



EFFICIENT COOKSTOVES RWANDA

Improving household health conditions and tackling climate change with efficient cookstoves

By distributing innovative cookstove technology to communities in Rwanda, this project benefits the environment by significantly reducing fuel consumption. Health conditions inside homes are improved due to the presence of less indoor smoke, and families can spend less time collecting wood fuel and more time with their families.

The context

Biomass, principally firewood and charcoal, holds huge importance in Rwanda, accounting for a significant proportion of energy consumption. Biomass is often the predominant source of energy for cooking and water boiling, especially in rural areas.

Cooking is generally carried out on thermally inefficient traditional devices and produces large amounts of smoke and indoor air pollution.

The project

The replacement fuel-efficient stove will lead to a significant reduction in the annual usage of biomass for users. The improved stove has been designed to balance efficiency, safety, cost, stability and strength with a focus on using locally available materials.



The benefits

By reducing the consumption of non-renewable wood and providing cookstoves with fuel savings, this project reduces the amount of greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere. A decrease of deforestation has a positive impact on biodiversity. Households save money by having less fuel requirements for cooking the same amount of food and health is improved through the reduction of indoor air pollutants from cleaner cookstoves.

The project also generates employment and income for people via the distribution and maintenance of the stoves, as well as training and employing community education staff

"I like the stove mainly because of its favourable performance in the kitchen: it decreases the quantity of wood used and it gives out less smoke so it keeps the kitchen clean.

I encourage the neighbours to buy the same improved cookstove because it helps both for families in the kitchen and the region to preserve more trees."

Cecile Ngendahayo from Bugasera, Rwanda

Gold Standard

The highest guarantee is [the Gold Standard Foundation](#), which is supported by the World Wildlife Fund, among others. Criteria which Gold Standard projects need to meet, include:

- Only sustainable energy and energy efficiency projects which create long-term benefits for the host country and climate are eligible. The project's social aspects, such as local employment, are also taken into account;
- Proven added value: the project can only be realised through investments resulting from Gold Standard credits.

The Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, prosperity, and peace and justice. Projects shall comply with at least three [Sustainable Development Goals](#), defined by the UN during the Paris Agreement in 2015.

Sustainable Development Goals



2.1 million hours saved per year by reducing the need to collect firewood, freeing up time for income generating activities



10,800 stoves distributed to households, improving health by reducing indoor smoke



58,315 tCO₂e reduced annually on average by reducing fuel consumption when cooking



70% less firewood needed compared to traditional stoves, relieving deforestation pressures.