0:00:01.7 Speaker 1: So, right, so we're both recording this...

[pause]

0:00:11.5 Speaker 1: Okay, so we've already covered a lot of questions and things like that, and I suppose if you after the interview could just please send us the information sheet signed that would be brilliant.

0:00:27.6 Speaker 2: That's okay.

0:00:28.5 S1: And yeah, we... Yeah, so thank you very much for agreeing to the interview. Our first question is really, could you tell us a little bit about yourself and your background, your professional role and what you currently do?

0:00:40.0 Speaker 2: Yeah, sure. Alright, you know my name already and you have a little bit of idea, but I can say that I'm actually a trained accountant before I went into a renewable in 2000 and... Which year is that? I think 2013... Yeah, 2013. I got trained in XXXXon the solar systems. So during that time, I got trained, I was trained to be able to understand the machines and also be able to talk to clients about how the machines operate. And then I got into the sales department because that was the only way you can explain things to most clients, then I got to the point that I have to be the head of regional, where I traveled to most regions to educate them about the renewable because it's the same time that the renewable became very popular in Ghana. And most people had their ears open to understand what exactly is it, but they were so very ignorant about the solar business.

0:02:06.0 S2: So, I had to do that to be able to get more people involved, not only to the selling part but to also understand, because we have to do with pricing, and they more complain about the pricing of the solar systems. Yeah, so point in time when I got to be the regional, that is where I also got to be part of the gender in 2017 because at that time I realized that there were not much women in this organization. Everywhere I go I see men more and just a few women who just come in to take minutes for the men, so I decided to organize myself properly and then start talking to women more about the systems and how they can also be educated on how the systems work and if possible can join the organization to be fellow people and also trainers not just talking on phone to people about it. And then I decided to go on community based for the renewables, because I realized that the Ghana government in 2016 wanted to do or even started something we called GET UP program. The GET UP program was giving the community a solar system that has been subsidised.

0:03:48.8 S2: But then if people still don't understand the price, it's only about if you can afford. So if you have the money you buy, even though it was subsidised, they still didn't understand the system. So I took it upon myself at that time, but anytime I go around the regions I'll go to the local community and introduce to them about the system, the solar system are complete. You've been seeing them around the internet the link area where you see a lantern that have a panel and a battery all inserted together, with the lantern all inserted together, and that is the complete system. So I pick some of those complete systems, that anywhere I go, I show them to schools especially because I always believe in catch them young, show them to them. And also when there's a community gathering somewhere I go there and show it to them for them to understand and if possible give them a subsidised price that the company is offering that they'll be able to buy some and use and try it. So at least when they are asked about solar systems they also have a fair idea and they get to ask more questions about that. And I joined a couple of youth activists like XXXX, XXXXto make sure I'll be able to reach the youth and other people on those platform, so that at least the information would keep widening out, it won't be in one circle. So right now, I'm doing more on the gender and the youth but that is for the renewable I chose.

0:05:41.4 S1: Yeah, and so those systems, just for my own understanding, are we talking kind of sort of small scale solar as opposed to sort of community wide big solar installations?

0:05:56.8 S2: Yeah. Yeah, sometimes, like on the company, we have the government program that we normally tender to. We tender to some government programs and then we are able to install a system to maybe some of the government organizations. And also, what we do is that when we have this program, we take the simple system because of the price...

0:06:26.9 S2: Solar is, for now, is still a big problem on the price, because we don't manufacture anything. We have two company now, I.e., SPS and then... What was the name of the other one? That is trying to modify panel in Ghana right now, but they are still not on the international standard. They are trying hard to get that to work. So even if I'm on a system, a bigger system that means like I have a project to establish about let's say a 200 KVA, I will not use those panels because it still doesn't meet the standard yet. It's not like they are not good quality, but it's the standard. So they have people, who have to import panels, batteries, inverters before we can have all these programs set up, so it made the product at the end to the sale, the last consumer really expensive to the pocket.

0:07:36.0 S1: Yeah.

0:07:37.5 S2: If somebody is paying in dollars and the person is in foreign country, the person will be like, "Oh no, it's okay." But change that currency to an African currency, let's say Ghanaian Cedis, a thousand dollar is currently 5700 Ghana Cedis. If a system is a thousand, it will be simple for somebody that has the foreign currency, but it is not easy to get that 5700 in the local community.

0:08:10.5 S1: Yeah, yeah.

0:08:11.3 S2: So that is why we try to convince them to at least start with the simple system where you can have a bulb, some bulbs working in your room, because most communities that we have need electricity. So those simple systems give them the lighting system and also a chargeable unit to charge their phones and some flashlights they can walk with when they are walking in the night through their path or you can see the snake passing by [laughter] and you don't step on it.

[laughter]

0:08:41.7 S1: That would be good, that would be good. So I guess, so this is very much focused on kind of rural basic energy access, and I wonder then in relation to sort of policy at national level that's kind of shaping your work, what are the kind of main policies which are influencing what you do?

0:09:07.1 S2: Currently in Ghana, most of the renewable things are still not in the hands of the government. They are doing their best to keep it close to the government so they'll be able to follow the transactions. So in 2015, they decided to bring in Energy Commission, so renewable got under Energy Commission and so we do have a ministry that has its own. So they are two things: A Renewable Ministry and then we have Energy Commission also have to... Also work on this same policy. So when we have two captains, things don't really work.

0:10:00.9 S1: Okay.

0:10:01.4 S2: Some projects will be given to the Energy Commission, but yet they still don't have all the monetary systems working. They still have to call in for the minister to sign in some cash to be released and all that. I will tell you what happened in 2017 when the Ghana government decided to do a free solar panel system. Free solar panel system was not for only the community, it is for the whole Ghana, as long as you are a citizen. But it did not end up well all because that there was a mis-fund, a mismanagement on the account. So it did not even end up in a year, close before the end of a full year the program had to elapse.

0:10:56.3 S1: Wow.

0:10:57.6 S2: And before I came to US, I took almost two years asking if those commissions, the Energy commission, time and time and time again, when they think they can come back with that program and how best they can work on it. And as the Ghanaian language they always say things are on the pipeline, and they are working on the management because the directors have been changed two times in two years.

0:11:24.5 S1: Wow. Wow, okay. So, okay, so on the one hand, your work is very much focused on communities, but then you're also busy working with sort of decision-makers, meeting... Yeah, and...

0:11:36.9 S2: Yes, yes, because I follow the government bid for bigger projects.

0:11:43.3 S1: Yeah, okay.

0:11:44.7 S2: So when there is a project for the bid, we tender for it and then also follow the local ones. Without that we cannot open up the bigger market.

0:11:58.6 S1: Yeah, so in terms of energy access, what does equitable energy access mean to you?

0:12:09.5 S2: To me, when we talk about accessibility to energy, it means that from the upper person to the lower person have energy, have power, any means of it, that is accessibility. It means that when I'm able to be in the class of one and I press a button for a light to be on, the next person in class ten should be able to press a button too somehow to have a power on. I don't have to take 10 hours to get the power on.

[chuckle]

0:12:48.9 S2: If person in class one would take a second to go and buy power, I should be able to take a second to buy power too if I'm in class 10... But, here is the case, because of our accessability, we are still working on that. So, every time I joined XXXX service, to let them know that even though the XXXX is trying to help us understand how accessible, reliable, affordable energy is supposed to be, we are still lacking those things. For the accessability, we are still under zero. So, that means a big zero is still big. Even if the person that is in the city is still struggling to pay for electricity bill in Ghana now. That is not accessible.

0:14:00.3 S1: No.

0:14:01.6 S2: You can have it. Yeah, I can see the power. I can afford it, but I can't have it, because you go in there and they will tell you, "The system is down." And then you go in there or your credit card, it's not a prepaid, it's a postpaid. And then you go, then they will tell you, "Okay, you already have a credit on it, so they are gonna give it back to you. And the same thing happens with somebody who is also a prepaid. That is confusing.

0:14:38.0 S1: Okay, so there's kind of, there's a temporal aspect about access inequality, in terms of how long it takes, there's load-shedding, there's all of that. What does gender equity in the context of energy access mean to you?

0:14:56.1 S2: Now, on the gender aspect, when we met in AU, in Ethiopia, I talked about those gender equity by telling them about this energy. It looks like we have lowered everything about energy and renewable to the men. And we need the women to come upfront. They should be able to give the training to the females also, so that at least if you all have the shared power and be able to move faster. Because here is the case, I always know that women are multitask. Everybody know it, they cannot dispute that. It's not, I'm not trying be more to the women. No, this is gender, and gender to me is not about female only. It's both of us. So it means I'm 50/50. When you are struggling for a power, I have the same skills too, so I should be given the opportunity to also fight for the same thing. So now, I want more women to be on those renewable things, and I want more women to be under the Energy Ministry.

0:16:16.2 S2: During the discussion they'll be able to think more, because when women are thinking, they think more about the whole Ghana, or the whole world, or the whole country where they are. They don't centre themselves, that is mostly when women are thinking. They think more about how their kids will have this, how their kids will be okay with this and that.

0:16:45.6 S1: Yeah.

0:16:47.6 S2: So I think that they should... We still don't have that 50/50 responsibility. Before we can make this work, we should be able to make sure that when we are having this meeting, we have this total of men of this skills, the same thing should be given to the women. And with that, yes, I will say that, "Okay, now we are balanced." For now we are still not balanced. We are still struggling with that.

0:17:16.7 S1: So gender equity. Yeah, so, yeah. So it's all about training, it's about having access to skill, it's about having access to decision-making power, and so on.

0:17:27.6 S2: Yup. Exactly.

0:17:28.0 S1: How does gender affect the way that energy is used at household level, in your opinion?

0:17:35.9 S2: The same way, I would say. When we talk about gender, use of energy, that is more than 50/50. Women use more power than men. Number one, we are in the kitchen. Two, we take care of the kids. Three, we do the ironing. We use more power. So mostly it will be the woman that will notify the man that ECG is going down, or we don't have ECG. So, talking about usage, yeah, the youth and the women use more power than the men. They are mostly in their offices, and then, commercial people, yeah. For me, right now, I know... That's why I always say that for somebody to understand energy, it must be a woman.

[chuckle]

0:18:39.1 S1: I like that, I might quote you on that. [chuckle] Do you think that different groups of women benefit from access to energy differently? So, I'm thinking, so rural women versus urban women, older women versus younger women.

0:18:58.3 S2: There are some things that are common to whether... Wherever you find yourself. If you are a woman, no matter what it is, you are gonna do the cooking. You are going to take care of the house, cleaning, vacuum, do this, do that. Those things are general for every woman. And then when you are are a rural woman, there they look at a different side of energy. You don't have much electricity, neither do they have much renewable energy, so they focus on firewood, charcoal, gas, to any other source of energy that can improve or make their life simpler. Even ironing, they use charcoal. So, that will be to their rural life. And then the city life is...

0:19:57.2 S2: Mostly in the city light too, again, the light is divided into two, for somebody who stays mostly at home and somebody who is a worker. If the person is a worker, the light the person spends means that the home utilities is only based on fridge, microwave... All those user appliances will be on because the woman wants her meat and everything to be ready when she wants it. And then the other one person that is like a housewife, again, behaves almost like a rural person because she has to make sure things are already done, and for example, like America or Europe, and do house school. That means the person's gonna be like almost 12 hours on computer training the kids. So no matter what, still the women understand the power and they try to say, "Okay, when this is on, let me switch this off." Then a time came to Ghana that we have to do schedule on how to use light in our own houses. When the fridge is on, you say, "Okay how many hours has it been on? Turn it of, turn it off, turn it off." [laughter] When you use solar systems too, the same thing goes to you. So yeah.

0:21:22.4 S1: That's useful.

0:21:23.1 S2: That's how they manage it.

0:21:23.6 S1: When new energy infrastructure or technologies are provided at household level, community level, what do you think is the difference between, or is there a difference between, men and women in terms of who benefits more?

0:21:43.3 S2: Who benefits on what? I did not get that part.

0:21:46.6 S1: If new energy infrastructure or new energy-related technologies are provided or become available.

0:21:56.6 S2: Okay. For my part, I could be biased sometimes, and I'm always biased when it comes to that sharing because when I have the opportunity to do the sharing, I always look for the women and the youth. Because the youth, let's say, the person is a school child, they need that light to learn, when in the community, you need that light to learn with. Why should I give that lantern to the father who would only listen to music and then use it to walk on his path to his friends to play cards. Why would I do that? Why would I give it to the man when he doesn't have any kids to take care of, but the woman have to make the bed, have to wash, have to do this, and she needs the light instead of using the candle and or the the kerosene to do all that.

0:22:47.8 S2: So anytime I go to the rural area and I have make a distribution, I look for them first. But when I'm in the city and I have to make a distribution, I look for the schools also, and also, I really don't mind about the gender aspect. I just share it when I have to share it, make sure they all receive it, but mostly I'll look for the teachers. [laughter]

0:23:17.1 S1: So I feel like...

0:23:19.1 S2: They need more help.

0:23:21.2 S1: I feel like the next question you have very actually already answered, but I'm just gonna ask it anyway. And then maybe you just summarize it. To what extent does gender equity factor in your work on energy access?

0:23:37.3 S2: Yeah, sometimes I get very biased sometimes, but forgive me, I'm sure everybody will understand it's not because I'm a woman, but it's because I look at things differently, sometimes I look at things... Because I'm always on the grassroots looking at how things work out. So when I have the opportunity to do that. Unfortunately, I always go on the youth and the woman side.

0:24:06.6 S1: Fine.

0:24:07.5 S2: Yeah, unfortunately. [chuckle]

0:24:10.9 S1: Maybe one day... Who knows. And in terms of... Yeah, and so that engagement with women in particular in rural areas and so on, how effective do you think that that is or has been in terms of moving to more towards gender equity? In terms of energy access.

0:24:34.2 S2: Okay. When we talk about the rural area?

0:24:39.5 S1: Rural, urban, whichever you wanna choose. Yeah.

0:24:42.1 S2: Urban. Okay, okay. I would just say that mostly when we put it down to energy, when we put it back to energy system, I still look on the women in a way that they get more involved, for example, even if you call a meeting... Even if you call a meeting and then you tell the women that this is gonna be a training for you, and this is the benefit that you'll get from this and that, they... If you're looking for 50 people, you will at least have 40 for the gathering. But if it's a meeting for a man, you wonder how they get late. I don't know. But you'll only find that if you are looking for 50, you'll have either 20... That means that they really, really... They are always busy for some other things. They really don't get the information. I don't know how.

0:26:03.6 S1: So in the sense there's perhaps... Sounds like there's more appetite by the women that you engage.

0:26:12.4 S2: Yep. They're always... I don't know if it's my fault, but all the time I always have the chance for them listening more than the men, and so I always get the attention of all of them, yes. Sometimes all of them have the opportunity and they ask questions... I love it when they ask questions, and practical ones they always do. Yeah, and I remember in one...

[pause]

0:27:06.2 S1: Alright. Just pausing that. So we had a brief interruption but we are back. And so...

0:27:12.2 S2: Okay.

0:27:13.0 S1: Yeah. I don't know if you had...

0:27:14.4 S2: Alright.

0:27:14.9 S1: If there was anything that you wanted to add to that point or if you want me to go to the next question.

0:27:20.0 S2: Yeah.

0:27:22.3 S1: I can move on with...

0:27:22.8 S2: I almost forgot where I was... So... [laughter]

0:27:25.4 S1: I think where we were...

0:27:29.4 S2: But I can say that even in Ghana we... Our total number... Despite the number, we still have like... Concerning accessibility it's just like 1.5 million per day, people accessing that energy.

0:27:44.4 S1: Wow.

0:27:46.1 S2: For that I can say.

0:27:48.5 S1: That's interesting. Yeah, Wow. I was thinking of going back to sort of policies. Do you think that energy policies in Ghana at national level, local level, are they gender sensitive, in your opinion?

0:28:04.6 S2: I don't think that when they are making policies, they think about gender issue at all.

0:28:09.9 S1: Okay.

0:28:09.9 S2: They just think about it general on what... Well, it's... They are politicians, so they make sure that whatever they do fit their profile. So they don't really think about what gender equity is about. They don't go in for that. They'll only come into that when their... Maybe there is a youth activist that is more voicing and they said, "Okay. We better shut this person up by coming out with something." Then yeah, you see them coming out with the program and say, "Okay," maybe a solar lantern thing for school children or maybe this or that. Apart from that, they mostly think about their profile, "Okay. This is what our embassy is saying, so let's make sure we stick something in it." They don't. Yeah.

0:29:06.3 S1: And...

0:29:07.1 S2: I think mostly, I don't know about this year, but since the four years on the government of Nana Addo, his agenda, yep, his agenda was to make solar system at least 30%. He first started with 10%, and we did not reach that 10% even as at the four years was closed. Now that we have him back, maybe he is gonna continue, so we'll see how that 10% will be executed. He said the ministries will have solar panel systems, and right now even the Jubilee House is still working on their solar system. So I would say that that is for the national thing, the national project that... But hey, again, we are just looking for 10%. The whole country, 10%.

0:30:16.0 S1: Yeah. What do you think how gender equity in energy access could be improved in Ghana?

0:30:27.3 S2: We need Jesus, that's all. Because again, most of them are all politicians. They only think about how to come out with this gender issues when, I said earlier, when they think there's is a voice that is hitting them, and they have to close that page quickly. If the youth in schools are shouting or the community somewhere is shouting for their school not improving because of light or this, then yes. Then they will put it into the file, but mostly they only think about... Because they want the whole country to know what they have done throughout their year of reigning, and they have four years to do that, so they think more about the National agenda. They really don't think about how they're supposed to be fulfilled on fairness to the gender. If the men, especially working class, have to make sure they have their life, uh-huh. But in the 2019, he came out with that. Nana Addo tried big... Well, thanks to COVID-19. They started thinking more about the gender equity because everybody was crying, people were losing jobs and stuff. So when people were crying more, he decided to have some prices cut off. Even some of people in the villages have the government paying the light certificate for almost three months. So it depends on the occasion or what it is before they think about it.

0:32:32.6 S1: Yeah. Okay. So imagine sort of policy and finance are not an issue, you know for... Just imagine. In your view, what will be best practice for achieving gender equity in energy access, if there were no kind of financial or policy constrains?

0:32:52.4 S2: Well, number one: If we should have more women in those tables, on the energy tables, I believe things will turn around if we have more women because they will be listening to other like people are around. They do more listening and acting on what they listen to to see how best they can improve on that. And I think we should have more women on the decision making platform. Yes, things will be turning around. For at least in Ghana, I know for sure, things will be a bit turning around. And also, if we should...

0:33:34.9 S2: If they should even just go back to... In just a single file, thinking about how the country is falling down, the economy right now. Because recently, just like last month, I have my people talking about the ECG going back to 100%. It means that if you are a citizen and you buy your own electricity, no more subsidized from the government.

0:34:08.3 S1: Okay.

0:34:10.7 S2: So... Hey, even the... We don't even know as of now who is going to own their company. Whether it's going back to the government or it's going to be privatized again, we are still hanging in there. For the past four years it was GEDCO, and there was some fraudulent activities, they had to hide themselves and all that. Well, it depends if it's in the government I am sure some decisions like that will come out. But if we have to go under private, private persons have to think more about their money making.

0:34:51.3 S1: Okay. Yeah. Interesting. I guess you've already touched on this actually, but I guess... Do you think that the government of Ghana is committed to the energy transition?

0:35:05.1 S2: Yeah. He said so, but saying something and doing something are two different things.

0:35:12.5 S1: Okay. [chuckle] Yeah. So in theory it's...

0:35:14.8 S2: If I said I will drink water and I drank soda, well, there was a drinking. Only it was not what I said, that I would drink water but I drank soda. But I'm... So I drank something. So it's up to the government. Like he said, he's gonna... On the 10%, he tackled schools and at least the first thing is ministry. And before the four years elapsed, that was not completed. So who knows, who knows, he is back into power. There could be more advanced things that will be surprising, and we'll thank God and be happy for our country forever. We can't say much if he couldn't do it, because he still have to do all that things to make sure his file looks good. He'd get more votes. So if these four years, he and his cabinet decide to make more roads, build clinics instead of going more into thinking more about the 10% energy renewable and making energy power relevant and... He can just say, "Let me put that side on hold for now. Let me do something else." So on their policies, it's not always because we have written it down, it's gonna be done, it's done. We have written it down. Everything if you forward Ghana, we always say it's in the pipeline.

0:36:52.1 S1: [chuckle] Okay.

0:36:53.0 S2: So wait for that tap to be turned on, then it flows. Until then it's still in the pipeline. That is Ghana policies.

0:37:01.7 S1: I understand. Yeah. Okay. And when you're talking about the full four-year terms, just thinking about sort of maybe the last 10 years, do you think... Have you seen a kind of shift in terms of energy sources that households depend on, in terms of heating, lighting, cooling? Has there been a shift in the last decade, do you think?

0:37:24.4 S2: Oh yeah. The past eight... For the last eight years when Mahama was in power, something good happened for Ghanaians who woke up. There was a classified Wikipedia where dumsor...

0:37:43.6 S1: I have looked it up, that term.

0:37:45.3 S2: Yep, that actually helped Ghanaians to wake up. Everybody started running for the next type of energy. I said, everybody knows that this is ECG, Electricity Company. Yeah, that's it. That's all we know. Akosombo is forever. The past 10 years, Akosombo, this same Akosombo. Even when you talk about them about the next type of energy to help, they don't think about it. They only think about the price. If I'm using ECG and I pay like 50 Cedis a month, they don't get that if we should reserve the money and buy a system that will be worth like maybe 15,000 or 20,000 Ghana Cedis. If you divide it, you still have almost the same thing but even lesser payments.

0:38:39.0 S2: They still don't understand that. It takes a long time to let them understand that type of calculation. But when it was the time of dumsor, oh boy! You don't know where they came from. Everybody was rushing for it. Even the Yahoo boys took part of it by duping people. Because everybody was so much aggressive to go in for any type of energy to support their ECG, and the appliances should not go off or blow out. So if that thing did not come, I don't think that education of renewable would even come up. Aside the renewable, we have LPG gas and other simple biogas systems that are also available. But people are still not having that education, they still think more about the price. They don't think about the savings they are going to make in the next four or five years.

[pause]

0:39:44.7 S1: It's about the now...

0:39:47.1 S2: They think about how much I am gonna dip my hands into my bank account right now for that.

0:39:53.4 S1: And I guess related to that, do you think... So the shift, the shift or change that you have observed, is there was a gender dimension or it's what you've just described basically for everybody?

0:40:07.9 S2: Oh no. I would say that that was for everybody.

0:40:10.6 S1: Okay.

0:40:15.1 S2: It turned to be a little bit different when the schools... It's about the young ones that are talking about their low schedule in schools. There you hear the youth talking more about their life, how they have been affected by that source of energy, that is it. Apart from that, you don't hear about gender issue on energy very much.

0:40:53.0 S1: Yeah, okay.

0:40:53.9 S2: Yeah, you only think more about, generally, how every life depends on the energy.

0:41:05.5 S1: We actually only have a couple of more questions. I suppose one...

0:41:09.0 S2: What else?

0:41:10.0 S1: I suppose one of them is about how easy do you think is actually to access data in relation to energy; who uses energy, gender and energy. How easy is it to access data about that?

0:41:28.9 S2: I don't know about the national research, how their data look like, but for the few that I have done with my climate people, the youth in climate in different sectors, we've realized... That is where we got to find out that in energy, according to gender, women and the youth use more power than the men.

0:42:00.5 S1: Okay. Alright, so there's some data available?

0:42:02.7 S2: Yes.

0:42:03.0 S1: Okay, yeah. Okay, that's good.

0:42:04.5 S2: And then... But when we talk about accessibility, how really accessible power is per day, just 1.5 get power.

0:42:16.1 S1: Wow. Then I suppose, finally, is there anything that we have not discussed on... As of gender, energy, that you wanna share with us? Anything that we haven't asked that you want to add?

0:42:35.4 S2: I think we fairly tackled most things I always preach about.

0:42:41.5 S1: Okay. Yeah.

0:42:44.3 S2: So on your research, tell the people to get women more in the managerial positions to talk more because they use the power more. But if you listen to the youth, then advise them on how to use their power because they need to learn. Everything is based on education because if we don't get them involved, they'll not know, that is it. And we should get them... If you should let somebody know about something too, you should also let the person feel the practical aspect about it. So don't just tell the person, "Oh, this is this and this is that," so what it is. Show them what it is. Let them touch it, let them feel it. So we are talking about energy, let's start from ECG, electricity. The city people have this, the next community that is just maybe two hours from the city don't even have lights. What is that?

0:43:45.0 S1: Wow, yeah. Yeah.

0:43:49.7 S2: We talk about the fossil fuel, and the city is trying to do away with fossil fuel, but the next one hour drive from the city is... Their life depends on fossil fuel. If they don't burn charcoal, they can't survive. If they don't use the firewood, don't use the kerosene, their life is useless, meaningless. So what are we doing? It means we are teaching but we are not doing the complete teaching. You teach them, let them practice it. You should make more women on the decision table, especially on energy. And we will see things to turn around. Even not only for Ghana, in so many places of energy management. It will work.

0:44:41.8 S1: Yeah, I agree. For me, it's always difficult to do an interview 'cause I have opinions as well. So I'm not allowed to speak, but yeah, I think this is really great and I think it was really good to get that perspective. I think there's some overlap with other interviews that we've had, in terms of this idea that it's... Women need to be more involved in... Need to have more training opportunities and be involved in decision-making. So it's really interesting to hear that from professionals across different sectors in Ghana. So thank you so much. That was brilliant.

0:45:21.8 S2: You're welcome.

0:45:23.7 S1: Yeah, and I hope that you one day soon are actually able to travel back home.

0:45:30.6 S2: Oh, yeah. Very soon, very soon. He's a big boy now, so. And the airport is open, so we are preparing to go back home for a good visit.

0:45:43.6 S1: Yeah, okay. I didn't know, XXXX, is there anything else you wanted to add?

0:45:50.4 S2: Yeah, XXXX. Is there anything you wanna ask me?

0:45:58.7 S1: Maybe he's having more...

0:46:00.0 S2: Did he went off or did he go...

0:46:01.4 S1: I think maybe he's having more internet trouble. He might be suffering from load shedding.

0:46:06.9 Speaker 3: Sorry, I think XXXX has covered all the issues that we wanted to discuss. I really like the different perspective that you've presented, given your experience with local communities working with renewable solar systems. I said renewable solar systems, yeah. I think it's a unique perspective, and I like the way you were able to... You were really passionate about the gender sensitivity aspects. I think you were very candid, and that is something that I really enjoyed. That would be... I would like for us to talk about other things, but maybe later I'll catch up either on WhatsApp or via email, so that we talk.

0:47:06.6 S1: Yeah.

0:47:07.2 S2: You are always welcome, XXXX.

0:47:11.6 Speaker 3: Yeah, so thank you very much, I really enjoyed the interview.

0:47:14.1 S2: Thank you.

0:47:14.2 S1: Okay, I'm gonna stop the recording.