



HAITI & THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN COOKSTOVES FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT DOES THE ALLIANCE'S WORK IN HAITI ENTAIL?

In partnership with the Government of Canada, the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (Alliance) is developing a comprehensive strategy and national action plan for catalyzing the market for clean and efficient cookstoves in Haiti. The plan design phase relies on input from key government ministries, in-country partners, Haitian stakeholders, local champions, donors, manufacturers, non-governmental organizations, women's groups, investors, and other Alliance partners. It is expected that the plan will be circulated for review beginning in early 2017.

WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN HAITI REGARDING COOKING, SOLID FUEL USE, AND HOUSEHOLD AIR POLLUTION?

With more than 90% of households in Haiti relying on fuelwood or charcoal to cook their meals, and few households using improved cookstoves, cooking puts pressure on wood resources, emits high amounts of greenhouse gas emissions and short-lived climate pollutants relative to population size, and poses a significant health risk. The high rate of woodfuel consumption combined with the use of inefficient cookstoves causes dangerous levels of particulate matter emissions that contribute to household air pollution (HAP). It is estimated that each year in Haiti, over 8,000 people die prematurely due to illness attributable to HAP from cooking with solid fuels, making HAP from cooking the second largest risk factor for mortality in Haiti, and the fourth largest risk factor for disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) (GBD 2015).

WHAT ARE THE ANTICIPATED GOALS OF THE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN?

Effective implementation of the strategy and national action plan would advance a range of development goals, including decreased degradation of forests and land, reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and short-lived climate pollutants (SCLPs), improved health, enhanced job creation, and greater women's empowerment.

These goals would be achieved through the increased adoption of cleaner and more efficient cookstoves and fuels at the household and institutional levels. The Alliance anticipates that the plan would alleviate environmental pressures through reduced charcoal consumption, uptake of improved charcoal production methods, and the subsequent mitigation of GHG emissions. By using better technologies and cleaner fuels, households could see economic gains and health benefits, including reductions in acute and chronic illnesses. Considering that women are more often engaged in cooking than men and experience greater exposure to HAP, and that 40% of households are led by women, effective implementation is expected to significantly benefit women. By strengthening cookstove and fuels

enterprises, building institutional capacity, effectively communicating behavior change messages, driving investment in cleaner and more efficient products, and providing support to improve the policy and regulatory environment, the action plan will lay the foundation for a healthy cookstoves and fuels market poised to meet the needs of households and institutions in the years to come.

WILL THE ALLIANCE RECOMMEND A MARKET-BASED APPROACH IN HAITI?

The Alliance believes that building a thriving market for clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels is the best way to increase and sustain high levels of adoption that will ultimately lead to positive outcomes over the long term. A range of market-enabling activities is likely to make the greatest impact in Haiti, including strengthening enterprises, attracting investment to the sector, increasing access to consumer finance, supporting technology innovation, increasing institutional capacity, and adopting standards. Understanding the potential role of subsidies to enhance adoption in the most vulnerable communities is also likely to be an important part of the approach.

WILL THE ACTION PLAN FOCUS ON ONE TYPE OF COOKSTOVE OR FUEL?

Resource allocation decisions will depend on alignment with national plans and funding. However, the Alliance believes that opportunities can be created for a number of different cookstoves and fuels that show potential to deliver impacts at scale on the environment, climate, health, and women's empowerment. This could include improvements in the efficiency of production and combustion of charcoal.

HOW WILL WOMEN BE INTEGRATED INTO THE PLAN?

Access to clean cooking energy is a critical global gender issue that is important for achieving success across all of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Addressing the needs of women and girls has long been central to the Alliance's mission and we recognize that women will be unable to reach their full potential if they are burdened with the daily responsibility of collecting fuel and tending to inefficient cookstoves, which comprise a substantial part of their day and cause negative health effects. The cooking sector in Haiti provides significant opportunities to contribute to gender equality and poverty alleviation for women, by not only engaging women to shape interventions but also catalyzing women's engagement in the entire cookstoves and fuels value chain.

HOW IS THE ALLIANCE INVOLVING ITS PARTNERS IN THE PLAN'S DEVELOPMENT?

The Alliance's experience convening and facilitating private sector, government, and civil society actors from across our diverse 1600 strong partner base positions us well to foster collaboration and ensure buy-in among key local and national Haitian stakeholders. In addition, the Alliance is working with sector experts, including those familiar with the Haitian context, and continues to engage Haitian government ministries, private sector leaders, donors, entrepreneurs, researchers, and civil society organizations.

HOW WILL THIS WORK BE FUNDED?

Global Affairs Canada (GAC) is funding the initial design phase of the project with in-kind support from the Alliance. It is likely that additional bilateral, corporate, and foundation funding would complement GAC funding for implementation of the plan.

WHAT IS THE TIMING FOR THE PLAN DEVELOPMENT?

The Alliance began work on the scoping and mapping activities in June 2016. The initial design phase of the strategy and action plan was completed at the end of 2016. The strategy and action plan is undergoing revisions with input from stakeholders and will be further refined throughout early 2017.

HOW IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN BEING MANAGED?

Development of the plan is being led by a team from the Alliance, with extensive support from in-country counterparts, consultants, partners, and grantees who have demonstrated expertise through collaboration with the Alliance on previous market analyses and development activities, in the Haitian context, and/or in other countries.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE ROLE OF THE ALLIANCE TO DATE?

Drawing on its extensive experience assisting other countries to develop and implement strategies for transforming the cooking sector using market-based principles, the Alliance has been tasked with leading the process for designing the national action plan. As such, the Alliance has conducted interviews with more than 100 private sector, UN, bilateral, academic, NGO, and philanthropic partners working in the field of environment, sustainable agriculture, livelihoods, women's empowerment, and cooking; consulted with government representatives within the Ministries of Health, Environment, Women's Affairs, Commerce and Industry, Economy and Finance, Planning, and Agriculture, and the Bureau of Mines and Energy (BME); carried out field visits in Port-au-Prince (PaP) and several other areas of Haiti; hosted three roundtables in PaP and one in Washington DC; and conducted a comprehensive literature review of reports and surveys available publicly and through key informants. To fill key knowledge gaps, the Alliance also commissioned six consultancies to probe more deeply into the dynamics of the cookstoves and fuels sector and potential strategies and pathways for change.

These findings informed the draft of a strategy and action plan, which will be shared with stakeholders in Haiti to gain their input and then will be further refined throughout early 2017.

WHAT WERE THE SCOPES OF WORK FOR THE CONSULTANCIES?

The Alliance commissioned research across six key areas to better inform the design of the strategy and action plan. Consultants conducted field work, evaluations, modeling, and desk research. The scope of work included:

- Projecting the impacts of cookstoves and fuels interventions on environmental, social, climate, and economic indicators
- Analyzing the impact of potential interventions on forest degradation
- Filling gaps in testing
- Analyzing taxes and tariffs on clean cookstoves and fuels
- Analyzing user perspectives on a variety of fuel options
- Assessing the standards and labeling environment

WHOM DO I CONTACT IF I WISH TO GET INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT?

Please contact Haiti@cleancookstoves.org for more information on the initiative.