



REPUBLICA DE BOLIVIA  
MINISTERIO DE OBRAS PUBLICAS, SERVICIOS Y VIVIENDA  
VICEMINISTERIO DE ELECTRICIDAD Y ENERGIAS ALTERNATIVAS

Seminario Internacional  
**COCINAS** 2007 *Marzo 5-7*  
para una vida mejor



**La Paz Bolivia**



Programa de Desarrollo  
Agropecuario Sostenible,  
PROAGRO  
Componente de Acceso  
a Servicios Energéticos



Co-financiado por el Reino  
de los Países Bajos

## **DRAFT**

### **International Seminar, 5-7<sup>th</sup> March, 2007 Cocinas para una vida mejor - Stoves for a better life La Paz, Bolivia**

#### **Why a seminar about stoves in Bolivia?**

In Bolivia, 80% of the households in rural areas, which are approximately 1.160.000, use biomass for cooking. Combustibles like firewood, sawdust, charcoal, manure or typical plants like Yareta are collected every day, a time consuming work that is usually carried out by children and women.

The use of biomass for cooking has serious health impacts for the families, especially for women. Respiratory diseases, lung cancer, asthma, eye infections or back pains are some of the common ailments that women who cook with traditional stoves suffer from.

But the use of biomass also has adverse impacts on the environment. The use of fire wood is one reason for deforestation which fosters soil erosion, desertification and general environmental degradation, factors that also negatively influence the general quality of life.

With the objective to diminish the negative impacts of traditional stoves, the GTZ project "Componente de Acceso a Servicios Energéticos" promotes as part of their strategy the use of alternative stoves like improved firewood stoves and solar cookers.

#### **Objectives of the seminar**

The seminar has two main objectives:

1. Sensitise politicians, decision makers and the general public about the adverse impacts of indoor air pollution coming from traditional stoves
  - Present activities and measures of the Bolivian campaign "Cocinas para una vida mejor" (stoves for a better life) and formalise campaign opening
2. Exchange of experiences and knowledge as well as discussion of strategies concerning the introduction of improved firewoods stoves and solar cookers with special reference to:
  - design and construction of improved firewood stoves and solar cookers
  - possibilities of technology distribution, marketing and the importance of market mechanisms
  - empowering of target groups
  - possibilities to support poor families via microcredit
  - monitoring

According to the objectives, the seminar is divided into two parts: the official part, which takes place 5<sup>th</sup> March, destined for politicians and decisions makers and the second part, which takes place 6-7<sup>th</sup> March, for experts.

## Draft Programme

**Monday, 5th March, 2007**

**Topics: Health and political measures**

### **Morning session**

#### **Opening of event**

#### **Why a seminar about stoves in Bolivia?**

##### **The effects of biomass use for cooking on health**

How to reduce adverse effects on health in rural and periurban communities?

Which strategies can be applied?

How to involve stakeholders?

Presentation of study results on stoves and health.

##### **International initiatives for the introduction of improved stoves and solar cookers**

Current activities by international development agencies.

Presentation of best practice examples from other countries.

### **Lunch**

prepared with improved firewood stoves and solar cookers

### **Afternoon session**

#### **Presentation of the national campaign “Cocinas para una vida mejor”**

Presentation of initiatives destined for the introduction of stoves by international development agencies and institutions (World Bank, European Union, Global Village Energy Partnership – LAC, Project Concern International, Consejo Empresarial para el Desarrollo Sostenible (CEDES), Enabling Access to Sustainable Energy (EASE) and others).

#### **Signing of agreement with the Bolivian Viceministry of Electricity and Alternative Energies**

### **Conclusions**

### **Cocktail**

**Tuesday, 6th March, 2007 (for experts only)**

**Topics: construction and design of improved firewood stoves and solar cookers; entrepreneurial skills**

### **Morning session**

#### **“Knowledge gifts” - presentation of participants, stove projects and experiences**

Participants present themselves with material, experiences and knowledge they want to share with other participants (any kind of presentation is possible, video, poster, fotos, stories etc.).

What are the lessons learned and should or should not be repeated by the GTZ project?

Presentation of the GTZ project “Componente Acceso a Servicios Energéticos”

### **Lunch**

### **Afternoon session**

#### **Experiences with design and construction of stoves. Presentation of models.**

Which (dis-)advantages do the stove models have? Production difficulties? What are the performance characteristics? Which factors do intervene with design and production of the stove models? Presentation of stove models produced in Bolivia or other countries.

Participants are invited to bring models. Exchange about impressions and experiences with demonstrated models.

Summarise results.

#### **The importance of entrepreneurial skills**

Challenges, obstacles and experiences with production, organisation and introduction of firewood and solar cookers. Discuss business development and experiences with capacity building for entrepreneurs. Elaborate content of capacity building.

**Wednesday, 7th March, 2007 (for experts only)**

**Topics: production, marketing, usage and scaling-up strategies of stoves**

### **Morning session**

#### **Experience exchange between projects: the production and marketing side**

How to improve the supply of stoves? How to improve entrepreneurial capacities? Share experiences about commercialisation. Summarise results.

#### **Experience exchange between projects: the awareness and usage side**

Which factors do influence the demand for certain stove models? How to sensitise target groups? What are the key factors to consider in marketing strategies for stoves? Best practice examples. Summarise results.

### **Lunch**

## **Afternoon session**

### **Scaling-up strategies and policies**

Experiences from foreign countries? What should be the role of the government in stove projects? What kind of national policies are needed? Elaborate recommendations for Bolivia.

### **Microcredits to boost stove sales**

Experiences in the microcredit sector for domestic stoves. Alternatives to finance acquisition of stoves. Elaboration of concrete proposals and discussion with representatives of the financial sector.

Summarise results.

### **Monitoring**

What to monitor and how to do it. Which methodologies and tools can be applied to monitor the impact of improved stoves? Summarise results.

### **Summary of recommendations of the seminar.**

### **Conclusions and end of seminar**

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