

Cookstoves developers launch production facility in Malawi

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Quantum Commodity Intelligence - Kenya-based Burn in partnership with Dubai-based project developer Aim Carbon have opened a cookstove manufacturing facility in Malawi.

The move is part of a broader, previously announced initiative by the companies to distribute 1.2 million digitally monitored biomass and electric cooking appliances in Malawi, Tanzania, Madagascar and Nigeria.

The Malawi facility covers 2,000 square metres, is expected to produce up to 50,000 biomass stoves per month, and has created 520 jobs — 99% hired locally.

"In 2024, the Government of Malawi issued Burn a Letter of Authorisation to bring our clean cooking appliances to families who need them most," said Peter Scott, founder and CEO of Burn, in a statement announcing the facility's launch.

"Thanks to that support, we're proud to launch this facility with an initial investment of \$1 million," said Scott.

The facility will initially produce the ECOA Char charcoal stove, which the company's claim delivers a 72% thermal efficiency and 40-65% fuel savings compared with traditional stoves.

"In the initial phase, 5% of units will be fitted with digital monitoring to ensure data-backed usage, carbon credit accountability, and performance verification," said the announcement.

Women hold approximately 50% of the jobs at the plant, with Burn planning to increase its local workforce to 1,000 within five years, said the Kenya-based company.

The company aims to distribute 2 million stoves in Malawi by 2030, reducing CO2 emissions by 18 million tonnes and saving 9.6 million tonnes of wood, it said.

"The programme is projected to generate more than \$60 million in carbon credit revenues and save households an estimated \$400 million in fuel costs," said Burn.

All stoves distributed across the four countries will generate carbon credits under Gold Standard's methodology for biomass cookstoves.

Earlier in the month, the developers announced launch of operations in Madagascar as part of the same initiative.