



# Gathering evidence on solid biofuels use in Focus countries

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# What do we mean by solid biofuels?

- Fuelwood, wood residues and by products
- Bagasse
- Animal waste
- Black liquor
- Other vegetal material and residues
- Charcoal

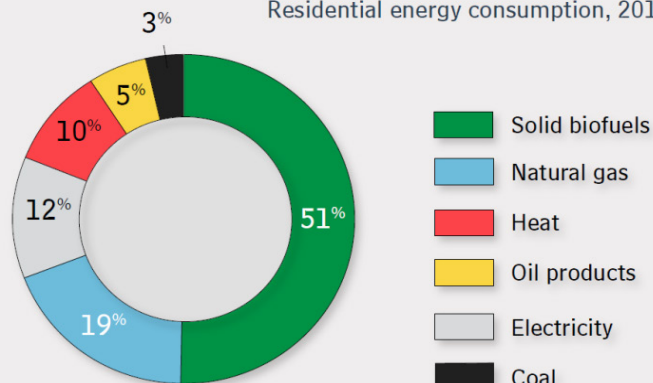
## Sources:

- *United Nations, International Recommendations for Energy Statistics (IRES)*
- *United Nations, Standard International Energy Product Classification (SIEC)*

# # Myth 1: Solid biofuels use is marginal in focus countries

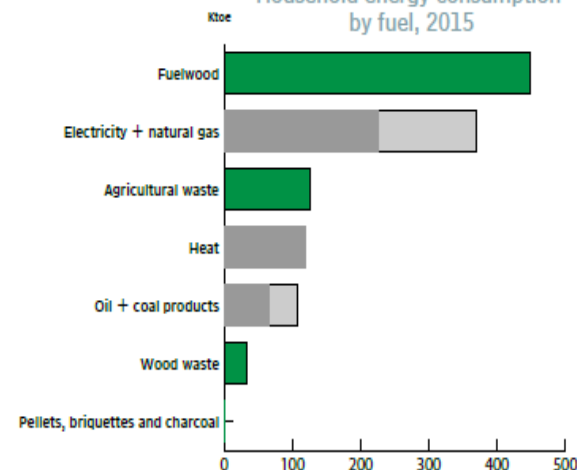
## RESIDENTIAL ENERGY MIX

Residential energy consumption, 2015



In Moldova, solid biofuels are the main energy source for households.

Household energy consumption by fuel, 2015



**Survey evidence: Households are using solid biofuels!**

Sources:

- National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova, 2016. Energy consumption in households and direct communication.
- National Statistics Office of Georgia, 2017. Energy consumption in households. Survey carried from May 2016 to May 2017.
- National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus, 2016. Energy consumption in households in the Republic of Belarus, Survey carried in 2015.

# # Myth 2: Solid biofuels are a free energy source

## BUDGET SPENT ON SOLID BIOFUELS

# 100 MILLION EUROS

Households in Moldova spent more than 2300 million lei on fuelwood between April 2015 and April 2016. That represents more than 100 million euros in one year.



**Survey evidence: There is a commercial market for solid biofuels**


Sources:


- National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova, 2016. Energy consumption in households and direct communication.
- National Statistics Office of Georgia, 2017. Energy consumption in households. Survey carried from May 2016 to May 2017. 110 billion GEL.


# # Myth 3: Solid biofuels are used only for heating

Republic of Moldova

Use of solid biofuels in households, 2015

90% 

8% 

2% 

- In Belarus  
7% of fuelwood used by households is for water heating, 0.1% for cooking
- In Georgia  
25% of households use fuelwood and agricultural waste for cooking at the cooker.

**Some households are still relying on solid biofuels for cooking**

Sources:

- National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova, 2016. Energy consumption in households and direct communication.
- National Statistics Office of Georgia, 2017. Energy consumption in households. Survey carried from May 2016 to May 2017.
- National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus, 2016. Energy consumption in households in the Republic of Belarus, Survey carried in 2015

- Use of solid biofuels (fuelwood, agricultural wastes...) is a reality in focus countries
- Solid biofuels are not just collected in the forest. There is a commercial market for solid biofuels
- Most of the solid biofuels are used for heating, but also to an extent for water heating and cooking

**Surveys are crucial to get this information  
Take it into account in energy strategies**

