

**PROJECT:**

Encouraging young specialists to power the agri-food value chains and building sustainable business models, **Armenia**

**Implementing entity:**

Armenia Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE)

**Project partners:**

University of Chile – Energy Center

**Amount:**

USD230,000

**Duration:**

18 months

**Project objective:**

The overall objective of the project is: to promote healthier lifestyles and power agri-food value chain by developing sustainable business models; and to encourage young specialists to build capacities together with Armenian rural communities, building on the experience of experts from the University of Chile.

Project status: On-going

01

The project launch took place in October 2019. The event gathered representatives of government, academia and international experts.

02

A number of preparatory meetings took place to set the scene for project activities. Solak, the targeted community, was visited together with the experts from the University of Chile. Community needs in terms of solar energy application were discussed with its representatives

03

Other meetings included the discussions with: private companies working in solar energy; Water User Association (WUA) to discuss the solution for land irrigation with the use of solar energy for water pumping;

as well as with Armenian National Agrarian University, Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development, etc.

04

An agreement was made with WUA to undertake minor renovations of the pumping station that serves Solak, while Solak Administration has agreed to clean the area around the pumping station. This is done to assure due technical state of the pumping station to implement project interventions.

05

Education programme syllabus on solar energy were developed in collaboration with the Institute of Energy and Electrical Engineering (NPUA). The Syllabus were then presented to the NPUA students to encourage their involvement.