



# Die Ofenmacher e.V.

Rauchfreie Küchenöfen statt offenes Feuer



**Annual Report 2017 / 2018**

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## Editorial

The pleasant development of our organization's activities continued in 2017 and 2018. In Nepal we have stabilized at a level of about 12,000 stoves per year, in addition to projects in Africa, where the number of stoves is steadily increasing.

At the end of 2018, we were pleased about nearly 75,000 stoves. As this trend continues, we can soon proudly claim that we will have helped half a million people to cook clean, safe and healthy.

In 2017 we received funding from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development for the first time, which financially gives us a safer footing. We feel this as a recognition of our work. Contributing to our funding is the growing revenue from donations for CO<sub>2</sub> off-setting.

But donations from private hands are still the cornerstones of our finances. Everyone who entrusts us with their money has a right to know what we are doing with it. We are happy to fulfill this duty with this report and thank all those people for the trust placed in us.

From our travels, we bring thousands of „Thanks“ from the households who benefit from the stoves. But also from the many stove builders, who can earn money in their own country.

*Dr. Frank Dengler, First Chairman*

## Non-profit Association „Die Ofenmacher e. V.“

Cooking over an open fire has many negative consequences and yet it can be found worldwide. According to its constitution, the purpose of the association "Die Ofenmacher e. V." is the promotion of development cooperation through the distribution of smoke-free kitchen stoves, especially in rural areas of developing countries. We pursue exclusively and directly charitable and benevolent purposes.

The association was founded in 2010 on the initiative of Christa Drigalla, Dr Frank Dengler and Dr Katharina Dworschak. The registered office of the association is Munich.

### Some significant milestones:

- 2011 BMW award for social commitment of employees
- 2011 Founding of Swastha Chulo Nepal as a local partner organisation in Nepal
- 2012 Gold Standard Climate Protection Projekt in Nepal
- 2013 New stove building regions in Ethiopia and Kenya
- 2016 Mark of almost 50,000 stoves reached
- 2018 Mark of 70,000 stoves exceeded

### Overview of Current Project Areas:



## Stove Projects Nepal

### General Situation in the Country

Nepal is still struggling with reconstruction after the devastating earthquakes of April and May 2015 that caused massive destruction and more than 8000 deaths.

The reconstruction of dwellings was very slow after the earthquakes. It depends on the individual activity of the house owners. The emergency aid provided by the government is only enough to partially finance new dwellings. In addition, there are regulations for earthquake-proof construction, which must be adhered to in order to receive the respective rates of financial support. As a result, many building projects are stuck in the foundation phase and people have to live on in their propped up ruins.

The political situation during the last two years was characterized by several elections in 2017 and the beginning restructuring of the entire administrative structures. Nepal was divided into seven "provinces". These were to be equipped with the appropriate "power" and responsibility to relieve the burden on the centre of Kathmandu. Authorities were therefore established in the respective capitals of these provinces in order to carry out many official tasks for the residents there.

The structure of VDCs was changed into Municipalities (MC) and Rural Municipalities (RMC). Towns are now referred to as cities or metropolitan cities, depending on their size. This means further decentralization of political forces and administration.



Kiran Lama talks to elected representative in Pyuthan

First every citizen of Nepal simply got a new address (without moving). This of course had an effect on our stove construction database, which had to be adapted. A further effect is that the work permit for the stove construction now has to be obtained from a much "lower" administrative office. Since then, every "village" has had to grant us permission to build stoves. A very complex procedure because a lot of "paperwork" is required

(everyone is very important). But it has the advantage that we are close to the respective elected representatives of the village communities. If we can convince the contact persons of the advantages of the stoves, they will be heard in the village and the motivation of the house owners to own a stove is even greater.

Unfortunately, the process of restructuring administrative structures is progressing very slowly. The determination of the capitals of the individual federal states alone has lasted forever. In addition, two elections were held in 2017 (local elections and state elections). In Nepal, an election campaign is accompanied by many strikes and demonstrations, blockades and other obstacles. Therefore, such events also affect stove construction. In addition, each eligible voter travels to his or her home town several times to register and later to cast his or her vote. As a result, the stove builders who worked for us in other areas had to stay away from work for weeks.

In addition, the bureaucratic hurdles for NGOs in Nepal have increased. The Social Welfare Council (SWC) has probably been instructed to regard all NGOs as basically corruptible. So the opposite has to be proven with every application or every final report. This makes cooperation considerably more difficult and of course demotifies it. The evaluation of our projects in Gulmi and Pyuthan had to be hard-fought.

### Progress in Stove Building

In the Midwest, the Gulmi project area was completed and the district declared "smoke-free". The official evaluation by the SWC was carried out and the final report drafted. A total of 13,743 stoves were built in **Gulmi**. We received written confirmation from two health posts that the number of bronchial and lung diseases is already declining significantly. In Gulmi, two pilot studies have now been carried out on the usage and maintenance of the stoves. The results will lead to a sustainability project called "Maintenance Experts".

In the neighbouring district of **Pyuthan**, too, the extensive stove construction project was completed. A total of 22,846 stoves were built there by mid-2018. As in Gulmi, the landscape structure is very hilly, long distances between the villages complicate the work of the stove builders. They often spend weeks on the road. Some of the stove builders trained in Pyuthan will continue to work with us and in other districts even after the project has been completed. The area was visited in 2018 to get feedback from the stove builders.

## Die Ofenmacher e. V.



On the road with the stoves makers

**Arghakanchi** is a district in the middle west of Nepal and borders on Pyuthan. The population is said to be 200,000 inhabitants. A hilly landscape stretches mainly between 300 and 2,000 metres above sea level. Sandikharka, the capital, lies about 300 km southwest of Kathmandu. With the long-distance bus this means a journey of 18-20 hours. Sandikharka is urban in the centre, but consists to a far greater extent of rural village structures. In the whole of Arghakanchi, about 44,000 houses still cook with wood, mostly on open fires.

After preliminary negotiations with the AEPC (Alternative Energy Promotion Centre) we were able to offer our stove construction programme to the local authorities. We agreed to build 20,000 stoves over the next two years. After extensive preparatory work, the first training course was held in Arghakanchi at the beginning of 2018. Some of our experienced stove builders went from Pyuthan and other areas to work with the newly trained stove masters. As in Pyuthan, Kiran Lama has taken over the management of the area. In the meantime he has built up a good contact to the different village mayors. The basis for effective stove construction are the well-prepared village meetings, the close contact to the mayors and the reference through well-functioning model stoves. In 2018 there was further training in autumn and a total of 2,751 stoves were built.



Anita informs the residents at a village meeting

## Smoke-free Cooking Stoves

At the request of AEPC, we also took over the Lamjung district for stove construction from 2018. **Lamjung** is located northeast of Kathmandu and borders on Gorkha and Dhading. According to AEPC, there is a great need here, as many households still cook on open fires and therefore need support for a healthier environment. Lamjung ranges from 300 to over 5,000 metres in altitude and is said to have a population of 170,000. According to official statistics, open fire cooking is practised in 29,300 households. Some areas are not so well suitable for the clay stoves, because the geographical situation requires a Me-tallofen with heating effect. We also found out that other organisations had already distributed different stove models. We agreed to build a number of 15,000 stoves in Lamjung.

Already with the first pre-visit, substantial differences to the western areas crystallized out. Lamjung is the starting point of the famous Annapurna Circuit, a trekking route that has been used a lot. The prices for hotel and catering as well as for all goods of daily life are much higher there than in areas without tourist influence. Apparently the responsible persons in the district have more or less developed good experiences with NGO projects and a corresponding demand attitude, which we did not know before. So it was very difficult to find candidates for a training. After a training with twelve participants, unfortunately, no one worked regularly afterwards. There were always reasons why they preferred other work (with higher payment). We could also not find a competent project manager for the area and so Lamjung was supervised by our senior stove builder Bel Bahadur Tamang (he is otherwise responsible for the CO<sub>2</sub> area). In 2018 only 174 stoves were built in Lamjung.



### From the SCN Office

Swastha Chulo Nepal (SCN) means "Healthy Stove Nepal" and is our partner organisation in Nepal. From the very beginning Anita Badal has been in charge of this non-governmental organization. Anita has lived in Germany for four years and moves safely between both cultures and she also speaks German. With unbelievable toughness she fights for the necessary permits for our work at every authority. She fights at SWC for the recognition of our projects and accompanies the officials to the project visits.

Anita endures the shockingly customer-unfriendly conditions in Nepal's banking sector and is the focus of the stove builders' professional and private concerns. All her work has so far taken place in a room of her family, which also functions as a living room. At the end of 2018, a new office could be rented and furnished in the same building. With the new equipment of the office, Anita can present our work much more professionally and receive guests accordingly.



... and here is the new office of Swastha Chulo Nepal

As the number of stoves built increases, so too do the number of employees (stove builders). SCN had to make appropriate adjustments on the basis of a SWC evaluation. In 2018, organizational structures were written down for our NGO for the first time, including employee rules and financial regulations. The accounting system was changed to protect against accounting errors. In the meantime, however, routine has returned there as well. A part-time accountant supports Anita.

Special news always reaches us unexpectedly. Since the beginning of 2018 there has been a real SCN couple. Santa and Jus Bahadur met at work and got married in February. We wish them all the best!

In Arghakanchi, her three-year-old child was torn from her arms and dragged away by a leopard before the eyes of a mother's stove builder. The child was rescued through a courageous relief operation, but had suffered severe injuries.

In Gulmi two adjacent houses with all their belongings were destroyed in a fire. A little girl wanted to light the cooking fire again, igniting the hay next door and causing the catastrophe.



Family with new cookstove in Pyuthan

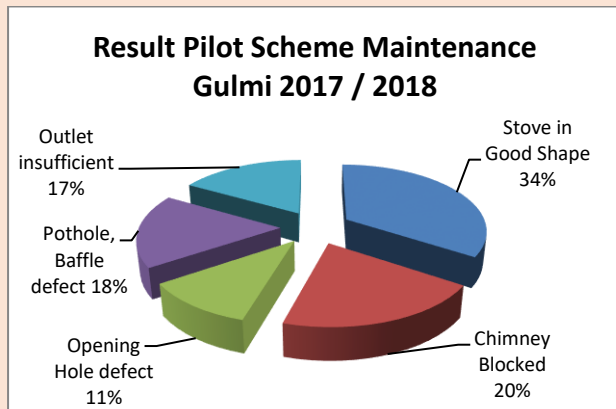
But mainly we get positive feedback, because the improvement of the living conditions through the commissioning of a stove can be felt immediately and directly. The smokeless kitchen is a change that the children are also very happy about. And all families would like to thank Die Ofenmacher e. V. for this.

*Christa Drigalla*

### Maintenance Project Nepal

After we had built 20,000 clay stoves in the Gulmi district in the middle west of Nepal between 2014 and 2016, the task now was to ensure the long-term use of these stoves. This led to the idea of a permanent maintenance program.

In a pilot project in 2017/18, SCN identified the real needs. To this end, local stove builders in the towns of Wagla, Aglung and Madane visited more than 4,200 houses. They determined that there was a great need for advice and also for repairs, so that on this basis local stove builders could be used as "chimney sweepers".



This overview clearly shows the high maintenance requirements. More than half of the furnaces required cleaning, repair or maintenance. Since the repairs are usually "trifles", a service program for the home owners is a good idea. This means that committed stove builders can remain active in their area to a limited extent and offer their services.


After a detailed feedback discussion with the local experts, the framework conditions for a Nepal chimney sweep were determined.

The Maintenance Program is an offer to homeowners who need to request it independently. Services are offered in different categories:

- Chimney Cleaning
- Minor repairs on the stove surface
- Repairs on the stove body (cooking opening or baffle plate)
- Repair or replacement of the outlet on the fireplace
- Repetition of the instruction in the use of the stove
- Cold water therapy as first aid for burns

Homeowners who request this service must also pay for it. According to the stove builders, this will be possible. Also in Gulmi, in many households only the older family members are at home because the young people work abroad. And so the help is very welcome and financially feasible.

## Chimney Sweeper for Nepal



Further education:

- Stove building technique
- Proper firing
- Environmental aspects of wood combustion
- Effects of smoking on respiratory and health
- First aid for burn injuries
- Teaching principles (instruction of the users)
- Basic information on self-employment

In order to turn interested stove builders into "maintenance experts", a training course of four to five days is to be developed in which technical, medical and also economic topics are taught. Depending on their own activities, these experts can achieve independence and thus work independently.

*Christa Drigalla*

### Usage of Stoves

It is very important to the stove makers that the stoves they build are randomly inspected every year. A monitoring team, consisting of an interviewer and a translator, travels to the stove construction areas directly to the families who have received a stove. A standardised questionnaire is used to ask many questions about the condition, use and satisfaction of the stoves and to document the answers.

When asked what they needed most, the interviewees said: Schools and education for the children, medical care through a nearby health post or hospital, access to clean and fresh drinking water and general job opportunities. These are typical concerns of the inhabitants of the global South.



Domi Sherpa filling out the questionnaire

Our monitoring team, led by Tobias Federle, has carried out eighteen field visits in five current districts over the past two years. The interviewers checked the enormous number of 2,324 stoves with an average age of about two years. This is a sample of almost four percent of all constructed cook stoves.



New stove – Clean kitchen

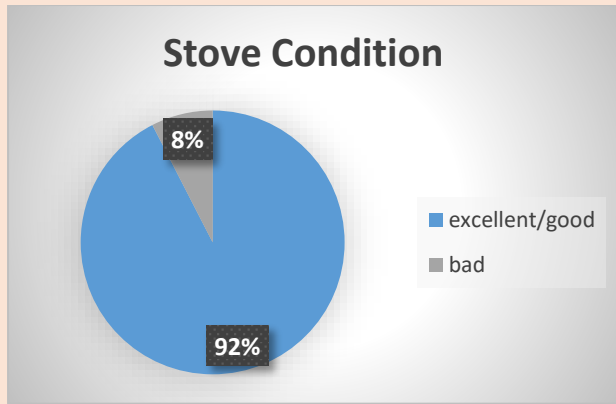
Of all stoves inspected, 92 percent were in good to very good condition. This concerned design and construction quality. The stoves were built exactly according to the specifications and construction plans. But the condition of most of the stoves was also very good or good. Stoves that appear to be in poor to very poor condition were sorted out as unused, although some of them are still in use.



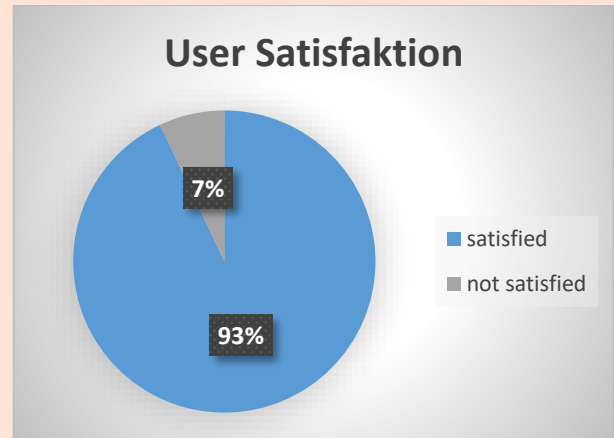
A user contract is signed for each improved cook stove

Most problems were related to the fireplace, which was either too short or not straight. It can also happen that smoke is forced into the room, e.g. by wind, if the location of the stove in the room was chosen inappropriately. Cracks also appeared on some stoves, especially on the firewood supply opening. Occasionally, the cooking areas on which the pots are placed were somewhat damaged by intensive use. Some people would also like to use larger pots.

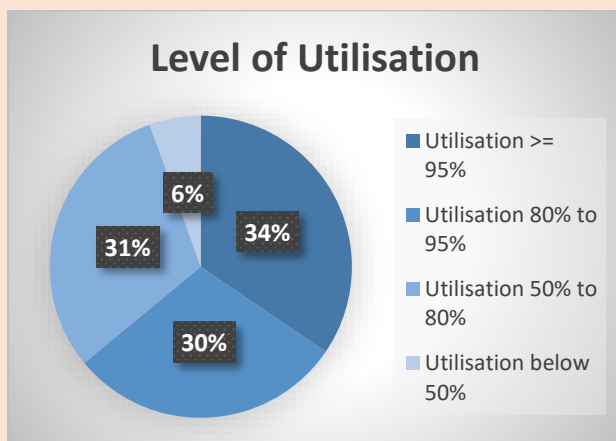




Almost all families who had received a stove also used it. This means that the stoves are very well appreciated. One third of the stove owners used it daily and almost exclusively (i.e. more than 95 percent). And the vast majority of families use the stove more than 50 percent. On average, a family consists of five people. In many households there is a second fireplace, which is usually fired up to prepare animal feed.

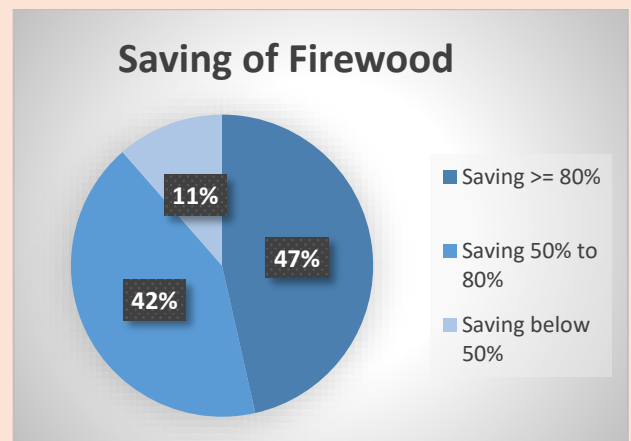


Almost all recipients reported savings of firewood with the stove. However, in some cases the data on savings are strikingly different. In total, almost half of the respondents said that they would save 80 percent or more wood compared to the past. Only eleven percent reported that they would save less than half the amount of firewood. The values of 80 percent and more mentioned clearly exceed even the calculated values of 50 percent. These were derived from the different efficiencies of an open fireplace and a brick stove. However, the figures from the survey are not measured values, but are to be regarded as subjective assessments of the users. They indicate that the actual differences in efficiency between the traditional stove and the new mud stoves are greater in practice than assumed.



This second fireplace is mostly traditional, but is mostly located outside the house. Our main goal of smoke-free interiors for families is not endangered by this. For cooking the meals, two thirds of the housewives predominantly (more than 80 percent) used the installed mud stove.

The satisfaction level among users was extraordinarily high at 93 percent. Only a few recipients had suggestions for improvement, although around two thirds of those surveyed had mentioned some problems, especially with the fireplace, such as smoke being forced into the room at times. Some also complained that the cookers were not suitable for all pots or that the firewood had to be chopped smaller.



Overall, almost all households considered the simple improved cook stove to be a significant improvement in their hard living conditions in the countryside.

Reinhard Hallermayer

## Climate protection project in Nepal

### Gold Standard Project GS 1191: "Smokeless cook stoves in rural districts of Nepal"

The climate protection project suffered a major setback due to the devastating earthquakes in April and May 2015, which had ravaged the three project districts in particular. Innumerable homes, stables and outbuildings were destroyed. Many people were injured by falling wrecks. About 8,000 people died. It was impossible to determine which of the stoves built and documented in the database were still intact and which became unusable. Field visits would have been far too time-consuming. They would also have been completely undesired by the local population in this situation of their daily struggle for survival.

After the massive damage to the project area was revealed, the project requested a three-year suspension of the project at Gold Standard. During this time no proof of CO<sub>2</sub> savings had to be provided. However, no certificates were taken into account either. Nevertheless, the Gold Standard project required knowledge about how many stoves were still functional. An estimate of the number of destroyed stoves was derived from official governmental damage reports, from 2011 Census data on the number of households and the building stock, and with some realistic assumptions.

The damage situation in the three project districts was quite different:

- **Dolakha** was worst affected by the earthquakes: **87 percent** of all stoves built (almost 1,700) were unusable.
- In **Kavre-Palanchok** slightly less damage was reported. However, **52 percent** of all installed stoves (almost 1,500) were no longer functional.
- And in **Ramechhap**, **52 percent** of the cook stoves had also been destroyed. The loss was about 2,500.

The reconstruction of the houses and the new installation of stoves is progressing very differently.

The standard model houses proposed by the government often do not include a kitchen. In a two-room house there is no room for it and "cooking huts" are organized outside the house. Also, the height of the rooms is lower than that previously known in the farmhouses and ring anchors for earthquake safety influence the possibility of making chimney openings in the outer walls in the correct place.



Finished stove at a Tamang family in Ramechhap

**Kavre-Palanchok** could only be equipped with a few stoves so far. The reasons are the inactivity of the elected representatives of the authorities, the priority of road construction and thus enhanced transport possibilities for gas for cooking, the migration of trained stove builders as simple workers abroad and again the insufficient financial support of the government.

**Ramechhap** was visited in the autumn of 2018 to carry out direct talks on the subject of stove construction with the newly elected political representatives. The feedback was very positive, but this has not yet been reflected in the figures. In Ramechhap, the reconstruction is additionally delayed because the steep hills have lost stability after the earthquake and experts are calling for resettlement in some cases.

**Dholaka** is leading the way in reconstruction. In the period under review 2,736 stoves were built here. Perhaps this is due to the fact that in the higher-lying areas with a harsh climate, a permanent dwelling is fundamentally important. But there are certainly also very committed stove builders on site.

By the end of 2018, there were again about 6,800 operational stoves in the project area and the inspection of the stoves via field visits was resumed as before the natural disaster.

In 2017, Gold Standard Foundation issued new "Gold Standard for Global Goals" guidelines for climate protection projects. The impact on the 17 sustainability development goals of the UN (SDGs) must be identified. Our project also had to be adapted to the new regulations. According to these regulations, it will make a substantial contribution to the goals:



Reinhard Hallermayer

**Cook stove projects in Ethiopia**

A very long and complicated process has come to a successful end in 2018: The Ofenmachers are now registered as an organization in Ethiopia and have achieved the status of a "Foreign Charity".



At the same time, our projects, which previously could only be regarded as pilots, have been given full status and we can now go full speed ahead with the distribution of the stoves.

Girma Fisseha was appointed head of the organization "Ofenmacher Ethiopia". Abebaw Birhanu is his deputy and at the same time head of the project "Alem Ketema and Merhabete".

**Alem Ketema and Merhabete**

The district (Woreda) Merhabete consists of 21 rural communities (Kebele), which are spread over a rugged plateau. In order to achieve our goal of supplying all communities with stoves, stove-builders are needed in all kebeles. In 2017 and 2018, a large number of training courses were held to train at least two stove fitters per community.



Merhabete Woreda

As early as January 2017, 34 new stove builders were trained, and nine experienced ones, who had previously built more than ten stoves under supervision, were also given

training, an additional training course. They may now call themselves "professional stove builders".



Quality Reinforcement Training



Practical Training

The following year, we held a training course for over 50 participants with the aim of further improving the quality of the stoves and eliminating product and process problems that had occurred up to that point.

One training course was aimed particularly at experienced stove builders. It taught the 20 participants skills for self-organisation, calculation and marketing of the product "Chigir Fechi" and should be a step towards independent entrepreneurship.



Completion of the Quality Reinforcement Training

In February, 25 new stovee builders were trained once again, and in May another nine. Another quality seminar followed at the end of the year.





Abebaw speaks at a village meeting

The state health system installs so-called "Health Extension Workers" in the rural communities, who, as outposts of health care, carry out simple treatments and provide preventive care. Based on an agreement with the health department, the Health Extension Workers in Merhabete also act as consultants on the health aspects of the stoves and report their completion. They were specially trained in February 2018 and were given knowledge about the many advantages of Chigir Fechi.



Demonstration at a cooking show

In total, we trained 112 stove builders by the end of 2018 and supplied all communities of Merhabetes. In 2017, 54 stove builders were working for us and built 1,236 stoves, in 2018, 901 stoves were built by 69 stove builders.

The distribution of stoves is supported by awareness events and cooking shows organized by Abebaw and his team in the respective communities. These are village gatherings where the advantages of a stove are demonstrated to the inhabitants in the most practical way possible.

*Frank Dengler*

## Stove building in Simien Mountains

[Simien Mountains National Park](#) in the north of Ethiopia was designated as early as 1959 and in 1978 it was added to the UNESCO World Natural Heritage List. During the years of the civil war and afterwards until the end of the last millennium, the park experienced an unprecedented development. In 2009, a ten-year restoration plan was drawn up in which die [African Wildlife Foundation](#) (AWF) plays a leading role. The AWF emerged from the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation founded in 1961 and is today one of the largest nature conservation organizations worldwide.

The support of the surrounding communities is a key prerequisite for the successful operation of the park. For this reason, AWF has set up a Community Program, which aims to improve the living conditions in the villages. One element of this program is the construction of stoves that protect the health of the people and at the same time preserve the tree population. This task is to be taken over by the stove makers with full financing from AWF.



Traditional cooking place in Simien Mountains

The exploration phase was successfully completed by Katharina and Frank in 2015 with the result that Chigir Fechi is suitable for use in the Simien Mountains.



Genet and Yeshwa at pilot stove construction

Initially, the progress of the project was delayed for financial and political reasons, but at the beginning of 2017 the pilot phase was ready to start. In February and

## Die Ofenmacher e. V.

March 2017, Genet and Yeshwa, two experienced stove builders from Alem Ketema, built twelve stoves in four villages in the mountains.

During the following six months, these stoves were subsequently observed in households and regular surveys of the operators were carried out. After the positive results were available, it unfortunately still took some time until the financing of the next phase was assured. In February 2018, the start-up phase could begin.

We again ensured the support of Genet and Yeshwa. We were also accompanied by Abebaw, who led the first part of the training. We selected 14 candidates from two villages of Adisge and Milligebsa to learn the basics of stove building in a six-day training session.



Completion of the first part of the training

Three weeks followed, during which the newcomers built stoves in households of their villages and were closely supervised and trained by us.



Tadla has completed its first stove at the customer's site

As agreed, the Simien Mountains Park Office also made a contribution and appointed Getahun Tassew as coordinator of the project. He supported the stove builders, ensured the supply of materials and reported to Ofenmacher in Germany.

## Smoke-free Cooking Stoves



Stove builder and customer at the same time: Fatima with the chigir Fechi in her house

Another goal of the start-up phase was to build 100 stoves within the first nine months after the training. In fact, 96 furnaces were reported as completed and handed over to the customer by the end of 2018.

In the same year, Ethiopia experienced extensive political changes, which resulted in personnel changes in the park office, among other things. Unfortunately, our coordinator was also affected by this. In addition, there were problems with financing from the AWF, so that the project finally came to a stop towards the end of 2018.

We are currently negotiating with the AWF to determine the conditions under which a continuation can be assured. By the end of 2019 we want to have come to a decision.

*Frank Dengler*



## Smoke-free Cooking Stoves

### Cook stove projects in Kenya

Since 2013 we have been working with [Ol Pejeta Conservancy](#) in Kenya. The Wildlife Park, a non-profit organisation at the foot of Mount Kenya, supports the surrounding villages, where cooking is done over an open fire as in many other countries.

The agreement includes that Ol Pejeta will provide infrastructure such as offices and vehicles and the local coordinator. The stove makers contribute know-how and finance the stoves. This means that there are no fixed costs for the stove makers in Kenya. On the other hand, we have no direct access to the coordinator, who is Ol Pejeta's employee.

With the disastrous drought in Kenya in spring 2017, the priorities for Ol Pejeta shifted. Bernard, our coordinator was increasingly entrusted with other tasks. As a result, almost no stoves were built in the second half of 2017 and the first half of 2018. In the summer, however, we jointly decided to make a new start.



Twelve newly trained stove builders with trainer

Katharina and Frank traveled to Kenya in fall 2018 to train Stephen as the new coordinator and to give a training with a subsequent campaign.



Active participation of customers in brick making

Twelve candidates from surrounding villages were first given five days of theoretical and practical instruction. This was followed by two weeks of stove construction at the customer's site with support, the so-called campaign.

## Die Ofenmacher e. V.

The demand in the villages around Ol Pejeta has always been very high and the new stove builders were welcomed accordingly joyfully. The members of the household helped eagerly with the preparations, such as mixing clay and shaping bricks.



The Kenya stove in the shell - the clay insert is visible

The Kenya stove has some special features. The combustion chamber is formed by a cylinder of fired clay, which absorbs the high mechanical stress when cooking ugali (corn porridge) and compensates for the poor quality of the clay in the region. On request, the stove can also be covered with a cement jacket, which further increases its durability. This variant is very popular, probably also because of the higher quality appearance of the stove.



Finished stove with cement mantle - left: Coach David

With the help of the campaign, the twelve candidates were very quickly introduced in practice and we are now expecting a renewed increase in the number of stoves being built in Kenya. By the end of 2018 we had built a total of 825 stoves there.

*Frank Dengler*



Review of Help



provide  
health for



In 2017/2018 reporting period, the Ofenmacher had built a total of 25,116 stoves. On average, a family has five heads. This means that we achieved the goal of reaching about 125,000 people in need. This is equivalent to the population of a large town like the Bavarian Fürth!

Stove Construction Figures

	2017	2018
Nepal	10,637	12,043
Ethiopia	1238	1004
Kenya	114	80
Total	11,989	13,127

Swastha Chulo Nepal installed stoves in nine districts of the country during the reporting period.



New stove - Healthy kitchen



The plate on the door shows that a mud stove was installed in this house by Swastha Chulo Nepal

### Education of Local People

The stove makers help people to help themselves. This also includes the training of local workers in stove construction.

	Training Courses	Participants	Including Women
2017	4	96	61
2018	7	105	52
Total	11	201	113



Teachers and students are concentrated in training

### Active Stove Builders

In Nepal, 101 stove manufacturers were active in the reporting period installing 25,116 stoves. This means an average output of 250 stoves per man or woman during the two years. In return they received an average wage of about 650 € per year from Swastha Chulo Nepal. This sum is equivalent to an annual income in Nepal. This additional income for our stove builders is all the more pleasing.

	2017	2018
Nepal	61	85
Ethiopia	54	80
Kenya	5	9
Total	120	174



The new stove is almost ready

### Sustainability Development Goals of the UN

The UN has defined 17 Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) for the year 2030 to which development projects in the global South should be related. Each project should identify the goals to which it makes substantial contributions.

The stove projects of the Ofenmacher contribute to the following sustainability goals of the UN:





### „Gutes Beispiel 2017“

(Good Example 2017)

#### Award of the Bavarian Broadcasting Corporation

*"Gutes Beispiel" is an initiative of Bayern 2, in which we honour projects that work in an exemplary manner for a better society. We attract public attention to these good examples and show that courage, commitment and passion can positively influence society. With the competition we want to support innovative projects from Bavaria, to express our appreciation to the creators and to motivate others to go forward with good examples as well.*

This is how Bayerischer Rundfunk describes its activities to support projects that are based on social commitment and provide positive impulses in society.



Laudation of Munich's former lord mayer Christian Ude

In 2017 we were one of 500 participants in this competition. The jury selected our project as one of the five finalists. This gave us the chance to present our project to the listeners of Bayern 2 for several days at the best broadcasting times. The finale could not have been more exciting. In a live broadcast, the finalists presented their projects to the listeners again in short form. The listeners voted for their favourite during the broadcast. Our stove construction projects won 3rd place and we were awarded a cheque for 3,000 € for stove construction.

Another positive effect was the very broad media impact. The laudatory speech by former Munich Lord Mayor Christian Ude made a contribution in this context. He was very enthusiastic about the idea of the stove construction projects and emphasized once again how such great effects can be achieved with a small financial expenditure. We had a lot of positive feedback and certainly also many donations for our stove projects. Really a great result for us Ofenmacher.



Proud Ofenmacher people (from left): Joachim Wiesmüller, Frank Dengler, Karla and Matthias Warmedinger, Maxim Messerer, Theo Melcher

Theo Melcher

### Wikinger Hiking Marathon

#### Hiking for a good Purpose

Under the slogan "Every step does good", Wikinger Reisen organized its fifth walking marathon on May 20, 2017. And it beat all records: 1,200 hiking enthusiasts from all over Germany met in Hagen to explore the landscape for a good purpose.



Two participants present the hiking routes

In spite of the bad weather the day before and the cool temperatures, the hiking friends were not discouraged. Nature friends had the choice of distances of 14, 22 or 42 kilometres. In principle, 100 percent of the participants' entry fees go to the Georg Kraus Foundation (GKS). The



## Active for our Association

marathon is held every two years and each time supports a different project sponsored by the Georg-Kraus-Stiftung. All revenues from the 2017 walking marathon went to the Ofenmacher project in Ethiopia. A total of 20,000 € was collected.

In 1996, the company founder Hans-Georg Kraus also founded GKS, which supports social projects and local development projects according to the motto: "The best way out of poverty is the way to school". GKS supports small, manageable local projects that directly help the local people, such as the stove construction project in Ethiopia. The event therefore also took place with the participation of the Ofenmacher. Joachim Wiesmüller represented us at the joint stand with GKS.



Joachim Wiesmüller in conversation

## Training Program in Ethiopia

The walking marathon of the Wikingen Reisen creates a big bridge from prosperous Germany to one of the poorest regions of Africa. The revenues will be used to finance the training and further education of stove builders in the region around Alem Ketema in Ethiopia. The Georg Kraus Foundation has been supporting the Ofenmacher for several years now in the development of all training activities there. Based on this, we have worked out a training and further education programme together with GKS that will run for several years. The program consists of different pillars.

The basic training focuses on health education on the risks of open fires and the advantages of smoke ventilation stoves, as well as on learning how to build and promote these stoves. Thus the trained stove builders, many of whom are single women, have the chance to earn their own income by building stoves in their communities, which helps to ensure their livelihood. Our goal is to employ more than 50 active women stove builders, who will build more than a thousand stoves per year in the first phase.

## Die Ofenmacher e. V.



Attentive audience

Based on this knowledge, the experienced stove builders are further trained as instructors. In the meanwhile, they carry out the basic training in Alem Ketema independently together with the local project management. In the course of a second project, several trainers have also been trained in the Simien Mountains in Ethiopia successfully passed on their skills. They supported Frank Dengler and Katharina Dworschak in the practical training of the stove builders and together with them built a number of pilot stoves in this still young project.



Why is it like this right now?

A further training block is intended to teach the basics of self-employment. This is to create the basis for the more efficient stove-makers to be given the chance to build up their own existence in the long term, if possible without or only with little support from the development projects.

We know that this will be a long road. That is why GKS and we Ofenmacher have designed this project to be very long-term. We are thinking of a period of about ten years.

*Theo Melcher*

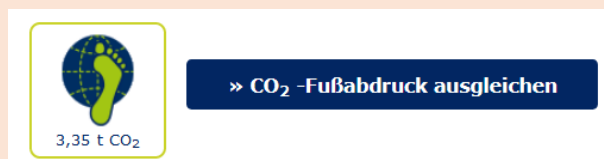
## Wikinger Reisen and Climate Compensation

### Climate Neutral Travelling

Wikinger Reisen in Hagen have been supporting the Ofenmacher's projects since 2016, and this in two different ways.

On the one hand, Wikinger Reisen supports the stove-building projects in Nepal with an annual donation of 25,000 €. Thus, stove construction in Nepal has become one of the essential components of their sustainability programme. With the donation from Wikinger Reisen, an additional 2,500 new stoves can be built annually by our stove builders in Nepal. The humanitarian effect is great, and at the same time the smoke-free cook stoves generate significant savings in greenhouse gas emissions. With each stove built, up to one ton of greenhouse gas is saved annually, i.e. up to 2,500 tons per year is saved through the commitment of Wikinger Reisen. To give you a feeling for this effect: This saving is equivalent to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 40 million passenger flight kilometers.

But not only Wikinger Reisen itself promotes the stove-building projects. The company offers its customers the chance to participate in the stove-building projects. Since autumn 2016, every customer who books a trip has the opportunity to compensate for the greenhouse gases emitted during his or her flight by retiring Ofenmacher's climate reduction certificates. The customer obtains a certificate for the compensated amount of greenhouse gases in the Ofenmacher Gold Standard climate project as well as a donation receipt. The Ofenmacher retire these certificates and use the money to build new stoves.



With every booking the climate compensation of the CO<sub>2</sub> emission caused by the flight is offered

The whole staff of Wikinger Reisen, all internal employees as well as more than 300 tour guides were informed about the work of the Ofenmacher and their projects in the different countries within the scope of their further training programmes.

*Theo Melcher*

## Nepal stove at the shore of the North Sea

### Cooking, discussing, learning

In the spring of 2017 the idea of building a demonstration stove on my home island Pellworm was born. A conversation during a ferry crossing was the beginning of this activity. Silke Zetl, organic farmer and technical school teacher, and Christa Drigalla developed the vision of building a Nepalese stove in the garden. Frank Dengler as specialist in stove construction and his wife Katharina were motivated to travel from Munich to Pellworm.

The practical preparations could begin. On the cold and unstable Easter days the stove bricks were produced. After some experimentation with quantities and mixtures, the right consistency of the earth clay was found and with the participation of Silke's grandchildren all bricks could be formed. The rainy weather posed a particular difficulty, because "the stones should dry outdoors", as it is written in the instructions. That's why Silke and her family were busy over the holidays transporting the wet stones again and again - out of the garage when the sun was shining and back in when the rain clouds were draining. But in the end all the stones got dry and were ready to be used in time.

In May 2017 the time had come: stove construction day at the Zetl-Hof. Again the weather was not so good, strong east wind and cold temperatures, but that didn't stop us: Stomping clay and carrying stones. The Zetls had made a suitable concrete foundation and so the work could start immediately. The local agricultural machinery mechanic donated the iron parts to reinforce the stove, and there was plenty of clay.

After the exact construction plan the stove was set up and unusual tools such as a flex were used to bring the stones into the right shape. The chimney grew in height and was smoothed out very carefully from the inside. Extremely important is the correct shaping of the internal stove structure to force the smoke into the right path. The baffle plate was shaped accordingly. The fitting of the pots brought in from Nepal and the external covering of the stove with soft clay completed the work and in the afternoon a rather perfect Nepalese stove stood in the garden.

In the meantime a massive corrugated iron hut was built around the stove and so the Chulo will survive even the wettest and stormiest northern German winter undamaged.



Everything's clean in the chimney?

However, in spring 2018 an unexpected problem occurred. The smoke did not go out at all and it unintentionally became a very original demonstration of a smoky hut as it is frequently found in Nepal. The reason was quickly identified: A family of starlings had built their breeding nest in the chimney and had already laid four eggs in it. The nest was moved to a nearby hedge and so it was possible to fire again without any obstacles.



Initial firing: Going!

The island stove is a meeting point for different events and there is always Nepali tea or Daal Bhat, the Nepalese national dish. One gets into conversation and some support ideas were even born at the Pellworm stove.

*Christa Drigalla*

## Partnership with Pfaffenhofen

### Together for Climate Protection

As early as May 2017, the city council of Pfaffenhofen an der Ilm decided to enter into a partnership with the association "Die Ofenmacher e. V."

In the scope of the cooperation, the city of Pfaffenhofen is compensating for all CO<sub>2</sub> emissions caused by heat generation in municipal buildings. All donations made by the town of Pfaffenhofen to our association by way of the partnership will be used for the development and expansion of the stove construction project in Ethiopia.

The partnership will run for the years 2017 and 2018: "The positive effects generated by the outstanding commitment of the Ofenmacher in the developing countries match our philosophy in Pfaffenhofen. That is why I am fully backing this project" explained Mayor Thomas Herker.

The year before, Desta Andarge, Mayor of the central Ethiopian city of Alem Ketema, visited Mayor Thomas Herker together with Dr. Frank Dengler and Joachim Wiesmüller from the Ofenmacher.

The municipal climate protection initiative has the objective of halving CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita by 2030. By offsetting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions with VER certificates from the Ofenmacher, the city is able to compensate for technically unavoidable CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and at the same time provide humanitarian support.



Sealing of the partnership (from left) Climate protection officer Andreas Herschmann, Mayor Thomas Herker, Joachim Wiesmüller and Reinhard Hallermayer from the Ofenmacher

The Ofenmacher are happy about the first committed partnership between the organization and a municipality. The partnership is evidence of the appeal and significance of Ofenmacher's climate protection project.

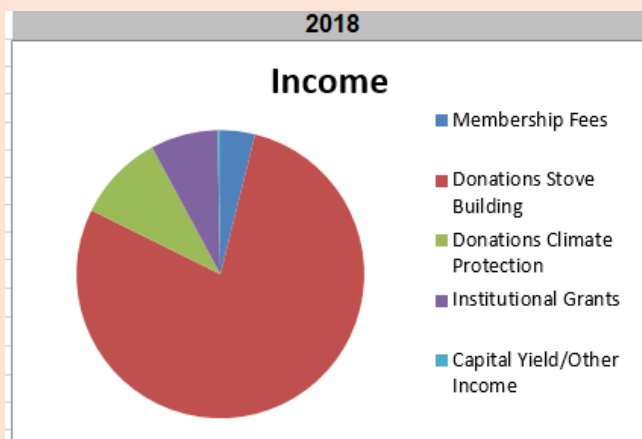
*Reinhard Hallermayer*



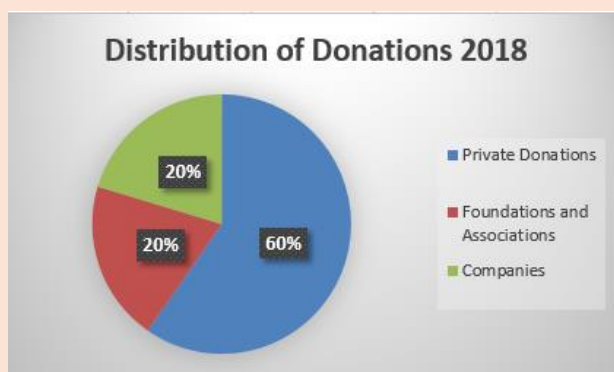
Revenues

Revenues of Years 2017 and 2018

Income	2017	2018
Membership Fees	5,545 €	6,145 €
Donations Stove Building	149,280 €	124,239 €
Donations Climate Protection	15,958 €	15,536 €
Institutional Grants	31,400 €	12,000 €
Other Income (Capital Yield etc)	95 €	483 €
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>202,278 €</b>	<b>158,403 €</b>



Origin of donations by groups of people



The main financial pillar of our work is the donations and membership fees from private persons. In addition, associations, congregations and companies make a considerable contribution to stove construction. Institutional subsidies are grants from government bodies and foundations. Due to two exceptionally large grants, the funding received in 2017 are significantly higher than in 2018.

The Ofenmacher were supported for the first time by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with development aid funds. After extensive preparations, the project proposal for the stove construction in Pyuthan was approved in early 2017. The BMZ has supported the project with a grant of € 26,400.

In both years 2017 and 2018, the Ofenmacher received a grant of € 5,000 each from the Hand in Hand fund. The joint initiative of Deutsche Umwelthilfe and Rapunzel Naturkost awards grants to qualified projects that help people to help themselves. The fund is mainly financed by Rapunzel, a pioneer in the field of high-quality organic products.

The verified CO<sub>2</sub> savings are credited as VER certificates by the Gold Standard. The Ofenmacher offer these certified credits from the climate protection project in Nepal for climate compensation. For a donation of 15 €, a VER certificate for one ton of CO<sub>2</sub> will be retired. This means that this amount of CO<sub>2</sub> has been removed from the global cycle. The donor can claim credit for this as a climate protection measure. The corresponding CO<sub>2</sub> emissions caused are thereby compensated. In this way, for example, a holiday flight can be made climate neutral.

With the help of our donors we were able to retire VER certificates for 859 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2017 and 1,014 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2018. Especially customers of Wikinger Reisen used the offer of climate compensation.

**1 ton CO<sub>2</sub> offset = donation of 15 Euro**

Many sincere thanks

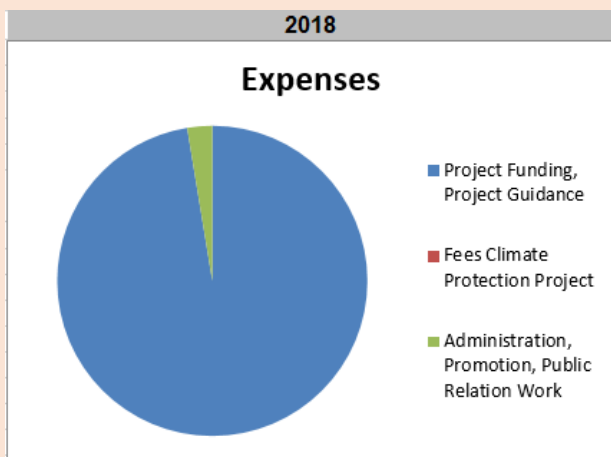
The association "Die Ofenmacher e. V." would like to thank all members and donors and is looking forward to further cooperation and support.

**Many warm thanks on behalf of 125,000 people whom you have helped to create a safe and healthy home!**

Expenses

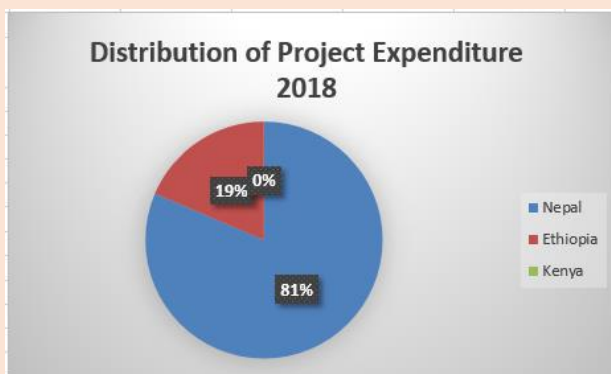
Expenditure of Years 2017 and 2018

Expenses	2017	2018
Project Funding, Project Guidance	142,646 €	185,848 €
Administration, Promotion, Public Relation Work	5,648 €	4,958 €
<b>Gesamtausgaben</b>	<b>148,294 €</b>	<b>190,806 €</b>



Distribution across projects and countries

The project expenditures for Nepal make up the bulk of the project funding. The proven local partner Swastha Chulo Nepal and many trained stove builders make it possible to distribute a large number of mud stoves in this area.



The sponsorship of stove construction projects is at the core of the association's activities. With over 95 percent of the expenditure, it is the absolute top priority. All other costs are relatively low.

The **BMZ project** in 2017 posed a special organisational challenge for both the association and Swastha Chulo Nepal. According to the funding guidelines, all expenses and income had to be directly allocated to this project. This meant an enormous readjustment for the accounting system. Unfortunately, due to the circumstances in Nepal (elections, heavy monsoon), the approved funds could not be fully utilized during the project period from 01/04/2017 to 31/12/2017. The verification of the proper use of the grants required considerable effort. In order to comply with the BMZ statutes, a registered auditor in Nepal also had to be consulted.

The extraordinarily high proportion of project funding in the countries could only be achieved through the great commitment of the active members of the association. In Germany as well as in the project areas, numerous hours were spent on a purely voluntary basis:

In 2017, this amounted to a total of about 5,000 honorary hours and in 2018 a similarly large number. In addition to the time spent on work, the active members have waived the payment of travel expenses or similar expenses of 3,747 € in 2017 and 5,458 € in 2018 and have contributed them to the association as expenditure donations.

At this opportunity we like to thank all active members of the association. Without their extraordinary commitment such a successful work of the association would not be possible!

From 2018 onwards, due to increased costs, the average price for production and distribution of a stove in Nepal had to be increased to 12 Euros per stove. In Africa, the price is currently higher due to the more complex construction and the smaller number of units.

**Each stove is 12 Euro!**

## Die Ofenmacher e. V.

*Household Air Pollution is perhaps the most overlooked, widespread health risk of our time. The global community has not treated this problem with an urgency commensurate with its impact!*

*Raumluftverschmutzung in Wohnhäusern ist vielleicht das am meisten übersehene, weit verbreitete Gesundheitsrisiko unserer Zeit. Die Weltgemeinschaft hat dieses Problem nicht mit einer Dringlichkeit behandelt, die ihren Auswirkungen angemessen wäre!*

(From: "Burning Opportunity: Clean Household Energy for Health, Sustainable Development, and Wellbeing of Women and Children", WHO 2016)

### Non-profit association "Die Ofenmacher e. V."

1. Chairman: Dr. Frank Dengler  
2. Chairman: Matthias Warmedinger  
Treasurer: Burkhard Dönitz (until Juli 2018)  
Robert Pfeffer (since August 2018)  
Assessor: Theo Melcher  
Assessor: Dr. Maxim Messerer

The Ofenmacher would like to thank Burkhard Dönitz for his many years of reliable work as treasurer and guardian of the finances.

The association "Die Ofenmacher e. V.", Munich, has been declared by the Munich Finance Office on 30.10.2018 as an exclusively and directly tax-privileged charitable and non-profit organisation in the sense of §§ 51 ff. AO as serving exclusively and directly tax-privileged charitable and non-profit purposes within the meaning of §§ 51 ff.

### New account for donations:

Die Ofenmacher e. V.,  
IBAN: DE88 8306 5408 0004 0117 40  
BIC: GENODEF1SLR, Deutsche Skatbank

For climate compensation please enter the keyword:  
Climate protection or the number of tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



