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SCI Digest vol 21

6 October 2017

News from the Solar Cooking Sector

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Disaster Preparedness: Solar Cookers & Mitigation



In the wake of recent hurricanes in the Caribbean and earthquakes in central America, we've received several requests for information about how Solar Cookers International is responding to these disaster events. After all, solar cookers can pasteurize water and cook food without the need for additional fuel or technology resources, so shouldn't SCI be coordinating efforts to send appropriate solar models to those affected areas?

Here at SCI, we know that solar cookers and water pasteurization indicators can impact lives and preserve critical resources. Locally available energy sources for cooking food and pasteurizing water are critical during emergencies, and solar energy is readily available in many impact zones. But it's important to remember that many people in disaster zones are dealing with life-altering circumstances. Having a solar cooking device, and knowing how to use it well, are essential for successful solar cooking and water pasteurization after a disaster. For most of the world's citizens, solar cooking is still a new technology requiring training and follow-up service, which may not be available during disaster response efforts.

Solar Cookers International believes that [disaster response is best approached through mitigation practices](#)—by teaching people to make and use solar cookers on a regular basis, SCI ensures that human suffering is reduced or prevented during a crisis because both the technology and behaviors are in place prior to impact. Increasing the number of people who make, use, and teach others to solar cook increases the world's capability to respond effectively after a disaster. This will assure that solar cookers and local expertise are immediately available, locally, when needed.

For more about how SCI works to bolster the capacity and strength of our solar cooking partners, regardless of situation, visit [our webpage on disaster preparedness](#).

Updated Performance Evaluation Process (PEP) Manual

Solar Cookers International has long recognized the need for a single standard for testing solar cookers. In

response, SCI developed a performance evaluation process (PEP) based on the internationally-known [ASABE S580.1 standard for Testing and Reporting Solar Cooker Performance](#).

Our Performance Evaluation Process (PEP) Manual has recently been updated by Justin Tabatchnick and Alan Bigelow, Ph.D., and is [now available](#) on the Solar Cookers International website. Simply follow the link, scroll to the bottom of the page, and [register to receive the PEP assembly files](#) emailed direct from SCI.

SCI science director Alan Bigelow joins WG 3 (Field Testing) at ISO/TC285



U.S. Technical Advisory Group (US TAG) to ISO/TC 285
Clean Cookstoves and clean cooking solutions

The ISO process for clean cookstoves is coming to its conclusion. The meeting will be held in Kathmandu, Nepal 30 October – 3 November 2017.

Get involved at the ISO

Solar cooker manufacturers, particularly in the 29 Participating Members countries, connect with your [country delegates listed here](#). Contact the Participating members and Observing members from your country. Share these two key points in your discussions:

1. Solar cookers are Tier 4 cookstoves according to IWA
2. Solar cookers are an important technology to be included in the ISO/TC 285

3 Easy Steps

1. [Go to the ISO/TC 285 website](#).
2. Scroll down. Click on Participating members or Observing members. Identify your [country delegates listed here](#).
3. Contact your country delegates and share the two key points:
 - Solar cookers are Tier 4 cookstoves according to IWA
 - Solar cookers are an important technology to be included in ISO/TC 285

If you are eligible to join your national standards board, please do (and let SCI know). Thanks to many SCI Associates, especially Dr. Paul Arveson (SHE), and Dr. Paul Funk, author of the ASAE 580.1 standard, who significantly contributed to this arduous, multi-year process.

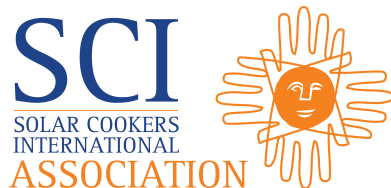
Clean Cooking Forum 2017 in New Delhi: Scheduled Site Visit to Bramhakumari Retreat Center



If you've been receiving email updates about the [Clean Cooking Forum 2017](#) from the [Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves](#), then you might have recognized a recent photo of the Community Solar Steam Cooking System at the Bramhakumari Retreat Center in Gurgaon, India. This state-of-the-art cooking facility is one of the featured Site Visits at the Clean Cooking Forum 2017, and attendees will be touring the facility on October 27. SCI worked with the GACC to ensure that this incredible venue was part of this year's Clean Cooking Forum.

Solar Cookers International will be represented at the Clean Cooking Forum 2017 by three members of our [Global Advisory Council](#) as well as Alan Bigelow, SCI Science Director. Dr. Bigelow will be conducting a special session on Solar Cooking Performance Evaluation on October 26, the day prior to the Bramhakumari Retreat Center site visit. For more information about the Clean Cooking Forum 2017, please visit www.cleancooking2017.org.

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 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 support the global solar cooking movement.

Upcoming Webinar Opportunities

SCI Webinar: Solar Cooking Sector Updates

10 January 2018

8:00-9:00 am Pacific Time/ 15:00-16:00 GMT

Registration details will be shared at a later date

SCI Conference Call: Refugee Working Group

10 January 2018

9:00-10:00 am Pacific Time/ 16:00-17:00 GMT

Registration details will be shared at a later date

Recorded Webinars available from SCI

How to Promote Integrated Solar Cooking as a Social Business: Two Examples of Success from Africa. Recorded 30 August 2017

This was a joint webinar presentation by Solar Cookers International and Solar Cooking The Netherlands - Kozon.

Webinar participant feedback:

"Thank you for offering this seminar. The topic is on all of our minds as we try to move forward in the promotion and acceptance of solar cooking."

"Wow! What a great webinar. Kudos to the folks at KoZon who presented, and also to you all at SCI for hosting the event. Thanks for all you do."

Solar Cooking Sector Updates Webinar. Recorded 21 September 2017

SCI and partner news on joint projects and learning, solar cooking in the media, and advocacy. "An impressive collection of capabilities"-David Stillman, PhD

All recorded webinars can be accessed via the [SCI Association portal](#).

Featured SCI Associate: Dr. Bruce Elliott-Litchfield

SCI Associate **Bruce Elliott-Litchfield** is the Chief Executive Officer of Sun Buckets, a social business that develops portable cookstoves that store the sun's energy, making cooking easier and more affordable for off-grid families around the world.



Dr. Bruce Elliott-Litchfield

Sun Buckets: Seeking Field Testing Partners

Sun Buckets, Inc. (www.sunbuckets.com) is developing portable cook stoves with solar thermal heat storage. The Sun Buckets are heated during the day with the sun, and then used later, when and where desired. Sun Buckets allow you to cook with the sun, even at night.

Sun Buckets is seeking from 2 to 4 organizations that are early adopters (i.e., willing to try an early-stage innovation) to help implement and coordinate field-testing. Participating organizations may use the Sun Buckets to start a solar harvesting farm/business, or they may choose to give or sell the Sun Buckets to individual participants.

Selection criteria for the field tests include:

1. Candidate organizations must have at least 10 years experience working in the community of implementation and must have staff available at the site to assist with implementation, beginning in the next 5-9 months.
2. Participants/users in the test group must be among those who spend a large portion of their income to purchase cooking fuel, and must directly benefit from fuel cost savings.
3. Participants/users in the test group should prefer to cook inside and/or in the evening, thereby taking advantage of the storage



*Sun Bucket cooking with stored solar thermal energy.
Photo: University of Illinois*

and portability attributes of the new cooking system.

4. Candidate organizations must be willing to invest from \$5,000 to \$10,000 US (the approximate value of the cooking system). Payment must be in advance and the exact amount will depend on the size of the test group. At the completion of the study, the organization or individual participants will retain ownership of the cooking system.
5. The community location must have high levels of direct normal solar radiation – full sun without clouds or haze, and candidate organizations should ideally have experience with implementation of solar cooking systems.

Candidate organizations may inquire further and express intent to apply by writing to info@sunbuckets.com.

Data on Global Adoption of Solar Cookers

Special thanks to SCI Associate Mukasa Kawesa, who shared his most recent solar cooker distribution & sales numbers with SCI to be included on the global map of solar cookers. Add your data today at <http://www.solarcookers.org/our-work/solar-cooker-distribution/> so that we can show international leaders the extent of solar cooking worldwide. Meanwhile, explore our interactive map listing our latest solar cooker distribution data below.



Map created by  [caitlynsolarcookers](https://solarcooking.org)

Latest Updates on Solar Cooking Wikia

Our SCI Wikia editors have been hard at work improving the functionality of solarcooking.org--recent Wiki work includes improving and adding search links for [Kiva](https://www.kiva.org/) partners in 135 countries (by continent, the finest granularity the search allows). This allows our country partners to easily find a Kiva partner in their country to help micro-finance for a solar cooker project, increasing solar cooking's impact around the world.

The Many Faces of Solar Cooking: Share your photos and show solar

cooking in your part of the world!

Boil, fry, sauté, stew, steam...we know solar cookers can do it all. One of a family's best assets can be its solar cooker. According to the baseline data analyzed by Solar Cookers International, one year of ordinary use of one solar cooker represents fuel savings of 1.1 tons of wood and keeps 1.6 tons of CO2 emissions out of the atmosphere.

Yet millions of people have never seen a solar cooker.

Submit your photos to info@solarcookers.org and help SCI illustrate this amazing technology to audiences around the world! Watch for your credited photos on Facebook and in future editions of the SCI Digest.

Upcoming Events and Conferences



Solar 2017, American Solar Energy Society (ASES) Solar Cooking Track (coordinated by SCI)

**SCI attending - confirmed*

Denver, Colorado USA

9 – 12 October 2017

Preview of solar cooking track speakers: Alan Bigelow, Brad Scharlott, Douglas Simmers, Julie Greene, Pete Schwartz, William Young.

- SCI Global Advisor Deepak Gadhia will make a presentation on the solar thermal cooling system, too.
- Former SCI board member Patty Roberts will moderate the Solar Cooking Track.

Social Capital Markets (SOCAP)

**SCI attending - confirmed*

San Francisco, California USA

10 – 13 October 2017



- Come say hello to Caitlyn Hughes, SCI Program Director.



The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves - Clean Cooking Forum

**SCI attending - confirmed*

New Delhi, India

24 - 28 October 2017

<http://www.cleancooking2017.org/>

- Attendees will include:
 - Alan Bigelow, SCI Science Director
 - Dr Mrs Janak Palta McGilligan, SCI Global Advisor
 - Professor Ajay Chandak, SCI Global Advisor
 - Mr Deepak Gadhia, SCI Global Advisor
 - Mr Jayasimha BK
 - Mr Jagadeesawra Reddy



International Organization for Standardization (ISO)/TC 285

**SCI attending - confirmed*

Kathmandu, Nepal

30 October – 03 November 2017

<http://cleancookstoves.org/events/394.html>



UN Climate Change Conference (COP23)

**SCI attending - confirmed*

Bonn, Germany

6 - 17 November 2017

<http://www.cop-23.org>



Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) Humanitarian Workshop

**SCI attending - confirmed*

Nairobi, Kenya

28 November- 1 December 2017

[Click here to provide input on the workshop agenda.](#)

CONSOLFOOD 2018

CONSOLFOOD2018 - Advances in Solar Thermal Food Processing

Instituto Superior de Engenharia, Universidade do Algarve,
Campus da Penha

Faro, Portugal

22 - 24 January 2018

www.consolfood.org

Funding Opportunities

The Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation-- Application

[The Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation](#) is accepting applications from social enterprises that are between one and three years old, with scalable business models that work to affect policy, public opinion, and economies.

Grantees will receive USD \$300,000. Applications are accepted year-round.

Apply at: <http://www.tfaforms.com/337241>

Closing: 31 December 2017

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.

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

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

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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

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