

Scaling up Energy Access through Women's Economic Empowerment
(WEE)

Promoting Women-led Enterprises for Energy
Access and Local Production (WEE-Nepal Project)

Productive uses of energy in Women-led enterprises

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Manila, Philippines

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ENERGIA
INTERNATIONAL NETWORK ON
GENDER AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY



PRACTICAL ACTION
Consulting



Centre for Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT/N)

Background

- Rural Nepal and **outflow of male** abroad for earning opportunities.
- **Women entrepreneurship** and SDG goal on gender equality and women empowerment.
- **Women-led energy enterprises** few in number with many challenges.
- Inability to take **business decisions** and lack of **cognitive awareness and skills** factors hindering their success.
- Considering above facts, Women Economic Empowerment (**WEE-Nepal Project**) is joint initiatives.



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Targeted Outcomes

Outcome 1:

Relevant institutions are sensitized and capacitated for promoting women led micro enterprises

(15 CREEs; 20 LFIs)

Outcome 2a:

Access of rural communities to sustainable energy solutions (improved cookstoves) has improved

(300 WEs; 50,000 ICS)

Outcome 2b:

Women led micro enterprises established functioning with sustainable energy

(500 WEs)

Outcome 3:

Policy making bodies are sensitized on gender mainstreaming energy and MSE sector policies and planning



Approaches

**Knowledge
Building, Cognitive
awareness**

**Skill trainings and
links with line
agencies**

**Loan
linkages**

**Mentorin
g
(Business +
Energy
Improvement)**



Approaches

Energy Mentoring for efficient energy use

Increase productivity and **business growth.**

Adapt most **efficient technologies.**

Promote **safe energy system**

Improve **energy consumption trend of Energy Entrepreneurs.**



Emerging Changes in Energy Entrepreneurs

Initiated/continued business with enhanced confidence & Some employment generated

Increased investment – profitability and growth

Confidence in taking loan

Enhanced leadership and decision making

Productive use of energy increased



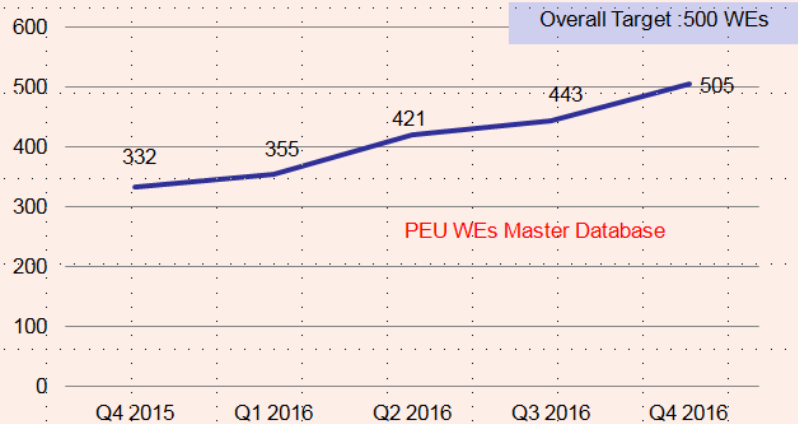
Growth in Energy Entrepreneurs (Results out of 505)

- Drop out WEs <5% dropout;
- 70+% Increased profit;
- 25+% Received loan;
- 60+% Maintained records;
- 80%+ Involved in business decisions;
energy used efficiently.
- Increasing engagement with community organizations

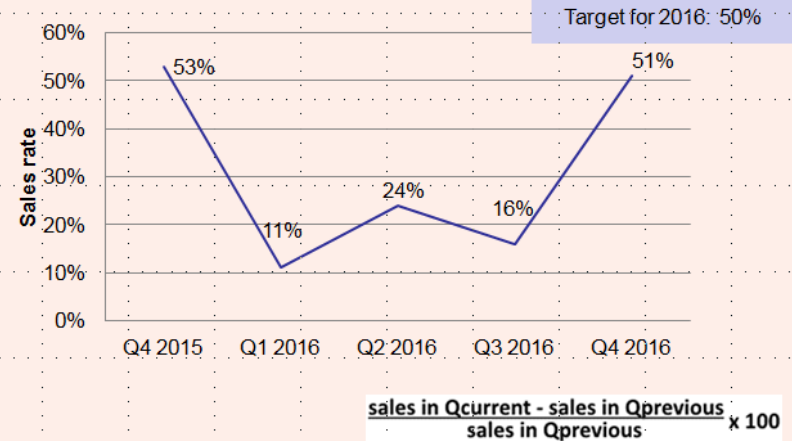


Growth Trend of Energy Entrepreneurs

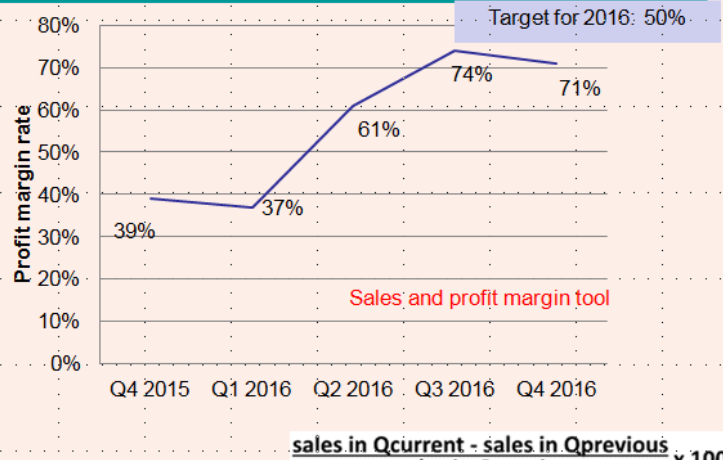
PEU WEs trained



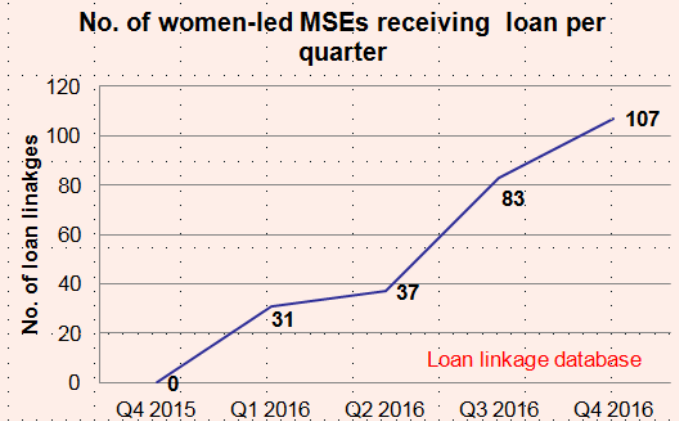
Growth/decline rate of sales per MSE per Quarter



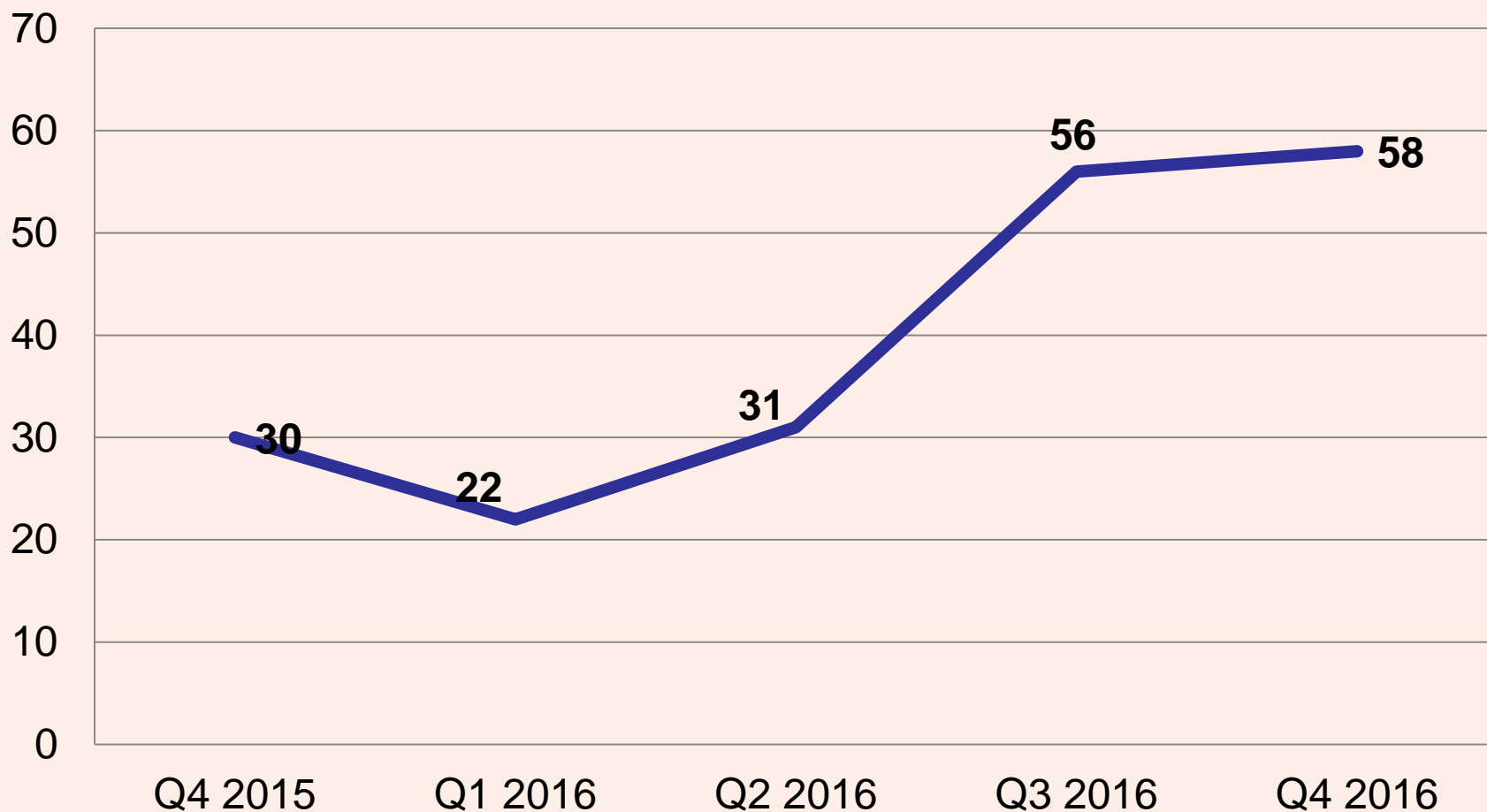
Profit margin per MSE per quarter (%/q)



WEs receiving loan for their business



Employment generation through Energy Entrepreneurs



Growth trend

Descriptions	Baseline value 2014	Target of 2016	Progress in 2016
Maintain separate book of account	12%	60%	62%
WE's involvement in HH decision	53%	50%	79%
WE's involvement in business decision	56%	70%	80%



Example of Solar back up for Poultry Farming Khotang, Nepal



Take away Messages

- **Business Mentoring is crucial during incubation period at least for**
 - Market linkages, Business management & registration,
 - Linkages with Business Development Services (BDSs)
 - Energy improvement
 - Increasing **Family support and**
 - **Loan linkages**
- **Capacity building and business mentoring should be augmented for overall growth and sustainability of women-led energy enterprises.**



Thank you

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