

## Editorial



The situation in Ethiopia has settled down sufficiently to allow us to continue our project in the Simian Mountains. At the end of February, we will launch the pilot phase, during which about 15 stoves will be installed to test whether our solution is accepted and addresses the local needs.

My wife and I returned from a long journey to Nepal mid-January. Apart from many organizational matters, it was important for us to have time to visit villages and learn first-hand how satisfied people are with our stoves and how they use them. Our journey took us to Gulmi and Pyuthan in the west of our project area. You can find our report later in this issue.

The environmental protection project has helped attract more partners to our organization. In this issue, we will present the power provider meistro ENERGIE GmbH, a company which offsets its own CO<sub>2</sub> production with our project and additionally offers its customers a value-for-money way to offset their CO<sub>2</sub> footprint.

We were amazed to learn the value created by the environmental protection project over and above reducing CO<sub>2</sub> production. A study from Gold Standard contains interesting data including figures specifically relating to our project.

“Charity Shopping” has grown in popularity of late. We will do our part to encourage this trend by showing you how your shopping choices can help generate donations for our projects without your having to pay a single cent!

Enjoy the newsletter

Dr. Frank Dengler, Chairman

<b>Stove-Counter</b>	<b>January 2017</b>	<b>53295</b> smoke-free stoves in Nepal*
		<b>532</b> in Kenya
		<b>433</b> in Ethiopia

\*including 7141 rocket stoves for emergency shelters

## New Ofenmacher videos on Youtube

[Tear free: Interview with a happy stove owner](#)

[Expert stove makers at work: Sita Rupakheti und Sushila Bhatta in action](#)

## "Are you happy with your stove?"

### Village visits in Gulmi und Pyuthan

We started stove-making in the district of Gulmi in the village Banjhkateri about three years ago. Anita (manager of Swastha Chulo Nepal) and her daughter Akriti accompanied us on a visit at the end of November 2016 where we saw how the stoves were faring and learned how happy stove-owners are with their stoves after several years.



Hospital by Brepal in Banihkateri



Banihkateri

Banjhkateri is in the west of Gulmi, a few hours by jeep from the border to the neighboring district of Pyuthan, our next stop. We started installing stoves in Pyuthan in January 2016 and



Clear indication: there is a stove in this house

were looking forward to seeing how one of our newest projects is proceeding. We first visited Banjhkateri in 2013 after an invitation from the organisation Brepal, which maintains a health station there. They were just starting to plan a new building. Today the site now houses a small hospital providing services to the surrounding villages and stocked with everything which is so needed and often nonetheless simply not available in most villages in Nepal. Congratulations to Dr. Klaus Eckert and Brepal, we really appreciate your fantastic work!

We were amazed at the exceptionally good condition of the stoves in all the houses we visited. As stated above many are already three years old. It was obvious that the owners take care of and service them regularly. At Resham Bahadur Khatri's home, [the housekeeper told us](#) of the eye-problems she used to have cooking. Since the stove was installed, eye-problems are a thing of the past. She is especially happy that she can have her small daughter by her when she cooks. Her child doesn't cry any more in the smoke-free kitchen and she no longer worries about smoke making her child sick.

Time and again we noticed chimneys poking out of house walls. Occasionally we stopped to question people in their homes. We were always greeted by happy housewives during these spontaneous visits. They were eager to show us their well-kept stoves. We were even presented with a bag of mandarins in thanks for our work when we left!



Doing an interview

We also stopped in Okharkot a little behind the district border to visit the first stoves installed in Pyuthan. Especially in a district with new, inexperienced stove makers, it is important to pay particular attention to quality. The stoves we saw were well-built, but the outlets were often missing. In some cases, the stove owners had built their own solutions with tins or wooden constructions. The problems were reported back to the responsible stove-maker by Kiran Lama, the local co-ordinator in Pyuthan. The stove-maker was having problems organizing the necessary material for the outlets. In the meantime, the problems have been solved.

One of our main goals in visiting Pyuthan was to get to know the district manager personally. The district administration is responsible for achieving the project goals to make Nepal “smoke-free” as defined in the central government’s “Clean Cooking Solutions for All” (CCS4ALL). We were greeted by people eager to help us achieve our goals. As in Gulmi they are happy to have found someone who is really able to get a large number of stoves installed in households in short order.

The next day, during our visit to Sangarkot village, we learned how they manage to do that. Sita Rupakheti and Sushila Bhatta were busy there installing clay stoves for all houses in the entire village. We were impressed how well the work with the house-owners was organized so that Sita and Sushila could focus completely on building stoves. They were able to complete up to five stoves a day. We made [a video](#) documenting the process and hope that viewers are as fascinated as we were.

*Frank Dengler*

## **Environmental Protection Partner meistro meistro and their customers offset their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions with Ofenmacher projects**



The energy provider meistro from Ingolstadt is a specialist energy generation that is “climate neutral”. The company delivers green electricity and climate neutral gas across Germany. Both products are certified annually by TUV. The com-

pany serves around ten thousand customers with attractive pricing models helping drive the German “Energiewende” (energy transition away from nuclear power) and protect the environment. meistro also provides customer-specific advice how energy can be saved or used more efficiently.

Climate neutral gas is ensured via CO<sub>2</sub>-compensation. The entire CO<sub>2</sub>-production, resulting from firing the gas provided by meistro, is compensated by the purchase of internationally recognized emission reduction certificates. Since the company was created, over 2.7 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> were thus compensated!

As a large company, meistro gets good prices for the emissions certificates it purchases. Thanks to falling prices, emissions certificates can be purchased for a few Euros per ton of



CO<sub>2</sub>. The combination of environmental protection and humanitarian aid provided by the Ofenmacher projects was particularly interesting for meistro, which already supports several other social projects. meistro committed themselves to compensation of part of their CO<sub>2</sub>-production by purchase of emission certificates from the Ofenmacher. Furthermore, they offer their customers the possibility to purchase Ofenmacher-certificates at a very attractive price of a few tens of cents per Kilowatt-hour of gas consumed. Thus, meistro customers can also support the Ofenmacher. Despite this, meistro's tariffs are cheaper than those of many traditional suppliers. That helps business customers like craftsmen, property administrators, engineering service providers, doctors and clubs make a contribution to environmental protection particularly cheaply!

The complete list of partners is too long to print here. You can find the details on our [partner-webpage](#).

*Reinhard Hallermayer*

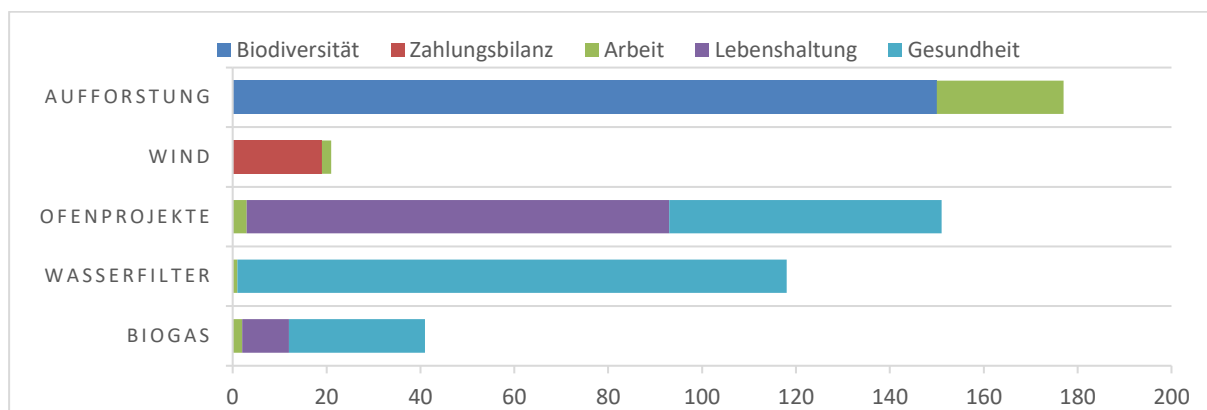
## **Much More Than Just Environmental Protection Study on the Benefits of Environmental Protection Projects**

The Gold Standard was conceived more than ten years ago by more than fifty non-governmental organizations under the leadership of the World Wildlife Fund with the aim of combining environmental protection and sustainable development. It is the toughest certification standard worldwide taking especial care to ensure that environmental protection is achieved without side effects or harm for people, nature or the environment. Whilst this hard-to-achieve seal of approval does create more work for our project teams, it is highly valued by companies which want to purchase emission reduction certificates.

In the latest version, the Gold Standard focuses in particular on significant and measurable contributions to the sustainable development targets laid down in the UN's Agenda 2030. Investors can be sure that their financial investment contributes to the goal of „[Minimise Risk – Maximise Impact](#)“.

[In a Study](#), Gold Standard calculated the value generated by environmental protection projects over and above the reduction of emissions. The additional value is to be found in things like biodiversity, balance of payments, as well as work, living and health costs saved. Different types of projects generated widely differing returns. Gold Standard projects create financial value per ton of CO<sub>2</sub> saved between twenty-one and one hundred and seventy-seven US-Dollars!

The thirty-four stove projects generated additional value of one hundred and fifty-one US-Dollars per ton of CO<sub>2</sub> saved. (Biodiversity: not quantifiable, balance of payments: no impact, work costs: 3\$, living costs: 93\$, health costs: 55\$). That is the second highest value generation, behind only reforestation projects, whereby the stove projects achieve these returns within a few years rather than the thirty to fifty years over which value is created by reforestation.



Additional value created by environmental protection projects in US\$ pro per saved ton of CO<sub>2</sub>

A simple clay stove costing 10€, as built by the Ofenmacher, saves roughly 0.8 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>-each year over an assumed lifetime of five years. Note that this is valid for all of our projects; not just those which registered as environmental protection projects. According to the results of the above-mentioned study, each stove in Nepal generates around 550€ of additional value. The saved health costs alone are around 200€. That is a fantastic return on an investment of 10 € per stove – consider too the pain and suffering which is prevented. This is a great incentive motivating both our sponsors and us.

*Reinhard Hallermayer*

## Donating Without Paying

### Gooding: Support the Ofenmacher as you shop

It's hard to imagine shopping without the internet nowadays. An increasing number of shopping-portals now support charitable projects with a small contribution based on each purchase without increasing prices for shoppers. The Ofenmacher are now members of "Gooding" so everyone can support our hard-working stove-makers in Nepal whilst shopping at no additional cost.



Tulasha and Rekha

As part of our current Gooding project today, we introduce two stove-makers: Rekha Lama and Tulasha Khadka. Both are from the district of Kavre-Palanchok. They often work together. They have built a lot of stoves: Tulasha has already built over eight hundred, whilst Rekha has built nearly one thousand four hundred stoves! Before the earthquakes in April and May 2015 both women built smoke-free stoves in their district. Due to the massive destruction of houses in her home district, Rekha went to Pyuthan to continue stove-building there and earn money to rebuild her house. Tulasha stayed in Kavre-Palanchok. Recently the State started handing out payments to support the rebuilding of houses and Tulasha is working to ensure that each rebuilt house has a smoke-free stove from day one.

We want to support these two women with donations from the online-portal Gooding, to ensure that they can



continue their work as stove makers. Everyone can help! More than one thousand five hundred shops including many well-known companies and brands for clothing, electronics, books and so on can be found at Gooding.

All you have to do is enter:

<https://einkaufen.gooding.de/die-ofenmacher-e-v-55895>

From there visit the shop of your choice and make your purchase as normal. You will not pay a cent extra. You do not have to register with Gooding. The trader will automatically credit a donation based on your purchase.

Further projects will follow, it pays to have a look.

Amazon, earlier also to be found on Gooding, has now set up their own portal "Amazon Smile". Here too you can generate donations for the Ofenmacher. Google "Amazon Smile". Go there and select „Ofenmacher“ under organizations. Subsequently 0,5% of your purchase price will be donated to the Ofenmacher. Once again: you will not pay a cent extra.

*Maxim Messerer*

## Impressum

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