

The World Health Organization estimates that indoor air pollution, created when wood fuels are burned in traditional cook stoves, kills more than 4.3 million people each year.

Women and children are mostly affected because they inhale the carbon monoxide and particulate matter emitted by traditional cook stoves.

They also carry the burden of collecting firewood, charcoal, coal, bovine dung, or crop waste for cooking fuel.

More than three billion people around the world still use traditional and polluting cook stoves using fuels like firewood and cow dung to cook and heat their homes, leading to serious indoor air pollution. The estimated health, environmental and economic cost of the continued use of this practice is staggering and estimated at over \$123 billion every year. In Bangladesh, exposure to indoor air pollution results in nearly 107,000 deaths every year, mostly women and children, who also bear much of the burden of collecting firewood or other traditional fuels. Despite these health and economic implications, families were reluctant to make the switch to cleaner, more efficient cook stoves due to a lack of awareness and fear that the quality and taste of their meals would not be the same.

The Improve Cook Stoves (ICS) program worked closely with local village level influencers and early adopters to create awareness on clean cook stoves which led to increase in adoption. Women also formed a part of the supply chain-generating an income that helped them move out of poverty while implementing a multi-level awareness creation campaign through village meetings, rural folk songs, rural product display, exhibition etc. This helped in local adoption across villages.



Use of clean cooking stoves, an alternative to traditional stoves, reduces carbon emission and contributes to positive impacts women's health. The improved cook stoves release 90 percent less carbon monoxide, require 50 percent less biomass fuel, and include a chimney that reduces indoor pollution. IDCOL engaged the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission to act as a hub for testing, ensuring the quality of the improved cook stoves distributed under the program.

Bangladesh Country Action Plan (CAP) for Clean Cook stoves defines what is needed to kick-start and develop the Bangladesh clean cook stove market. The CAP makes the case for taking immediate action towards achieving the goal of 100% clean cooking solutions by 2030. The target of this CAP is to disseminate cook stoves to over 30 million households in Bangladesh by 2030: current market penetration represents just 3% of the target potential, indicating the scale of the challenge and the critical need for a more coordinated, innovative and integrated approach. By use of clean cooking stoves, ecological balance will be ensured because of not using of wood and straws made out of trees and plants around.



What the ICS provides

- ICS offer reduced use of fuel.
- Helps in preserving woodlands.
- ICS reduce cooking expenses.
- ICS reduce unhealthy smoke in kitchens.
- ICS reduces the time in collecting wood.



For more details, please contact:



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INFORSE South ASIA
International Network for Sustainable Energy

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INFORSE Background

International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE) is a worldwide network with 140 Non-Governmental Organisations working in almost 60 countries to promote sustainable energy and social development. The Network was established in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. INFORSE follows and influences sustainable energy issues in international negotiations and is accredited to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) since 1998, and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since 2002.

*To bring together experiences from different regions and strengthen INFORSE members, INFORSE is carrying out the "Synergies Across Continents" project as a training platform for promotion of local sustainable energy solutions. INFORSE South Asia is working on the issues of INFORSE within the South Asian region, hosted by **Integrated Sustainable energy and Ecological Development Association (INSEDA)**, New Delhi, India. **Participatory Development Action Program (PDAP)** as a member of INFORSE South Asia is doing advocacy for clean cook stoves being promoted by Participatory Development Action Program (PDAP) on a non-profit basis to create awareness among rural communities through various Government and NGOs institutions in South Asia.*

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