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This portfolio of projects provides rural households with a circular, clean cooking solution, reducing the pollution and costs of using coal.



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Rural Clean Cooking, India

Project type: Household devices and resource recovery

Region: Asia **Standard:** Gold Standard



Description

This programme of Gold Standard projects supports low income small-holder farmers in rural areas across central India by using their farm animal waste to give them access to clean and affordable energy. The projects install small biodigesters which convert the waste from cattle and from the households into biogas, which is captured and used for cooking and heating water – a closed loop solution to providing clean energy. The biogas burns cleanly, reducing indoor air pollution and replacing non-renewable fuel wood which is typically used in the home. In addition, the biodigester produces an effective fertiliser which can be spread on the land and is more effective than the application of the dung directly. Carbon finance is used to provide support for purchasing and installing the biodigester and cookstove. In addition to reducing emissions, the project provides a circular economy clean energy solution which improves indoor air quality and sanitation and creates local jobs installing the biodigesters.

Sustainable Development Goals: In addition to delivering emissions reductions, this portfolio is certified by the Gold Standard to deliver a number of other benefits. The SDG contributions have been indicatively measured, and need to be confirmed:

- **Affordable and Clean Energy:** With a sustainable and affordable energy source (biogas), households report a cost saving through avoided purchase of coal for cooking needs.
- **Good Health and Wellbeing for People:** Biogas burns cleanly without producing ash or smoke, delivering a significant improvement to the health of the household.
- **Clean Water and Sanitation:** The biodigesters provide an effective way to dispose of household waste and remove the sanitation problems from the waste pits that were previously used.

