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Solar Cookers International
Annual Report • July 2008 - June 2009



As Solar Cookers International (SCI) starts its new fiscal year, I want to take a moment to thank you all for your generous support. Without your continued support, spreading the message of solar cooking and solar water pasteurization would not be possible.

This last year has been a year of transition and expansion. We completed the *Sunny Solutions* project in Kenya, and like all great projects it has inspired more possibilities

for SCI. We now have more regional offices in Kenya to continue to disseminate solar cooking and safe water solutions.

The Board of Directors looks forward to a wonderful new year and we hope you will celebrate our successes with us. As always, we look forward to hearing from you with your ideas and suggestions.

Gary Hursh
Board President

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Program Highlights

EDUCATION RESOURCES

Having compiled solar cooking and solar water pasteurization information for over two decades, SCI is in a unique position to offer materials and resources covering a broad spectrum of solar cooker technologies and strategies. Whether you're an experienced solar cook, a teacher, a solar advocate, or just curious about how food could possibly be cooked by the sun, SCI has tools that can help you out.



SCI's Web sites provide the easiest access to solar cooker materials and resources. The *SCI Marketplace* offers a range of solar cookers, cookbooks, and other products that will help you get started; the *Solar Cooking Archive* and its associated wiki offer plans for building numerous models of solar cookers, a user-created database of solar recipes, a calendar of upcoming events, and potentially life-saving techniques for solar water pasteurization; the discussion forum and wiki are great places to ask questions, share your solar cooking stories, and network with others — beginners and enthusiasts alike.



SCI's *Solar Cooker Review* and *SuNews* periodicals continue to serve as windows into the world of solar cooker promotion. From the smallest school science fairs to the largest multinational solar cooker programs, inspiring stories of the simple power of solar cookers to improve people's lives and preserve precious natural resources are highlighted, as well as new solar cooker designs, profiles of solar cooker manufacturers, and insightful strategies for successful solar cooker promotion.

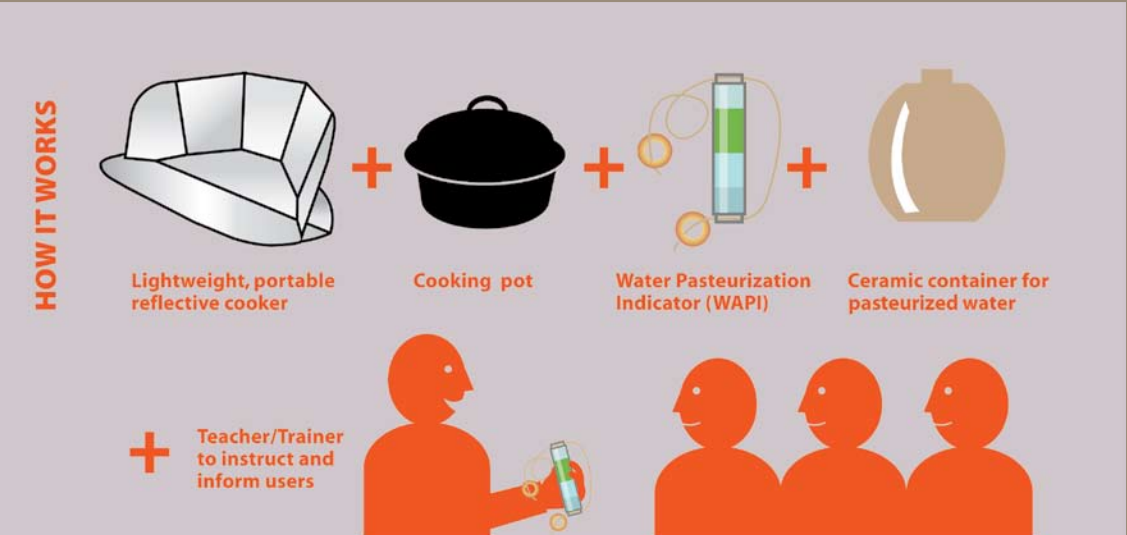
SUNNY SOLUTIONS

Over the course of five years, more than 3,000 solar CookKits were made by and purchased from local women in Nyakach, Kenya, impacting the lives of over 100,000 people in this poorest corner of Kenya, with dramatic reductions in respiratory and waterborne diseases. Additionally, 1,000 solar cookers were purchased by local humanitarian agencies for the disabled, elderly and very poor. An extensive, independent evaluation of SCI's *Sunny Solutions* project found widespread awareness and use of solar cooking and water pasteurizing. Solar cookers and supplies are now available through women who SCI helped start small businesses.

Solar cooking and water pasteurizing is also spreading into nearby communities, as well as a new region in eastern Kenya — Machakos — where young, single mothers are learning to solar cook and earn money for their families with time saved from reduced firewood collection trips.

Documented benefits include:

- Reduced fuel expenditures by over 45%
- Direct and indirect employment opportunities
- Reduced incidence of smoke- and water-related illnesses
- Improved local environment due to less charcoal and firewood use



- Reduced hours spent by women and children gathering firewood, leading also to increased productivity in farms, businesses, and schools
- Increased self confidence and community respect among women using solar cookers, especially those who have started related businesses
- Enhanced community knowledge of renewable energy sources

SAFE WATER PROJECT

Early research by professor Bob Metcalf led to broad use of solar cookers as water pasteurization devices, particularly in conjunction with SCI's *Water Pasteurization Indicator* (WAPI). Today these simple technologies are reducing waterborne diseases, while also saving precious cooking fuel and reducing smoke-related diseases. Dr. Metcalf — an SCI founder — has

also developed a simple, inexpensive method of testing water in remote areas that does not require days-long tests at distant laboratories. With a generous grant from Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund, Dr. Metcalf is training water experts in Ministries of Water and Sanitation in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. This training complements solar cooking and water pasteurizing, further reducing preventable waterborne diseases that kill millions of children worldwide.

OTHER INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

This year, SCI has provided training in several African countries and began exploring opportunities in many others. The benefits of these trainings are evident: in Nairobi's Kange-mi slum, for example, children from the Hamomi Children's Centre were

served their first lunch in months, and can now have lunch every day thanks to solar cookers and the money saved by not buying cooking fuel.

ADVOCACY

SCI's advocacy has focused on health, especially reducing smoke- and water-related diseases and the special needs of refugees, whose fuel-gathering trips outside camps increase risks of violence to women. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of six volunteer United Nations representatives in Geneva and New York, SCI is invited to participate in key committees and present 'side events' at conferences.



SCI's voice is now louder with 200 independent solar food technologies experts and promoters that make up the Solar Cookers World Network started by SCI. Network members collaborate on advocacy and contribute expertise through SCI's Web sites, and are currently working on easy guides for comparing solar cooker performance, costs and consumer preferences.



VOLUNTEERING

SCI's volunteers are a diverse group of people from all over the world whose commitment to spreading solar cooker knowledge and use is evident with every hour of time donated — more than 1,000 hours in the past year! Like many nonprofit organizations, SCI was not unscathed by the recent economic downturn, but thanks to a wonderful, generous and dedicated network of volunteers, SCI raised greater awareness of the benefits of solar cooking. Thanks in large part to their efforts, SCI saw an increase in Web site visits and product sales, was invited to participate in numerous events, and enjoyed increased media attention. Whether advocating for solar cooker use with international and government agencies, spreading awareness within the community, or simply lending a hand around SCI's offices, volunteers play a powerful and integral role in accomplishing SCI's mission. Thank you to those who gave their time and energy so selflessly in support of the cause.

REVENUES

Donations - \$604,967
Grants - \$128,889
Sales (gross profit) - \$114,415
Donated goods and services - \$17,173
Other - (\$151)
TOTAL - \$865,293

EXPENSES

International programs - \$431,038
Education resources - \$178,686
Advocacy - \$59,812
Humanitarian assistance - \$25,096
Resource development - \$104,117
Administration - \$101,648
TOTAL - \$900,397

ASSETS

Cash - \$195,160
Investments - \$38,817
Grants receivable - \$109,105
Equipment and vehicles - \$14,104
Inventories for sale - \$13,615
Other - \$8,809
TOTAL - \$379,610

LIABILITIES

TOTAL - \$23,814

NET ASSETS (06/30/09) - \$355,796

SCI assists communities to use the power of the sun to cook food & pasteurize water for the benefit of people & environments.

Solar Cookers International (SCI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. SCI maintains consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), is a founding member of the Solar Cookers World Network (SCWNet), and is affiliated with Aid for Africa. SCI is also a member of InterAction, and meets its standards for private voluntary organizations. Donations to SCI are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. SCI does not sell, rent or trade donor information. Tax ID # 68-0153141.