



Women in Europe for a Common Future | WECF

Gender sensitive energy cooperatives in Georgia and their role in rural energy transition

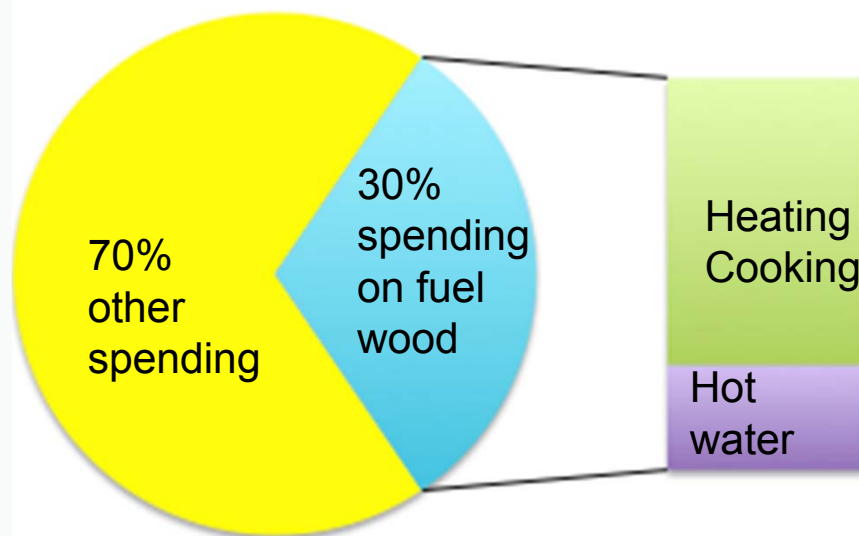
Anna Samwel
UNFCCC SBI 44
Bonn, 17 May 2016

Baseline situation rural target areas

11m² firewood per household / year



Average household spending



Impact on women:

Labour burden, indoor air pollution, deforestation - increasing cost and effort of fuel wood supply and related workload



Pre- NAMA Pilot phase 2010 - 2014: 500 Solar Water Heaters (SWH) & 50 insulations, 5 trained groups



5 Pilot regions – 4 gender sensitive energy cooperatives

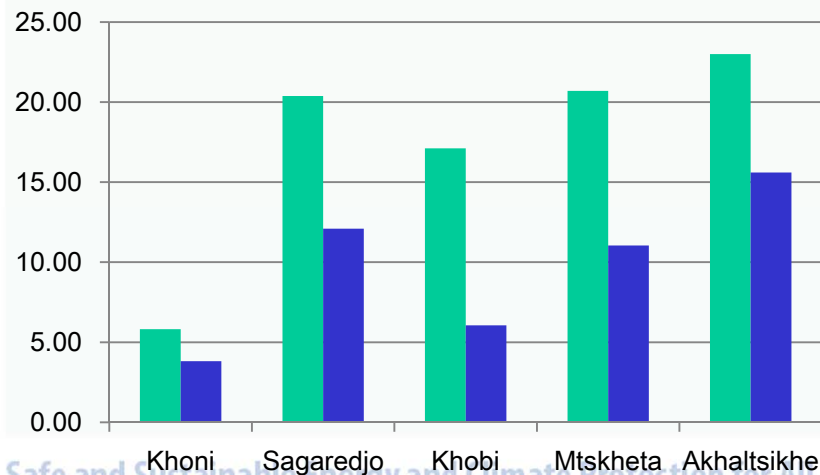


Climate mitigation & economic results

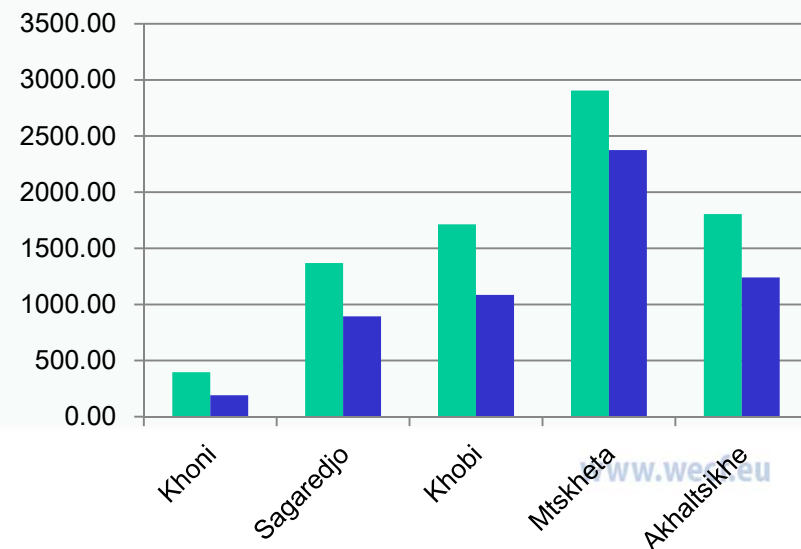
- SWH: reduction of 1000 kg CO₂ / year
- Approx.. 32% savings on households energy budget
- Estimation total cost & CO₂ savings incl. EE stoves and insulation: 50 - 80%



Firewood (m³) use per hh/year



Costs for fuel (GEL) /hh/year



Enabling conditions: Equal participation

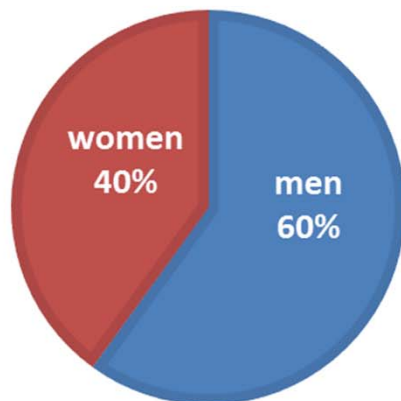
- Community based approach
- Address traditional Gender labour division in energy programme
- Build specific expertise of women into planning

Objective: 50% women trained in maintenance, use, MRV

→ 40% achieved



TRAINING PARTICIPANTS
PILOT PROGRAMME

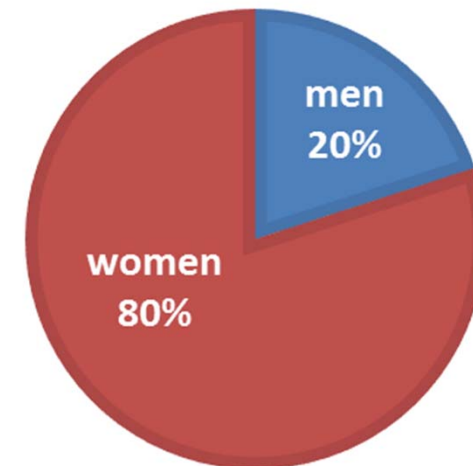


Enabeling condition: Benefits for women

- Women benefitted most from SWH installed at their home
- Women excellent as monitor and maintenance experts
- Women community leadership → active in e-cooperatives
- Revolving fund contracted 80% women – bring to scale!
- Political support → Gender sensitive NAMA



SWHs obtained through revolving fund by women

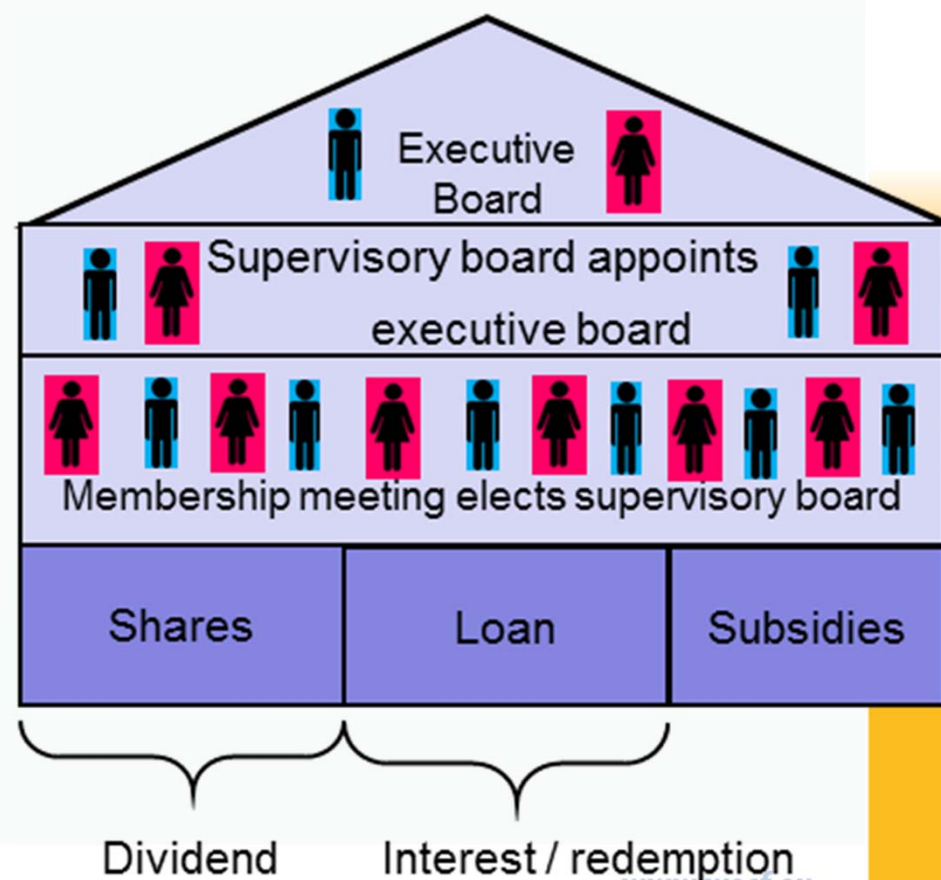


Gender sensitive Energy cooperatives

A cooperative is a voluntary association of persons (women and men) with the aim to generate benefits for the members through a common business operation. Energy cooperatives promote the common idea of the members:

Service&consultation in RE and EE

- Citizen, esp. women have **control over energy production**
- **Capacity building**
- **Women empowerment & leadership**
- **Employment** for women & men
- **Access** to safe & affordable energy
- **Less expenses** on energy and wood
- **Income** from dividend



Challenges



- Low gender awareness among stakeholders
- Patriarchal society
- Traditional strong gender division of labor
- Weak rural institutions
- No enabling energy policy
- Need for external marketing/business support

SDGs & sust. development

Equal opportunities for Women & Men

Economical feasibility

Environmental sustainability

Community mobilization

Set up of cooperatives

Women empowerment

Business development

Financial mechanism

Enabling policy

Upscaling

Theory of Change

Future goals:

- 5 cooperatives
 - Skilled 'Prosumers'
 - Women leadership
 - Technology development & local production
 - De-monopolization of energy market
 - Jobs created & local value chain
 - Capital & credibility
 - Political commitment
- **Gender sensitive NAMA sustainable rural energy**

Safe, sustainable integrated, decentral and gender equal rural energy supply

Cooperatives – key for gender-sensitive NAMA on sustainable rural energy

The first 5-year phase will

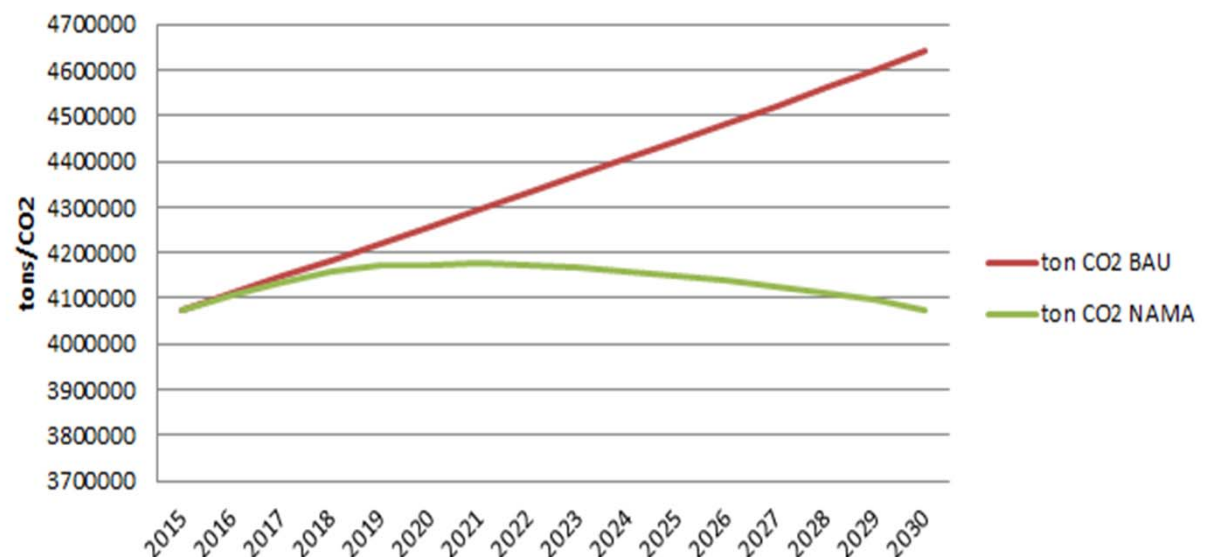
- ➔ 5 regions -> National scope
- ➔ Trained women and men install, maintain and monitor:
 - 11.500 Solar Water Heaters (SWH); Fuel Efficient Stoves (FES); Energy Efficient Insulation (EEI).
- ➔ A financial mechanism for low-income households (women).
- ➔ Creation of local renewable energy cooperatives will ensure production and distribution of the technologies, as well as further promotion of the sustainable energy systems.
- ➔ Promotion of sustainable forest management initiatives.

The NAMA aims at saving 1,880,000 t. CO₂ till 2030.

Co-benefits:

- Energy needs are met and increased comfort
- Reduced energy poverty
- Reduced unpaid labour burden, especially on women
- Local jobs are created including a substantial part for women.
- Women community leadership
- Transparent, efficient local cooperatives/ energy utilities

CO2 emissions by rural buildings based on firewood



Recommendations

- Build the capacity of women & men coop members:
 - Technical capacities
 - Management capacities
 - Business capacities
- Build the leadership skills of women
 - Women leadership in rural institutions
 - Effective political participation to strengthen and involve LA
- Awareness raising among community
 - Energy transition
 - Mentality change for increased women participation
- National climate policy commitment to gender & participation
 - Implement gender sensitive NAMA
 - Involve communities, Energy coops & Civil Society

THANK YOU!

Anna.samwel@wecf.eu

wecf@wecf.eu

www.wecf.ge

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