



CSR Impact Assessment Report
April 2024- March 2025
Capgemini Technology Services India Limited

Improved Cookstove Distribution in Uttarakhand
Implemented by Center for Business and Entrepreneurial
Development

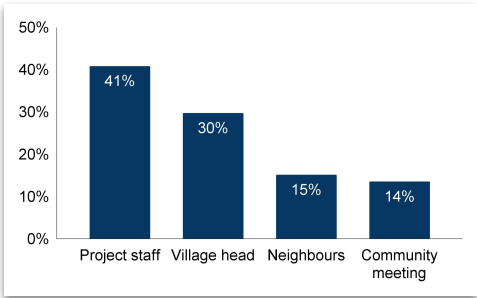
Assessed by Aspire Impact in FY 2025-26

Executive Summary

The Improved Cookstove Project, implemented during FY 2024–25, supported **20,000** rural households across Haridwar district in transitioning from traditional biomass-based chulhas to cleaner cooking technology. The intervention was targeted with the objective of reducing health risks, labour burdens, and environmental pressures associated with traditional cooking practices.

Aspire Impact conducted a quantitative survey of **377** women (95% confidence level, 5% margin of error) and **13** qualitative interviews with women, field coordinators, village head/gram pradhan and project head. Findings capture the program’s impact across Reach, Depth, Inclusion and Sustainability:

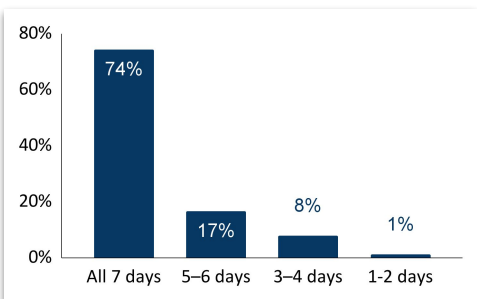
Source of information about the cookstove



Reach: Strong last-mile delivery through trusted community channels

- The cookstove distribution reached 20,000 households with **59%** in Bhagwanpur block and **41%** in Bahadrabad block with outreach driven primarily through direct engagement with field staff (**41%**) and local leadership such as Gram Pradhans (**30%**), supported by community word-of-mouth (**14%**).
- Distribution was widely accessible, with **97%** of beneficiaries reporting the process as easy or very easy, enabling smooth uptake among vulnerable households.

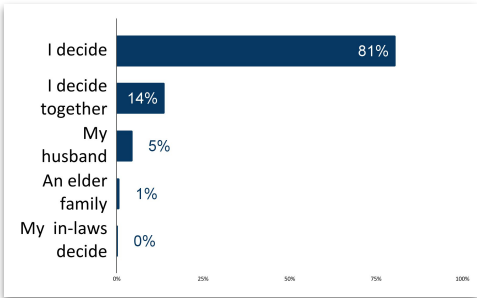
Preferred mode of cooking for women



Depth: Sustained usage patterns and reported changes in health, time use, and environmental awareness

- **74%** of women reported using cookstove for all seven days, **73%** reported it to be their preferred mode of cooking.
- **59%** of households reported a decrease in the number of firewood collection trips.
- Users reported reduced kitchen smoke, lower respiratory discomfort among the other benefits of the improved cookstove.

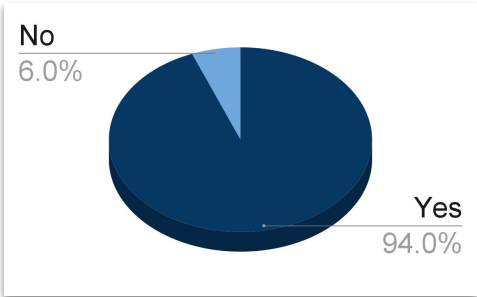
Decision makers of using the cookstove



Inclusion: Reported patterns of women-led decision-making and participation across households

- The intervention was able to support a majority of economically vulnerable households, with **66%** of beneficiary families reporting monthly incomes below INR 10,000, indicating its reach among low-income communities.
- **81%** of women reported independently deciding on the use of the improved cookstove for household cooking, indicating greater involvement in household decisions and contributing to enhanced agency at home.

Recommendation of cookstove



Sustainability: Strong user feedback with clear opportunities for strengthening systems

- Survey responses indicate reported satisfaction and willingness among users to recommend the cookstove within their communities.
- While over half of respondents reported no immediate need for additional support, others expressed interest in follow-up visits. Survey responses also highlight an opportunity to further enhance user awareness of repair and maintenance services, which can support continued functionality and long-term usage.

Recommendations

The following recommendations have been derived from both quantitative survey responses and qualitative interactions with women, village heads and project and field staff.

Theme	Current Situation	Recommendations
Sustained Behavioral Adaptation	While initial adoption is high, some households continue to use traditional methods for certain cooking tasks due to established cultural habits	Strengthen community engagement through continued demonstrations and periodic follow-up visits to encourage broader adoption of the cookstove for all household cooking needs.
Service Communication & Support	While 89% of units have required no repair, 45% of users who required the support were unable to access the same and many families reported to have lost critical physical warranty and declaration documents.	Proactively share office contact numbers with beneficiaries and adopt a digital record-keeping system for warranties to prevent service delays when physical papers are lost.
Inclusive Social Engagement	Early implementation faced mistrust and access barriers in sensitive areas, which were only mitigated by the later inclusion of female field staff to engage with women in their kitchens.	Mandate the inclusion of female field team members for all household interactions and perform robust trust-building exercises with local influencers well before distribution begins.