

Women and sustainable development in Angola by World Press Photo: 16 Hypotheses.

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1. MOST OF THE WORLD'S POOR ARE WOMEN. Despite its abundant natural resources, Angola is ranked among the lowest income countries in the world. In 2010, Angola ranked 143th out of 182 countries on the Human Development Index (HDI).

According to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), an estimated 38 percent of the Angolan population lives below the 1,25 USD poverty line. The Amsterdam Institute of Labour Studies (AIAS) of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) published more detailed figures in 2009. One quarter (26 percent) live in extreme poverty, or on less than 0,75 USD per day. In 2009, over half of the Angolan population had to live on less than 1 USD per day.

African Development Bank (ADB) in 2008 included national illiteracy, widespread malnutrition, a high under-five child mortality rate and a limited access to safe water, sanitation and health care services in Angola's main poverty indicators.

Poverty distribution in Angola is clearly gender-related, with female-headed households forming the majority of the poorest households. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) claims that least a third of households in Angola were headed by women in 2007. Poverty is far more widespread in the country's rural areas. In 2007, IFAD estimated 94 percent of Angolan rural households were poor.

According to recent UNDP estimates, 35 per cent of the population is currently undernourished. Around 46 per cent of the Angolan population is under 18. African Economic Outlook reported in 2010 that Angola's population is set to grow from around 18 million today to 24.5 million in 2020, meaning it will face demographic challenges in the future.

There is also positive news. In October 2010, the UN Resident Coordinator in Angola, Koen Vanormelingen, said that poverty levels have decreased from 63 percent in 2002 to 38 percent in 2009.

Life expectancy remains low, at 46.7 years according to African Economic Outlook (AEO) figures from 2010, but has jumped by nearly five years in less than a decade.

The devastating impact that 27 years of war have had on Angola's socio-economic conditions can still be felt everywhere in the country, but reconstruction of Angola's infrastructure has proceeded at an impressive pace since the end of the civil war in 2002. That has also benefited the poor, even though many projects are reportedly of poor quality.

2. LACK OF WOMEN IN FORMAL ECONOMY. Unemployment in Angola is widespread, but reportedly decreasing. According to AEO, 25.2 percent of the Angolan population was still jobless in 2010, but large-scale government investment has made the economy more dynamic.

In urban areas, the poor almost always work in the informal economy. The microfinance institution Kixicredito estimated that in 2010 that less than 30 percent of the economically active population had bank accounts.

AIAS, among other sources, reported in a 2009 report that Angola's informal market is dominated by women (roughly 60 percent), many of whom are heads of households. These women can be found everywhere in the streets of Angola's capital, Luanda, often selling agricultural produce.

Police crackdowns have increasingly made it difficult for the poor to carry out their businesses in the streets, particularly in the centre of Luanda. Transforming their informal business activities by borrowing from banks is difficult for the poor, AIAS reports, because they cannot guarantee any collateral. They are therefore forced to pay high interest rates to parallel money dealers for very short-term loans, which often leaves them in chronic debt.

3. LACK OF WOMEN IN LABOR FORCE. In 2010, the proportion of Angolan women in non-agricultural paid labor was 24 percent, according to the World Economic Forum's 2010 Gender Gap Index (GGI). It appears that the lack of childcare facilities in Angola rarely causes mothers to stay at home. It does, however, in many cases affect children's chances of getting proper education.

Around 30 percent of Angolan households are headed by women. The main reasons for that are the large number of male casualties during the war, male labor migration, conscription and the fact that many women are members of polygamous households.

The African Development Bank (ADB) in a 2008 report writes that women's increased economic activity has not reduced their workload at home, which means that many of them are forced to leave their children unsupervised from an early age. To help their families survive, many children pick up paid work and consequently do not go to school.

There are policies in place to prevent this from happening. Angola is a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Well-being of Children. It has ratified the core Conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), which prohibit child labor.

Angolan mothers have specific legal rights. According to Angola's National Labor Code, women have the legal right to three months maternity leave and to breastfeeding intervals. ADB reports that employers are not allowed to dismiss a female employee within one year after she has given birth. On the 2010 GGI, it is

reported that Angolan women are entitled to 100 per cent of their salary during their maternity leave.

Unfortunately, according to ADB the enforcement of this legislation is poor and its impact weak.

4. LACK OF FEMALE BUSINESS LEADERS. On the 2010 GGI, Angola scores 4,76 on a scale of 1 to 7 on the ability of women to rise to positions of enterprise leadership. On a scale from 0.00 (inequality) to 1.00 (equality), Angola scored 0.69 for wage equality for similar work on the 2010 GGI. The estimated earned income (PPP in USD) that year was 6,592 for males and 4.212 for females. The female-to-male ratio for the number of legislators, senior officials and managers was 0.18 on a scale from 0.00 to 1,00.

World Press Photo gathered several examples of the women this score is or was about.

Guilhermina Miguel at the time of writing was the Angolan Head of Finance of Panalpina Angola, a leading Swiss logistics provider to the oil and gas industry. Panalpina reportedly also employs a relatively high number of Angolan female managers.

Natacha Massano at the time of writing was the Chief Accountant of Angola's state oil company Sonangol, Anabela Fonseca Vice President at Sonangol E.P.

Paula Coelho at the time of writing was Markets and Assets Director at Banco Nacional de Angola (BNA), Felicidade Guardado Assistant Director at TCG, Sonia Van-Dúnem commercial director at TCG and Herminia Barbosa was Administration Assistant at diamond company De Beers.

A considerable number of women in top positions can reportedly also be found in Angolan media. Radio station Luanda Antena Comercial (LAC) at the time of writing was led by Louisa Falcony.

The boards of Rádio Nacional de Angola and Televisão Pública de Angola in 2010 reportedly included two women each, and the Angolan newspapers Jornal de Angola and A Capital reportedly both had female editors-in-chief at the time of writing.

Women in top positions can also be found in top positions at Angolan law firms. For example three out of eight partners at one of Angola's most renowned law firms, FBL Advogados, are female.

Julia Couchinho, assistant operations director at Banco Espiritu Santo Angola (BESA), told World Press Photo that there are 16 women in her company's directorate.

Despite the promising facts and figures mentioned above, she stressed that Angola still does not have enough female directors and managers. They are clearly a minority, she said. "I also believe that women in top positions in Angola earn less than their male counterparts."

4. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FUNDS. Microfinance has been promoted by the Angolan Government as a key 'poverty reduction strategy'. Many NGOs in Angola hold the same view.

The NGO Development Workshop (DW) pioneered microfinance in Angola in 1996. Since 1999, its Sustainable Livelihoods Program (SLP) has supported thousands of micro-entrepreneurs, 65 percent of whom women, with access to loans and savings. Research shows that generally speaking, women are financially more adept than men.

DW is the creator of KixiCredito, a self-sustainable microcredit institution which in 2006 became Angola's first non-bank Micro Finance Institution (MFI).

Having started as an NGO project in 1999, it was successfully transformed to a microcredit institution registered by the Angolan Central Bank in 2008.

Kixicredito CEO Joaquim Catinda confirms that 60 percent Kixicredito's microcredit is still being targeted towards Angolan women. "Microcredit plays a very important role in the lives of their families," Mr Catinda told World Press Photo.

Kixicredito has a portfolio of over 10,000 clients supported through seven branches in Luanda and Huambo provinces. Its goal is to eventually build a client base of 18,000 to 20,000 low-income entrepreneurs.

The MFI, which currently supports unbanked entrepreneurs in Luanda, Huambo, Kuito-Bie, Benguela, Cabinda and Soyo-Zaire, aims to cover all Angolan provinces in the near future. Kixicredito has the potential to do that, Catinda said. "Kixicredito accumulates an operational experience of over eleven years in Angola."

In 2009, UNDP observed that possibilities in the field of microfinance in Angola have improved through capacity building of Angola's key officials in the Microfinance Committee Secretariat.

6. GENDER INEQUALITIES. From a legal-institutional perspective, Angolan women enjoy a high degree of civil liberty, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) pointed out in a 2008 report. Nevertheless, women's position in Angolan society remains difficult.

The government created a Secretariat of State for the Promotion and Development of Women in 1991, which was reinstated as the Ministry of Family and Promotion of Women six years later. Today, is still the primary government agency responsible for ensuring equal rights for Angolan women.

The Angolan Constitution outlines equal rights between sexes, and contains no restrictions on women's freedom of movement or dress.

Angola's Family Code establishes equality between men and women within the family, and women and men in theory have equal access to land. According to Angolan inheritance law, women are entitled to half of their deceased husband's estate. The Constitution gives women the legal right to engage in various kinds of contracts, to own and manage property, and to open bank accounts. Many Angolan

women lost their husbands during the civil war and are now sole income providers for themselves and their families. They have been forced to shoulder greater responsibilities in all areas of society, including those traditionally dominated by men.

But despite equal rights within families, women in Angola have to cope with a relatively low level of legal protection in relation to family matters and their physical integrity. General poverty, displacement and patriarchal norms add to their burden.

Angolan women often marry at a very early age, which increases their vulnerability. The legal age of marriage in Angola is 18 years for both sexes, but a 2004 United Nations report estimated 36 percent of girls between 15 and 19 years of age were married, divorced or widowed. According to the 2010 GDI, the average marriage age for Angolan women is 19.

In 2010, Angola ranked 81 out of 134 in the GGI. That is 15 points higher than in 2006, when Angola ranked 96.

7. PERSISTENCE OF POVERTY: NGOs and the Angolan government both work to give children in need a better future than their parents. In many cases, they collaborate to achieve that goal.

Angola's National Council for Children, which was signed into law in 2007, has developed '11 Commitments for Children'. With these, it aims to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and promote universal respect for children's rights at all governmental, public and family levels. The 11th Commitment spells out children's portion of the state budget. UNICEF has been supporting the Angolan government since 1976 and currently helps both the government and civil society in Angola fulfill its 11 Commitments, UNICEF reports on its website.

The government's goal is to have 90 per cent of children complete primary education by 2015, AEO reported in 2010. As school results and attendance are closely tied to nutrition, a project for free school lunches, '*merenda escolar*', has been created. More than 1 million children could benefit from it. But according to AEO this project is on hold, awaiting donor support.

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) mobilizes NGOs to pressure the Angolan government to increase its – according to ADRA - 6 percent education budget. This NGO is currently also training 1275 teachers and teaches parents the importance of sending their children to school.

Analyzing the role of the Angolan government in education is not easy, Mr Cambuta of Adra told World Press Photo. "Theoretically speaking the government wants education for virtually all by 2015. But you can't have good education without putting money into it."

World Learning, Save the Children, ADRA and Africare, among many other NGO's,

carry out educational and other projects for Angolan children.

The Teacher Emergency Package (TEP), a joint project between UNICEF, the Norwegian Refugee Council and Ibis, in recent years offered 215,000 children and youngsters who were unable to attend school during the civil war an intensive 35-course in basic reading, writing and 'life skills'. After the course, pupils were absorbed into the regular education system. TEP also trained more than 5,000 teachers. Its staff were paid by the Angolan government.

Save the Children reported in 2010 that it is improving basic healthcare for 280,000 children and helps more than 53,000, particularly girls, get better education. Together with the Angolan Ministry of Education, Save the Children has trained hundreds of teachers, head teachers and Ministry of Education staff.

8. FEMALE SCHOOL ENROLMENT. Enrolment in primary education in Angola has improved over the last years, but it remains poor. Angola ranks 120 out of 134 countries on the 2010 GGI literacy rate index. On a scale of 0.00 (inequality) to 1.00 (equality) male-to-female ratio, it scores 0.69.

Angola's female literacy rate according to the 2010 GGI is 57 percent, male literacy is 87 percent. On enrolment in primary education, Angola ranks 129 on the GGI. On a scale from 0.00 (inequality) to 1.00 (equality), the male-to-female score for primary education enrolment is 0.86. A mere 48 percent of Angolan girls and 55 percent of Angolan boys enroll in primary school. On enrolment in secondary education, Angola ranks 122 on the 2010 GGI. Percentages for male and female secondary education enrolment were not available in 2010.

The male-to-female ratio for secondary education enrolment that year in 2010 was 0.78 on a scale of 0.00 (inequality) to 1.00 equality. On tertiary education enrolment, Angola ranks 110 out of 134 countries on the 2010 GGI. The male-to-female ratio for tertiary education is 0.65 on the 0.00 to 1.00 scale.

Thirty percent of teachers in secondary education and 20 percent of teachers in tertiary education were female in 2010, according to that year's GGI.

9. HEALTH. Angola's health indicators are amongst the worst in the world according to the World Health Organization (WHO), but there are hopeful signs of improvement.

The healthy life expectancy in the 2010 GGI is 44 years for men and 47 years for women. WHO reports that only 44,5 percent of the population is covered by health services and that in the Angolan capital of Luanda, only 62 percent of pregnant women have access to health facilities.

Angola is also vulnerable to the occurrence of epidemics due to poor sanitation and water supply systems and the lack of preventive programs. Malaria, acute respiratory diseases and diarrhoeal diseases account for approximately 70 percent of

all causes of morbidity and 60 percent of all causes of mortality. WHO notes that 40 percent of deaths among children younger than 5 and one quarter of maternal deaths are caused by malaria.

Detection and treatment of chronic diseases such as Leprosy and Trypanosomiasis is poor.

On a more positive note, WHO also reports “tremendous” achievements in Angola’s Expanded Program for Immunization, aimed at preventing diseases including polio, measles and tetanus, in the last ten years.

In addition, UNDP reports that health indicators in Angola are improving. Angola’s under-five mortality rate (number of deaths per 1000 live births) has steadily decreased, from 260 per 1000 live births in 2003 to 154 in 2007. For 2010, the GGI reports an even lower number of infant deaths: 130 per 1000 live births.

The maternal mortality rate (number of deaths per 100,000 live births) also shows a modest decrease, from 1,800 in 2000 to 1,700 in 2007. The proportion of births attended by skilled personnel remains insufficient at 1.8 percent in 2005.

The Angolan government’s goal of having three doctors per 10, 000 inhabitants by 2012 appears ambitious. But AEO reports that according to official sources, in 2008 the number of malaria cases fell by 5.8 percent, tuberculosis by 17.5 percent and cholera by 42.7 percent. UNDP notes that mortality due to malaria decreased from 13,000 deaths in 2005 to 11,000 deaths in 2007.

As a result of the isolation Angola experienced during its 27-year civil war, the number of people infected with HIV/AIDS remains relatively low. The authorities have officially succeeded in their goal to keep HIV/AIDS prevalence under 3 percent, and government sources have even declared a 35.3 percent drop in incidence in 2008. HIV/AIDS prevalence among the population aged 15-24 years has so far grossly remained stable. It was estimated at 2.8 percent in 2002, 2.5 percent in 2005 and 2.1 in 2007. In the year 2008, 94, 915 Angolan children were infected with HIV/AIDS.

Future prospects are more worrying. Ever since the end of the war in 2002, HIV/AIDS has been perceived as a real threat in Angola. It is feared that infection rates will increase with the return of Angolan refugees from highly infected countries and the increasing number of foreign visitors. Significantly higher infection levels can already be found in regions near Angola’s neighboring countries. Close to the Angolan-Namibian border, 9 percent infection levels have been reported.

The UNDP claims that the potential for an accelerated epidemic is high, as only 1 out of 5 young people aged 15-24 years had comprehensive and correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS in 2005.

10. LACK OF WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT. The number of female politicians in Angola has increased considerably over the last years, but there is still room for

improvement.

Nine ministers, three governors, seven deputy ministers and four secretaries of state in Angola were female in 2010.

Angola's Constitution does not stipulate quotas to ensure women's representation in publicly elected bodies. The ruling People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), however, did adopt a 30 percent quota for its female candidates in the 2008 parliamentary elections. The proportion of seats held by women in the National Assembly changed significantly as a result, reaching 41 percent according to UNDP figures. According to EISA, women represented only 9,5 percent of the National Assembly after the 1992 elections. The proportion of women in the Government as a whole reached 33 percent in 2008, UNDP reports.

Several media attribute this breakthrough largely to the work of secretary-general Luiza Inglês Van-Dúnem of the Organização da Mulher Angolana (OMA), the women's wing of the MPLA.

Angola ranks 24 out of 134 countries on female political empowerment On the 2010 GGI. On a scale of 0.00 (inequality) to 1.00 (equality) for the number of women in parliament, it scores 0.63. In 2010, 39 percent of the Angolan parliament was made up of women; 61 percent were men. On the number of women in ministerial positions Angola ranks 27 and scores 0.38 on a scale of 0.00 to 1.00. Of Angola's ministers, in 2010 28 percent was female and 72 male.

Angola has never had a female head of state.

11. BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS. OMA and Rede de Mulheres are arguably Angola's most influential women's rights organizations. Other women's rights organizations in Angola include Angolan Action for Development (AAD), Angolan Women's Organization, League of Angolan Women (LIMA), Organisation des Femmes Angolaises, Pan-African Women's Organization and Secretariat d'Etat pour la Promotion et le Developpement de la Femme.

OMA struggles for equality between women and men by working to eradicate female illiteracy, increasing women's political awareness and by encouraging them to join politics. The organization provides women with technical skills, promotes their economic empowerment, and increases their meaningful participation in national government. Other topics that OMA focuses on are micro-credit, fighting violence against women, women's health and family planning. OMA is led by Luiza Inglês Van-Dúnem.

Evalina Sangui Ndombele founded Rede Mulher Angolana (RMA) 15 years ago. RMA's main objective is to create an information network to promote gender equality. Its goals are to reduce poverty, illiteracy and to improve maternal and

infant health. The organization also teaches women how to register as a citizen, stresses the importance of voting, trains women in decision-making within communities and mobilizes communities to support girls.

12. CLIMATE CHANGE. Access to drinking water is still very limited in Angola, UNDP reports. That has led to successive outbreaks of cholera, among other health problems. In Luanda's suburbs, people pay high prices for poor quality water from private vendors. Many water standpoints do not function. In suburban areas, they often do not even exist. In a number of provinces most people use river water, exposing themselves to serious health risks.

In 2007, IFAD reported that more than 60 percent of Angolans obtain their water from unsafe sources. The UN Human Development Report 2009 indicated that almost 49 per cent of the population did not have access to improved water sources. UNICEF reports that in 2010 only 42 percent of people had access to water, down from 60 percent in 2001.

UNDP reports that a national clean water program is being executed by the Ministry of Energy and Water, the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Employment and Social Security. The 7,600,000 USD project, which is carried out in collaboration with various UN Partners and the Spanish government, will run until 31 December 2011.

AEO calls recent official claims that nearly 80 per cent of the rural population will have access to clean water by 2012 "optimistic".

13. FEMALE CONSUMERS. Eco-labeled products such as fruits and vegetables are reportedly not or very rarely sold in Angola. Taking care of the environment is not at the forefront of most people's minds in Angola, many people say. Other concerns usually come first, including access to safe water, food, electricity, jobs and education, and health.

Eco-products do exist on a large scale in Angola, but that does not stem from concerns about the environment. "Angola hardly has any non-ecological agriculture," Minne Prins of the Netherlands African Business Council told World Press Photo. "Angolan farmers usually don't use fertilizer or pesticides."

The reason, Prins said, is that large-scale agricultural businesses hardly exist in the country. Angola was once one of Africa's top agricultural exporters, but the sector has yet to emerge from the losses caused by the civil war. Although agriculture accounts for half of total employment in Angola and represents only 6.8 percent of GDP according to 2008 AEO figures, most of Angola's agriculture depends on small-holders who grow rain-fed crops on 2 to 3 ha plots. In 2008, the ADB estimated that traditional peasant farmers accounted for 80 percent of Angola's agricultural production.

“Angolan agricultural products are produced by small family farms. Even Angolan meat production would be described as ecological by Western standards. Cows in Angola have large fields full of grass at their disposal. They run around freely until they are about seven years old, and are only slaughtered on special occasions.”

This situation might soon change, however. AEO reports that national agricultural investments are being backed by extensive funds from international donors. Angola, among fourteen other African countries, is set to benefit from the G8’s USD 20 billion fund for investment in agriculture, nutrition and food security. And that is just one example on a list of large-scale financial and technical investments in Angolan agriculture planned for the near future.

14. WOMEN AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES. The Angolan national gender strategy describes women as “intimately related to nature” in their role as household managers. But Angola’s Environment Law is not explicitly gender aware, ADB reports. According to the ADB, the consequent risk is that women will not be consulted on environmental issues because they lack representation and organization. There is currently at least one crucial exception, however. Angola has a female Environment Minister: Fatima Jardim.

Reports on the role of women in Angola’s environmental policies are very scarce. More has been written on the role of African women in environmental issues in general. In a recent article, Time magazine reports on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The IPCC says that by 2020, the effects of climate change, including rising sea levels and flooding as well as droughts and desertification, could put 80 to 120 million people at risk of hunger, 70 to 80 percent of whom would be Africans.

Newsweek reports that in 2009, in the run-up to Copenhagen’s climate summit, UNDP head Helen Clark outlined how climate change will disproportionately affect the world’s poor, explaining that millions of farmers and nomads “will not be able to cope with the additional burden of a changing climate.” Among those poor the most vulnerable group will be women, the UN says. They are usually the ones responsible for gathering firewood, water and food for their families. The effects of climate change make it harder to secure these resources. At the same time, less women than men are in positions of power to protect natural resources.

Action is already being taken. The UN-backed program REDD, which was on the agenda during the recent climate summit in Cancún, aims to reward developing countries in return for forest protection.

Women have a special role in protecting the environment, particularly in the developing countries that are most at risk. Elizabeth May, who has been an

environmental activist for 40 years, told Newsweek that the biggest environmental issue for women globally is to “level off population growth” by making sure that women have access to health care, family planning, literacy and political empowerment.

Renate Künast, party chairwoman of the Greens in Germany, told Newsweek: “Women are the ones dealing with every day life. Dealing with food. Dealing with the very immediate environment where people live. They are the ones focusing on environmental issues at their roots... [In Africa, China, South America.] They are the ones going for creative solutions – planting trees, implementing solar cookers, and so on.”

15. FAIR TRADE. Hardly any information can be found on fair trade in Angola. The Dutch Coalition for Fair Trade (*Coalitie voor Eerlijke Handel*) reported in 2010 that Angola, Namibia and South Africa are the only countries in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) that have not yet signed the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the European Union. The World Trade Foundation told World Press Photo that it does not have any business partners in Angola, but that it does not rule out cooperating with Angolan partners in the near future. No specific reasons were given for the current absence of trade agreements with Angola. Minne Prins of the NABC told World Press Photo that free trade between The Netherlands and Angola is not (yet) high on the NABC agenda.

As women play an influential role in Angolan agriculture, their role is likely to be at least equally important once fair trade agreements are implemented.

16. GREEN ENERGY. Angola is a large country with a relatively low population density and a vast amount of land suitable for biofuel crop production - particularly soybean-based biodiesel, Forbes magazine reports. It also has one of the world’s largest areas of non-forest agricultural land in the world.

According to Forbes, “Brazil, China and the European Union have identified sub-Saharan Africa as a region with ideal agro-climatic conditions and the socioeconomic potential needed to become a large-scale biofuel feedstock provider over the next decade.” That includes Angola.

Forbes reports that the cities of Luanda and Maputo have both signed a biofuel development cooperation agreement with Brazilian energy multinational Petrobras, but that development plans are still “at the embryonic stage”. Petrobras and national Italian oil company Eni have signed a partnership agreement in 2009 to build biofuel plants in Angola to serve the Italian market.

The Angolan government is busy developing its own agricultural potential, including biofuels. According to Forbes, Angola is predominantly heading in the direction of

biodiesel production.

Angola's national oil company Sonangol, Damer and Brazilian business conglomerate Odebrecht, which previously joined to form the Bioenergy Company of Angola (BIOCOM), according to BiofuelsDigest are moving ahead with their 258 million USD sugarcane, ethanol and power project in the province of Malanje. The project is due to be completed in 2012.

Chevron invests in broader environmental programs in Angola. Other big oil companies in the country that were approached by World Press Photo do not (yet) invest in green energy in Angola.

On the other side of the spectrum, the NGO CARE also invests in green energy in Angola. Three CARE solar energy projects are reportedly being executed in Andulo. Andulo's municipal administration invested over 100,000 USD in the installation of solar panels for community and health centers in 2008, the NGO reports. CARE has already implemented a hydro power grid electrification project in the outskirts of Luanda.

According to ADB 2008 figures, the estimated number of women in the construction sector was 11 percent. There do not appear to be any recent figures on the number of women working in the energy sector in Angola.