

ECOWAS Programme on Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access (ECOW-GEN)

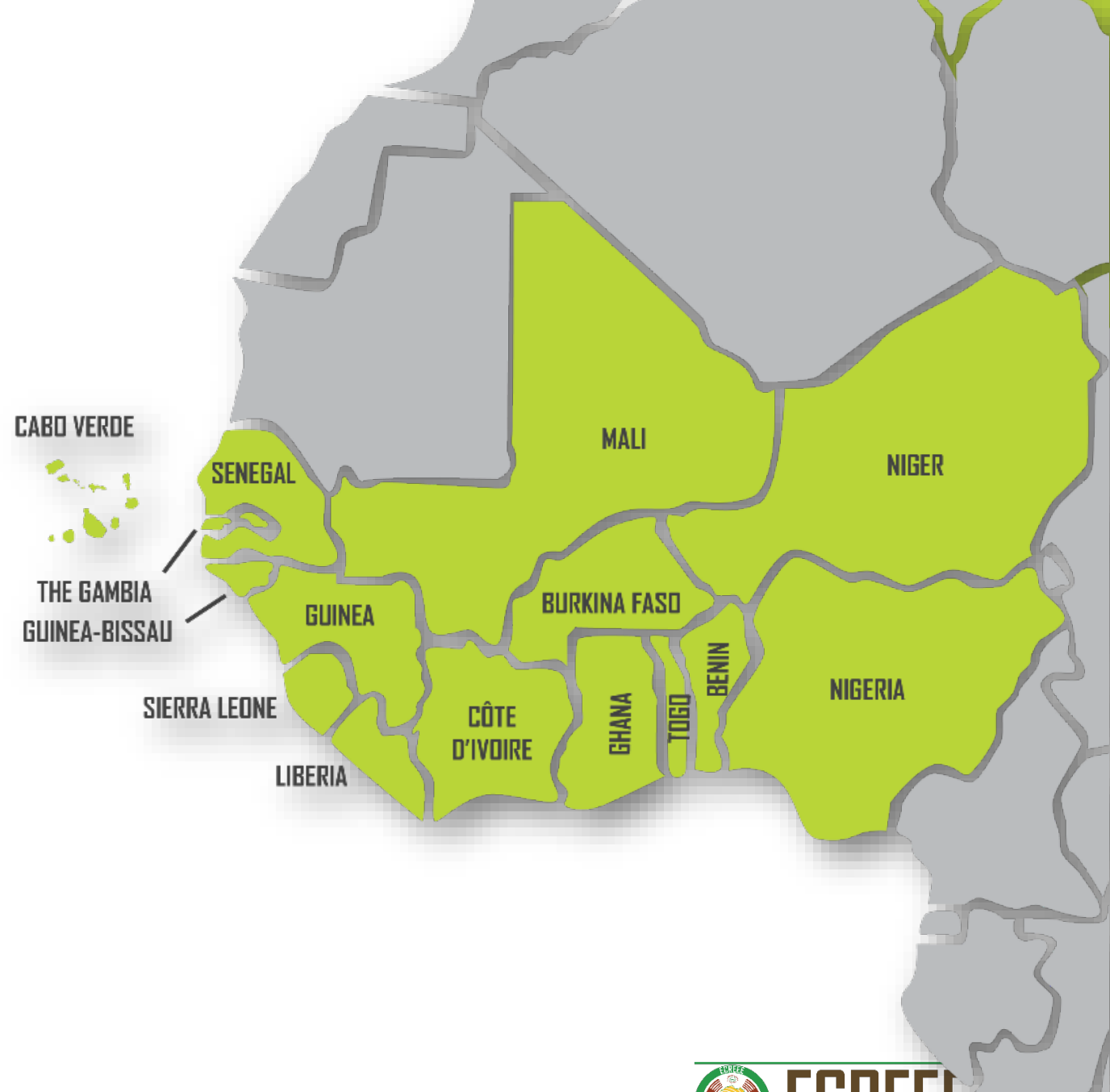
**Webinar on Gender Energy Policies
30 January, 2020**

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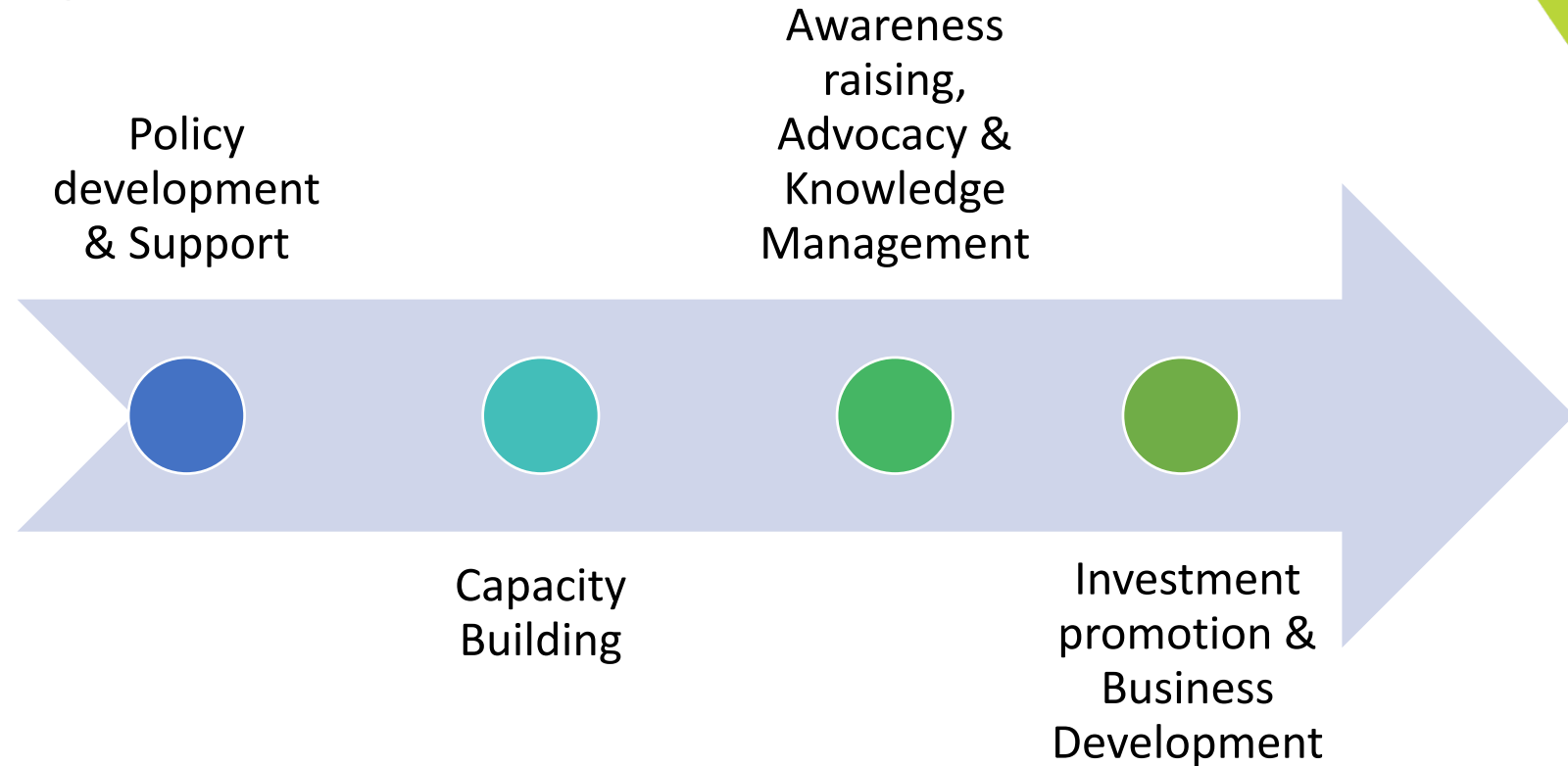
ECOWAS

- 15 countries with a population of over 300 million people
- Almost 176 million people have no access to electricity (52%)
- 60% of the population live in rural areas.
- 11 of the 15 countries are LDCs and HIPC



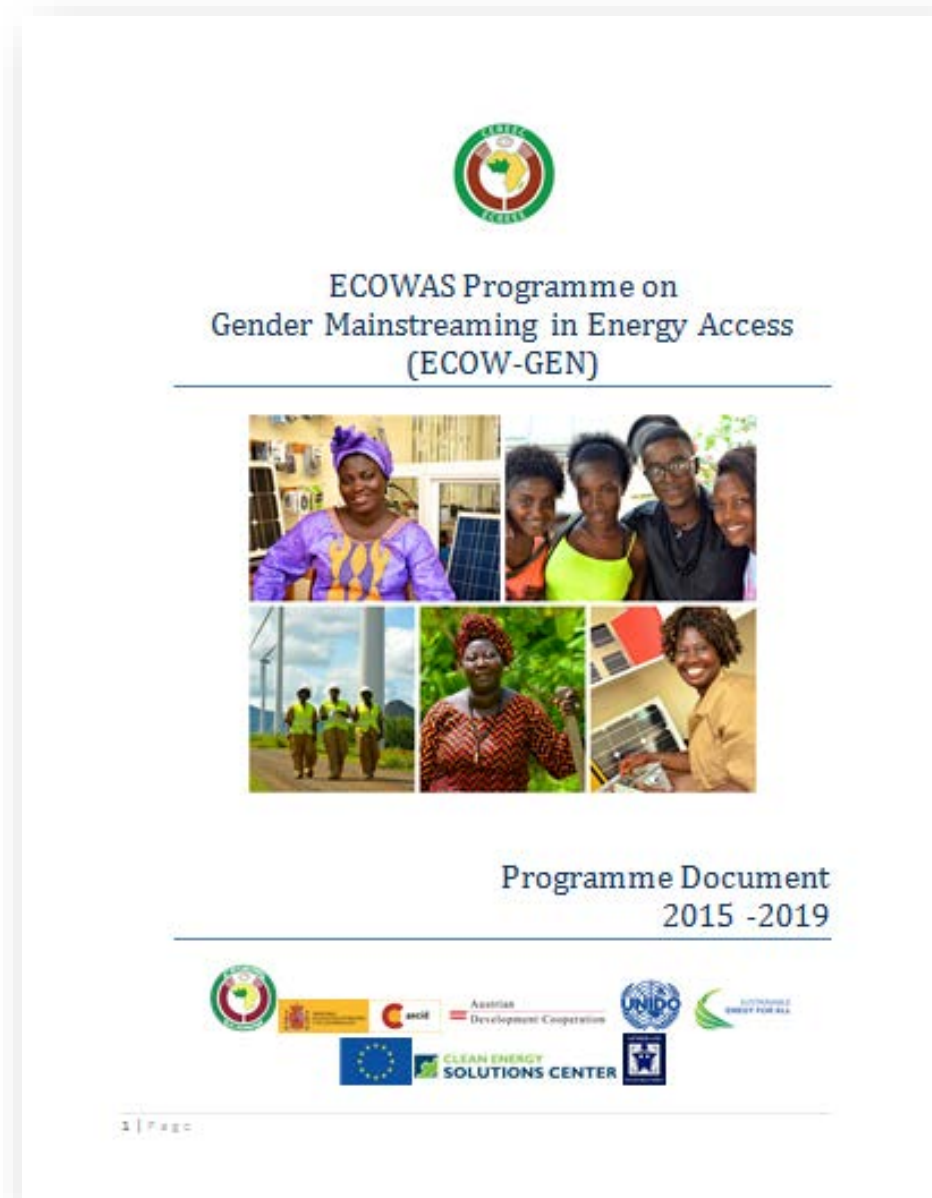
ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency (ECREEE)

- **ECREEE was established to contribute to the sustainable economic, social and environmental development of West Africa by improving access to modern, reliable and affordable energy services.**



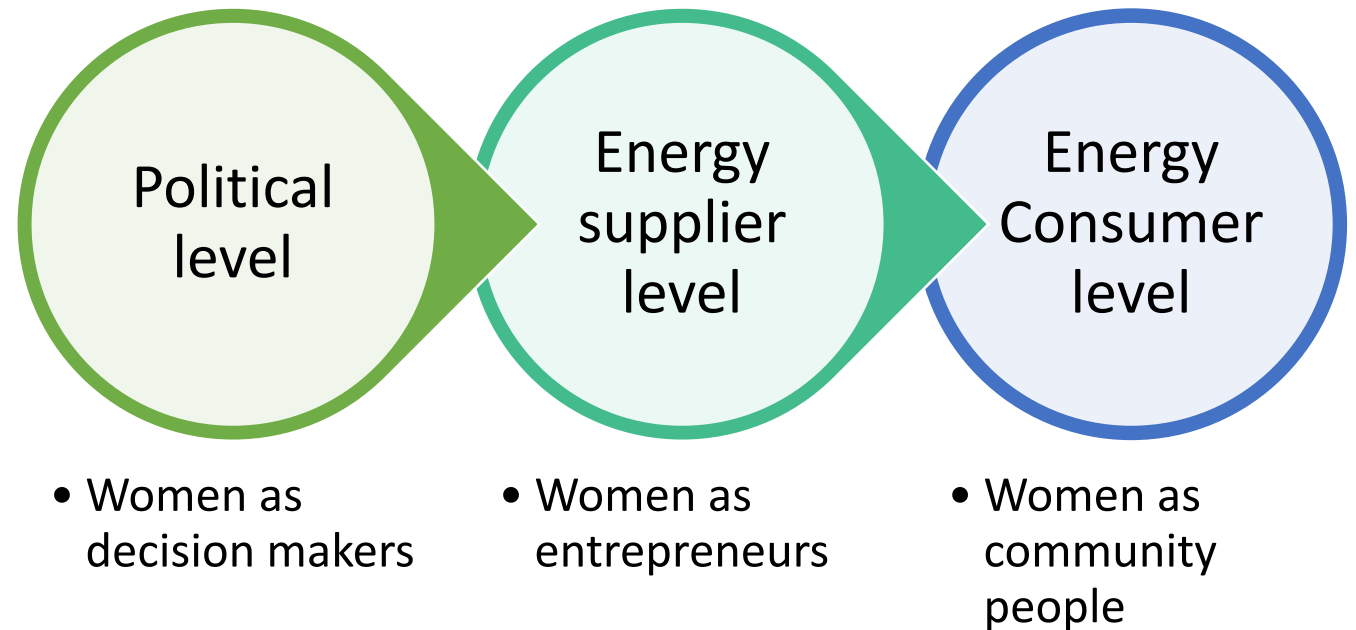
ECOW-GEN

- *“ECOW-GEN is a flagship programme of ECREEE that works to steer Member States towards 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 through equal access to resources, opportunities and equal contribution to the decision-making processes that shape and influence energy expansion in West Africa”.*

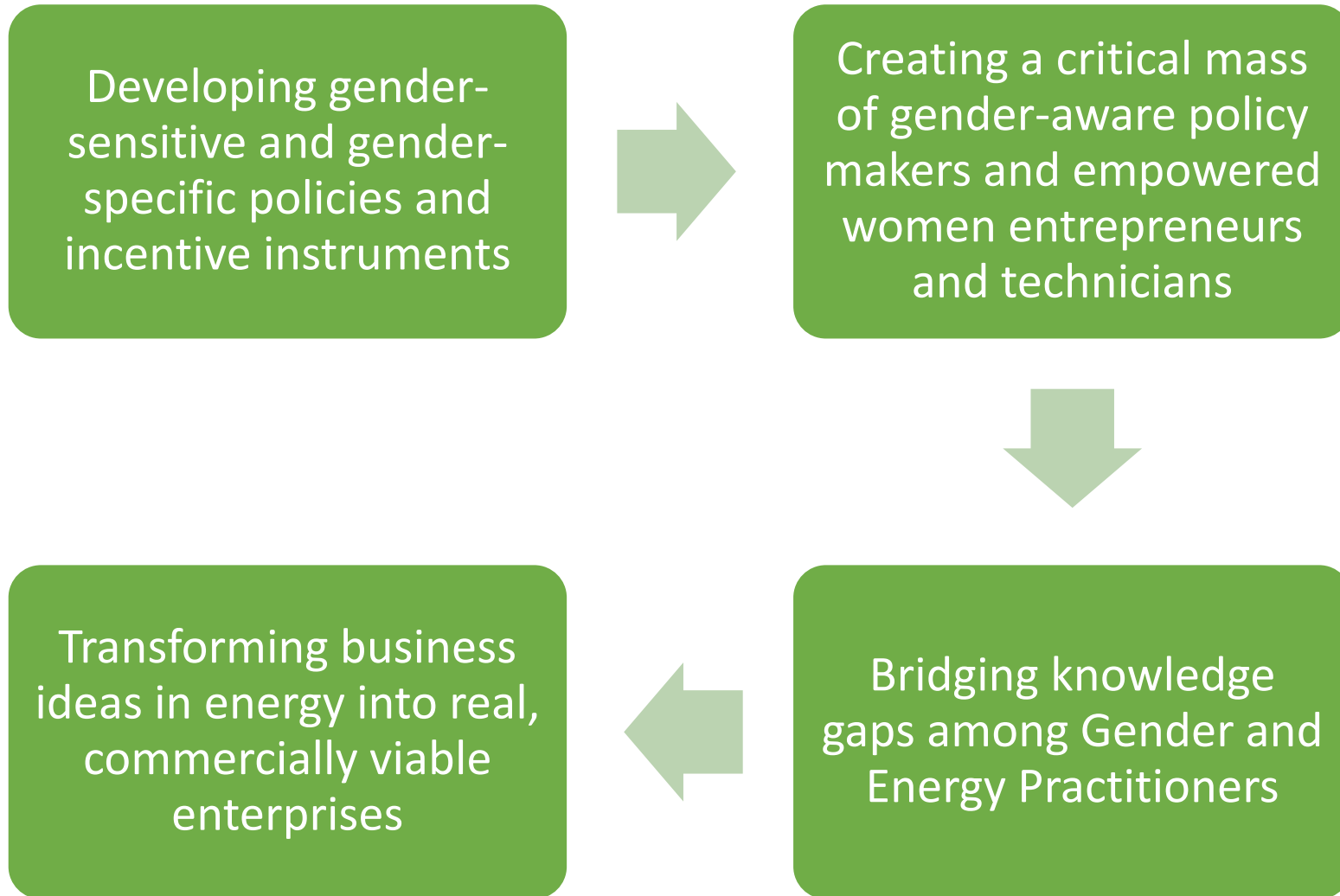


Gender inequality in the energy sector

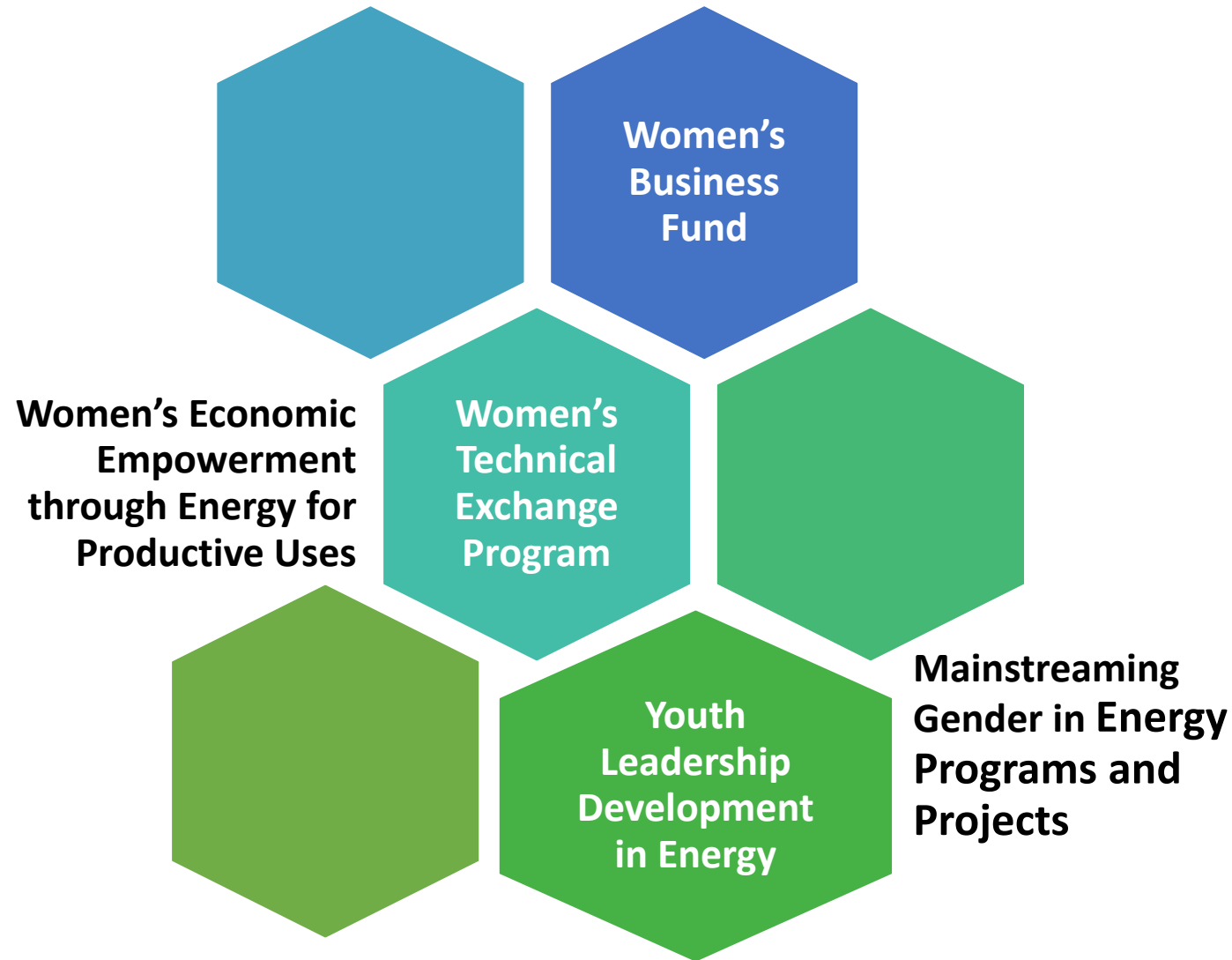
The main challenges and constraints for gender equality in energy access exists at three levels:



ECOW-GEN's Objectives



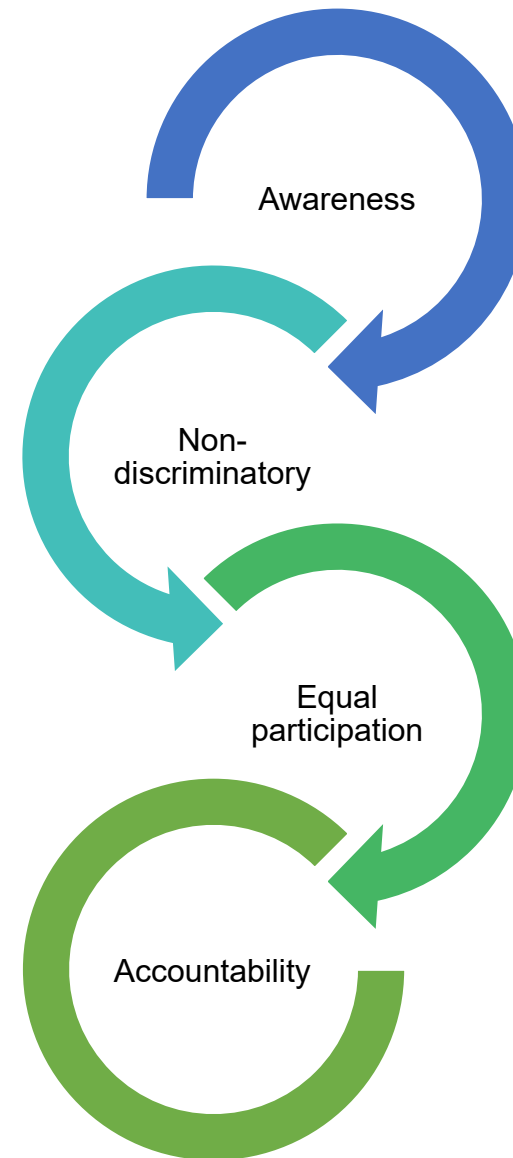
ECOW-GEN's 5 High Impact Initiatives



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ECOWAS Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access

- **Goal:** Address barriers to the equal participation of women and men in the expansion of energy Access in West Africa
- Developed in 2015 by ECREEE and the ECOWAS Gender Dept.
- Adopted by ECOWAS Energy Experts, Energy Ministers, Council of Ministers and Heads of State (by Heads of State on June 3 2017).
- In 2017, ECREEE developed the ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessment in Energy Projects. The Document has been signed by the ECOWAS Council of Ministers.



ECOWAS Directive on Gender Assessment in Energy Projects

- Development consents are based on gender assessments and gender management plan for projects likely to have adverse gender impacts (based on criteria and thresholds set by Member States)
- **Minimum criteria should include:**
 - differences between men and women (displacement, loss of livelihood, security & health)
 - Basic and strategic gender needs of the community
 - Women's social representation, empowerment, participation in project activities
 - Differences between men and women in access to and control over community and project resources and benefits
- **Minimum Criteria for: Gender assessment report, Gender mgt plan and Gender performance monitoring report**
- **Vision:** a cohesive approach to project impact assessments

NAPs on Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access

In line with Article 5 of the **ECOWAS Treaty** on General Undertakings, specifically that:

- Member States undertake to create favourable conditions for the attainment of the objectives of the Community, and particularly to take all necessary measures to harmonise their strategies and policies to...
- Each Member State shall, in accordance with its constitutional procedures, take all necessary measures to ensure the enactment and dissemination of such legislative and statutory texts as may be necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this Treaty.



Thank You