



**A Decentralised  
Approach to Renewable  
Energy Production  
that**

***Enhances Gender Equity  
in South Africa***

**Annie Sugrue**



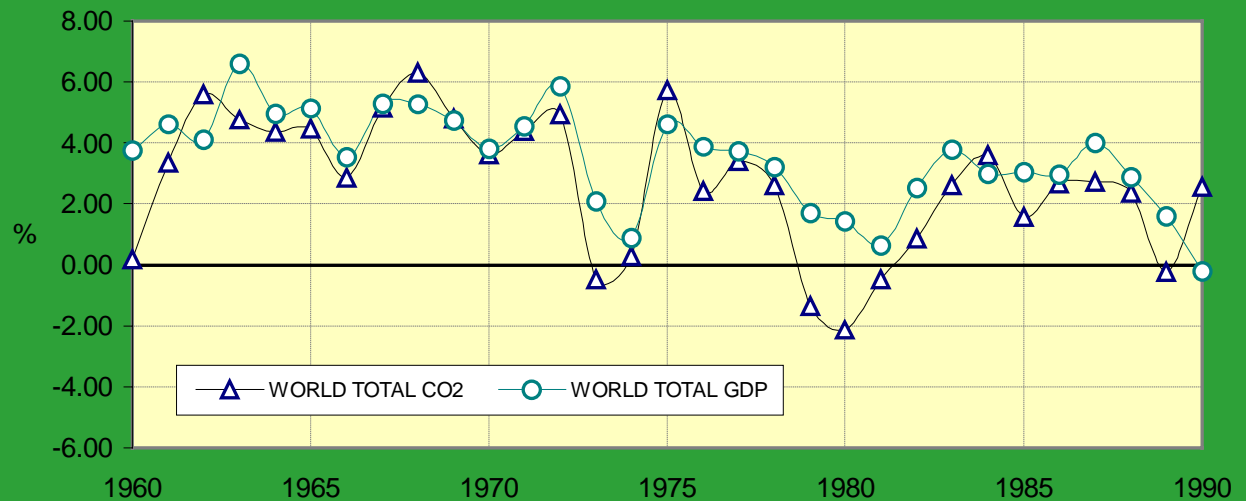
# Why Gender and Energy

- Women and men have different roles in the energy system: women bear the main burden of providing and using biomass energy for cooking. A situation made worse by fuel scarcity; and negative health and safety impacts
- Women bear the invisible burden of human energy crisis their time and effort in water pumping, agricultural processing and transport. They need modern and more efficient energy sources to improve their work and quality of life both within and outside the home
- Women have less access than men to the credit, extension, land and training, necessary for improving energy access to support their livelihoods and income generation from micro enterprises
- Women and men have different kinds of knowledge and experience of energy, either through their traditional roles, their new traditional roles or increasingly as professionals in the energy sector
- Since women experience poverty differently to men, they may need different energy policies to help them escape energy poverty: new energy technologies can even have unintended negative consequences for women, as has happened in the past with other technologies

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# The Close Link Between Energy Use and Economic Growth

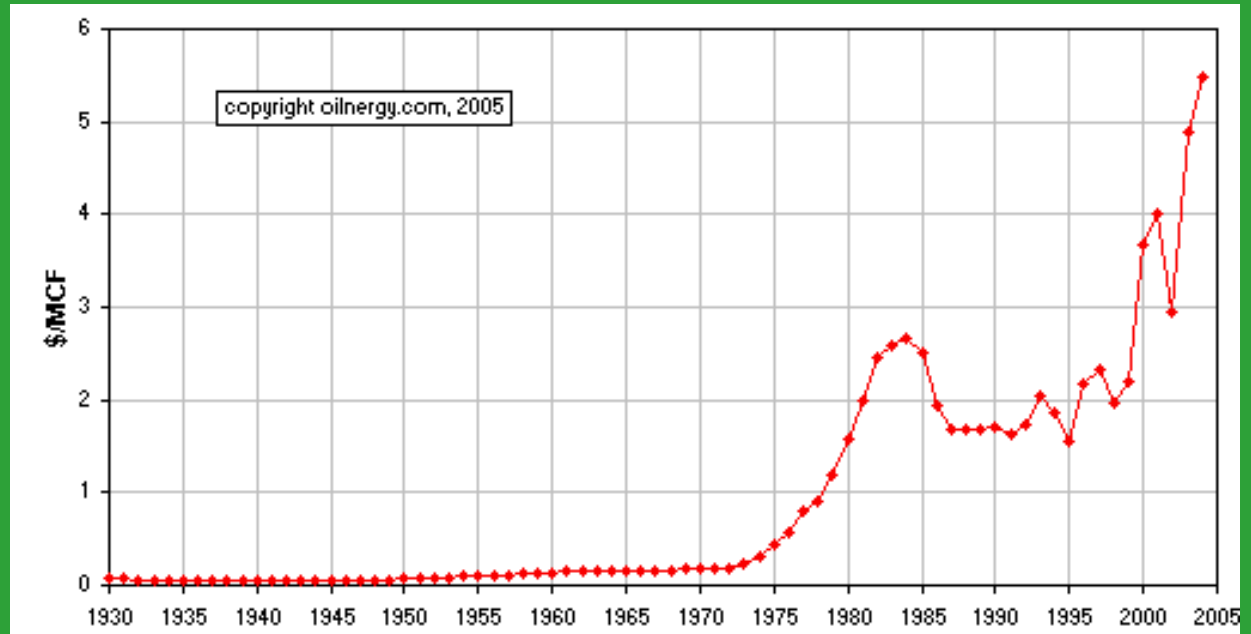
WORLD ANNUAL %s GDP:CO2 1960-1990



# IPE Brent Crude Oil Closing Price (being July 1988)



# U.S. Wellhead Natural Gas Price



# The Current Energy Regime

- CENTRALISED → Creates Dependence
- DEPENDENCE → Susceptible to Costs Increase
- COST INCREASE → Greater Energy Poverty
- ENERGY POVERTY → Use of Local Biomass and other Unhealthy Energy
- FOSSIL FUEL DRIVEN → Polluting and Depleting







# Mali Platform

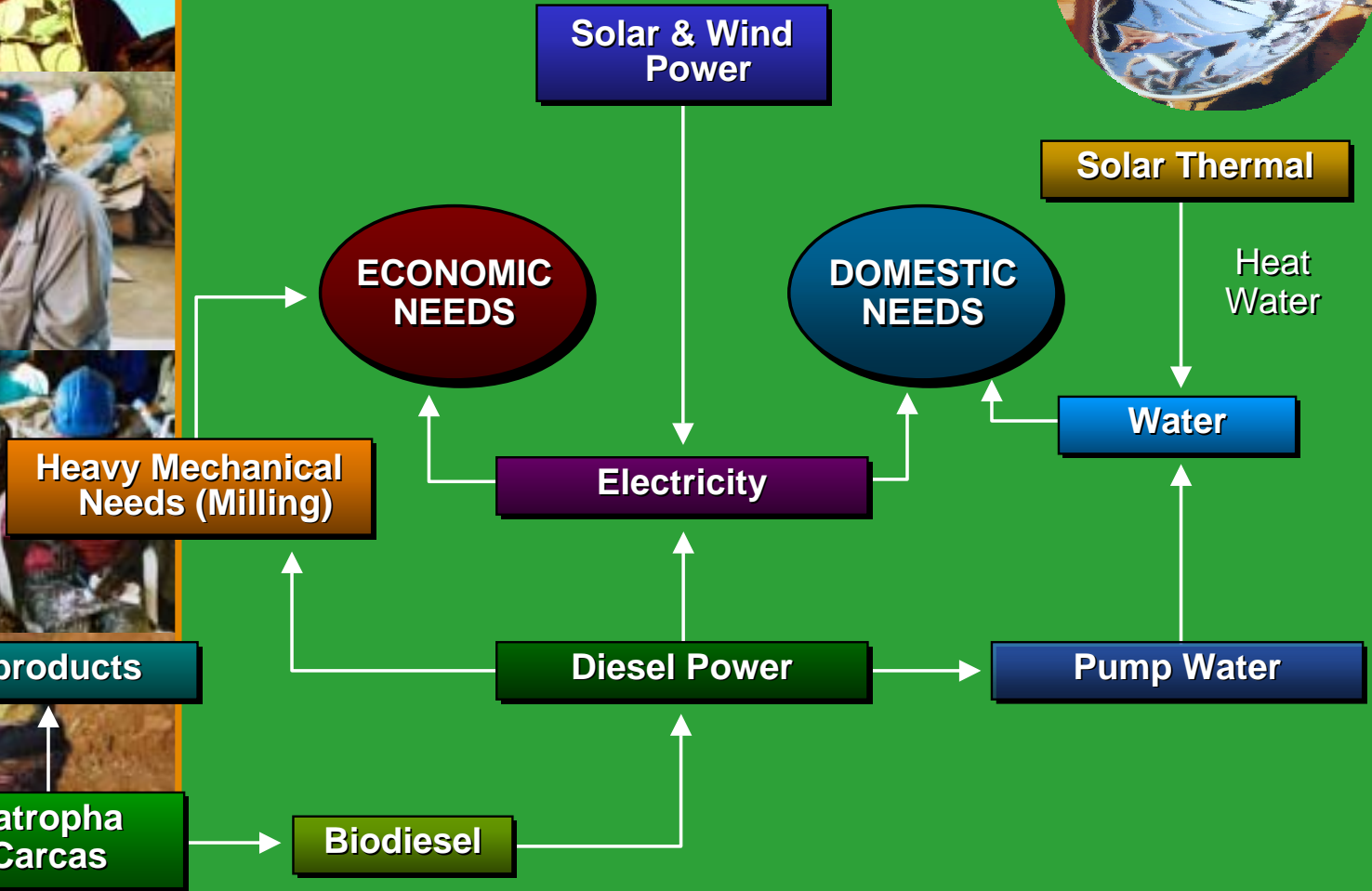
- Diesel Engine - Biodiesel
- Suitable for small village
- Aimed at women



# Smokeless Umbhawula



# Decentralised Renewable Energy Production





## Benefits of a Decentralised R.E. System

- Money stays in community
- Community protected from fossil fuel increases
- Community can plan how to use energy to best serve needs
- Economic opportunity in making the energy

# Challenges

- Fossil fuels are subsidised
- Finance for small scale decentralised projects not available
- Political will be lacking



# How Can We Make This Happen ?



Investment

Involve  
Women

Cheap  
Finance

Reallocate  
Subsidies

**ACT NOW**

Create  
enabling  
institutional  
structures

Land

South-South Co-  
operation