

Editorial



Since August we have a new treasurer. Robert Pfeffer introduces himself in this newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to thank once again Burkhard Dönitz, who has for 6 years diligently completed this post, which is so important for the organization.

The past summer, which brought a long, hot drought period in Germany, has certainly made many people think. How does climate change affect us, what does it mean for us? For the first time we have been clearly shown how our lives will change. This time our newsletter sheds light on the topics of climate change and protection from different perspectives.

Kenya, where one of our projects is located, last year experienced a devastating drought affecting large parts of the country. In the north, the nomads lost their herds and thus their food base. Here too, climate change is counted among the causes, but the deforestation that has been going on for decades also plays a major role locally.

We were told by farmers from the Kikuyu people that a few years ago there were still trees in the areas around Ol Pejeta and that forests have been cut down since then. The reason for this is the increasing population, which needs more farming land and more wood as fuel for cooking. The free fields and pastures, bushy at most, no longer store any moisture and offer no resistance to the persistently dry, hot wind.

During the drought in 2017 one could see that it can be different. The surrounding cattle farmers were given the opportunity to "park" their livestock in Ol Pejeta. Inside the conservancy, the trees had not been cleared yet and the areas were not overgrazed. Many animals from the surrounding farms could survive here and later be returned to the owners.

The interaction of local problems and global change leads to catastrophes, as we have experienced in Kenya. We have work hard to mitigate the effects and combat the causes, e.g. limitation of agricultural use by big agriculture companies, increasing reforestation, and reducing deforestation. The contribution of Die Ofenmacher - reducing wood consumption - may be small, but in combination with the other measures, it can lead to a sustainable improvement. That is what we are working for.

Die Ofenmacher hope you enjoy this letter.

Dr. Frank Dengler, Chairman

Stove Counter Sept. 2018

68967 smoke-free stoves in Nepal*

673 in Kenya

2478 in Ethiopia

*including 7141 Rocket Stoves for emergency accommodations

Robert Pfeffer introduces himself

New treasurer of Die Ofenmacher



born 1966 in Cologne and living directly next door in Bergisch Gladbach, married, no children. Since 1987, as a civil servant of the upper non-technical administrative services of the city of Cologne, I am working on improving the public welfare, current I work in the construction supervision department. I have a small team responsible for archiving about 6000 - 8000 files a year.

I used to love playing badminton. Since 2008, I am infected with the Golf-virus. In addition, my free time is dedicated to writing short stories and storytelling on the stage. Currently I am one half of the duo "Partnerlausch" touring all over Germany with a story show.

I have been following the development of the stove makers since the beginning. It is something very important for me, although my contribution was very modest so far. Being a civil servant, my manual skills will never be enough to build an oven on my own; all the more a pleasure to support the organization as a member of the board.

New Stove Builders in Kenya

Report from the training in Ol Pejeta

In recent months, stove construction in Kenya has almost come to a standstill. The main reason for this was that the coordinator Bernard, who was employed by Ol Pejeta, had been given other tasks and was no longer able to take sufficient care of the stove project. In the middle of this year, we agreed with Ol Pejeta that the project should be continued with higher priority. Motivation was above all the unabated high demand for the clay stoves in the communities around the Conservancy. This demand, as we agreed, can only be satisfied if sufficient staff are available.



Stephen Gachagua

Ol Pejeta appointed a new coordinator with Stephen Gachagua and we started training at the end of September to strengthen the team of only three active stove builders. My wife Katharina and I traveled to Kenya at the end of September to undertake theoretical training. We could leave the practical part to the three experienced stove builders Regina, David and Elias.



David, Regina, Elias

Of course, we also used our stay to get to know Stephen and practice with him the processes of organizing stove building and reporting. Since our last visit more than two years ago, there have also been technical changes. The liner from fired clay, which forms the combustion chamber, was already standard at that time. Over the past two years, it has also been found that lining the furnace with a layer of cement, the so-called coating, significantly improves the durability of the stove. Therefore, almost all stoves are now built with a concrete coating.



Liner from fired clay



Stove with coating

In addition, the cement layer stove has a cleaner appearance with smoother surfaces, which significantly enhances the sense of value. We believe that this appearance does a lot to make the stove so sought after. Wood savings and health may be rational reasons, the heart desires a beautiful stove. Some households also paint it with red cement paint, which makes it even prettier.

For these reasons, it was decided to make the stove with coating standard and offer it to all households. That's why our 12 candidates have been trained from the beginning in the production of the coated stove.



Clay mixing is teamwork



The first stove body completed

We started with a one-week training course in theory, clay preparation, brick making and stove body production. The following week we moved to the households and the stoves built in this section of the training were already intended for customers. In this phase the trainees learned the correct positioning of the stove in the house, the construction of the chimney, the attachment of the outlet and the coating. Under the guidance of the three coaches, the quality reached product level.

From the third week, the students build stoves in the households on their own, but are regularly visited by the three coaches. This way, any errors creeping in can be corrected and hints for improvement are given.



Trainers and students with certificates

The second week of training in the households of the municipality of Exrock left us with the impression that the ovens are in great demand. The households took on the tasks of clay preparation and brick production with dedication. We were welcome everywhere and were sometimes more served than we could handle. We visited several village meetings, always aroused great interest, and left them with a large number of new entries in the stove demand list.

In conversation with the people here you can feel that the people are still affected by the drought of last year. The disappearance of the forests promotes dehydration and agriculture suffers. Firewood is scarce. A bundle that lasts about a week costs already 300 shillings (about 2.50 Euros) and thus devours a large part of the weekly income. Water and wood are rare and precious. With the wood savings of the stoves, we meet a need of the population; so stoves are in great demand. Now our goal is to meet the demand.



First stove in a household

Frank Dengler

Emissions Trading on the Up Rising prices promote climate protection

Emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases are still rising worldwide. They accelerate global warming and climate change. Significant signs in Germany this year were the hot summer with drought and peak temperatures accompanied by local heavy rainfall and flooding. However, climate protection is not proceeding apace. The promised savings target for CO₂ of 40 percent by 2020 compared to 1990 is no longer achievable in Germany.

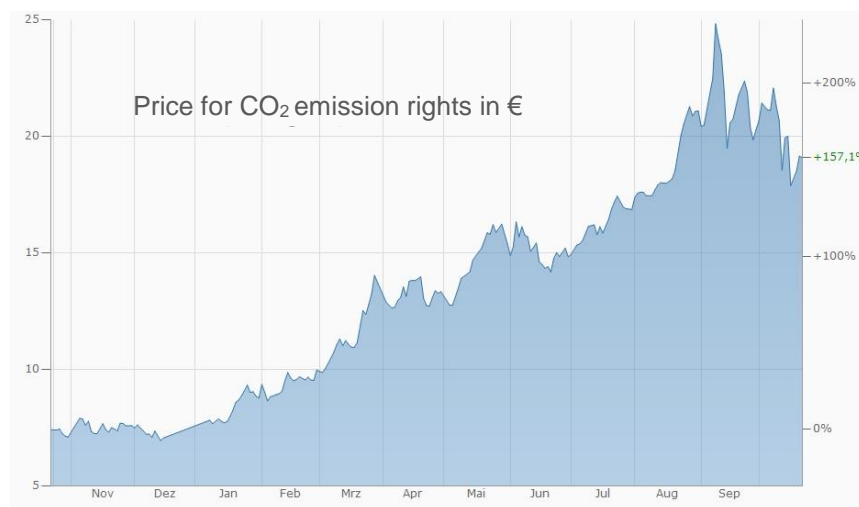
In 2005, the European Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) was introduced for the implementation of the international climate change agreement of Kyoto. It is the central European climate protection instrument. In the EU ETS, emissions from all over Europe are recorded at around 12 000 plants in the energy and energy-intensive industries such as steel mills, refineries and cement plants. Together, these plants generate around 45 percent of greenhouse gas emissions in Europe.

The companies concerned must have emission rights for every ton of carbon dioxide produced in the factories during the manufacture of their products. The permissible CO₂ emissions are reduced by law. Currently, it is 1.74 percent less annually.

A company that has to meet these requirements has three alternatives to react:

1. It saves carbon dioxide, for example, by switching its processes to lower-emission energy sources.
2. It buys emission allowances on the market to cover the additional production.
3. It purchases emission reduction certificates from climate protection projects. As a result, it imports CO₂ savings from other countries that are credited to the German company.

The emission rights for climate-damaging gases are traded in Germany on the European Energy Exchange in Leipzig, better known as the Electricity Exchange. However, in the last 10 years, the price of CO₂ emissions (CO₂ European Emission Allowances) has been very low. That was due to very generous allowances for emissions to those involved. The market was over-supplied. The incentive to save greenhouse gases or energy was correspondingly low for companies. The instrument emissions trading, which was supposed to provide less carbon dioxide in the air and more climate protection, proved weak.



Meanwhile, the European Union has responded. From 2020, new guidelines will apply. The regulation stipulates that 2.2 percent of CO₂ allowances will be withdrawn from the market each year and that from 2023 the quantity of allowances will be limited to the quantity auctioned in the previous year. In addition, from January 1, 2019 a market stabilization reserve will be introduced.

Legislators can then withdraw up to 25 percent of the emissions allowances from the market. The reduced availability should be intended to drive the price up. The consequence of this policy is already evident at the Leipzig Stock Exchange. For a year, the price of emission rights has risen rapidly from 7 € to 22 €. Such high prices have not been seen for over 10 years.

More and more analysts expect rising prices. Talking of up to 25 or 30 €. In any case, high prices would sharpen the instrument “emissions trading” again and help climate protection, regardless of other legal measures to a tremendous upswing. Companies would again invest more in reducing their CO₂ emissions as it pays off. This is the reason that emissions trading was introduced.

The alternative, emission reduction certificates or CO₂ offsetting, could also benefit from price increases. Although this is a different product class, it is expected that the emission reduction certificates will also achieve higher prices. In that case, more projects in developing countries

would be profitable, saving CO₂ on the spot and offering this saving as a credit to industrialized countries. It is intended like this: rich countries are active in climate protection and, through targeted investment, are promoting the development of poor countries, which are also the most affected by climate change. A global climate fund that would grow independently without state intervention.

Active climate protection through CO₂ offsetting is an option to all companies that have no legal obligation but want to volunteer. Even every single citizen can join in and reduce its carbon footprint, amounting to an average of ten tons of carbon dioxide per year. A trip from Munich to Tenerife causes about 1.2 tons of CO₂ emissions per passenger for round-trip flights. The tourist can compensate for this amount with certificates from the stove makers, for example, and fly in a climate-neutral way.

A clay stove, as we disseminate it in Nepal, saves about a ton of CO₂ per year. Until now, we have generated more than 9000 certificates. They can be purchased for a corresponding donation to compensate for someone's carbon footprint.

Many citizens feel that climate change is already underway. Scientists are already warning that until the end of the century, the temperature rise on Earth could be three to four degrees. A functioning emissions trading scheme, which counteracts the emission of greenhouse gases, could be an important element in the fight against life threatening global warming.

Reinhard Hallermayer

Source of the graphic: <https://www.finanzen.net/rohstoffe/co2-emissionsrechte>

Sluggish Restart

The climate protection project after the earthquake



Damaged house in Sindhupalchok

It has been three and a half years since the national catastrophe of terrible earthquakes hit Nepal. Throughout the country, many people were killed and thousands of people became homeless overnight. The districts of the climate protection project, Dolakha, Kavre-Palanchok and Ramechhap, were particularly badly affected by the natural disaster. Many people lost their lives. A large number of farm animals were killed. Residential houses, stables and barns became heaps of rubble within minutes. Many families were homeless from one moment to the next. Along with the residential buildings, the stoves were destroyed or became unusable. This was a serious setback for the climate protection project.

Swastha Chulo Nepal commissioned the stove makers to produce and distribute so-called Rocket Stoves as an emergency aid measure for the residents. This stove type is also made

of loam and can be produced quickly and cheaply centrally. It is relatively small and light and therefore portable. The ovens were distributed to needy families in the above mentioned districts. The residents then had an energy-efficient cooking facility at least, that they could use outside their damaged homes in the shelters. Between May 2015 and June 2016, Swastha Chulo produced and distributed more than 7,000 stoves.

The government of Nepal has published official and detailed figures on the extent of earthquake damage. For each district, it is known how many houses were completely destroyed or partially destroyed. From this, it is possible to derive figures for the climate protection project about the unusable furnaces. According to our estimate, 87% of all stoves in Dolakha were destroyed. In Kavre-Palanchok and Ramechhap it was a little less at 52%. These numbers directly indicate the need for the reconstruction or reinstallation of stoves.

Already after the first information about the extent of destruction by the earthquake, it was clear that the climate protection project had to be restarted almost from scratch. We have therefore made an application to Gold Standard to suspend the project for three years. Due to the obvious circumstances, which the project was not responsible for, the request was accepted. This means that for three years, we no longer had to provide proof of the CO₂ savings, but in return, we were not able to credit emission reduction certificates. The period of suspension of the project ran until the end of April 2018.



Handing over a rocket stove



Stove in a new building in Dolakha

After the earthquake, the motto for the climate protection project was that each newly built or rebuilt residential building should receive a clay stove from Swastha Chulo Nepal. Smoke-free and clean living rooms from the beginning! As of July 2016, we started building the standard stoves again. In the district of Dolakha, there are almost 2 000 new stoves. In the two other districts, however, the stove construction has not yet started. Reason is slow reconstruction of houses. The state grants subsidies for the construction, but these are far from sufficient, so usually new houses cannot be built and the residents must continue to live in the shelters. New houses are the prerequisite for new stoves. Another reason for the sluggish stove rebuilding is the lack of stove builders in these districts.

The current monitoring period therefore runs from May 2018 to April 2019. However, Gold Standard must approve the estimated loss figures first as they represent the starting figures for the number of stoves in the project area. It is impossible to determine by field visits each individual

existing or damaged stove on site. In a first contact, Gold Standard has already accepted the principle of the estimation, using the official starting numbers and making assumptions based on them. In 2019 there will be again more field visits to gather reliable data for the monitoring report. Based on previous experience, the stove makers can expect new emission reduction certificates from the end of 2019.

Reinhard Hallermayer

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