



**SOLAR COOKERS
INTERNATIONAL**

Summer 2019 Newsletter

www.solarcookers.org

Because of you,

Solar Cookers International has successfully brought life-saving solar cooking to more than 300 people in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya. Before you stepped in, women like Harerimana were often forced to sell their precious food rations for cooking fuel, putting their children at risk of malnutrition. If they dared to journey outside of the camp to collect firewood, they risked brutal sexual violence.



Because of you, Harerimana, her family, and her neighbors share a delicious, nutritious meal cooked with the power of the sun.

300 Smiles: NEW Solar Cooks in Kenya!

Before you came into Harerimana's life, this was her reality. Now, because of you and SCI, Harerimana and her children will eat healthy food, drink clean water, and go to bed in a smoke-free home tonight. With your generous support, SCI empowered local Kenyan solar-cooker manufacturer, Ecomandate, to create and distribute 35 Heliac solar cookers in Kakuma Refugee Camp.

When SCI Science Director, Alan Bigelow, PhD, met Harerimana she was eager to share a home-cooked meal with him, made with her solar cooker. As the smells of cooking food began to spread across camp, a crowd gathered. Men, women, and children alike stood around the solar cooker, amazed. Soon, a line of people were adding their names to a growing list of individuals excited about solar cooking.

Solar cooking is spreading, thanks to you. Because of you, a number

of schools and organizations have expressed their sincere interest, or have even already made plans, to begin using solar cooking. With you, SCI is leading and growing the global solar cooking movement and making your impact go further. You gave more than 300 people – women and their families – training and solar cookers, a truly priceless gift. Together we will turn

those 300 smiles into many more. While in Kenya, SCI also brought your voice to the United Nations Environmental Assembly in Nairobi, to advocate for solar cooking as a sustainable solution. Together, we educated key global decision makers on the power of solar cooking, so they can include it in their own work.

Continued on next page



You are giving these children in Kakuma Refugee Camp healthy meals and clean water by empowering their mothers to become solar cooks. Thank you.

The increasing interest in solar cooking makes it necessary for organizations and decision makers to know what cooker model will best fit their needs. Because of you, SCI can now answer this question with the Solar Cooker Performance Evaluation Process (PEP) and give you and other organizations the information necessary for success.

With your support, SCI Science Director Alan Bigelow, PhD, brought an SCI PEP testing station to the University of Nairobi in Kenya and, alongside Professor Jacob Kithinji and University staff, performed a successful test on the Heliac solar cooker. The test results showed that the Heliac model has more cooking power than many other, smaller models. It can cook faster, and therefore feed more people, for instance in overpopulated, under-resourced Kakuma Refugee Camp.

Thanks to you, the University of Nairobi now has the capacity to test solar cooker models from manufacturers across Africa. With you and SCI, organizations will get the best, unbiased, scientific information, leading to the spread of solar cooking success, knowledge, and



SCI Science Director, Alan Bigelow, PhD (standing, right), visits a school in Kenya that is now hoping to adopt solar cooking into their meal plans. Thanks to you, these children are excited about solar cooking.

sustainability around the world.

Together, we have provided education, training, and resources to more than 300 people in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya. We have formed important and beneficial connections and built Kenya's capacity to cook with the power of the sun. This is only possible because of you. Thank you for believing in solar cooking. Thank you for believing in SCI. Thank you for believing in a better future for Harerimana and her children and for making it happen.



This solar cooking family is all smiles thanks to you.

Bonus: 50 More Smiles!

You inspired others to join you in making a greater impact in Kakuma Refugee Camp with solar cooking. SCI Organizational Level Associate Heliac has donated an additional 5 solar cookers. This gift brings the total number of solar cookers to 40 and people directly benefiting from solar cooking to 350!

You and SCI are building the capacity of the University of Nairobi to advance solar cooking across Africa with the Performance Evaluation Process (PEP).

All photo credits belong to SCI Science Director Alan Bigelow, PhD, Cleophas Kipruto Kosgei (Ecomandate) or are unknown.



Your Solar Cooking Family



Nyibol shows her joy by taking a large bite of solar-cooked food. Now that she doesn't have to spend hours collecting firewood, Nyibol can spend her time learning new job skills at the local vocational training center. With the extra income, she can afford to buy her children clothes for school, more food, and health care. You made this possible. Thank you.



Kaleb is happy you came into his life. Because of you, his mother is a solar cook. Now that she doesn't need to use her food rations to buy cooking fuel, Kaleb can grow up strong and healthy. Your gift of training and tools will be passed down to Kaleb, so one day his children won't know what it feels like to go to bed hungry.

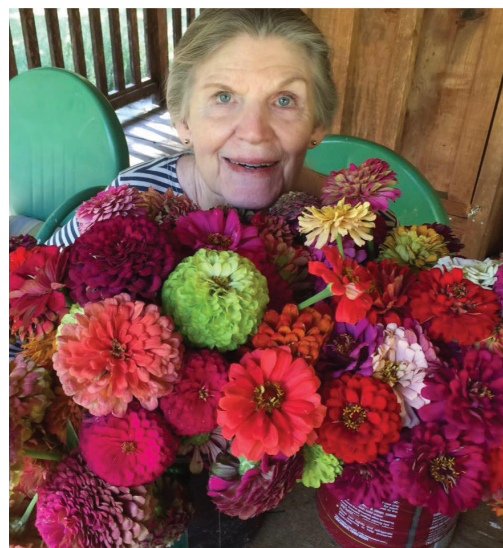


Mediatrice is smiling, because of you. You gave her a priceless gift, the ability to harness the energy of the sun. With her solar cooker, Mediatrice is preparing a warm, filling meal and safe water for her family. Tonight, she won't have to listen to her children cough in their sleep because of the smoke from her old cooking fire. Her children are healthy and happy, which makes you and Mediatrice happy too.



You brought Godfrey (back, center) and SCI together at the 6th SCI World Conference in India. Godfrey was so inspired with solar cooking, he gathered a team of Kenyans and partnered with SCI and the University of Nairobi to bring solar cooking to Kakuma Refugee Camp. Together, we are creating jobs and bringing sustainable solar cooking knowledge to Kenya.

Professor Jacob Kithinji (front, right) is excited to partner with you, SCI, and local Kenyan and regional solar-cooker manufacturers in the global solar cooking movement. He is determined to save forests in Kenya, with solar cooking. Because of you, Professor Kithinji and SCI set up the Solar Cooker Performance Evaluation Process (PEP) testing station at the University of Nairobi. Now, you can know the quality of solar cookers across Africa.



You and Linda Hayward are SCI supporters. You heard our call to bring solar cooking to more women and children around the world. You understand the importance of solar cooking and the health and environmental benefits it brings. Your dedication is the reason that we are able to share the exciting news in this newsletter and continue our plans for future good work. Thank you for being a part of the SCI family.

SCI Order of Excellence Winner: The Republic of the Marshall Islands



Each year, SCI awards the Order of Excellence to a person or group that has shown extraordinary dedication to solar cooking. The Solar Cookers International Board of Directors unanimously agreed to award the SCI Order of Excellence to the Republic of the Marshall Islands for including solar cooking into its official plan to address climate change. SCI encourages other countries to follow their stunning example. Congratulations to the Republic of the Marshall Islands and thank you to our SCI donors for supporting solar cooking leadership.

SCI Board of Directors Member, Peg Barratt (left), presents the SCI Order of Excellence to Ambassador Zackios (right) at the Embassy of the Republic of the Marshall Islands.



The Sun and the Daughter: Empowering Women with Solar



SCI United Nations Representatives, like Ernestina Williams (above), are bringing your voice to the global stage.

SCI United Nations (UN) Representative, Ernestina Williams, advocated at a UN event focused on women's equality, bringing the voice of solar cooking – your voice and SCI's – to the discussion. Leaders from all regions of the world attended to discuss women's empowerment and sustainable development. With the burden of household responsibility falling on women and girls – including hours spent searching for cooking fuel and bent over toxic cooking fires – solar cooking is not only a smart solution, it is a necessary one. Because of you, SCI was able to build strong alliances with women's advocacy organizations and decision makers to help promote gender equality. Thank you for improving the lives of women everywhere.

Trusting your charity

SCI has received the highest possible ratings from Charity Navigator, GuideStar, and the BBB Wise Giving Alliance. You can donate to SCI with confidence, knowing that SCI's transparency and accountability are verified by the world's largest sources of nonprofit information.



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Solar Cookers International | 2400 22nd Street, Ste 210 | Sacramento, CA 95818 USA
U.S. Tax ID 68-0153141 | www.solarcookers.org | info@solarcookers.org | +1 (916) 455-4499

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