

SOLAR COOKING RESOURCES FOR HAITI

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FACTS ABOUT SOLAR COOKING

- Solar cooking technology has proven its utility and its cultural acceptance worldwide. The fuel is free.
- It is already in use by millions in China, India, Mexico, Africa, Latin America, the United States – it is viable wherever there is abundant sunshine.
- It can also pasteurize water, which occurs at 160F, quite quickly in the Haitian climate. The simplest cooker can easily handle 8 liters a day. It can also sterilize surgical instruments.
- With fuel-efficient stoves and retained heat devices, solar cookers comprise an [Integrated Cooking System](#) at once complete, inexpensive and independent of public utilities.

THE TECHNOLOGY

- Solar cookers come in various sizes and designs. They can all cook food and [pasteurize water](#).
- The total number of the various solar cooker models now available for immediate delivery to Haiti could provide between 15,000 and 20,000 meals per day. Unit costs range from \$40 to \$190 for household models, with an institutional solar oven at \$10,500. Production of most models can ramp up quickly with demand.
- It is possible to teach people how to make their own emergency solar cookers cheaply and easily using recycled

cardboard, reflective products and window glass or transparent plastics.

IN-COUNTRY RESOURCES

- Organizations promoting solar cooking have been active in Haiti for several years and had developed in-country resources including a box cooker assembly plant near Cap Haitien which is intact.
- Three Haitians skilled and experienced at organizing training and introduction of solar cooking were active prior to the quakes. Their status since is yet unknown.
- Three leading experts on solar cooking, two Americans and one Canadian, have volunteered to travel to Haiti to establish solar cooking programs for relief organizations.

REALITIES

- Successful introduction of solar cooking requires training and intensive follow-up until users gain confidence. Distribution of this technology without proper training will probably fail. We can train instructors in the U. S. and on site.
- Conventional use of charcoal for cooking in Haiti is morbid, destructive of the environment, and unsustainable.
- **This is the time to introduce Integrated Cooking in Haiti to scale.**

(For additional information on solar cooking Haiti, please see <http://solarcooking.wikia.com/Haiti> and/or contact Darwin Curtis, dar@she-inc.org