

Convene. Connect.

Annual Report 2015

SCI
SOLAR COOKERS
INTERNATIONAL



Our mission:

Solar Cookers International believes that the problem of inadequate household energy facing nearly 3 billion people is solvable. We are driven to spread solar thermal cooking technology as widely as possible to benefit people and environments.

We change and save lives, helping people to cook and make water safe to drink with free solar energy.

What we do:

SCI combines field projects, education, international advocacy and collaboration, and guides the global community to spread solar cooking. We share solar cooking knowledge worldwide, particularly with those who have the greatest need, so that everyone can cook and have safe drinking water.

FRONT COVER: Executive Director Julie Greene poses with partners in India next to a powerful solar cooker in January, 2015.

Photographs in this report courtesy of Charley Cross, 2015, unless otherwise noted.

From our Board

Reflecting back on a fantastic year, thank yous are in order, beginning with you, our donors and volunteers.

You join us in promoting solar as the true modern energy, and solar cooking as the world's future. I am proud to lead a board of directors that is committed to protecting the environment, empowering women, sharing knowledge, and convening leaders to catalyze change.

Much work is complete; much more needs to be done. On behalf of all of us in volunteer leadership positions I urge you to continue promoting the vision of a solar cooking community as large as all the places where the sun shines.

Honey Walters
President, Board of Directors for SCI

3 million solar cookers worldwide impacted 11 million people

(This statistic is based on published reports and self-reported SCI partner data collected since 1990; SCI was founded in 1987).



SCI leads solar cooking sector



- **International Convention July 2014 (SCI's FY 2015)**
 - Sponsored by SCI, an anonymous donor, the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, and Agua Fund, Inc.
 - Both the Solar Cooking Adoption and Impact Working Group and the resulting survey grew from this convention. The survey measures and tracks solar cooking use worldwide.
 - A Consumer Rating Feasibility Study began to help organizations and individuals choose the best solar cooker for their needs.
- **SCI Association launched June, 2015. For a complete list of SCI Associates, visit <http://bit.ly/SClassociates>.**
- **CLASSY Award Top 5 Nominee in the Health & Communicable Diseases Category, 2014.**

"Hello from Greece,

I just found your very interesting literature on solar cookers. I will circulate it as much as I can. In this period of acute crisis in Greece, I think it will interest many people. The sharing of this is what gives hope. Thank you, thank you a thousand times for putting all this documentation on the Internet. With all my gratitude, Catherine"

SCI stands strong with solar cooking experts around the world. Pictured at our International Convention (fiscal year 2015) are some of the 98 experts from 18 countries who attended.

SCI specializes in convening global conversations to promote solar cooking as a solution to environmental destruction and other serious problems related to open-fire cooking.



"I love donating to SCI mainly because you do great work. I love that you provide such valuable assistance to people who really need it and that it has such a huge impact."

Dr. Allison Bailes, III, founder, president, and owner of Energy Vanguard

Billions have access to the world's largest source of information about solar cooking

The SCI Wiki at solarcookers.org translates solar cooking information on 1,800 pages into 37 languages. That makes it easily accessible to 4.3 billion people... and counting!

SCI finishes in top 3 globally in InterAction Competition

In November 2015 InterAction announced that Solar Cookers International placed in the top 3 for the Data Quality Award given by InterAction, an alliance of more than 180 nongovernmental organizations around the world.

SCI's contributions were honored for their comprehensive, timely, accurate, and complete data recording.

"The environment is the key. I was blown away by the environmental destruction I witnessed in Madagascar on my visit in 1993. The remnants of forest left there, with irreplaceable and unique flora and fauna, were visibly under attack... to make charcoal. This problem is not unique to Madagascar. I've witnessed it in Ethiopia and Ghana too...."

Donor Gil Ewing



Advocacy

THE GLOBAL GOALS For Sustainable Development



Solar cooking meets all 17 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Read more at <http://bit.ly/1OdiT9g>.



SCI participated in two presentations at the 59th Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations in New York to highlight the need for solar cooking and safe water.

UN Representatives

AJ Lederman, Kathy Adler, Alan Bigelow, Terri Brooks, Sonia Heptonstall, Marilyn Janow, Joyce Jett-Ali (RIP), Elizabeth Williamson, Jan Williamson

Nepal (FOST)

SCI funds and partners with FOST in Nepal to empower local communities. An example is a demonstration at Green Energy Exhibition in Kathmandu Valley Higher Secondary School to 5,000 attendees from 15 schools (Maharajgunj June 19, 2015).

64 Earthquake relief packages were distributed in May 2015 in Ramche, Rashedu, Balambu, Lubhu, Lalitpur, Tokha, and Kathmandu areas.

*Pictured:
American Embassy Road Show
March, 2015 Pulpa and Baglung districts*



programs of pride

Kenya (FOTO + SURE)

Thanks to SCI support and partnership, FOTO + SURE staff participated in capacity building training on resource and community mobilization, held

98 group meetings and solar cooking demonstrations to a total of 7,105 attendees, and established a computer center to train FOTO staff, educate community members (66), and generate sustainable income.

SCI continues to partner with FOST, FOTO, and SURE in FY 2016, with the addition of a new partner in Tanzania.

Margaret Agar from Agoro West Location, Kanyibana village likes to solar cook often. She even carries her CookKit to the farm so her food cooks as she works. She thanks SCI very much for the Safe Water Package that she got and she would like fellow elderly people to enjoy like she does.

-Dinah Chienjo FOTO Project Manager (March 2015)



Financial health at a glance

SCI's 2015 fiscal year runs July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015

Support & Revenue		Expenses	
Donations	\$528,210	Program Services	\$322,212
Grants	\$165,000	Fund Development	\$59,436
Sales	\$22,371	General Administrative	\$51,557
Events	\$9,600		
Interest & Other	\$1,180		

View the full auditor's report at www.solarcookers.org/report.

SCI's financial statements were audited in accordance with the highest standards by Fritzsche Associates, Inc.

"Our addiction to fossil fuel is self-destructive, short-term thinking. It's greedy. Solar is the best solution to replacing fossil fuel use."

- Donor Alan Gould is Director of Global Systems Science at the Lawrence Hall of Science at UC Berkeley

Statement of Financial Position June 30, 2015

Assets

Current assets

Cash and equivalents	\$	350,932
Certificate of deposit	\$	138
Accounts receivable	\$	4,041
Grants receivable	\$	82,500
Unconditional promises to give	\$	90,000
Inventory	\$	3,797
Prepaid Expenses	\$	13,612
Total current assets	\$	545,020

Property and equipment	\$	2,392
Beneficial interest in community foundation assets	\$	34,949
Certificate of deposit for long-term purposes	\$	25,000
Total assets	\$	607,361

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities

Accounts payable	\$	3,425
Accrued expenses	\$	26,752
Total current liabilities	\$	30,177

Net assets

Unrestricted	\$	314,435
Temporarily restricted	\$	212,749
Permanently restricted	\$	50,000
Total net assets	\$	577,184
Total liabilities and net assets	\$	607,361

Organizations connecting with us in this work

Global Partners

Aid for Africa

Baker & McKenzie

Combined Federal Campaign

InterAction

United Nations Alliance4Health

United Nations CoNGO
(The Conference of NGOs)

United Nations Economic and Social Council

Funders of note

Agua Fund, Inc.

Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves

The Morris and Alma Schapiro Fund



People who stand with us

SCI Advisory Council

These volunteers are among the world's experts in solar cooking technology. SCI Advisory Council members collaborate to further the cause of solar cooking and its global implementation.

Thank you to FY 2015 members:

Dr. Ajay Chandak *India*,

Dr. Paul Funk *USA*,

Deepak Gadhia *India*,

Louise Meyer *USA/Mexico*,

Dr. Catlin Powers *China*

"Solar cooking solves a lot of problems for the population especially the vulnerable, orphans and women and most people on low incomes....Solar cooking also helps to preserve our environment as ultimately the more people we get to use solar cookers the less effect on deforestation and loss of carbon sink which contributes to climate change.... We appreciate the work of SCI."

- Steve A. Zulu of Solarisafrica (Start-up promoting alternative energy, Zambia)



People who stand with us

Order of Excellence

In 1995 SCI established a permanent society to recognize people whose sustained efforts have contributed most to empowering people to cook food with solar energy.



Photo: P. McArdle

2015: Pat McArdle

Pat is an SCI emerita board member and editor of the Solar Cooker Review. She continues to volunteer considerable time sharing the benefits of solar cooking.

Afghanistan's rapid deforestation ushered in the need for solar cooking. As a diplomat assigned to Afghanistan, Pat began promoting solar cooking when she saw children skipping school to collect piles of wood for cooking. She also saw that the landscape was stripped of trees.

Pat's research led her to SCI, and led to her eventual work as a valued member of SCI's board of directors. Pat continues to make significant contributions by testing solar cooker performance, and promoting solar cooking in the media.

Volunteers of the Year

29 volunteers donated 1,280 hours of time, worth \$29,530+!

In FY 2015, the Volunteer of the Year award was shared by two outstanding volunteers.

Rarely does an organization have such passionate and dedicated volunteers as artist Mary Frank and Cathy Vollmer.

Mary Frank continues to introduce and showcase solar cooking to new audiences on the East Coast at events such as the annual Woodstock cookout and in art shows in several galleries. Her volunteer time is also spent distributing literature about solar cooking and inviting friends to get involved. Mary is a generous benefactor and member of our Legacy Circle (see the article on the Shimealls for more information).

Cathy Vollmer organized the Sacramento Solar Cooking Festival and led the Shine On! celebration of solar cooking. Cathy and her husband Roger Chickering are also generous benefactors to solar cooking.



Photo: C. Vollmer



Mary Frank

Saving a planet motivates Legacy Circle members

From writing solar cookbooks to serving as volunteer leaders, **Eleanor and Clark Shimeall's** support for solar cooking runs deep.

"We grew up in the Depression. My mother taught me about conservation, and Clark and I taught our children those values," Eleanor said recently during a visit with Julie Greene, SCI's executive director. "Those conservation values are important to us."

Clark and Eleanor spent a lifetime helping women who cook with wood and breathe smoke every day just to provide hot food and safe drinking water to their families. "The things we leave behind aren't as important as the values we leave behind, and pass to our children," said Clark, emeritus SCI board president. In her still-popular *Eleanor's Solar Cookbook*, she drew her recipes and expertise from countless solar cooking demonstrations during decades of solar cooking. Eleanor still solar cooks daily, "...even if only to hard boil an egg for my salad."

Eleanor said, "I spent so much of my lifetime and energy on solar cooking, because solar cooking changed our life!" Clark grieves for our planet. "I'm concerned for the fate of our world because of the way we're using our resources," he said sadly.

Solar Cookers International thanks Clark and Eleanor and all our Legacy Circle members for making plans to leave a gift to SCI through their estate. For more information about how you can join this circle, call Loretta at SCI, (916) 455-4499. Your legacies will help ensure solar cooking for future generations.

"The things we leave behind aren't as important as the values we leave behind, and pass to our children."





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Meets highest GuideStar
Exchange standards, 2015



Meets all 20 standards for
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