



Sustainability action · Project Climate Change

Cooking stoves save Panda habitat, China

This micro-scale project, which is designed and implemented with WWF, replaces inefficient cooking methods with efficient wood stoves, saving firewood and reducing emissions. This improves people's living conditions and reduces the pressure on the nearby forests, the home of the giant panda. A total of 1,600 efficient cookstoves are installed through this project, thus improving health, income and living conditions of approximately 4,800 people.

Project

Traditionally, the people in this region have cooked with three-stone stoves and rough mud stoves, which are inefficient. Typically households use about 30 tons of firewood per year, in large part because they also cook forage as animal feed and use the stoves

for heating. For this aim, people collect firewood, felling trees and transporting the wood from the mountains which is hard work and very time consuming. With an increasing population, the demand for firewood is growing, driving deforestation to an unsustainable level. In addition, cooking in this way causes indoor air pollution leading to eye and respiratory diseases, which is especially a problem for the elderly, women and children, who typically spend more time in the kitchen than men. According to the Global Alliance for Clean Cook Stoves, 4 million people die annually due to indoor air pollution caused by stove smoke. With the new cooking stoves, the cooking time is reduced and the amount of firewood needed is halved. This significantly lowers the pressure on the nearby forests, saving the habitat of the giant panda and other wildlife.

Checklist	Additionality and permanence	3 rd party verified	Transparency	Annual CO ₂ -reduction	Social and environmental benefits	Marketing material
Project 300 792	According to the rules of the Gold Standard	By the Gold Standard	Provided by the Gold Standard	16,000 tCO ₂ e	As documented in our database	High resolution pictures and HD video available



Location

The community-based project is located in the Mamize Nature Reserve in Sichuan Province, Southern China. The reserve is famous for its abundant biodiversity and has a reputation as a "gene bank" of animal and plant species. In this remote and rural region, mainly people of the indigenous Yi minority live.

Project achievements

Socio-economic impact

- The project is significantly improving living conditions of 1,600 families thanks to an estimated 50% reduction in time spent collecting firewood. In addition, cooking time is reduced.
- There has already been a marked reduction in respiratory and eye diseases in the area since the introduction of the new stoves with their built-in chimneys.
- In addition, the reduced indoor air pollution thanks to the new stoves will result in lower child mortality.

Environmental impact

- Sichuan is one of three provinces in China where the giant panda is found. Thanks to the project, 17,500 tons of wood is not burned as firewood, corresponding to 225 hectares of forests left standing per year. This benefits the giant panda, living in these forests.
- The pressure on the area's forests has been reduced, lowering deforestation and soil erosion rates, improving soil and water conditions.

