



Solar Cooking KoZon

Solar Cooking The Netherlands – KoZon NEWSLETTER

No. 1, December 2015



Solar Cooking The Netherlands and KoZon join forces

>> [Read more about the merger on page 2](#)

Our projects in East Africa

Since 2007 Wilde Ganzen and Solar Cooking The Netherlands (SCN) have supported a large Solar Cooking project in Uganda. In Ethiopia, SCN has since 2011 backed an important EU Renewable Energy Technology (RET) project, of which Integrated Solar Cooking (ISC) is part.

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Our projects in West Africa

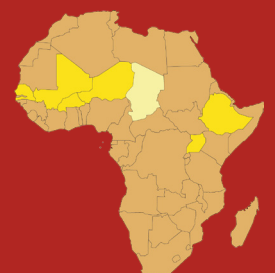
KoZon has backed ISC (Integrated Solar Cooking) projects in West Africa since 1998. Thousands of women in Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Senegal and Chad use these cooking tools thanks to business projects and/or financial aid granted by KoZon.

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Also in this newsletter

- A thank you to those volunteers who are saying goodbye
- SCN and KoZon's finances
- How you can support us



Going forward together

We are almost there: on 1st January 2016 the new foundation Solar Cooking The Netherlands – KoZon will be a fact. It involved many things, legal, financial and practical. Notwithstanding all the work we are convinced that we have taken a positive step forward. Together we are stronger, certainly at a time when it becomes more and more difficult to recruit volunteers and to raise funds.

In nearly 18 years of KoZon and over 12.5 years of Solar Cooking The Netherlands, much has been achieved. Thousands of women now use Integrated Solar Cooking (ISC). Both foundations have acquired a wealth of knowledge and experience in terms of integrated solar cooking and of the use of Renewable Energy Technology for Households (RET). We will now be able to pool our expertise to achieve cooperation and knowledge exchange between countries in Africa. The first steps have been taken. In Uganda and in Mali training has taken place in which local project leaders have participated. In the next few years we will expand these contacts and knowledge exchanges to ultimately set up ISC/RET knowledge and service centres in East and West Africa.

Our official name is Solar Cooking The Netherlands – KoZon. For everyday use we have chosen the shortened version Solar Cooking KoZon, which we also use for our logo and website.

One of the most recent reasons to merge was the fact that a number of volunteers had decided to reduce their activities after many years of active commitment. Both boards had to start looking for new people. With little success. After it had been decided to merge, together we were able to attract new, enthusiastic volunteers. It does mean that we are taking leave from a number of board and work group members. We owe them many thanks for all the work they have done in the past years. We will miss their familiar faces and it will feel odd not having them around. But we are certain that they will continue to feel close to Solar Cooking KoZon.

Lucretia Gijssen-Boerebach, president KoZon
Clara Thomas, president Solar Cooking The Netherlands

Vision and policy

Solar Cooking KoZon's main objective remains the promotion of integrated solar cooking (ISC) and the use of clean energy at the lowest possible cost. To do this we choose a business approach, whereby women are encouraged to participate in the local economy.

Integrated solar cooking

The emphasis is placed on the use of the (Solar) Cookit, the Solar Box, the hay basket, a water pasteurisation indicator and wood-saving cooking appliances: integrated solar cooking. Integrated Solar Cooking (ISC) / Cuisine Solaire Intégrée (CSI). On a smaller scale, solar lamps and small solar panels for daily use will be marketed as well.

Participation of women in the local economy

In order to improve the living standards of women, we support local ISC/CSI initiatives in which women can participate fully, improve their position, generate income and take part in the local economy. Women have hands-on experience in cooking and daily activities; indeed it makes them excellent marketers, promoters and instructors.



Production of hay baskets in Ndondol, Senegal

Business approach

Beside the elaboration of a project plan, a business plan is established that includes objectives, an action plan and timetable, an ISC/CSI promotion and marketing plan as well as a detailed budget. Charitable projects remain a possibility for very poor groups such as refugees and handicapped people.

Project countries, networks and cooperation

Projects are requested by a local NGO, cooperative or organisation. Our foundation cooperates closely with these local ISC/CSI experts as their first point of call as well as coordination and network contact.

The Foundation's task and function

Solar Cooking KoZon creates favourable conditions and advises. After an initially supervisory task in a new project, it plays an advisory and supporting role.

For the Solar Cooking KoZon Foundation's complete Vision and Objectives, see our website www.solarcookingkozon.nl



Solar cooking training session in Ethiopia

Projects in East Africa

UGANDA

Since 2007 Wilde Ganzen and Solar Cooking The Netherlands (SCN) have supported the Solar Cooking project in Uganda, implemented by Solar Connect Association (SCA). As of 2009, SCA has been committed to working according to a business model.

From then onwards results obtained and sales figures were precisely defined and reported.

Mid-2013 a business plan was decided on, including a schedule of ISC activities during the following five years. In the course of 2014 it became clear that the objective of financial independence had been achieved. The business expanded from Mbarara in the South West to the poorer outskirts of and villages around Kampala. For the time being production continues in Mbarara only. In 2014 construction of a Renewable Energy Centre with larger ISC production, training and distribution facilities was started with financial support from Wilde Ganzen and SCN. In its beautiful location on the main road between Uganda, The Congo, Tanzania and Rwanda, the building, fitted out with solar panels, is ready to continue and expand its activities. In short, SCA is the owner of a social Solar Cooking business for the production, marketing and sale of solar and other energy-saving cooking appliances.



The new Renewable Energy Centre near Mbarara

The small Solar Cooking enterprise is doing well. In 2014 it sold 5,460 CookIt sets, 2,540 hay baskets and 5,040 wood-saving cooking appliances. A promising development. In the year ahead solar lamps and very small solar panels will be sold as well. SCA is investigating which other energy-friendly appliances could best be marketed and included in the assortment of clean energy cooking appliances. In the coming years serious efforts will be made as well to expand the market into other regions in Uganda.

ETHIOPIA

An extensive EU Renewable Energy Technology project (RET) was started in Ethiopia in 2001 of which Integrated Solar Cooking (ISC) is part. In total 20 RET workshops have been

built in six provinces across Ethiopia. Production and distribution (sale) of solar, biogas and wood-saving cooking appliances started at the end of 2015. In 2014 and 2015 large-scale public promotion and training of local employees took place.



ISC information and promotion in Ethiopia

At the same time a start was made with the marketing of solar lamps and small solar panels (to charge cell phones, radios). The Horn of Africa Environment Centre and Network (HoA-ReC/N), a department of Addis Ababa University (AAU) in Addis Ababa manages the project. Solar Cooking The Netherlands (SCN), as a partner in this project, is since 2011 responsible for the transfer of ISC and has contributed financially on a yearly basis. In 2011 SCN appointed Fikirte Regassa Beyene as its representative and solar cooking expert in Ethiopia. Today Fikirte R.B. is still in office as project officer and member of HoA-ReC/N's Energy staff.

In 2012 a Solar Cooking business was set up in the community of Awura Amba (North Ethiopia). Its implementation is in the hands of the NGO ORDA in collaboration with the village's staff. A large ISC workshop was built in 2013. Currently a lot of effort is put into the marketing and sale of ISC cooking appliances.

Projects in West Africa

MALI

KoZon has been active in West Africa since 1998. Since then, over 50 small and large ISC (Integrated Solar Cooking) projects have been implemented in Mali. As part of all these projects, women received free training and cooking equipment. As a result projects are still depending on financial support. And this is why we have in the past few years focused on a business approach.

Tiby, Segou region

We have carefully continued this trend in the latest project together with the Association des Femmes Ingénieurs du Mali (AFIMA) in Tiby, in the Segou area. 850 Women have been trained. From this group 4 cooperatives have been created. They were to continue as businesses that would disseminate solar cooking while being coached by AFIMA. However, our partner has decided that it prefers to continue with other charitable projects. We are therefore going our separate ways

for the time being. It is regrettable because AFIMA has been of great value in the dissemination of ISC in Mali. To ensure that the cooperatives will be able to continue, we are attempting to link them to the Togo Tilé project.

Togo Tilé, Ségou

Togo Tilé is a solar cooking business that was established in the first half of 2014 by Seydou Coulibaly. Togo is his native village and Tilé means 'sun' in Bambara. In the summer of 2014 we concluded a two-year contract with him for a total of 15,000 Euro to cover start-up costs of the business, a workshop, production and transport equipment and wage costs.



One of Togo Tilé's outlets in Ségou

He started with the production and sale of CookKits and during the year expanded the assortment to include hay baskets and solar boxes. There is a strong demand for hay baskets in particular: they sell 75 per month (mid-2015). Total monthly turnover reaches approx. 2,000 Euro.

Seydou now has four permanent staff plus a number of production employees and saleswomen. He has opened outlets in Segou, Bamako and Sikasso. His ultimate aim is to reach nationwide coverage. Indeed the women are able to pay the cooking equipment with the money they save on wood which means that this equipment is also affordable for poorer women. But Seydou does also and in particular look for his customers among the urban middle class.

After his study trip to the project in Uganda, last August, he trained project leaders from Burkina Faso and Senegal in using a business approach.

Handicapped women (and men)

From 2005 onwards, KoZon has supported ISC projects of the Association Malienne des Femmes Handicapées (AMAFH). At present over 350 handicapped men and women in Mali have been trained and provided with cooking equipment. After training, the participants receive cooking equipment for the symbolic amount of 500 FCFA (nearly 1 Euro).



Bella women in Mopti

In cooperation with Yvonne Gerner, of Around Baba in Mopti, a fair number of Bella women have received ISC training. Five of them were educated as trainers, after which they started to hold their own training sessions. Last spring these women learned from Togo Tilé how to make CookKits and hay baskets in order to produce and sell them themselves. ZONTA Club Arnhem has made these training sessions possible after they had earlier on sponsored ISC training for Bella women together with Wilde Ganzen.



The five Bella women (right) in the Togo Tilé workshop

Timbuktu and Bamako

The Association pour le Développement Régional Intégré au Mali (ADRIIM) has already realised a number of projects in Timbuktu and Bamako with KoZon's support. This is not easy in Timbuktu given the political situation in Northern Mali. In Bamako, ADRIIM is successfully promoting and selling hay baskets without KoZon's financial support.

BURKINA FASO

In Ouagadougou, KoZon has for many years now worked together with Association Écologiste pour le Développement Social (AEDS). They make their own cooking equipment and hold training sessions. Last year, KoZon financed a modest sales and storage space. However sales are not doing so well yet.

The Association Duddal Leydi Men (DLM) in Ouagadougou combines promotion and training with literacy classes. However the same applies here: they are very enthusiastic in holding training sessions but hardly sell any cooking equipment.

The Association 'Le Bon Samaritain' pour la Protection de l'Environnement et le Développement Social (ABSPEDS) started a solar cooking project in the ecological village of Tanghin on its own initiative.

To support these three organisations on their way to independence, we gave them the opportunity to attend training sessions held in August by Togo Tilé in Mali.

NIGER

At present there are no new initiatives in Niger, also because of the political situation.

SENEGAL

In 2013, KoZon, together with the Stichting Plattelandsontwikkeling Senegal (SPS) (Foundation Rural

Development Senegal), started a pilot project in the village of Ndongol, 30 km from Thies. The local partner is Caritas Thies. 100 Women have trained in ISC within the framework of this project. They have all received a CookKit and FATIM Diaw, our representative in Senegal, has taught them to make hay baskets. In time this project will have to continue as an independent business as well. The project leader, together with Fatim, has participated in the training in Mali to that effect.



Evaluation of pilot project in Ndongol

CHAD

At present 40,000 women in six refugee camps in Chad use integrated solar cooking, also thanks to KoZon's financial support.

We thank all those volunteers who are taking leave from us.

Solar Cooking The Netherlands (SCN)

From end-2008 **Marjan Hermans** has been SCN's devoted and professional secretary. During the past seven years she has been of great importance and the key to the foundation's many tasks. Nothing was too much trouble for her.

For over 10 years, **Denise Schwartz** played an active role in public ISC demonstrations. During all those years, as a work group member, she maintained excellent archives of the foundation's photos, classified on SCN's website.

Ton de Wit has since 2003 managed the storage facility with great care and attention; all our solar cooking materials were stored at her home during these years.

During seven years **Jolien Hessel** was actively involved in fundraising. Together with Jacomine Immink she also ran the workshops for those interested in Solar Cooking.

KoZon Foundation

In May 2012 **Jan de Graaff** started as KoZon's treasurer. Our financial policy and management were in his excellent hands. Indeed, the audit commission was always very satisfied. We will miss his quiet and expert contributions to the board.

Finances

Solar Cooking The Netherlands

Expenses made in 2015 for currently SCN co-financed ISC projects in Ethiopia and Uganda were mostly provided for in the year before. This amounted for Ethiopia to 17,070 Euro (SCN contribution to HoA-REC EU project and SCN representative expenses Ethiopia) and for Uganda to 12,058 Euro (Renewable Energy Centre in Mbarara and the solar panels project). Expenses for knowledge transfer and project coordination amounted to 2,402 Euro in 2015. Until early

November 2014 an amount of 1,931 Euro had been spent on PR and information costs. During that same period, 472 Euro was spent on management and administration.

SCN fundraising

As to income from own fundraising during 2015 (as at 1st November 2015), a total amount of 10,667 Euro was received. Small donations (gifts of less than 500 Euro) amounted to 2,367 Euro. Larger donations (gifts of 500 Euro or more) came from private institutions and a number of private individual donors (as at 1st November 2015: 8,300 Euro). We received a project bonus from Wilde Ganzen of 3,882 Euro. It is expected that income from own fundraising will continue to increase (by an estimated 4,000 Euro) in November and December. This means that total income in 2015 is estimated at approx. 15,000 Euro, versus expenses totalling approx. 34,000 Euro. Since virtually all project expenses had been provided for in the year before, the foundation's capital will not be affected adversely.

Henk Crietee, treasurer SCN

KoZon foundation

A financial statement for 2014 as well as a short statement of KoZon's income and expenses for the first half of 2015 were included in the last newsletter as a semi-annual financial report had to be submitted before the merger. In June and August the (business) training trip took place, costing a total of approx. 15,000 Euro because of travel, accommodation and training expenses of the participants (first in Uganda and then in



Mali) and which was financed by a large donation received last year.

Seydou Coulibaly demonstrates the Solar Box during training in Mali

By now the first proposals, emerging from these trainings sessions, have been received for a number of new projects in Burkina Faso and Senegal. These projects have not started as yet. The Togo Tilé project in Mali progresses steadily, both its implementation and its research activities.

KoZon fundraising

In the second half of the year four rather large donations were received which together with regular donations, amount to 4,000 Euro. Apart from various small donations, a pledged amount of 1,000 Euro and two gifts for a total of 7,000 Euro are expected in November and December. We extend our sincere thanks to all donors for their contributions.

Preliminary estimates for 2015 indicate that total income will amount to approx. 25,000 Euro as against total expenses of about 30,000 Euro. Capital will slightly decrease to about 21,000 Euro.

Jan de Graaff, treasurer KoZon

The annual financial reports for the previous years are available on the website: www.solarcookingkozon.nl

PR and Fundraising activities

Solar Cooking The Netherlands (SCN)

This year again our faithful donors were very generous with their financial support. We are very grateful. Under the inspirational influence of Ineke Poley, the deaconry team of the Vrijzinnige Geloofsgemeenschap (VG) (humanist community of faith) in Hilversum was extremely active in raising funds for the solar cooking project in Awura Amba (Amhara, Ethiopia). Last October VG handed over 1,200 Euro to the SCN board. Our sincere thanks. The World Shop Bussum invited SCN to celebrate its 20-year existence. It was a well-attended public event with many interested visitors.



At the World Shop in Bussum

KoZon

KoZon could again count on the support of many faithful donors. Thank so much for that. KoZon received the end-of-year 'Tintelingen' of 1,950 Euro from Wageningen University and Research Centre (WUR). The money has been spent on a project for handicapped men and women. Rotary Club Wageningen has undertaken to give us 1,000 Euro, which is part of the proceeds of Rotary on Wheels event where KoZon had a booth. To both organisations thank you very much!



Belmondo Festival in Wageningen

This year KoZon also had a booth at the Belmondo Festival in Wageningen and at the NVAS Africa Day 2015 'Africa & Technology' in Delft.

How can you support Solar Cooking KoZon?

In the past years both foundation were generously supported by a large number of faithful donors. Among others, through one-time gifts, regular collections, legacies and annuity donations. At times also through the proceeds of a birthday or jubilee gift. We are extremely grateful for these. These contributions enable us to meet the large demand for projects in our target countries. We hope that we can continue to count on this support in the future. Since our staff are all volunteers without any remuneration, our overheads are particularly low: approx. 5%. This means that 95% goes directly to our projects. The tax authority has informed us that the new foundation will be recognised as an 'Institution for General Benefit' (ANBI). Should you wish to make a donation, you may transfer it directly to either of our bank accounts. NL 06 TRIO 0254 7056 34 in the name of Solar Cooking Foundation The Netherlands

NL 57 ABNA 0404 8116 71 in the name of KoZon Foundation. Our new website has a form you can use to make a donation. You can also download a tax authority form if you wish to register an annuity donation.

Solar Cooking Foundation The Netherlands – KoZon as of 1-1-2016

Committee of recommendation

Drs. J. Bos, Former ambassador to Sudan and Ethiopia
Jan Pronk
Prof. Dr. Ir. R. Rabbinge, Em. University professor WUR, CGIAR
Jan Terlouw, Physicist, former politician, author
Herman Wijffels

Board

President: Lucretia Gijssen-Boerebach
Secretary: Dicky Fisscher
Treasurer: Gaudence Havyarimana
Board member, coordinator East Africa: Clara Thomas
Board member, coordinator West Africa: Hans de Vries

Project coordination

Ethiopia: Clara Thomas and vacancy
Uganda: Henk Crietee and Theo Sinke
Burkina Faso: Carja Butijn and Hans de Vries
Mali: Wilma Goppel and Piet Sluimer
Niger: Carja Butijn
Senegal: Wilma Goppel and Arnoud Pollmann

Work group PR and Fundraising

Coordination: Lucretia Gijssen
PR (Website, annual report, newsletters and pamphlets): Karin Gijssen and vacancy(ies)
Photo and film archives: Miny van den Brink
Translations English and French: Lianne Faili
Training: Jacomine Immink
Warehouse management: Frank Hagedoorn and Piet Sluimer

Work group ISC/CSI Techniques

Coordination: Clara Thomas
Piet Sluimer, Frank Hagedoorn, Arnoud Pollmann

Solar Cooking KoZon cooperates with Wilde Ganzen

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