



**SEED** | 10 YEARS OF  
SEED AWARDS  
2005-2015  
promoting entrepreneurship  
for sustainable development

Founding Partners



**AFRICA  
WINNER 2015**

RK Renew Energy PLC uses local resources to produce improved ceramic cook stoves. Women from rural and semi-urban areas are trained to build the ceramic stoves and to distribute and sell them in Ethiopian refugee camps.



## RK Renew Energy PLC, Ethiopia

### BUSINESS MODEL

The initiative engages Ethiopian women from the host communities of refugee camps to produce ceramic, fuel-efficient stoves. The stoves are then distributed and sold in the refugee camps by other groups of trained refugee women.

The demand for improved cook stoves is very high in refugee areas due to their fuel efficiency. Reducing the need for fuelwood gathering, the stoves also reduce the workload for girls in the camps and diminish their risk of falling victim to sexual violence, while also reducing air pollution and fire incidences.

### ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS:

Location	Refugee camps, Ethiopia
Year founded	2015
Sector	Energy
Product/Service	Improved cook stoves

### Social impacts:

- Empowering women with new skills, entrepreneurial opportunities and additional income.
- Reducing household expenses on cooking and improving food security by decreasing the exchange of food rations for fuel.
- Relieving the risk of sexual violence for women with fewer trips necessary to collect fuelwood.

### Environmental impacts:

- Reducing carbon emissions by 260,000 tons and saving 240,000 tons of fuelwood annually, when target capacity of 55,000 stoves per year is reached.

### Economic impacts:

- Increasing economic productivity in refugee camps through supporting entrepreneurship and promoting affordable, time-saving and resource-efficient stoves.
- Reducing expenditure on healthcare, especially on issues related to air pollution.

**Contact** [re.renewenergy@gmail.com](mailto:re.renewenergy@gmail.com)

” Selling improved stoves is more than a commercial interaction: it is a platform for understanding between host communities and refugees which dissipates tension and builds bridges.

### Scaling up activities:

- Acquire start-up capital from investors in order to establish and develop the first five stove-production sites.
- Produce 55,000 stoves by December 2016, aiming for a total of 165,000 stoves by Dec 2018.
- With stove production established, begin to also introduce solar lighting for the refugee camps in mid-2016.



” RK Renew Energy serves a potential market of 821,000 refugees in 23 Ethiopian refugee camps.

### Partnership

- **RK Renew Energy PLC** manufactures, sells and distributes improved ceramic cook stoves. It also provides training, advisory and technical support.
- **Bekelech Clay Made Fuel Saving Stoves Manufacturing** supports the initiative through technical assistance, training in production, quality control and advisory service.
- **Abrha Meles Metal and Woodwork Enterprise** produces the iron cladding for the improved cook stoves.



The 2015 SEED Awards in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya are largely supported by the European Union, which is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies.

### About SEED

SEED identifies and supports promising small scale social and environmental enterprises around the globe, enterprises who while working towards a greener economy also tackle poverty, marginalisation and social exclusion. SEED provides these enterprises with know-how and networks, taking the lessons learnt at local level up to decision-makers to promote evidence-based policy making. For more information please write to [info@seed.uno](mailto:info@seed.uno) or visit:

[www.seed.uno](http://www.seed.uno)

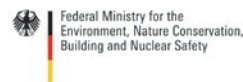
#### SEED Founding Partners



#### SEED Hosting Partner



#### SEED Partners



#### SEED Corporate Partner

