Assuring access to 1 million Improved Cook Stoves: Lessons from the GIZ Cook stoves Program

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Structure

1. The context
2. The key elements of successful stove dissemination
3. Side-activities (local and international networking, technological development)
1. The context

ProCEAO (Project for efficient cooking energy in West Africa) results from a co-financing between the GIZ-EnDev-projects in West Africa and the 2nd Energy Facility of the European Union.

ProCEAO is working, since December 2011, in Benin, Burkina Faso, Mauretania and Senegal and has as target to create access to economic cooking energy to 475,000 people.

ProCEAO is acting in addition to the GIZ-EnDev projects in the region that work, since 2005, in the dissemination of improved cook stoves.

In sum, the EnDev projects have disseminated around 1.5 Million ICS in three countries: Burkina Faso, Benin, Senegal.
2- Key elements of stoves dissemination

1st
The choice of the right stove(s)

2nd
The choice of the right key actors

3rd
Making the stoves accessible

4th
Making the stoves a commercial products
2.1 the choice of the right stove (s)

The right stove is the stove that fits to the users preferences and habits. Factors to be considered are:
- The purchase power
- The fuel normally used
- The pots normally used
- The meals usually prepared
- The cooking habits of the users (e.g. the position <standing, sitting etc.>, the time when meals are cooked)

In addition, the local capacities of production have to be considered:
- The availability of raw material
- The technical competence of producers
- The basic equipment of producers
- The availability of producers also in remote areas

In consequence, the GIZ-EnDev projects disseminate, in the different countries of the region, a wide range of different stoves:
- Produced from different material (metal, clay, metal-clay, mud)
- Using different fuel (wood, charcoal)
- Wide price range (from less than 1 € to 10 € for household sizes)
2.2 the choice of the right key actors

Even if stove dissemination can, at the beginning, be pushed and boosted by non-permanent actors (projects, government institutions financed by projects/donors), the process has, for the sake of sustainability, to be handed over to permanent actors having a direct interest in the continuation of the dissemination.

These are

- The producers (earning money through the sales of the stoves)

Eventually supported by permanent government institutions (for tasks not directly related to the commercialization, i.e. training, awareness rising, technological development and quality control)
2.3 making the stoves a commercial product (1)

If we have the right stoves and the right actors there is no reason why ICS can’t become a commercial product (to be sold on a regular market without subsidies)

- Producers earn money while producing and selling the stoves
- Users save money while using them and have other positive side effects as:
  - less smoke
  - less heat
  - higher reputation (by using a nice/fashionable product)
2.3 making the stoves a commercial product (2)

In consequence, the GIZ projects never have subsidized the stoves

But have put in a lot of money in marketing and awareness rising campaigns

Examples
2.4 Making the stoves accessible

How to make the stoves accessible when the users know them and their advantages

- Create signs to indicate producers’ workshops
- Create special sales points
- Create commercial relationships between producers and traders
- Create signs to indicate sales points
3. Side activities: local and international networking (1)

Knowing and working together with other actors in the same countries is crucial to avoid confusion:

1. A non-subsidy system can only work if nobody pays subsidies (or if subsidies are limited to well defined objectives or target groups <refugees etc.>)

2. Availability of producers is often limited. Several organisms working with the same producers under different conditions slows down production
3. Side activities: 
local and international networking (2)

On the international (regional) level it is very important to exchange experiences (as we do it at the moment)
In addition, there are some countries in the region that have specialized research centers in the sector. It was also them who designed the stove types most adapted to the local conditions in the sub-region.
3. Side activities: technological development

Even if we have, in the region, a wide range of adapted stoves, technological development has to go on to

- Find solutions for applications not yet covered (e.g. the new Shea butter stove developed in Burkina Faso)
- To improve the efficiency of existing stoves (e.g. the new charcoal stove developed by GIZ in Benin, Burkina Faso and Senegal)
- Cope with new exigencies in matters of tests, emissions and security (defined by global initiatives as the GACC and SE4All)
Thank you for attention