



**giz**



# **GOVERNANCE: THE ROLE OF ASSOCIATIONS**

# BRIEF BACKGROUND ON KENFAP

- Kenya National **Federation** of Agricultural Producers
- Apex farmers organisation in Kenya
- Membership 1.5 million smallholder farmers
- Stems from location, district to national level
  - ✓ 5,000 farmer groups (women, youth, mixed)
  - ✓ 30 commodity Associations
  - ✓ 15 Cooperative Societies

# **KENFAP as a Partner to EU/GIZ BIOGAS PROGRAM**

## **Roles**

- To create and support sustainable linkages of stakeholders (farmers and promoters)
- Facilitate establishment of a Biogas consultative platform
- Awareness creation and information dissemination
- Monitoring and evaluation of the biogas plants

# Governance and Role of Associations

- **Governance** is the process by which groups are directed, controlled, and held to account". E.g management committees are responsible for the governance of the associations and are accountable for the governance to members for ensuring that the group comply with rules and business ethics.

# Cont...' governance and role of associations

## Role of Associations

- ***To aggregate farmers***

in order to build stronger farmer organizations with devolved structures and universal tenets of governance.

- ***Information and communication***

create distinct structures for dissemination and retrieval of information and also repackage research.

# Cont...' governance and role of associations

- ***Research:***

provide linkages with research institution and dissemination and adoption of emerging technology.

- ***Capacity building.***

training leaders and members; forming alliances such as with the government (MOE)

# Cont...’ governance and role of associations

- *Lobby and advocacy*

can invest in tools for lobbying and advocacy to engage policy makers positively by using tools such as;

- Networking
- Media
- Memoranda among others

# Cont...' governance and role of associations

- ***Establish Market linkages***
- ***Service provision***
  - Extension
  - Capacity building
  - Monitoring and appraisal
- ***Representation and policy dialogue.***

E.g representation in policy issues such as taxation, research and standards etc



# Challenges of Biogas Promotion in Kenya

- Governance related e.g.
  - weak farmer representation
  - Poor workmanship
  - Relatively high construction costs
  - Unattractive credit from financial institutions
  - High taxes on imported biogas appliances
  - Poor Information exchange
  - ownership

# Type of Governance Structures in Biogas, Kenya

- All the stakeholders in the biogas sub-sector-Biogas value chain committee( BVCC)
- Users- National Biogas Users Association (NABUA)
- Contractors- Association of Biogas Contractors of Kenya (ABC-K)
- KENFAP as a farmer organization

# 1. Biogas value chain committee (BVCC)

- Consists of the major players in the biogas sub-sector e.g MOE/ MOA, MOCDM, KENFAP, GIZ/PSDA, ABC-K, NABUA, Universities- Egerton, KIOF among others
- **Roles:**
- **Steer the implementation of the BVC Development Strategy**
  - implement activities
  - network with public and private stakeholders along the BVC
  - report on the realization of activities
  - monitor progress and impacts

# Cont'...Role of BVCC

## **Promote the Biogas Value Chain:**

- contribute to promoting Biogas technology
- contribute to the preparation of concepts and position papers as basis for the lobbying for an enabling framework
- contribute to the preparation and organization of broader Biogas Stakeholder meetings and workshops

# Cont'... Role of BVCC

**Perform as a network for information exchange and knowledge management:**

- exchange lessons learnt
- establish collaboration linkages with a broad network of public and private stakeholders to support information exchange
- collect information on appropriate concepts, methodologies, technologies and instruments for developing the BVC
- collect/ develop best practices

## **2. National Biogas Users Association (NABUA)**

- Consists of biogas users
- KENFAP steered the whole process that ultimately led to the formation of NABUA e.g.
  - Registration of NABUA with the Registrar of Societies,
  - Sensitisation on NABUA and recruitment of members
  - Election of interim officials
  - Development of draft constitution
  - Development of basic promotional materials
  - Trainings for the leaders

**Currently recruitment is ongoing**

# JUSTIFICATION

- **Need to have a platform that will lobby on issues that affect the biogas users**
- A large proportion of digesters is operating below capacity
- Others are dormant or in disuse due to poor management, poor construction, lack of sufficient technical knowhow, socio-cultural and economic problems.

# JUSTIFICATION

- Sometimes digesters built without proper explanation to the users on how to care for them
- In some areas biogas technology has acquired a less favourable reputation with the overall penetration rates of biogas technology in the country remaining quite low despite the huge potential



# ROLE OF NABUA

- Capacity Building
- Resource mobilisation
- Linkage with strategic partners
- Lobby and advocacy
- Promotion of innovative technologies
- Information packaging, retrieval and dissemination

## **Cont' Role of NABUA**

- Representation in policy dialogue and other relevant fora
- Quality control/ standards
- Formulation and witnessing service contract
- Identification, packaging, documentation and promotion of emerging opportunities

### **3. Contractors- Association of Biogas Contractors of Kenya (ABC-K)**

- Registered on 21st September, 2007 to represent members interests in the biogas industry.
- Has over 30 biogas contracting and consulting firms as registered members
- Has over 100 masons and technicians who have been trained on biogas construction by ABC-K, in collaboration with other development partners.

# Services of ABC-K

- Assist emerging companies in the biogas sector to comply with government regulations
- Assist members train artisans and technicians in biogas technology
- Provide consultancy in biogas assessment studies and technology development
- Lobby for favorable Government policies for the biogas sector (i.e. tax rebates for large projects, standardization and industry regulation)

## **Cont'... Services of ABC-K**

- Link biogas companies to carbon offset trading partners and other development partners.
- Assist members in litigation and representation

## 4. KENFAP as a farmer organisation

- Lobby for favorable policies in the biogas sub-sector
- Information dissemination and awareness creation
- Capacity building of farmers in collaboration with other agencies
- Link farmers with financial institutions
- Quality control
- Monitoring and evaluation of biogas plants

# 5. Ministry of Energy

- Regulating the whole industry
- Creating an enabling environment

# Challenges in Setting up and Sustaining Governance Structures

- Ownership- reliance on support from development agencies and other partners
- Sustaining membership- members need tangible services/ benefits
- Limited finances to carry out activities
- Inadequate capacity
- Accountability to members
- Sometimes benefits do not trickle down to beneficiaries at the grassroot levels



# CONCLUSIONS

- Role of associations can not be downplayed
- Relevant for quality of digesters
- Necessary to have association for the Suppliers of appliances???
- Need for an oversight body / organization to check the other specific associations