

## SARALA STOVES . A TOOL FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

### CONTEXT

Emissions from traditional cook stoves pose a health hazard to women and girls who spend 3-4 hours near a traditional wood burning stove in a smoke filled room. The newest health data from WHO<sup>1</sup> estimated that 4.3 million people worldwide die annually because of household air pollution. It is the greatest health risk after high blood pressure, tobacco and alcohol. More people are dying from kitchen smoke inhalation than from malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS combined.

TIDE has continued to persist in dissemination of Sarala stove, an improved locally constructed mud stove at a time when modern thinking is converging on portable factory produced stoves. This is because the Sarala stove with a chimney completely removes smoke from the kitchen and protects women and girls. It offers a non farm livelihood option for women especially in the agriculture off season. The stoves are also affordable without government subsidy as they cost less than Rs 900 including material and labour costs.



The Sarala stove is a two pan wood or biomass burning stove with a single fuel feeding port, a grate, fuel feeding guiding frame and support rods between first pan, second pan and chimney entrance. A cement or GI pipe removes smoke from the kitchen. Recent cooking tests conducted in user locations by TIDE shows that a Sarala stove reduces fuel consumption by 38% or 0.180 kgs of fuel per person meal. The CO<sub>2</sub> emission in the kitchen is in the safe range.

### **Catalyzed and supported under:**

**Core support Programme, SEED Division, Dept, of Science and Technology, GoI**

**Technology Informatics Design Endeavour**

**19, 9<sup>th</sup> Cross, 6<sup>th</sup> Main, Malleswaram, Bangalore 560 003**

**Contact: [info@tide-india.org](mailto:info@tide-india.org); [tide@vsnl.com](mailto:tide@vsnl.com)**

**Phone: 91-80-2331 5656; 91-80-2334 4555 Website: [www.tide-india.org](http://www.tide-india.org)**



## **SARALA STOVE CONSTRUCTION: A NON FARM LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITY FOR WOMEN**

Use of moulds for stove construction significantly reduces the masonry skills required in stove construction. This also opens opportunities for women in stove construction. TIDE realized this opportunity, conceived and implemented a stove construction activity exclusively by women.

### **THE TRAINING PROGRAMME:**

This 5 day programme is a combination of lectures, quizzes, interaction with senior women stove builders and practical training. There is extensive use of audio visual media. Curriculum involves effective communication, confidence building, cooking, fuels, stove construction, operation, trouble shooting and maintenance. Each woman constructs 5 stoves in user location during training and is given one stove mould and a pictorial manual.

### **WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT**

Women trained by TIDE have built more than 20,000 stoves up till 2014 earning income of more than Rs 2 lakhs. Women stove builders from Karnataka have traveled to Uttarakhand, UP and Orissa to train other women. Ms. Lalita Bai, stove builder was awarded the %Woman Exemplar Award+by the Confederation of Indian Industry. Another stove builder Ms. Katyayini spoke about her enterprise at the inaugural event of the Innovation Centre in Central University of Karnataka at Gulbarga.

The women stove builders have become role models in their community thus stimulating women's aspirations and social transformation.



#### **Catalyzed and supported under:**

**Core support Programme, SEED Division, Dept, of Science and Technology, GoI**

**Technology Informatics Design Endeavour**

**19, 9<sup>th</sup> Cross, 6<sup>th</sup> Main, Malleswaram, Bangalore 560 003**

**Contact: [info@tide-india.org](mailto:info@tide-india.org); [tide@vsnl.com](mailto:tide@vsnl.com)**

**Phone: 91-80-2331 5656; 91-80-2334 4555 Website: [www.tide-india.org](http://www.tide-india.org)**

<sup>i</sup> [http://www.who.int/indoorair/health\\_impacts/burden\\_global/en/](http://www.who.int/indoorair/health_impacts/burden_global/en/)