

Cook.
Collaborate.
Change.



2016
Mid-year update

Our mission

Solar Cookers International is driven to provide solar cooking knowledge and sustainable energy solutions in the world's poorest regions.

Women and families who solar cook breathe cleaner air, have less respiratory disease, and preserve our habitats. When they use solar cookers to make water safe to drink, family members are spared painful and dangerous waterborne diseases.

Healthier people, happier people, healthier world.

Each gift you make to SCI helps women determine their own future.

Thank you for building foundations for solar cooking worldwide.

Julie Greene, Executive Director

FRONT COVER: Women in Nepal enjoy the ease of solar cooking. Fuel savings free money for family needs, such as education.

Photographs courtesy of Charley Cross unless otherwise noted.

From your Board of Directors

At the intersection of basic human needs and scientific innovation is hope.

How do women living on less than \$2 a day obtain the solar cooking knowledge and tools that work best in their environment?

Your giving to Solar Cookers International promotes a brilliant solution for women who have no energy choice but to destroy habitats because they must do the same thing women all over the world do: cook family meals.

In my last year as president, I want to express my sincere thanks to all our donors, and especially to the members of the President's Circle, who make it possible for us to bring more voices to the intersection where solar cooking choices change the direction of the world.

Honey Walters, President

Thank you from Kenya



Photo credit:
D. Chienjo, 2015

Change at Great Hope



Photo credit:
Fredrick Obat Radier, 2015

Curious children inspect the solar box cooker
which yielded cooked, hearty rice.

Orphans in Kenya now eat healthy solar cooked foods, thanks to a trainer SCI located, and SCI donors whose gifts paid the trainer to teach solar cooking skills to orphanage staff.

Great Hope Orphanage in Nairobi, Kenya, had 4 solar cookers, but their staff did not know how to use them. SCI consulted its network to find and hire a solar cook trainer. As a result, 86 students and 3 staff enjoy solar cooked lunches and **save up to 50% of their school's ongoing fuel expenses.**

"The training was great!" said Anne Waweru, Great Hope Orphanage staff. "Our cooks liked it and they are now excited about using the solar cookers."

"Commodities are not food. People don't eat raw rice and beans. Food security involves the energy to cook, and we mustn't forget that. When you are really poor, "free" really matters. The sun's energy is free, and it's readily available. All we have to do is have a simple energy gathering device to cook our food. We don't have to chop wood."

Paul Arveson, SCI Associate

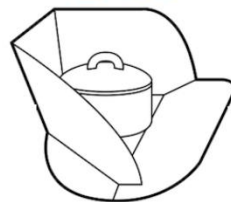
How 1,406 solar cooks change our world in a single year...

Since 2012, SCI helped provide 1,406 solar cookers to elderly and disabled people in Lower Nyakach, Kenya.

As a result, an estimated 2,470 tonnes (2,722 tons) of destructive carbon dioxide never went into the air.

*"I am impressed how millions of people in less developed countries have been helped by solar cookers," said **Pauline Lee, SCI donor.** "...Even in the U.S. we can use solar cookers to reduce our energy use, simplify our cooking process, and eat healthier food." (Note: SCI data reports that 3 million solar cookers impacted 11 million lives worldwide.)*

1,406



solar cookers

2,470

tonnes of CO2
emissions eliminated



8,436
people
have clean
water



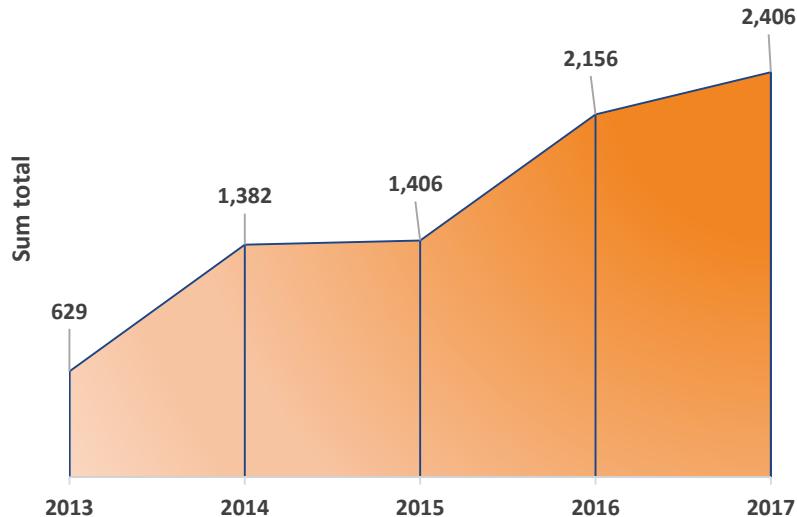
1,372
tonnes of
wood saved

(These are estimates based on one year of typical use for each Cookit. Savings may be much higher)

Kenya: Empowering communities

SCI will empower another 1,000 households near Lake Victoria, Kenya, with solar cookers by April, 2017, thanks to the outstanding support of the **Erik E. and Edith Bergstrom Foundation**. The open source CookKit provides villagers around the world with opportunities to start small businesses making and sharing technology with others.

of solar cookers distributed in Lower Nyakach



Total tonnes of wood saved with solar cooking*



Doubling your impact

SCI connected CanAssist from Canada with Kenyan solar cooking expert and longtime project partner, Ms. Dinah Chienjo, to educate other Kenyan villagers about solar cooking. This helped Ms. Chienjo generate income from her skills as a solar cooking trainer. Ms. Chienjo's contagious enthusiasm encouraged even more people to try solar cooking, amplifying your impact by connecting villagers to empowered global partners.



Jacinter uses a Haines Cooker
at SCI's project partner SURE's office in
Western Kenya, January 2015

"Solar cooking is a relatively simple solution to an age-old problem, and probably the best and most direct way to help people suffering from extreme poverty. I like that solar technology is affordable, adaptable and scalable. We can expect transformational improvement in the world's most environmentally challenged neighborhoods."

Marty Greenia, SCI board, Facebook software engineer



Photo credit:
Kriti Shrestha, 2016

Young women learn how solar cooking can free them from hours of fatigue, drudgery, and danger while collecting firewood.

Nepal: Resilience

Project participants, Kathmandu Valley, Nepal include:

- single women
- women leaders
- schools
- orphanages
- a community hospital
- a Special Education and Rehabilitation Center for Disabled Children
- the Down Syndrome Society

Received (in Spring, 2016):

- 30 parabolic cookers
- 7 solar dryers
- 2-day training on solar cooker building and use

+ 5 school and university demonstrations of solar cooking and sustainable technologies.

Participants send their deep gratitude, including a single mother whose solar cooker was damaged when her home collapsed during the Spring 2015 earthquake. With the help of SCI donors and project partner, FoST in Nepal, she reopened her 4-table, solar-cooker-powered neighborhood restaurant.

Collaboration achieves results

Solar cooking solves key energy issues and meets all 17 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Women's economic empowerment happens through solar cooking. And that's not all. Violence against women drops. Families pursue education. In fact, solar cooking furthers every area where women most seek change (see graphic at right).

SCI highlighted the need for solar cooking and safe water in 3 presentations at the 60th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 60) at the United Nations in New York.

In its oral and written statements for CSW 60, Solar Cookers International emphasized how solar cooking improves human health, soil quality, and family economies; reduces deforestation; and is a critical technology that can assist all people, particularly those in greatest need.

United Nations Representatives for SCI

AJ Lederman, Kathy Adler, Alan Bigelow,
Terri Brooks (New York) and
Sonia Heptonstall (Geneva).



THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development



Tanzania: proving solar cookers save fuel



The Tanzania project is a pilot study for SCI's *Solar Cooking Adoption and Impact Survey*, which measures fuel and financial savings.

Monthly firewood use

34% savings



With solar cooking



Without solar cooking

Monthly charcoal use

45% savings



With solar cooking



Without solar cooking

In the first month alone:

- The women saved 35% of their fuel expenses.
- On average, each woman saved more than 2 bundles of firewood per week with solar cooking.
- 100% of these women would recommend solar cooking to a friend.



Photo credit: (opposite and this page)
Sperancea Gabone, 2016

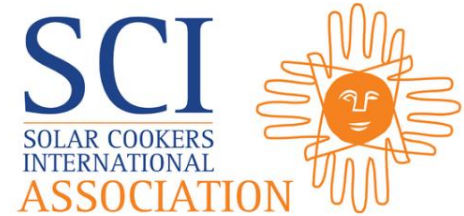
Connecting experts: Join us in South Asia

6th SCI World Conference, India 2017

More than 500 people from at least 25 countries are expected to attend the 6th SCI World Solar Cooking Conference January 16-21, 2017 in Gujarat, India. Topics will include collaboration, energy policy, entrepreneurship, marketing, finance, food processing, industrial applications, education, measuring use and impact, and humanitarian projects.

Organizing Committee members Dr. Mrs. Janak Palta McGilligan (secretary, left), Julie Greene (co-chair and SCI executive director, center), Deepak Gadhia (co-chair, Muni Seva Ashram, right), Dr. Ajay Chandak (not shown), and Ghanshyam Lukhi (not shown) are selecting from more than 60 abstracts submitted for the conference. Visits to some of the world's largest solar cooking installations are also planned.

The world conference was announced during the ConSolFood 2016 conference in Portugal by Julie Greene who spoke about "Key disruptors of the 21st century."



"Every single house and village as I hiked the Himalayas had multiples of big dishes and solar cookers. They boiled water within 2 minutes, and sold hot showers for \$2-\$5 each."

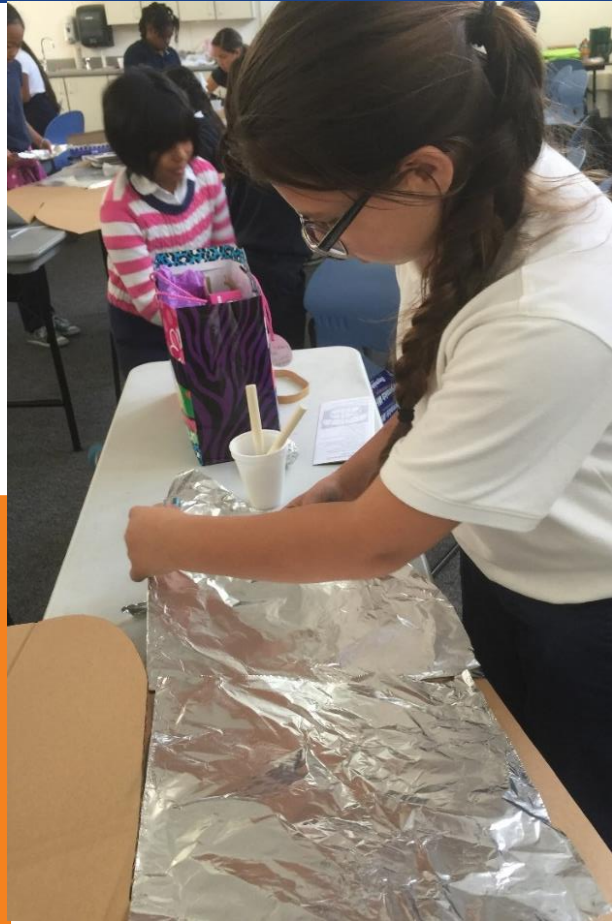
Sean Murray, senior advisor at Hansen McClain Independent Investment Advisors, upon meeting some families formerly living on less than \$2 a day.

Ensure quality

“Which solar cooker is best?” ask household cooks and the United Nations High Commission on Refugees, too. “How long will this solar cooker last?” “Will it cook enough to feed 8 people?”

Individuals, organizations, businesses, and governments need impartial evaluation of solar cookers. The global network asked SCI at the Regional Convention 2015 (North America) to conduct research on quality evaluation. SCI consulted with its network of experts and shared results in its webinar, “A Five Sun Rating for Solar Cookers? Testing for Consumer Certification.”

The next stage will be presented at the 6th SCI World Conference 2017 in India by Dr. Alan Bigelow, SCI’s science director and main representative at the United Nations, and Julie Greene, SCI’s executive director.



At right: Girl Scouts learn about free solar power and make their own CookKits.
Photo courtesy of Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), California, USA.

SCI advises U.S. Energy Information Administration

SCI informed the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) within the Department of Energy about ways solar cooking is used in homes. This information will be an important resource for the Residential Energy Consumption Survey (RECS) team, and this survey is critical for evaluating future energy needs and setting standards for building efficiency and design.

Global Advisory Council expands

Dr. Mrs. Janak McGilligan, pictured right, joined SCI's global Advisory Council, an international group of experts in solar cooking who advise SCI's policy, technology, and advocacy programs.

As founder and former director of the Barli Development Institute for Rural Women in India, McGilligan pioneered solar parabolic cooking for community use.

After she and her late husband Jimmy McGilligan established and developed the Barli Development Institute for Rural Women in 1985, McGilligan served as director until retirement in 2011. McGilligan is now the director of the Jimmy McGilligan Centre for Sustainable Development, and received the Padma award, the highest civilian award in India.

Ms. Pat McArdle contributes her expertise in integrated cooking, general solar thermal cooking promotion, and advocacy. A former SCI board member, McArdle was a member of multiple solar cooker project teams in refugee camps, and was the recipient of SCI's Order of Excellence honor in 2014.

Other advisory council members are Dr. Ajay Chandak (India), Dr. Paul Funk (United States), Deepak Gadhia (India), Louise Meyer (United States/Mexico), and Dr. Catlin Powers (China).



Janak McGilligan

Your gift to SCI today means solar cooking in future



Photo credit:
FoST in Nepal, 2016

Family forms a legacy:

"I got involved in solar cooking through my mother. When I was in college, I remember coming home to visit my parents and seeing this giant solar cooker in a wheelbarrow in the driveway," said **Jim Moose**, SCI Board vice president. He and his wife Kirstie Wilson, 2012 SCI Volunteer of the Year, are members of SCI's *Legacy Circle*, a group of passionate solar cooking supporters who recognize that solar cooking is an important investment for growing healthy future generations and preserving our environment.

Planning your future gift is easy.

The simplest way to plan for a legacy is by adding, or changing, a beneficiary on a retirement fund or life insurance policy. You may also choose to add Solar Cookers International to a will or estate plan with help from your own financial adviser.

SCI's US tax ID is 68-0153141



**SOLAR COOKERS
INTERNATIONAL**

Address:

2400 22nd Street, Ste. 210
Sacramento, CA 95818
USA

info@solarcookers.org
www.solarcookers.org
+1-916-455-4499



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Photo credit:
Kriti Shrestha, Nepal 2016

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SCI's fiscal year runs June 30-July 1.

Please visit <http://www.solarcookers.org/report/> later this year to review our annual audit.