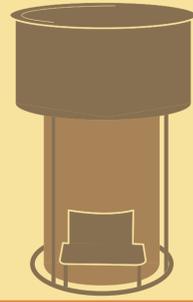




Efficient, smoke-free cooking with the Rocket Stove



Simple high tech

Whether they are made of clay, metal or brick: Rocket Stoves burn firewood sparingly and efficiently. This is down to their design, which optimises the transfer of heat from the fire to the cooking pot and promotes complete combustion of the wood. The principle was developed by the Aprovecho Research Center in the USA, but it can be adapted to make use of whatever materials are available regionally and to suit different cooking habits. Rocket Stoves are used in private households, canteens and restaurants.



The effects

Depending on the model, Rocket Stoves consume up to 80 percent less firewood than traditional fireplaces. This saves time and money, because gathering wood is time-consuming, and buying it is often expensive. One family in Uganda, for example, saves over a tonne of wood a year, and the time they need for gathering wood and cooking is reduced by an hour a day. Less wood is taken from forests, preventing consequential damage such as erosion and steppe formation. Not only that: each stove saves about one tonne of CO₂ a year, so helps in the fight against climate change. The stoves generate hardly any smoke, and therefore protect the health of women and children in particular. Selling the stoves has become a worthwhile business for local producers, providing income and creating jobs.



Widespread success

The Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) is supporting the commercial dissemination of efficient cooking technologies on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Rocket Stoves are manufactured and used in sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America. In Uganda, for example, more than 200,000 households have chosen to use these stoves in the past two years. Schools and orphanages in Malawi are also relying on the efficient Rocket Stove. About 3000 stoves are used there to cook for several hundred thousand children. What the users appreciate about Rocket Stoves is that they are modern, good value and do not use much wood, and that their kitchens are free of smoke.



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