## INTRODUCING SUSTAINABLE BIOMASS BRIQUETTES AND MODERNIZED DRUM KILN FOR IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS AND WELL-BEING OF SMALL-SCALE FISH SMOKERS IN LAGOS, NIGERIA.

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- In West Africa, smoked fish is a delicacy and fish smoking, the most important and widely used method for preserving fish.
- Preference for this method is further justified by scarcity of electricity for cold chain facilities and poor access to fishing communities for fresh fish.
- Fish smoking is a female -centric occupation dominated by traditional or local hot smoke -drying technologies characterized with occupational hazards, fuel inefficiencies, drudgery and time-wasting.
- Fish smoking is one of the principal causes of depleting forests and contributes to forest depletion and climate change.

- Popular traditional or local fish smoking kilns such as smoking platforms or altars, barrels/drum kilns, mud kilns, Chorkor kiln, Altona kiln, Banda kiln and firewood as main fuel or energy source.
- PAHs in smoked fish prepared by traditional methods may pose elevated cancer risks if consumed at high consumption rates over many years.
- Home grown technologies have evolved but adoption by end users has been insignificant and very slow.
- Technologies, processes and practices are not adopted or put into use by fish smokers operating in the small-scale fisheries valuechains.







PHOTOS OF LOCAL KILNS AND FIRE WOOD

- Lethargy to change, accept innovations or receive new knowledge and skills that could improve efficiency, ergonomics, well-being, savings and income.
- Women are seldom engaged in design, construction of equipment and technology transfer of improved or good practices which optimize fish smoking processes.
- Concerted efforts to replace or substitute fuel woods with charcoal has not yielded significant efforts.

- Substituting firewood with charcoal will not solve the problems of deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change.
- Fish smokers are among those who undermine achieving SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG12 (Responsible Production and Consumption) and SDG13 (Climate Action).
- Improving this informal sector is strategic meeting many Sustainable Development Goals including SDG1 (Zero Hunger), SDG 2 (Zero Poverty), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 9 (Industry, innovation and Infrastructure), and SDG 14 (Life Under Water) by 2030 and the African Union Agenda 2063.

#### Goal of the research:

To develop a hybrid solar - biomass fish dryer for small-scale operators evolved to alternative solid biofuel source to charcoal and firewood, and a local fish smoking kiln as prototype.

#### **Specific objectives:**

- To introduce and build capacity of operators in the use of modernized smoking kiln and environmentally -friendly solid biofuel.
- To ensure greater control over benefits: improved income, savings and investments, access, reduced drudgery, higher efficiency and conserve environmental resources.
- To assess comparative qualitative, quantitative, and economic costs and benefits of smoking kilns and different fuel sources.
- To improve hygiene, safety and quality of processed fish and promote access to new markets

### **METHODOLOGY**

- Activities implemented within the framework of the Gendered Design in (STEAM) in Lower- Middle Income Countries (LMIC).
- Adopted a transdisciplinary approach leveraging on a survey of fish smokers.
- A participatory action research with fisher folk and other stakeholders in a training workshop:
  - -Demonstration of biomass briquettes.
  - Sensory evaluation of fish smoked.
- Series of monitoring, evaluation and learning from fish smokers and a dissemination workshop.
- WhatsApp platform with fish smokers to share information.

- Research process was innovative, gender responsive and incorporated local knowledge
- Output 1: Introduction to biomass briquettes.
  - -Sensory evaluation of fish smoked with biomass briquettes indicated that it was best preferred to either charcoal and fuel woods,
  - -Try -outs of smoking fish with briquettes demonstrated by fish smokers in videotape sessions.



FISH SMOKED WITH BIOMASS BRIQUETTES IN A LOCAL DRUM KILN

- Output 2:Construction of prototype drum kiln to smoke fish.
  - -Three performance evaluation processes.
- Output 3: A practical guide for small-scale fish processors on good practices.

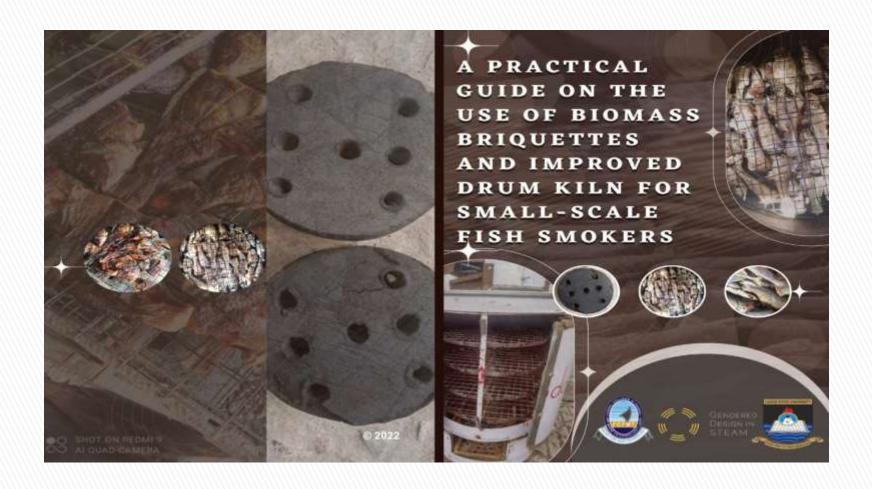
# FINDINGS Insulated Prototype Drum Kiln





PROTOTYPE WITH DOORS OPENED

**EXTERNAL VIEW OF PROTOTYPE** 



THE PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR FISH SMOKERS

### DISCUSSION

- Project activities and the outputs align with Para 7.2 and Para 7.5 of the SSF Guidelines on improving women's participation in the postharvest subsector.
- Emphasis on promotion of environmentally sustainable practices within an ecosystem approach by deterring waste of inputs such fuel wood) in small-scale fish handling and processing.
- Biomass briquettes are adaptable to existing traditional and local technologies.

### DISCUSSION

- Outputs bear linked to recommendations of a SSF VG National Workshop held May 9-11, 2022 at the Lagos State University.
- Project goals linked to Vulnerability to Viability (V2V) Global Partnership to enhance small-scale fisheries and fishing communities by demonstrating the potential use of the invasive water-hyacinth in briquette production and use for fish smoking and domestic use.

(https://twitter.com/V2VPartnership/status/153716701794557952 1?s=20&t=zRJf838rPSsubKm84P4I0A).

## CONCLUSION

- Co-production of activities all the way.
- Adoption of biomass briquettes.
- Low-cost prototype drum.
- Practical Guide.
- Leveraged on Linkages, Networks and Partnerships.
- Capacity building in research and delivering development projects.

### RESOURCES

- https://lnkd.in/gzWcKzBN
- https://www.linkedin.com/posts/kafayatadetounfakoya\_genderedde signinsteam-carleton-fish-activity-6975221118538313728lUt1?utm\_source=share&utm\_medium=member\_desktop
- https://www.linkedin.com/posts/kafayatadetounfakoya\_training-biomass-activity-6969468932583821312-czYO?utm\_source=share&utm\_medium=member\_desktop

# **RESOURCES**



### THANK YOU!