

Summer 2023 Newsletter

How you provide a better life for poverty-stricken people in the Himalayas

Since 2013 you have been caring for especially vulnerable people in Nepal – lifting them out of poverty – providing for their safety and a better life. You have given orphans, widows, senior citizens, women-headed households, students, burn violence survivors, and people with disabilities hope for a better and more sustainable future.

In addition, you have helped keep black carbon, created by polluting fuels like wood and charcoal, from melting the precious snow caps of the Himalayas. Keeping black carbon from forming in Nepal is crucial to stopping climate change.



Senior citizens benefited by emissions-free solar cooking.



By providing solar cookers, you are helping seniors like Sansi be healthier.

Your giving helped Sansi, a homeless widow

And now she's helping others

"I had no one left, I was all alone." Sansi is a senior citizen living in poverty in Nepal. When her husband and sons all passed away, she had nowhere to turn but the streets. This is the reality for many senior citizens living in the rural areas of Nepal. Luckily Sansi found her way to a home for senior citizens, where she was introduced to solar cooking and solar drying. You let her know that you cared about her and you wanted her to be able to eat cooked food and have something warm to drink with your generous support.

Sansi has now turned that generosity she experienced from you to care for herself and others. Sansi enjoys gardening and caring for the many vegetables and flowers grown on the grounds. You provide the seniors with the ability to use solar dryers to preserve foods they grow for resale in the marketplace. Solar dryers can increase the value and shelf life of various foods.

Here's how your kindness goes above and beyond

Your giving helps homeless seniors and even sick and injured animals

In addition to the garden, this residence also has an animal care center for sick and injured animals. The facility feeds, cares for, and rehabilitates street dogs, cats, cows, and even monkeys! Seniors love interacting with the animals. The income stream from the solar dried food at the marketplace supports the senior citizens and the animals. Your gift keeps on giving.

So far, you have empowered more than one thousand people with access to 318 solar cookers, solar dryers, and heat retention boxes in Nepal. The heat retention boxes keep food warm until it is ready to be eaten.

But there is more to be done! With your support, this year, we are working to empower more vulnerable groups and individuals like Sansi with 15 solar cookers, 20 solar dryers, and 10 heat retention boxes, as well as appropriate training and community support. Your support is key in these efforts.

Thank you for supporting sustainability and self-sufficiency with solar cooking.

Thank you for helping reach more people with the power of solar cooking

Thank you to those who responded to SCI's Supporter Survey. This survey allows us to gain insight into what part of our work is most important to you, our generous supporters!

If you haven't filled out our survey and would like to share your voice, visit: <u>www.solarcookers.org/</u> <u>supportersurvey2023</u> or scan the QR code.





Seniors enjoy fresh popped popcorn from the cooking power of a parabolic solar cooker.



Solar dryers you provided to help seniors and animals in Nepal.



Your giving even helps sick and injured puppies.

What best describes your motivation to donate to SCI?



- 27% want to fight climate change and deforestation to ensure future generations have clean air to breathe.
- 26% are concerned about the health and well-being of women and children around the world.
- 19% believe it's important to empower women in developing nations.
- 17% are motivated by other reasons.
- 11% believe it's their duty to care for our planet.



Because of your giving...

Women are bravely speaking out for better lives and a better world

A letter from Solar Cookers International Executive Director Caitlyn Hughes

Dear Solar Friend,

Did you get a chance to meet our fantastic partners from Cameroon and Morocco in our online educational event for women in March?

Wasn't it powerful?! Weren't you inspired and amazed by the women who presented? I was encouraged by the two 16-year-old girls who are already advocating for solar cooking. Empowering young girls to have a voice in their country. That really made me smile. We were thrilled to have over 125 people register!

Wait? You couldn't catch it?? Well... you are in for a treat! Just scan the QR code below to see your gift in action! Watch these incredible ladies share their stories. See how your gift enables women to be strong allies in the clean cooking sector.

This is exactly how you work most effectively to provide solar cookers to women and families in need. Women like Priscilla Song from Cameroon speak from real-world experience in sharing the benefits of solar cooking not only for women but in the fight against climate change too!

Priscilla takes her message to the people of Cameroon. In her role with the Ministry of Environment, Priscilla spends countless hours hosting exhibitions to promote the many benefits of solar cooking. From Women's Week to International Football Day, you can find Priscilla promoting this healthy, carbon-conscious alternative to polluting fuels.

Please do watch Priscilla's passion for solar cooking. See all the ways you are supporting incredible leaders like her at <u>www.solarcookers.org/about/blog.</u>

Look for our next advocacy opportunity that you can be a part of to meet inspiring solar cooking advocates like Priscilla in July for the United Nations High-Level Political Forum. Thank you for being such an important part of this movement.

Sincerely,

aithyn Hughes



The SCI Team with Priscilla Song (second from right) and Melvin Wajiri, CEO of People Empowering People-Africa (second from left) at COP27.

To watch the CSW recording, scan the QR code.



Donor Advised Funds – Put your passion to work!

Do you have a Donor Advised Fund? If so, now is a great time to put those funds into action.

I have a donor-advised fund with the Sacramento Regional Community Foundation - and I LOVE IT!

Having a Donor Advised Fund makes giving so easy. Whenever I want to give, I simply go to my account, add the charity I want to give to, the amount, and click on contribute. That's what I do for Solar Cookers International. If I want to know my contribution history to the organization, I simply click another button. The best part is it is easy to donate stock from my investment fund to my donor advised fund. I don't pay any capital gains tax on the stock, and my contribution is tax deductible. Every year, I transfer stock into my fund so that I can contribute to my favorite charities and respond to requests from causes I believe in.

Because my contribution is not part of my monthly expenses coming out of my checkbook; rather, it's coming out of my contribution budget. I find that



SCI Vice President Ruth Holton-Hodson

I'm also more generous and give more to the causes I care about. So, really, it's a win-win for everybody.

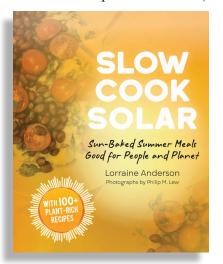
-Solar Cookers International Vice President Ruth Holton-Hodson

To learn more about giving to SCI through a Donor Advised Fund, please contact Lynne at donor.relations@solarcookers.org or visit www.solarcookers.org/whyigive to learn more about Ruth and her commitment to Solar Cookers International.

Sun-baked summer meals good for people and planet

Lorraine Anderson is on a mission to mainstream solar cooking in the US. In the years since she coauthored Cooking with Sunshine, more and better solar cooker models have become available.

Her new book, Slow Cook Solar: Sun-Baked Summer Meals Good for People and Planet (available now at online bookstores



and slowcooksolar.com), helps readers choose a cooker and contains 100+ plant-rich recipes for sun-baked meals that are simple, flavorful, and climate friendly.

SCI executive director Caitlyn Hughes describes the book as "beautiful, colorful, informative, accessible, and engaging" and says it "expertly sets anyone up to be successful at solar cooking."

AQUENT

Thank you, Aquent Talent, for supporting SCI and your commitment to creating a future where people worldwide can cook with the free, sustainable energy of the sun.



Trusting your charity

SCI has received the highest possible ratings from Charity Navigator, Guide Star, and the BBB Wise Giving Alliance. You can donate to SCI with confidence, knowing that SCI's transparency and accountability are verified.