



Vienna Energy Forum

Empowering Women and Youth to Accelerate The Clean
Energy Transition

By

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Norah Magero.

Co-Founder and Chief Executive- Drop Access

**Mechanical Engineer and Renewable Energy
Consultant**

1. **Education: BSc in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, CEM by Association of Energy Engineers**
2. **Introduced to the energy sector in 2015**
3. **Attended over 10 energy training and programs (Micro-Grid Academy, UNITAR, UNIDO, AEE, GIZ, MIT, etc)**

Tales of my youth

What sparked my passion?

In 2016 I co-founded the **Cool Green Campaign**, Initiative to:

1. Mentor high school students in Kenya on clean energy.
2. Energy Efficiency program for schools

In 2017 I co-founded **Drop Access**,

1. Transform rural communities through Energy Access
2. Youth Engagement through the Water-Energy-Food Nexus



Challenges I faced in Kenya's Energy Sector

- **No space for me? How now?**

No accommodation from the older generation

- **I actually lacked opportunities to grow**

For the most educated generation, we are the most unemployed.

- **No financing?**

In a world where the money is not a problem?

- **You snooze, you lose!**

Once upon a baby..

I lost an opportunity when I was on maternity leave. The world is too competitive to give you a 3 months break.



Breaking Barriers Facing Youth in Energy

- Drop Access- From an Engineer to an Entrepreneur.

Innovate it! Create those opportunities!

- Networking- Your network is your net worth!
- Continuous learning- Sign up for sponsored training
- I started a mentorship program

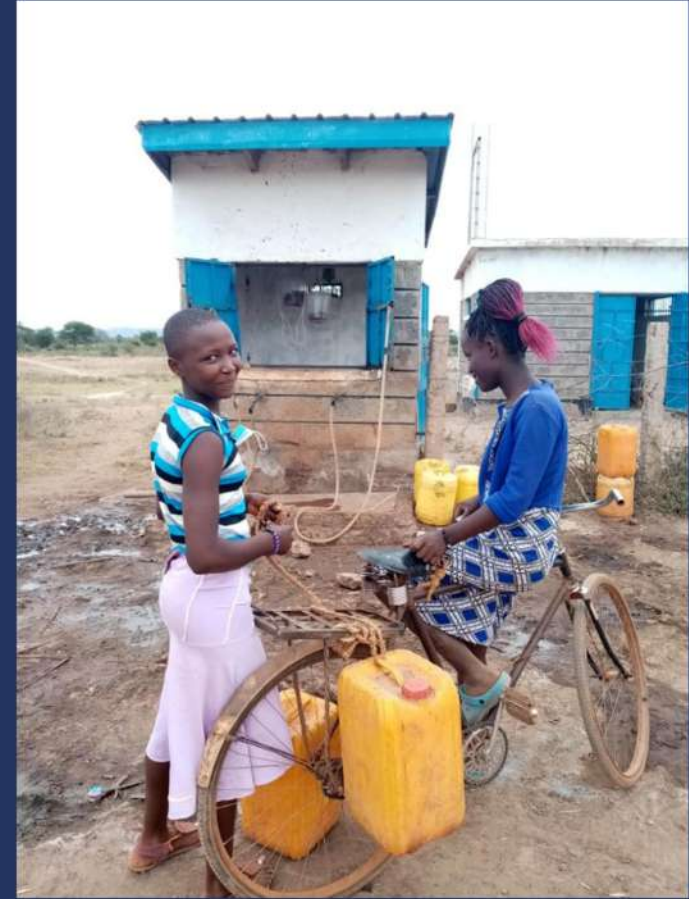
Be ready to lead a revolution!



A Youthful Africa

'Africa Wants an Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of its Youth and Women' - Aspiration 6, AU Agenda 2063

1. **Is Africa's Youth bulge a Risk or Asset?**
2. **How do we harness the youth potential to drive Africa's Energy Transition Agenda?- Labour Force, Insatiable Consumer Market, Innovation**





Kioko, The Champion Framer

See that smile?

It is because 1 youth was
courageous enough to address
energy needs for smallholder
farmers



VEF
VIRTUAL
SERIES

ACCELERATING ENERGY TRANSITION

I #StandTall For Youth

12-13 January 2021

www.viennaenergyforum.org

We are the Future

Don't just tell us what to do, but include our voices, then we will safely transition without leaving the growing population behind.

Thank you!

Asante



Solar Sister Presentation

By

Olasimbo Sojinrin
Country Director, Nigeria

Light | Hope | Opportunity

January 2021

Energy Poverty



Energy poverty is a lack of access to modern energy services.

These services are defined as

- 1) household access to electricity
- 2) clean cooking facilities

- ~ 570 million people in Africa have no access to electricity
- ~10 million businesses are affected by lack of power
- ~ 700 million have no access to modern cooking solutions



These challenges disproportionately affect women



A **disproportionally high share of girls and young women help in the household** chores related to fuel collection.

As a result, especially **girls** often have to **study after dark**, and – unless they have available solar lights or electricity – are **constrained by expensive, dangerous and low quality light**

Consequently, **girls and young women** face a **high school drop-out rate**, and are **disadvantaged educationally and economically**

Why clean energy ? Why me?



- Less than **50%** of Nigerians have access to electricity (many with access still underserved)
- **Half** of the population lives in rural areas
- **In rural Nigeria**, just **1 in 3** people have access to electricity
- The huge majority (70%) of people affected by energy poverty are **women and girls**
Families spend **30-40% income** on **household energy** (US average is 5%)
- **Over 2/3** of Nigerians are dependent on biomass for cooking
- Indoor Air Pollution is the **3rd highest killer in Nigeria** – women have the most exposure

Energy Poverty
is a gender Issue



Solar Sister Solution - a woman to woman network for clean energy!



Solar Sister envisions a **brighter** world powered by **women** entrepreneurs



Solar Sister provides women with

- **Economic opportunity**
- **Technology**
- **Training**
- **Business Support**



Household benefits

- Save money
- Clean energy access
- Improved education
- Better health / less CO2
- Connectivity
- Community safety



Entrepreneur Stories

(www.solarsister.org/impact-stories)



Nanbet is a formidable young woman, a single mum of 5, a farmer and now a clean energy entrepreneur. Her new business means she can grow more and feed her children. She has used the profits to pay for fertilizer and laborers for her farm and also to send her children to school. (Plateau State)

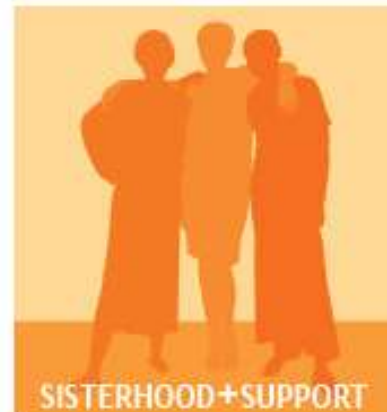
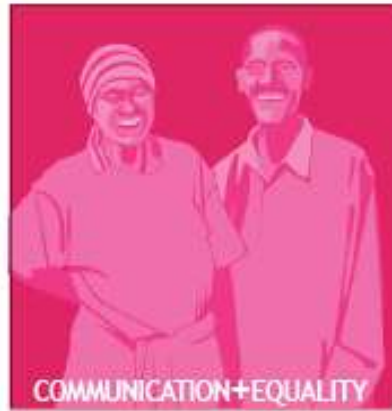
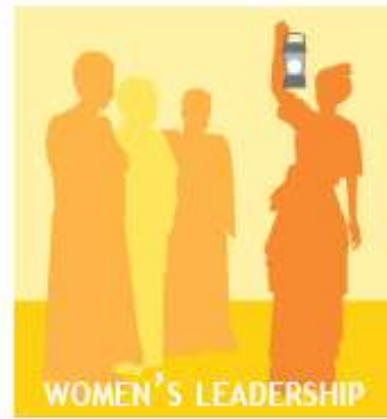
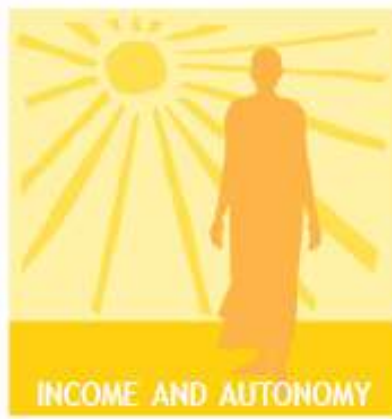


Mrs Abiola-Ige is a science teacher and is enthusiastic about both solar energy and women's empowerment. She is keen to involve the next generation – she has already taught her children about solar energy and entrepreneurship. (Oyo State)



Eucharika is a grandmother and clean energy entrepreneur. In the remote area in Enugu state where Eucharika lives, light can make all the difference. After her solar lights scared away a gang of thieves, she believes solar lights saved her life. (Enugu State)

IMPACT



Source: HOW SOLAR SISTER BRINGS LIGHT, HOPE, AND OPPORTUNITY TO WOMEN IN AFRICA,
A qualitative assessment by the International Center for Research on Women, ICRW 2016

Recommendations



❖ Governments & Private Sector:

- Recognise and empower women in the energy sector (*"Its not just the right thing to do but the smart thing to do"*)
- Strengthen national machineries and other governmental bodies concerning women's wellbeing and gender equality,
- Integrate gender perspectives in legislation, public policies, programmes and projects,
- generate and disseminate gender-disaggregated data for planning and evaluation in the energy space.

❖ Women in the Energy Space:

- Push past the gender stereotypes (*bring a seat to the table or **create your own table***)

Thank You!



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