

## Scaling clean cooking solutions in African urban informal settlements:

### Insights from the ENACT Peer-to-Peer Exchange in Kampala

Between June 25th and 28th, 2024, the ENACT project team (ICLEI Africa and Energy 4 Impact), led by ICLEI Africa, hosted a vibrant peer-to-peer exchange program on clean cooking in Kampala, Uganda. This program united key stakeholders from the public, private sector, and civil society, alongside delegates from Sierra Leone (including the Freetown City Council and Ministry of Energy). Representatives from neighboring municipalities in the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area—Wakiso, Nansana, and Entebbe—were also invited to exchange experiences and insights from their respective cities. This week-long initiative provided a platform for the ENACT team and its partners to reflect on their journey in Uganda, share achievements, celebrate milestones, and discuss lessons learned, paving the way for future expansions into other communities and cities.



*Project reflection session between ENACT project partners (ICLEI Africa, Energy 4 Impact- Mercy Corps) and the service providers (Wana Energy Solutions and Green Bio Energy)*

This four day programme included a range of activities and engagements, including a full day community engagement event and site visit in Kisenyi informal settlement (where ENACT and its partners have been deploying clean cooking interventions); a Multi-Level Governance (MLG) Dialogue Workshop on clean cooking; a peer to peer exchange workshop between the local government officials, ministries of energy from Sierra Leone and Uganda and the private sector; and a site visit to Green Bio Energy's briquette and improved cookstove production factory in Mukono.

## Highlights



Site visit with ENACT project partners and delegates to early adopters (households and businesses) in Kisenyi (25 June)

During the **Kisenyi community engagement event** and site visits, it was refreshing to hear the testimonials of early adopters of the technologies (EPCs, ICS, briquettes and LPG) being deployed through the project, and how it had resulted in **significant cost and time savings** for such low-income households who have often had to spend lots of money from their already limited income on the fuels for cooking. The community had indeed embraced the initiative and owned it, and were indeed “cooking with a smile”. They deeply appreciated the support of the project partners and funder (the UK Government) and strongly advocated for scaling this initiative to other communities across Uganda to extend these benefits widely.

The **project exceeded its targets, reaching over 1600 households and businesses in Kisenyi and surrounding areas with clean cooking interventions**. This success was due to the passion and innovative approaches of local partners, Wana Energy Solutions and Green Bio Energy, the strong support from Kisenyi community leaders, and the enabling environment provided by Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) and the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD).



Kisenyi residents with the ENACT team at the Kisenyi community engagement event (25 June 2024)

## Highlights

The second day of the program featured a **full-day Multi Level Governance (MLG) dialogue workshop** focused on scaling clean cooking access for hard-to-reach urban populations. This multi-stakeholder event was opened by **Dr. Brian E. Isabirye, Commissioner at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development**, who commended the efforts of the project partners and reaffirmed the Government's commitment to improving clean cooking access for all, while providing an enabling environment for the private sector to scale. Following this, **Ms. Lydia Nandawula from the British High Commission in Kampala committed to supporting the goal of transitioning 50% of Ugandans to cleaner cooking by 2025.**

The **peer-to-peer exchange workshop** brought together representatives from local and national government authorities from Sierra Leone and Uganda, along with the private sector. It provided an opportunity for stakeholders to engage in in-depth discussions on operationalizing public-private partnerships to scale clean cooking access, particularly for low-income households.



*Project manager, Carine Buma (ICLEI Africa) speaking at the MLG workshop*



*Production of Briketi improved cookstoves at Mukono, Uganda*

The final day of the program featured a **site visit to a carbonised biomass briquette and improved cookstove (ICS) production facility in Mukono**. ENACT partners, Green Bio Energy (GBE) and Wana Energy Solutions, hosted delegates from national ministries and urban authorities (from Wakiso, Nansana, Entebbe and freetown) at their Mukono facility. Delegates were given a tour of the production processes for both briquettes and improved cookstoves. It was heartwarming to see that the majority of the workers were youths and women.

An overarching theme brought into focus during the week was the need to **target informal settlement communities with continuous awareness raising on the benefits of clean cooking**. Notably, the cost of such awareness activities as well as the enabling role that the government can play as champions of clean cooking was brought to light, with commitments made by both business and government to collaborate and coordinate efforts in this respect.

# Highlights



*MLG Dialogue Workshop participants (26 June 2024)*



*Site visit to Carbonised biomass briquette and improved cookstove (ICS) production facility in Mukono (28 June 2024)*



*Mr Lazarus Oketch, Energy Officer, Renewable Energy Department, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), speaking at the peer-to-peer exchange workshop (27 June 2024)*

[Click here to watch a video on the production and benefits of briquettes](#)

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