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| **Interviewer name** | XXXX |
| **Sub-contractor organisation** | XXXX |
| **Interview date** | 27th January, 2021 |
| **Duration of interview audio recording** | 46mins 56secs |
| **Face-to-face or virtual interview** | Virtual interview |
| **Interview participant** | |
| * **Code** | N16 - GMT20210127 |
| * **Participant name** | XXXX |
| * **Organisation name** | XXXX |
| * **Gender** | Male |
| * **Stakeholder category** | Development authorities/planners/architects (i.e. those responsible for putting the visions into plans) |
| * **Country** | Nigeria |

CF: Hello.

CF: Just to let you know that this session is being recorded.

Participant: it's fine.

CF: Again, this conversation what I'm getting essentially at is your own opinions and whatever and you can these opinions of the experts based on the various issues. So that what it is about so we are doing some things and we are trying to look at the gender dynamics action of energy access we are looking at it from different angles we are looking at four countries. We are studying this for Ghana Nigeria India and Pakistan and then I am leading the host of for Nigerian So what exactly what sport does all of this entail Yeah this will take approximately one hour maybe less maybe more depending but there are four main parts of this whole conversation about happen so the first is more like the introductory fast and that's what we is more really well. So you background so is an overview of your role your work priorities your organization your background and then the second part has to do with understanding the issues especially around what we'll be talking about the third part has to do with policies and interventions and then the last part has some concluding questions, so well without further Ado so that I can make you sleep and you start by briefly telling me a bit about your current role your position your organization, the department you work for?

Participant: Okay, I'll start with introducing myself, yes my name is XXXX, Yeah I'm a consulting architect, I'm a XXXX with XXXX projects so actually we're going to architectural design and build.

CF: Okay.

Participant: Yes I've actually been in the industry for over 15 years exactly up right about now so you know there is being good.

CF: So you've mentioned a few things now and in brief can you tell me a bit about your background and how you got into the kind of work that you do you kind of line of work I've ended up.

Participant: Okay a kid I always knew I had creativity in my blood so I was doing just gotten that fled to do things, you know to create things so I knew it from the onset as a child that has an anything I would really have to do in this life would either art or will be into architecture so yes at the end of the day I realized that an artist's cannot be an architect but an architect can also be an artist so it was the reason I really had to go into architecture so that I would actually I would be able to you know really just have like a combination of arts and architecture into one Yeah.

CF: Interesting! Interesting!! Now aim. Can you tell me a bit more about the specific energy access areas or issues that you work with. Okay, there are different ways that one can look at things so they can be electrification program. They can be policy. They can be technology projects. You can be people like you designing buildings to be much more energy efficient. So what's customer looking at?

Participant: Well as my own role in the construction industry will be to do the designs that are efficient. They'll be able to save a lot of energy because if You observe in the industry a lot of the designs they do at home back home and now in Nigeria and not energy efficient and they really just have a lot of impact on the environment like the generate a lot of you know us and a lot of I'm full of you know stuff and all of that Okay. Now if you observe in look like areas like VI, Ikoyi and all of that but almost every office has like a generator so you can imagine the amount of bad hair that is going around all over the place. So what if you design buildings that introduced green spaces into this build as you know that have a home solar energy into it, you know, it would be able to reduce the amount of energy consumption for all those buildings which are the end of the day would really just helped to improve the environment.

CF: Interesting! so if we look at all of this, yes, I mean aside that's I mean are there especially project that's a in terms of designing buildings the way you've been looking more at this aspect of also looking at Energy Efficiency use it as a way of also addressing energy access issues to help reduce energy consumption in buildings.

Participant: Now in the terms of housing policies in Nigeria that is what we're trying to do right now is to see if we could be able to initiate an eco-community project because we always think at home that to do this energy efficient building is expensive. Yes, initially it is expensive because we don't have access to the technology at the moment. So but there's what you call a life cycle, what’s called like a life cycle cost of this projects. So what we're trying to do with the Institute at the moment is to see if we can be able to just come up with a proposal that we can present to the state government and see if they can incorporate doubt into the housing the scheme, you know, I think that's what at this moment is still at the Inception stage of it because when you have to be able to research on the local items you have around you, how can you be able to fix and would you know solar energy and all of that? So we're trying to see how we can bring down the cost in that it could be affordable because at the end of the day if you'll be able to do a project that is easy to afford, that is kind of multi like a determinant on if they're going to buy it or not Yeah,

CF: interesting so in relation to policy context which - shapes your work you have highlighted something now what are the current issues or development and policies that influence the kind of work you do?

Participant: At the moment the policies that we have a region because they don't save or sustainable planning at the moments. I mean sustainable architecture at the moment so it's actually a setback that we have that because the state has not been fully enlightened about what it is all about so It simply means all of that I don't think there's any policy at the moment that's really supports energy you know, energy conservation with respects to housing at the moment I don't I haven't been able to come across any yet, you know so yeah like it’s the new think we hope to achieve if we able to inform people and about all those new ideas and then we would really see how we can be able to work with that.

CF: Interesting! Well so it takes me to the second parts really of this whole conversation which has to do with understanding the issues know what does equitable energy access means to you what will it look like when we say we will people have access equitable energy access.

Participant: Okay, like if I understand you really mean, you know, People having access to energy you know as for me it would really mean a better life, you know a healthier environment you know yes if you ask me in like a nutshell where people actually really have to you know, an improved health because they I feel that if the average man can have access to you know clean healthy environment it's really just go right along to improve the health of the nation.

CF: Yeah, so if we look at it from a gender perspective, what does gender equity in energy access means to you, do you think it should be a priority for policy and interventions by skeleton, that's how men versus women and things like that?

Participant: In energy now is it as acid affects the construction industry?

CF: Yeah you can look at it if it's more from that angle also so what does gender equity in energy access meant to you people argue that okay We may not more effective some people say no men and women are equally affected to you and based on your experience what do you see?

Participant: In terms of the accessibility to energy or to opportunities?

CF: Access to access to energy to begin with

Participant: access to energy in terms of my line of work in the medical structure in industry I'm trying to you know, trying to discuss.

CF: When you mean access to energy because what exactly if you can just you know, okay wine. So essentially this question has to do with trying to understand more the agenda aspect. So what does gender equity mean when it comes to energy access now do men and women have access to energy in the same way. Now, if you look at it more within the construction industry, for example, how does it play out in homes in households who tends to need energy more and in terms of planning the homes and things like that see what you mean.

Participant: Okay, in terms of that because if you really just look at that from a social cultural aspect women, you know from the human perspective, you know, because in the construction industry, it's mostly men who do most of the of the work, okay, there is I would say that the construction, there is this perception that is it's actually has to do with strength, you know that they always really just believe that sound you really have to be physically strong to be able to relieve the in the industry, so as we all know it's a male, so I think we men actually just have more opportunities in the construction in Industry than women, so they tend to have more access to this energy, you know than the women, you know for obvious reasons. There's always this perception that it's like a man's thing when you just come into construction, which is strong of course, but as it stands, you know, they are the ones who play like prominent role in the construction industry. So they tend to have more access to energy to energy if you ask me, yeah, but I'm almost tending to answer it onto the opportunities that you have in the construction industry right on where you just come into construction you know, they're about two phases in it You have the construction phase implementation on site and then you have the ones that the design phase of it now, when you come into the areas of the design that is where you find a lot of women because they always you know being in the more detailed and more organized. Okay, so they always sectionalize them to those you know design phase of the construction industry you know than when it comes to construction to construction Okay, so you find out you have more women in the design process of the construction in those three than you have in the condo in the implementation stage of construction Okay Yeah, that's exactly what really just you just happens around them. So in the design phase, you know, I don't think as an energy is not consumed as much as it is and the construction phase of the project so that makes me think that the men have more access to like to like and energy than then a women in the construction industry.

CF: Yeah! Interesting now how particularly how is demand for energy determined, and how does your organization comes to understand consumer needs particularly Imagine this is holding about energy requirements in a beauty and how to make it more efficient. So how do you come about determining the energy requirements and consumer needs, do depend on statistics or are there other things that things that you do?

Participant: When this comes to that one, there's a lot of things you have to consider because when you have a project from a client, you have to just stick out a brief, all right, so based on the brief that of the clients really just gives to you. It's kind of just gives you a direction towards the area during the design and then when you collaborate with the other consultants and the team the engineers okay because that's actually teamwork so we kind of use the statistics okay based on the recommendations specifications? Okay then the engineers that we just walk to with the okay, now as an example I'm an architect right? And I do a review of the building with an engineer, right he would be able to calculate a load of the electricity and all of that then based on that load we may find an alternative you know, if the load is a bit actually high we may have found an option. Okay to really see how we can be able to reduce the load and that may help you to really provide alternative sources of energy in in the in the in the in the building.

CF: To now bring it a bit more now based on what you have experienced over time how every table is energy access that's community and household levels in terms of gender?

Participant: Sorry can you...

CF: How equitable is energy access, is access to energy at community and household level do you think idea disparity in terms of working at the community level? How do you see people’s access to energy more generally and they were talking about energy is coming with more broad both from electricity clean cooking things like that as household level as community level.

Participant: At household level as the energy is more accessible than that because it is how do I answer that?

CF: You complete also maybe can link it with something like this. How does gender affects the way energy is also used in household?

Participant: Okay the way energy is used in the household is obviously affected by the way I would use the word the responsibilities of each individual in the house, obviously those women are the ones who are really have more of the responsibility of the household and all of that so invariably they really have access to more as an energy appliances and all of that energy consumption yeah, so it's a general thing I think it's also translates to the way energy’s been used in the community as well you know its base on that line of thinking.

CF: Now do you think different groups of women benefits from energy access differently. So for example, and they differ from older to younger women and people in the rural areas besides people in the urban areas, maybe the well to do and not so well to do.

Participant: Okay people in the urban areas obviously have more access to energy than those in the rural areas. Now the energy try me acts is it raw energy or is it refined energy?

CF: It can be electricity to be clean cooking like yeah.

Participant: Okay now the people in the rural areas they have more access to sustainable energy because they rely on like you understand to really do like a lot of all those household things, they would have to rely on energy from nature. All right so although there's a limit to which they can operate but they are not as privileged as the ones in the urban areas who have access to electricity and other forms of energy.

CF: So in that sense also, what are between younger and older ones?

Participant: Between older people and younger ones, I beg to differ, younger people are more active in that sense okay in the urban areas that are more active with electric with electronics and all of that than older people so they tend to have more access to energy.

Participant: Interesting! Even though you have answered this one, I wanted to ask what's key infrastructure to your organization provide you do a lot of housing design, but you may just want to chip in a few things in that area.

Participant: Oh, yeah is that we actually provide housing design. We also do renovations you know, and it's just one of the interesting things that we do is we try to fuse architecture and art together and when we are doing renovations we try to introduce things you see around into the Interiors, there's one thing that that is not there in African the Nigerian architecture is that most people always want to import things from the Western World which is not what it should be. We have to be proud of who we are and identify with our culture and identify with the items that we have around us. So anytime we're doing the design would try to introduce wood into the mix you know to use wood we weave into it Okay like a lot of bamboo and all of that so that we can really have a feel of the you know of the of like Africa inside every house that we do so we try to introduce an aspect of our culture in every of architecture that we do Yeah, Yeah.

CF: Interesting now when new energy infrastructure and Technologies are provided what's in your own View at the differences between men and women in terms of who benefits?

Participant: When new infrastructure introduced, okay, what's the difference between manhood benefits more known in the male child has access to education more than the women for social cultural values. The there's still this notion that we men more women should be housewives and everything. Okay. So if you really check the statistics based on how many guilt child's eye in school compared to their male counterparts You observe that the really have look like more of the men in school than the women okay, so consequently men have more access to new infrastructure they are the ones who see it first you know that they want to get introduced to all those things in finance so it's only in recent times that there's been you know that there's been a sensitization on communities to educate the girl child. So, I believe the men have more access to infrastructure owing to that issue.

CF: Yeah, interesting now with regards to decision-making do men and women participate equally in decision-making about energy access. So for example in the house and how are decisions made and do women participate specifically in terms of decisions around energy at different scales really, household, local and even larger scales and also in relations to decision making around finance related to energy technologies when decision are to be made?

Participant: Ok in terms of decision making in relation to decision-making about finance related to energy technologies we have to remember that we Africans down there are social cultural values that by yeah store discriminatory against women already You really just observing it typical African home a man is always the one who makes some of those decisions when it's comes to have find nouns and all of that He's always the one who really have to say how much is spent on this and all of that and all that but on the access to energy if it really has to do with things concerning the home the like executing home chores all of that I believe the woman is the one who really makes more of the decision on how stops are done and all of that.

CF: Interesting! Interesting!! Well, it's takes me down to the next section, which is a thought but the way we look at policies and interventions now towards extend those gender equity factor in your work on energy access. Now when you are doing your design and things like that, do you factor in the needs of women in your design? You mentioned something before that women are even more involved at the design stage, do they factor in the designs stage?

Participant: Yes, absolutely. Every design has an initiation stick your research stage and they actually just country. Okay. Now I may understand is it that do we you know observe the needs of women in the design is like is like that we included the design or do they just contributing the designs?

CF: Both ways really.

Participant: Over the years in my experience they have really proved to be more detailed when it comes to doing like a research they are on top of their game that I really organized So I always have I always make sure I already have the other woman in my team at all times So they actually contribute a lot when it's comes to design and research considerations, they actually have the eyes for details to be able to pin point where you know, what you should really add to this and all that but then in the cost of designing for them it's actually a design consideration It depends on what is what the building is really going to be used for if it's having a male and a female toilet and all of those we actually take care to really make sure that the specifics for all those things I included.

CF: Interesting how effective are some of these efforts being in your work towards maintenance this sort of gender balance and are responding to their needs.

Participant: In the design process you know it is effective. But the implementation is where you have a challenge because sometimes when you have a site supervisor who is a woman you know for some of the workers on some sites may not want to you know just take instructions from a woman they would always think oh, she's a lady how will she be telling me just what to do, you know. So sometimes you have to step in to really just make sure that they understand that she's the boss on the sides or sometimes you could really hear cases that she's been insulted and all of that or you know, like you a woman what's good so we tried to appoint them as the head of the site if she is in that they understand that if she is not approving anything then they wouldn’t be able to just get paid, so they really had a half circle just respect her on that. So it's challenging because it always seems like they have to prove themselves on site when they don't really have to you know what I mean so it's not so you know it's always a challenge at that point and also if you have a bricklayer who is a woman they may not want to know just ask her to do the job because they always do that maybe she won't be able to you know be able to really do like a lot eight hours in a day or stuff like that they always feel they are not as strong as the men and you know it could be a challenge at times.

CF: interesting! Now thinking a bit beyond your specific work. Do you think energy access policies in our country should be gender sensitive and if so in what ways?

Participant: Energy access policies!

CF: Electrification policies clean cooking policy and things like that.

Participant: Considering the culture once more. Yes, you should be because when you when you when you look at the rules that each gender plays is differs. So I think those policies should be based on an analysis of those roles that individuals really play India places of work on homes.

CF: Now, you've mentioned a few things already do you think there are policy gaps around women's access to energy particularly in rural areas and they can be better options really all not even having access at all because of that they cannot achieve more you there are gaps that that's exist and if yes what's your opinion at these gaps? Maybe also in the built environments to we have gaps.

Participant: To be honest with you, I'm not quite familiar with the policies on energy right now with respect to that question.

CF: Okay. No worries Yeah worries, that is fine now imagine for a moment that there are no policy of financial constraints, what that are those factors you think we should focus on in order to achieve more access to energy within the country?

Participant: There are not, come again with a question.

CF; So imagine for a moment and you can for a moment that there are no Financial or policy constraints what are those are the things we should be looking out for in order to help improve access to energy for different gender.

Participant: Okay, um the stakeholders that are involved in making policies would have to you know, they would really have to enlighten the public. Okay at the other friends levels in schools and them you know institutes and all of that so that they are really aware of you know, what energy can improve a lot of that then now the scene is this the really has to look at now with reference to the end of the show where I work the construction pattern that is existing at the moment is not energy sensitive at all. So they really have to be some kind of incentive for may be builder and architect's that if you be if you if you do a design that meets a certain energy rates in you, maybe our but that baby won't but sense of your some of the contract. Okay and Technology again because there's this perception again about costs, That's some of all this energy new energy technologies expensive yes at Inception it is but over time they would have to understand there is a reduced that is really just pays for its self over time and it's a lot cheaper to use. Okay so those things have to really be really just put in place, you know to really make people aware that there's something to gain you know on it Yeah.

CF: Interesting! so, yeah one game of that in what's might what sort of role do you think your organization or your industry has to play in order to achieve some of these things you've mentioned?

Participant: We have to start again from education in schools where we have to integrate sustainable energy into the school curriculum, we have to also the term planning and approval bodies housing schemes. They also have to integrate that into the attempt planning policies for really doing the house and all of that that if you're building doesn’t meets up to describe just area it will not be approved energy criteria, It will not be approved. You know, so once they start at the grassroots, you know to start to make those policies about, you know, energy you utilizing energy to really just go a long way and then chew is the building materials we have locally and not being worked on, we rely on concrete and steel and all of that and we have all these items all around us natural building materials so I feel that the institute's and Architects have to really make that clients aware of all the that we can also use all these items So they have really has to be some kind of support from the state to research and all these items and see how it can be improved a lot. If you observe in in a few of African countries we have like Ghana, Kenya SA and all of that they have already started integrating, they have nice resources that you see purely made of wood Lee and really all of that and I'm very cosy without any form of artificial And if some of our official electricity and group and we all of that so I think it's high. It's time we started really thinking that like.

CF: Yeah interesting. Well, thank you so much. Now we are entering the last part so we'll be wrapping up now. Then you just one or two questions I just have yet. And the first one is there anything you that we have not discussed on this topic that you would like to add, things about the built environments that you would like to add for us to be able to understand to be able to if you want to point them out?

Participant: I think you've mentioned it in those questions in the secretion of how to can we integrate you know energy into you know into our housing policy, you know we really have to because there is no identity and the Nigerian architecture, you can’t identify a building and say this is from Africa something, everything just looks so that's Western so we have to start to appreciate our culture. And then when we appreciate our culture, we now know appreciate what we have and start to know how to utilize the materials that we have that there is beauty in all this but not materials how do we do like a researcher them to improve how it can be religious use then you see over the long run It can bring down drastically the amount of the individuals you know the hike the high cost of owning a house over the long run.

CF: Interesting! So I hope you will be available for full of questions in case anything arise.

Participant: Yes. Absolutely time. Yeah.

CF: Thank you so much for your time men. I thought to be doing this on the p.m but thank God at least is that just come at a time when I was just starting out something before my series of meetings today? okay okay Thank you so much, but please don't forget to send me.

Participant: The signed copy right, yeah, I saw it, i remember that it almost skipped my mind, so I'll also put the email this evening though I looked at it said, okay. I saw the attachments and you know I'll be honest with you. You took the kind of unawares you know I didn't know is really why I respect people in every profession because the way you guys do your stuff on energy is quite deep you know these are these are things that are real that are affecting people that we don't even think about in that angle we know about our own sustainable design architect, but there are some of the things that you highlighted here that to be honest with you, I have to dig deep to find some answers in it, you know is it's a reality that people really deal with every day and it's a good work you're doing it's a good work.

CF: Yeah, but thanks so much I'll be expecting it and of course, the rest of your day and we are going to be reports. We're going to share I'm going to share it with all those that have taken part in this so I'm going to I'm going to share and then we're going to have a workshop eventually data in the air on some of the feedback and of course there will be some sort of cross-country comparisons also see the parallels and differences and then based on that we'll see where they can be learning some things like this. Thank you so much. Yeah, always great. Thank you so much for watching great. So please I'll be expected it.

Participant: Yeah, I'll try to, it's on.

Participant: I sent it as an email your must say you're very old your milk.

Participant: Yes. I think I have it here, It's a word attachment, right?

CF: Yes.

Participant: Just wait a minute.

CF: Great. I got you so much. All right, it's me. And this and yes, we'll keep in touch.

Participant: All right cheers!

CF Thank you very much, Cheers!