Governance/policy

Improve access to energy services through:

- Improving governance
- Increasing capacity

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Why is assistance needed in terms of governance and capacity building?

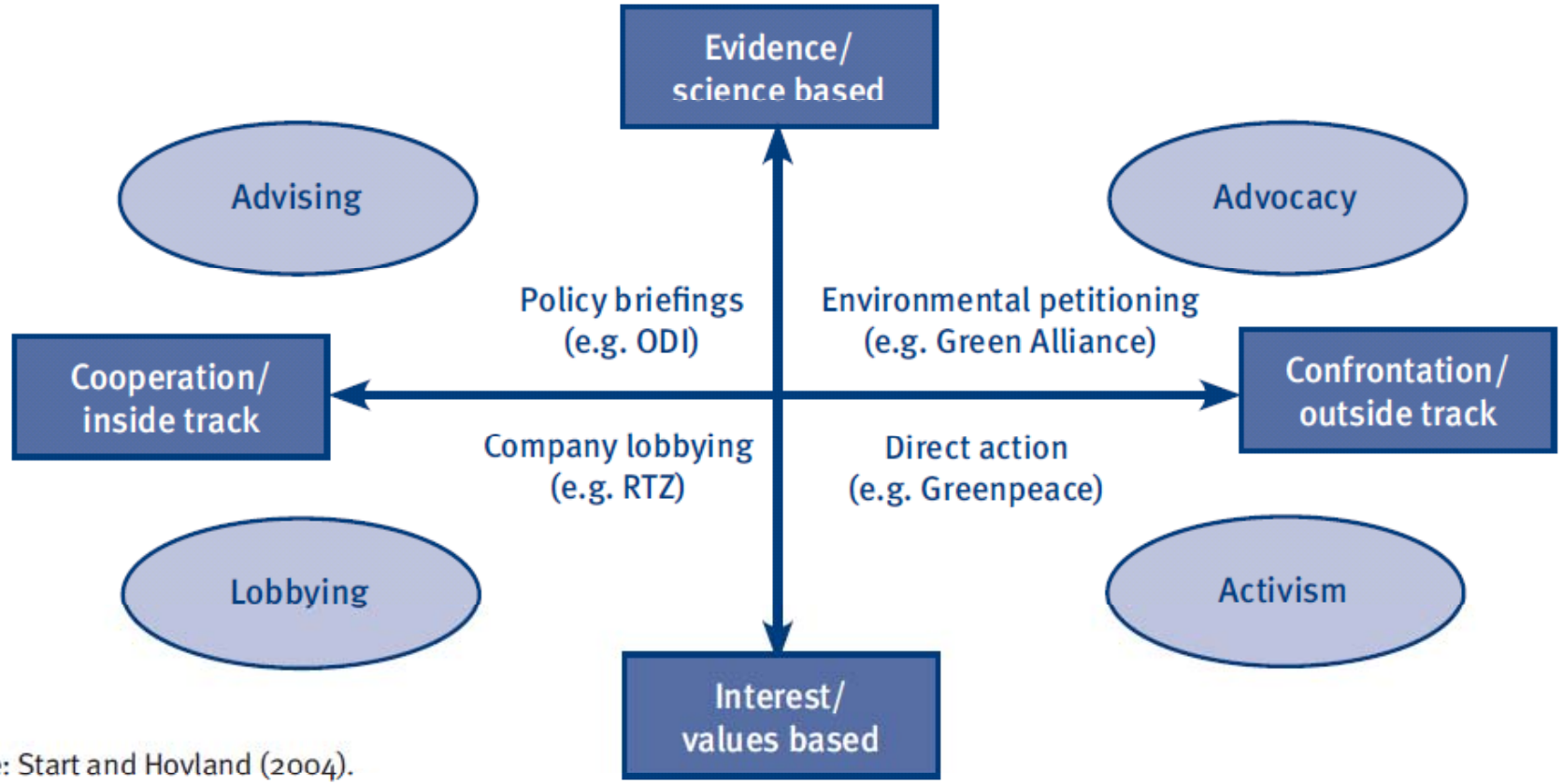
- Increased access to safe and sustainable energy services is not mainly a technical issue (grid extension / mini network / off-grid solutions; renewable / thermal)
- One problem is very low level of investment, critically related to governance and capacity issues
- Private sector investment can be ensured if political, institutional, legal and regulatory framework is in order
- Public sector is important to ensure social fairness inside the country

Issues to be addressed

- Inadequate institutional and regulatory schemes
- Weak planning and organisational capacity of the public authorities
- Low performing national utilities with reduced investment capacity
- Restricted number and low capacity of private local actors
- Low capacity of local authorities

Influencing Policy

Figure 1: Policy influencing approaches



Source: Start and Hovland (2004).

Type of influencing	Where? Through what channels?	How? By what means?
Evidence and advice	• National and international policy discourses/debates • Formal and informal meetings	• Research and analysis, 'good practice' • Evidence-based argument • Providing advisory support • Developing and piloting new policy approaches
Public campaigns and advocacy	• Public and political debates in developing countries • Public meetings, speeches, presentations • Television, newspapers, radio and other media	• Public communications and campaigns • 'Public education' • Messaging • Advocacy
Lobbying and negotiation	• Formal meetings • Semi-formal and informal channels • Membership and participation in boards and committees	• Face-to-face meetings and discussions • Relationships and trust • Direct incentives and diplomacy

Source: Jones, A guide to monitoring and evaluating policy influence, Feb 2011

Policy, and approaches to influencing it

- Influencing work is often unique, rarely repeated or replicated and, even worse, there are incentives against the sharing of 'good practice'.
- If one lobby found, for example, some kind of 'magic bullet' to influence policy, it would be nullified if they shared the technique publically.
- Equally, policy-makers are unlikely to be happy with claims that their decisions can be attributed to the influence of another actor.

Capacity development

- At different levels: institutional (governance), organisations (performance) and individuals (competences);
- For different functions: policy, strategy, planning, service delivery (technical aspects) and service management

Support to public policies

of the Ministries in charge, the local authorities, the regulatory bodies and the rural electrification agencies

(i) Institutional and regulatory approaches

- at national and regional level => develop the potential for decentralised and for renewable energies, for a sustainable management of the biomass energy resource and for energy efficiency.

(ii) *Tariff setting*

- reliability and predictability is crucial to build trust

(iii) *Investment planning*

- improved planning tools should allow prioritising investment based on local potential and resources

- Support to national utilities,
  - to achieve improved technical, managerial and commercial performance, to increase their investment capacity and to secure private investment
- Support to the emergence of new operators and investors,
  - who will ensure the provision of energy services outside the national concessions
- Development of local technical skills,
  - for the practical setting up, exploitation and maintenance of new facilities
  - for developing bio-mass technologies and for increasing their efficiency.
- Communication and sensitisation to change behaviour
  - among decision makers, investors and consumers

The ACP EU Energy Facility and Governance

- 10 “pure” Governance projects financed by EF I
- A multitude of the remaining 61 projects have elements of governance – policy making
- Many projects are focusing on capacity building. E.g. Training seminars, Institutional strengthening
- Provision of evidence and advice is another approach
- Focus on changing the attitude of politicians. E.g. To let them understand the importance of energy efficiency
  - Example: Many countries find that growth in energy use is a sign of increases in welfare

Useful links

- Position paper on governance and capacity building for the ACP-EU Energy Facility http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/acp/regional-cooperation/energy/documents/governance_position_paper_en.pdf
- European Union Energy Initiative Partnership Dialogue Facility (EUEI PDF) http://www.euei-pdf.org/index.html
- Harry Jones, A guide to monitoring and evaluating policy influence, February 2011. Overseas Development Institute www.odi.org.uk

Presentations by Energy Facility projects

- “Somalia Energy and Livelihood Project”, Somalia [ADRA Somalia / ADRA UK]
- “Up scaling the Smaller Biogas Plants for Agricultural Producers and Processes”, Kenya [GTZ, KENFAP]