



## Improved Cooking Technology Program

### USAID introduces clean cooking technology to Haiti.

USAID's support will develop a market for cleaner cook stove technology and decrease the negative health and environmental effects of charcoal use.

Anticipated results include:

- Reduction in charcoal consumption by large users, particularly schools and food vendors.
- Financing of programs to encourage the widespread acceptance of the alternative cook stoves.
- Successful incorporation of charcoal workers into new business practices to limit wage loss.
- Development of a sustainable market for clean stove technology.

### Overview

Charcoal is produced all over the Haitian countryside. It is gathered by speculators and wholesalers, and then sold to retailers in Port-au-Prince and the surrounding towns. These retailers then sell it to the public. More than 90 percent of Haitian energy needs are met by using firewood and charcoal. In Port-au-Prince, at least 30 percent of family income is spent on purchasing charcoal for cooking. In addition to the economic burden of charcoal dependency, charcoal production has devastating environmental consequences for the entire country. Charcoal production begins with the felling or pruning of live trees, which has contributed to mass deforestation throughout Haiti. Widespread deforestation has increased soil erosion and has left Haiti vulnerable to severe weather, including flash floods and mudslides. Furthermore, charcoal use exposes women and children to "indoor air pollution" leading to respiratory illness and approximately 3,000 premature deaths in Haiti every year.

To address these problems, USAID has partnered with Chemonics International Inc. to reverse Haiti's dependency on charcoal with the Improved Cooking Technology program. In close consultation with the Government of Haiti, we will work with the private sector and Haitian civil society to develop a thriving market for clean cooking solutions, including Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and improved Biomass cook stoves.

### Objectives

USAID's program aims to create a sustainable market for clean and affordable cooking solutions which limit deforestation and "indoor air pollution."

### Activities

1. **Identify cook stove technology** that has demonstrated the strongest performance, based on efficiency, emissions, and safety.
2. **Develop a manufacturing base** of entrepreneurs and/or companies to establish reliable production of the new cook stoves and create effective distribution channels for the products.
3. **Build demand** for improved cook stoves with marketing and awareness campaigns to educate consumers on the benefits of the selected cook stoves, and the negatives of charcoal use.
4. **Retrain charcoal workers** and integrate them into the production and distribution of the new cook stoves.
5. **Develop financing solutions** to enable consumers to purchase the new cook stoves and limit their use of coal.

**Life of Project:** January 2012 – January 2015

**Implementing Partner:** Chemonics International Inc.