Pilot Stove project overview
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In November 2014 NHLSCP identified three families from the community of Nueva Vida that showed interest in changing their wood consumption habits. These families were selected by three factors:
1- They presented various types of family organization.
2- Are stable and responsible in their commitments and families.
3- Have a history of community involvement with NHLSCP.

The women were responsible for making the commitment to acquire new stoves, and being interested in changing their style of cooking.

The first family chosen is that of María Eugenia Muñoz. In the home live eight people, including five adults and three children, and consists of four families. This home was also chosen because the families cook food three times a day, and the wood is one of the biggest expenses costing up to 360 cordobas ($11) monthly. It’s also clear that changing stoves will improve health by cutting down on indoor air pollution.

The second family is of Darlin Perez with three people, two adults and a child. This family was chosen as it has the features of a basic family where the roles are clear, it has relative economic stability, and they cook three times per day. Although adults have not completed primary level of school they have served as a stable family who want to improve their health.

The third family is that of Mrs. Nubia Quiroz. In the house live three people, two of them young and one adult. This family produces products (candies, etc) for sale, which is done in traditional stoves and involves consuming large quantities of wood up to a value of 600 per month Cordobas ($25) and the preparation of these products involves cooking in the range up to nine hours a day. Youth in the family are still studying in secondary school. They get their income solely from selling products in Goyena/Nueva Vida.

After we selected the families we took them to see the different types of stoves that are offered in the city of León by artisanal company MiFOGON. On this visit they showed different models of stoves that the company makes, materials, use, and characteristics of each stove. The mothers chose according to their needs and expectations of use and chose the model with a 2 burner stove and iron plate for tortillas, etc, with a cost of $ 123 each. For ease of use, better heating time, and processing of up to three food at the same time, this model has two fireplaces.

After the selection, NHLSCP proceeded to pay half the value in advance and stoves were delivered seven business days later. The delivery included installation and a booklet of use, maintenance and recommendations. The stoves were delivered on December 16, 2014 and the beneficiaries had everything ready for the new stoves including the commitment to destroy the old stove stones they had in their homes.

The new stoves were located in protected places out of the sun and rain and on small wooden boards and level ground. The families were enthusiastic to be able to stop cooking with large amounts of smoke in their homes and hoping to save on firewood consumption. They were given one month to adapt and then to start measuring the consumption of firewood and in the month of February NHLSCP will begin collecting payment from families for $65 and also find promoters for monitoring/outreach for the stove project.

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