

What is CNVP?

CNVP is a Dutch based organization operating in the Balkans implementing projects in Albania, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. It has six key areas of operation;

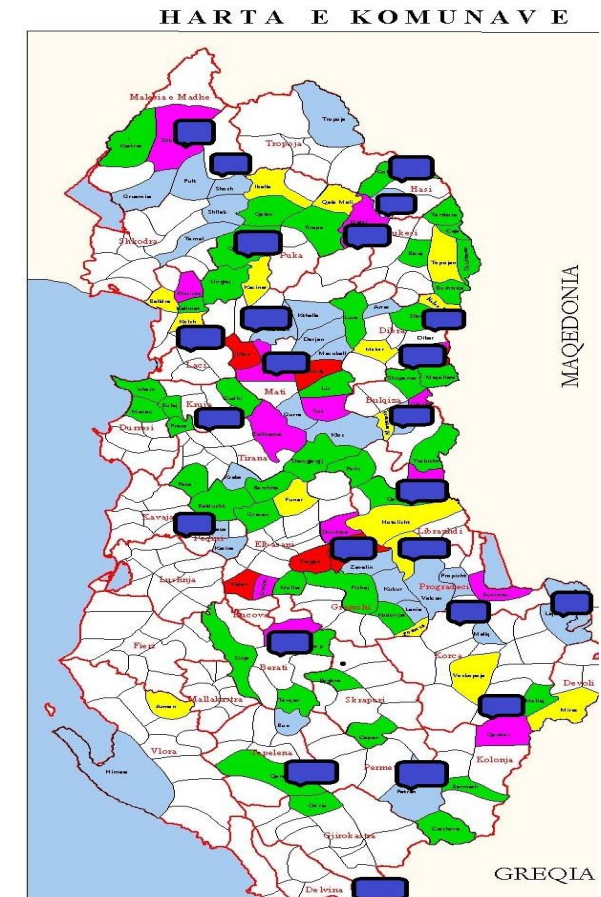
1. Sustainable natural resource management
2. Climate change
3. Rural development
4. Renewable energy
5. Community mobilisation
6. European accession



FLED project

CNVP implemented FLED , which is a Sida funded project in 9 regions in Albania(Tirana, Kukes. Diber. Shkoder, Korce, Gjirokaster ,Berat Lezha and Elbasan) with;

- 24 municipalities/AUs
- 10 Regional Forest Federations
- 24 Forest Users Associations
- 24 women producer groups



Context , gender in rural development

- Women represent more than half of Albania's population but are disproportionately affected by poverty. Despite improvements in recent years, legal and regulatory barriers limit economic opportunities available to women. In forestry and rural development in general, male gender roles are associated with tasks that involve control over assets, mobility and decision-making and female gender roles typically involve manual pre and post-harvest work, high participation in forestry activities, in the collection of fire wood and NTFP. This division of labour means women have limited access to and control over agricultural assets, resources and decision-making.

Main barriers for women in forestry

- Lack of awareness of roles and rights;
- Limited participation in forestry related value chain and economic activities;
- Limited participation in decision making bodies such as local forest users associations;
- Limited control over resources;
- Poor recognition of property rights;
- Lack of law application and enforcement of gender and social inclusion legislation and regulations

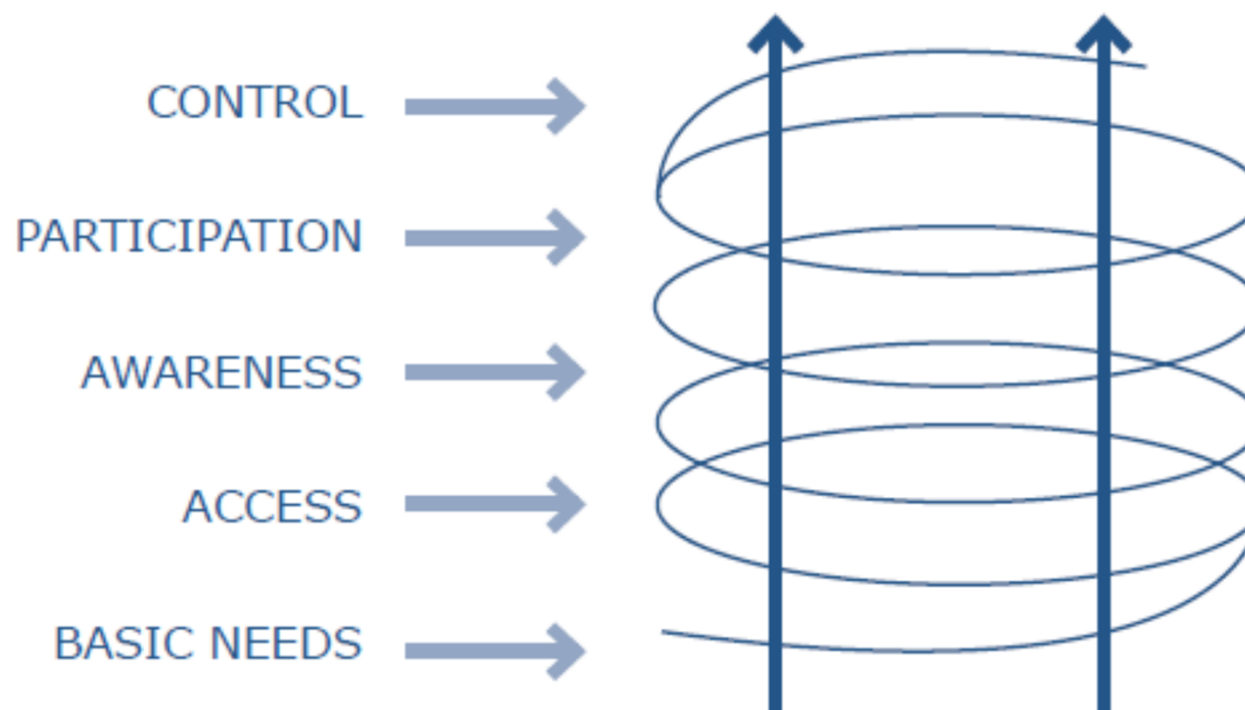
CNVP approach to gender

For rural women and their families, targeted in our project, an increase in incomes and employment opportunities through sustainable natural resource management comes from three pillars:

- **Authority and confidence**, to have the legal right over land and the economic right to be able to harvest natural resources, i.e. wildy grown MAPs and other NTFPs;
- **Ability**, including knowledge, skills and capacity building on, MAPs organic cultivation, proper and sustainable harvesting and post-harvesting techniques, marketing, etc; and
- **Incentive**, to be able to add value to products for a fair price that meets immediate household requirements and the need to invest in sustainable resource development.

Key elements for gender equality

EQUALITY EMPOWERMENT



Preparation of a gender strategy with a vision:

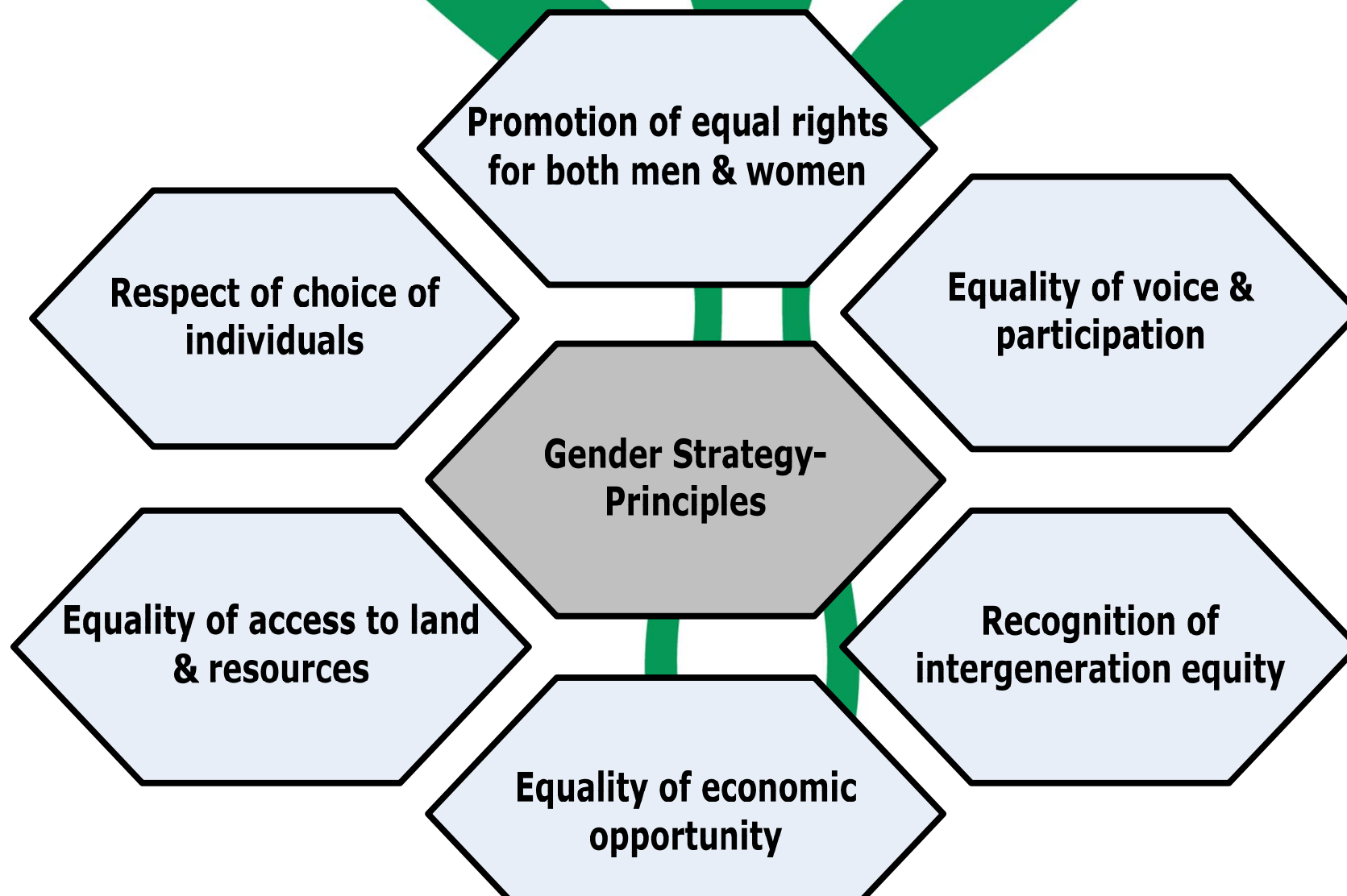
To ensure that both men and women have the opportunity to contribute and benefit equally in forestry through both decision making and utilization’.

Objectives:

- Build awareness on gender issues
- Increase women representation in decision making.
- Women economic and social empowerment.



Gender Strategy Principles



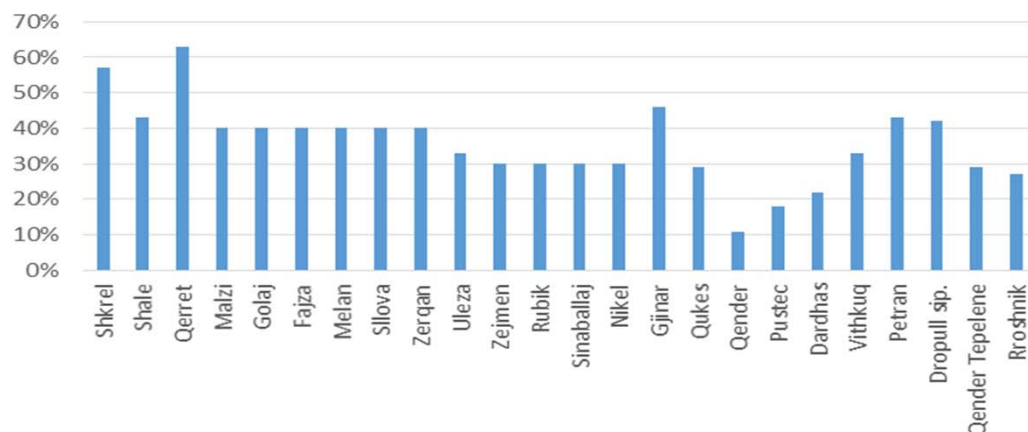
Results

- + 450 trainings/seminars/meetings attended by about 5560 people from whom 2420 women and girls.
- 120 FUA-s out of 250 have women and girls in their management structure (boards) 30%.
- +240 women involved in income generating activities.

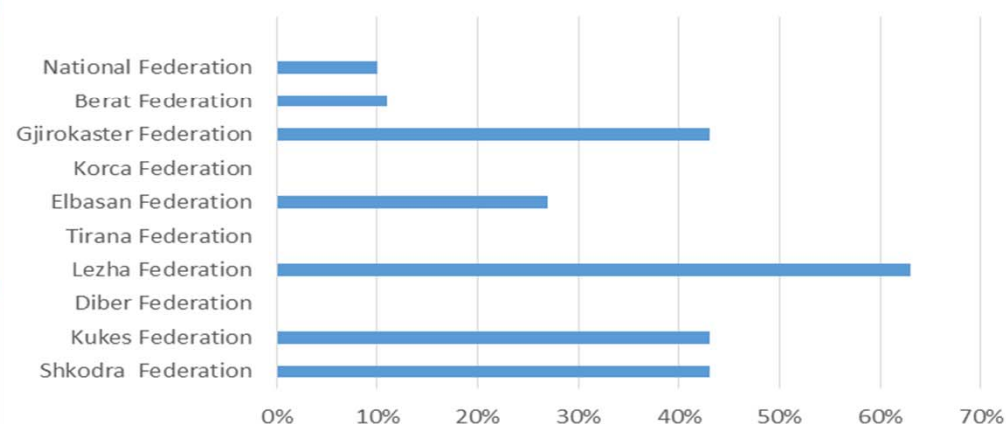
Results

Women participation in decision making

% of women representation



% of women representation



Results

Women Economic Empowerment

- 24 women producer groups established under the umbrella of FPUAS and federation in 24 Administrative units.
- Identification of Non timber forest products for income generation.
- Establish sample plots with cultivation of forest fruits, teas, MAPs and other farmer forests models.
- Organization of fairs, buyer seller meetings .
- Promoting women entrepreneurs dealing with NTFPs.





Share experiences and best practices



Lessons learned

- Gender Inclusion guarantees the engagement and participation of both men and women.
- By including women and men in activities, women have increased self-confidence, income-generating skills, and participation in decision-making processes.
- Capacity building serves as a driver for growth and empowerment of women.
- Direct support for organizing women in producer groups and possible incentives can be an effective tool for their economic empowerment.



THANK YOU !