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Our Story Potential Energy's mission is to bring life-improving technologies and economic stability to people in developing nations. Our first initiative, The Darfur Stoves Project, was developed to improve the safety and livelihoods of Darfuri women by providing customized, fuel-efficient stoves that reduce firewood collection and consumption. We have just transitioned to selling the stoves, using innovative marketing and financing schemes, and are helping our local partner to create a sustainable, ongoing cookstove business. We are now expanding our operations to create a viable, sustainable cookstove market in Ethiopia, and we are poised to do the same throughout the developing world in order to help millions of people begin to realize their potential.

Our Impact



household economic stability

Designed at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the Berkeley-Darfur Stove uses half as much firewood, which saves users \$354 per year in fuel costs. Over the 5-year lifespan of the stove, this adds up to more than \$1770.

environment

The Berkeley-Darfur Stove uses half as much firewood as traditional cooking methods and limits harmful emissions that contribute to global warming.

health and safety

The Berkeley-Darfur Stove significantly reduces the toxic pollutants that kill more than 4 million people each year. The stove also reduces the need for women to leave the camps in search of firewood, limiting their exposure to violence.

business development

By selling the stoves we are helping to create an ongoing income stream for our local partners, and a sustainable cookstove business that they can use as a base for their own future expansion.

Results to date:







We focus on:

technical expertise + local participation

The Berkeley-Darfur Stove was developed by scientists and engineers at the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, with ongoing evaluation and feedback from women in Darfur. We have brought together the world's best minds in engineering to develop a technology specifically tailored to the windy climate, the sandy terrain, the pot sizes and the cooking style of families living in the displacement camps in Darfur.

unique manufacturing and assembly schemes

The Berkeley-Darfur Stoves start out as sheet metal pieces stamped out in India. These "flat-kits" are then shipped to Sudan where they are assembled locally. This approach is cost-effective, high-quality and infinitely scalable, and also enables local employment.

post-conflict rebuilding techniques

Setting up businesses in post-conflict environments requires addressing the market failures resulting from years of chaos. Using creative financing and marketing schemes, local partnerships, and ongoing capacity building we help create thriving businesses and rebuild civil society infrastructure.

What's next:

We're currently working with new partners to develop the Ethiopia Stoves Project. Our engineering partner, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, is already developing the Berkeley-Ethiopia Stove, a fuel-efficient wood burning cookstove that is being adapted to the Ethiopian cooking style. *Stay tuned for details...*

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www.potentialenergy.org

