In this project households in the Indian region of Raichur have been provided with improved cookstoves (Chulikas). Cooking with a Chulika reduces the use of wood by two-thirds. Therefore carbon emissions and the formation of harmfull smoke indoors are reduced. This also prevents deforestation in the nearby region.

Background

Around two million people live in the Indian region of Raichur. The majority of them are small-scale farmers with an income of less than € 2.50 a day. Traditionally, these people cook on an open fire, which is harmful to health. Moreover, for a family of five people an average of 50 kilos of wood per week is required, which leads to deforestation. Together with climate change, this leads to unsuccessful harvests for farmers due to unpredictable rainfall, flooding and extreme drought.

Improved cookstoves

Due to a serious shortage of wood in the region, women have to travel long distances to gather wood for cooking. This takes a lot of time and is exhausting. Moreover, women are often harassed by men on the way. Cooking also takes a long time and women often sit for hours in a smoky kitchen with coughs and burning eyes as a result.

The Chulika reduces wood consumption, cooking is faster and there is much less smoke. But due to the low income of the families, women cannot purchase a Chulika. These locally-produced cookstoves have therefore been distributed by FairClimateFund together with Janara Samuha Mutual Benefit Trust (JSMBT) since 2011.

Today, around 18,000 families use a Chulika. The design of the Chulika ensures that air is preheated and there is a complete combustion without visible smoke and only small amounts of ash. The Chulika is suitable for cooking, grilling, baking typical Indian flat bread and heating water.

Participating families are expected to pay a fee of 20 rupees to become members of JSMBT and 180 rupees for registering the Chulikas. The Chulikas themselves are paid through the carbon credits that households earn.

Impact

The Chulika saves the use of wood by around 70%. This reduces carbon emissions by around 2 tonnes per family per year. The Chulika also leads to reduced smoke development and an improved living environment. In this way, forest areas are protected and women spend less time and energy by collecting wood.

In addition to these positive impacts, JSMBT also pays much attention in this project to other sustainable aspects, such as education, safety, the position of women and economic growth.

More information:
https://fairclimatefund.nl/en/projects/india-improved-cook-stoves-for-women

36,102	Improved cookstoves are used
147,072	Thousand kilos wood saved = 294,144 trees
149,375	Tonnes CO_2 reduced

Fairtrade

Since 2011, the project has provided 18,000 families with better cookstoves. FairClimateFund is responsible for the financing the project and JSMBT for implementation. The income from carbon credits is used to pay for the use and maintenance of the Chulikas and to support households financially and with training to survive in a changing climate. This project is Gold Standard certified and meets the Fairtrade Climate Standard. This means that local households own the carbon credits that are sold for a minimum price including an extra Fairtrade premium.

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Benefits of the project

Contribution to the SDGs

Health
- Cleaner and safe cooking prevents inhalation of harmful smoke and burns
- Less physical strain because less wood has to be collected for cooking

Climate and environment
- Reduced use of wood
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions

Social
- Women experience a lot of convenience and can spend more time on family and education
- Women are less exposed to forms of harassment while collecting wood

Economic
- By saving time opportunities for women to generate more income
- Local employment through production and maintenance of cookstoves

Do you want more information about this project?

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This project is certifiied by Gold Standard and the Fairtrade Climate Standard.

FAIRTRADE

Gold Standard for the Global Goals