



© StoveTeam International

Utsil Naj - “A healthy home for all”

Utsil Naj in Guatemala uses clean cooking technology to help families enjoy their traditional food in a healthy and sustainable way.

Central America is one of the regions in the world most affected by **climate change**. In particular, Guatemala is located in the “Dry Corridor”, where **extreme weather** events have been intensifying with the climate crisis, thus threatening the livelihood and well-being of the communities who live there, mostly **farming communities** who depend on their crops as a source of income and food. A significant proportion of these rural communities still cook on **open stoves** with biomass.

As a result, families have to cut more trees, use more firewood and produce **more smoke** every time they need to cook. This actually has a **huge impact** on the environment and their health.

The Utsil Naj project in Guatemala aims at addressing these challenges in an innovative way. Switching to **improved cookstoves** (ICS) reduces the use of firewood and **lowers carbon emissions**, all while expelling the toxic fumes outside the users’ homes. This dramatically **decreases** household air pollution (HAP), a leading cause of many heart and lung diseases in rural communities. Now, these families can **enjoy** their traditional cuisine in a **sustainable** and healthy way.

Guatemala, Central America



- 🌀 Making an Impact since: **2012**
- 🌀 Technology: **Improved Cookstoves**
- 🌀 Community members benefited to date: **19,212**
- 🌀 Emissions avoided since the beginning of the programme: **30,313 tCO₂e**.
- 🌀 Trees saved to date: **1,144,028***

*Assuming firewood used comes from eucalyptus and leucaenas plantations 3x3 meters apart



19,212

Number of community members benefited



Lower household air pollution



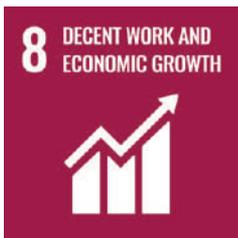
89%

of beneficiaries participated to capacity-building activities about the use and the benefits of the ICS



3,250

Number of improved cookstoves installed



Inclusive economy and new job opportunities



30,313

Tonnes of greenhouse gases avoided



55,953

Tonnes of firewood saved a year

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



This project is certified by the prestigious **Gold Standard**. The positive impacts on our communities and our planet are carefully measured and reported as contributions to achieving the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** defined by the United Nations (UN). The indicators shown above are taken from the last verification of the project, from the period 2012-2014.

Impacts and project benefits

In addition to the **environmental impacts** generated by the project, Utsil Naj has a profound **social and economic impact** on the most vulnerable communities, lowering the risk of respiratory conditions, boosting local employment and preventing deforestation.

Particularly in Guatemala, where an average of **24kg of firewood** is used per household per day, the project's participation in preventing forest degradation has been considerable. This is due in large part to the type of ICS used: the models installed have a well-insulated combustion chamber making it much **more efficient**. As a result, the women and children in charge of collecting wood save on average more than **8 hours** a month, which they can dedicate to studies, training or other personal projects that can allow them to have a second source of income and **improve** their living conditions. Also, successful campaigns to raise awareness and capacity-building activities help encourage more community members to adopt this technology. This is why it is important to ensure Utsil Naj **remains active**, to make sure the switch to ICS is sustained.

Revenues from the carbon credits sales are entirely **reinvested** in our projects. Microsol commits **100%** of these sales to maintain their **sustainability over time**. This includes monitoring, maintenance, and eventually the inclusion of **new families** into the programme so more can **enjoy the benefits** of this solution.

The appropriate solution for lasting impact



The switch to ICS is easy because families like the decorated platforms on the side of the stove that makes it easier to prepare tortillas and gives them access to their cooking utensils.



Working with communities to fight climate change.

Dai-li Chang
Partnerships & Fundraising

(0033) 06 25 14 37 81 | dchang@microsol-int.com

www.microsol-int.com | /company/microsol/ | /MICROSOLint/ | @MicrosolPeru