

Energy poverty, climate change and gender in developing countries



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BACKGROUND

- Access to energy is not only vital to the development trajectory of a country but closely tied to the achievement of other sustainable development goals.
- Lack of sufficient access to energy which is termed "energy poverty" continues to remain a major problem in Sub-Saharan Africa. Around 633 million people are estimated to lack access to electricity while 792 million people are still using biomass.
- Climate change will intensify the vulnerability of human-environment systems (Wheeler & von Braun, 2013).

QUESTIONS

How does climate change affect the energy transition in developing countries?

DATA

Outcome: Choices of energy

Data: World Bank living standard measurement surveys

Controls: Household characteristics

Health Poverty Women Environment **Empowerment** Gender Energy Energy

METHODOLOGY

Logit and probit models :

Fixed effects

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

No energy transition among households without proper policies targeting common shocks

High reliance on traditional cooking fuels

An evolution in lighting fuels through solar home systems

MAIN RESULTS

- Energy ladder in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Energy stacking plus energy ladder in developing countries
- Climate change worsens energy poverty incidences

CONCLUSION

Among households in developing countries, a clean slate from tradition to modern energy is unlikely

- Income is a key factor in the energy transition but does not capture the whole story: factors such as cultural preferences for cooking, location, literacy level and marital status among others, influence household fuel choices.
- The non-economic cost of use of traditional fuels is bored by women: negative implications for gender equality efforts

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