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SCI Digest vol 23

3 November 2017

A publication to drive action and leverage global partnerships for the solar cooking sector

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## SCI at UN Conference on Climate Change- COP23



In just a few days, 900+ delegates, including 330+ political leaders from 81+ countries, will convene in Bonn for COP23, the informal name for the 23rd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Solar Cookers International will be there.

The Rio Earth Summit in 1992 marked the beginning of the international community's first concerted effort to confront the problem of climate change. At COP21 in November-December 2015, the parties negotiated what is known as the Paris Agreement, which established specific actions and targets for reducing greenhouse gases emissions, mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change, and financing mitigation and adaptation efforts in developing countries. Signatory countries agreed to work to limit global temperature rise to below 2 degrees Celsius and to make strong efforts to keep the rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

SCI's COP23 strategy to include solar cooking to help all countries meet climate goals:

- Commit to training public health practitioners and physicians on the benefits of solar cooking: during patient-provider interactions, household air pollution (HAP) can be addressed by promoting solar thermal cooking as a clean, sustainable solution.
- Prioritize and commit to clean, sustainable cooking for improved human and environmental health.
- Prioritize the survey questions proposed by the World Health Organization (WHO) for monitoring household energy use and progress of SDG #7 (ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all).

SCI Representatives advocating on behalf of the solar cooking sector at COP23:

Julie Greene – SCI's Executive Director; leads international solar cooking advocacy, education, research, and networking activity.

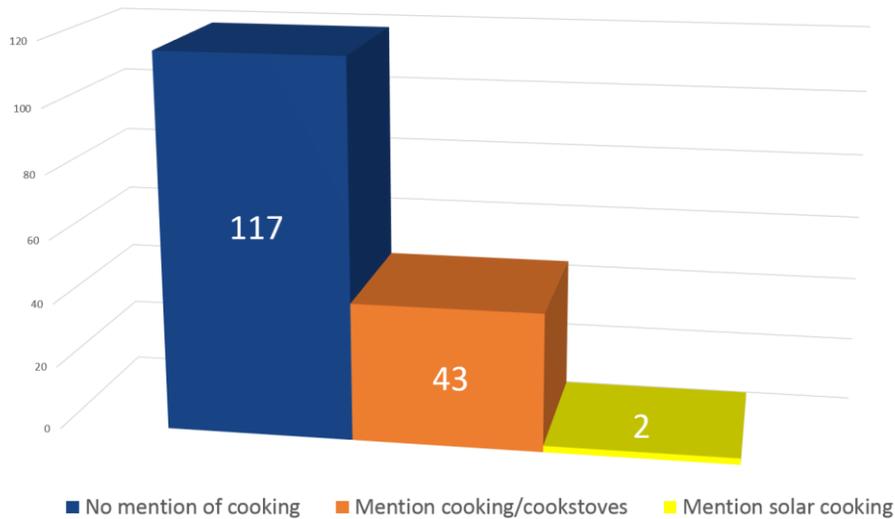
Mike Papanian – SCI Board Member; an environmental finance and policy specialist who has held key positions in and out of California state government.

Alan Bigelow, Ph.D. – SCI Science Director and UN Representative; a physicist and leading expert on solar cooking from design, to testing, to production, to training and scaling up.

Caitlin Hughes – SCI Program Director; responsible for gathering and analyzing data to identify best practices from SCI's field projects and the global solar cooking community.

The Nationally Determined Contributions, or NDCs, are a country's public commitment to reducing emissions and achieving the climate goals of the Paris Agreement. SCI Team Members will be urging governments, NGOs, and other partners to include specific language related to solar cooking in their NDCs.

Submitted NDCs Mentioning Cooking  
163 submitted as of 10/31/17



(Which two countries have included solar cooking in their NDCs? Answer: Somalia and the Marshall Islands.)

## SCI Events at COP23

- SCI & ENERGIES 2050 event Tuesday, November 7th (11:00 – 12:00) – venue: ENERGIES 2050Pavilion (C.06)
- The “Better Together” side event Monday, November 13th (15:00 – 16:30) – venue: South AfricaPavilion (D.01)
- Press Conference Tuesday, November 14th (17:00 – 17:30) – venue: Press Conference Room #2, BulaZone
- Climate Matters panel on Wednesday, November 15th (15:00 – 15:30) - venue: Press ConferenceRoom #2, Bula Zone

SCI will also host an exhibition space in the Bonn Zone. For more information on SCI's work during COP23, follow our social media channels on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) throughout November 6-17.

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News from the Field: Trust in Education Afghanistan (TIE)



Distributing solar cookers in Kabul, Afghanistan. Photo: Bazir, 2015.

[Trust in Education Afghanistan](#) (TIE) continues its 13th year spreading solar cooking technologies and training in Afghanistan. The situation in Afghanistan is an ongoing crisis. With local partners in Kabul, distributions and training in remote areas and refugee camps have been successful.

Jack Howell of TIE writes, “We have our cardboard panel cooker (CooKit) stamped out by Tharco in Hayward, California, U.S. for \$1.00 USD per unit. We collect Mylar coffee bean bags from Peet’s Coffee for free. We ship everything to Kabul for free through the

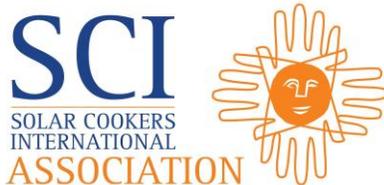
Denton Program (USAID) out of Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, California, U.S. We have taught Afghans how to attach the Mylar to the panel cookers which is very easy. In fact, they have been very innovative by coming up with other ways of making cookers faster. In the end, we have a complete solar cooker for \$1.00 USD. The water pasteurization devices (WAPI) are made in my garage for \$0.22 USD by crews of high school volunteers.”

For more information on USAID’s Denton Program for transport of humanitarian materials, see

<https://www.usaid.gov/workusaid/partnership-opportunities/humanitarian-responders/dentonprogram> .

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## Join the SCI Association



The [Solar Cookers International Association](#) is an elite group of academics, decision makers, designers, manufacturers, entrepreneurs, innovators, advocates, humanitarians, environmentalists, and NGOs working to promote solar thermal cooking worldwide. SCI Associates have a high impact on solar

cooking worldwide, and SCI provides the extensive resources that Associates need for innovation and networking opportunities.

[Click here to join the SCI Association.](#) Your Association fees help support the global solar cooking movement.

## Reports from the world of solar cooking work



SCI Science Director Alan Bigelow, Ph.D., demonstrating the PEP testing station for Indian media outlets.



SCI Global Advisor Dr. Mrs. Janak Palta McGilligan presenting to Clean Cooking Forum attendees.

The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves - Clean Cooking

Forum

New Delhi, India

24 - 28 October 2017

SCI Associates recently represented SCI and solar cooking at the Clean Cooking Forum 2017 in New Delhi, India, hosted by the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (GACC). Thanks to funding by SCI donors, several SCI Associates actively participated in the Forum, including: Alan Bigelow, Ph.D., SCI Science Director; Dr. Mrs. Janak Palta McGilligan, SCI Global Advisor; Mr. Deepak Gadhia, SCI Global Advisor; BK Jayasimha Rathod; Pranav Gadhia; and Karishma Gadhia.

Over the course of three days, SCI Associates conducted presentations on "The Performance Evaluation Process and Testing of Solar Cookers" developed by SCI, "Solar Cooking for Sustainable Community Development", and "Solar Cooking in India". They also met with other leaders in the solar cooking sector, presented exhibits and posters on solar thermal cooking, and advocated for the continued recognition of solar thermal cookers as a clean, sustainable approach to reducing household air pollution.

After the Forum closed, many participants took a side excursion to see the Community Solar Steam Cooking System at Brahma Kumari



## SCI Global Advisor Deepak

Gadhia presents at the Clean Cooking Forum 2017.



## SCI Associates at CCF2017.

Retreat Center in Gurgaon. This site visit was organized with the assistance of SCI Global Advisor Deepak Gadhia, and showcased an institutional solar steam cooking system that meets 60% of the cooking requirements of the ashram, serving 2,000 meals per day with zero emissions. The whole design was installed and is maintained by dedicated Brahmakumari members.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO)/TC 285  
Kathmandu, Nepal

30 October – 03 November 2017

SCI Science Director and Main UN Representative Alan Bigelow, Ph.D., is currently in Kathmandu attending the Field Testing Working Group at ISO/TC 285. The ISO process for clean cookstoves is coming to its conclusion, and Alan has been working diligently to ensure that solar cookers are recognized as Tier 4 cookstoves (according to IWA) and are included in the ISO/TC 285. SCI would like to thank Dr. Paul Arveson from Solar Household Energy (SHE) and Dr. Paul Funk, author of the ASAE 580.1 standard, who significantly contributed to this arduous, multi-year process.

We would also like to thank SCI donors, as well as SCI Associate Godfrey Mawira Kuburu, member of the Kenya Bureau of Standards, who is also advocating for solar cooking in this international process.



SCI Science Director Alan Bigelow, Ph.D., and BK Jayasimha Rathod assembling the SCI PEP test station in New Delhi



Working group meetings in progress in Kathmandu, Nepal.

# Accelerate SCI's Impact

If you've been reading SCI's email and annual report, then you know that SCI is expanding the solar cooking community. Accelerate SCI's impact with your donations.

You can also sponsor a webinar, which helps SCI coordinate among our global Associates and related partners.

Just \$1,500 gets you noticed by the professional solar cooking community.

For more information, email [donor.relations@solarcookers.org](mailto:donor.relations@solarcookers.org).

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Please submit articles for the SCI Digest to [info@solarcookers.org](mailto:info@solarcookers.org).

Consider a special gift to SCI in 2017--Honor someone with a gift [today](#).

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