



Efficient cooking stoves, Honduras

The Honduran cooking stove project significantly reduces demand for wood on a multi-household level, lowers fuel cost for families and has a positive impact on the global climate via forest recovery and reduction in carbon emissions.

Location



The cooking stove project is located in northwest Honduras in the Santa Barbara department. The country contains the second largest area of rainforest in the Americas. Unfortunately, mainly because of deforestation (more than 37% of its natural forests have disappeared since 1990), Honduras is a significant contributor to global climate change.

Project



In Honduras 65 percent of the consumed energy comes from fuelwood, primarily used for cooking purposes. Given this, reducing the need to harvest trees for fuelwood will make the forests more sustainable.

Traditional cooking stoves that use fuelwood are being replaced with energy-efficient cooking stoves at reduced prices. This makes them affordable for every family, and the cost of a cooking stove is typically paid back through fuel savings within two months. The new stoves are 50 percent more efficient than the traditional open fire system, and they require less cooking time because of their thermal design.



In addition to being more energy efficient, the modern cooking stoves emit less smoke, leading to a healthier cooking environment, which reduces respiratory and eye diseases and improves general hygiene.

Compared to a traditional stove, the new stove reduces poisonous carbon monoxide and particulate emissions inside a home by 79% and methane emissions by 94%. It is estimated that the project will build up to 2,000 stoves per month in 2012 and reach 200 rural villages (located in a mountainous region) by the end of 2012.

Project achievements



Socio-economic impact:

- The project benefits local families by disburdening them of time-intensive wood collecting (mostly conducted by women) and/or permanently reducing their fuel spending.
- The project improves significantly hygiene as well as indoor and outdoor air quality, leading to less respiratory and eye diseases.
- The project introduces a sustainable development technology that is affordable.
- The project creates about 100 jobs in 11 participating small-stove production companies. In addition, trainers are employed to teach efficient stove use, which further improves the overall employment situation in the region.



Environmental impact:

- The project reduces wood demand by 50 percent in participating households. This reduces deforestation and leads to better soil, air and water conditions.



Checklist Project 301 159

✓ Additionality and permanence:	according to the rules of the Gold Standard
✓ 3 rd party verified:	by SGS UK
✓ Transparency:	provided by the Gold Standard Registry
✓ Annual CO ₂ -reduction:	38,000 tCO ₂ e
✓ Social and environmental benefits:	as documented in our database
✓ Marketing material:	high resolution pictures available
✓ Project development:	Proyecto Mirador

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