Lessons Learned from Scaling Cookstove Interventions

Clean Cooking Conference

London, 1st May 2014

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Lesson No. 1

People select cooking energy on demand – fuel and stove stacking instead of gradually climbing up the energy ladder

- Biomass remains the main energy source for rural and low income HHs as much as woodfuel and charcoal stoves remain necessary and can be a viable solution
- Users aspire cookstoves with the following features
  - Convenience and adaptation according to prevalent cooking habits
  - Efficiency (saving time and resources)
  - Attractive design
  - Affordability
  - Access to after-sales-service (repair and replacements)
Lesson No. 2

Sustainable introduction of cookstoves is only possible through the creation of a dynamic market

- Supporting market creation on different levels of intervention – advice to national policy makers on supportive framework conditions, enabling the (local) private sector, empowerment of customers
- Development of commercial value chains and self-perpetuating market structures
- Focus on setting up viable businesses in the target countries, support for in-country production, enhancement of local markets has many socio-economic benefits
- Development of suitable financial support and business development mechanisms for small-scale local producers and distributors remains a challenge – ability of smallholder production facilities to absorb grants or apply for loan products
Lesson No. 3

Monitoring, quality control and after-sales support are crucial for ensuring sustainability

- Development of quality standards and independent control mechanisms
- Monitoring has to cover more than merely counting stoves….
  - Penetration rate
  - Usage
  - Maintenance and condition of stove
  - Replacement
- …and allow for learning cycles – adaptation of implementation strategy
Lesson No. 4

Changing cooking patterns requires more than marketing the new stove

- Clean cooking is a function of four elements. Sustainable project interventions have to tackle all four of these:
  1. fuel,
  2. stove,
  3. ventilation,
  4. user behavior

- Workload, smoke, depleting natural resources may not be seen as primary problems in low income households. **Constant and long-term awareness raising is needed.**

- Cooking habits vary from region to region and require tailor-made products: there is no one-fits-all stove. **Research and technology adaptation is necessary.**
Lesson No. 5

A global programme permits efficient up-scaling

- Cross country exchange of experience allows for accelerated improvements of concepts
- Performance-based allocation of funds among country interventions – creates productive competition
- High cost effectiveness, reduction of transaction costs
- Programme costs for providing access to improved cookstoves under Energising Development (EnDev): <5 EUR/person
Further reading

Multiple household fuel use – a balanced choice between firewood, charcoal and LPG

Cookstove market sustainability assessment framework

Wood Energy: Renewable, profitable, and modern
And in French: https://energypedia.info/images/1/18/GTZ_2010_Boie_energie_Cribsheets-wood_energy_72.pdf

Micro-gasification: Cooking with gas from dry biomass

Productive use of thermal energy – now available in French
Thank you

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HERA – Poverty-Oriented Basic Energy Services

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