0:00:01.0 XXXX: Please, my name is XXXX, XXXX. I work with Friends of the Earth Ghana. Friends of the Earth Ghana is working on this research project in partnership with Anglia Ruskin University in the UK, and Leeds Beckett University, also in the UK. So this study is about equitable energy access in the Global South. So we are looking at, in the context of Ghana, trying to understand the current status of energy access and how it is balanced between, or among the various populations, specifically focusing on gender. So we're trying to identify the level of access to energy for women, and how we can mainstream gender into our energy policies, into the implementation of policies and across other programmes. So briefly, that is what the study is about. So there are a few, just a few questions that we'll be going through, just to get your perspectives on certain key areas, on policy issues as well as other practical implementation issues. But if any of the questions you don't feel like responding to, you can just say you would not want to respond to that question so we'll skip to the next one.

0:01:49.1 Speaker 2: Okay.

0:01:49.3 XXXX Okay, alright, so thank you very much. So briefly, we'll start with an introduction of yourself, if you could briefly tell us a brief about yourself, your role in the organisation, maybe certain key policy issues that you are currently working on, yeah.

0:02:09.3 S2: So XXXX, remember that I was saying that this interview is more like institutionally-focused, and you were saying, no, blah, blah, blah. But in the first question already... [chuckle] You are laughing. Basically, I work with the XXXX, which is the XXXX, and then also works on promotion of RE and EE, and also a policy advisor to the government. So in terms of the focus for this interview, we don't [0:02:56.7] \_\_\_\_, we develop policies, we just advise the government on areas we think it should be focused, then the government decides where it will head. But there are also instances where the government, being... The XXXX being the main [0:03:14.9] \_\_\_\_, actually gives out a task to support them in the actual drafting of policies. So an example is the national energy policy of 2010, which is still under revision. The revision began, I think, XXXX. As far as I'm aware, it hasn't been passed into law yet, so it's still under revision. So, that is an example of a role XXXX has played in revising an existing policy or contributing to a policy development.

0:04:02.0 S2: In terms of my role, I work on the XXXX, I don't know if you've heard about XXXX.

0:04:11.1 XXXX Yes, yes. Yes, please.

0:04:11.2 S2: It's a UN initiative that was initiated as far back as 2011. So basically, Ghana as a country also signed up to be part of that initiative. And as part of that process, we developed a country [0:04:29.9] \_\_\_\_ plan in 2012, which the XXXX was nominated by the XXXXto lead in its development and [0:04:37.9] \_\_\_\_. The XXXX was also tasked to facilitate and then report on the progress of the implementation. So the work I do basically is I'm the [0:04:51.1] \_\_\_\_ of the sustainable initiative in Ghana. And what I have to do essentially has to with coordinating, monitoring, evaluating and reporting on Ghana's progress on [0:05:08.7] \_\_\_\_ for Ghana.

0:05:12.8 S2: So, basically, I [0:05:15.6] \_\_\_\_ that implement projects, that contribute to our XXXX country action plan and achievements, and then I report on that, so that is what I do. Aside from that, and being [0:05:30.0] \_\_\_\_ of the XXXX, I also get roped into other [0:05:36.5] \_\_\_\_ which has to do with renewable energy promotion related activities, energy efficiency related activities as well, and [0:05:44.0] \_\_\_\_ policy work that we happen to be tasked to do. I also contribute to that process as well. So that is just a brief of [0:06:00.0] \_\_\_\_ at the XXXX. Thank you.

0:06:04.2 XXXX That's a very comprehensive brief. [chuckle] Yeah. Okay, so based on these experiences, how would you describe equitable energy access in the context of Ghana?

0:06:28.5 S2: What do you mean by equitable? I want to understand your definition of equitable before I respond, so that we would both be on the same page.

0:06:37.0 XXXX So in this context, we are looking at the distribution of energy and how accessible it is for... It's coming from the perspective that in certain situations, we realise energy may be available in a part... In a country, whether it's electricity or biomass or solar, it may be available, but as to whether the households, the industries, the community itself may have access to it, that's sometimes a bit challenging. So what we are trying to understand is... And again, in that context, we realise there are some times, a... Should I say, a limitation specifically for women, and so because of the differences in energy needs. So we are trying to understand, from that context, how equitable or equally distributed energy access is in Ghana from your perspective.

0:07:56.5 S2: Okay, so I think... You have introduced another technology, I intentionally asked you because the use of the word equitable and then the explanation you were giving were two different things. XXXX, usually, it's used in terms of fairness, fairness. So we're talking about gender. Gender equity has to do with fairness, not necessarily equality. But in your submission, you ended up with the word "equality".

0:08:30.8 XXXX Equality, okay, yeah.

0:08:31.8 S2: I wanted to understand clearly...

0:08:33.6 XXXX Yeah, you're right, you're right.

0:08:33.8 S2: Whether you are talking about equality or just equity as in fairness. So which of them are you referring to, so that based on that, I can make my submission?

[chuckle]

0:08:44.0 XXXX I think in this context, because it's a research...

0:08:47.6 S2: [0:08:49.0] \_\_\_\_.

[laughter]

0:08:51.6 XXXX I think in this context, because it's a research, we are trying to understand from your perspective, how you view... Because these are concepts that, like you rightly said, it could have different meanings, people could think of equality, other people may look at it like fairness in terms of... Yeah, so what we're trying to get is your perspective of that concept.

[laughter]

0:09:26.5 S2: Anyway, I don't know if you were active in the energy sector for this research. Friends of the Earth, I know you are more environmentally biased, I'm not sure how active you are in the energy sector. So just by way of information, the government policy beforehand was to achieving better access to electricity by 2020. Now, I understand the date have been moved to... The year have been moved to somewhere around 2027, 2028. I'm not entirely sure about the exact date but it's between '27 and '28. So that is the new target that we are working with on the national level. And what it means is that this policy is more of a trial policy which isn't saying that we want all, for example, all female headed households to have access to electricity by 20... Or by 2028, okay?

0:10:40.1 S2: It's just saying that all households or every Ghanaian should be able to get access to power by that set time. And in its implementation, the criteria being used is not [0:10:53.5] \_\_\_\_ whether the person is a female or a male, in getting the access. The part that is being looked at is the size of the community, for example. Under the national [0:11:09.1] \_\_\_\_ scheme, they look at the size of the community. I think it should be about 300 households. Then, and of course, the access to point, and government also introduced [0:11:30.1] \_\_\_\_ help with education scheme under which communities actually mobilise themselves and make themselves ready.

0:11:39.6 S2: [0:11:39.6] \_\_\_\_ that are perhaps far from government [0:11:41.4] \_\_\_\_ plan, who might not get access, [0:11:44.3] \_\_\_\_ for the next 6 months if government plan was being followed strictly, but still want to drive the process are allowed to initiate some activity. So for example, they are supposed to ensure that up to a certain percentage of the community is actually connected in terms of poles and when being done and poles being installed to facilitate the government process. So those are the things that government have put in place to ensure that some increased accessibility to power. It didn't really focus on how many women in the communities or how many female headed households do we have in the communities. Another example, for example, is that if you, XXXX person, walks to an ECU office to say that you need a meter, they wouldn't serve you quickly because you're a man or a woman. It's just about the procedures. If you go through the right process, you all have equal access to the commodities. So that is how it is [0:13:07.9] \_\_\_\_. So in that regard, I would say that it is not entirely gender-biased, or gender-sensitive, for lack of a better word. Yeah. And I think the government's perception has always been that for electricity in particular, it serves both men... If a household is connected, all the gender groups, including even the vulnerable groups also get the full benefit of that particular service.

0:13:40.6 S2: So it isn't about being male or female, given a priority over another. In that same regard, when government implements projects that are bioenergy related, it is assumed, automatically, that the main beneficiaries are people who usually will use that particular energy source. So if you're doing a cook-stove project, for example, a charcoal stove or a firewood stove or an LPG stove project, for example, the default beneficiaries definitely will be women who are the majority users of that particular energy, so they then become the main beneficiaries. But it isn't branded as a female or a women-focused project. Usually, it's just branded as a... By the [0:14:40.8] \_\_\_\_ or by the service. So an example is the current 500,000 cook-stove project being implemented by the Ministry of [0:14:51.3] \_\_\_\_, I don't know whether you heard about it.

0:14:53.9 XXXX Yes, I have heard.

0:14:54.0 S2: Where the government of Ghana is implementing a project with a Korean company. So this stove project, we all know that cook-stoves are primarily used by women, but if you look at it, it is not branded as a female-targeted project. It's a household-focused project, to move households from using inefficient stoves to [0:15:22.3] \_\_\_\_. So I think from that perspective, we can say that our [0:15:27.1] \_\_\_\_ are usually not that gender... They're not some things in terms of, through the gender eye. But definitely, if you think through it, definitely, it is biased. Some might be actually biased towards certain gender groups, while others might just be neutral. The electricity-related ones might be very gender neutral. And that would be my thought, yeah, where gender mainstreaming is concerned.

0:16:01.1 S2: But beyond that, I want to add that, over the years, I know that some efforts were made to mainstream gender into, for example, our institution, especially, the energy sector. So we have programmes where the government partners, through NGOs, have tried introducing gender mainstreaming concepts into the sector to the extent of doing a gender gap analysis for the energy sector, identifying how many women or females have been able to climb up the ladder in the public institutions or even in some private [0:16:54.6] \_\_\_\_ sector and institutions. The roles that they play in terms of [0:17:00.2] \_\_\_\_ whether they're technical roles or women are found to be playing more of administrative role in such institutions, and what could be done to support increased penetration of women in such sectors. And closely related to that has been the appointment of gender desk in institutions. But from my understanding, it hasn't really worked over the years because these same people who were nominated to play gender focal points actually have other portfolio that they're managing.

0:17:44.7 S2: So gender isn't really something that they were fully [0:17:47.5] \_\_\_\_ to work on. So again with time, it fizzled out, with us going back to being [0:17:53.8] \_\_\_\_ and focusing on what we're primarily tasked to do. But I know that some effort is being made recently to ensure that at least women are given equal opportunities in the sector in terms of their roles and responsibilities, and even training opportunities into higher career pathways. So that is the other thing.

0:18:20.5 S2: Yeah. And also, increasingly, I'm also [0:18:23.0] \_\_\_\_ that because also of push from development partners, [0:18:33.1] \_\_\_\_, every policy programme or project that is designed also has a section on gender mainstreaming, where some effort is made to also show how [0:18:50.5] \_\_\_\_ is designed to address certain gender groups and be of benefit to certain otherwise overlooked [0:19:01.7] \_\_\_\_ and all that. I think that is a new trend I'm seeing now, having much more gender content being added to our policies, our programmes, our projects and our activities. Yeah, so basically, that is it.

0:19:19.1 XXXX Great. That's a wonderful response. I think you have actually covered a number of issues that I was about to ask. So you have talked about the whole section on the benefits. I was about to ask whether you think there is a difference between men and women when energy infrastructure is provided but I think you've addressed that in part. But you also mentioned about the clean cook stoves which benefit women more, but do you think gender considerations specifically are important in the design of energy policies?

0:20:17.0 S2: Of course, of course, they are, because with that then you look at the strength and weaknesses of the leaders in that groups, what particular intervention could impact either positively or negatively on the group and then what can be done to address such attributes.

[background conversation]

0:20:57.0 XXXX Sorry. So let's talk about participation. Do you think there is equal participation in gender decision-making when it comes to the design of energy policies or even their implementation, or even if you take it to the household level, do you think there is equal participation between the genders?

0:21:17.5 S2: I wouldn't say there will be equal participation. So the example I gave, if you look at... I know the ministry, for example, is currently implementing what we call the Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program, SREP, which is focused on renewable energy education in communities that would otherwise not be able to access the national grid in the next few years. So under this project, for example, when [0:22:04.6] \_\_\_\_ sensitisation and then education and awareness creation is being done. A typical example you see is that you have a lot more men showing up for such a [0:22:24.1] \_\_\_\_ than women. I think basically it also has to do with people's appreciation of the issue. Though electricity is beneficial to both gender groups, it's still a man thing. I don't know whether you get what I am trying to say. Even though, for example, the ministry might reach out to all households to show up for key sensitisation and education on the facility. A lot more men might show interest than women because for them, it is a "man's job" to ensure that that power is connected to their house for them to use. While on the reverse side, if it has to do with a cook stove project, trust me, even if you make efforts to get men involved, the possibility of having them show full interest in it will be very low.

[chuckle]

0:23:20.9 S2: I think we the beneficiaries ourselves too, we also have some predisposed perception and biases towards certain fuels that also influences our participation. But that not regarding. I think for the project implementation and point of view as well, beyond just me talking as a public servant, I believe even you, XXXX, as a civil society person, if you are attracting people to participate in a particular project... For example, if you are doing a project that has to do with fishing, you are most likely to talk to fishermen than men, even though there might be some women who actually own boats and actually might be active participants in that particular sector. Possibility of you seeing a lot more men are into fishing than women is very high, so your focus might be on men being the main beneficiaries. So in that regard I can say for a fact that some participation might be biased as a result of the targeting that is done by the project implementer.

0:24:33.7 S2: And then of course, the beneficiary also feeling that maybe this is not going to be something I am interested in, or something that is of direct benefit to me. So that is also the other side of the participation. But from a government perspective, for electricity sector, I can say for a fact that usually, the targeting is done neutrally but for a project that has to do with bioenergy, we tend to be biased towards the female gender group, because we feel that, for example, things that have to do with wood fuel, it's women... Or things that have to do with cook stove, it's women that usually will use it, so our target is usually focused on that particular beneficiary group.

0:25:22.3 XXXX I see. I guess if I'm to probe a little further, in that context, would you say that division is based on culture, or is it based on the economic status of the two genders?

0:25:42.7 S2: Yeah, both. I would say both, both culture and then economics... Not necessarily economic state, but maybe you can, for lack of a better word, we can say the economic interest. Because for example, if it has to do with somebody who'd want to use electricity to power their machine, so for example, a corn mill or something, definitely, they would show much more interest than a male person who would not use the power for anything aside just lighting and then maybe watching TV or listening to the radio. So in terms of interest, it would be varied along economic lines as well. People who actually see it as something that could, one, boost their economic... Their income levels or help improve their livelihood. That also impact greatly on the interest that is shown, and then the participation that is also seen in the process.

0:26:53.1 XXXX Okay, great. Okay, so you've already talked a bit about the policy sensitivity to gender. But do you think the... If I'm to probe a little further, do you think... Or could you highlight maybe some specific policy gaps around women's access to gender, any particular gaps that you see that we would need to address?

0:27:22.9 S2: As in women access to what?

0:27:25.4 XXXX Women's ability to access energy.

0:27:30.7 S2: Okay, so for example, if you look at the implementation of the... Let me use the word, previous, previous LPG, let me say, programme. Okay, so before, I don't know whether you are aware that we currently are trying to implement what we call the LPG recirculation model of distribution.

0:27:57.5 XXXX Yes, I heard about it.

0:27:58.2 S2: The cylinder recirculation model. Okay, you've heard about it?

0:28:02.5 XXXX Yes.

0:28:02.7 S2: So basically, before this model... Well, the model is not entirely new to Ghana, it was introduced somewhere in the 1990s, and I think it broke down, and we are trying to get back to it. So it is not entirely new system. But if you look at the existing system, where, for example, households, let me just say households for now. Households needs to access LPG for use in homes. Again, you have gender dynamics playing out. It is seen as women are the ones who cook at home, so anything that has to do with cooking, it is the woman's "work".

0:28:45.2 S2: So you'd... If you do a survey, very few men actually take the responsibility to make sure that the cylinder is filled all the time for the use at homes. What they usually would do is maybe just provide the money for it, and then they... So it comes down to the wife to decide how she's going to access that fuel. And most of the time, you have women being the one who have to carry the bottles to the filling point. So in terms of access, it becomes stressful because of the distances that have to be travelled, and even the means. Because most of the time, there isn't enough finance to do, for example, to... Take dropping, to go and fill a cylinder and then bring it back. So you'd see a lot more people who are having to carry it, walk the distance, or go by a public transport with all the discomfort of trying to balance this in the public transport system and all that. So you have accessibility issue then being an issue. So though the fuel is available, you can say that it is not entirely accessible.

0:30:14.4 S2: It might be accessible to people who live closer to the filling point than people who live a little bit far away, even though it is available, it is not that accessible. So that is one example of a policy implementation challenge. So with that, you can say that the gender dynamics comes in when we are moving to a system where we are now saying that, you know what? We want to make it much more accessible to households, which eventually, then becomes much more accessible to women, who are the main beneficiaries. So when we have a system where you could have delivery vans patrolling through communities or going through areas and basically offering such services to pick up empty bottles, replace them with filled bottles, so that women or men do not have to go through the hassle of travelling a distance to get their fuel replacement and all that, then it becomes a gender-related intervention that is being done. So you can say that the national LPG promotion programme is therefore designed to really serve a particular gender need. So yeah, so from that perspective, yes, that is a policy that has been designed to ensure that it is able to bridge some gap where some gender concerns are taken into consideration, yeah.

0:31:48.1 XXXX Yeah, how about in the context of financing? We know again that when it comes to energy, one of the biggest challenge is financing. Do you see this as something that our energy policies need to address, or do you see this as a gap that needs to be filled or...

0:32:08.8 S2: Financing, it depends on how you look at it, because one, the question you have to ask yourself is that, is it... For example, whose role is it to ensure that funds are readily accessible to a consumer or to a target group? I don't know whether you get my...

0:32:36.0 XXXX Yes, yes. [chuckle]

0:32:36.1 S2: My question. So if you say financing, are we implying that it's government role to ensure that funds are made readily available to consumers? And in that regard, one, what would be the motivation? Two, what would be the priorities?

0:32:58.1 XXXX Okay. Okay, well, I was specifically looking at it in the context of... For instance, if you take the agric sector, you realise, when new technologies are being introduced or there are certain financing mechanisms that are being put in place to make sure that farmers have easy access to finance to be able to procure agricultural equipments and tools. So, well, looking at it in the energy sector, do you think some of these provisions need to be made available so that it becomes easy for especially poorer communities to also be able to... For instance, you mentioned the cook stoves. So the women will still have to buy these cook stoves, but if they don't have the money to be able to buy it, are there any financial mechanisms that are built into the programme to make sure that they are able to procure and buy the cook stoves? Yeah, that's the perspective I was looking at it from.

0:34:14.6 S2: Okay, okay. I was just trying to probe a little bit more. I know that perspective, but just to hint again, that I think sometimes it has to do with... The example you gave, for example, is a perfect example, the agric sector. So you have farmers who are feeding the economy, so it is like you need "them". Government needs them to supply food. And of course, there's also the foreign exchange coming from that sector, there's all this other stuff that is coming from that sector. So that's a sector that has been identified clearly to be very, very beneficial to government. So definitely, of course, it would be easier to make a case for financing. Whilst in the energy sector, okay, if you take away electricity, where actually because power is needed to fuel industries and blah, blah, blah, most of the time, these businesses already even have easy access to finance. If you want to do an energy project, if you pitch a bioenergy project, let's say a stove project against a charcoal project, against a power project, trust me, the power project would fly, 'cause that project is much more organised, it's much more validated, it's much more de-risked for the businessman. So it is much more difficult for government to make a case for other energy sectors which are less formalised.

0:36:10.1 S2: So a typical example is the stove and then the fuel sector. So what government has done over the years is to try consistently engage financial institutions to get them, one, exposed to the sector, to get them exposed to the opportunities in the sector, to get them understand the business sense in that sector. But it hasn't been easy because of course, financial institutions are usually profit-oriented. So anything that would not give them a quick turnover, they're not interested in, while these sectors are not seen as so attractive to them. So over the years, for example, the government through the XXXXand XXXX, worked with GIZ and also SMV to design and implement what they call the Energising Development programme, EnDev.

0:37:08.2 S2: Under it, they had an activity that had to do with a subsidy scheme for improved cook stove for commercial activities. So for example, for cassava processing into garri, for those large, big commercial-based activities. So introducing improved firewood stoves for those activities, where the consumer or the beneficiary pays up to 50% of the cost of the actual technology, and then the project covers the other 50%. And this is channelled through financial institutions, where also efforts were made to ensure that people who could not afford to cough up their part of the funding are arranged under some financing scheme, where they pay the FI over a period of time.

0:38:08.4 S2: But again, there were some challenges because those businesses are businesses that are not seen as very credit-worthy. Most of the beneficiaries also do not have a bank account, which is also seen as one of the requirements most of the time for accessing loans. So it made it very difficult for most of the FIs that were approached to come on board. But a few of them were able to come on board, and I think at least some gains were made in that regard. And as a follow up, current programmes by DPs are also trying ride on the success of the EnDev programme to further develop such packages to support with financing.

0:38:58.2 S2: So again, on financing, the XXXX, XXXX is currently implementing a project called SUNREF, which is Sustainable Use of Natural Resources Fund. It's a project being supported by the French Development Bank, AFD. So it's basically green credit lines being provided for renewable energy entrepreneurs to promote their product. So that is some also financing-related work that is being done by the government, in addition to the SREF that I mentioned. SREF is essentially a financing programme, where finance is being attracted into the renewable energy space for renewable energy businesses to provide services for electrification and other services in off-grid areas. So those are financing-related interventions that government have been able to attract. But I also know that you, from your perspective as a civil society person... Sorry to be drawing you in, but I think you can better appreciate this. The fact that when government is seen to spearhead finance-related interventions, it usually doesn't go well because there's always that impression that if you owe... [chuckle] If you happen to owe the government, you don't really have to pay back, because of course, the notion that government actually owes you that money, it is the government's job to give you... To make sure your business works, to make sure that you have access to so, so and so, so paying back becomes a problem.

0:40:53.0 S2: So government is also always very careful as to the level of involvement it gets when financing is concerned. All that government does is just to facilitate, to facilitate and to ensure that at least some enabling environment are created, maybe fees that are being charged by these FIs are reduced or subsidised by government to make it much more cheaper to lend to the beneficiaries. So that is how government has approached financing over the years.

0:41:25.8 XXXX Okay, okay. Great, I think we're coming to the end. So from that perspective, what would you say are certain, should I say, measures that we would be able to introduce to make sure that there is stronger gender participation in policy formulation, policy implementation, decision-making at a national, community, household level?

0:42:06.8 S2: So, I think basically, better use of the decentralised system, which is the MMDAs, because when planning is done at the grassroot level, it tends to be much more inclusive than at the national level. So having much more MMDA participation, or making use of that structure, to ensure that there's much more participation of target beneficiaries for energy planning purposes. Yeah. Of course, we'll need a lot more active involvement of civil society, NGOs like yourselves in that regard as well.

0:43:02.0 XXXX Okay, so the next question, which is probably the last one, is a bit sensitive, so I would understand if you are not very comfortable with it. So would you say the government of Ghana is committed to energy transition in Ghana? So for instance, we have seen... Ghana has been very much reliant on hydro, but recently, we've also seen some emphasis or focus on gas, natural gas, LPG...

0:43:47.9 S2: Thermal.

0:43:49.5 XXXX Yes, thermal. And we've also seen the government, from, was it 2010, committed to 10% renewable energy by 2020, which has had to be revised. So from these perspectives, how committed would you say the government is to energy transition, that is, moving from non-sustainable sources to more renewable energy sources?

0:44:26.9 S2: Yeah, I would say, yes, the government is very committed to energy transitions. But again, to some extent, it is easy to also say that the government is probably not committed enough. Or rather, the government is biased in the transition. So for example, when it comes to power sector, the transitions are much easier or there tend to be much more effort in terms of driving those transitions. Like you rightly mentioned, at a point in time, we had a large hydro contribution to our power generation mix, and then we made a positive decision to transition to the use of natural gas. And then we saw how that process, within a short period of time, had really picked up, with IPPs being awarded to businesses that showed up offering such services making the particular policy drive possible.

0:45:41.6 S2: Whilst when it comes to, for example, the bioenergy sector, there seems to be very limited effort in that area, even when power is concerned. There are very few bioenergy sources of power, electricity in the country. It is not seen as an area that some effort is being made. So I can say yes and then no at the same time, but again, when you look deeper into the figures, it always comes back to the economic sense. So transition seems to be driven, one, by the economic cost of those transitions. So if it makes economic cost sensible, then of course, you see a lot of drive towards it. And if it happens to be a technology that is well developed and have very little effort to make it happen, it makes it easier for government to make that option over a technology cost that is not fully developed, that is much more expensive to pursue.

0:46:57.4 S2: So that would be my response. Again, if you come to, for example, the fuel sector, the cooking fuel sector, you have a government policy that is very clear that it wants to achieve 50% penetration of LPG by a certain timeline. And the whole policy was designed towards that particular process and the policy actually has started... And the implementation of that policy has been kick started into full force. Whilst on the other hand, the informal technologies, for lack of a better word, like the charcoal, the wood fuel sector which is not fully formalised and therefore not seen as a very attractive sector, seems not to be having a transition that it needs to have. Because one, perhaps it is seen as too difficult a work to do; two, expensive to approach and too much work to start seeing results, so that would be my personal, these are entirely my personal opinions.

0:48:06.6 XXXX Yeah, of course. Of course.

0:48:07.1 S2: So I think, yeah, these are entirely my personal opinion. So that is the other side. So yes, government is committed to transitions, but again, it seems to be focused on what are the easy picks. What are the ones that could show so much progress or achievement within a short period of time with very little effort, with very little investment and all that. So that is the other side of it.

0:48:30.0 XXXX Well, thank you very much for your time. Thank you very much for your insights. This has been a very wonderful and insightful discussion or interview. Yeah, so I just wanted to say thank you for everything.

0:48:52.3 S2: Okay, welcome. We may look forward to at least reading your final report.

0:48:58.5 XXXX Yes, yes, of course. Of course. We were actually...

0:49:01.9 S2: Yeah, 'cause we are seeing what the other people submitted.

0:49:04.9 XXXX Okay. We were actually planning to have a regional meeting, which is something that is still in the planning process, so it's likely to be participants from Ghana, Nigeria and maybe the UK. So I will keep you updated on the progress with that, so that when it is scheduled, I will let you know if you have some time and then you would be able to participate, that would be great.

0:49:32.2 S2: Okay. Okay, that's great.

0:49:34.9 XXXX Okay, alright. Thank you very much.

0:49:37.4 S2: Yes, you are welcome.

0:49:39.6 XXXX Alright, have a nice day.

0:49:42.8 S2: Bye-bye.

0:49:43.5 XXXX Alright.