

Carbon Finance: Opportunity for Improved Stoves?

As the trading of carbon credits between industrialized and developing countries has transitioned from concept to reality, promoters of efficient, low-emissions cookstoves and alternative cooking fuels naturally wonder whether and how household energy programs could benefit from the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and other carbon trading schemes.

In response to a significant rise in interest and

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Cooking and Carbon Expert Workshop, *Generating carbon credits from cooking*, November 2005, University of Oxford

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While improved cooking stoves and alternative fuels

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Each quarter, the *PCIA Bulletin* highlights one or more Partners who are reducing women and children's (see [PCIA Bulletin](#) for details) by (GT.s) JJO.22701 0.22701 0.78

the monitoring methodology approved under the
Small Scale CDM project category. [1: The approved
monitoring methodology allows either
plant, which would be quite extensive

the 15 MW limit allowed by the Small Scale methodology and would have needed a waiver from the CDM Executive Board. The argument favoring this approach is that BSP-Nepal had all the features of a small-scale project: household level technology with tremendous social and development benefits, that surpasses the 15 MW(W)-it not because of the size of the individual systems but because of the possibility of bundling a very large number of systems, a scenario not envisioned by the Small Scale Methodology. Lifting the Wt would have meant reduced transaction costs (single PDD, single validation, one registration, one monitoring and verification plan, and single yearly verification) for this and sr projects in the future, the primary goal of the Small Scale Methodology. Ultimately the Validator could not be convinced of this and it was decided to split the project into smaller projects to stay within the 15 MW W

It was anticipated that the higher transaction costs for the development of an expected 15-20 subsequent small-scale projects and the high upfront cost would be justified because of the large carbon benefits of BSP-Nepal: around 1 million tons of CO₂ each year by 2009. The ER revenues would have provided sustainable financing for BSP-Nepal to develop the remaining -ilWn potential biogas digesters in Nepal in the next 15 to 20 years without having to depend on government and donor funds. The methodology would also have been available for other biogas projects around the world.

Unfortunately, the three biogas projects above are the last ones to be approved under this baseline methodology. A recent decision by the CDM Executive

Board (EB) 21 (Sep) under 28-30, 2005)6(21)-329 T5h1(sA rmrov(d)-4())JTJ0.0006 Tc -0.00301 Tw T[therefler)-6(e)2nc(e)-6 to pro

way to reduce emissions. The PDD must show what the emissions would have been in the absence of

cost associated with trying to bundle many small projects.

A power output limit for the sub-category of household cookstoves could be 8 kW, as this will include all conventional household cookstoves. Stoves tested by Smith et al., (2000) ranged from

Ecofogao Ltda, the manufacturer of Ecostoves in Brazil, has launched an English website

PM and CO exceeded Mongolian national standards for 24-hour concentrations more than three-fold in each case. The indoor pollutant levels also exceeded WHO air quality guidelines and U.S. EPA standards.

It is possible that high levels of ambient air pollution are largely responsible for the high indoor pollutant levels, a topic for future studies. See the full report: [http://wbln0018.worldbank.org/esmap/site.nsf/files/313-05+Mongolia+IAP+090905_for_Web.pdf/\\$FILE/313-05+Mongolia+IAP+090905_for_Web.pdf](http://wbln0018.worldbank.org/esmap/site.nsf/files/313-05+Mongolia+IAP+090905_for_Web.pdf/$FILE/313-05+Mongolia+IAP+090905_for_Web.pdf)

Indoor Air Pollution: Update on the Impacts of Household Solid Fuels

Kirk R. Smith; Environment Matters, The World Bank Group, Annual Review July 2004– June 2005.

This brief article by Dr. Kirk Smith gives a summary of current understanding of the impacts of solid fuel combustion on human health, the challenges in achieving (and measuring) improvements in health through reductions in risk factors, and the potential role for liquid fuels to reduce emissions of small particulates that are considered to be most damaging to health and to play an important role in climate change. Available at:

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTRANETENVIRONMENT/214578-1128104496469/20669343/7IndoorAirPollutionbyKir>