



The READ Project: An Introduction

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County Energy Planning in Kenya: local participation and local solutions
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The READ Project

Renewable Energy and Decentralization (Energy Literacy for Decentralized Governance)

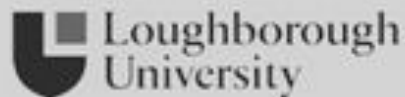
Short project running until October 2015

Project Partners

- Practical Action East Africa
- GAMOS Ltd
- Loughborough University

Funders

- UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council
- UK Department for International Development
- UK Department for Energy and Climate Change
- Understanding Sustainable Energy Solutions Research Programme (2013-2018) – 13 projects



Project Aims

- To assess the roles and responsibilities of African local authorities in relation to energy issues.
- To examine how the roles and responsibilities of local authorities in relation to energy issues have already been affected by the transfer of powers and budgets under decentralization initiatives.
- To analyze the implications of further transfer of powers and budgets under decentralization initiatives
- Underlying all of this is the question of what kind of capacity local authorities need in order to play the potentially crucial role of integrating clean energy transitions into local development planning and how those capacities are being enhanced
- Two specific country case studies: Rwanda and Kenya

What we've been doing so far

- Wide-Ranging Literature Reviews
- Interviews with international project developers/NGOs etc.
- Development of Project Website
- Workshops in Nakuru and Kigali (April/May 2014)
- Interviews with stakeholders in both countries
- Networking and awareness raising more broadly beyond the Rwandan and Kenyan contexts to convince key stakeholders of the importance of investing in local government capacity in this area.
- Gap in Progress (August 2014 – January 2015 due to Investigator illness).

READ Renewable Energy and Electrification

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Welcome

It is an honour to be the dedicated energy commissioner leading the project. READ is a leader in the off-grid energy and rural electrification research community for all countries interested in innovative solutions which work in difficult conditions to bring electricity that will help people realise their dreams of a better life through energy access and power.

The project is a partnership between the government and the private sector to provide a sustainable energy solution. It is a great honour to be the project lead in this exciting and important work. We are committed to the success of the project and will work closely with all stakeholders to ensure that the project is a success.

Recent Posts

- 1. [READ Announces Key Findings on Energy Access in Rural Areas](#)
- 2. [READ Launches New Initiative to Support Small Businesses](#)
- 3. [READ Celebrates Successful Completion of Phase 1](#)

READ and Kenya

- Complementing the more specific local focus of the SEI/PA project, the overall objective of READ has been to raise the profile of local energy governance issues amongst key stakeholders internationally
- We are interested in
 1. What can Kenya learn from the roles of local authorities in addressing energy issues in other places?
 2. Are there specific lessons from the Rwandan experience for the Kenyan decentralization process (particularly in relation to energy issues)
 3. What are the key challenges for local energy governance within the current Kenyan context and how can these be addressed?

1. Local Energy Governance: The Global Context

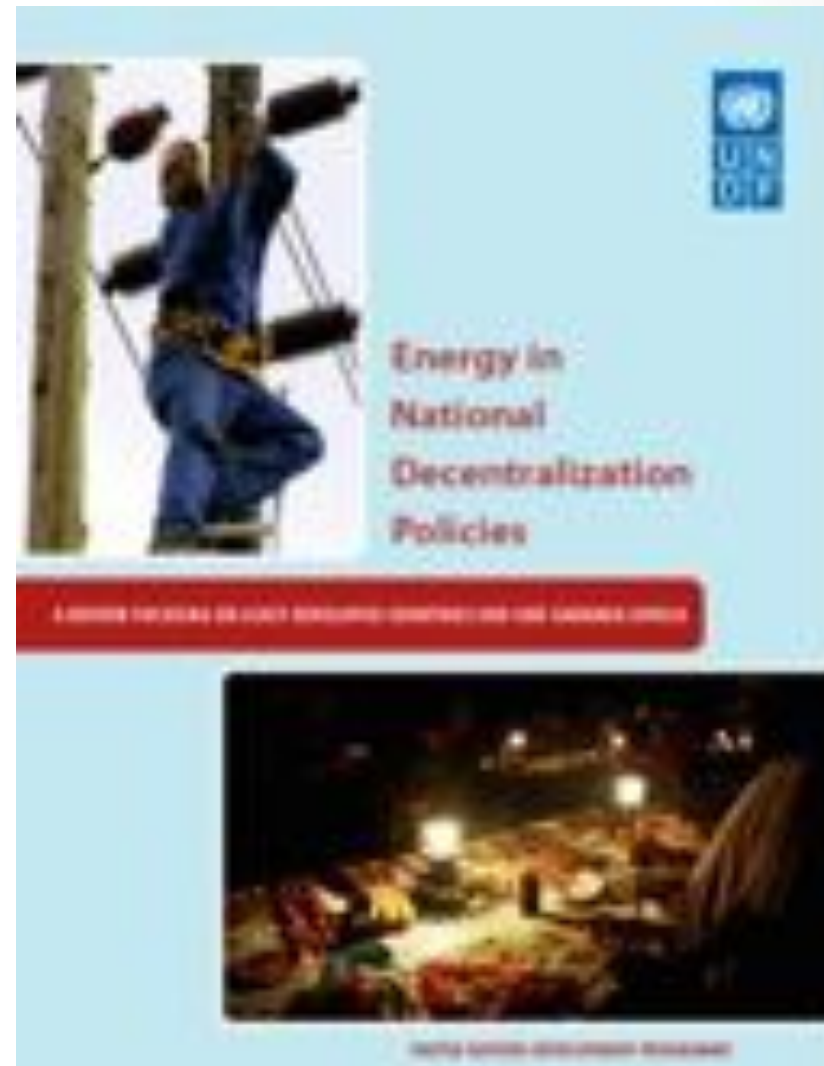
1. **Energy Trilemma** – energy access, climate change, energy security – plus trends towards energy decentralization

2. **Political Decentralization** - Challenges facing local authorities in the context of decentralization – transfer of responsibilities, transfer of resources, capacity building, trans-scale coordination.

- But few **research** connections.
- **Low profile** of local governance issues in discussions of energy across the Global South.
- *E.g. Electricity access* –
- At the same time, local governments frequently don't have **specific policies/budgets** for addressing energy issues.

Decentralization and Energy

- A 2009 UNDP Study is the only significant study connecting the two areas.
- This explored decentralization policy in over 60 countries and found explicit mention of energy issues in only 4 cases.
- Our review has found very little further work in this area since their study was published.
- But there are some interesting examples of local authority roles from across the globe



A Direct Role in Electricity Generation/Supply?

- Local government played a major role in the development of the electricity infrastructure in many Northern countries (recent resurgence).
- Also several examples of electrification schemes (grid + off-grid) where local authorities have played a major role in the South.
- E.g. South African electrification projects linked to regional planning processes + run by local authorities. Municipalities role in Free Basic Alternative Energy Policy.
- Other examples where regional or local authorities played major roles include Brazil, Nepal, India + Chile (legislation also exists in places like Mozambique and Lesotho).

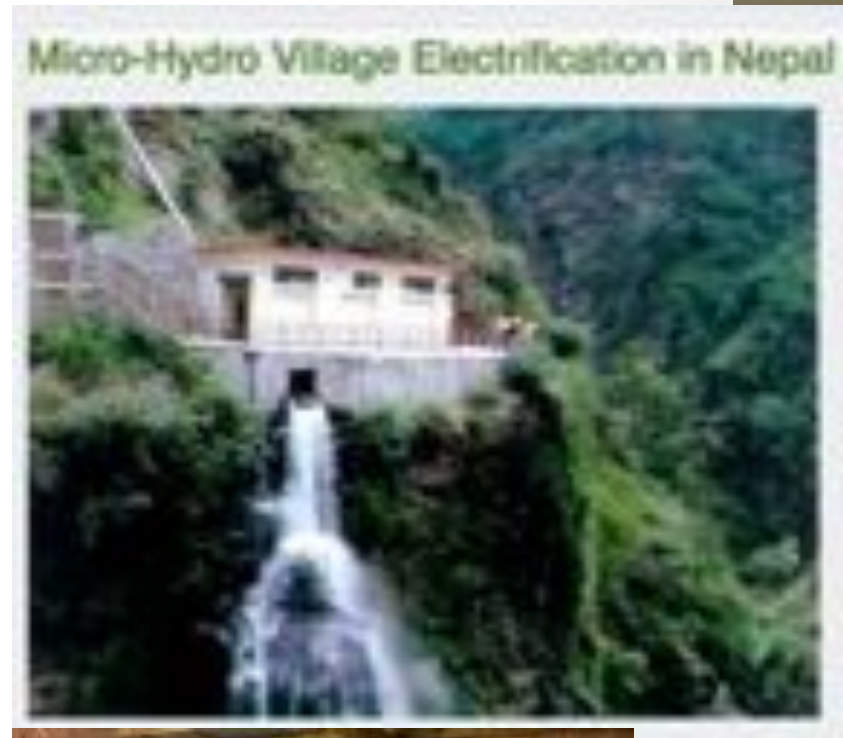
URBAN
ENERGY
SUPPORT

SUPPORTING SOUTH AFRICAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
to meet sustainable energy
and climate change challenges.



Nepal

- Success seem to depend upon:
 - Sufficient local/regional control of budgets
 - Capacity Building for local institutions
 - Multi-level collaborations with clearly defined roles
- E.g. Very successful micro-hydro programme in Nepal (UNDP).
- Responsibility to manage and deliver energy services decentralised to communities under the oversight of local authorities, and village/district development committees with well defined roles (UNDP 2007a, EC 2007)
- Long-term capacity building underlay the successful outcomes of this initiative (large portion of overall project costs went in capacity building of local government and district committees etc.)



Individual Capacity

- The above examples are drawn from national programmes administered locally, some municipalities/regional authorities have taken the initiative and run their own programmes.
- In the North growing movement for local governments to take a leadership role in promoting decentralised energy (eg Freiberg + UK Municipalities)
- But its not just important in Europe - Other examples of local energy programmes run by or supported via individual local governments
- E.g. Waste to energy schemes are an obvious way in which local governments connect energy and other service delivery

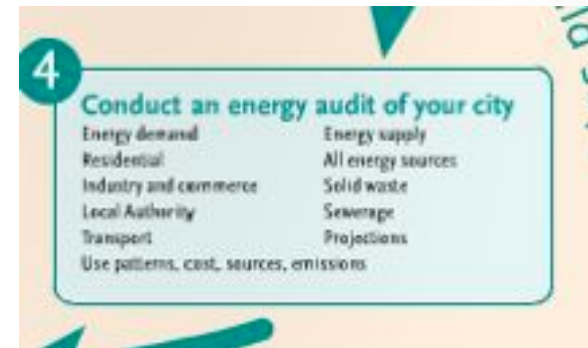


Biomasa Investment Nicaragua SA (Binicsa), is processing waste to generate clean energy in ten Nicaraguan cities. The company will also support local governments in improving their waste disposal systems and the selection of waste.



Other Important Roles for Local Authorities

- Not all local authorities have the capacity (or the resources) to develop their own generation projects.
- But there are plenty of examples of other actions that individual local authorities have engaged in which have made a difference.
- **Audit** of energy provision and energy needs
- **Social Consultation:** Not just ascertaining the types of needs that communities and local businesses express in relation to energy but also how they rank those needs against other necessities and desires (e.g. Central African Republic/Nicaragua)
- The best of these consultation processes can feed into improving overall national energy policy management, the targeting of particular schemes or identification of capacity building needs



- Ensuring that NGO/private sector energy initiatives are connected adequately into **local and regional development strategies** and local programmes in water, education, health etc..
- Provision of **information and training** about energy issues (for example about specific technologies, how to use energy for livelihood enhancement, contacts for companies operating in particular fields, funding possibilities etc.).
- A **‘demonstrator role’** in promoting new technologies or approaches in the delivery of services to local citizens –
- E.g. the use of clean energy technologies in powering municipal buildings.

Other Important Roles for Local Authorities



2. Lessons from the Rwandan Experience

- *“Since Rwanda embarked on a decentralization process in 2000, it has made tremendous progress. It has completely redesigned local administration, setting up strong local planning and monitoring mechanisms. Local governments are today the main implementers of national policies, executing more than 25% of the domestic budget in 2011–12, and employing 50% of the Rwandan administration”* (Chemouni, 2014: 246).
- There is clear evidence of tangible decentralisation of roles, budgets and responsibilities to local administrative entities (Districts, sectors, cells and villages).
- Interpretations? Efficient, co-ordinated and effective service delivery; Increased citizen participation in development and system accountability OR technocratic form of ensuring rapid delivery of centralised decision-making?



REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Rwandan Context: Energy

- Ambitious targets. The plan is to increase electricity access from the 18% to 70% by the end of June 2017 (Rwanda Energy Sector Strategic Plan 2013-2018).
- 52% of the enhanced access planned will be off grid.
- Similar targets for ICS usage, biogas installations etc. All agreed and targeted down to local levels.

Different Roles:

- **Central government** (Ministries, Public agencies): sets policy, strategy, standards and regulatory and legal matters related to energy.
- **Decentralised Entities:** Plan/set energy priorities (e.g. electrification, uptake of ICS) in annual district development plans (linked to national goals + priorities), monitored through performance contracts. Sector plans similarly aligned to District plans + priorities.



More Detail on the Role of the Decentralized Entities

- Responsible for **approvals** to private companies, NGOs and others operating in energy within Districts and Sectors (No organization can operate without these permissions).
- Work with EWSA to identify those eligible + distribute **biogas subsidies**.
- Assist **ICS producers** self-organise into cooperatives
- Undertake **public sensitization and mobilization** with regard to renewable energy projects including biogas, solar, ICS etc.
- Responsible for the **security of energy infrastructure**
- **Mobilise resources** and budgeting for energy projects
- Support MININFRA and EWSA Ltd in maintaining a **data base of all energy installations** to aid national planning.
- Each District/Sector has a JADF – a **Consultative Forum** of stakeholders that discusses and implements development plans.

Issues identified during the Kigali Workshop

- High energy demand amid **budgetary constraints**. There are multiple priorities but there is insufficient funding to address all these priorities, energy often the poor relation
- **Limited local-level technical capacity**. Relates to both (a) the capacity and understanding of local government staff/ decision-makers and (b) the more general lack of technical capacity in installation, operation and maintenance at village, cell, sector and district levels (trained technicians moved to cities in search of employment).
- Need for an **Energy sector JADF or equivalent....**
- Government institutions see their role as **awareness raising** (changing behaviours, spreading knowledge) but this needs to be complemented with the creation of **more public platforms** to discuss energy concerns (e.g. energy-specific JADF)



Issues identified during the Kigali Workshop

- The need for the right **institutional framework** with clear roles and responsibilities (not always clear and sometimes overly bureaucratic)
- Districts and sectors also have **human resource challenges**, with a single officer frequently being responsible for 3-4 large portfolios. At a district level, energy falls under the officer for Infrastructure, Environment and Land use.
- Lack of **purchasing power** of target populations, limited level of private sector development (both in terms of innovative financial products and energy sector) – local government perhaps doesn't play as strong a role as it could here in **facilitating enterprise development**.



3. The Kenyan Context: Decentralization

- Constitution of Kenya 2010 introduced two levels of government namely, the national and county governments which, though inter-dependent, also have distinct roles but at times, overlapping mandates in various areas
- Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Authority REREA is proposed under the new Energy Bill with a focus on supporting county governments in electricity access
- There is the opportunity now to utilize funds from an Equalization Fund to support electrification in marginalized areas
- Royalty payable for energy resources extracted to be shared between National and County Governments & Communities (e.g. geothermal).
- Each County Government is required to develop County Energy plans in respect of its energy requirements



LAWS OF KENYA



The Kenyan Context: Decentralised Energy

- Electric capacity of **decentralized systems**, comprising stand-alone solar PV systems and mini/micro-grids is currently estimated at 1% of total installed capacity but could be more
- In addition, GoK would like to facilitate additional **solar homes systems**. 100,000 new systems by 2020, 200,000 by 2025 and 300,000 by 2030.
- For **mini - grids**, an appropriate regulatory framework is required to enable effective private sector participation
- Formal targets for non-electric fuels in **modern cooking** (biomass, LPG, improved stoves) and in off-grid electricity are yet to be developed by Government. However,
- GOK is working with CSOs and GACC to improve uptake of **Improved Cookstoves** through the KCAP which aims to catalyse adoption of ICS by over 7 million households by 202
- Within the same timeframes as the SHS installations, the government intends to facilitate installation of an additional 5,000, 6,500 and 10,000 **biogas** digesters respectively.

Issues identified from the Nakuru Workshop

- Energy is yet to receive prominence on the county agenda. The **County ministry** is tasked with a wide range of responsibilities - Environment, Natural Resources, Energy and Water (MENREW)
- **People's energy needs:** The challenge in decentralization is to think about the different energy needs of people at the local level, e.g. household and institutional cooking and lighting needs, and not only large scale electricity generation programmes and projects
- Clear benefits for county government from the **development of geothermal resources** are yet to be seen



Issues identified from the Nakuru Workshop

- Solid waste offers a good opportunity for energy production. The Nakuru county government is already embracing biogas the technology
- Various stakeholders undertaking decentralised energy activities need to talk and learn from each other
- A lot of **awareness creation** on green energy is needed in **both** the county government and among county residents



Issues identified by other counties



- **Combined mandates** in county ministries .
- Need for agreement on how **royalties** will be shared locally
- Concerns over **communication** between County & National Government for timely decision making; localisation of the REREA
- **Inadequate budgets** and local **capacity** of county executives/staff to implement decentralised energy projects
- Abundant renewable **energy resources**; limited capacity to develop them
- Concerns over obtaining **guarantees** from National Government for county level energy private sector investment
- Need for recognition of the **role of SME's** in the energy sector. (SMEs assessments needed at the county level)
- Debate over the utilisation of the proposed **Equalisation fund**
- Need for support in **participatory** county energy **planning**
- Decision making **mandates/processes** MCAs & Governor
- Channelling of **revenue** from energy projects

Opportunities

- Willingness by National and County Governments to engage with and support **county and national level capacity building** in decentralised energy
- Existence of a **strong CSO, Research, Training and Private Sector & Financing fraternity** working on decentralised energy access issues in the country
- **Existing platforms** for information exchange, lobbying and capacity building of decentralised energy initiatives in Kenya e.g. CCAK, KEREAA
- A **donor community** convinced of the importance of improving local energy governance.

On-going county level initiatives

- Resource maps and Inventory of renewable county energy resources (MOEP)
- Participatory Energy Planning in Kenyan Counties (SEI-Practical Action)
- READ and ACT! Projects (Practical Action)
- SE4ALL (electricity; modern cooking; decentralized off-grid power; power for productive use in rural areas (UNDP)
- Micro & mini grids development (GOK SREP, devt partners, private sector)
- KCAP Adoption of clean ICS and fuels by > 7 million households by 2020 (GACC /Development partners & stakeholders)
- County Capacity Building, Renewable Energy, Trade & Investment in 3 counties (GIZ-CIC-SERC)
- USES Programme in Kenya
- Solar PV Capacity building through training of TTIs in 13 counties (KEREAA)
- County Integrated Development Plans in 5 counties (CCAK-SNV-EnDev)

What could we do together?

- Building cross-sectoral **partnerships** for joined up work
- **Inter-county information exchange**: The county can benefit greatly from information on how other counties are managing the energy projects (inter-county collaboration on energy) and better understanding of the regulatory environment
- **County Energy Colloquiums.**
- **Connection** to existing platforms
- **Technical capacity building** in county governments on decentralised energy
- Capacity building in **participatory energy planning**
- Identification of **resources** for implementation



Thank you for listening!

