

From Fuel Stacking to Fuel Switching: Role of Women's Economic Empowerment

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Ujjwala: Capital Subsidy for LPG

Fuel stacking – where LPG is secondary and wood remains primary fuel

Fuel switching – where LPG becomes primary fuel

Access or supply does not necessarily equal use or demand

Wood is collected with women's unpaid labour

Ujjwala: Capital Subsidy for LPG

Our prediction – there would be large-scale fuel stacking (wood as primary fuel) where

Women collect wood with their unvalued labour – i.e. not-so-developed rural areas

Indicator – number of refills bought per year

Odisha – 3.5 cylinders per year against 8-9 per year in Tamil Nadu

Rural Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, MP – Government figure of 2 cylinders per year

Same from discussion with LPG dealers

LPG as Primary Fuel – When?

- Adopted by 57% of women as independent income earners, vs 29% of unpaid family workers
- Adopted by 89% CBO members, vs 60% of non-CBO members
- LPG as labour-saving cooking, when women need to reduce drudgery
- **POLICY: Women as independent income earners, promoting purchasing power in hands of women, through women's groups**

Economic Empowerment of Women

- Relatively slow process
- Deal with non-economic factors in fuel use decision making
- **NUDGE** – campaign to make clean cooking the
- **NEW NORMAL**

- **CONCLUSION**
- To existing capital subsidy (**supply intervention**) add economic empowerment of women and campaign to make LPG the new normal (**demand interventions**)





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