Accelerating rural energy access in Ethiopia: with a focus on productive uses

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Accelerating clean energy access in rural areas WLE webinar series



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CGIAR research on rural energy access in Ethiopia

- IFPRI: A regional Energy Systems Model for Ethiopia, Sudan, and Egypt
- IFPRI helped develop an Energy Systems Model for Eth
- IFPRI assessed the relative feasibility to accelerate private SSI with solar versus diesel pumps
- IFPRI/IWMI supported understanding of the cost effectiveness of a hybrid rural decentralized energy systems for productive and other uses
- Valuing the synergies between rural electrification and ag production & processing opportunities in Eth: RMI/IFPRI
- Spatially explicit estimation of energy demand for irrigation by energy types - IFPRI and EEG

- Use of biomass for improving farm productivity vs its use to meet domestic energy needs
- Energy as a requirement for agricultural intensification (irrigation, mechanization, fertilizer) - energy input for ag
- Electricity for value addition

Rural Energy Access in Ethiopia: a background

Clean lighting sources in rural

areas



Rural cooking and lighting



Primary oven (*mitad*) for injera baking in rural areas



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Food Vs Fuel linkages - Mekonnen et. al, 2017

- Rural households with and without electricity spend the same amount of time on collecting fuel wood, dung, and other biomass.
- Removal of dung and crop residues results in loss of soil fertility and productivity
- Time spent collecting biomass energy sources reduce labor allocated to agriculture, but it depends on when the biomass is collected and who does the collecting.

Energy input for agricultural intensification

- Ethiopian agricultural mechanization is about 0.1 kW/ha. India's level of mechanization was approximately 2 kW/ha in 2014, and China's was over 6 kW/ha.
- Most of the energy in Ethiopia's agriculture is the one embodied in chemical fertilizers, which has increased significantly in the last two decades.
- Investment in agriculture continues to be GoE's priority with greater emphasis on infrastructure, including water and irrigation schemes
- At least 13 ongoing large scale irrigation projects with a combined command area of more than 400,000Ha

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Irrigation and energy use in Ethiopia

Diversity of energy options



Irrigated crops by energy type



■ Grains ■ Fodder legume ■ Legumes ■ Roots/tubers/Vegetables ■ Perrenial crops

O&M cost of irrigation per ha by energy type



Net return of irrigation per ha by energy type (2016/17)



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Energy/Electricity for value addition

- Electrification has great potential to help rural small holders power increased agricultural productivity, unlock local processing activities, and create new businesses.
- Borgstein et. al (2020) examined six agricultural production and processing opportunities for rural areas in Ethiopia: horticulture irrigation, grain milling, injera baking, milk cooling, bread baking, and coffee washing.
- These areas have the potential to produce US\$4 billion in annual value using electric appliances by 2025.
- Supplying the appliances is itself a US\$380 million investment opportunity.
- These six areas can produce an additional US\$22 million annual revenue stream for the utility by 2025, by selling more units of power with the same capital investment.

What needs to happen? Borgstein et. al (2020)



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THANK YOU

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