ENERGY GENERATION AND ACCESS

Guidance Note for Peace-Informed Programming at the Green Climate Fund

"Greening an ever-growing economy would require the replacement of much of the world's existing energy generating and distribution system, the seizure of vast land areas, the retrofitting of old buildings on a historically unprecedented scale and the redesign of whole cities. Conflicts over landscapes and livelihoods are inevitable."*

Summary: Energy plays a key role in human activities, powering economies and societies worldwide. Notably, 85 percent of the 800 million people without access to energy live in fragile states. With the growing climate crisis and the need to move away from fossil fuels, investments in renewable energy are increasing, especially in Africa due to its vast renewable energy potential. However, there are challenges in introducing renewable energy projects in fragile and conflict-affected states (FCS). The rising demand for minerals like cobalt and lithium, essential for renewable technologies, has led to increased conflict and human rights issues since many of these minerals are found in FCS. Large areas of land needed for renewable infrastructure can also lead to disputes, especially in regions with weak governance. However, when managed correctly, renewable energy can promote peace, offering decentralized power systems that benefit remote communities, improve socio-economic outcomes, and encourage collaboration between stakeholders.

1. How Fragility, Conflict and Violence Relate to the Energy Sector

Energy is a vital component of almost all human activities, driving economies and societies alike. Of the 800 million people in the world who do not have access to energy, 85 percent live in fragile states.[1] The scale of the climate crisis and the need to increase energy access make the energy transition away from fossil fuels to renewable energy essential.

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* The Corner House. "Energy Alternatives: Surveying the Territory." (2013). p. 31.

[1] Council on State Fragility. "Scaling energy investments in fragile states." International Growth Centre. (2020). p. 6.

Alongside the current geo-political instability, the green energy transition is driving massive global investments in renewable energy.[2] These investments are focused in particular on Africa, where there is a huge potential for funding energy sources such as solar, hydro or wind. Renewable energy generation is also one of the three main areas for GCF projects related to power generation and access.[3]

In FCS, however, projects face numerous challenges to implementing the renewable energy transition. Insecurity and violence can hinder access to the needed minerals and metals for renewable energy technology. The extraction of such minerals and metals is often closely correlated with an increase in violent conflict.

With rapid investments being made in the green energy transition, the demand for minerals and metals such as cobalt, lithium and rare earth elements — key materials in the production of wind turbines, solar panels, energy storage, etc. — is growing at an unprecedented rate.[4] The extraction of these minerals and metals, however, carries significant risks, including human rights violations, violent conflict and environmental degradation. Many of the world's largest reserves of these minerals and metals are located in FCS, such as the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Afghanistan, Guinea and Guatemala. In these contexts, 'conflict minerals' refer to human rights violations, armed conflict, and the forcible displacement of communities that are often associated with natural resources extraction. Governments and mining companies lack adequate due diligence practices, policies, and legislation to address the strong links between the extraction of minerals and metals and conflict

dynamics.[5] The ongoing problem of conflict minerals thus urges further scrutiny of production supply chains for renewable energy.

Key Terms

Integrated climate-security programming is the holistic approach of embedding both climate and security considerations into the entire lifecycle of projects—from design and implementation to evaluation. This strategy aims to guarantee that climate finance initiatives are not only environmentally sustainable but also conflict-sensitive.

Conflict sensitivity is an organizational process where knowledge of the peace and conflict dynamics in the operational context is gathered through a locally informed perspective and applied to avoid unintended negative consequences and maximize positive effects on peace. Conflict- sensitive practices exist on a spectrum between 'do-no-harm' (e.g., conflict assessment, safeguards, redress mechanisms, etc.) and 'do-good' (e.g., peace responsiveness, peace co-benefits, peacebuilding, etc.).

Many renewable energy projects, such as those developing wind turbines or solar panels, also need large areas of land for infrastructure. These demands can create tensions with communities and institutions over land access and use. For example, the vast drylands that provide livelihoods to pastoralist communities in many FCS in Africa, the Middle East and Latin America are also the most attractive for large wind and solar energy projects.[6] Coupled with weak land governance in many of these contexts, there is a risk of irresponsible companies engaging in "land grabbing," leading to grievances and tensions among the communities who are forced to

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[2] International Alert. "Fuelling conflict? The impact of the green energy transition on peace and security." (2022). p. 3.

[3] In order to promote renewable energy, GCF focuses on three main areas: energy generation from renewable sources such as wind, solar, geothermal, hydro, and sustainable bioenergy; efficient and reliable energy transmission, distribution, and storage; and promoting access to clean energy in a way that

promotes sustainable development and climate resilience while reducing emissions. (*From GCF website*)

[4] International Alert. "Fuelling conflict? The impact of the green energy transition on peace and security." (2022). p. 4.

[5] Focus right. "Ensuring responsible business conduct with regards to conflict minerals – Q&A for companies." (2022).

[6] Ibid., 11.

relocate to other areas.[7] The relocation of communities also risks causing new tensions, as displaced communities may then compete with other communities for access to the natural resources in their area, with an even higher risk of potential conflicts emerging.

That said, under the right circumstances, renewable energy generation can also be a force for peace and stability. Projects focusing on clean and sustainable energy can help break the fragility cycle, provide local sources of energy, employment, and revenue, and can create and support pathways for peace and stability in FCS.[8] Renewable energy initiatives focused on wind and solar power, for example, can create more accessibility to energy in FCS. Rural communities disconnected from the power grid can benefit because decentralized power systems depend less on distant energy sources. Ensuring energy access can also improve socio-economic development outcomes. For example, local power production can support small businesses, enable household-level productive activities such as studying,[9] and improve the preservation of perishable food items.[10]

> "Projects focusing on clean and sustainable energy can help break the fragility cycle, provide local sources of energy, employment and revenue, and can create and support pathways for peace and stability in FCS."

The following subsections provide an overview of the operational risks that may arise in relation to renewable energy projects, including how projects in these contexts might exacerbate ongoing conflict dynamics, and the peacebuilding opportunities that may exist. We then provide guidance on how to incorporate conflict sensitivity into projects. The overview and guidance are based on a literature review of publicly available material and include a list of guidance notes and case studies for further reading.

2. Risks and Opportunities for GCF Projects in the Energy Sector

2.1. Security Risks Impacting Projects

Given that access to energy plays a central role in many FCS, there are several conflict dynamics that may negatively impact projects related to renewable energy. Some of the risks are highlighted below:

Transition away from fossil fuels: The complexity, scale, and unprecedented speed of the transition towards renewable energy will inevitably produce winners and losers. The economies of many African countries, with the most prominent being Chad, Congo and Equatorial Guinea, are highly dependent on oil, gas and coal.[11] A rapid energy transition could address familiar 'resource curse'[12] challenges. It also offers the hope of mitigating the worse effects of the climate crisis. However, negative consequences of the energy transition on the political economy could be vast unless carefully managed.[13] If poorly managed, the transition may exacerbate existing conflict dynamics, as well as create new sources of conflict. For example,

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[7] Agrawal, Hansika, et al. "Enabling a Just Transition: Protecting Human Rights in Renewable Energy Projects: A Briefing for Policymakers." ALIGN and Columbia Center on Sustainable Development. (2023). p. 4.

[8] Council on State Fragility. "Call to action: Powering up energy investments in fragile states." (2021).

[9] Sachetto, Camille, et al. "The case for scaling up renewable energy investments in fragile and conflict-affected situations." IGC blog post. (2020).

[10] Cooling for All: https://www.seforall.org/cooling-for-all

[11] Oramah, Benedict. "Transiting to green growth in fossil export-dependent economies: A pathway for Africa." Global policy, vol. 14, issue, 4. (2022). p. 544.

[12] The 'resource curse' is a term used to describe the argued relationship that an abundance of natural resources increases the likelihood of civil war, poor economic performance and low levels of democracy.

[13] Gopalakrishnan, Tarun and Jared Miller. "Energy transition in fragile states: A critical primer." World peace foundation. (2023). p. 3.

land use disputes and the loss of influence and income for elites in the fossil fuel sector can cause political upheavals with unforeseen consequences.

Conflict minerals and metals: The technologies required to transition toward renewable energy requires a diversity of rare minerals and metals, many of them located in countries that are already politically unstable and prone to fragility and conflict.[14] Poor governance coupled with unsustainable management practices in these contexts has reportedly resulted in violence and human rights abuses related to mining operations.[15] Energy generation and infrastructure projects may, therefore, be dependent upon sourcing from countries in conflict, and may be intimately connected with human rights violations and environmental degradation.

Competition over access to renewable energy resources: Minerals and metals used in renewable energy projects are often concentrated in places where control may be contested. Where access to sustainable livelihoods may be challenging, people may struggle for access to renewable energy resources that generate revenue streams and economic value. In FCS, competing claims to valuable renewable energy resources can escalate conflicts, potentially leading to territorial disputes and military confrontation.[16] The theft of minerals, metals or biomass can provide revenue to Non-state Armed Groups (NSAGs), who sell it on legal or black markets.[17]

Weak governance: Ineffective environmental policies, unenforced laws, weak institutions, and poor governance — prevalent in many FCS

— create obstacles that can impede the successful implementation of energy generation and access-related projects. These obstacles can lead to inadequate monitoring and enforcement mechanisms for projects. These deficiencies can result in environmental degradation, insufficient protection of land rights, a lack of consultation, and worsening political and economic disputes.

1) Lessons from GCF Projects

The cross-cutting WWF project **Bhutan for Life** showcases the crucial role of community involvement in addressing key social risks, such as conflicts over protected area management. The project's approach combines a detailed social review with a focused mitigation plan. Essential tools include strong communication, transparent consultations, and applying free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC). By engaging communities regularly, the project aims to reduce potential risks and provides a model for other GCF initiatives in the energy sector.

Risk of being a military target: With more large-scale renewable energy systems being developed around the world, they could become potential military targets. These systems' reliance on high technology also makes them more vulnerable to cyberattacks. Attacks can come from nation state-affiliated cybercriminals aiming to disrupt critical infrastructure or society, with the war in Ukraine being the most recent example. Russia has been accused of targeting critical renewable energy infrastructure in Ukraine, with Russian saboteurs reportedly trying to destroy digital networks and cause power outages.[18] The risks of conflict parties physically attacking renewable energy systems

[14] The International Institute for Sustainable Development. "Green Conflict Minerals: The fuels of conflict in the transition to a low-carbon economy." (2018). p. 17.

[15] Gopalakrishnan, Tarun and Jared Miller. "Energy transition in fragile states: A critical primer." World peace foundation. (2023). p. 45.

[16] Matthysen, Ken and Erik Gobbers. "Armed conflict, insecurity, and mining in eastern DRC: Reflections on the nexus between

natural resources and armed conflict." International Peace Information Service. (2022). p. 14.

[17] Le Billon, Philippe. "Wars of plunder: Conflicts, profits and the politics of resources." London: C. Hurst & Co. (2012).

[18] Buli, Nora, et al. "Insight: Cyberattacks on renewables: Europe power sector's dread in chaos of war." Reuters. (2023).

is similar to risks affecting traditional energy systems.[19]

2.2. Security Risks Generated by Projects

Energy generation and energy infrastructure projects are not only exposed to risks in FCS, they can also worsen pre-existing fragility, conflict, and violence. For example, they can displace local populations by acquiring large areas of their land for setting up solar and wind farms. The following risks include some of the most common ones related to energy generation and access:

Forced displacements: The development of renewable energy projects often requires sizeable amounts of land, which may already be used by local communities for agriculture or livestock. For example, drylands in FCS are highly attractive for renewable energy-related wind and solar projects, but also essential for pastoralist communities.[20] Displacing local populations from their land may be an unintended consequence of renewable energy projects. Internal displacements can worsen conflicts, exacerbating existing problems such as widespread corruption, insecure land tenure, weak land governance, and violence and insecurity.

Land grabbing: Land acquisition for renewable energy projects often occur without meaningful community engagement. Local affected communities may not have given their free, prior, and informed consent. The local population may lack adequate grievance mechanisms and compensation schemes.[21] Moreover, the lack of community engagement can lead to repression and criminalization of communities fighting for their right to land. Governments and development partners often overlook important factors like long-standing historical claims, cultural or religious land use, and the complex interplay of multi-party land claims, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. Changing land use can suppress indigenous rights and aggravate community relations. In countries with authoritarian governments, communities that are contesting renewable energy-related projects are often subjected to violence.[22] A similar observation has been made with regards to dam projects, with many examples demonstrating that they often compete with locals for water in water-scarce regions, causing wells to dry up and jeopardizing the livelihoods of local populations.[23]

Increased interstate political tensions: The development of large-scale renewable energy projects can affect interstate relationships, with knock-on effects on political stability and cooperation at the regional level. [24] With the global transition away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy, the global distribution of power will be altered, increasing tensions and geopolitical instability.[25] For example, Egypt, Ethiopia, and Sudan are embroiled in a decades-long 'hydro-political' dispute over Ethiopia's building of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam, construction of which started in 2011 and the filling of which is on-going.[26] With 80 per cent of the water in the Nile River originating in the

[19] Lilliestam, Johan. "Vulnerability to Terrorist Attacks in European Electricity Decarbonisation Scenarios: Comparing Renewable Electricity Imports to Gas Imports." Energy Policy. vol. 66. (2014). p. 13.

[20] International Alert. "Fuelling conflict? The impact of the green energy transition on peace and security." (2022). p. 13.

[21] World Bank. "Improving the Investment Climate for Renewable Energy." World Bank Group. (2019). p. 44.

[22] Business and Human Rights Resources Center. "Renewable Energy & Human Rights Benchmark." (2021). p. 4.

[23] International Alert. "Fuelling conflict? The impact of the green energy transition on peace and security." (2022). p. 17.

[24] Del Bene, Daniela, et al. "More Dams, More Violence? A Global Analysis on Resistances and Repression Around Conflictive Dams through Co-Produced Knowledge." Sustainability Science, vol. 13, no. 3. (2018). p. 6.

[25] IRENA. "Global Commission on the Geopolitics of the Energy Transformation, A New World: The Geopolitics of the Energy Transformation." (2019). p. 16.

[26] Walsh, Declan. "As seasonal rains fall, dispute over Nile Dam rushes toward a reckoning." New York Times. (2020).

Ethiopian highlands, the dam may destabilize regional dynamics and reduce water flow to Sudan and Egypt, where the Nile is critical for agriculture. [27]

Environmental degradation: While renewable resources are more environmentally friendly than non-renewable resources, they may still

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2) Lessons from GCF Projects

UNDP's **Afghanistan Rural Energy Market Transformation Initiative** highlights the importance of safeguards for mini-grid projects. Using UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards, the project develops guidelines to protect the environment and village energy users. It balances user interests with those of rural energy service providers, promoting long-term service commitment and setting conflict resolution mechanisms. At the outset of the project, an inception workshop ensures all stakeholders understand their roles, communication paths, and how to address disputes.

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contribute to environmental degradation, damaging local ecosystems and exacerbating pre-existing conflicts. Hydropower dams and reservoirs, concentrated solar power farms, or biofuel plantation projects can all cause unexpected ecological disruption, especially in highly dynamic contexts such as FCS.[28] Renewable energy projects could unintentionally cause grievances among stakeholders. For example, projects could neglect the cultural or social values of natural habitats by focusing only on narrow objectives, such as carbon removal, without considering the implications such measures have on the broader operating context.

2.3. Peace Responsiveness Entry Points

By applying key best practices and standards of peacebuilding investment,[29] renewable energy generation-related climate mitigation efforts can harness their ability to promote peace and stability by addressing the challenges faced by communities in FCS; examples of such pathways include:

Increased access to renewable energy: Renewable energy sources can empower people and potentially reduce social tensions and competition between and among groups in FCS if projects promote more equal access to energy. Renewable energy projects can also provide a pathway to economic growth with more stable and diversified energy for small businesses and critical infrastructures. Studies also indicate that renewable energy technologies create more jobs than fossil fuels. They support the diversification of energy sources to make countries less dependent on fossil fuels.[30] Sustainable energy sources are often more decentralized and can be accessed locally for the benefit of local communities.[31] FAO is one organization that have already shown the peace co-benefits that conflict-sensitive renewable energy projects can have in FCS through their Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) framework.[32]

Knowledge-sharing and skills: Energy infrastructure, such as solar panels, can quickly degrade, leading to interruptions in energy supply. Energy equipment requires regular maintenance to ensure its longevity, as well-maintained energy systems operate at higher efficiency levels.[33] Providing

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[27] Krampe, Florian et al. "Water Security and Governance in the Horn of Africa," SIPRI. (2020). p. 9.
[28] IUCN. "Mitigating biodiversity impacts associated with solar and wind energy development." (2021). p. 10.
[29] See for example Peace Bond Standard (2023), Version: 2.0 June, Finance for Peace, Geneva, Switzerland. / Peace Equity Standard (2023), Version: 2.0 June, Finance for Peace, Geneva, Switzerland.

[30] IRENA, The European Commission and the ILO. "Accelerating SDG 7 Achievement: Policy Brief 13: Interlinkages Between Energy and Jobs." (2018). p. 4.
[31] Edwards, Isobel. "The role of decentralized renewable energy in peacebuilding." Quaker United Nations Office. (2018). p. 6.
[32] FAO. "Building resilience through Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE)." FAO, Rome. (2018). p. 41-44.
[33] Ibid.

maintenance and repair services can lead to knowledge transfer and local capacity-building for workers and technicians, which can result in sustainable and green job opportunities and an increased sense of local ownership.

Community engagement and inclusivity: Meaningful public consultations with local communities on the implementation of energy generation and access-related projects are essential to promote social cohesion and peace. A better local engagement approach — consistent communication regarding project developments and support for the rights of local populations — is required to address underlying tensions and resolve potential disputes with local communities. Local engagement should also ensure benefits for the affected communities through access to jobs and energy. Projects should put in place an adequate and inclusive compensation scheme in case of land acquisitions. Moreover, effective mechanisms must be established to manage the revenues from renewable energy production in ways that contribute to local community development.

Social benefits of improved environmental conditions: Improving the environmental conditions of a given area can also improve relations between communities as projects can help solve some of the issues that cause tensions. For example, in the Mafraq Governorate in Jordan, FAO improved the livelihoods of Syrian refugees and vulnerable host communities. The project generated renewable energy and compost from treated wastewater and biosolids, increasing green job opportunities and enhancing the environmental conditions of the area.[34] The project also contributed to easing tensions on the issue of solid waste, a concern that was affecting social cohesion between the host community and refugees.[35]

Multi-stakeholder collaboration and dialogue: Renewable energy projects can play a significant role in promoting peace between states by fostering dialogue and creating a collaborative environment. Energy generation and access-related projects can engage various stakeholders across local, national, and regional levels, including national governments, donors, development financial institutions, private actors, and populations. By creating shared objectives and mutually beneficial agreements, projects can create shared interest among stakeholders in supporting the renewable energy transition. They can create incentives for continued dialogue, building trust over time. Moreover, as renewable energy projects may require the establishment of dispute resolution mechanisms, these can be used to address broader issues, thus contributing to the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

3. Recommendations

3.1. Conflict-sensitive Programming in the GCF

There is a wealth of guidance and tools on delivering conflict-sensitive projects related to energy generation and access, and adequately addressing challenges as they arise:

Planning the project: The Initial Investment Framework may benefit from applying conflict sensitivity against the investment criteria, in particular 'needs of the recipient community', 'sustainable development potential' and 'country ownership'. A robust application can then proceed, based on a strong understanding of the project area, including the current state of energy systems, other infrastructures and transportation.[36] To do this, baseline analysis and stakeholder

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[34] FAO. "Evaluation of the project Improving rural livelihoods, environment & green jobs opportunities in Mafraq Governorate in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan." Project evaluation series. (2022). p. 7.

[35] Ibid., p. 8.
[36] CDA. "Conflict Sensitivity in Land Governance: The Do No Harm Framework and Other Tools for Practitioners of Land

mapping can illuminate understanding of the problem, as well as whom it affects and how.[37] Documenting the different realities experienced by different groups can improve the inclusivity of programming and help identify potential solutions and already-existing efforts. This stage can further ensure that the next steps are conflict-sensitive by defining a co-benefit indicator and acquiring free, prior, and informed consent from stakeholders.

Implementing the project: During activities' rollout, operational risks can be mitigated by robust early-warning systems for insecurity, engagement with stakeholders, and contingency funding for security-related delays. Some planning tools can help mitigate the risks of contributing to insecurity and operational risks by extension. For example, projects can clearly define the beneficiaries, staff, and partners[38] before starting with the least controversial issues, thereby building confidence between stakeholders.[39] At this stage, negative impacts can be further prevented by regularly engaging stakeholders and addressing their concerns, in particular through adequate grievance and compensation mechanisms. Activities avoid worsening security when implementing staff and partners display positive behavior patterns to beneficiaries[40] and resource application considers potential negative impacts.[41] Activities can further leverage co-benefits through regular and open communication, which can bring stakeholders closer, reveal opportunities for peace dividends and raise awareness for durable dispute resolution mechanisms. Finally, a well-

designed exit strategy can ensure that conflict related to energy generation and access does not reignite and that resilience to compounded climate-related risks is increased.[42]

Monitoring and evaluating the project: During and after activities, it is key to monitor both operational risks and the project's impacts on the security context. Project staff should analyze data on the evolution and emergence of sources of tension and cohesion, changing dynamics in energy generation and access, and the implementation of conflict sensitivity measures. It may also be helpful to assess perceptions of the project and potential negative effects of resource allocation (whether verified or perceived), and the perception of RAFT (Respect, Accountability, Fairness and Transparency) on the part of beneficiaries.[43]

Throughout the project: Conflict resolution training for staff, a designated conflict and peace focal point, consistent inclusion, and information transparency can make the project more conflict-sensitive across the planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of the project.[44]

3.2. Peacebuilding Actions Related to the Energy Sector

Promoting benefit sharing and conflict resolution governance structures: Projects can promote equitable access to energy for people and communities by implementing transparent and inclusive governance systems that ensure better accessibility. These

Activities." Cambridge, MA: CDA Collaborative Learning Projects. (2022). p. 18-19.

[37] Ibid., p. 52-53.

[38] Ibid., p. 56.

[39] UNEP. "Toolkit and guidance for preventing and managing land and natural resources conflict: Land and conflict." (2012).

[40] Ibid., p. 39-41.

[41] Ibid., p. 37-38.

[42] European Commission. "Guidance notes on conflict sensitivity in development cooperation – An update and

supplement to the EU staff handbook on Operating in situations of conflict and fragility." Publications Office of the European Union. (2021).

[43] CDA. "Conflict Sensitivity in Land Governance: The Do No Harm Framework and Other Tools for Practitioners of Land Activities." Cambridge, MA: CDA Collaborative Learning Projects. (2022). p. 39-41.

[44] USAID. "Operational Guidelines for Responsible Land-based Investment." (2015).

measures have proven potential to reduce competition and increase the trust and legitimacy of institutions.[45] For example, if projects are setting up energy infrastructure in rural areas to improve energy access for households and small-scale farmers, there must be a clear strategy to ensure the transfer of ownership to local authorities, to provide capacity building to maintain the system, and to develop a long-term plan ensuring effective operation.

Providing reliable energy to sustain livelihoods: Projects setting up solar microgrids or similar renewable energy infrastructure can support livelihood diversification and provide economic opportunities for displaced populations and youth, especially in rural areas. This can involve training and capacity-building programs to develop skills related to energy entrepreneurship. By providing stable economic alternatives and more clean and accessible energy to communities, renewable energy interventions can also reduce the pressure on natural resources and the environment, thus contributing to more secure livelihoods for people and communities.

Securing land rights: There is no 'one size fits all' approach when it comes to securing land tenure rights; it will depend on the legal, cultural and environmental conditions in the specific context.[46] Designing tailor-made, context-specific and participatory land use planning strategies can help projects recognize communities' rights to land. These measures ensure that local stakeholders — especially women, youth, marginalized communities, indigenous peoples, displaced populations, traditional authorities, tribes, and other groups — have legal recognition and ownership of their land. This is especially relevant in the context of renewable energy projects that, for example, may require large areas to set up wind turbines or solar panels.

"There is no 'one size fits all' when it comes to securing land tenure rights."

Addressing the gender gap: Projects can promote equal access to energy and address the gender gap in specific industries by empowering women and women's groups to claim spaces in decision-making around energy use and access. Women should raise their voices therein, sensitizing and supporting strong institutions, including customary institutions, to be more inclusive.[47] This could start, for example, by working to achieve a better gender balance in community decision-making bodies for energy generation. Also, where discriminatory customary practices are deeply embedded, a strategy could be to work with the least discriminatory institutions first. After changing the status quo and generating evidence and experience, project stakeholders can raise their voices and confidence for addressing other institutions.

Fostering partnerships with Civil Society: Due to the lack of agreement and clarity on energy generation and access in many FCS, it is important to foster partnerships with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). The partnerships can address conflicts related to energy access, for example, by promoting regulatory frameworks and strong rule of law. Using participatory approaches to project design and implementation, the project can tailor its objectives to beneficiaries.

[45] Edwards, Isobel. "The role of decentralized renewable energy in peacebuilding." Quaker United Nations Office. (2018). p. 14.
[46] Wehrmann, Babette and Andrea Lange. "Secure Land Tenure Rights for All: A key condition for sustainable development." GIZ. (2019).

[47] SDC. "Gender and Land Governance." Guidance note. (2017). p. 5.

4. Recommended Reading:

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About the Series:

The "Guidance Notes for Peace-Informed Programming at the Green Climate Fund" is a thematic series published by CGIAR in partnership with Interpeace, with the support of TrustWorks Global. The series consists of eight briefs that provide sectoral risk analyses and guidance tailored to the Green Climate Fund's Result Areas. Recognizing the complex nexus between climate change and peace, the series aims to provide actionable strategies to assist both Accredited Entities and Direct Entities to understand and manage project risks as well as to maximize opportunities to promote peace. The series is published as part of the Climate Security Programming Dashboard for Climate Finance (**CSPDxCF**). The dashboard is an all-in-one solution for preliminary conflict sensitive assessments and tailored guidance, targeting projects funded by international financial institutions and climate funds.

CGIAR-Interpeace Partnership:

CGIAR Focus Climate Security and Interpeace collaborate at the intersection of climate finance, conflict, and peace. Drawing from CGIAR's expertise in climate science and Interpeace's experience accompanying peacebuilding processes, they aim to enhance conflict sensitive climate finance and improve the delivery of funds towards communities most at risk.

Related Briefs and Toolkits:

- Climate Security Programming Dashboard for Climate Finance (**CSPDxCF**).
- Guidance Note for Peace-Informed Programming: Health, Food, and Water Security.
- Guidance Note for Peace-Informed Programming: Livelihoods of People and Communities.
- Guidance Note for Peace-Informed Programming: Infrastructure and Built Environment.
- Guidance Note for Peace-Informed Programming: Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services.
- Guidance Note for Peace-Informed Programming: Energy Generation and Access.
- Guidance Note for Peace-Informed Programming: Buildings, Cities, Industries, and Appliances.
- Guidance Note for Peace-Informed Programming: Forest and Land Use.

Discover all the related guidance notes and the **CSPDxCF** dashboard at:
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