



SCI DIGEST

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Haiti: Response to call for data

SCI thanks all who have replied to the call for data needed for advocacy for solar cooking in Haiti. Nine responses were received from the USA, Nepal, Canada and Chile. Combined with SCI's research thus far, the total number of solar cookers deployed in Haiti is 9,283. SCI will submit its feedback to the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves by 15 May 2017. At stake is whether solar cooking will be part of the Action Plan for the Transformation of the Cookstoves and Fuels Market in Haiti.

If you and/or your organization has been involved with solar cooking projects in Haiti, SCI would like to hear from you. SCI welcomes your data on baseline information, number and type of solar cookers, number of years of the project, location, outcomes, etc. Please submit your Haiti data to SCI by 10 May 2017 at info@solarcookers.org.

Make a difference in policy: Be part of SCI's advocacy team

SCI is organizing strong, coordinated advocacy strategies for these events. Join the advocacy efforts:

- Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves Clean Cooking Forum in New Delhi, India
- ISO/TAG 285 (date and location pending: perhaps India)
- COP 23, Bonn, Germany

If you plan to attend, consider being part of Solar Cookers International's strategic team. To join advocacy efforts, [email SCI](#). Indicate which event(s) you are committing to attend.

Conferences and Advocacy: Save the Dates

ConSol Foods 2018 Solar Cooking and Solar Food Drying Conference

Instituto Superior de Engenharia, Universidade do Algarve, Campus da Penha
Faro, Portugal
22-24 January 2018

The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves' Clean Cooking Forum

New Delhi, India
24-28 October 2017

International Organization of Standards (ISO) /TAG 285

Date and location TBA

COP 23

Bonn, Germany
November 2017

ISES Solar World Congress 2017

Jumeirah Hotel, Etihad Towers
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
29 Oct - 2 Nov 2017

ASES Solar 2017

Solar Cooking Track
Denver, Colorado USA
9 – 12 October 2017

SOCAP (Social Capital Markets)

San Francisco, California USA
10 – 13 October 2017

scholarship application due to SOCAP by June 1 for international applicants

News from SCI Associates

Solar Cooking- the solution to environmental impact and fuel scarcity in Kakuma Refugee Camp By Godfrey Mawira Kaburu, World Food Programme Kenya



Photo: G. Mawira, 2017

Reports indicate that an influx of refugees in Kakuma and Dadaab Refugee Camps has caused rapid environmental devastation as acute fuel shortages drive refugees into cutting anything available.

Recent research (Godfrey Kaburu, WFP) noted that in Kakuma, solar cooking was introduced as early as 2003. It brought about substantial monetary savings and improved living standards for refugees, especially during periods when firewood rations were delayed. Nevertheless years later, solar fuel adoption has been disappointingly low.

Interestingly solar fuel ranked as the second most preferred cooking option - see per the figure below;

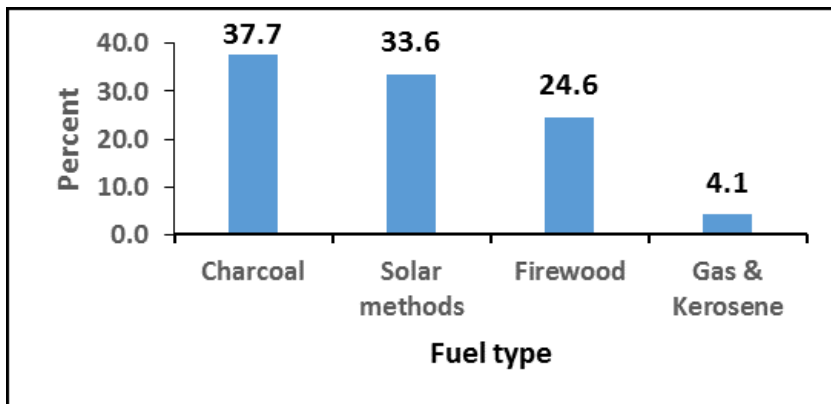


Figure 1: Fuel Type Preference among Refugees
Source: (Godfrey Kaburu, 2016)

Mr. Kaburu is an engineer, a former Kakuma Camp physical planner, the Greening Champion for World Food Programme (WFP), and a SCI Associate. [Read the full report here.](#)

Solar Cooking Festival at Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya

Partnership formed at SCIWC 2017 leads to action

On 29 April, 2017, the result of shared knowledge, planning, and partnerships formed at Muni Seva Ashram in Gujarat, India resulted in a solar cooking event on another continent, in very different circumstances.



Young girls help each other solar cook.



Aerial photo of festival. All photos courtesy of Godfrey Mawira, 2017

At the 6th SCI World Conference, Mr. Godfrey Mawira of the WFP **shared** his research demonstrating that solar cookers were a preference for Kakuma camp residents. A **plan** developed during the Refugee Camp discussion at the conference, and a partnership formed for action. Here's a **report of the outcomes from the commitment to action**.

Partners and roles

Mr. Ritesh Raithatha and Mr. Vivek Kabra, Simplified Technologies for Life (India) – “Suryakumbh” project model

National Council of Churches of Kenya (Kenya) – recruited and organized the children

Ms. Sharon Clausson and Mr. Roger Haines (US) – solar cooker design

Alliance for Africa Assistance – funding

Haines Solar Cookers (US) – funding

San Diego Rotary Club (US) – funding

Ms. Faustine Odaba, “Mama Solar” (Kenya) – training

Mr. Godfrey Mawira, WFP and team at Kakuma Camp (Kenya) – project coordination

Mawira wrote, “It's been a Fantastic Day here in Kakuma Refugee camp. Today we've made history, had fun, colour and celebrated together with over 1000 kids, refugees, heads of aid agencies, government of Kenya and participants from all walks of life, Kenya, the US and India.

Each of them went home in jubilation and amazed at how easy solar cooking is. The over 550 school kids and trainers that participated each carried home a solar cooker, pot, lid and solar-cooked. It was simply awesome.”

Odaba wrote “I feel so happy at heart for having a chance to be part of the team....Imagine over 500 pots with food solar cooking at the same time. With a few trainers and volunteers I prepared Ugali, Boiled eggs, Roast Meat, Cabbage, Meat Stew, Roasted Peanuts, Sweet Potatoes, and Pasteurized Water using the WAPI. There was lots of fun, dancing and explaining the functions of the cooker, and sampling the cooked recipes....At least three people within the camp remembered me [note: Odaba was a trainer in the original SCI Kakuma Camp project in the 1990's], and told the team about having seen the Cookit cook food by SCI trainers....

Thanks all my dear ones for all your support and input.”

Disabled Technicians Uganda Unlimited and **Heliac, Denmark** began a technology-sharing partnership at the SCI World Conference in India. Edward Sembajje is constructing Heliac's Fresnel lens solar cooker in Uganda.

Thanks to an introduction by **Professor Shyam Nandwani of Costa Rica** (ret'd), SCI President's Circle member, SCI Associate, and former SCI Board member, SCI submitted an article on the 6th SCI World Conference 2017 for the **World Renewable Energy Network (WREN) Annual Book**.

Media

[Solar Cooking: From the past and into the future.](#) *Resource*, May/June 2017.

By Dr. Paul Funk, inventor of the SOS Sport, former Board member of Solar Cookers International

Join Social Campaign for Solar Cooking

Help celebrate SCI's 30th anniversary and show the world how you solar cook.

Send SCI a short video less than 30 seconds long. Say your name, what country you live in, and how you solar cook.

Email your video files to info@solarcookers.org. The video is compiled by SCI Vice President Monica Woods.



Summary: SCI Webinar “Sector Updates” 27 April 2017

Goal Share outcomes of 6th SCI World Conference: Share, Plan, Commit
Attendees Denmark, India, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, USA (California, Ohio, New York, Washington DC).

Caitlyn Hughes, SCI Program Manager (organizer, facilitator):

- SCI Association;
- Tanzania report (partner – Macedonia Ministry);
- Kenya post-distribution data report (partner – Friends of the Old)

Alan Bigelow, SCI Science Director:

- Update on solar cooker performance evaluation process (PEP)
- Update on advocacy
 - Haiti (Global Alliance for Clean Cooking, Global Affairs Canada)
 - Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) 60 at the United Nations, New York
 - Sustainable Energy for All Forum, United Nations, New York
 - Cooking now prioritized

Julie Greene, SCI Executive Director:

- Refugee updates
 - Moving Energy Initiative
 - UNHCR Energy Expert Roster
- Call to action: solar cooking advocacy opportunities
 - **Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves Forum in New Delhi**
 - **International Organization of Standards /TAG 285**
 - **COP 23 Bonn, Germany November 2017**
 - contact SCI to be included in pre-event planning sessions for strong, coordinated advocacy

Outcomes from 6th SCI World Conference: Partner Updates

- *Refugees/advocacy*
- *Partnerships*
- *Promotion/education*
- *Design + Production*
- *Projects*
- *Testing*

Questions for the sector:

- *Marketing/outreach*
- *Partnership requests:*
- *Info/resources:*
- *Design*

Access the recorded webinar in the SCI Association portal using the SCIA login and password:

<http://www.solarcookers.org/our-work/association-and-network/association-benefits/association-portal/webinars/>.

- [Join the SCI Association](#)
 - [SCIA Organizational level benefits](#) including social media support
- [A webinar and guide on how to create and update a Solar Cooking Wiki page](#)
- [The trainers manual for solar cooking](#)
- [Additional resources on starting a solar cooking project](#) including selecting the type of solar cooker, funding, best practices, etc.
- [6th SCI World Conference 2017 presentations, posters, and papers](#) (including Even Larsen's on marketing)

"None of this would have happened without the wonderful SCI Conference!"

-Roger Haines, conference participant

Good photography: An important tool for solar cooking promotion

Photography is a powerful way to demonstrate the impact of solar cooking. How you use photography depends on the reason you're telling the story—that is, what you're trying to convey.

As always, it's very important to respect your partner's wishes: do you have their permission to take their photograph? Are there cultural restrictions or taboos about taking photos? Have this important discussion before you begin snapping photos.

Tell a story with context clues

This photo tells us about a woman who runs a restaurant using a solar cooker:



Photo: C. Cross, 2015

The composition lets us see that “Balcha Kitchen” is the name of her restaurant. If you recognize the writing, you see this is in Nepal; her dress is a rich cultural detail. Look at the cooker: it’s not important here to show the whole cooker because your mind completes the circle of the paraboloid. It’s better to zoom in a little to show other details. Rust on the central column shows she’s been using this cooker for a long time (successfully adopted technology); the reflective surface is clean (proper maintenance and pride of ownership).

There’s good composition at work here, that makes the photo interesting to look at. Neither the woman nor her cooker is centered. There’s a natural temptation to center the main subject, but that can make a photo uninteresting. Putting the woman on the left and the cooker on the lower right makes the image more powerful. Finally, whether she speaks Nepali or English, she’s using the universal human language of a smile, and looking right at the camera – right at the viewer.

Show technical detail

Other times the purpose is to document a specific technical detail for research or design purposes.



Photo: C. Cross, 2015

This is a crank that adjusts the vertical angle of a parabolic cooker in Nepal. By getting in close, we can see the details that matter for documenting the crank. A wider shot that showed the whole cooker might have showed the crank too small to be understood. (However, if you have space, both shots could be nice—one for context and the other for detail.) The crank and nearby hardware are in sharp focus, but the background is blurry; this helps draw your eye toward what's important.

-By Charley Cross, SCI Photographer, SCI volunteer, SCI President's Circle member, and SCI Associate.

More photography tips will appear in future SCI Digests.

TANZANIA

30 women
30 solar cookers
10 years*

TOTAL FUEL SAVED:

8,328 bags crop waste
6,792 kgs charcoal
23,458 bundles wood
5,826 liters kerosene
720 liters LPG

TOTAL MONEY SAVED:

\$29,261 USD

**TOTAL REDUCTION
IN CO2 EMISSIONS:
306 tons**



***Directly improving the lives of 233 people
Indirectly improving all our lives***

www.solarcookers.org



May is for Moms

Solar cooking helps a mom succeed. Your support gives a useful, practical cooking and water pasteurization alternative to mothers who live in extreme poverty - on less than \$1.25 per day - in sun-rich regions.

[Click here](#) to honor your mother, a mother you love, or a mom who deserves to be honored in a distant place. [International donors](#) can honor moms too.



Karishma at the 6th SCI World Conference with her daughter Hiteshi.
Photo: C. Cross, 2017

Please submit articles for the *SCI Digest* to info@solarcookers.org.

Consider a special gift to SCI in 2017.

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Solar Cookers International is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization leading global advocacy for the solar cooking sector.

To learn more, visit www.solarcookers.org

SCI Digest *Editor: Ms. Julie Greene, Executive Director, Solar Cookers International*





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