



# Proposal for Equitable, Climate Proof and Sustainable Development

*A gender sensitive National Appropriate Mitigation Activity (NAMA) for the energy sector in Georgia*

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## Introduction

Local communities in rural areas of Georgia suffer severe energy poverty and struggle with providing heat and warm water for households' needs. In general, only one room is heated by a stove, which is also used for cooking and heating up water. The majority of the population depends on wood as a source of energy, which leads to 6500 ha of forest annually depleted by unsustainable logging. This has major implication on environmental calamities, which most severely impact the poor, who are relying on natural resources for their livelihoods. Families spend

around 25 -35% of their income on energy.

The burden of collecting firewood and heating the water largely falls on the shoulders of women, who care for the basic needs of the households. A lot of their time is spent on this, but they still don't meet the energy needs. Moreover, indoor pollution by the stoves has an adverse effect on their health.

**The gender sensitive NAMA foresees the installation of 10.000 energy efficient stoves and 10.000 solar hot water collectors in 5 rural areas of Georgia in the first 5 year phase, with a potential to install up to 60.000 items each.**



## Emission objectives:

The NAMA has a potential of saving **48.000 tons of CO2** per year in the first phase, with a potential for up scaling up to 5.760.000 tons of CO2 over a 25 year period (estimated lifetime technologies).

## Co-benefits:

20.000 families will have **access** to affordable renewable energy and energy efficient systems, **saving up to 50% costs** for heating water and heating their houses, **increase their quality of living** and comfort through improved access to heat. The project will substantially un-burden men and especially women, by reducing the need for heating water, chopping and carrying fire wood. Firewood consumption will decrease by 245.000 m<sup>3</sup> per year – that results in **saving over 1000 ha of forest p/year**. New **economic incentives and jobs** are created in rural areas for women and men.

The national **energy dependency** will be decreased through diversified, decentralized and secure energy solutions.

## Technologies:

**Energy efficient stoves** uses up to 50% less wood than conventional stoves. The **Solar water heater** is also works during winter in case of sunshine thanks to a heat exchanger with anti-freeze.

Both technologies are made with **local materials** in the communities by craftsmen trained in the pilot phase. They are easy

to operate and maintain, and reparations, if needed, can be identified by local trained women and carried out by local craftsmen.



Five Regional, Community Based Technology Cooperation Centres will be set up, who will distribute and maintain EE stoves and SWHs as commercial, non-profit entities with women as key agents in information and management, and men in technology implementation. A reliable and precise Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system will be in place, implemented mainly by trained local women.

The technologies pay back in 1-3 years, but the initial investment sum is too big for poorer households. To make sure that the technologies are accessible for all, accessible financing mechanisms with a special window for vulnerable people, esp. Women will be launched.

### Gender Aspects

In the preparation phase, the implementing NGO coalition has built capacity of local women and men who will be involved in the

NAMA. Women are mostly involved in monitoring, and maintenance of sustainable development benefits, while men mostly work in construction and installation of technologies.

Women are not only involved in the implementation processes, but are promoting the benefits of renewable technologies, spreading information in other communities and bringing other people on board. They have become ambassadors in delivering of best practices, and they are free and open to share their experience and support other women.

Facilitating an inclusive process with equal involvement of women and men implementation of community driven NAMA will provide that the real needs of men and women are clearly determined and correctly addressed.

*The NAMA is prepared by a coalition of NGO's; WECF, Greens Movement, RCDA, SEMA, and SDCA, and the Georgian Ministry of Environment.*

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For more information on the WECF/RCDA gender and energy approach, see publication: 'Women's Access to Energy in Georgia – Challenges and Recommendations' (September 2014):

<http://www.wecf.eu/english/publications/2014/Publication-IWE-Georgia.php>



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