

GHACCO REPORT ON THE GLOBAL COOK CLEAN FORUM

ACCELERATING MARKETS. SCALING SOLUTIONS.



Clean Cooking Forum 2015
Accra, Ghana | November 10–13



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List of Abbreviation

LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
GHACCO	Ghana Alliance for Clean Cookstoves
GACC	Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves
ICS	Improved Cooking Stoves
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
HAP	Household Air Pollution
ISO	International Standards Organization
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations

Executive Summary.

The Ghana Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (GHACCO) hosted the Global Clean Cooking Forum 2015 in Accra at Alisa Hotel from 10th to 13th of November for the first time in Africa. The theme of the event was on: “accelerating markets. Scaling Solutions” which was part of a global effort to create a thriving global market for clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels. The report featured four days forum that brought together over 500 participants from more than 50 countries. The report highlighted the opening plenary section, panel discussions, and breakout sections. The chairman of Ghana Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, Mr Manu, among other dignitaries delivered their opening plenary speeches. The report captured the second day plenary which focused on investment and financial outlook of the sector with panel discussions centered on the pressing issues essential to drive investment in the cookstoves and fuels sector. Global improved cookstove initiatives at governmental levels in some countries were shared during the panel discussion on the third day. The report also captured the field trip to cookstove manufacturing sites which provided first-hand information to attendees and opportunities to appreciate developments happening in the Ghanaian cookstove sector. During the closing plenary, speakers offered their perspectives on the entire forum activities and offered ideas and insights on how to put into use core issues addressed at forum. The concluding remarks tasked global community to reinforce their clear stand in support of the clean cooking sector, and implementing countries to renew their determination to tackle the issue of household air pollution in a way that yields tangible results. The policymakers, governments and implementers were also revitalized to utilize proven approaches and take concerted actions to expand sustainable energy access at a household level, specifically cooking energy.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In Ghana, over 13,000 deaths occur each year and 4.3 million worldwide as a result of exposure to household air pollution (HAP) from cooking, and more than 21 million people are impacted by exposure to HAP each year. In addition, more than 80% of Ghana's population uses solid fuels for cooking, which has widespread impacts on human health and the environment.

Global Alliance for Clean cookstoves recognized that, nearly 2.9 billion people in the developing world including Ghana still use polluting fuels like wood, coal and charcoal to cook and heat their homes. The estimated health, environmental and economic cost of this continued use of solid fuels is a staggering US\$123 billion annually. These numbers underlined the urgent need to accelerate the adoption of clean, efficient cookstoves and fuels, which can save millions of lives and help reach sustainable energy goals by 2030.

The State of the Global Cookstove Sector also showed that, further investment and active efforts from governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector will be critical to addressing the issue affecting the wide adoption and use of improved cookstoves especially in Ghana.

Globally, access to clean and improved cookstoves and fuels still remains limited in much of the developing world and has a devastating impact on people's health. Each year, 4.3 million people die prematurely due to indoor air pollution. And if status quo remains the same, 57 percent of the world's population will still not have access to clean cooking in 2020. This therefore place further priority on upscaling, intensified awareness creation, accelerating global adoption and removing all difficult barriers to reach universal access to modern energy use were championed by Global Alliance and GHACCO over the years.

It is against these backdrops among other reason that the four day Global Clean Cooking Forum 2015 hosted in Ghana with the theme: "Accelerating Markets. Scaling Solutions" provided the platform to discuss and find solutions to bottlenecks issues in the sector: Also the forum provided the opportunity for stakeholders to learn from each other and gaining capacity and resources necessary to scale adoption of clean cooking solutions in the sector.

2.0 THE PRE FORUM CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS.

The break out sections during the pre-forum conferences and meetings prior to grand official opening plenary discussed issues on: access to clean and efficient cookstoves & fuels,

pushing towards universal energy access, adoption of LPG, design & labelling in cookstoves sector, driving investment in the cookstove sector, scaling up cookstove and production among others.

3.0 OPENING PLENARY

The official opening plenary section was attended by wide range of leaders, experts, investors, researchers and advocates working in the cookstoves and fuels sector. The chairman of GHACCO, Mr Manu in his opening speech acknowledged the tremendous support and cooperation enjoyed from Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves and other stakeholders in the country including hosting of Country Action Plan in 2014 among others. He also noted that Ghana Alliance was instrumental, with the support from the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, to host a series of workshops on LPG to explore opportunities for increased use of fuel.

He emphasized that, there must be sustained efforts of raising awareness, stimulating demand for and adoption of cleaner and more efficient cookstoves and fuels. Also Ghana Alliance would continue the invaluable role in market studies for ensuring access to key local actors, capacity building and collecting data from manufacturers of ICS to facilitate accurate reporting.

11 years old Pamela Abdulai, Clean Cookstove advocate of GHACCO and a member Ghana Girl Guide, spoke fervently about the need for increased usage of clean cookstoves and fuels. Her presentation underscored the importance and benefits of improved cookstoves adoption among women and children. She said: "I want to make sure everyone knows about the benefits of clean cookstoves, and I hope one day that all girls in my country will use only clean cookstoves and fuels in their homes."

The Government policy on sustainable energy and improvement in the clean cooking sector was articulated by Hon. Emmanuel Armah-Kofi Buah, Minister of Petroleum. He noted that, Ghana has made large strides toward increasing access to cleaner-burning cooking fuels especially through establishing of Ghana Cylinder Manufacturing Company Limited. The Minister indicated that, the forum served as a great opportunity to showcase Ghana's work on increasing energy access and improving the lives of everyone through the broader use of clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels.



Figure1: (From Left to Right) Emmanuel Armah-Kofi Buah, Ghana's Minister of Petroleum; Pamela Abdulai, Ghana Girl Guide, Radha Muthiah, CEO, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves; John Alexander Ackon, Ghana's Deputy Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection; Rocky Dawuni, Ambassador for the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves

Furthermore, Radha Muthiah, CEO, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves in her opening speech said: “Progress in Ghana’s cookstoves and fuels sector is a fitting example of how the comprehensive approach supported by the Alliance and delivered through a wide-variety of in-country stakeholders can deliver on its full potential, making Ghana a fitting place to celebrate the growing momentum around this issue.

Finally, John Alexander Ackon, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection highlighted that the country’s commitment to clean cooking is strong and government, private sector, and civil society partners are working collaboratively to spur a thriving local market for clean cookstoves and fuels.

3.1 PANEL DISCUSSIONS & BREAKOUT SECTIONS

The morning panel discussion was moderated by Ghanaian journalist and television host Anita Erskine and lead discussions of experts on “Accelerating Markets. Scaling Solutions.”

3.1.1 Appreciating the Relevance and Applying of Consumer Insight

Managing effective market research would uncover consumer insights critical to success in the design and marketing of clean cooking solutions. The newly launched Market Research in the Clean Cooking Sector: Tools and Tips, provided resource and designed to support organizations in the sector in conducting consumer, market and product base research information

Also the panelists drew out key lessons and recommendations from various pilot programs from the cookstoves, fuels and other sectors as a way to explore methods to increase consumer insight of different technology and fuel options.

3.1.2 Assessing the Child Health Impacts of Clean Cooking.

The discussion focused on the research outcomes of three ongoing studies, which focus on child health impacts in Nepal, Nigeria, and Ghana. The studies preliminary results posits that, populations who have never used clean fuels, including ethanol and LPG, are adopting the fuels intensively and near exclusively where possible. As a result, major reductions in exposure are being observed, and preliminary analyses suggested that child health benefits including improved infant lung function and reduced pneumonia during pregnancy.

3.1.3 Improved Cookstove Business Model.

Experts dilated their opinions and discussed views on ways to building and bridge gender capacity needs to strengthen business models in the improved cookstove sector. The session noted the many benefits for businesses conducting gender assessments and developing gender action plans – to both enhance bottom line outcomes and increase impact for women is essential. The investor perspectives on gender-informed approaches were highlighted as they evaluated clean cooking sector enterprises for potential investment.

3.1.4. The Developments on ISO Standards.

The need to appreciate new ISO developments to be adopted as international standards with national adaptability were addressed. An updated tier system was proposed to reflect the lessons learned from the 2012 International Workshop Agreement. It was noted that 40 countries are working together toward an agreement on setting ISO-approved international standards. Participants were schooled on some benefits of adopting standards and labelling in the cookstove sector to include: cost savings, enhancing of customer satisfaction, access to new markets, increased market share, environmental, investor and government benefits among others.

4.0 THE SECOND DAY OPENING PLENARY.

The second day opening plenary focused on investment and finance. The panel discussions on some of the pressing issues impacting cookstove sector were discussed on driving investment in the cookstoves and fuels sector. The participants were coached on investment outlook of the sector digesting inputs and contributions from donors, to impact investors, to development finance institutions. Also results of a study assessing the capital needs of the cookstove sector and their recommendations on how the Global Alliance can mobilize capital to meet these needs over the next 2 years were shared.

4.1 THE PANEL DISCUSSIONS

4.1.1 The Climate and Health Co-Benefits of Clean Cooking



Highlights from this panel discussion indicated that, clean cookstoves and fuels are one of the four top climate interventions that impacted health, based on recent WHO recommendations. The field testing results from clean cooking emissions were revealed to participants which showed significant and promising reduction in black carbon emissions.

Figure 2: Participants at the second day Clean Cooking Forum 2015.

Also the outcomes of the co-benefits meeting convened by the Alliance and the Environmental Defense Fund in July to look at relationships between traditional cooking practices, climate change, and public health, together with the benefits of clean and efficient cooking on public health and global climate change were also discussed.

4.1.2. The Opportunities Shaping Cookstove and Fuel Markets in Latin America.

The session received a huge turnout and held a great deal of interest for most GHACCO members and other participants. The attendees shared experiences and resemblances they saw between their own respective countries, those of Latin America and that of Ghana. The stove manufacturers were encouraged to introduce their stoves and make use of best opportunities in the Latin America countries.

4.1.3 Improving Access, Adoption, Cleaner, and More Efficient Cookstoves and Fuels in Humanitarian Settings.

War and conflict currently has displaced more than 59.5 million people around the world. Also about 97 million are affected by natural disaster annually. The impact of clean and fuel-efficient cooking solutions on mitigating risks related to food security, health, environment, and safety during displacement and crises were discussed. The Global Alliance explained how collaborations with its partners, humanitarian working group are combining forces to ensure that energy access for cooking, lighting, heating, and powering are incorporated into humanitarian response.

4.1.4 Global Progress on LPG for Cooking and Opportunities Shaping Cookstove and Fuel Markets in China

GHACCO stakeholders in the sector outlined the policies and progressed made geared toward 50% Ghanaian household adoption of LPG and also highlighted some barriers. Other global experts and practitioners from the LPG sector demonstrated their experiences and challenges in scaling LPG distribution and use in developing countries with particular emphasis on how other countries can be effective through strategic public-private partnerships and influencing government policy shifts.

The collaboration with the Alliance, China is taking an important step towards achieving adoption of 40 million cookstoves by 2020 and seven pilot projects which have been launched this year to test new technology and policy interventions has been outlined. Two Chinese government representatives discussed the initial results of this work, as well as speakers from China's biggest cookstoves exporters to share their experiences in business collaboration with Africa.

4.1.5 Integrating Gender in the Value Chain

Participants learned how to apply gender best practices to their business models by hearing about successful case studies of engaging women at all levels of the value chain. Panelists

delineated different strategies for working with women from product design and production to distribution and after-sales service. Participants also had the opportunity to provide feedback on the type of tools that would be most useful for practitioners who are trying to apply a gender lens over their business models.

5.0 THE THIRD DAY OPENING PLENARY.

Global improved cookstove initiatives at governmental levels in some countries were shared during the panel discussion. Field trip to cookstove manufacturing and sites provided first-hand information to attendees and opportunities to appreciate developments happening in the Ghanaian cookstove sector. The exhibition of various improved cookstoves technologies concluded the activities for the third day.

5.1 THE PANEL DISCUSSIONS

5.1.1. Delivering on Benefits of Cookstoves and Fuel.

The panel attention focused on integrating clean cookstoves and fuels into related sectors which could deliver mutual benefits in the areas of health, gender, livelihoods, and the environment. Speakers discussed how clean and efficient cooking aligned with their agenda, and remarked on the ways the private sector needs to be involved, why energy access to all is critical in the developing world. Also Wanjiku Manyara, General Manager, Petroleum Institute of East Africa said: “I think we have an opportunity as stakeholders to come together and address holistically the problem that faces those at the grass root, and that problem is indoor pollution.”

5.1.2 How to Conduct Empowerment Training Using the Alliance’s Empowered Entrepreneur Handbook

In this section Dr. Anita Shankar from Johns Hopkins University, shared evidence on how training has led to increased business effectiveness and empowerment for women entrepreneurs. Partners from countries all over the world have begun implementing the training program and are working with women entrepreneurs from Bangladesh, Kenya, India, Myanmar, Bolivia, Uganda, Haiti and among others.

5.1.3 Trips to the Field: Nine Site Visits Part of the Program on Day Three

The table below shows the list of sites visited and GHACCO reps assigned to respective sites:

Sites Visited	Group	Time	Responsibility
Toyola, CookClean, Ghana Cylinder	A	10:30am	Mr. Erasmus and Mr. Raymond
Toyola, CookClean, Ghana Cylinder	B	10:00am	Matilda

Chorko	A	10:30am	Prosper and Joe
Chorkor	B	12:00pm	Lead- Gifty Tetteh
National school feeding program and rural household visits in the Krobo District	A	10:30am	Dr. Sabina
National school feeding program and rural household visits in the Krobo District	B	10:30am	Felix and Dr. Rep
Local Tour: National museum, Kwame Nkrumah mausoleum, the market, and the Castle) as a non-cookstoves option	A	10:30am	Eric, Tour Guide Jack
The Girl Guides	A	10:30am	Sarah
The Girls Guides	B	10:30am	Zakiya
Palm Kernel (Group A)	A	10:30am	Adwoa, Ken
Palm Kernel (Group B)	B	12:30pm	Mr. Lovans
Ashiana-Labaran, Timba Market Accra and Makola market	A	10:30am	Sandra, Sadik

Table 1: Field Tripe Sites Visited

Buses commuted participants to various sites and hundreds of forum attendees signed up for one of nine different choices for site visits, a big highlight of the week for many. Meeting of the Ghana Girl Guides, GHACCO, members of Parliament, and Global Alliance staff successfully concluded day's special program. Ghana Girls Guide encourages Government Leaders to Support Clean Cooking Solutions. Nana Oye Lithur, said: "Girls and young women's voices should be heard to find solutions for increasing the use of clean cookstoves and to improve energy access in Ghana. "

Exhibition of the day showcased technologies from a wide array of manufacturers of household and commercial cookstoves, fuel suppliers, humanitarian organizations, and development agencies. GHACCO member who participated in the exhibition includes: Cook Clean Ghana Limited, ASA Initiative, Tuviela Foundation, the manufactures of Cooking Bags, SMEFunds Green Energy and Bio Fuel, SNV, Toyola, Abellon, Environfit, and Global Bamboo Products Limited.

6.0 CLOSING PLENARY OF THE CLEAN COOKING FORUM 2015.

At the closing plenary, speakers offered their perspectives on the entire week activities and offered ideas and insights on how to put into use the core issues addressed at forum.

6.1 HIGHLIGHTS FROM PANEL DISCUSSIONS.

6.1.1 The Availability, Requirements and Accessing Grants.

During the panel discussion, the Global Alliance outlined its wide ranges of financing portfolios as well as mechanisms available to develop and grow the clean cooking sector. This involves using of investment-like grant funding to catalyze the growth of cookstoves and fuels businesses to develop a pipeline of investment-ready businesses. Most

participants asked questions about, process of application, the application eligibility requirements, and success stories from past successful applicants were shared.

6.1.2. Cookstoves Procurement by Humanitarian Agencies, Governments, & Donors

There are many governments, donor partners, NGOs, and humanitarian agencies, over the years worked together with the Alliance to improve the bulk procurement of cookstoves and fuels for development and humanitarian contexts. The need for transparent, competitive, locally-appropriate procurement processes that ensure high levels of product performance were discussed.

6.1.3 Women's Entrepreneurship & Economic Empowerment.

The participants at this section fully appreciated how the clean cookstove and fuel value chain offered new and viable entrepreneurial pathways for economic empowerment of women. Panelists shared evidence from research and implementation demonstrating that women's entrepreneurship strengthens their business models, attracts investment, and achieves women's empowerment goals.

6.1.4 Sustainable Scale-Up of Fuel Production.

The key themes emphasized in this session were effective production, distribution and sales arrangements that would lead to scale, methods to overcome distribution challenges, and the role of government as partner, promoter and supporter of clean and sustainable cooking fuel enterprises. The opportunities and barriers was a common theme among all presenters. They talked about experiences and research across different fuel types, each with unique barriers and challenges, but there were strong commonalities that can open up channels to create and scale a sector.

6.1.5 Stove Standards and Labeling – Country Strategies

Ghana and many other countries are developing strategies to implement standards in the cookstove sector of their respective countries – which includes stakeholder engagement, developing a regulatory and enforcement system, setting goals based on state of market and consumers. The competing priorities of performance, affordability, and usability, with a focus on recent R&D developments received priority attentions.

7.0 CONCLUSION

The purpose of Global Clean Cooking Forum 2015 clearly demonstrated the global resolve to end the menace of unsafe exposure to cook smoke and to give families the chance to cook and live in safe and healthy environments, said by Radha Muthiah. The global community has been reinforced to take clear stand in support of the clean cooking sector, and implementing countries tasked to renew determination to tackle the issue of household air pollution in a way that yields tangible results. The policymakers, governments and implementers were also revitalized to utilize proven approaches and take concerted action

to expand sustainable energy access at a household level, specifically cooking energy. The leadership of GHACCO also appreciated the significance impact of the Forum on learning from each other and gaining capacity and resources necessary to scale adoption of clean cooking solutions in Ghana.