

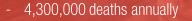
Gender and Clean Cooking Solutions: 3rd Annual Workshop on Advancing SE4All Country Action in Africa



# The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves will create a thriving market for clean cookstoves and fuels.

#### **PROBLEM**

Every day,
3 BILLION
PEOPLE
(500 million households)
rely on solid fuels to
power their rudimentary
stoves



- Wasted productivity
- Climate, forestry & other environmental degradation
- Up to 25% of global black carbon emissions
- Health & economic burdens that disproportionately impact women & girls





#### **MISSION**

- SAVE LIVES
- IMPROVE LIVELIHOODS
- EMPOWER WOMEN
- PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT



#### GOAL



100
MILLION
HOUSEHOLDS
ADOPT CLEAN AND
EFFICIENT
COOKSTOVES &
FUELS BY 2020



## The Impact on Women and Girls

- Time poverty up to 5 hours a day spent on collecting fuel and cooking -- (75% of the world total unpaid care is undertaken by women, McKinsey 2015)
- Poverty households can spend up to 1/3 of their income on fuel
- Drudgery carrying heavy loads of up to 20kg
- **Vulnerability to violence -- for example, in 2014 in Uganda's Nakivale** refugee camp, 41% of households reported incidences of violence during firewood collection in the past six months.
- Health effects exposure levels to harmful smoke up to 100x that recommended by the WHO



## Access to cooking energy is being recognized as critical for achieving gender equality

- In their <u>World Survey of the Role of Women in Development</u>, UN Women calls for increased investment in cookstoves and recognizes access to cooking energy as a means to directly improving <u>gender equality</u>.
- UN Women launched a gender and energy initiative at the COP
- The International Center for the Research on Women states that <u>women's access to</u> <u>clean energy is essential for gender equitable development</u>
- Women for Women International, Women Deliver, and Women Thrive Worldwide are actively engaging in the sector in order to achieve their gender equality and empowerment missions
- US State Dept investing over \$5m in wPOWER initiative to scale women's energy entrepreneurship



# The Alliance has a four pronged gender strategy to increase impact on women and girls and scale adoption



Increase the evidence of the specific gender impacts in the sector entrepreneurship needs

Enable financing for gender components of cookstove projects and women entrepreneurs

Strengthen capacity of implementing organizations to address gender and women's

Advocate for and influence policies through awareness raising and advocacy



## There is solid emerging evidence that cleaner and more efficient stoves can support gender equality and that women are critical for scaling adoption

#### **Kenyan Johns Hopkins RCT:**

- Women sold 3x as many stoves as men
- Users who bought a cookstove from women reported high customer satisfaction they were more likely to use it predominantly, consistently, and were more likely to recommend the stove to others
- ▶ Women who received additional empowerment training were nearly 3x more likely to be high sellers.

#### **Alliance/Practical Action Indian Research Study:**

- Women saved significant time when using improved cookstoves. They use this time for social and family activities, attend community meetings, watch tv, monitor children's studies
- ► Households with clean cookstoves reported sending their children to school more often.
- Female-headed households are more likely to adopt cleaner cooking solutions than male-headed households.
- ▶ Women who are part of social groups are more likely to own an improved cookstove or use cleaner fuels.

#### Mercy Corps Uganda gendered market research demonstrates women consumers are critical segment:

- ▶ Urban, female charcoal users with some independent source of income are likely to purchase cookstoves
- ▶ Women small business owners, employees and savings groups members all have access to cash to purchase cookstoves.
- ► Married women firewood users in households dependent on ag or dependent on husband's income least likely to purchase.



# Leading enterprises are scaling up their gender approaches because evidence shows they are more effective

- In Nigeria, Envirofit piloted empowerment & business training to strengthen entrepreneurship and they are now scaling it throughout global operations (next: Kenya, India)
- Paradigm Project piloted recruitment and retention strategies for women sales agents. Results convinced them to include women as a central component of their distribution strategy.
- Sustainable Green Fuels Enterprise in Cambodia is implementing gender strategy to ensure retention of female factory workers.
- Eco Fuel Africa in Uganda has grown their network of briquette retailers to 580 women - most of whom were previously unemployed – in order to scale sales



# Ongoing Alliance applied research & evaluation of gender & livelihoods impacts

- Commission research on most effective approaches for women's empowerment & adoption
- Research and evaluation of approaches to understand gender and socio-economic impacts
  - M&E methodologies and tools to measure socio-economic impacts with ICRW will be launched in April
- Quantify benefits for businesses who increase women's engagement
- Quantify benefits of increased women's engagement on sustained adoption of clean cooking technologies
- Special focus: understanding gender and livelihood impacts and drivers in humanitarian settings



### **Lessons for African SE4All Partners**

- We know what works and we need to scale it up.
  - ✓ Utilize proven approaches and take action to expand sustainable energy access.
  - ✓ The Alliance's market-based gender-informed approach to creating a thriving market for clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels is working.
  - ✓ Financing mechanisms, toolkits, curricula, online tools, and other resources have proven to be effectively bolstering the capacity of the clean cooking sector and enabling sustainable adoption.
  - ✓ Use social impact M&E framework to measure impact consistently.
- Recruit / retain women entrepreneurs
  - ✓ Support capacity building for women based on needs assessments
  - ✓ Combine training with ongoing support and mentorship
- Mainstream gender throughout value chain, not just a focus on users
- Integrate clean cooking into programming and financing mechanisms.
  - ✓ Countries, implementing organizations, investors, and companies should all mainstream gender through their energy access approaches.
  - ✓ Women's distribution is central to scaling the sector .



### **Opportunities for SE4All and its Partners**

- Build on momentum around gender and energy and continue to mainstream gender throughout SE4ALL strategy
- Share evidence on gender and empowerment widely throughout entire energy sector
- Ensure access to finance for women entrepreneurs and gender-informed approaches and attract gender-lens investors to the energy sector.
- Advocate for prioritization and inclusion of energy access in global gender agenda amongst influential gender organizations and donors
- Directly link energy access to SDG goal 5 on gender equality through targeted international and national advocacy
- Create gender and energy working group with specific objective to ensure gender is considered throughout all SE4All activities
- Mainstream gender throughout SE4All country strategies and implementation

