



Public Private Alliance Foundation

## PPAF INSIDER

February 9, 2018

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### Into the New Year

From the Executive Director:

In this issue of the newsletter we want to highlight innovations by and with our collaborators. These combined efforts aim to improve lives and livelihoods in Haiti, especially for women and girls, through clean cookstoves at several sites. PPAF creates links among these organizations, participates in the actions and publicizes the results.

For photos beyond those shown here, please visit the Gallery on our website [www.ppafoundation.org/gallery--videos.html](http://www.ppafoundation.org/gallery--videos.html).

As we enter 2018 a hearty Thank You goes to the many contributors to PPAF's year-end crowdfunding campaign

[www.globalgiving.org/projects/tracking-clean-cookstoves-and-fuel-in-haiti/](http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/tracking-clean-cookstoves-and-fuel-in-haiti/)

PPAF has now graduated from the initial level of GlobalGiving relations and will continue fundraising and reporting on progress toward goals through that site. Please join us!

David Stillman, PhD

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#### How we do it - Collaboration in Haiti and Beyond

PPAF is working with eight Haitian & USA-based organizations to implement, monitor and promote non-polluting cookstoves and fuels - solar ovens (sunshine), biogas (kitchen and other waste) & ethanol (high proof alcohol). Locations include a university, girls' clubs, women-owned small businesses, and an agricultural demonstration and training center. Our combined purpose is to engage local groups, document innovations, assess challenges and successes, encourage sales, publicize results and promote expansion.

The photos here and in the sections below illustrate participation from ECHO

Global Farm, Haiti Adolescent Girls Network (HAGN), Konbit pou Developman Commune Kote de Fer (KDCK), Persons Helping People (PHP), Solar CITIES Biogas, Solavore LLC, Solar Cookers International and Université Notre Dame – Hinche, in addition to PPAF.

Collaborators from most of these organizations provided training and installation for several solar ovens and biodigesters on an experimental basis in 2017 in Haiti. In January 2018 group members took the next steps in monitoring of four biodigesters, plus training and distribution of 75 Solavore solar ovens. Some of the ovens were purchased by recipients, some were purchased by a project and some were donations.



In the Port-au-Prince area, Hinche, Cote-de-Fer including Marion, as well at a research site in Florida, work is underway. The number of collaborating organizations is growing and we have a new Haitian-American volunteer in New York.



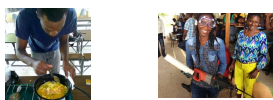
### University Students, Biodigesters and Solar Ovens

The Vice Rector of the Université Notre Dame d'Haiti – Hinche was eager to learn more in a meeting last July. This led to representatives of Solavore and Solar CITIES Biogas training students and installing the first biodigester and solar oven on campus in November.

They certified 69 medical biology, nursing and biosciences students in a 3-day course, and were delighted at the enthusiasm shown. Nine students then formed a coordination group and set up a Facebook site for student and team follow-up and photos of progress.

A return visit in January, this time including a representative of Persons Helping People, meant review of the first work, introduction of another model of a solar cooker, discussion of a science fair in May to highlight these innovations on campus and in town, and exploration of possibilities for local manufacture. The Vice Rector is enthusiastic.

As seen in the photos, the initiative is also helping to redefine gender roles, with girls learning to use power tools and guys learning to cook!



### Girls' Clubs and Solar Ovens

The Haiti Adolescent Girls Network (HAGN) began training programs in commercial cooking and solar cooking in January in Port-au-Prince for an initial group of 16 of the teen-age girls in its many "My Space" clubs. The delivery of Solavore ovens and the training sessions mobilized the collaboration with Solavore, KDCK, Solar Cookers International and PPAF that began last year with fundraising by HAGN and PPAF.

Monitoring of experiences is part of the program, with a view to its expansion. Materials for this have been drafted by the collaborators. A representative of Persons Helping People joined in the January training, and representatives from two community organizations elsewhere in Haiti participated and obtained solar ovens.

We are excited about the steps now being taken and look forward to future developments with HAGN and the others.



## Developing Teaching Materials

Solar CITIES Biogas has been developing guidelines especially for use in Haiti. PPAF assisted last year by editing a collection of video clips into two sets, Creole and English, on construction and use of a 250 gallon digester. November's certification program for the students at the university in Hinche was a trial run for written materials. These were further refined with a Creole translation in January.

Most recently Solar CITIES Biogas and KDCK representatives recorded a video on how to prepare and use a car's inner tube for biogas storage. Solar CITIES also used that event to host a basic instruction session for representatives of our consortium



## Marketing Solar Ovens

Already last year plans were being made for sales of Solavore solar ovens in the southern seacoast town of Cotes de Fer. KDCK had installed a half-dozen ovens, a sales manager was identified and a PPAF representative made a video interview with a woman about her experiences. Building on this KDCK and PHP representatives visited in January to begin with sales of 37 Solavore ovens. Prices had been subsidized by private donations back in the USA, and payments over time were arranged where needed.

The team discussed plans for additional shipments, both of Solavore and another model of solar cooker. They also met with the Deputy Mayor and with management of a newly-established hospital. These were interested to make solar cookers more widely available, and to help create payment options.

Solavore sales at full price began in January in Port-au-Prince, where 13 ovens were left with a woman who already had several customers waiting. The other 9 of the initial shipment of 75 ovens went to a community organization near Les Cayes. We will stay in touch and wish all the best!



## Measuring Biodigester Performance

ECHO Global Farm, located in Florida, is a site for agricultural information, seeds and training, especially as related to tropical agriculture. The University of South Florida's Patel College of Global Sustainability and Solar CITIES Biogas installed a biodigester there and PPAF helped get it functioning last fall.

ECHO has now agreed for PPAF to (1) establish a data collection system for physical and chemical information and document the biodigester's performance; (2) assemble and operate a bicycle-powered food grinder to mash the input to the biodigester and assess the results in terms of biodigester efficiency and output; and (3) source low-cost materials and construct a gas lighting system to verify and demonstrate biogas as a lighting fuel. ECHO has assigned an intern to work with PPAF on this and the nearby Charlotte Harbor Rotary Club has provided start-up funds.



## Solar cooker performance and promotion

Solar Cookers International (SCI) has been developing in the past year a performance evaluation process (PEP) to establish a common standard and a common test platform for solar cookers. SCI is well-placed for this as a neutral international organization. The PEP provides public accountability among manufacturers and provides users (individuals, government agencies, etc.) with information they need to select appropriate solar cooking devices. The units are low cost and portable, with open source components. Testing stations have been set up so far in New York, California and Nepal (see photo taken during a training session there). The Solavore oven is among the first cookers with preliminary results.

SCI has also taken interest in the possibilities for solar cooking in Haiti. Representatives have cited this work in some public presentations, for example at the International Conference for solar thermal cooking and food processing (Consolfood 2018) recently held in Portugal. The PPAF initiative with HAGN, Solavore and KDCK on solar ovens for girls' entrepreneurship in Haiti was featured last September in the SCI Digest. PPAF and other collaborators mentioned in this newsletter look to SCI for technical advice and encouragement, and they keep SCI apprised of progress and potentially useful information.

Other actions are also forthcoming, notably refinement of draft guidelines for the Solavore and solar cooking in French and Creole, and survey data on users' experiences with the solar ovens recently distributed.

We look forward to growth of a fruitful, effective collaboration among dedicated partners.



## Meetings and Events

### **Wednesday, March 14 - Clean Cooking for Sustainable Development**

Co-sponsors - United Nations Association Southern New York State Division, KDCK, Solar Cookers International,

**Date/Time:** Wednesday - March 14th, 2018 Register at 5:30; program 6:15 - 8:30. Light refreshments. [Space is limited. RSVP by March 9 required] Light refreshments.

**Location:** 801 Second Ave., 9th floor, New York City

We will engage attendees to recognize more fully the importance of clean cooking options to escape the poverty – respiratory disease – deforestation trap of daily cooking with charcoal and other biomass in Haiti and other countries.

RSVP to [ppafoundation2@gmail.com](mailto:ppafoundation2@gmail.com)

### **Thursday, March 15 - Unlocking Her Time: Clean Cooking Solutions to Empower Rural Women**

Please join the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, UN Women DRC, and DFID for an official NGO CSW parallel event, featuring a panel discussion on: Unlocking Her Time: Clean Cooking Solutions to Empower Rural Women

**Date/Time:** Thursday - March 15th, 2018 from 8:30AM – 10:00AM

**Location:** The Armenian Convention Center, Guild Hall – New York City

RSVP link will be available shortly.

## **HOW YOU CAN WORK WITH THE FOUNDATION**

Your contributions make it possible for the Foundation to continue our work in bringing organizations and people together for sustainable development and clean energy. **“Like” us on Facebook, view our videos on YouTube, join us on LinkedIn and receive our Twitter feeds.**

(1) **Donate Directly.** It's quick, safe and easy to give online. Go to [www.ppafoundation.org](http://www.ppafoundation.org) and click on the donation button you prefer. Please consider a monthly gift. You can also mail a check directly to Dr. David Stillman, PPAF, 166 Edgars Lane, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706, USA. The Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Its EIN is **71-1016293**.

(2) **Become a Corporate Sponsor.** You'll be listed on our website and in our newsletter as a corporation that supports important work in agribusiness, clean energy, and broad assistance to people in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Madagascar. Contact David Stillman at [ppafoundation@gmail.com](mailto:ppafoundation@gmail.com)

(3) **Give through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)** Whenever you make a purchase through Amazon.com, please enter [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) . When you start that account, choose Public-Private Alliance Foundation and a fraction of your purchase price will go to PPAF. It costs you nothing, and PPAF programs benefit from your action.

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(4) Volunteer, serve as an intern, or get involved as a professional. Use the information above to contact us.

