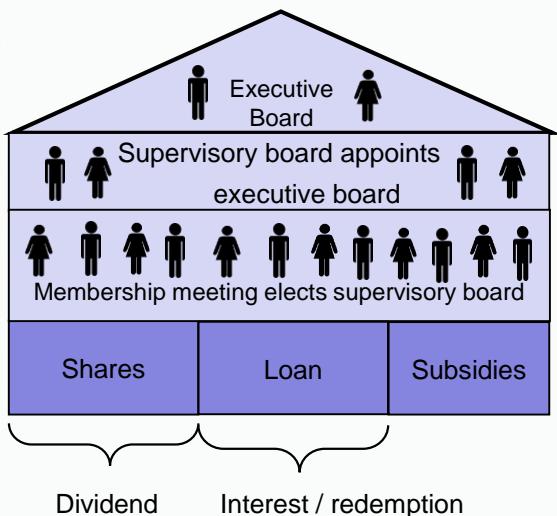


# Energy cooperatives in Georgia for gender just climate solutions

## What are 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:

→ Improvement of living standard, especially reducing unpaid domestic labor burden on women, environmental protection, expansion of renewable energies and energy efficiency



### A cooperative is:

#### ... democratic

regardless of the number of shares = one vote

#### ... gender-equal and gender-responsive

approx. 50% women's participation

#### ... flexible

easy to join / quit the membership

#### ... safe

due to control and experience

#### ... ethic

through ecological and regional contribution

#### ... expandable

for more projects within the region

#### ... economic

attractive returns for members

#### ... sustainable:

renewable and decentralized energy production

## The goals: What do energy cooperatives want to achieve?

- Economic and social empowerment (saving costs and time for fuel)
- Expand Renewable Energy technologies (e.g. solar collectors, energy efficient stoves, solar dryers, biogas digesters) with high quality and quantity
- Give access to these technologies for citizens, especially women
- Service & consultation for communities in the renewable energy and energy efficiency sector
- Expand the local value chain / generate employment for women and men
- Build-up technical know-how
- Increase women's participation in public life through awareness raising of women and men
- Create safe and climate friendly energy supply for women & citizens

Members can be all citizens of the municipalities, where energy cooperatives are established.

### Advantages for the members:

- ✓ Incomes from dividends
- ✓ Access to affordable energy technologies
- ✓ Access to improved services for home
- ✓ Training and technical know-how
- ✓ Employment opportunity within the cooperative
- ✓ Less expenses on energy and wood



Safe and Sustainable Energy and Climate Protection for All

[www.wecf.eu](http://www.wecf.eu)

