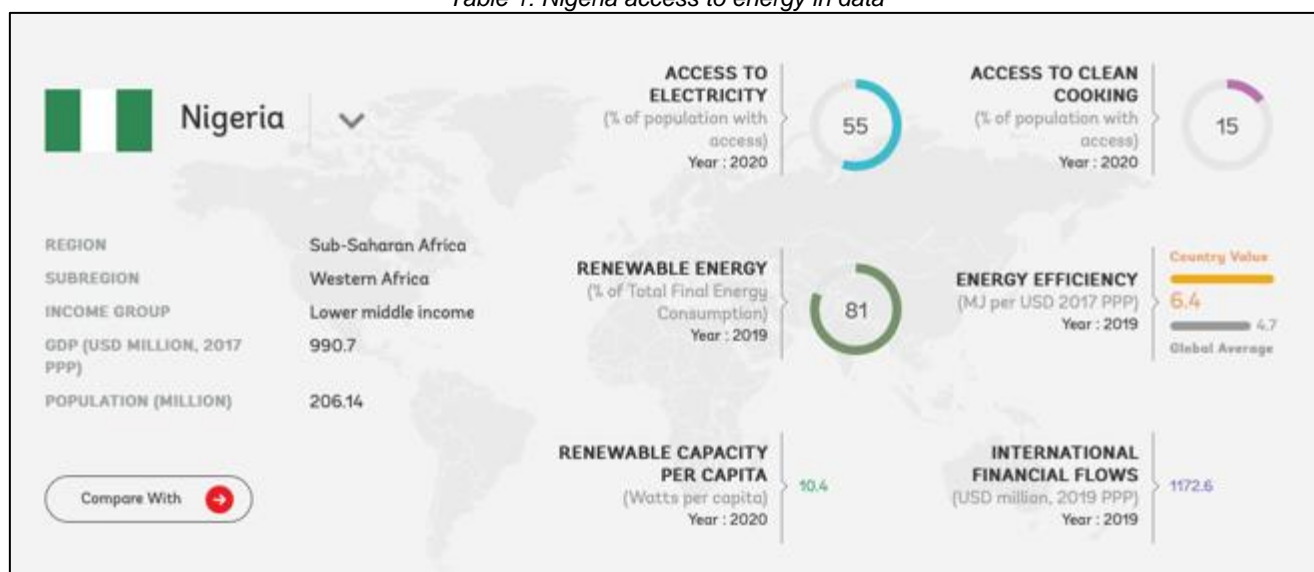
- **Multiple understanding and meanings of energy access** pose challenges for (infrastructure and policy) interventions. Five different meanings in Nigerian context: i) energy as a material raw resource (e.g., coal, firewood, gas); ii) access to infrastructure of supply (e.g., cables transformers); iii) access to domestic services that energy enables (e.g., cooling, food preparation, ironing); iv) energy as a human right; v) wider sustainable development enabled by energy (e.g., good health, sanitation)
- **Access to an energy supply does not guarantee energy use.** Local stakeholders' and users' acceptance (people's buy-in) and affordability, for example, influence energy use too – beyond mere provision of energy access.
- **Local understanding and framing of gender roles** (at both the household and community levels) shape energy use patterns (housework and cooking are often regarded as tasks for women, men are viewed as more energy competent)
- **Some energy technology interventions produce unintended gender meanings** (Solar Home Systems are viewed as infrastructure for women and Hard-wired energy systems are viewed as infrastructure for men)
- **Inequality in access to finance for energy assets poses a risk to achieving energy efficiency** and climate goals (many financial institutions still require men -husbands- to serve as guarantors before providing financing facility to women).

---

<sup>19</sup> Ozughalu, U. M., & Ogwumike, F. O. (2019). Extreme energy poverty incidence and determinants in Nigeria: A multidimensional approach. *Social Indicators Research*, 142, 997-1014.

<sup>20</sup> [https://www.energia.org/assets/2021/08/NIGERIA\\_Gender-equity-and-energy-access\\_DEF.pdf](https://www.energia.org/assets/2021/08/NIGERIA_Gender-equity-and-energy-access_DEF.pdf)

Table 1: Nigeria access to energy in data



Credit: <https://trackingsdg7.esmap.org/country/nigeria>

## 2.1 EU's priorities

**Energy** (access to energy and job creation in the energy sector) has been identified as a priority sector by the EU Delegation to Nigeria in the EU's Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021 – 2027<sup>21</sup>, under the priority area of 'Green and Digital Economy'. Under the MIP, the EU seeks to: enhance access to energy particularly in rural and underserved areas; support renewable energy; promote energy efficiency; strengthen the energy sector's regulatory framework; enhancing capacity building; promote job creation in the energy sector, particularly for youth and women; encourage regional cooperation; and fostering partnerships with the private sector.

<sup>21</sup> [https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-01/mip-2021-c2021-9273-nigeria-annex\\_en.pdf](https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-01/mip-2021-c2021-9273-nigeria-annex_en.pdf)

### 3. Analysing legal and policy frameworks

Nigeria has enacted several laws and policies to address the challenges in its energy sector. Nigeria is a signatory to numerous international human rights instruments that provide a framework for addressing human rights, gender, and conflict issues in the energy sector. They include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

Nigeria has enacted national laws and policies aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7), which aims to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all by 2030. Key legal and policy instruments include:

- **The National Energy Policy (2003):** Aims to develop a diversified energy mix, promote energy efficiency, and increase access to energy services.
- **The Nigerian Transition Plan<sup>22</sup>, announced at COP26:** the plan is a home-grown, data-backed, multi-pronged strategy for achieving net-zero emission by 2060 while bringing modern energy services to all Nigerians. The plan marks the investment required across multiple sectors to achieve these goals
- **The National Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Policy (2015):** Sets targets for renewable energy generation and energy efficiency improvements.
- **The Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) Regulations:** Provide guidelines for the operation and regulation of the power sector.
- **The National Gender Policy (updated 2021):** Provides a framework for addressing gender inequality, including in the energy sector, and specifically related to energy:
  - “Implement digital ... gender specific and inclusion strategies for women” (objective under agriculture and rural development).
  - Recognises that girls are disadvantaged in accessing “digitised classrooms” in education.
  - “Increased access to affordable and reliable renewable energy sources for SMEs, rural and urban settlements (for women)” (target under labour policies).
  - “Financial or other forms of contributory support provided for infrastructural development and maintenance (for) ... power” (identified strategy under social protection).
  - Recognises the importance for women to access ICT and electronic/digital media and information.
- **The Ecowas policy for gender mainstreaming in energy access<sup>23</sup>:** Provides the direction of mainstreaming gender in policy formulation, legislative drafting, energy project and programme design and implementation with the intention to promote equality in energy development

<sup>22</sup> <https://energytransition.gov.ng>

<sup>23</sup> [https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Generic-Documents/ECOWAS\\_Policy\\_for\\_Gender\\_Mainstreaming\\_in\\_Energy\\_Access.pdf](https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Generic-Documents/ECOWAS_Policy_for_Gender_Mainstreaming_in_Energy_Access.pdf)



through equal access to resources and equal contribution to the decision-making processes that shape and influence energy expansion in West Africa.

- **Nigeria's Nationally determined Contribution<sup>24</sup> (Updated in 2021):** Nigeria recognised the degree to which people were affected by climate change impacts was influenced by their social status, gender, wealth, political power and access to and control over resources mentioning that women, youth and remote communities are in disadvantaged.

Despite these legal and policy frameworks, implementation remains weak due to inadequate funding, poor coordination, and a lack of political will, resulting in a lack of progress toward achieving SDG 7 and addressing human rights, gender, and conflict issues in the energy sector. Human rights, gender and conflict considerations are generally neglected in the above frameworks, leading to the perpetuation of gender inequality, conflict risks and human rights violations in the energy sector.

## 4. Stakeholder mapping and capacity analysis

Key stakeholders in Nigeria's energy sector include:

- **Federal and state governments:** Responsible for policy formulation and implementation, as well as funding and oversight.
  - The Federal Ministry of Power (FMP): Responsible for initiating, formulating, coordinating and implementing broad policies and programmes promoting the development of electricity generation from all sources of energy.
  - Federal Ministry of Environment (FMEnv): FMEnv is the governmental executive body with the mission to ensure environmental protection and natural resources conservation for sustainable development in Nigeria.
  - Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC): Regulates the electricity sector and enforces compliance with standards. Coordinates with other power sector institutions and is independent. It may lack certain specialised skills.
  - The Rural Electrification Agency (REA): Plans electrification of rural communities in Nigeria and manages the Rural Electrification Fund, blending private and public capital to improve access for the poorest.
  - The States (36 plus the FCT): Responsible for creating an enabling environment for better electricity supply in their distribution zones. They are responsible for generation, transmission and distribution of electricity to rural off-grid communities and have the authority to allocate land and rights of way. Some states have prioritised improved access and have benefited from capacity building but capacities are still low. State Environment Protection Agencies are responsible for implementing policies and enforcing regulations, to safeguard environmental quality that is consistent with social and economic needs.
  - Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development (FMWASD): Advises the government on issues related to women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly.

---

<sup>24</sup> [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/NDC\\_File%20Amended%20\\_11222.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/NDC_File%20Amended%20_11222.pdf)

- **Private sector:** Involved in energy generation, transmission, distribution, and supply.
  - The government owned and privately managed Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN), which houses the System and Market Operator and is one of the weakest links in the overall grid system due to project management and investment capacity constraints.
  - Distribution companies (DISCOs) are key stakeholders in the electricity supply industry.
  - There are also several other private interests in Nigeria's power sector, including potential new investors that are exploring micro grid power generation opportunities.
- **International development partners:**
  - Besides the European Union, there are several international organisations supporting the energy sector in Nigeria, providing technical assistance, capacity building, and funding for energy projects. They include the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation (IFC). The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) advocates for gender mainstreaming in energy policies and projects.
- **Civil society organisations and community-based organisations:** Advocate for energy access, human rights, and gender equality.
  - CSOs such as the Nigerian Renewable Energy Roundtable (NiRER) and Women in Renewable Energy Nigeria (W.I.R.E), work to promote gender equality and human rights within the energy sector by advocating for policies and projects that prioritise women's empowerment and social inclusion.

The key public and private stakeholders identified above also provide an indication of the major employers of labour within the energy sector in Nigeria. Before now, the Nigerian government was the dominant employer in the energy sector. Since the privatisation of key components of the power sector, there have been the emergence of eleven distribution companies and seven generating companies. This means that the private sector is now the main employer in the energy sector in Nigeria. Nevertheless, the Nigerian government remains the key in the transmission of power.

There are no specific policies that seeks to ensure that women and disadvantaged populations within Nigeria are adequately represented in the labour force of the privatised energy sector. Hence, the challenges and barriers to employment faced in the general Nigerian labour market is replicated within the energy sector.

While stakeholders have varying capacities, there is a need for stronger collaboration, coordination, capacity building, and financing, to ensure the effective implementation of policies and projects. An investigation on capacity gap analysis of stakeholders can be conducted in the next phase, where stakeholder interviews can be conducted.

## 5. Risk assessment

The energy sector in Nigeria faces several risks, including:

- **Human rights:**
  - **Political instability and corruption:** Undermine the effective implementation of policies and projects and leads to human rights violations.
  - **Environmental and social impacts:** Results from the exploitation of fossil fuels and the construction of large-scale energy infrastructure and leads to human rights violations.
- **Gender:**
  - Women have reduced opportunities to participate in decision making and take advantage of employment and investment opportunities in the energy sector.
- **Insecurity and conflict:**
  - Complicate the implementation of energy projects, particularly in the Niger Delta and the North-East regions. For example, the Niger Delta has faced numerous conflicts and environmental issues, such as oil spills and gas flaring, which exacerbate energy poverty and social inequalities. Activities of actors in these conflicts can undermine electricity projects. Armed groups could target energy infrastructures, as it has been done in the Niger Delta. Large scale energy infrastructure can also escalate violent conflicts, especially in context such as the Niger Delta where there are investments in gas for the purpose of power generation. Likewise, renewable energy projects, such as solar, wind and hydro, can feed inter-group rivalry, resource competition and conflict dynamics.

These risks undermine the effective implementation of energy policies and projects, exacerbating energy poverty and hindering progress towards achieving SDG 7, while undermining gender equality and contributing to conflict dynamics.

## 6. Gaps in research and data

There is a lack of comprehensive, (sex, age and disability) disaggregated data on the energy sector in Nigeria, particularly concerning human rights, gender and conflict issues.

This limits evidence-based policy-making and targeted interventions. More research and data collection are needed to better understand the interlinkages between energy access, job creation, gender equality and human rights.

To address these gaps, the following research areas should be prioritised

- Comprehensive, disaggregated data on the energy sector, particularly regarding gender, human rights, and conflict issues. The differential impacts of energy access on women, men, girls, and boys, as well as marginalised groups, such as internally displaced persons and people living with disabilities.

- The potential of decentralised renewable energy solutions in addressing energy access, job creation, and gender equality.
- The role of women and youth in the energy sector, including their representation in decision-making and technical roles, as well as barriers to entry and opportunities for capacity building.
- The impact of conflict and insecurity on energy access and infrastructure development, including the potential for energy projects to exacerbate or mitigate conflicts.

Human rights, gender and conflict sensitive approaches should always be applied to research techniques, including monitoring and evaluation.

## 7. Recommendations: key entry points and strategies

To improve human rights, gender equality, and conflict sensitivity in Nigeria's energy sector, the following recommendations on key entry points and strategies are recommended:

- **Mainstream gender and human rights** considerations in all energy policies, projects, and programmes: should include conducting gender and human rights impact assessments, setting gender-responsive targets, and developing monitoring and evaluation frameworks that track progress on gender and human rights indicators.
- **Enhance the capacity of key stakeholders**, particularly government agencies and private sector companies, to address gender and human rights issues in the energy sector: This could involve training, technical assistance, and the development of guidelines and tools for gender and human rights mainstreaming.
- **Enhance gender mainstreaming** across all project components, including increasing the participation of women by putting in place strategies to increase women's access to clean energy solutions, promoting their involvement and leadership in decision-making processes, and providing targeted capacity-building initiatives and gender-sensitive policies in the energy sector.
- **Assess and mitigate the potential negative impacts** on local communities, the environment, and conflict dynamics, and ensure that the benefits of increased access to energy and jobs from the sector are equitably distributed. Harness the potential for renewable energy initiatives to promote peacebuilding and conflict resolution, by enhancing collaboration between different groups, supporting local economies, and addressing grievances related to environmental degradation and the unequal distribution of resources.
- **Promote decentralised renewable energy solutions** to expand energy access and create jobs, particularly for women and youth. This includes supporting the access to clean energy, development of mini-grids, solar home systems, and clean cooking technologies, as well as investing in skills development and entrepreneurship opportunities in the renewable energy sector. Focusing on rural development and growth has the potential to empower women economically and socially.
- **Foster multi-stakeholder partnerships** and coordination mechanisms to improve the implementation of energy policies and projects: This should involve strengthening the collaboration between government, private sector, civil society, and international development partners.

- **Engage communities** in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of energy projects by incorporating community consultation and participation in the planning and implementation of renewable energy projects, ensuring the respect for human rights and local customs. The involvement of local communities, especially women and youth, in the planning and implementation process, will help ensure their rights are respected throughout the project.
- **Invest in research and data collection** to fill knowledge gaps and inform evidence-based policymaking: This should include the development of a comprehensive database on energy access, gender, and human rights indicators, as well as supporting research on the interlinkages between energy, gender, conflict, and human rights.

By addressing these entry points and implementing the proposed strategies, Nigeria can make significant progress in improving access to energy and job creation in the energy sector, while promoting human rights, gender equality, and conflict sensitivity. This, in turn, will contribute to the country's socio-economic development, environmental sustainability, and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.



## 7.1 Setting objectives and indicators

The table below sets out some sample objectives, results and indicators at impact, outcome and output level, including some relevant EU Results Framework objectives/indicators and GAP III objectives/indicators.

LEVEL	SAMPLE OBJECTIVES/RESULTS	SAMPLE INDICATORS
IMPACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the overall quality of life for all rights-holders by ensuring equitable access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy services.</li> <li>• Increase the participation of women and groups living in vulnerable situations in the energy sector, contributing to gender equality and social inclusion.</li> <li>• Strengthen community resilience and reduce vulnerability to conflicts by fostering social cohesion through inclusive energy initiatives.</li> <li>• Contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and promote sustainable development by increasing the use of renewable energy sources.</li> <li>• Enhance the local economy and job market by promoting equal opportunities and decent work in the energy sector, especially for youth.</li> <li>• Women in all their diversity influence decision-making processes on environmental conservation and climate change policies and actions (GAP III).</li> <li>• Strategies and agreements on climate mitigation, adaptation, disaster risk reduction and sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity are more gender-responsive, at local, national, regional and international level (GAP IIII).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % change in the number of households with access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy services, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, and ethnicity.</li> <li>• % change in the number of women and marginalised groups employed in the energy sector, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, and ethnicity.</li> <li>• Change in the level of social cohesion among community members, measured through a social cohesion index, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, and ethnicity.</li> <li>• Change in greenhouse gas emissions from the energy sector, disaggregated by energy source.</li> <li>• Change in the number of decent work opportunities in the energy sector, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, and ethnicity.</li> <li>• % of women in managerial positions in all sectoral, climate, environment and civil protection related ministries or institutions, electricity authorities, energy boards, regulating authorities, utilities, renewable energy agencies, etc. (GAP III)</li> <li>• % of women entrepreneurs in the green economy or circular economy (GAP III).</li> </ul>

<p><b>OUTCOME</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase access to clean and affordable energy for populations living in vulnerable situations, with a focus on women, children, and persons with disabilities.</li> <li>• Promote gender equality by increasing the representation and leadership of women in decision-making processes related to energy access and management.</li> <li>• Develop energy infrastructure and services that are responsive to the needs and priorities of conflict-affected and fragile communities.</li> <li>• Strengthen the capacity of local institutions to provide energy services in an inclusive, gender-sensitive, and conflict-sensitive manner.</li> <li>• Encourage the adoption of sustainable energy solutions, particularly in off-grid and remote areas, to reduce dependency on non-renewable sources.</li> <li>• Strategies and agreements on climate mitigation, adaptation, disaster risk reduction and sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity are more gender-responsive, at local, national, regional and international level. (GAP III)</li> <li>• Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, addressing climate change in their daily lives and preserving the natural environment are supported. (GAP III)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of populations living in vulnerable situations with access to clean and affordable energy, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, and ethnicity.</li> <li>• % of women in decision-making positions related to energy access and management, disaggregated by age, disability, and ethnicity.</li> <li>• # of energy infrastructure and services designed and implemented with consideration for conflict-affected and fragile communities.</li> <li>• Change in the capacity of local institutions to provide energy services in an inclusive, gender-sensitive, and conflict-sensitive manner, measured through a capacity assessment index.</li> <li>• % of households using sustainable energy sources in off-grid and remote areas, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, and ethnicity.</li> <li>• Existence of national targets on access to clean cooking solutions as part of the energy policy framework (GAP III)</li> <li>• Number of women with increased training, financial resources, technology or other resources for sustainable, sustainable energy for family consumption or for productive uses (GAP IIII)</li> <li>• Existence of national targets on access to clean cooking solutions as part of the energy policy framework (GAP IIII)</li> <li>• Number of proposed for adoption climate change adaptation and mitigation policies (including nationally determined contributions), and environment protection strategies and plans (including energy policies/ strategies) that include gender equality objectives, in line with the United Nations framework convention on climate change (UNFCC) gender action plan (GAP III).</li> <li>• Extent to which proposed for adoption climate change adaptation and mitigation policies, and environmental</li> </ul>
-----------------------	---	---

		protection strategies and plans (including energy policies/strategies) are based on a gender analysis of risk, need, demand, barriers, and supply (GAP III)
OUTPUT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement gender-responsive and human rights-based energy policies, strategies, and regulatory frameworks.</li> <li>• Establish capacity-building programmes and awareness campaigns to promote gender equality and social inclusion in the energy sector.</li> <li>• Design and construct energy infrastructure (e.g., solar, wind, hydro, and biomass facilities) that is accessible, safe, and resilient to conflicts and disasters.</li> <li>• Provide training and resources for women, youth, and groups living in vulnerable situations to participate in and benefit from energy-related job opportunities.</li> <li>• Facilitate knowledge exchange and collaboration among stakeholders, including government, civil society, private sector, and local communities, to promote inclusive and sustainable energy solutions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of gender-responsive and human rights-based energy policies, strategies, and regulatory frameworks developed and implemented.</li> <li>• # of capacity-building programmes and awareness campaigns promoting gender equality and social inclusion in the energy sector, disaggregated by participants' sex, age, disability, and ethnicity.</li> <li>• # of energy infrastructure projects (e.g., solar, wind, hydro, and biomass facilities) designed and constructed to be accessible, safe, and resilient, disaggregated by project location and beneficiary demographics.</li> <li>• # of women, youth, and groups in vulnerable situations trained and provided with resources to participate in and benefit from energy-related job opportunities, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, and ethnicity.</li> <li>• # of knowledge exchange and collaboration initiatives among stakeholders, including government, civil society, private sector, and local communities, to promote inclusive and sustainable energy solutions.</li> </ul>

## 8. Resources

### EU sources:

- [EU Human Rights Based Approach Toolbox: Applying the Human Rights Based Approach to international partnerships](#)
  - [Human Rights Based Approach \(HRBA\) Virtual Toolbox](#)
- [EU Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in External Action 2021–2025 \(GAP III\)](#)
  - [Objectives and indicators to frame the Implementation of GAP III, SWD \(2020\) 284](#)
- [INTPA Global Europe Results Framework indicators](#)
  - [Human Rights results chain and indicators](#)
- [EU Human Rights Guidelines](#)
- [EU Council Conclusions on the EU Integrated Approach to External Conflicts and Crises \(2018\)](#)
- [EU Staff handbook: Operating in situations of conflict and fragility](#)
- [EU Guidance note on conflict sensitivity in development cooperation an update and supplement to the EU staff handbook on 'Operating in situations of conflict and fragility' \(2021\)](#)
- [EC Reference Document on Inequalities – tool to address inequality in development cooperation](#)
- [EU Guidance note: Leaving no one behind - disability inclusion in EU external action](#)
- [EU Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 2021 – 2027](#)
- [EU Gender Country Profile Nigeria, Gender Action Plan III, 2021 – 2024](#)
- [EIGE Gender and Energy](#)

### Other sources:

- [ADB Gender Tool Kit: Energy, Going beyond the meter](#)
- [Sustainable Energy for All](#)