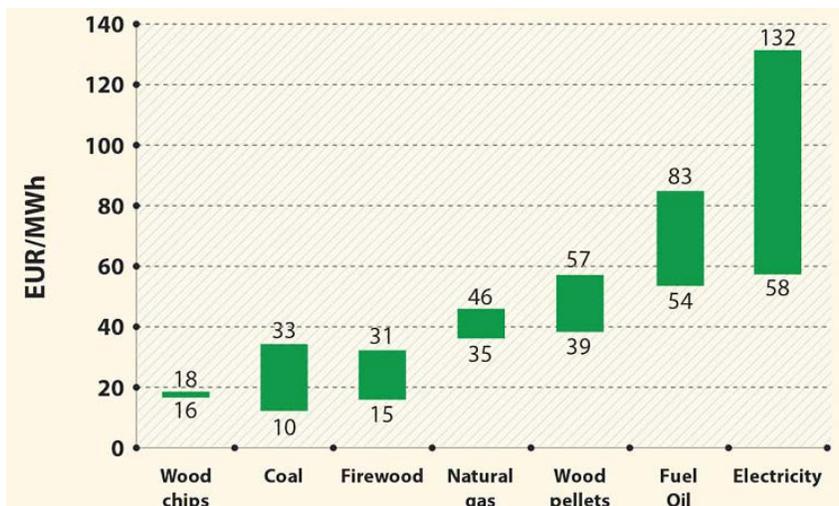




Up to half of all the energy used in the home goes on heating. Introduction of biomass heating helps you make energy-saving improvements to your home and find the best way to cut the costs of heating.

From the perspective of the end-consumer in the Western Balkans, the financial savings generated by introducing biomass heating is often very significant. In most cases, replacing an existing heating system with a biomass-based heating technology can significantly reduce costs. For example:

- Heating with efficient firewood stoves vs. electric appliance would generate 40-74% savings
- Heating with modern, efficient firewood stoves vs. old, inefficient firewood stoves would generate 51-53% savings
- Heating with wood chips small boilers vs. electric appliance would generate 52-77% savings
- Heating with wood chips small boilers vs. light fuel oil/ LPG fueled small boilers would generate 49-70% savings
- Heating with wood pellet stoves vs. electric appliance would generate 12-51% savings
- Heating with wood pellet small boilers vs. electric appliance would generate 22-59% savings



A deliverable of Heat Wisely, public awareness raising project on biomass-based heating in the Western Balkans



Heating with biomass can lead to significant annual cost savings, particularly for users that have high heat usage requirements. The cost of heat generated by wood chips or firewood is significantly lower than the cost of heat generated by oil, gas, or electricity.

Using biomass for heating reduces the dependence on fluctuating heating costs associated with fossil fuels and supports the local economy.

Depending on the type of houses, the most attractive biomass heating options – that provide largest benefits for Western Balkan citizens are:

In stand-alone buildings	replacement of inefficient firewood stoves with efficient stoves switching from electric heating appliances to efficient biomass stoves
In multistory buildings	switching from electric heating appliances to wood-chip-fired boilers

Comparison of the economic viability of biomass heating options to that of the fossil fuel and electricity options is shown in the table. The left side presents biomass-based heating options that are compared to the heating options listed in the top row, using the same type of heating appliance.

Heating option	Coal	Fuel Oil	Natural gas	Electricity	Old firewood stove
Small boiler – fuel: wood chips	●	●	●	●	
Small boiler – fuel: wood pellets	●	●	●	●	
Efficient stove – fuel: firewood	●		●	●	●
Efficient stove – fuel: wood pellet	●		●	●	●
LEGEND	Biomass heating is cheaper		Biomass heating is more expensive		

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