

## INVITATION

# Energy for Strengthening Resilience at Community Level: How to Empower Women in the Off-Grid Energy Business?

### A Capacity4Change (C4C) event

jointly organised by  
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH &  
AVSI Foundation  
in cooperation with the European Commission

**Tuesday, 23 October 2018**

**12:00h – 13:30h**  
**GIZ Representation Brussels**  
**Rue du Trône 108, 1050 Brussels**

A light lunch will be served after the event.

**The event will be live streamed.**  
**Join the discussion on twitter: #capacity4change**

SDG 5 on 'promoting gender equality' and SDG7 on 'access to sustainable energy' often go hand in hand: The promotion of off-grid energy solutions provides excellent opportunities for women empowerment and in particular for job creation. Women benefit from new jobs in the energy sector, varying from sales agents of solar home systems to producers of improved cookstoves and to nurses in electrified health centres.

In addition, improved energy solutions can also reduce negative social and health impacts, such as the risk of injuries or exposure to pollution in daily life. Healthier domestic air, fuel savings, enhanced energy efficiency and more time are wins for all.

During the event, The *Energising Development (EnDev)* program, jointly implemented by GIZ and RVO (Netherlands Enterprise Agency) together with its partner the AVSI Foundation will share practical examples of an integrated approach for women empowerment in the off-grid energy sector via presentations and a panel discussion.

This edition of the C4C series will:

- showcase **practical examples from Africa and Latin America** on how to promote communities' and women resilience through energy access, efficiency and education
- discuss the **added value** of an **integrated and holistic project approach**, as well as **challenges** encountered during implementation
- compare **experiences of various organisations** with regard to incorporating the approach in their operations.

**Capacity4Change (C4C)** is an event series organized in Brussels by GIZ in cooperation with selected partner institutions and organisations. C4C aims to enrich the Brussels policy debate with practical know-how and implementation experiences. It features innovative approaches, challenging analyses, interesting publications and thought-provoking ideas.

### The partners and agenda:

**Energising Development (EnDev)** is a multi-donor program providing sustainable access to modern energy services. The program is active in 25 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. So far, more than 19 million people gained access to electricity and modern cooking solutions through the support of EnDev. The EnDev program is coordinated jointly by GIZ and RVO (Netherlands Enterprise Agency).

**AVSI Foundation** is active since 1972 in many areas of development cooperation including energy and environment, job creation and vocational training, urban development and upgrading. It is currently implementing 169 projects in 31 countries in partnership with 700 local actors, always focusing on people dignity.

**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)** is working over 50 years in the field of international cooperation in a wide variety of areas, including economic development, employment promotion, energy and environment, and peace and security. As a German federal enterprise, GIZ's expertise is demanded around the globe from the German Government, European Commission, the United Nations, the private sector and governments of other countries. GIZ works with businesses, civil society actors and research institutions, fostering successful interaction between development policy and other policy fields and areas of activity.

For questions or to RSVP, please send an email to: [rebecca.fobbe@giz.de](mailto:rebecca.fobbe@giz.de).

Please note that there will be live streaming and photographs will be taken at the event. By participating you agree that these pictures can be used and published within GIZ's Corporate Communications work, for example in publications, press releases and internet presentations.

## Agenda

**12:00      Opening and Welcome**

*Siegfried Leffler*, GIZ Director Brussels Office

**12:05      Introduction to the discussion**

*Marcel Raats*, Co-Director *Energising Development* (EnDev) program

**12:10      Energy for communities and women resilience** (two presentations followed by Q&A)

**1. Promoting communities' resilience through energy access and education**

*Alessandro Galimberti*, Sr. Socioeconomic development specialist and AVSI Foundation's focal person for domestic energy efficiency

*Felisbela Materrula*, Chief sociologist at the Urban Planning and Environment department of the Maputo City Council

**2. Women empowerment and job creation through off-grid energy initiatives**

*Kirstin Bretthauer*, energy advisor and gender expert EnDev Program

**12:45      Panel discussion and Q&A?**

- *Georgios Pantoulis*, Deputy Head Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, DG DEVCO, European Commission
- *Dagmar Schumacher*, Director of the UN Women Liaison Office in Brussels (tbc)
- *Marcel Raats*, Co-Director of the *Energising Development* (EnDev) program
- *Ana Victoria Rojas*, Specialist at Nedworc Foundation for Gender, Energy & Climate Change
- *Francesca Oliva*, AVSI focal person for Energy

Moderator: *Edu Willemse*, Public Relations Manager EnDev program

**13:25      Closing followed by networking lunch**