



BASELINE SURVEY REPORT FOR CREATION OF PUBLIC AWARENESS FOR MODERN COOKING TECHNOLOGIES IN AND AROUND KAMPALA DISTRICT

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Table of Contents	1
1 & INTRODUCTION	+ 5
1.1 Objective of the Survey	5
1.2 Scope of the Survey	5
2.0 SUDVEV EINDINGS	,
2.1 Dame grow bigs	0
2.1 Demographics	
2.1.1 Gender	
2.1.2 Age and Gender Distribution	7
2.1.3 Education Levels and House Types	7
2.1.4 Education Levels and Occupations	
2.1.5 Income and Education Levels	
2.1.6 Decision Making and Education Levels	9
2.1.7 Cooking Responsibilities and Decision Making	
2.1.8 Cooking Frequency and Cooking Responsibilities	
2.1.9 Cooking Frequency and Age Groups	
2.3.0 Awareness on E-cooking	
2.3.1 Information Sources	
2.3.2 Knowledge about e-cooking technologies	
2.4.0 Attitudes about Clean Cooking Technologies	
2.5.0 Fuels Used	
2.5.1 Spending on Fuels	
2.5.2 Incomes and Spending on Fuels	
2.5.3 Ranking of Fuels	
2.6.0 Willingness to buy E-cooking Technologies	
2.7.0 Preferred Payment and Supply Channels	





2.8.0 Benefits and Barriers to E-cooking	
2.8.1 Benefits of E-cooking	
2.8.2 Barriers to E-Cooking	
2.9.0 Sentiments on E-cooking	
3.0 CONCLUSIVE RECOMMENDATIONS	
3.1 Satisfaction and Excitement about Clean Cooking Technologies	
3.2 Fuels	
3.3 Payment Methods and Supply Channels	
3.4 Awareness about E-cooking Technologies and Fuels	
3.5 Barriers to E-cooking	





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A lot of information on e-cooking is spread by friends and organizations (34% and 30% respectively) leaving media channels (TVs and Radios) with 26% and 10% respectively, thus calling for more investments into media platforms to ensure that information about e-cooking is regulated and improve information quality due to minimized information bias.

Awareness about e-cooking technologies is at 60% but average utilization is only by 9% of the households due to the perceptions that e-cooking is more expensive than the use of basic charcoal stoves. These are in use by 31% of the households because 62% of them prefer charcoal as their fuel type for cooking.

The EPC is the mostly wanted cooking technology and 48% of the participants are willing to purchase it next time. Most of the households (77.5%) are willing to buy these EPCs from qualified distributors due to quality concerns. Also, there is need for provision of financing solutions for the EPC as most of the households willing to purchase this technology prefer obtaining it through installment payment arrangement (43%). Majority of them (46%) are willing to purchase this technology at a price range of 50,000-100,000 Shs.

Much as there is a lot if willingness to buy the EPC, 15% of the respondents are not aware that this technology saves time and money while 41.5% of them are not sure about the same. This is because there is limited awareness that electricity is cheap for cooking purposes in which 72% of the households are not sure that electricity is a cheaper alternative while 7.5% are totally unaware about this.

The prospects about e-cooking were high among the respondents with some proportions of them acknowledging that it cooks faster (24.8%), efficient (24.2%) and saves our environment (24.2%). These are however negated by challenges that e-cooking is expensive and the appliances are unaffordable. Nonetheless, the overall sentiment about e-cooking is a positive one (0.41) due to positive suggestions, anticipation, satisfaction and excitement amongst the participants.





1.0 INTRODUCTION

According to the "Tracking Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7: The Energy Progress" Report, over 2.8 billion people around the globe do not have access to clean cooking fuels and technologies as of 2020. This retards the world's progress towards access to affordable and clean energy. The urgency of the matter can further be emphasized by the 4 million deaths every year since 2014, caused by household air pollution due to cooking with traditional stoves and fuels. In developing economies like Uganda, these issues are a great impediment to social and economic development.

Addressing this crisis calls for relentless advocacy and creation of awareness about the availability of affordable clean cooking technologies and fuels. In such a direction, the Uganda National Alliance on Clean Cooking (UNACC) proposes an intervention to create awareness and address wrong perceptions about e-cooking and other modern technologies, including supply chain-related factors that impede its adaptation. Specifically, the aim is to create more awareness and tackle wrong perceptions through enabling a communication strategy that seeks to inform, educate and serve the target population. To address the supply chain-related factors, the project will support marketing of e-cooking devices.

1.1 Objective of the Survey

This report aims to provide results of the status quo of the target population for the intervention, regarding their perceptions on the use of modern cooking technologies and fuels. The findings of this baseline survey are the reference point for tracking progress of the project's implementation quality for purposes of change measurement. Specifically, the survey was aimed at exploring the parameters of the target population in line with the following objectives:

1. To evaluate the level of knowledge, attitude and perception regarding clean cooking technologies and their benefits.

2. To find out why there is low uptake and adoption of electric pressure cookers to the people living in and around Kampala.

3. To gather information that will be useful in creating awareness of modern cooking technologies to the people in and around Kampala region.

1.2 Scope of the Survey

The survey was carried out in the Districts of Kampala, Wakiso and Mukono, all from which a total of 200 respondents participated in the survey. The distribution of theses respondents is shown below.







Figure 1: Distribution of survey participants per district

Among the survey participants, majority were residents within Kampala district with a proportion of 66.7%. As seen in figure 1 above, Wakiso district followed with 28.7% of the total participants while Mukono district contributed 4.6% of the total respondents.

2.0 SURVEY FINDINGS

2.1 Demographics

2.1.1 Gender

Among the respondents of the survey, women contributed the larger proportion with 72% than men who contributed 28% as shown in figure 2 below.



Figure 2: Gender proportions





2.1.2 Age and Gender Distribution

The participants had ages ranging from 20 years to over 50 years as seen in figure 3. The age group of 20-29 formed the majority of the participants with 41%, followed by that ranging from 30 to 39 years at 35%. The least age group was that of people above 50 years at 6% followed by those from 40 to 50 years (18%). Across all age groups, females were the dominant gender.



Gender and Age Distribution

Figure 3: Age and Gender distribution

2.1.3 Education Levels and House Types

Among the participants, majority were tenants across all education levels as seen in figure 4. This house type contributed 24.9% for those who reached university and 25% for those who stopped in Primary/Secondary education. Participants living Bungalows came next, contributing 12.2% among university participants and 7.6% for those who Primary/Secondary school participants.









Figure 4: Education levels and House types

2.1.4 Education Levels and Occupations

Participants who stopped at primary/secondary education are largely traders contributing to 22% as seen in figure 5. However, those who went up to university largely have other occupation ventures (20.5%). Nevertheless, a big proportion of these university participants are Salary/Wage earners at 19.5% of the total survey participants.





Figure 5: Education levels and occupations

2.1.5 Income and Education Levels

As seen in figure 6, the largest proportion of highest income earners (above 2,000,000 Shs) are those that went up to university (16.84%) followed by their same education-level group of





700,000-1,000,000 at 11.73%, and 1,000,000-1,500,000 at 10.71%. Primary/Secondary educationlevel participants also have a considerable proportion that earns above 2,000,000 at 11.2%, but this is followed by those earning between 500,000-700,000 at 8.16%.



Income vs Education levels

2.00/0 4.00/0 0.00/0 0.00/0 10.00/0 12.00/0 14.00/0 10.00/0 18

Figure 6: Income and Education levels

2.1.6 Decision Making and Education Levels

Sole decision makers at university level made 25.5% of the total respondent group, followed by those at Primary/Secondary school level (16.5%) as seen in figure 7. On the other hand, the democratic group at university level formed 22.5% followed by the 18% of the primary/secondary education level.





Figure 7: Decision making and education levels





2.1.7 Cooking Responsibilities and Decision Making

Majority of the household cooking responsibilities rest on the mother (54%), of which 28.6% are headed by sole decision makers while 25.4% share decision making with other household members. This can be seen in figure 8. The rest of the groups are dominated by Decision sharing, except where fathers are responsible for the cooking. Hence, households where either parent is responsible for cooking are dictatory in their decision-making process.



Decision making and Cooking Responsibility

Figure 8: Cooking responsibilities and Decision making

2.1.8 Cooking Frequency and Cooking Responsibilities

Households in which the House helper, Children or everyone is responsible for cooking have higher proportions preparing three meals a day than those of two meals (see figure 9). For households where the mother is responsible for cooking, the proportion of those preparing meals twice a day are much higher than those preparing three meals (33.1% and 17.4% respectively).



Cooking Frequency and Responsibility

Figure 9: Cooking frequency and responsibilities





2.1.9 Cooking Frequency and Age Groups

Most age groups have higher proportions of those that prepare two meals a day (20-29, 40-50 and 50+ at 25.89%, 10.66% and 4.57% respectively). However, respondents ranging between 30-39 have a higher percentage preparing three meals (17.26%) than two meals (15.23%). This can be seen in figure 10 below.



Cooking Frequency vs Age Groups

Figure 10: Cooking frequency among different age groups

2.3.0 Awareness on E-cooking

2.3.1 Information Sources

Friends play a significant role in spreading the gospel about clean cooking technologies, contributing to 34% of the information sources as seen in figure 11. These are followed by organizations that promote the use of clean cooking technologies (30%). Among media platforms, Televisions also play a significant awareness role which is evident by the 26% of the respondents who claim these are their information sources about clean cooking technologies.





Information Sources



Figure 11: Information sources

2.3.2 Knowledge about e-cooking technologies

The survey revealed that a sufficient portion of both men and women do not know about clean cooking technologies and therefore need to be made aware about the same (figure 12). Evident to this, 32.8% and 7.1% for women and men have no knowledge about these technologies respectively.





Figure 12: Knowledge about cooking technologies





From the survey, it was revealed that the higher the age group, the more awareness about clean cooking technologies is needed. This is because the gap between those who are aware and those unaware about these technologies keeps getting smaller with increase in age as seen in figure 13. Above 50 years, those unaware about clean cooking technologies are more than the ones aware (4.52% and 1.51% respectively).



Awareness about Cooking Technologies by Age

Figure 13: Awareness about technologies by age group

Information and awareness gaps about clean cooking technologies exist especially within households that cook twice (25%) and thrice a day (10.7%) as seen in figure 14.



Awareness about technologies and Cooking frequency

Figure 14: Awareness with cooking frequency





There is a lot of uncertainty about the cost-cutting benefits of electricity as seen in figure 15. For instance, 46.19% of the households are not sure whether cooking with electricity is affordably cheap despite having to cook two meals every day. Additionally, 20.3% of households are also uncertain about electricity's cheapness yet they prepare three meals a day. The same uncertainty exists between those that prepare one meal a day consuming about 5.08% of the total survey group.



Awareness that Electricity is Cheap and Cooking Frequency

Figure 15: Awareness that electricity is cheap with cooking frequency

The EPC is also a technology that saves time and money but needs to be promoted. For instance, 28.7% of the households said they were unsure whether the EPC saves time and money despite cooking twice a day (see figure 16). The same group of households has 8.2% of the total number that are totally unaware that the technology saves money and time. Comparative uncertainty and unawareness exist among those that prepare three meals a day. This is because 9.2% and 5.6% are respectively uncertain and unaware about EPC's money and time-saving abilities yet they fall under this cooking category.







Awareness that EPC saves time and money with Cooking Frequency

Figure 16: Awareness that EPC saves time and money with cooking frequency

The survey also revealed a lot of uncertainty among respondents about electricity as a cheaper option for use in cooking. As seen in figure 17, this is due to the 72% of the respondents who were unsure about electricity's affordability in cooking. More concerns were evidenced by the 7.5% who were totally unaware that cooking with electricity is a cheaper option.

Awareness that Electricity is cheaper



Figure 17: Awareness that electricity is cheaper





2.4.0 Attitudes about Clean Cooking Technologies

Respondents showed immense willingness to buy the EPC, with 95.5% of them stating that they would like to buy the cooking technology. This positive attitude is commendable despite the fact that 41.5% and 15% of the respondents respectively were uncertain about the EPC's time and money saving benefits (see figure 18).



Figure 18: Willingness to buy EPC and awareness that it is efficient

Gas cookers are the technologies heard about by most of the participants (17%) followed by the basic charcoal stoves, the EPC and improved charcoal stoves, all the three being heard about by 13% of the survey participants (see figure 19). About usage, basic charcoal stoves are the mostly used cooking technology, with 31% of the respondents indicating that they use them. Gas cookers came next being used by 24% of the participants. The EPC and improved charcoal stoves came next with 11% and 10% of the people indicating that they use them respectively. However, the EPC excited the respondents upon hearing about it. This is clearly evident by the 48% of the respondents who stated their intentions to buy the EPC next time. Gas cookers were also highly placed on the participants' purchase list with 18% of them intending to buy the technologies next time.







Figure 19: Technologies heard about, being used and those to buy next

It is therefore noteworthy that despite being used by 11% and heard about by 13% of the survey participants, the EPC is the mostly wanted cooking technology and is wanted by 48% of the participants. Similarly, Gas cookers are on the purchase list of 18% of respondents who are currently using them (24%) and also those who have heard about them 17%). Basic charcoal stoves, despite being largely used by 31% of the participants and heard about by 13% of the same, only 2% of these people are willing to buy the technology next time. This indicates a significant drop in the usage of the technology in the near future.

Yet, the improved charcoal stoves garnered the interest of 5% of the respondents who stated they would buy the technology next time. This would be a great addition to the 10% currently using this clean cooking technology and the 13% who have heard about it. Other technologies that participants were both satisfied with and also excited about include the ethanol stove (7%), microwave (6%), electric hot plate and solar cookers (both satisfying the expectations of 5% of current users).







Figure 20: Possibility of buying technologies in the near future

The role of creating awareness can be explored by the comparison between those who have heard about the clean cooking technologies and their current adoption of these technologies (figure 20 and 21). For instance, Gas cookers are being used by 24% of the participants after being heard about by only 17% of these people. The EPC is also being used by 11% of participants upon being heard about by 13% of the respondents. For improved charcoal stoves, 105 of participants are using them after being heard about by 13% of these. The electric kettle is also being used by 8% of the respondents after 10% of these being made aware about this technology.







Heard about Technology and Currently Using it (%)

Figure 21: Comparison between technology awareness and current usage rates

2.5.0 Fuels Used

As seen in figure 22, Charcoal is still the fuel type relied on by the majority of participants with 62% of them using this fuel type for cooking. Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) follows in usage and is heavily relied on by 15% of the respondents. Electricity on the other hand is used by 105 of the survey participants. Other fuels include Kerosene (6%), Ethanol (5%) and firewood (3%).







Figure 22: Proportion of fuels used

2.5.1 Spending on Fuels

Majority of the survey participants spend 20,000-50,000 Shs on cooking fuels (39.4%) followed by a section that spends between 50,000-100,000 Shs at 21.2% and 18.9% spending more than 100,000 Shs. This can be seen in figure 23 below.







Average Spending on the Fuels

Figure 23: Average spending on fuels

2.5.2 Incomes and Spending on Fuels

Participants who earn high incomes spend a lot of money on different fuels. For instance, those who earn above 2,000,000 Shs spend a lot of money on ethanol, electricity, charcoal, open fires and firewood (see figure 24). Similarly, participants who earn between 1,000,000-1,500,000 Shs spend a lot of money on LPG and open fires. On the other hand, those who earn less incomes spend less and could be more reliant on restaurants or other cooked food service providers. For instance, only a few people among those earning less than 300,000 Shs can afford to spend on charcoal and electricity (4.7% and 8.3% respectively). In fact, this category did not record any one spending on firewood, ethanol, LPG, kerosene and open fires. A similar pattern exists among those earning between 500,000-700,000 Shs with averagely low proportions spending on the different fuels with none of the category constituents spending on open fires.







Household Incomes and Average Spending on Fuels

Figure 24: Income levels and spending on fuels

A large section of participants spending on ethanol are those earning above 2,000,000 Shs (64.3%) followed by those earning between 1,000,000-2,000,000 Shs (28.6%). This group (above 2,000,000 Shs) also has the largest percentage of people spending on charcoal (33.9%) followed by those earning between 300,000-500,000 Shs (27.8%). Similarly, the largest portion of those spending on firewood are those earning above 2,000,000 Shs (42.8%) followed by those earning between 700,000-1,000,000 Shs (21.4%). For LPG, the largest percentage of participants spending on this fuel type are those earning between700,000-1,000,000 Shs (34.7%) followed by those earning between 1,000,000-1,500,000 Shs (26.5%).

2.5.3 Ranking of Fuels

Participants were also asked to provide a ranking of different fuels based on their preference for these fuels. Participants were allowed to make a ranking both based on their perceptions at a previous point in time (5 years ago) and a current ranking perspective. The ranking options were provided to which participants had the liberty to assign ranks to fuels based on whether they would consider them as either their 1st, 2nd or 3rd choice of preference.

2.5.3.1 Five Years Ago Ranking of Fuels

Five years ago, firewood was the mostly preferred cooking fuel type as ranked by 86% of the participants in the 1st choice category (refer to figure 25). In the same period of time, only 3% of participants would consider gas to be a 1st choice for use in cooking. As a 2nd choice, charcoal was considered by 87% of the respondents while Gas and Electricity were considered by 7.5% and 4%





of the participants respectively. As a fuel of 3^{rd} choice, Gas would be considered for use by 77% of the survey participants followed by electricity (16.5%).



Figure 25: Ranking of fuels 5 years ago

2.5.3.2 Today's Ranking of Fuels

Currently, electricity is given a 1^{st} choice consideration and this was acknowledged by 76% of the respondents as seen in figure 26. Also as a 1^{st} choice fuel option, charcoal is still considered by 12.5% of the respondents while gas is considered by 9% of them. On the other hand, gas is considered by 77% of participants as a fuel of 2^{nd} choice while only 7.5% of them consider electricity to be their 2^{nd} choice. Charcoal maintains its proportion of 12.5% of those that prefer it as a 2^{nd} choice fuel type but takes up majority of the 3^{rd} choice slot for consideration (73.5%).



Figure 26: Today's ranking of fuels





In summary, these rankings (based on both the present and previous choice attitudes) have revealed the rise in preference rates and improvement in the perceptions of people about the use of electricity and gas for cooking.

2.6.0 Willingness to buy E-cooking Technologies

There is potential for increased uptake of e-cooking technologies such as gas cookers, improved charcoal stoves and the EPC. Participants aged between 30-39 showed more willingness to buy gas cookers (37.5%), followed by those between 20-29 (25%) as seen in figure 27 below.



Willingness to buy Gas Cookers by Age Groups

Figure 27: Willingness to buy gas cookers

Similarly, participants aged between 30-39 showed more willingness to buy the improved cookstoves with 63.6% of those willing to purchase this technology falling under this age range (see figure 28). Participants between 20-29 and 40-50 are both equally willing to buy improved stoves (18.2%).







Figure 28: Willingness to buy improved charcoal stoves

Willingness to buy the EPC differes across the age groups with more willingness evident among younger (20-29) participants (52.3%) as seen in figure 29. These are followed by those between 30-39 years at 28.4%.



Figure 29: Willingness to buy EPC





Among those willing to buy the EPC, majority of them (46%) are willing to purchase this technology at a price range of 50,000-100,000 Shs (refer to figure 30). Another considerable section (37.4%) indicated their willingness to buy the EPC at a price ranging from 100,000-200,000 Shs. Only 7.5% of the participants were willing to go beyond 200,000 Shs in the purchase of the EPC while 9.1% were comfortable with a price below 50,000 Shs.



Figure 30: Price willingness for the EPC

2.7.0 Preferred Payment and Supply Channels

There is a lot of preference for installment payments for clean cooking technologies as shown by the 43% of respondents who prefer this payment arrangement (as seen in figure 31). Cash payments are preferred by 38.5% while loan payments and hire purchase are preferred by 12% and 6.5% of the respondents.

Qualified distributors are the mostly preferred supply channel and this is evident from the 77.5% of respondents who indicated this preference. The next availably preferred supply channels are recommended stores with preference by 16.5% of respondents. Online markets and supermarkets with both being preferred by 3% of the respondents.







Figure 31: Preferred payment means and Supply channels

Cash payments are preferred mostly by participants aged between 20-29 years (27%). However, only 8.5% of the respondents preferring cash payments are aged between 30-39 years while 3% are aged between 40-50 years. On the other hand, majority of participants that prefer installment payments are aged between 30-39 years (20.5%). These are followed by participants aged between 20-29 and 40-50 years, with both groups having 8.5% preference for installment payments out of the total number of respondents.

As seen in figure 32, there is a lot of preference for installment payments as people get older, and the reverse is true for the preference of cash payments. This is further evident due to the fact that 5.5% of those who prefer installment payments are aged 50 years and above, yet this same age group has no preference for cash payments at all.



Preferred Payment modes by Age Group

Figure 32: Preferred payment means per age group





Majority of the participants who prefer hire purchase are those earning above 2,000,000 Shs (84.6%) and these account for 5.6% of the whole participant group as seen in figure 33. The same is the case for those who prefer loan payments (39.1%) accounting for 4.5% of the total number of respondents. Cash payments are preferred across all income levels as well as installment payments. This is unlike the case for loans which are not preferrable to those earning less than 300,000 Shs and hire purchase which is only a preference among those earning above 2,000,000 Shs and those earning between 1,500,000-2,000,000 Shs.



Figure 33: Income levels and preferred payment means

2.8.0 Benefits and Barriers to E-cooking

2.8.1 Benefits of E-cooking

Participants indicated the benefits which are associated with e-cooking as seen in figure 34. Most of them (24.8%) affirmed that e-cooking provides a faster alternative to cooking. Besides this group of participants, 24.2% acknowledged that e-cooking is an efficient means of cooking. An equal proportion of participants appreciate that e-cooking sustainably saves the environment while 19% consider e-cooking to be a clean means of cooking. It is however not surprising that the smallest percentage of respondents (7.8%) consider e-cooking to be cheap. This emphasizes the perception among most people that e-cooking as well as clean cooking technologies are expensive.





Benefits of E-Cooking



Figure 34: Benefits associated with e-cooking

2.8.2 Barriers to E-Cooking

Apparent barriers to e-cooking are a result of limited awareness and promotion of these technologies. Majority of the survey participants perceived the clean cooking technologies to be expensive and less affordable (34.14% of them) as seen in figure 35. Next to this, 22.9% of the participants believe that the whole thing of cooking with the help of electricity is wholly expensive. Another section (11.4%) stated that appliances are not user friendly and difficult to use, while 9.7% are not convinced about the quality of these appliances. Evident to promotion issues, 9.5% of the participants have no idea where to buy these clean cooking technologies. There is also need to address food taste bias and repair concerns. Due to this, 7.9% of the participants believe that food prepared using clean cooking technologies does not taste deliciously while 4.3% are worried about repair issues of these technologies and appliances.







Barriers to E-Cooking

Figure 35: Challenges associated with e-cooking

2.8.2.1 Barriers to E-cooking per Age Groups

Perceptions leading to the barriers of e-cooking differ across the different age groups as seen in figure 36. For instance, only 25.7% of participants between 20-29 years find the e-cooking technologies difficult to use yet they contribute to 41% of the whole number of participants. Yet, 28.8% of those 40-50 years also find these technologies difficult to use. Also, uncertainties about quality of these technologies are a great concern to older groups of people (50+).







Barriers to E-Cooking by Age Group

Figure 36: Challenges to e-cooking per age group

50% from deductions emphasize TVS stuff ealize clean. diseases time Reduction Asks kinds aware reas thi technologies sig nment to TS Nothir ear eople sensitize object ligh reduce C embrace would price 2 wareness bills Nitiati: Saves Requesting but Ugandan affordable

2.9.0 Sentiments on E-cooking

Any Thoughts for E-Cooking?

Figure 37: Sentiments on e-cooking





Participants were also asked to give their suggestions, thoughts and opinions about e-cooking which were summarized into a word cloud. From the word cloud, electricity is still at the core of e-cooking concerns. Thus, participants noted that e-cooking is expensive and therefore suggested government subsidization interventions and reductions on electricity tariffs. Participants also reiterated that more awareness is needed so that e-cooking becomes widely embraced. Additionally, there were calls for sensitization of the public about the adoption of e-cooking, technologies and fuels. It is also noteworthy that participants expressed their contentment and satisfaction about e-cooking both as an interesting and better option to traditional cooking methods.

As a result, overall sentiments from the respondents about e-cooking are generally positive with a score of 0.41 (maximum score is always 1). This positivity was mainly due to the high anticipation, satisfaction and excitement amongst the participants. However, the sentiments were also negated by the perceptions that costs of e-cooking are high, in which many participants cited high electricity tariffs and that e-cooking appliances are apparently expensive.

3.0 CONCLUSIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Satisfaction and Excitement about Clean Cooking Technologies

The EPC has been revealed to be the technology that mostly satisfies those currently using it, as well as those who hear about it. This is because 48% of the participants are willing to buy it next time and majority of these are willing to pay between50,000-100,000 Shs. Participants also indicated their satisfaction about Gas cookers and 18% of them are willing to buy this technology next time. Other technologies that participants were satisfied about were the improved charcoal stoves, ethanol stoves, microwaves, electric hot plates and solar cookers. This implies that there is a high demand for the EPC and any efforts to promote the e-cooking technology will be effective.

3.2 Fuels

Charcoal is still the most used fuel type by 62% of the respondents followed by LPG (15%) and electricity (10%). However, there are high adoption prospects for electricity and LPG as these are highly ranked as the fuels of 1st and 2nd choice respectively in the modern era. Most of the participants spend between 20,000-50,000 Shs for these different fuels a month.

3.3 Payment Methods and Supply Channels

The survey revealed that participants need financing for the e-cooking technologies as 43% of these people (across all the different age groups) prefer installment payments for the technologies and 12% prefer loan payments while 6.5% prefer hire purchase payment arrangements. Participants also indicated concerns about supply channels as evidenced by their high preference for Qualified distribution centers (77.5%) and recommended stores (16.5%). This is partly due to the concerns about quality issues and supply centers for e-cooking technologies by 9.7% and 9.5% of the participants respectively. Thus, there is need to address quality and supply chain concerns of e-cooking technologies, as well as provide financing solutions for them to increase their adoption and uptake.





3.4 Awareness about E-cooking Technologies and Fuels

There is need to address the uncertainties about the affordability of electricity as 72% of the respondents are not sure whether electricity is a cheaper cooking alternative while 7.5% of them are completely unaware that electricity is cheap. There is also need to address these uncertainties about the EPC since 41.5% of the participants are not sure that this technology saves time and money, while 15% of these people are not aware that it saves time and money. Nonetheless, 48% of the respondents were willing to buy the EPC after only 13% of them having heard about this e-cooking technology. This further highlights the need to create more awareness about the EPC.

3.5 Barriers to E-cooking

There are many concerns that need urgent attention for e-cooking to be demystified and appreciated among the general public. For instance, there are many who consider e-cooking appliances to be expensive (34.1%) while others believe cooking with electricity is more expensive (22.9%). Hence, there is need to make e-cooking technology financing available for to increase adoption of these technologies. Such concerns and challenges should be arrested through public sensitization, awareness creation, tariff reduction or subsidization and technology promotion through provision of purchase financing plans for the e-cooking technologies.

Additionally, a lot of information about E-cooking is being spread out to the public by friends (34%) followed by promotional information given by organizations (30%). Only 26% of the households get e-cooking information from televisions and 10% get it from listening to radios. Hence, there is need to increase information flow through television and radio platforms so as to ensure that more objective and unbiased information gets to the public. Information spread by friends about e-cooking could be biased in some instances thus leading to misconceptions and poor attitudes among the public, such as those households who think that e-cooking is more expensive even when they lack information about electricity tariffs.



