

# **Investing in Grassroots Agency for Energy Efficiency**

**Prof. Anoja Wickramasinghe**  
**National Consultant**  
***National Focal Point of***  
***ENERGIA NETWORK***

# PRESENTATION

- OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT;
- INTERVENTION;
- APPROACH- INVESTING IN GRASSROOTS;
- STRATEGY;
- TANGIBLE OUTCOMES AND THE BENEFITS;
- LEASSONS LEARNED;
- BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES;
- CONCLUSIONS.

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Project on 'Improving gender access to clean and renewable energy in Ampara District –Sri Lanka,-ADB/JFPR project,
- Executed and implemented by ENERGIA, Practical Action and CEB),
- Several Components included, (policy analysis, energy based livelihood development, awareness creation, monitoring and evaluation).



**Power** Runs Above Without Serving **Us**

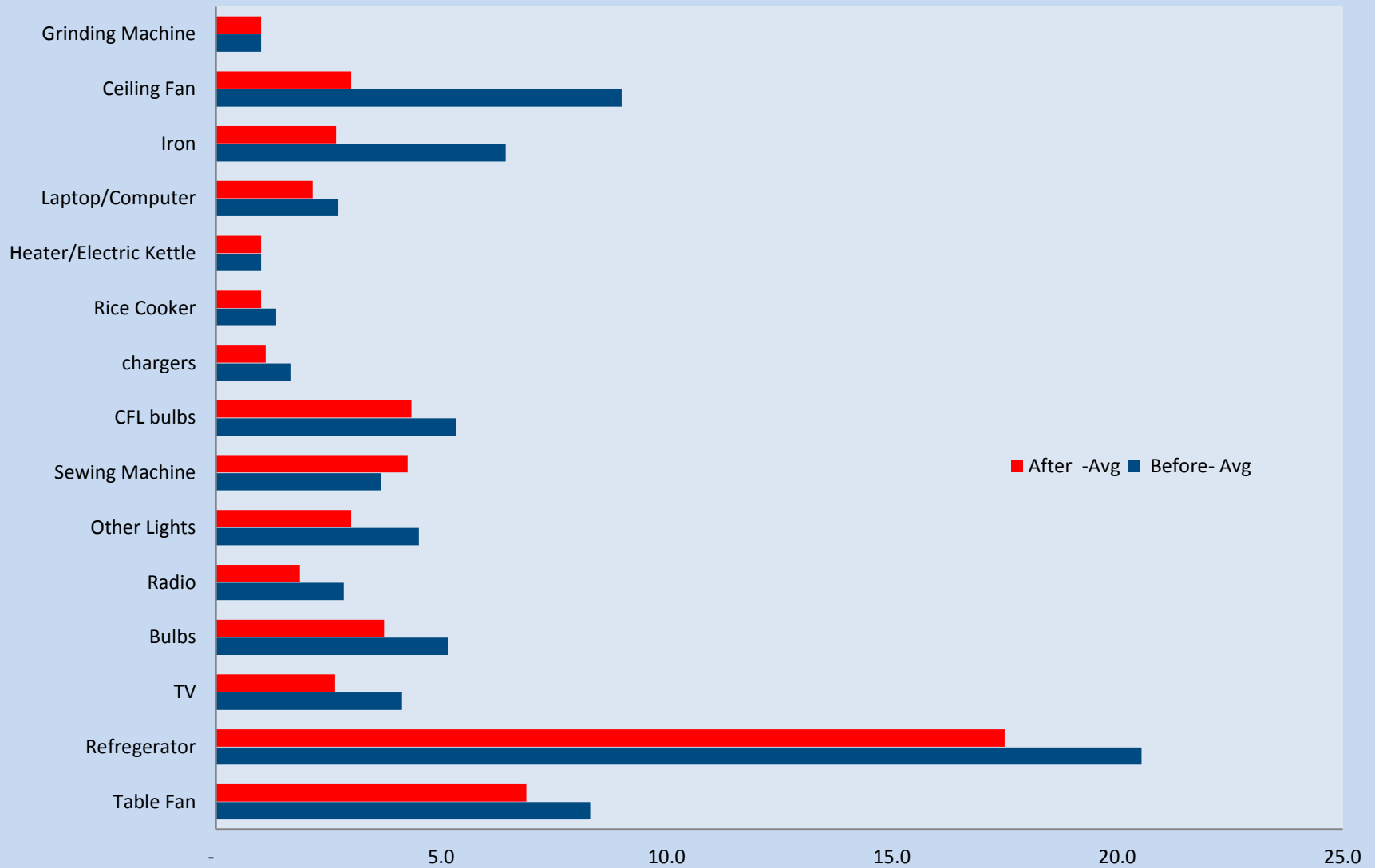
# **INTERVENTION - ENERGY AWARENESS CREATION**

- Efficient use of electricity awareness creation covering 11430 people,
- Enhancing the capacity of the users to use electricity efficiently and effectively,
- Education, training, energy awareness, demonstrations and knowledge materials were used,
- 135 programmes were delivered,
- Follow up M&E was carried out/ results from 60 respondents is given.

# OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS

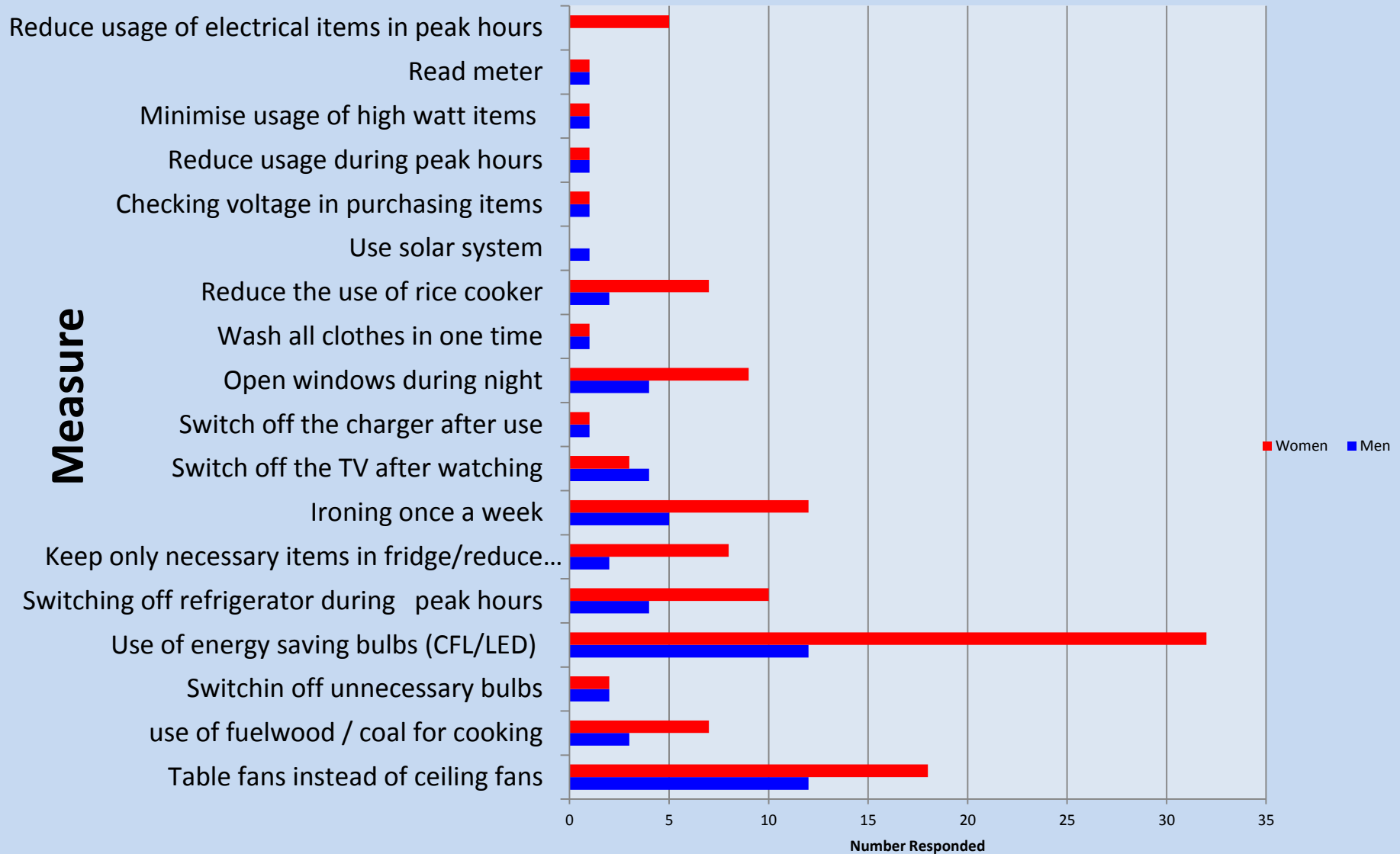
- Responsibility over management of the utility by grassroots/ end users,
- Changes in energy behaviour,
- Reduced electricity consumption per household (from 90 to 69 KWh per month),
- Saving of energy cost (from rs. 1226 to 622),
- Reduced peak period consumption (57% avoid use of rice cookers, 83 % reduced use of ceiling fans, 82% ironing etc.).

# Changes in the use of household appliances





# Changes in energy consumption behaviour





# Unlocking Changes, strategies & Benefits

Changes	Strategy	Action	Benefits
<b>1.Energy behaviour</b>	Exposure to the units shown in the meter, Meter reading to help avoid ad-hoc use of items, Information on wastage and peak hours	Switching off unnecessary items/ consuming items, Avoid refrigerator, iron and rice cookers during peak periods	Auditing and monitoring consumption Decisions by affordability, Supply line/ peak period demand
<b>2.Management decision making</b>	Capacity to make decisions by calculating energy use and , Understanding on peak demand	Purchase of energy efficient items, Selected use of items,	Household energy decision making, Local agency
<b>3.Conservation and Efficiency</b>	Knowledge on certified items/methods to Select items with standard certifications,	Go by options and label Maximising the service availability,	Maximise output of minimum energy, Remain in lower tariff slot consuming less than 60 units, Reduced electricity bills
<b>4.Organized applications</b>	Information on intensity of using some items like irons and rice cookers,	Use rice cooker once a day or use fuelwood hearth using secondary materials to boil rice and water, Cloth ironing once a week	Reduced pressure on the supply sector and also on the consumers (consumption reduced by 30 to 40 %.
<b>5.Changing attitude from a utility to a productive asset/ service provider</b>	Demonstrations on benefits beyond lighting, Technical understanding on applications/ water pumping, Options to transform time and savings for productive use	Planned consumption by items, Proper cost benefit assessment.,	Multiple benefits of electricity worked out (children's education, psychological and physical wellbeing, Leisure and reduce labour exhaustion.

# **BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES**

- Weak lateral connections/  
Compartmentalized responsibility and institutional hierarchy,
- Attitude over electricity supply, management without a local responsibility,
- Lack of knowledge materials,
- Poor access to technology, materials and information,
- Lack of partnerships between grassroots and the utility.

# CONCLUSIONS

- Investing in grassroots is a means to share responsibility over electricity with the users,
- Grassroots agency is powerful in information/extension,
- Energy management becomes efficient and effective through local agency,
- Multi-stakeholder engagement is crucial.



**Thank You for Your Attention**