



SUMMARY REPORT

PROJECT “IMPROVING THE COOKING SYSTEM OF THE LADIES THAT MAKE TORTILLAS FOR A LIVING IN CHOLUTECA’S CITY”

This Project was implemented between the months of April and December of 2009, it benefitted women and families from several suburbs and neighborhoods of Choluteca’s City, developing where the base line was lift.

The promotion activities were in charge with qualify personnel, but because of the political situation of the country, the target population mistrust outsiders and projects in general, what delay and difficult the project acceptance, then the strategy change; beneficiaries that already own an Eco Stove promote there experience with it by television and radio presentations, they also interchange there experience with future beneficiaries and it was distributed plenty printed material.

The domiciliary promotion visits, develop effectively for a mayor understating of the purpose of the project, helped assure that the Eco Stove was built in an adequate place inside the house, aid us verify that the beneficiary owned the house and that he or she had the local materials needed. For meetings to happen with small groups it was necessary to prepare and develop “journal promotion communitarian plans” that contained; the objectives, topics, methodology and the materials needed to use in them.

The nonlocal materials used in the construction of the Eco Stoves were manufacture in the Association’s workshop and moved from Tegucigalpa to Choluteca. These nonlocal materials were stored in strategic places in order to facilitate the distribution of them to each beneficiary; these were delivered to the beneficiary according to the projects requirements. The Eco Stove was not built to some of the beneficiaries that were establish at the beginning of the project and this for several reasons such as: the misperception they had of the origin of the project, there delays or difficulties in buying or getting the local materials (there symbolic contribution for the project), etc.



**ASOCIACIÓN HONDUREÑA PARA EL DESARROLLO
(AHDESA)**

The following steps were needed in order to build the Eco Stove:

- a) Making up the walls, where the combustion chamber goes.
- b) Assembling the ceramic code that works as the combustion chamber.
- c) Making the soot remover for the chimney and corresponding tower.
- d) Situating the chimney before the perforation of the roof.
- e) Making a wooden framework and the metal sheet that goes above the combustion chamber that melts around the metal sheet.
- f) Drying out and using the Eco Stove, after 12 hours.

Once the Eco Stove was built, we proceed to give the necessary recommendations, such as, how to use it and how to give maintenance to it in order to achieve its optimal performance.

A total of 147 Eco Stoves were built and an equal number of beneficiaries were involved in the construction, some of them showed a lot of interest, much interest that they help resolve functioning problems to others, for example; when the heat that the Eco Stove generated decreased.

The nonlocal materials needed for the construction of the Eco Stove were: a strengthened metal sheet of 22" X 22", a ceramic combustion chamber, a galvanized chimney of 6 feet tall and a metallic soot remover. The local materials were: 70 bricks of 2 inches, 1 bag of cement for the upper side, ¼ of rod of 3/8, 2 quintals of sand, 1 quintal of ash, 10 nails of 3 inches, 4 wooden rules of 1X2X59 inches, 1 card box and 3 pounds of clay.

The Association's team involved in the project made a continuous supervision and monitor and this permitted redesign the promotion campaign when we detected the bad perception the project had.

Among the impacts of the project we have:

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1. The total of Eco Stoves built during this project contributed to save 2205 wood sticks per day (15 wood sticks saved per day X 147 Eco Stoves built). The reduction of the use of fire wood will benefit the forest that is nearby the community.
2. The economy of the beneficiaries has improved because they now save 15 wood sticks per day and each wood stick cost 2.50 Lempiras, saving 37.50 Lempiras per day.
3. The environmental conditions of 147 kitchens were improved and in general of there houses when eliminating indoor pollution and soot from there walls.
4. This project has contributed to decrease the negative effects that the smoke produces in the health of the beneficiaries, specifically: eye tears, headaches and lung problems.

The lessons that remain and how to take advantage of them:

- a) The initiation of a project in the middle of an economic or political juncture incise in that the target population suspect that the project wants to benefit at there expense or suspect of the legitimacy of the project, refusing to participate in it, just like happened in ours.
- b) The participation of local people in the promotion of the project helped offset this perception because local people some how now each other and make them have more trust in that the Eco Stoves were good.
- c) Been extensive involved during the project (from the beginning till the end) allowed us obtained better results when making corrections at the right time of the weakness or failures that occurred during the project.