

Smokeless Stoves Project in Geita, Tanzania 1st Project Report

Project Goals

The main aims of this project are to build 140 smokeless stoves in seven villages within Geita, to train 70 youths to build smokeless stoves and to increase community awareness of local environmental issues, including regeneration. This project will directly benefit 140 households in Geita and indirectly benefit a further 20,064 community members in the Ihanamilo ward.



Villagers of Mwagimwagi in the Ihanamilo ward contributing their ideas during a focus group for the smokeless stove project

Activities Achieved

A tendering process took place to select a consultant to carry out the feasibility study on the villages in Geita. The consultant has been selected and details of the study follow.

The feasibility study has been completed and the consultant is expected to submit their report by the end of April 2009. Once this report is received, implementation of the project will commence. The Terms of Reference for the feasibility study included the following points, but this is not an exhaustive list:

- To confirm what the demand is for smokeless stoves in the project area
- To find out the target groups relevant for the smokeless stoves, within the intended community
- To look into the energy situation within the seven villages in Geita
- To confirm if the smokeless stove is the most appropriate solution and to find out if there are any other competing technologies in Geita
- To look into whether the raw materials for building the stoves are available and affordable to the community
- To find out the awareness level of the community in regards to energy depletion and how the improved stoves will help
- To research and provide baseline information about the appropriateness/capability of GTZ ProBEC, the proposed implementer of the smokeless stove project.

Monthly activities

Description:	Field implementation										
	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Tender for feasibility study					V	V					
Selection of the consultant (to conduct the study)							V				
Feasibility study and findings								V	V		
Signing MoU between Plan & GTZProBEC										V	V
Commence implementation											

Community Involvement/Voices of the Beneficiaries

Several focus groups took place in the seven villages, with the aim of capturing the community's views about the project. These focus groups were organised to happen in parallel with the feasibility study.

The main objectives of the project and the role the efficient stoves would play in getting rid of smoke were explained. The men, women and children were all very positive about the final outcomes. In fact, they were keen for the project to be implemented as soon as possible, in order for them to be able to cook in healthier, improved and more suitable conditions. They highlighted the following as being common problems resulting from smoke produced by their existing less efficient stoves:

- Tears streaming from their eyes, and the associated pain
- Sight problems affecting both young and old women, because of frequent exposure to smoke in kitchen
- Red eyes in old women making them vulnerable to being murdered, because of the association between red eyes and witchcraft
- Difficulties with respiration (exhaling and inhaling)
- Stains that spoil their cooking utensils. A lot of time is spent trying to remove these stains during cleaning.

Budget to date

Exodus has raised £16,445 of the total project budget of £21,697

Thank you for your ongoing support!