

Shining, Growing, Going Places.....and enlightening Kenyan leaders, SCI (EA) is on the move: Nyakach is a success, Sunny Solutions now include a Portable Microbiology Laboratory (PML) and Safe Water Package (SWP) launched in June 2008. Meanwhile, Kenyan leaders encounter "Sunny Solutions" even as we expand the benefits to Nyanza, Western and Eastern provinces. Read about all these and more in this issue of SuNews.



**IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Positive Outcome - Nyakach Evaluation.
- Launching the Safe Water Projects in Kenya.
- SCI - Spreads Beyond Nyakach.
- Wake up call to Kenyan leaders.
- Solar cooking at the Maasai Mara.
- And more.....

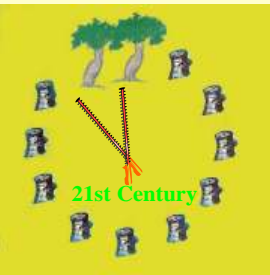


## SUNNY SOLUTIONS FOR REAL.

This is how Nyakach stakeholders described SCI's project, as they reeled out a list of benefits indicating the impacts they had experienced because of using the sun to cook food and to pasteurize drinking water. The list was further validated by an independent review in July 2008. In the five years, the project impacted the lives of over 113,616 people in Nyakach, where 3,154 CookKits were bought and used, other highlights include:

- Vegetables, meats, fish and other accompaniment to Ugali the staple food are popular with the solar CookKit. Baking and water pasteurization are also common practice.
- Reduced pressure on women and children especially the girl – child from constant firewood gathering.
- Increased self esteem amongst households using solar, men now cook and serve themselves solar foods.
- Increased productivity in farms, businesses, schools etc because of time saved.
- 46.7% savings on fuel budgets.
- Direct and indirect employment opportunities.
- Reduced cases of ailments related to water and smoke.
- Reduced pressure on environment because of less charcoal and firewood required.
- Enhanced community knowledge and skills on potentials of renewable energy.
- Capacity building amongst the sales agents - SCOREPS.
- OYWA CookKit is an innovation that identifies itself with Nyakach people.

The proposed expansion as been dubbed:  
ROLLING OUT SUNNY SOLUTIONS



Time is running out!

**UP-COMING EVENTS**

- Energy Conference  
7 - 9th Oct. 08
- SWAP Training - Nov.08
- AWA Exhibition Sarit Center Nov. 8-9.
- 3rd Conference on Appropriate Technology, 12 - 15 Nov 2008, Kigali Rwanda
- Beyond Firewood Conference  
12 -13 Dec.08. New Delhi



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# The Portable Microbiology Laboratory:

A major breakthrough for water testing in developing countries.

Do you know there is a simple and effective water testing kit available that can be used by local populations in developing countries to conduct disease risk assessments of their own water resources?

Developed by Solar Cookers International (SCI) for easy use in the field, the Portable Microbiology Laboratory (PML) is a gallon sized kit that includes enough materials to conduct 25 tests. Each PML contains the best tests for E. coli in water and food – Colilert by IDEXX and Petrifilm by 3m – along with Whirl –Park collection bags, sterile plastic pipettes and a battery – operated UV light for Colilert.

The two tests are specific for E. coli, because they contain a substrate for the beta-glucuronidase enzyme which

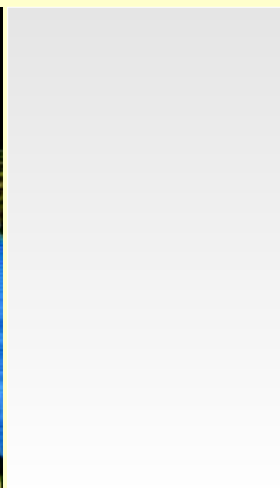
is produced by E. coli, but not by environmental coliforms. Ready within 12-18 hours, the test results provide a disease risk assessment of water sources as outlined by the World Health Organization's Guidelines for drinking Water Quality (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)

The success of the PML has been demonstrated as SCI – sponsored workshops conducted in Tanzania and Kenya, where local people were taught to perform tests on their water sources, incubate the water overnight, and interpret the test the next day. The two day workshops help demystify microbiology by explaining how invisible bacteria can multiply rapidly to become millions and billions of cells, as the Colilert and Petrifilm tests show.

Because most of the worlds 1.1 billion people who lack access to safe water

are among the 2.4 billion who engage in the unsustainable practice of cooking. SCI also promotes the CookKit as part of an integrated solution to the economic, health and environmental problems associated with wood fuel consumption.

Supported by the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund, SCI recently launched a safe water Project in Kenya . This project provides training and materials for the Water Resources Management Authority of The Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation. The purpose of the project is to develop a model that uses simple and effective technologies for making world class water testing widely available throughout the developing world, ultimately leading to a decrease in water related disease and illness.



African Women Water Conference.

40 women from several African countries were trained in the use of PML during the African Women Water Conference held in Nairobi June 30th - July 5th 2008. The women came from Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Ghana, Nigeria, Somalia and South Africa. Prof. Wangari Maathai the Nobel Peace Laureate joined participants and she got a first introduction to the CookKit and the PML from a fellow professor Prof. Robert Metcalf. Each pair of women got a PML and a Cookkit set.

By September reports of PML use came back. Elizabeth Akinyi of GWAKO writes:

- *Women wondered that water can be clean/clean yet contaminated ! Nyarawila Kiosk.*
- *It is easy and we can see for ourselves without taking a sample to the laboratory. Gem.*
- *The Head teacher is happy that the water source is safe: Nyakakana school.*
- *Confirmation of the water quality has led to behavior change. AIC Kadibo.*

25 tests fit in a gallon sized ziplock





# Picture Galore.



Launching the SWP - Kisumu



Sunny Solutions Honoured  
Energy Globe Award.



Consolata Catholic Church - Embu



Learning at the Nairobi International  
Trade Fair 2008.



Dr. David Okello  
WHO Representative - Kenya



Serving the vulnerable in Nyakach

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2009.  
To all our readers, donors, partners and colleagues**



Bling... Bling. ! What Is This? Kenya Leaders Encounter SCI.



THE PRIME MINISTER  
Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga.



THE VICE PRESIDENT  
Hon. Kalonzo Musyoka

THE VICE PRESIDENT



Hon. William Ruto.  
Min. for Agriculture



Hon. Samuel Phogiso.  
Min. for Communication



Prof. Wangari Maathai,  
Nobel Laureate.



Grid



Hon. Alfred Sambu.



Hon. Kiraitu,  
Min. for Energy.



# Eastern Africa News...



## Capacity Building: Burundi and Darfur

SCI (EARO) recently conducted a training of trainers for two refugee trainers from ..... Darfur. These two men were incredible, first that they were Sudanese men cooking and learning so that they could teach others. Next because they were fasting since they are Moslems and it is the holy month of Ramathan , yet they worked so hard.

wait till the evening to taste what they had cooked. More than ever, they are living proof that using clean energy to cook is appealing to all and is one step towards fighting negative cultural cultures about men cooking!

trained. Finding "winter" in Nairobi, EARO decided to follow the sun – to Kisumu and a successful training of trainers was held in Tom – Mboya Labour college for the two.

In the three sunny days, they had learnt how to solar cook over 20 dishes using the sun and the retained heat cooker. They also made their own CookKits and fireless cookers, despite the hunger pangs. The discipline the displayed was awesome as they had to

The urge to train trainers was unstoppable, not even the absence of the sun in Nairobi in June. Della Rockhill was convinced that people in Burundi needed to know and she therefore sponsored two ladies to travel from Bujumbura, to be

Anastasié and Loise were happy as they were able to solar cook, make their CookKits and even had a bonus of being introduced to the PML. Later in Nairobi, they made the fireless cookers a technology that complements others especially when there is no sun.

## Beyond Kenya.....

*SCI's International Programs Development Director Ms Karyn Ellis was on a mission to expand SCI's programs beyond Kenya into Uganda and Tanzania. She visited Solar Connect in Uganda and encouraged them to embrace integrated cooking even as they continue to promote solar cooking.*

*Next she visited and had discussions with Tanzolar, an organization that is planning to install solar lighting to hundreds of homes in Musoma, Tanzania.*

*Armed with Solar CookKits (Light weight and Portable), she traversed the two countries. Teaching and demonstrating with ease - water sampling, testing and integrated cooking.*

*She also visited SCI EARO and participated in the SWP launch as well as gaining valuable friends for EARO.*

*SCI EARO is happy with these new developments and will render support in all ways.*

*Positive beginnings.*

*.....Thanks to you Karyn !*



*Olivia of Solar Connect - Uganda*



*Solar Cooking in Musoma - Tanzania*



# SOLAR COOKING IN MASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE.....

What a cute idea! This was the first thought that came to my mind as I read Chirstopher's first email. Masai Mara is famous, because of the annual wildebeast migration, and solar cooking may be the next issue to increase its attraction! What makes this idea so exciting is that it depicts all the benefits of solar cooking. Christopher had this to say "I am the proud owner of an SCI CookKit that I purchased in the US prior to arrival in Kenya in May. We live in Narok but work throughout the Mara River Basin ( all the way from Mau forest to the point Mara flows into Lake Victoria in Tanzania) We are doing research on the Mara River and we cook almost everyday with our solar cooker. The other day as we camped at the New Mara Bridge, we cooked lunch and shared it with all the rangers at the gate. They were impressed and interested."



Christopher and his wife ...are enjoying the benefits of cooking while at work, it is portable and is easy to set up. They are also spreading the good news about solar cooking almost effortlessly in addition to conserving the environment that is so vital to the posterity of the Mara. Please join them.



## Kitui – Kenya.

Sunshine Coast – Schelt Rotary Club,  
District 5040 # 53343 – Sponsors Solar  
Cooking Training in Ndandini.

"This is incredible.....people must know about this, word and skill should be out there, the sun is free and clean, the technology is available." Four visiting Rotarians from Sunshine Coast – Schelt, Canada could not help but exclaim as they sampled solar dishes right outside SCI EARO office on 23rd September 2008. On the spot they made a decision to assist a group of women in Ndandini village in Kitui affiliated to the Alliance Charity Foundation, managed by John and Emily Mwendwa.

We urge all members of the club to support this initiative and move forward as a TEAM.

TEAM: Together Each Achieves More!



Mulembe F.M.

Mulembe F.M. recently enhanced Solar cooker promotions in Western Province through continuous announcements.

This partnership pulled in large crowds.



Orio Mno ! MELEMBE FM JUU!

## Solar Cooker Representatives (SCOREPS)

This is a familiar acronym in any area SCI (EARO) has had an office. Solar Cooker Representatives are groups of dedicated women (mostly), who after embracing the new way of cooking received further training to boost their capacity to teach about and sell solar cookers on commission. Many a times they spot branded yellow or grey t- shirts, aprons or umbrellas, moving to markets, schools, public gatherings, planned events and homes, they demonstrate and teach about solar cooking. They managed to sell about 4,000 CookKits within and out of Nyakach. They are a formidable team, composing songs that laud the technology even as their families eat solar cooked foods and drink solar pasteurized water. This is a concept that needs to be refined and replicated any where that one plans a technology transfer project.

*HONGERA KWA SCOREPS WOTE!!!!*





# Hybrid Solar Oven

This unique solar oven cooks no matter what the weather. In sunshine, its rugged one piece reflector panel combines with a double-paned window, double rubber seals and included booster panels to cook at temperatures up to 300°. Or just plug it into a 120V outlet to cook using 75% less power than a conventional oven. In changeable conditions, sensor controls can even be

set to cycle between solar and electric heat as needed. An ideal solution for power-challenged RVs and hot summer kitchens, its tough clamshell suitcase design offers easy carrying, instant set-up, and compact storage. Includes four cooking pans, oven mitt, oven thermometer, 6' power cord, and instructional CD. 21 1/4"H x 21 1/4"W x 7 9/10"D.



Wind screen solar cookers on sticks or on a bucket.

They Cook !



## Your Opinion Matters....

As we grow, we would like to be as informative as possible even as we relate recent entertaining events, we would also wish to be in tandem with current issues, and emerging technologies. In a bid to do this we would like to publish what you our reader feel is interesting, informative and enlightening.

Please take a few minutes to respond to the issues below.

1. What do you like most about SuNews ?
2. What kind of information do you find useful?
3. What would you like changed or modified?  
Please give specific suggestions.
4. What would you like included?

To: [sci@iconnect.co.ke](mailto:sci@iconnect.co.ke)

## RECIPES.

### VEGETABLES SOUP.

Any vegetable of your choice.

- Carrots.
- Potatoes
- Cucumber
- Cougeltes.

Wash and Peel.

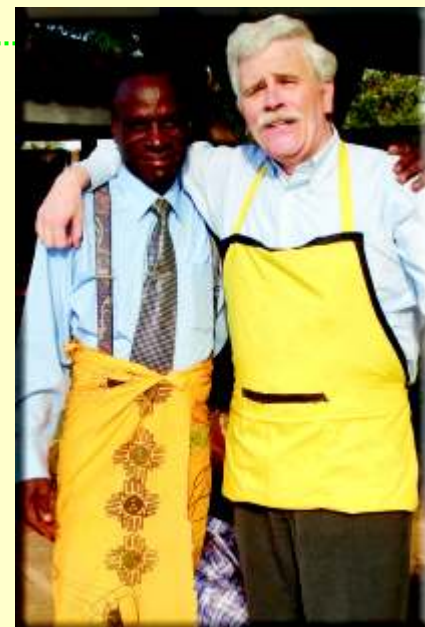
- Cut/Chop your Vegetables
- Add Chopped onions, Tomatoes
- Dhania and mix thoroughly.
- Add a little salt, Royco, oil and mix.

Cover and Solar cook for 1hour.

ENJOY!



Jumuiya Guest house (KSM) cooks taste Solar Cake



Solar Cooks !



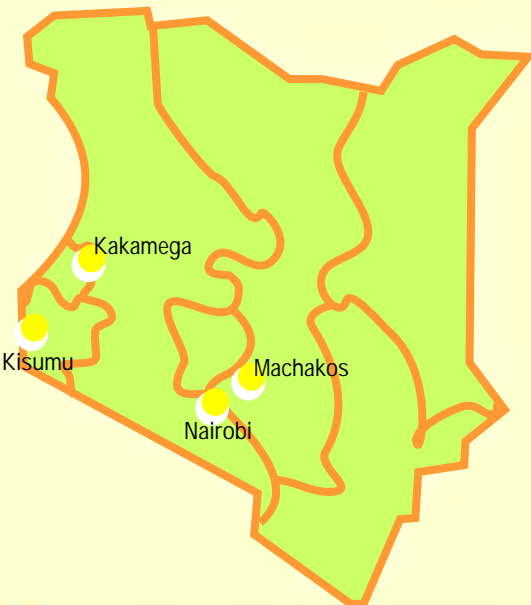
## MOVING AHEAD TOGETHER.



EARO staff

SCI EA recently held a two day staff retreat in which they reviewed the past performance of the regional programs. Present during this occasion was SCI's Executive Director, Mr. Patrick Widner. In short, it was a positive review and past lessons were highlighted and used to inform future planning. The proposed scale up of programs was adopted. i.e. Rolling out Sunny Solutions.

### EARO OFFICES IN KENYA.



A humble humorous man. Having graduated with a bachelors degree in Education to teach Maths and Geography in high school without hesitation he took on the task of teaching and spreading solar cooking skill in southern zone, Nyakach. Working as a supervisor of Sunny Solutions, he helped to sell 546 Cookits and touched many lives positively.

As he moves on to take up a teaching post at Lwala Kadawa Secondary School , we wish him the very best knowing that we have an ambassador in Kisumu Town West !

### WORK WELL DONE



Robert Onyando Ogaja



THE PROBLEM



THE SOLUTION

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