

# PERSPECTIVE FOR MANIFESTO ON CLEAN COOKING FUELS

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## **Fundamental Facts (FFs)**

- FF #1. The cooking fuels (CFs) used by the poorest in developing countries are obtained at “zero” private cost, and the social costs associated with their collection and use are externalities. Thus, clean cooking fuels (CCFs) have to compete with “free” fuels.
- FF #2. CF usage follows an “energy ladder”: fuelwood ⇒ charcoal ⇒ kerosene ⇒ LPG/electricity, corresponding to increasing energy efficiency and “cleanliness” (decreasing pollution).
- FF #3. As a household’s income increases, the preference is for CFs higher in the ladder. The poorest households depend almost solely on fuelwood and with their lack of purchasing power, they do not generate a market demand for CFs.
- FF #4. The collection and use of fuelwood is by and large the responsibility of women.
- FF #5. But, women are not decision-makers in the matter of investments, if any, on CFs.
- FF #6. CCFs have not entered the agenda of popular political debate. For instance, they are not issues at elections.
- FF #7. The ruling elites of developing countries are little concerned with the negative impacts of dirty CFs.
- FF #8. Resulting from CFs, there are environmental concerns at the household, local, regional, national and global levels.
- FF #9. Household environmental impacts are ignored by decision-makers because they affect women.
- FF #10. Global environmental concerns tend to be ignored at the local, regional and national levels.

## **Motivation for Manifesto**

If the dirty CFs currently used by most of the populations of developing countries are “free”, and if they are collected and used by women but these women don’t decide household investments and are politically weak in elitist societies, is there a case for CCFs?

Yes, there is! [To be elaborated]

- Morality
- Correction of gender bias
- Public health
- Decrease of population growth
- Sustainability

