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# Gender Assessment

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## **FP102: Mali solar rural electrification project**

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**GREEN  
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# Gender documentation for FP102

**REPUBLIC OF MALI**

**One People-One Goal-One Faith**

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**MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES**

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**GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

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National Agency for Renewable Energy, Mali (AER-MALI)

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MALI SOLAR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT

**GENDER MAINSTREAMING ACTION PLAN**



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## INTRODUCTION

The gender action plan is based on both data collected in the project targeted regions and a literature review on gender and energy sector in Mali. The overall objective is to improve gender mainstreaming in the whole energy project, and to ensure its alignment with the national and international gender frameworks (National gender policy, back donors Gender policies, etc.). The plan also presents a relevant gender context analysis, gender challenges and opportunities identified with the other stakeholder to combat gender inequalities. This gender action plan formulation is also based on two specific levers: (i) the strong favourable political will, and the (ii) gender mainstreaming principles and guidance presented in the main stakeholder's reference documents (BOAD, GCF, State of Mali). Indeed, gender issues are actually priorities and need to be taken into consideration in all areas of socio-economic development including energy sector. The exercise of gender mainstreaming involves ensuring that gender is integrated across all levels of the project cycle by defining of various activities to implement (training, continuous gender-based analysis and assessment, etc.). Gender-related activities and outcomes within the project to meet the challenges constitute a whole and coherent broad. They are grouped together as follows: (i) capacity-building of the various stakeholders, (ii) establishment of a Baseline of gender data, (iii) establishment of a performance monitoring and evaluation system. The purpose of this gender action plan is to operationalize the constraints and opportunities for women and men identified during the gender analysis towards fully integrating them into the project design. The plan includes (i) gender-responsive actions that address and strengthen agency of vulnerable women and men in climate action; (ii) gender performance indicators and sex-disaggregated targets that can be incorporated into a results framework; and (iii) presentation of gender-responsive development impacts. The gender action plan is structured as follows:

- Gender context analysis of the project,
- Objectives and expected impacts of gender actions
- Gender performance indicators;
- Strategies for implementation of the plan
- Logical frame for gender mainstreaming.

### I. GENDER CONTEXT ANALYSIS OF THE PROJECT

#### 1. *National Policy et institutions promoting women access to energy*

The country of Mali is an agro-sylvo-pastoral land with about 15.8 million inhabitants (51% are women). 80% of the population lives in rural areas where the national electrification rate in 2016 is 19.39% (39% national, 86% in urban areas). The energy balance in total energy consumption in 2016 established 77% of biomass use mostly by women, the more vulnerable group. So the Government has adopted the National Gender Policy that includes an important component to improve women's access to appropriate technologies that are less costly and less wood energy use. This national policy sets the country's vision and strategic directions in terms of priorities and strategic directions for strengthening gender equality and equity. So, all interventions and back donors at the national level must be aligned in order to optimise the results and changes in this area. This gender policy developed in 2011 defines the national vision of gender promotion as follows: *"A democratic society that guarantees the development of women and men through the full exercise of their fundamental equal rights, active and participatory citizenship and equitable access to resources, with a view to making Mali an emerging*

*country strong in its growth and proud of its values of justice, peace, solidarity and social cohesion". Six (6) Strategic directions are defined there and they are:*

1. Consolidation of democracy and the rule of law in Mali through equal access and full enjoyment of fundamental rights for women and men.
2. Development of human capital (women and men) capable of meeting the challenges of the country's socio-economic development, poverty reduction and integration of Africans and Africa in the global village.
3. Recognition of women's contribution to economic development through their integration into productive channels and equal access to employment opportunities and factors of production.
4. Making use of the potential of women and men in national development through equal participation in the decision-making process.
5. Promotion, awareness-raising and communication for the entrenchment of egalitarian values and behaviours in Malian society while rallying the traditions of equality to the imperatives of modernity and openness to the world.
6. Gender mainstreaming as a guiding principle of good governance in public policies and reforms most conducive to change and in budgets, considering the context of deconcentration and decentralization.

The below analysis indicates that this project is also consistent with this national action plan as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Stimulating women's access to energy effectively would help ensure that the country achieves Sustainable Development Goals - SDGs. Overall, equitable access to energy is a goal targeted by the SDG Goal 7 aims to "ensure access for all to affordable, safe, renewable and modern energy".

In this project, AER has designated a Gender Focal Point, an actual staff of Malian Agency for the Development of Domestic Energy and Rural Electrification (AMADER). She will ensure and follow gender action plan implementation and to ensure that gender dimensions are taken into account during the whole energy project implementation, and to ensure gender-energy aspects integration into the existing monitoring-evaluation mechanism.

## ***2. Women in energy challenges in rural Mali***

The country economy is mainly based on primary sector (agriculture, livestock, fishing), which employs about 80% of the active population and mainly women. Poverty is more pronounced for women in rural areas than in urban ones. Studies have sufficiently demonstrated that the day-to-day agenda of rural women is heavy and that prevents them to develop income-generating. Their daily agenda contains activities as varied as they are painful (pounding cereal grains, looking for firewood with rudimentary technologies). Added to this is the family expenses they face, such as the cost of renting the cart to collect wood. It is to these multiple problems of women that the national energy policy and the national gender policy want to tackle, so that equal access to energy is a solution to create opportunities for women's entrepreneurship in rural areas. To date, one of the remarkable responses has been the concept of Units for the Transformation and Marketing of Local Products with use of Energy-Efficient Equipment operating with renewable energy sources. This low access to energy (mainly for women) is a national challenge and particularly for improving the quality of women life (lightening household work and increasing income). Other challenges are the reduction of the rate of

biomass use in the energy balance; the increase of the rural and urban electrification rate; the increase of the quota of renewable energy in the production of electric power; the improvement of women's access to modern energy services and technologies or equipment including professional training for a best use of that equipment; and the systematization of gender mainstreaming in all energy programs and projects.

### **3. General gender issues analysis in Mali climate context**

The climate issues determine the quality of men and women life, and globally the future of the planet. In this case, Mali is currently facing significant environmental problems such as desertification, floods, and rapid deforestation. Women are more victims of the adverse effects of climate change, but on the other, certain women's activities, such as the artisanal transformations of agricultural products, the sale of wood and coal have negative impacts on The environment. So, concrete measures should accompany the ongoing awareness-raising campaigns: development of collection pits for dyeing wastewater, development of soaps workshops, etc. The national priority is to strengthen efforts on the extension of appropriate technologies that are less costly and less energy-consuming for all men and women in rural areas.

But, Mali is one of those countries where the energy paradox is great. There is more sunshine, but the people have less access to energy. Analysis shows that more than 10% of households is run by a woman in rural area. And women have lower access to energy than men. The energy balance reveals that biomass (fuelwood and charcoal) accounts for about 80% of national energy consumption, petroleum products 16%, electricity 3%, and energy Renewable 1%. Wood remains the main source of energy in rural. The strong use of firewood and charcoal as domestic fuel has significant negative impacts, the main ones being deforestation of about 400 000 ha per year, and the emission of greenhouse gases (15.45 MT of carbon dioxide), the dependence on biomass and the increase in the workload of rural women because the collection of firewood is getting farther away from homes. Finally, pollution inside the households has a negative impact on the health. So, the country energy policy has several strategies and actions, supported by multiple actors both state and non-state and back donors. It is expected that this present project will improve the living conditions of households, in particular of women, such as the reduction of domestic corvee related to water and firewood, and cooking, and will allow to more save time to carry out productive activities and income opportunities. This project will also make a decisive contribution to the poverty reduction and sustainable development.

The gender diagnosis has revealed that poverty is a global problem in Mali and more access to energy could be a solution. However, as it has been said, this access is actually more limited for women than men. The diagnosis has also shown that women have more energy access needs because of the type of their activities. The weak level of efficient energy equipment reduces men and women potential and makes women more vulnerable socially and economically. Rural women generally have not enough information on opportunities of energy to modernize their income-generating activities. Concretely, it is necessary to provide solar energy equipment to women such as motor pumps for gardening, dryers for agro sylvo pastoral products transformation, solar fridge, slicer, grinder, etc. and provide more training to them for a best sufficient et relevant use of these equipment.

Considering that mainstreaming gender into energy projects can increase the benefits of electrification for rural communities, the project proposes to contribute in reducing economic and social vulnerability

of rural women through increased access to energy facilities and economic opportunities. As precised in previous session, the interviews of beneficiaries reveal that productive activities requiring modern energy equipment are many and include all economic domain.

Up to now, projects and programs have been developed with AMADER, and other local NGOs in Mali funded by the State or other donors (UN-Women, the World Bank, etc.) for a good recovery of renewable energies. Diagnosis revealed that to solve the specific problems of men and women, and meet the practical and strategic needs of women and youth, solar equipment must be provided. They also need to be trained for a best use equipment or technologies (component 2 and 3 in this project). The experiences generated interesting results against poverty in which women are more victims. The more productive and less arduous to use energy equipment acquisition can significantly improve conditions, especially for women and young people in the implementing localities. Providing local communities with efficient technologies and equipment will enable them to take better advantage of the abundant available natural resources, increase income from fruit trees, better transform, conserve, and sell livestock products. Based on these achievements and on the positive impacts of women's access to energy services, the present plan will allow to expand the intervention area and develop business opportunities for women and young people. The activities of components 2 and 3 of the project will be reinforced by the activities proposed in axes 1, 2 and 3 in this actual gender action plan.

#### ***4. Gender challenges analysis in energy sector in implementing communities***

The weak economic power of women and weak access to electricity, particularly in rural areas, has important consequences for their access to factors of production, their economic empowerment, etc. Rural women's capacities are severely constrained by low access to energy technologies and services and they use traditional biomass (wood, agricultural residues, animal excrement) for cooking food and small artisanal processing of products. They generally have little information on the opportunities offered by the use of energy sources to modernize their income-generating activities. The reported access to energy difficulties of women are many and include the cost of energy and equipment maintenance, the insufficient coverage of the public energy network in the villages, payment problems. The new energy policy aims to increase production and diversify energy sources by promoting new and renewable energies in order to support economic activity and ensure access to electricity for the greatest number of people. The concrete results are to install solar kits mainly in households, schools and health centres, solar pumps for water pumping, off-grid lighting installations and mini-grid installations.

Rural women and girls are especially affected and the major gender challenges include (i) advocacy for a favourable institutional environment ; (ii) masculinity perspective (Men's awareness and involment for Women's Access to opportunity) ; (iii) women's access to project decision-making during implementation ; (iv) women's entrepreneurship capacity building (access to renewable energy technologies) ; and (v) taking discriminatory measures in favour of women to ensure equity in the equipment endowment

So, to combat detrimental to economic and social emergence of women factors, joint initiatives have to be implemented in the renewable energy sector. It involves the provision to women of various equipment, such as mills, freezers and dryers that operate with solar energy, and mixers and gas lamps. For most of these women, renewable energy is will be the appropriate source of energy and economic



empowerment. After training, they will manage to use this equipment to develop income generated activities. for marketing purposes. Therefore, the project will have to provide for gender equality, bring innovative technologies to women, and strengthen their trade capacity. The project will also provide capacity strengthening of rural women to increase women's income and decision-making autonomy.

### **5. Project rationale**

Climate change has a profound impact on our planet and its inhabitants. New climate records show alarming frequency with multiple climate impacts. For instance, we note the increase in the frequency and intensity of droughts or floods; the rise in extreme temperatures, with the drying up of our water bodies. These changes have major indirect impacts such as decrease in available agricultural or fishery yields, increase in food prices and decrease in food self-sufficiency opportunities leading to food insecurity, conflicts over land tenure rights due to pressure on land, water, wildlife and among others.

However, it should be noted that in this project, access to land is not an important and decisive issue. As a result, the access problems mentioned above represent a general situation and not a specific issue of women's involvement in the project.

Climate change impacts have more effects on the poorest and most rural populations in Mali because of the very low rate of rural electrification (15% in rural villages against 55% in urban centres). 77% (16.5 million inhabitants in 2013) of these rural populations reside in rural areas. 78% of households' energy needs are therefore met by biomass resources (firewood and coal), which, in addition to creating health problems linked to indoor air pollution in rural areas, aggravate deforestation and soil degradation by releasing carbon stored in trees and soils.

It is worth noting that research findings have estimated very significant environmental and social consequences of the energy situation, namely: (i) deforestation of about 400,000 ha/year; (ii) the emission of 15.45 megatons of carbon dioxide, representing 94.33% of Mali's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in carbon equivalent; and (iii) decrease in the purchasing power of the population in the face of rising oil prices. Women and youth are particularly vulnerable and more exposed to the risks of natural disasters with low adaptation capacity to the effects of climate change.

It is against this backdrop that Mali, through the "Green Energy Services for Communities in Rural Mali" Project, is working to "electrify 300 localities in off-grid/mini-grid mode using autonomous renewable energy systems (solar PV, wind)".

This project is in perfect coherence with the country's national orientations on gender promotion and is part of guideline 3 of National Gender Plan "Recognition of women's contribution to economic development through their integration into productive circuits and equal access to employment opportunities and factors of production" and will allow women and men to have equitable access to energy services in rural areas.

### **6. Relevance of the targeted project implementation localities**

As in many parts of the country, the localities chosen for the implementation of the project, women have a great need for energy services than men. For the moment, women's financial resources come mainly from the sale of wood and coal. They have diversified activities that require greater access to

renewable energy in rural areas. The needs are the use of solar equipment, the less use of wood, solar fridges, solar dryers, solar equipment in the kitchen, gardening, culinary training, solar panels. This climate project integrates gender perspectives because it integrates men and women resilience needs, allows women to abandon traditional activities (selling wood and coal) and allows them to improve their economic autonomy.

The project implementation targeted areas have potential for innovative women activities. Both women and men have been involved in diagnostic and they all expressed the problems, challenges, and needs presented in developing profitable economic activities due to lack or insufficiency of modern energy sources and appropriate and efficient processing equipment. They were also involved in the definition of needs and priorities as part of the project. Localities will be easily accessible for interventions. This participatory approach is a factor favorable to their adhesion to the project. Local authorities (mayors, prefects, etc.) have undertaken to provide substantial support to women to facilitate the installation of equipment. The local operators of rural electrification intervening in the localities expressed a real will to collaborate with the local populations for the smooth running of the activities.

## **II. OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF GENDER ACTION PLAN**

### **1. *Energy needs of project implementation localities***

The diagnostic study done by the consultants indicates that the specific energy needs of women are mainly related to the nature of their activities in communities. The energy needs identified for women in localities can be summarized as follows:

- the provision of electricity on a continuous basis and at an affordable price.
- the establishment of modern and efficient infrastructures and equipment for processing and marketing for the valorization of local products and the increase of the income of the populations;
- the gardening equipment mainly using renewable energy for women;
- the technical supervision of beneficiaries in the use and the maintenance of infrastructures and equipment;
- women's access to markets (sales kiosks, drop off points, motorbike, etc. for the transportation of products in fairgrounds etc.); because women are heads of households

For training, special attention must be paid to girls and women to enable them to ensure the maintenance of energy equipment.

## **2. General objective of gender action plan**

Equality between women and men is a condition for the effectiveness of public policies and the sustainable and equitable human development. This gender action plan is designed to contribute to better mainstream gender in the "Green Energy Services for Communities in Rural Mali" project, in particular the "Rural Electrification of localities in off-grid/mini-grid mode from autonomous renewable energy systems.

## **3. Specific objectives of gender action plan**

This project aims to promote the productive use of energy by rural men and women and the reduction of time in domestic chores in order to contribute to the economic empowerment of rural women in a resilient energy system in climate change. The specific objectives of the plan are to:

- Improve women, and youth participation in decision-making and project implementation at all levels;
- Improve women participation of project benefits (access to equipment);
- Enhance collaboration between stakeholders to ensure appropriation and sustainability of the project;
- Improve women and youth as well as others' access to learning and training opportunities offered by the project;
- Promote information and communication in mainstreaming gender throughout the process
- Promote the acquisition of gender knowledge by project team members and other local stakeholders;
- Encouraging the sharing of experiences, capitalisation and dissemination of good practices
- Set up monitoring and evaluation system to follow results and change achievement;
- Determine project indicators to help results and change measuring and follow up.

## **4. Expected outputs and outcomes**

The expected outcome at the end of the project is the increased access of rural men and women to economic opportunities and women's economic empowerment in the country with the development of adaptation and mitigation of climate change effects energy services that preserve the environment and improve the economic situation of women. Specifically, for gender mainstreaming in the project, these are:

- Rural women have greater access to adapted energy technology equipment;
- Participation of women, youth and others in decision-making and implementation within the framework of the project has improved at all levels;
- Participation of women of project benefits (access to equipment);
- Collaboration between stakeholders for the appropriation and sustainability of project activities is encouraged;
- Access of women, young and others to learning and training opportunities offered by the project has improved;
- Information and communication for mainstreaming gender throughout the project have been promoted;

- The acquisition of gender knowledge by project team members and other local stakeholders is enhanced;
- Experience sharing, capitalisation and dissemination of good practices are enhanced;
- Monitoring and evaluation system for achieving the indicators has been set up.

### III. ACTIONS FOR A BETTER GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN THE PROJECT

The AER and AMADER provided additional information to the consultants on the gender analysis of the sector; this reassures that the proposed interventions respond to the needs and priorities of men and women. Consultations to date with stakeholders such as the AER, AMADER, local authorities and beneficiaries have revealed the needs and priorities of men and women in the renewable energy sector, and the way in which whose project will respond to it. These elements are taken in consideration in priority as actions and presented in the gender analysis; and it is on this that actions have been proposed jointly with all the actors in view of a greater relevance of the actions proposed in this plan.

The orientation of the project's implementation strategy will be based on the achievements, lessons learned, and gender best practices. The aim of this plan is also to carry out additional concrete actions in terms of optimising gender-responsiveness in the new sustainable adaptation initiatives to climate change, through operational principles, linked to different Elements of governance. Consequently, it is important to note that most actions will not be budgeted in a specific way. It will be for the management team to ensure that planned activities respect the principles of gender mainstreaming as presented here in the gender action plan. Indicators are defined (see the logical framework below) are defined to serve as baseline for monitoring actions to strengthen the gender-taking in the project. The four major strategic pillars and actions for gender mainstreaming in the project implementation are presented in below.

#### **1. Component 1: Capacity building of rural electrification institutions and technical assistance**

The output is to Strengthen Rural Energy Regulatory Agencies. In fact, many stakeholders will be involved in this project with different and complementary roles. Mainly, it is AER (the implementing organisation), the Gender Focal Point of AMADER (AMADER is the organisation responsible of rural Electrification), local NGOs and women civil society organizations such as cooperatives, BOAD the financial organisation who will provide funds and technical assistance and control of the implementation, Private sector, the GCF, the Government represented by the ministry and the direction of Energy, and the local administrative board, etc. Furthermore, the national regulator for rural electrification (AMADER) and the Private operators' organization were fully engaged. Capacity building actions will be implement to enable all stakeholders to play their respective roles. The project management team must opt to follow the principles in Gender mainstreaming. Thus, it is important to take gender into account in all actions.

So, the management team including gender staff must have strong gender capacities. These principles must not only apply to management bodies but also to stakeholders for a better follow up. The following activities will be carried out : (i) Capacity building and raising awareness of AMADER, AER, the Rural Electrification Fund, DNE, etc. ; (ii) Train women to make optimal use of solar energy

technologies ; (iii) Strengthen collaboration between actors for ownership and sustainability of equipment ; (iv) Carry out actions (awareness-raising actions) of communications on the project at community level ; (v) Advocate at the institutional level to strengthen gender mainstreaming in the national regulatory framework for solar energy ; (vi) Strengthen the participation of women and youth in decision making in the project at community level.

## ***2. Component 2: Detailed engineering and installation of solar powered minigrids***

The project main output is Rural localities electrified with solar PV power plant. To improve the accessibility of women in the project and in line with above gender analysis, the actions should be carried out at two levels and in line with the constraints and needs identified by men and women at the level of the analysis. in the renewable energy sector. It is about the involvement of women and vulnerable groups in the definition of the equipment to be provided. Priority criteria should be based on gender and diversity analysis to ensure that the most marginalized benefits from the actions. these criteria must also be focused on the level of vulnerability, the economic empowerment of women. there is a need to ensure the participation of women, other vulnerable groups such as young people in decision-making and in the implementation of project actions at all levels. In fact, the gender diagnosis showed that women and men have different needs and different levels of access to renewable energies, and also different needs for equipment. in the context of the project, the actions to be carried out must take into account these gender-specific needs, these differences in the level of access of men and women; in order to promote equality and gender equity.

Among the actions to be implemented in this component to support the mainstreaming of gender, (i) Improve the accessibility of rural households to solar energy; (ii) Promote access to information for men and women on the opportunities of the solar project; (iii) Advocate to reduce women's access to solar equipment.

## ***3. Component 3: Support for productive use of electricity***

The project main output is the Increased access to clean energy by households and for productive use, in particular, to set up a Financial guarantee mechanism to compensate microfinance institutions. So the gender analysis has shown the relevance of the choice of localities of implementation of the project. The project will aim to fight against poverty, to promote women and men access to renewable energy services. This requires the realization of actions favouring the involvement, the mobilization and the adhesion of the communities, the actions of sensitization, and the concrete actions of creation of incomes as well for the men as for the women.

Among the actions to be implemented in this component, there are (i) Improve access to financing for energy efficiency among small and medium-sized enterprises, including those run by women; (ii) Create and support income generating activities based on micro-credits; (iii) Train women for better use of solar equipment; (iv) Women's capacity building in business management, including the processing and proper maintenance of accounting documents, as well as marketing techniques.

These planned actions will improve the implementation, monitoring of gender mainstreaming in the project. In the context of this project, the participation and involvement of all stakeholders (project staffs, communities and authorities) is necessary. Participation must be mainly at three levels (project staff, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation). At Project implementation level the staff must

be recruited and trained in order to have strong gender operational capacities. At the implementation level, it is a matter of strengthening partnership with other stakeholders which would encourage the mobilization and participation of all to achieving the expected results. Supporting beneficiary communities also means strengthening the level of community participation in the actions and benefits of development in an equitable way for men and women.

#### **4. *Management audit and reporting***

Planned activities her include: i) Operationalize the mechanism for monitoring and evaluating actions and results of gender promotion in the project; ii) Organize balance sheet and results monitoring and evaluation workshops; (see logical framework), etc.

As it has been noted in the component one, at the project implementation level, communication is an important and essential ingredient. Accessibility to information implies the right to seek, obtain and communicate information on social and environment matters. The project must ensure that the stakeholders involved are sufficiently informed about their rights but also about their duties in the project. Access to information implies the right to seek, obtain and communicate information on gender issues. The project must ensure that stakeholders are sufficiently informed of their rights, but also of obligations under the project. Communication aims at to make aware of the impact of the climate change on daily life of rural populations. It is also to make aware of the opportunities for active participation in the development and implementation of appropriate technical and technological innovations to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.

At local communities - beneficiaries - of the interventions women and men, including those from the most vulnerable groups, are consulted. And their specific needs and priorities for change are taken in consideration. They must participate equitably in the diagnosis, design, implementation, monitoring and sharing of benefits generated through project intervention. At this level, synergies will be developed with local authorities, technical services and other gender sensitive stakeholders to boost the benefits of community interventions. Cooperation with local women's and other groups, such as young people and others, will be strengthened in order to encourage the participation of the whole community in the promotion, planning and implementation of the project. This level of involvement is a determining factor in the level of ownership and sustainability of the project's actions and results by beneficiaries.

#### **IV. GENDER MAINSTREAMING STRATEGY**

The gender mainstreaming strategy is based on, (i) the willingness and adherence of project stakeholders to the principles of gender equality and equity in development actions, institutional and operational capacity building, Development of tools for monitoring the gender and capitalization actions. The institutional framework of the strategy comprises three levels, namely the coordination of the Strategy, the management of implementation and the evaluation and capitalization of actions and good practices in gender.

### **1. *Coordination of the strategy***

The project team will assist in planning the operationalization of the gender-based strategy at all levels. It will also ensure that the results are achieved by the members with the support of the various national partners (making available to human and financial resources), and their capitalization in the processes.

### **2. *The management of the implementation***

In the operational phase, the piloting of the strategy will be carried out by a staff which will take charge of the orientation, facilitation of capacity-building sessions, periodic follow-up and the Monitoring mechanism assessment and implementation of the strategy. The implementation of project gender actions will be carried out by the project team, which shall benefit from stakeholders support to mainstream gender dimensions in line with the donor's gender strategies.

### **3. *Information and actors' capacity building***

This involves providing specific access to informing the actors involved in the project implementation and strengthening their capacities in the domain of gender at national and local level. Information and training on the themes of the project is an essential prerequisite for the success of implementation of this gender action plan. The project will use technical capacity building in advocacy and lobbying for gender equality as a gender mainstreaming strategy. Stakeholders that will have specific roles in the project are: AER, the Gender Focal Point of AMADER, local NGOs and women civil society organizations, BOAD, GCF, Private, Government, etc.

### **4. *Assessment and capitalization of actions and good practices in gender***

A monitoring and evaluation mechanism will be put in place and be active throughout the implementation process of the strategy in order to assess and measure progress made in terms of gender mainstreaming. A participatory approach will be adopted to assess the progress of activities and the level of achievement of outcome. The monitoring and evaluation process will therefore involve stakeholders directly concerned by gender mainstreaming at the project level. At the end of the intervention, a study of the capitalization of the actions and good practices in gender will make it possible to highlight the taking into account of the gender.

### **5. *Gender mainstreaming M&E***

The project staff is responsible for measuring the outcomes and impacts of project activities on women and men's resilience to climate change through gender responsive M&E. The objective is to assess the outcomes and impacts of interventions on women and men, support the equal participation of women and men in M&E activities and decision-making processes, and collect sex-disaggregated data to track gender impacts and benefits for women and men. To conduct gender-sensitive M&E, the foundation is a results framework (such as in the bellow table) with gender-responsive indicators and targets (sex-disaggregated). The collection of sex-disaggregated data is essential for M&E and for reporting on gender outcomes so that lessons learned and best practices are captured and disseminated, and fed back into project design.

Tools are proposed to measure how gender is mainstreamed during and after the project implementation. So the project staff will use these tools for that purpose.

#### **6. *Reporting on Gender Outcomes***

Based on gender-responsive approaches and gender-sensitive data collection that is built into project design, implementation and M&E, reporting on gender outcomes is a component of all project reporting processes:

- Include mechanisms to monitor and report on gender impacts in project design;
- Document and disseminate gender-relevant best practices and lessons learned throughout the project cycle; and
- Ensure that progress reports, implementation status reports, aide memoires, management information systems and completion reports present gender equality results and lessons learned.

Reporting on gender outcomes should be robust enough to inform future project identification and development as a means of deepening and increasing development co-benefits between gender equality and climate action. An optimal result would be the growing capacity to influence national climate change plans and strategies so that they become more gender responsive.

#### **7. *The sustainability of the project***

The sustainability of the project will be ensured through the technical capacities building for women and youth to take over the repairs of obtained equipment. These skills in maintenance and repair of energy equipment will help reduce the rate of failure in terms of equipment installed. The commitment of the authorities and the involvement of community leaders will help to ensure the continuation of the activities.