



For immediate release

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SOLAR COOKERS INTERNATIONAL BRINGS URGENT SOLUTION TO UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CONFERENCE COP24

Sacramento, CA (November 30, 2018) -- Experts from Solar Cookers International (SCI) will urge governments, NGOs, investors, and scientists to recognize solar cooking as a powerful solution in global efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. SCI will champion solar cooking solutions at the upcoming Conference of Parties to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (Katowice, Poland 3-14 December 2018).

"Climate change is an urgent issue. The time for action is now. Solar cooking is an ideal solution to both prevent and adapt to climate change," said Caitlyn Hughes, SCI's Executive Director.

"Solar cooking has extensive benefits including cost-free power, reduced household pollution, increased opportunities for education and economic activities, and safe drinking water," explained Alan Bigelow, Ph.D., SCI's Science Director.

SCI will speak in four press conferences, three open meetings, two exhibit booths, and one side event during the most important international convening on climate since the Paris Agreement in 2015.

SCI will urge governments to explicitly recognize solar cooking in their NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) and VNRs (Voluntary National Reviews) as part of their climate policymaking, monitoring, and reporting activities.

"For those who forage for fuel, prepare meals, and pasteurize drinking water over open fires, cooking is a dangerous and time-consuming process. Burning wood, animal waste, and charcoal undermines health, quality of life, educational systems, economies, and the environment," Ms. Hughes said.

"By contrast, solar cooking improves health, saves environments, and creates opportunities for work and education," Hughes emphasized.

SCI estimates that there are over 3.2 million solar cookers currently in use globally representing a savings of more than 26 tons of CO₂ emissions, the equivalent of over 604 million trees.

Recent advances in solar thermal cooking technologies have made it more efficient and cost-effective. SCI offers open-source specifications for constructing solar cookers, marketing, research, program design, and the world's most comprehensive database of solar cooking information on its website.

There is also great potential for scaling up solar cookers, according to SCI, for economic activities and food production in schools, hospitals, refugee camps and other settings.

SCI offers training and opportunities for practitioners and advocates to exchange innovative ideas and best practices at conferences both in the U.S. and internationally.

In addition, SCI has developed a Performance Evaluation Process (PEP) to assess the quality and effectiveness of solar cookers currently available on the market.

The SCI team will include:

Caitlyn Hughes– SCI’s executive director who is a global leader in the areas of solar cooking advocacy, education, research, and networking.

Mike Paparian – @ClimateDispatch - SCI board member and an environmental finance and policy specialist who has held key positions in and out of California state government.

Alan Bigelow, Ph.D. – SCI’s science director and a leading expert on solar cooking from design, to testing, to production, to training and scaling up.

SCI Exhibits @ COP24

- 3 Dec Monday-Sat 8 Dec DITRenewables UK pavilion
- 10 Dec Monday-14 Dec Friday Exhibit booth #58 W/ISES + WWEA

SCI Press Conferences @ COP24 14:00-14:30 Press Conference Room 2, Area 4

- Thursday 6 Dec
- Monday 10 Dec: Guest speakers
 - Rana Adib, Executive Secretary, REN21
 - Marion Verles, CEO, Gold Standard
- Wednesday 12 Dec: Guest speakers
 - Dr. Alice Olok Ekwu, Hon Commissioner, Ministry of Climate Change and Forestry, Cross River State, Nigeria
- Friday 14 Dec 13:30-14:00 hosted by Tzu Chi

SCI Open Meetings @ COP24

- 16:00-17:00 Wednesday 5 Dec.; 16:00-17:00 Friday 7 Dec.; 15:00-16:00 Tuesday 11 Dec

Side Events @ COP24

- Thursday 6 Dec 17:00 - 18:30 ENERGIES2050 side event organized by Brahma Kumaris

SOLAR COOKERS INTERNATIONAL (SCI) is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization leading and convening the global solar cooking sector since 1987.

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For more information, or to schedule an interview with one of our experts, contact: Solar Cookers International Headquarters at +1 916 455 4499 or info@solarcookers.org
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