



Promoting Women in Clean Energy

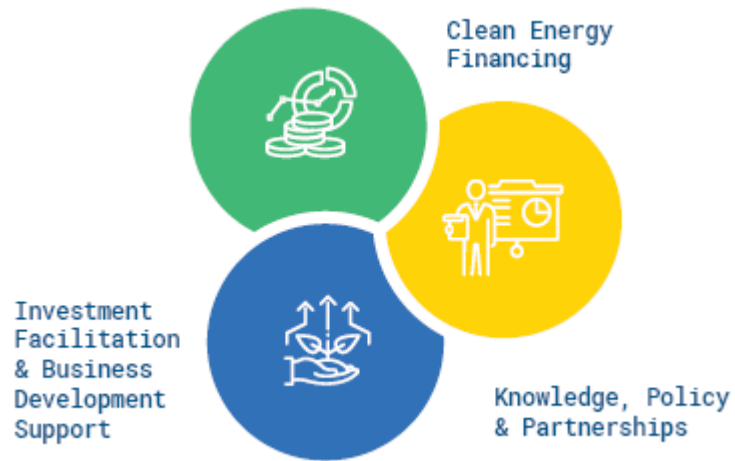
Insights from 285 EEP Africa Applications

26 September 2019

EEP Africa

EEP Africa is a multi-donor trust fund providing early stage grant and catalytic financing to innovative clean energy projects, technologies and business models across Southern and East Africa. It is guided by a vision for sustainable and inclusive green growth with the goal of contributing to the Paris Agreement and the SDGs.

EEP Africa focuses on three core activities:



EEP Africa is hosted and managed by the Nordic Development Fund (NDF) with funding from Austria, Finland and NDF.



Calls-for-Proposals

Since 2010, EEP Africa has conducted 15 competitive calls-for-proposals. Calls are technology neutral and open to all private sector and non-profit developers with projects in an active stage in one or more of the countries covered by the Fund. To date, EEP Africa has committed more than EUR 70 million to over 250 innovative projects.

EEP Africa's **15th Call-for-Proposals (CfP15)** was held in 2019 with a theme of **gender inclusion**.

EEP Africa invited applications that proposed innovative and best practice approaches to creating leadership and economic opportunities for women in the clean energy sector, whilst also supporting core business objectives.

This analysis looks at the results of EEP Africa's gender-themed call and how this impacted applications received as compared to previous open calls. These market insights will inform EEP Africa's continued efforts to promote the inclusive development of renewable energy in Africa.

CfP15 Overview

Theme: Promote gender inclusive innovation and create economic and leadership opportunities for women

Target: Early stage clean energy projects in 15 Southern and East African countries with a gender approach

Timeline: Call was open from 20 February to 2 April 2019

Key facts of CfP15:

- High number of applications highlights **strong need** for catalytic financing supporting gender equality (SDG5)
- Half the applications came from 4 countries (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, South Africa); the share of proposals from **Uganda** grew the most from the previous call. Wide range of clean energy technologies proposed, but **solar PV** continues to dominate
- Impact of the **gender theme** seen in an increase in clean cooking solutions and a decrease in on-grid projects



285
applications

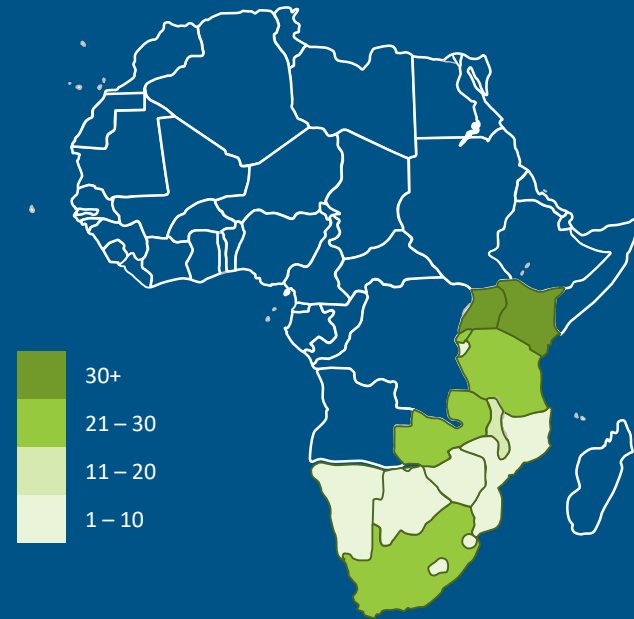
14
countries

EUR 400m
combined project value

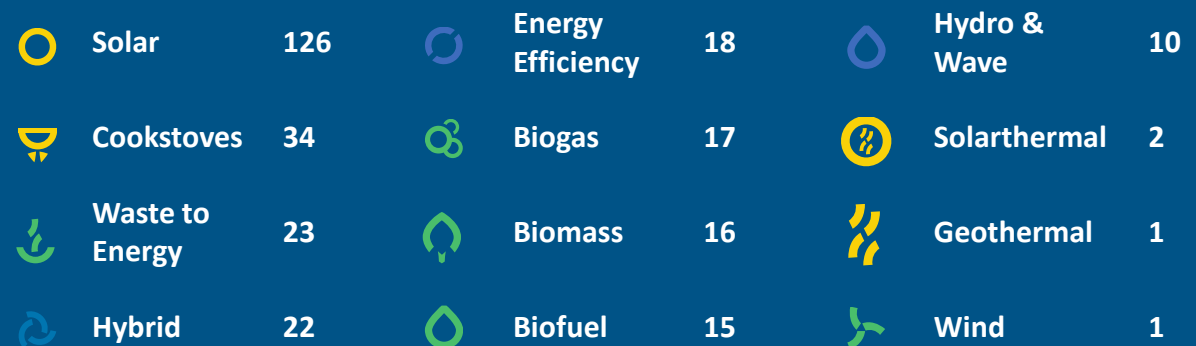
EUR 97m
total EEP contribution requested

61%
of applications from women-led organisations

Applications by Country



Applications by Technology



Gender Approach Assessment

A robust framework was developed to **standardise** the assessment approach. Each application was scored on 10 issues within 4 categories.

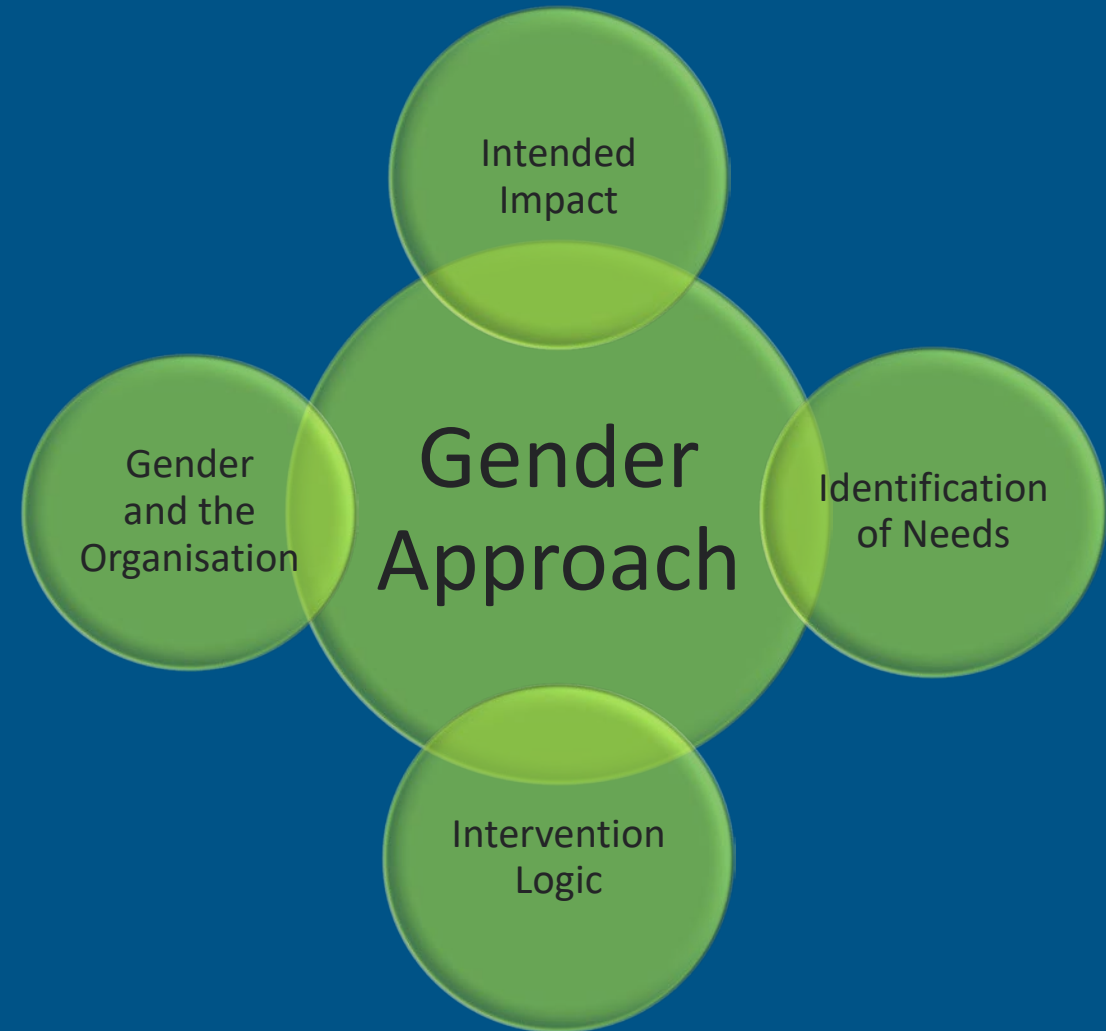
Observations

- Higher number of **non-profit and women-led** organisations applied
- Many projects promoting women as **productive users and end users** (particularly in cookstoves)
- Few consider gender across the entire **value chain**
- Several increased **representation** of women with limited changes to the business model
- **Exclusion of men** observed in applications can affect the success and sustainability of activities

Lesson learned

- Applicants with **experience in development** were better able to describe their gender approach than private sector entrepreneurs

Assessment Framework



Impact of Gender Theme on Business Models

The gender-themed call supported innovative and best practice approaches to gender inclusion.

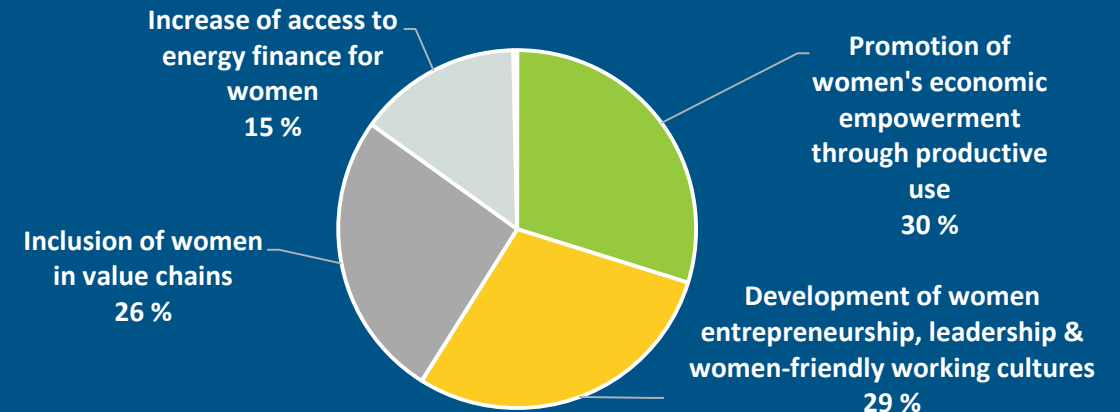
Promotion of **women's economic empowerment** through entrepreneurship, leadership and productive use was the major focus of received proposals.

Business model and project types:

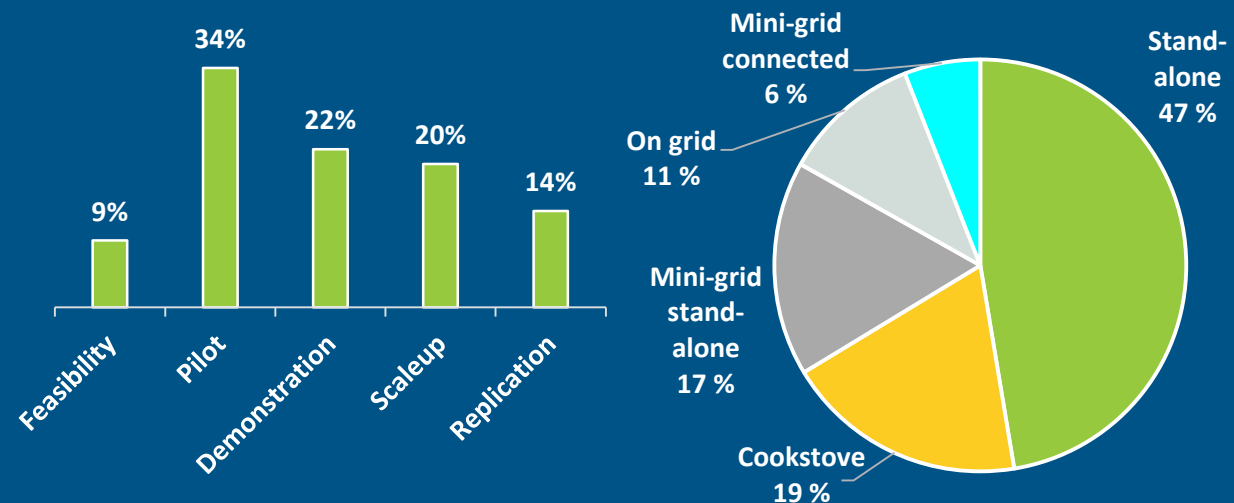
- **65%** seeking funding for early stage projects (pilot, feasibility and demonstration) to test new products, services, markets or business models
- **Stand-alone** models continue to dominate (up from 45% in CfP14) with a strong increase in **productive use** models
- **Mini-grid sector** continues to form a significant share of applications (unchanged at 23%)



Main Approach to Gender Inclusion



Applications by Project Type and Business Model



Applicant Organisations

Private companies formed a majority (62%) of the applicants.

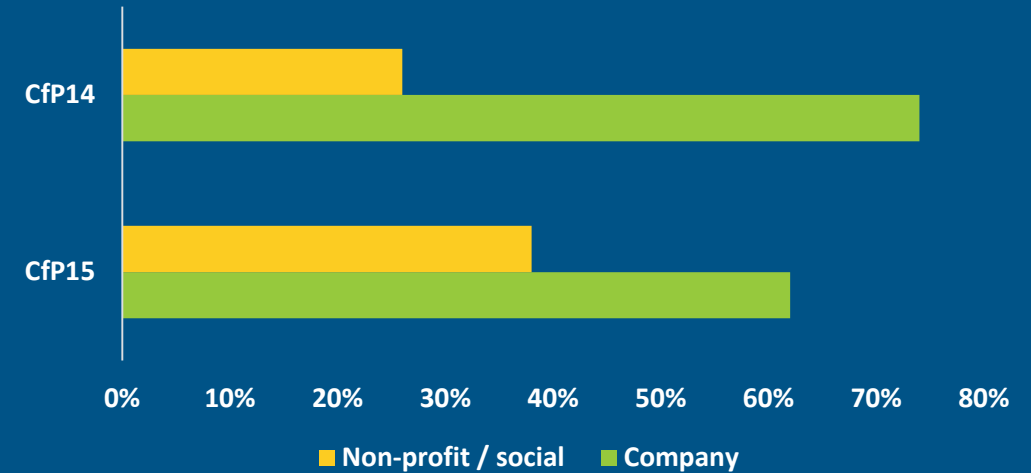
Gender-themed call attracted a higher share of applications from **non-profit/social enterprises** (38%).

Of the 174 women-led organisations applying for funding

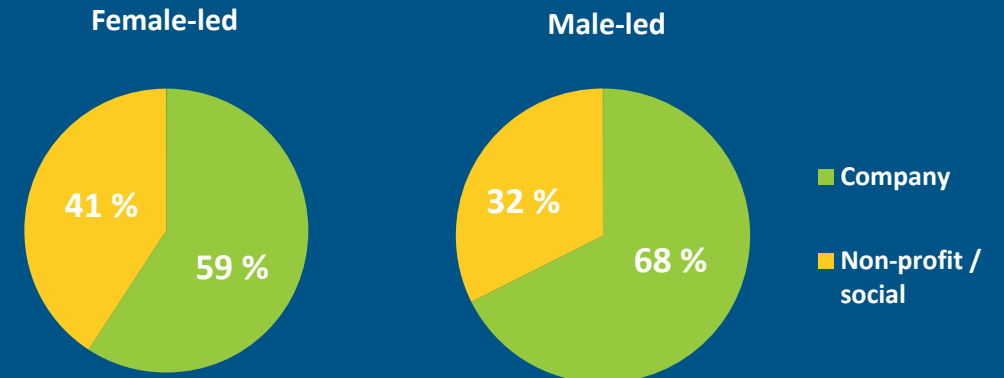
- 59% (103) were companies
- 41% (71) were non-profits or social enterprises

Compared to men, women were more often **leaders** in non-profit/social enterprise than in private companies.

Applicant Organisations - CfP15 vs. CfP14



Organisation Type and Gender Leadership



Women-led Proposals

174 (61%) proposals from women-led organisations indicate that the **CfP15 successfully reached women.**

- Only 18% of approved projects in CfP14 were women-led, which **inspired** EEP Africa to organize a gender-themed call
- **Clean cooking** sector tops the chart of applications from women-led organisations (79%)
- Hybrid and hydropower projects had the lowest share of women-led applicants (32% and 40% respectively)
- Countries in **Southern Africa** had the **highest ratio** of applications from women-led organisations (South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia)
- Surprisingly **low share** of women-led proposals (from 35% to 50%) from Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia and Rwanda.








Women-led Organisations Accounted for

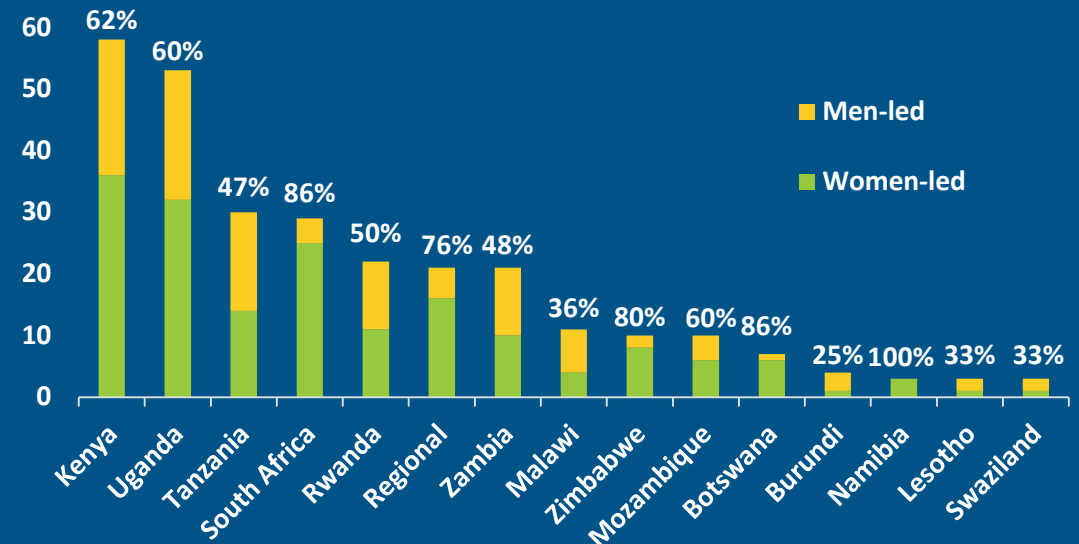
61%
of all applications

174
projects

Top 5 sectors for Women-led Organisations

	Cookstoves	79%
	Biofuels Liquid	73%
	Energy Efficiency	72%
	Waste-to-energy	70%
	Solid Biomass	69%

of Applications by Country and Women-led %



Jobs for Women

In the EEP Portfolio to date, only 37% of the jobs created were for women.

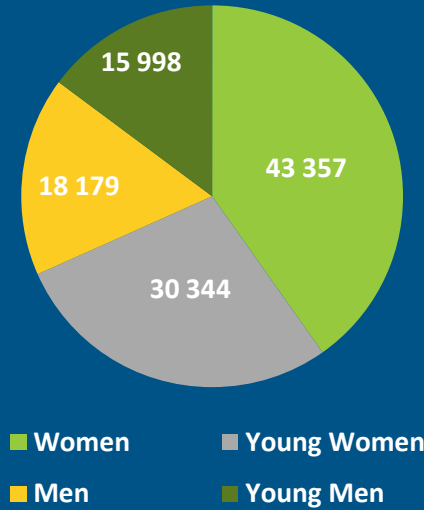
In this gender call, **68% of expected jobs** are for women.

Cookstove and biogas projects aim to create the largest number of jobs for women.

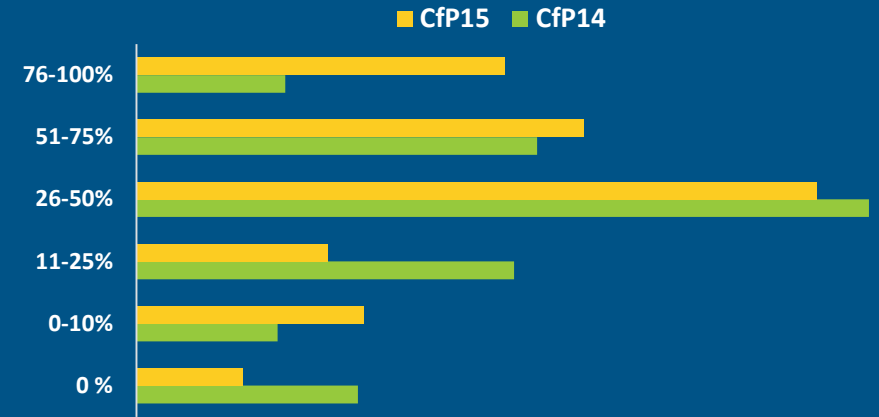
Women leadership was clearly higher than in the previous call.

Collectively, the 285 projects would have created 108,000 jobs for women and men.

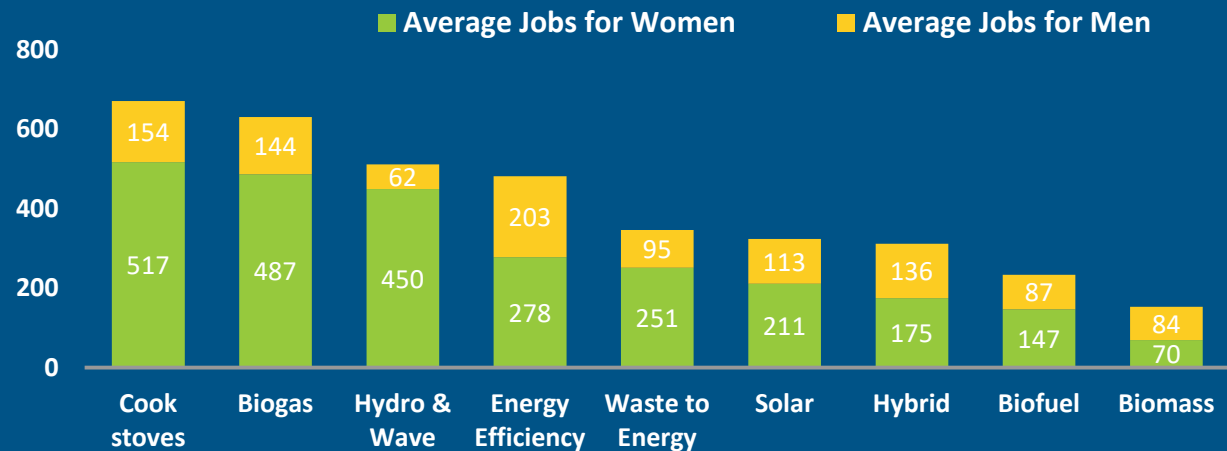
Expected Jobs Created for...



Share of Women Leaders



Average Expected Jobs Created in Each Sector



Leveraged Investment

The direct **leverage** of EEP financing was slightly lower than in the previous call (down from 3.9), indicating more realistic projections.

Female-led companies were **more optimistic** than male-led in projections of leveraged investment, and expected higher levels of **public co-financing**.

Overall leveraged climate financing is impressive

- **EUR 300 million** during the project period
- EUR 365 million more expected within two years after project completion



EUR 300m
Total Expected Co-Financing

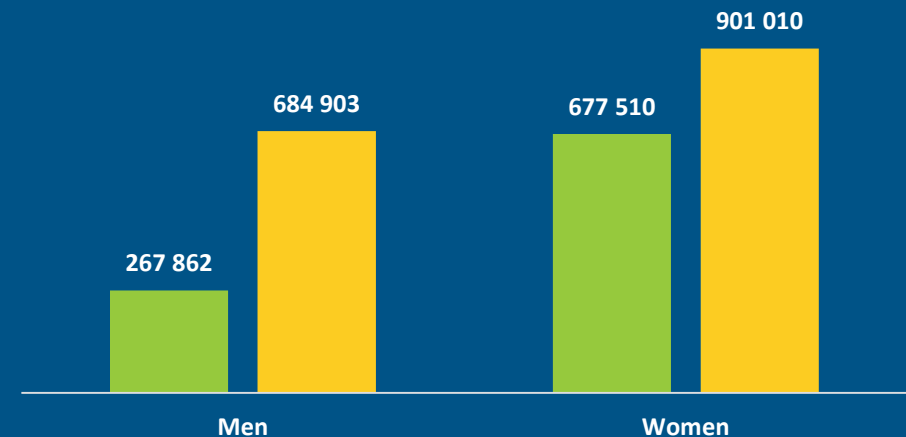
Leverage ratio 3.1

EUR 221m
Total Expected Private Co-Financing (within 2 years of completion)

EUR 144m
Total Expected Public Co-financing (within 2 years of completion)

Female vs. Male-led Organisation Leveraged Investment

■ Public co-financing expectation ■ Private co-financing expectation



Assessed Strength of Gender Approach

Out of the 285 applications, **29% rated excellent** in their gender approach.

Malawi had the highest share of high quality applications in terms of gender, and **Kenya** had the highest number of applications (19).

Cookstove and solar projects demonstrated the most viable gender approaches (44% and 36% of applications in those sectors, respectively).

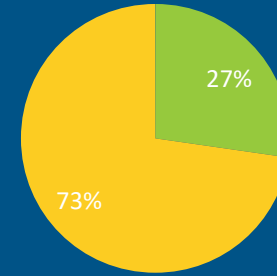
Applications with a high quality gender approach

- had a higher share of **women leadership** (57%)
- created more jobs for women (222 avg.) and more **jobs for young women** (125 avg.)
- proposed a higher **project size** (EUR 1.5M) than those with a modest gender focus (EUR 1.0M).



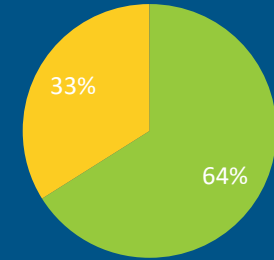
Countries

Malawi



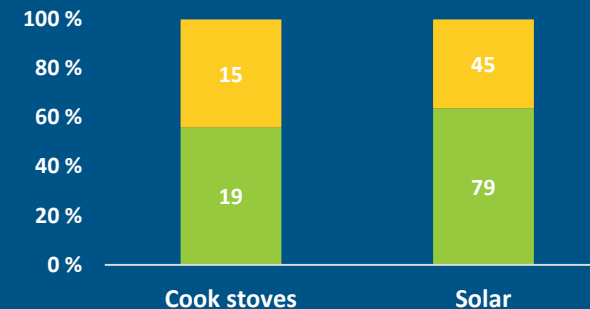
- Applications with modest gender approach
- Applications with high gender approach

Kenya



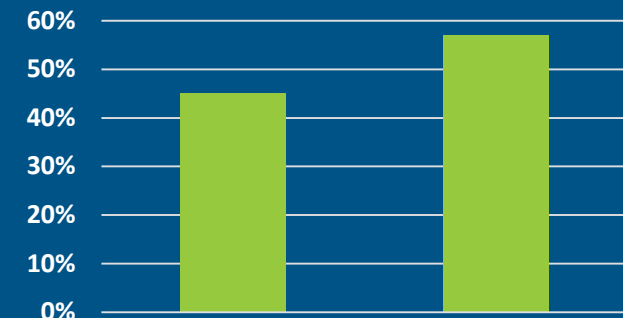
- Applications with modest gender approach
- Applications with high gender approach

Sectors



- Applications with high gender approach
- Applications with modest gender approach

Women in Lead



- Applications with modest gender approach
- Applications with high gender approach

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