

Smokeless Cookstove Foundation is a Non-profit organisation working towards curbing the problem of Household Air Pollution along with related problem areas. Through its training program - the Smokeless Cookstove Revolution, SCF seeks to train the rural, migrant and tribal population with the skill of making a 'virtually zero-cost, efficient & improved mud cookstove' that has a considerably reduced smoke output based on the principles of Rocket Stove Technology.

SCF's training program Smokeless Cookstove Revolution, transfers the technique required in making a virtually zero-cost, improved cookstove that significantly reduces the indoor emission of noxious fumes and use of biofuel input directly to the user community. Based on Rocket Stove Technology, these stove uses far less fuel than traditional chulahs and emits lesser fumes, efficiency is also improved as cooking time is reduced and the family members can use that time for furtherance of their livelihood (Daily wage, education, etc.). The efficiency of this mud based Rocket Stove lies in its design intervention through Rocket Stove Technology that functions through a high temperature burn chamber and its dual pot functionality which saves up to 50% of wood.

The raw materials used include locally available mud or clay, cut dry grass, rice puffs, cow dung and bricks. Special metal moulds with specific dimensions are used to make the building blocks for the chulah – also known as the doughnut. One metal mould can be locally manufactured for under INR 750 and thereafter be used to make several hundred stoves.

While the Mud Rocket Chulha does not compete with other models of the Improved Cook Stoves available in the market, this solution provides immediate adaptability as it is not very different from a traditional chulha and is a 'no-cost' solution giving an immediate relief from smoke and reducing the drudgery related to firewood collection and cooking time.

Currently the team is piloting a concept of 'Clean cooking for Livelihood' as a model under which 4 to 5 community participants (preferably women) are trained as master trainers and are hired to scale up the stove installation within the village households. These women are paid 150% of the per day daily wage rates for 6 hours of work or 100% daily wages for 4 hours of work per day. This model allows women to earn their livelihood towards a crucial problem mitigation by being near their homes and families and working within and for their community.