

CSO Comments on FP093 AfDB Burkina Faso (BM21, October 2018)

Yeelen Rural Electrification Project in Burkina Faso

It is very good to reduce the non-lighting gap to enhance well-being and health. However we appreciate clarification on if communities will get substantive means to pay their bills on a regular basis. In the same way as *"the project includes both boosting the capacity to pay and a mechanism to cap the tariff"*, we hope the communities light will allow income generation activities.

We did not notice any involvement in terms of stakeholders' consultation. However, in the implementation phase it is planned to gather CSO, women groups and other energy actors.

In terms of sustainability the project seems to be sustainable over the climate change solution it's providing if the plan to recycle battery or store them is ensured.

Concerning the gender action plan, and as a gender mainstreaming strategy of the project will be designed, we hope that the weakness visible in the project will be corrected in order to ensure that different socio-economic benefits generated by the project are also felt by women. Some of those weaknesses are:

- The wording used is not proper in terms of Gender perspective like "encourage", "in the same basis like man"
- For the trainings and activities requiring women involvement. there is a need of measures to accompany this will, to allow women to participate effectively.
- For the provision of connection, the gender issue here could be the how to pay; need of special modalities of payment as the target is poor women with incomes or not.
- The project should also take into account the women already actives in energy sector like those trained at barefoot college of India
- It is not clear how Gender sensitive climate finance looks like. Will the women access to credit free of interest or low interest?