Better Life in Indigenous Villages due to Solar and Efficient Cook Stoves

Local woman showing her new high efficiency rocket stove.

The programme intends to reduce carbon emissions, improve health, and reduce stress placed on forestry resources in Bolivia through the replacement of inefficient wood burning stoves with high efficiency rocket stoves or solar cookers in six departments of Bolivia.

1,120 cookstoves distributed
3,950 people trained
14,464 tonnes of wood saved

The main objective of this Programme of Activity is to improve the livelihood and the environment of both peri-urban and rural populations in Bolivia by placing 50,000 ecological stoves in households reducing 511,000 t CO₂ over the programme period.

This programme specifically aims to: improve the livelihood of families, by saving the local population the purchase and/or the tiresome gathering of firewood; improve the health of the families by reducing the families’ exposure to unhealthy air particles created when using traditional wood stoves in the kitchen, therefore achieving a reduction in pulmonary illness

Project type:
Solar, Efficient cook stoves

Project location:
Bolivia

Project status:
In operation, credits available

Annual CO₂ reduction:
30,889 t

Situation without project
Consumption of non-renewable firewood

Contribution to the SDGs

Project standard

Gold Standard
VER

Impressions

Felicidad Orellana, Cochabamba district, is cooking on a climate friendly cook stove since a few years.
mainly in women and children and the prevention of burn injuries in the kitchen; improve the use of people’s time by freeing up time which can be utilized for other activities therefore improving quality of life; improve the eating habits of families by making a modification of the cooking habits through sensitization and training programs that demonstrate the various uses of the ecological stoves and educating the families on hygiene, sanitation, food preparation, kitchen organization and the environment; and improve the environment by reducing CO₂ emissions, air pollution from wood fires and deforestation.

I am using a lot less wood now. Just a little firewood to get the food to boil and then I place it into the solar cooker. I have 2-3 hours to weave while the food cooks. The solar cooker help me to increase my income.

Felicidad Orellana, Cochabamba district

Only through the support of myclimate and the voluntary CO₂ offsetting mechanism can these stoves be accessible to populations in these areas of Bolivia and can the programme be realized in this size. Carbon finance channelled through myclimate will allow, on behalf of CEDESOL’s beneficiaries, subsidies for the cost of the ecological stoves. Furthermore, it is expected that over the next seven years the design of the programme will guarantee its sustainability and expansion to other areas of Bolivia and Paraguay.

Impacts and benefits achieved so far:

- 1120 stoves installed
- 14’464 tonnes of firewood saved
- 3’900 people trained
- 5’900 people benefit from clean air during cooking and significant time savings

Angelina Orellana, Cochabamba district: „I cook everything with the solar cooker. In the old kitchen there was a lot of smoke. 10 years ago there was enough wood around the house for cooking. Now the wood is far away.“

It takes Angelina Orellana half a day and a donkey to get the far away firewood. Photo credits: myclimate / Sávio Abi-Zaid

The solar cookers are produced locally with local materials. So people trust them and jobs have been created.