

# Demonstration and Comparison of Models to Promote Clean Biomass Cook Stoves

2015

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Schoolchildren look on as their classroom's new clean cook stove is installed – 2015 GEI

***In rural China, a cook stove is more than a cooking device.*** Fueled day and night by coal or wood, cook stoves give energy and heat to homes and schools; they also bring indoor pollution and environmental degradation. While replacing the cook stove is necessary, GEI realized NGO relief must aid sustainable, long-term development.

**Working in Yu and Ruicheng city, GEI officers compared two models for NGOs relief efforts, the traditional donation model and the market mechanism model.** We assessed each model's ability to improve villager livelihood and climate in the short and long term.

In April 2015, we shared our findings at a forum attended by several funders and government institutions, such as United Nations Development Programme, Asian Development Bank, Ministry of Agriculture and China Stove Alliance. In 2016 we hope to build market mechanism capacity in China and create a strong corporate-NGO-funder network.

## TRADITIONAL DONATION MODEL:

GEI received funding from the **GlobalGivingFund** and worked with an American company, **Cummins Inc. China Emission Solution (CES)** department to mobilize the most suitable clean stoves for the entire Yu County and its nine schools. Cummins CEO Ms Amy Adams and other Cummins VIPs even travelled to our project site.

**Impact: 200 clean cook stoves (150 to families, 50 to schools) eliminated over 840.5 tons of carbon emissions per year within Yu County;** health was improved and a model of cooperation between an American company and Chinese NGO was demonstrated.

**Conclusion:** GEI officers learned that while the renewable stoves are effective and affordable, they were overlooked because locals were more familiar with the coal or wood burning stoves. On the short term, this method provided benefits but for long-term impact, **it will be necessary to increase awareness of clean stoves' benefits.**

## GEI MARKET MECHANISM MODEL:

GEI was supported by **Global Environmental Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP)** to train the local cook stove retailers to promote and educate villagers on the benefits of clean stoves.

**Impact:** The training was vertical, extending from wholesalers to small shop owners to interested individuals, as well as horizontal, stretching across all 10 counties in Ruicheng city. This model also incorporated market simulation: for each stove sold, the retailer received 10 yuan commission and the buyer received a 10 yuan subsidy annually for 5 years

**Conclusion:** GEI officers found that, together, the training and market stimulation increased the local's willingness to use the clean cook stoves and their capacity to manage their health and environment. Specific benefits to the environment and economic growth will have to be tested continuously over several years.

