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Gender
and
Energy

 Bundesministerium
Klimaschutz, Umwelt,
Energie, Mobilität,
Innovation und Technologie

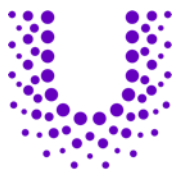


Gender, policy, technology development and energy use: examples from Austria

IEA Users TCP:

”Empowering all” Gender in policy and implementation for achieving transitions to sustainable energy”





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Agenda

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Klimaschutz, Umwelt,
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1

Gender and intersectional aspects in energy consumption

2

Requirements for inclusive energy interventions

3

Indicators for policy measures including gender and intersectional aspects in energy consumption

4

Examples from Austria



A gender perspective supports...

“A gender perspective supports the development of policies tailored for different target groups, thereby improving the effectiveness of climate policy in particular in terms of acceptance” (Alber et al. 2021)



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Research shows.....



Energy consumption
decisions are **not only**
individual decisions.



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Gender and intersectional aspects in energy consumption

- **Economic situation**
- **Household work & care work**
- **Technology/digital/energy literacy**

More research and data is needed...

- Lone mother households, older women living alone from a migrant background are the poorest (EIGE 2019)
- Black transgender people are hidden victims (blog post downtoearth 2021)

- Low level understanding among the general public
- People with higher education and income have more competences
- Old women and women with migrant background face the highest barriers in understanding energy consumption
- Norm: Women are seen as technically incompetent

(Radtke and Ohlhorst 2021, Reidl et al.2019; (Haselsteiner 2014))

- Women do most of the house keeping - energy savings can induce extra workload (Carlsson-Kanyama/Lindèn 2007)
- Women do most of the care work for sick and elderly
- (Young) parents do care work for children

Requirements for inclusive energy interventions

- More women and other gender non conforming people are needed in the energy sector and energy legislation
- Engaging consumers and citizens
- Gender and intersectional analyses recommended



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Major Questions

1. In the case of energy consumption, how are the actors and their decision making processes imagined? (Individually, collectively, household members, etc.)
2. Does the measure target intersectional issues affected by gender inequality?
3. How are the target groups framed? Are they perceived as users, participants, or both?
4. Are consumption decisions not only seen as individual decisions?



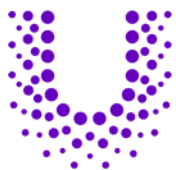
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Indicators for policy measures including gender and intersectional aspects in Energy Consumption

1. Effectiveness and efficiency
2. Impacts
3. Sustainability
4. Inclusive/participatory design
5. Transparency
6. Transferability
7. Structured procedures



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Austrian Climate and Energy Strategy # mission 2030



- Citizens (above all people interested) should receive awareness raising and information (education) so that they can actively participate in the energy system. – easy access
- Consideration of energy poverty
- Expanding energy transition bonds and blockchain
- Technology research should include social science research on technology acceptance
- Energy consulting should focus on different target groups
- Examples: “Test users should be integrated into the development process”

Social aspects are being mentioned, but gender aspects are just sometimes included. Gender aspects must be defined and presented in examples!



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Examples from Austria - measures that can create examples and guidance

- **Research Funding Program:** FFG and Ministry for Climate Protection, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK) **FEMtech's Research Projects**
 - Projects in applied research, technology and innovation are funded whose research subjects consider the different realities and needs of people and groups of people. In 2021, the BMK focused on climate and environment protection.
- Land of Lower Austria - **Award** for regional climate protection projects with a gender focus – “**gleich wandeln**”



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FEMtech research project GINGER



GINGER - Gender aspects in the use of buildings, energy and resources

- **Methods:** Surveys, interviews, focus groups
- **Outcome:** Factsheets for different target groups
 - Inclusive product design for energy efficient buildings
 - Support for energy consultants
 - Energy efficient school buildings & users
 - Energy efficient office buildings & users



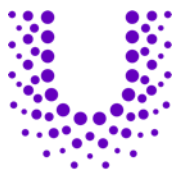
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Any questions?



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Team Lead Gender & Diversity

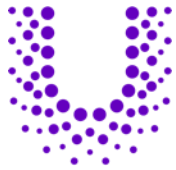


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