



Rocket Mud stoves for rural households

The Pyramid strategy – a training method for capacity development of stove producers in Kenya





- **Training of trainers**
- the training of trainers was done by a group of two trainers from Uganda in Kisii
 - 17 days in Keumbu Division
- theory sessions
 - energy for cooking in the local context
 - the role of the trainees
 - how they will go on with the construction after the training
- practical sessions
 - stove construction by the trainers and observation
 - firstly working in groups
 - reducing the group size until eventually each one had to build their own stoves

- **Selection of trainees**
- Cooperation with the SDA church was very instrumental
 - selection of 20 people who would be trained in constructing the stoves through the church network
- meeting with the selected trainee to do a small interview and find out their interest in stove skills
 - During this initial meeting a number of people were dropped and replaced
 - To show interest in the exercise they had to pay their own transport and attend the meeting

- **Actual training**
- assessment by the trainers at all stages:
 - to determine how trainees understood the theories
 - how trainees did their first construction under supervision
 - how they can combine the theory and practical
 - assess who takes the lead without the teacher
 - who could do the stove construction on their own without the teacher
 - possibility to use options when one is stuck
- out of the 20 people only 9 were qualified to start stove construction as trainers
- out of the 9 trainers, the best 4 were chosen to become stove monitors
- The remaining 11 continued working as stove builders



- **Training of stove builders**
- The training of stove builders was done by the 9 new trainers who qualified in the previous training
 - the objective was to make sure that there are skilled stove builders within the communities
 - make it easy for clients to access qualified stove builders
 - the training of stove builders was done at location level
 - The training took 8 days (1 day theory and 7 days practical)
- **Selection of the trainees**
- church leaders and the local administration in the Division registered people who were interested to further their skills in stove construction
 - Mostly young motivated people came out with interest to get involved, energetic and with good communication skills
- The local administration, church leaders and opinion leaders selected 4 trainees per village from the list of registered people
 - A meeting with the trainees was convened to inform them about the training
- **Actual training of stove builders**
- Each trainer was given a task to train 53 trainees in one sub location
 - During practical sessions the group was divided into smaller manageable groups of about 10 -15
 - assistance of the former trainees who did not qualify as trainers in the initial training
 - close supervision of the trainers
 - As training continued, the number of members per group got smaller until each one was left to build a stove on their own
- 480 people were trained by the end of June 2006



- **To qualify stove builders**
- assessment is done to make sure that each stove builder is capable of doing proper construction before they start going commercial:
 - each stove builder will have to build 5 stoves which will be checked to qualify the stove builder
 - after constructing another 10 stoves the stove builder will be qualified as a commercial stove builder by getting a badge which has a name and their photo certifying that they are qualified to build stoves

- **Monitoring**
- Keumbu Division has two locations. Each location has two monitors who were selected during the training of trainers. The main task of the monitors is:
 - monitor quality of the stoves by carrying out impromptu spot checks using a checklist
 - regularly monitor the number of the stoves constructed and used
 - stove builders fill in a monitoring form monthly
 - participate in the weekly meeting with the Cluster Manager to report on progress, problems, risks (if any) and opportunities
 - participate in monthly meeting with CM to discuss on performance and replacement of non performing monitors (recruitment at the local level)
 - Ensure that each home visited they have copy of the users guidelines made available to the client by the stove builders after construction¹¹