

Energy for Rural Development

Examines options for the provision of modern energy services to low income rural areas of Africa with special emphasis on the commercial/services/productive uses of energy

Objectives of the theme

- Analyzing the impact of current rural energy policies.
 - Assessing current rural household and community energy practices and technologies
 - Reviewing rural income generating activities and energy technologies used.
 - Establishing what is hindering the removal of identified barriers in the dissemination of renewable energy technologies (e.g. absence of rural entrepreneurs, funding mechanisms, capacity building and policy).
- Key Research Issues
- Impact of the government and utilities policies, programmes and institutional framework on the provision of modern energy to rural areas.
 - Analysis of existing decentralized private sector energy production and distribution activities in rural areas.
 - Comparative analysis of modern energy use in rural areas.
 - Analysis of components for promoting the production and deployment of RETs by private entrepreneurs in rural areas.