



**PACE – Public Private Partnerships
for Community Electricity in Ethiopia, Nepal,
Sri Lanka, Uganda**

**Community Electricity and
Sustainable Livelihoods**

**International Stakeholder Workshop,
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Overview

- **Sustainable Livelihoods approach**
- **Application for PACE project**
- **Preliminary case study results**
- **General & wider conclusions**

Why 'Sustainable Livelihoods'?

DFID – builds on strengths,
rather than focusing on what
people 'do not
have'

Livelihoods influenced by:

1) Access to assets

Financial: income, savings, credit

Social: family, friends, community networks, church

Natural: local water sources, forests

Physical: shelter, land ownership, strategic location

Human: education, health, knowledge, skills

2) Structures & processes – laws, regulations, policies, social conventions

DFID: Livelihoods are 'sustainable' when they:

- **Are able to recover from stresses and shocks (disaster, adverse trends, etc.)**
- **Can maintain or enhance capabilities and assets – both now and in the future**
- **Do not undermine the natural resource base**

**On this basis, few livelihoods are truly 'sustainable'
but this is the aspiration ...**

PACE Case Studies



Range of research methods: interviews, focus group discussions, questionnaires -

- How are existing electrification PPPs improving people's access to livelihood assets?**
- To what extent are the poor included/excluded?**
- What structures and processes are in place, and what are their effects?**

Key areas analysed



Existing PPP schemes

- Initiation, development & finance
- Stakeholder roles – public & private
- Operations & maintenance
- Consumer satisfaction
- Issues, obstacles, successes

Livelihood analysis

- Connected HHs
- Unconnected HHs
- Institutional/commercial

Preliminary results

LIVELIHOOD ASSETS - connected HH:

- **Financial:** no evidence (potential recognised)
- **Social:** gender benefits, entertainment
- **Physical:** no evidence
- **Human:** education, health
- **Natural:** no evidence

Preliminary results

LIVELIHOOD ASSETS – unconnected HHs

- **Financial:** no evidence
- **Social:** wellbeing – security (streetlighting), entertainment
- **Physical:** no evidence
- **Human:** better access to information services, possibilities for evening classes, improved healthcare
- **Natural:** no evidence so far

Preliminary results

LIVELIHOOD ASSETS – institutions/commercial enterprises

- **Financial:** increased income
- **Social:** reputation
- **Physical:** increased importance of location
- **Human:** education, health
- **Natural:** no evidence

Preliminary results

STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES

- **Political & institutional:** lack of accurate information about future grid extension; delays relating to extensive land, water & environmental approvals, lack of operation and management skills.
- **Technical:** technical misinformation; failure to include maintenance charges in tariffs; low quality infrastructure; failure to plan for increasing demand.
- **Social issues:** mistrust of private sector when tariffs are not transparent BUT acceptance when involved in tariff formulation; dissatisfaction and frustration with unreliable service; willingness to pay more for better service.

First conclusions



- Even when electricity is only used for lighting, positive impacts *can* be widespread
- Even the poorest can benefit indirectly
- Income generation does not necessarily accompany electrification BUT electrification improves the conditions in which enterprises can emerge
- Improvements required to ensure sustainability
- Effective 'partnerships' require participation from range of public & private stakeholders to find solutions

PACE Pilot Projects

Action Plans ...

- Work with communities to identify what is needed to widen access and ensure sustainability
- Identify what is required at institutional level – national & local governments, electricity authorities, etc.
- Provide assistance to communities & develop guidelines for application nationally and internationally

Wider lessons

- Energy – not end in itself
- Must be integrated into broader social and economic objectives
- Understanding of benefits can broaden public and private support
- Need to explore how to include energy component in other local services, to extend benefits to wider section of community.