



Issue 195 | June 19, 2015 | Role of Women in Clean Cooking

This issue of the WASHplus Weekly focuses on women in the clean cooking sector and features new reports on women's engagement in the cookstove value chain as well as the gender and livelihood impacts of clean cookstoves. Also included is a comprehensive mapping of the clean cookstove sector, a summary of successful models for the last mile distribution chain for clean cookstoves, and presentations from the Peru workshop on moving beyond distribution to ensuring and evaluating the adoption of clean cooking.

PUBLICATIONS

Women, Energy and Economic Empowerment, *Boiling Point*, Issue 66. [Link](#)

The latest issue of *Boiling Point* shines a light on the role of women in reaching the poor and "difficult to reach" consumers with energy products and services. In their role as household energy managers, home-based micro and small-scale business owners or workers, women are in a unique position to connect with their peers, increase awareness, and deliver energy products and services. The issue also explores the impact that women-led micro and small enterprises selling energy services can have, with respect to household spending, poverty, gender equality, and local markets and economies.

Understanding Impacts of Women's Engagement in the Improved Cookstove Value Chain in Kenya, ESVAK Kenya, et al. May 2015. [Link](#)

This study examines the relative impacts of engaging women entrepreneurs in the clean cooking value chain and its association with overall improved cookstove sales and adoption. Set in Kenya, the study shows that women are three times better at selling cookstoves than men, and that women who buy their new stoves from women are more likely to report consistent and correct cookstove use as compared to male cookstove sellers.

Gender and Livelihoods Impacts of Clean Cookstoves in South Asia, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, May 2015. [Link](#)

This study helps build a body of evidence around gender, economic empowerment, and livelihoods in the improved cookstove and fuel sectors within South Asia. The study measures the use of improved cookstoves in India, Bangladesh, and Nepal and finds that women spend the equivalent of more than two weeks each year collecting firewood in India. Households using cleaner, more efficient cookstoves save significant amounts of time and use less fuel than those using traditional stoves. Women who save time report spending more time in social and family activities, including spending time with children and monitoring their studies.

Mapping Successful Cookstove Distribution Models: Eight Success Factors to Reach the Last Mile, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, Practical Action Consulting, and SNV, June 2015. [Link](#)

Drawing on ten case studies in Africa, Asia, and Latin America; an expert workshop; and a literature review of the sector, the study "Mapping Successful Cookstove Distribution Models" outlines key lessons for the establishment of last mile distribution chains for clean cookstoves. Based on these inputs, three operational models and a series of best practices to raise the awareness, acceptability, access, and affordability of clean cookstoves are identified for scale up and replication across a variety of contexts.

The State of the Global Clean and Improved Cooking Sector, ESMAP, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, May 2015. [Link](#)

This report provides a comprehensive mapping of the clean cooking sector. Building on the latest literature and using original research and analysis, the report maps sector demand and supply trends and provides the first ever global baseline and market forecast for clean and improved cooking solutions. Additionally, the report suggests a number of steps that governments, donors, NGOs, and the private sector can take to accelerate the adoption of clean, efficient cooking stoves and fuels.

NEWS

Landmark Resolution on Air Pollution from World Health Assembly, World Health Organization, May 2015. [Link](#)

At the World Health Assembly, which closed last week, delegates adopted a resolution to address the health impacts of air pollution—the world's largest single environmental health risk. This is a significant step for clean cooking in that it urges member states to develop air quality monitoring systems and health registries to improve surveillance for all illnesses related to air pollution; to promote clean cooking, heating, and lighting technologies and fuels; and to strengthen international transfer of expertise, technologies, and scientific data in the field of air pollution.

Cleaning Up the Kitchen, International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Apr 2015. [Link](#)

Technical standards and guidelines for cookstoves are an essential tool to support the mission of clean cooking solutions. Experts within ISO's technical committee ISO/TC 285 Clean Cookstoves and Clean Cooking Solutions have started work on developing three new standards and one technical report that will provide guidance and specifications for a number of areas such as laboratory and field testing methods, performance indicators, and social impact assessments. The first set of standards are expected in 2016, with working drafts completed later this year.

EVENTS

Beyond Distribution: Ensuring and Evaluating the Adoption of Clean Cooking and its Benefits, Lima, Peru, May 4–5, 2015. [Link](#)

On May 4 and 5, 2015, the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, the Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, the USAID Translating Research into Action project, and the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute co-organized a two-day workshop in Lima, Peru. Workshop attendees focused on determining how to move beyond a focus on distribution toward defining

and measuring progress on adoption of clean cooking technologies. A report summarizing panel sessions is available ([link](#)) as well as presentations made at the workshop:

DAY 1: Overview & Objectives – S. Mehta. [Link](#)

- Peru Adoption Study Panel. [Link](#)
- Behavior Change Communication Panel. [Link](#)
- Updates: NIH USAID Alliance. [Link](#)
- Pan American Health Organization Indoor Air Quality Guidelines – Troncoso. [Link](#)
- Gender Adoption Study Panel. [Link](#)

DAY 2: Overview & Objectives – S. Mehta. [Link](#)

- Sample Frameworks WASH & Stoves – Graham. [Link](#)
- SUMS (Stove Use Monitors) Panel. [Link](#)
- Summary & Next Steps – S. Mehta. [Link](#)

Webinar: Empowered Entrepreneur Handbook, June 25, 2015. [Link](#)

This webinar from the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves will provide an overview of a handbook for household energy entrepreneurs. The handbook provides six days of training in business skills, empowerment, and leadership for women micro-entrepreneurs, small-sized enterprises, and sales agents who work throughout the household energy sector.

International Development Design Summit (IDDS) for Cookstoves, Kampala, Uganda, Aug 1–19, 2015. [Link](#)

IDDS for Cookstoves will bring together design and innovation expertise, the latest research and development, manufacturing know-how, and user-centered design. The design summit is organized by the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves in partnership with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's D-Lab, the Centre for Research in Energy and Energy Conservation, and the Centre for Integrated Research and Community Development Uganda.

Clean Cooking Forum 2015, Ghana, Accra, Nov 10–13, 2015. [Link](#)

The four-day conference organized by the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves will be an opportunity for practitioners to come together to learn from each other and to work toward gaining the capacity and resources necessary to scale adoption of clean cooking solutions.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Request for Proposals: Curriculum Development and Implementation of Clean Cooking Education & Awareness Pilot for Ghanaian Youth, Closing Date: June 26, 2015. [Link](#)

The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves seeks to design and implement curricula that can be tested and evaluated against several outcomes, including: increased knowledge and positive attitudes toward clean cooking solutions, students' learning and leadership skills, teacher and school administrator buy-in on the importance of teaching these topics, students' families and communities' awareness levels, and purchases of clean cookstoves.

WASHplus Weeklies highlight topics such as Urban WASH, Household Air Pollution, Innovation, Household Water Treatment and Storage, Handwashing, Integration, and more. If you would like to feature your organization's materials in upcoming issues, please send them to Dan Campbell, WASHplus Knowledge Resources Specialist, at dacampbell@fhi360.org.



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About WASHplus - WASHplus, a multi-year project funded through USAID's Bureau for Global Health, supports healthy households and communities by creating and delivering interventions that lead to improvements in access, practice and health outcomes related to water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH) and household air pollution (HAP). WASHplus uses at-scale, targeted as well as integrated approaches to reduce diarrheal diseases and acute respiratory infections, the two top killers of children under five years of age globally. For information, visit www.washplus.org or email: contact@washplus.org.