

Ekasi Energy produces biomass cooking fuel and clean cooking appliances for informal settlements with little or no grid power. The alternative clean energy solutions reduce health threats caused by burning wood, charcoal and paraffin fires usually used for cooking.



## Ekasi Energy, South Africa

### 🏆 SAG-SEED AWARD WINNER 2017 🏆

#### BUSINESS MODEL

Ekasi Energy manufactures biomass pellets, a natural fuel from compressed wood waste. To make this clean alternative an attractive fuel for informal off-grid households, the FAABulous Cooking Stove was designed to eliminate household threats of smoke from burning paraffin or charcoal while reducing greenhouse gas emissions at the same time.

In addition, the FAABulous Clean Energy Appliances make use of the latest solar generation and battery storage technology to power low-voltage lighting, mobile devices and other household appliances.

#### ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS:

Location	Stellenbosch, South Africa
Year founded	2015
Sector	Manufacturing/Energy
Product/Service	FAABulous Cooking Stove

#### Contribution to the SDGs:



#### Social impacts:

- Providing income for biomass waste producers, pellet producers and fuel distributors.
- Improving the health of off-grid households by reducing indoor pollution from traditional cook stoves.
- Increasing safety by reducing the risk of fire associated with storing and using traditional cooking fuels.

#### Environmental impacts:

- Preventing carbon emissions by using Ekasi's pellets instead of paraffin, wood or charcoal.
- Combating deforestation by saving 400 tonnes of wood per year for every 1,000 stoves in use.
- Reducing pollution caused by burning agricultural waste which is instead used for pellets.

#### Economic impacts:

- Reducing monthly household spending on cooking fuel by ZAR 60, meaning a new cook stove pays itself back within nine months.
- Creating a local market for agricultural waste used in pellet production.

” The FAABulous provides the ability to cook indoors with biomass in a clean, controllable and affordable way, that has been difficult to achieve in the past.

## Scaling up activities:

- Sell 6,500 new cook stoves and 1,600 tonnes of pellets by the end of 2018.
- Establish a plant for large-scale production of pellets as soon as 5,000 cook stoves have been sold.
- Address behaviour change through trainings around the use of alternative cooking fuels, safety and cooking tips.
- Establish a reseller base of 10 female resellers per region: As primary users, women are seen as advocates for cleaner living.



## Partnership

● **Ekasi Energy**, a private company, produces the cook stoves and sources the pellets.

● **DR TLUD (Top-Lit UpDraft-technology)**, a research institution specialised in clean cook stoves and cooking fuels, assists Ekasi with research and development.

● **iShack**, a producer of solar solutions, will test the cook stoves as a complementary product to their solar solutions.

● **iKhayalami** will assist Ekasi in finding the communities that need the clean solution most and in identifying the right resellers within the communities.

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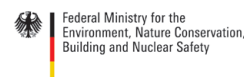
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