The Sustainable Development Goals, adopted in 2015 by 193 nations, mark a major step towards addressing poverty, inequality, and climate change over the next 15 years. As the world works towards implementing these goals and addressing climate change, it is particularly important that we invest in scalable solutions at the household level that address root challenges and deliver cross-cutting, economically inclusive impacts.

THE PROBLEM

The use of open fires and solid fuels for cooking is one of the world’s most pressing health and environmental problems, directly impacting close to half the world’s population and causing nearly 4 million premature deaths each year. Women and children are disproportionately affected by this massive global challenge, suffering from toxic smoke, time poverty, and consequences of deteriorating environments.

CLEAN COOKING AS A KEY DRIVER OF SDG SUCCESS

By developing a thriving global market for clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels, we can transform the way the world cooks, saving lives, improving livelihoods, empowering women, and protecting the environment simultaneously. With a continued focus and targeted implementation efforts, clean cooking can directly deliver gains across 10 of the SDGs and contribute to an enabling environment for achieving the entire Agenda 2030, including:

1. **No Poverty**
   - Clean cooking is part of basic services necessary to lead a healthy and productive life and saves households time and money.

2. **Zero Hunger**
   - Efficient cookstoves reduce the amount of fuel needed to cook, thus reducing the burden on families who would otherwise have to collect it, buy it, or trade their food for it.

3. **Good Health and Well-being**
   - Reducing smoke emissions from cooking decreases the burden of disease associated with household air pollution and improves well-being, especially for women and children.

4. **Quality Education**
   - Children, particularly girls, are often kept out of school so that they can contribute to household tasks, like cooking and collecting fuel.

5. **Gender Equality**
   - Unpaid work, including collecting fuel and cooking, remain a major cause of gender inequality.

7. **Affordable and Clean Energy**
   - Clean cooking is essential to addressing energy poverty and ensuring sustainable energy security for billions of people.

8. **Decent Work and Economic Growth**
   - Energy access enables enhanced productivity and inclusive economic growth. The clean cooking sector offers many job opportunities.

11. **Sustainable Cities and Communities**
    - Clean cooking addresses household and ambient air pollution, resource efficiency, and climate vulnerability.

13. **Climate Action**
    - Up to 25% of black carbon emissions come from burning solid fuels for household energy needs. Clean cooking solutions address the most basic needs of the poor, while also delivering climate benefits.

15. **Life on Land**
    - Up to 34% of woodfuel harvested is unsustainable, contributing to forest degradation, deforestation, and climate change.
WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ADVANCE CLEAN COOKING AS PART OF SDG IMPLEMENTATION?

It is imperative that efforts to expand and improve access to clean cooking are comprehensive and expeditious. To tackle energy poverty, reach the Sustainable Development Goals, and advance the aims of the Paris Agreement, it is necessary to scale clean cooking.

The Alliance recommends the following five steps to advance progress:

1. Ensure that your government, organizations, and partners incorporate clean cooking into their SDG planning discussions and implementation.

2. Support the establishment of beneficial tax and tariff rates necessary to grow the market for clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels.

3. Assist in ensuring that financial mechanisms and programming to support energy access, economic development, health, women’s empowerment, climate change mitigation, and environmental protection include provisions to support clean cooking.

4. Promote the measurement and review of SDG indicators related to clean cooking and household energy under Goal 3, Goal 5, and Goal 7 at a global, regional, and national level.

5. Directly support the Alliance and our model as we scale efforts to ensure that 100 million households adopt clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels by 2020 and lay the groundwork for universal adoption.

Implementing these recommendations will yield both short-term and long-term gains across the SDGs and help ensure that sustainable development efforts benefit those that need it most, leaving no one behind.

ABOUT THE ALLIANCE

The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves is a public-private partnership hosted by the United Nations Foundation that seeks to save lives, improve livelihoods, empower women, and protect the environment by creating a thriving global market for clean and efficient household cooking solutions. The Alliance’s 100 by ’20 goal calls for 100 million households to adopt cleaner and more efficient cookstoves and fuels by 2020. The Alliance is working with its public, private and non-profit partners to accelerate the production, deployment, and use of clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels in developing countries.

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