

SPG MAPPING AND GENDER NEEDS ASSESSMENT



PREPARED FOR ENDEV MALAWI

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List of abbreviations

CM	Chitetezo Mbaula
EnDev	Energizing Development
EnDev-MW	EnDev Malawi
GESI	Gender and Social Inclusion
MWK	Malawi Kwacha
PWD	People with Disabilities
SHA	Self Help Africa
SPG	Stove Production Group

SPG Mapping and Gender Assessment

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Germany

Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5
65760 Eschborn, Germany

E info@giz.de

I www.giz.de

Contact

Energising Development

E endelev@giz.de

I www.endelev.info

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Author/Editor: Gift Chunda, Angellah
Manda, Sharon Ulaya

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1. Introduction

Energising Development (EnDev) Malawi has been implementing an Improved Cookstoves Programme since 2012, which has seen stove production groups (SPGs) being set-up and/or supported within its market development projects. EnDev has been playing a critical role in helping add value towards the stove count for 2020, and subsequently to 2030.

The most recent SPG mapping was conducted in 2020, offer limitations on credibility of data and continuity of production across Malawi. From the 2020 and 2016 Malawi Cookstoves DB, indicated that there were over 300¹ SPGs.

The aim of the survey was further support the initiative, determine SPGs that are still active, understand reason of inactivity and also understand the gender dynamics with the groups.

1.1. Objective of the study

The objectives of the survey are as follows:

- Determine stove production capacity and marketing strategies present at SPGs
- Determine the SPG Institutional Capacity
- Conduct a gender needs assessments for the SPG

1.2. Methodology of the survey

1.2.1. Survey Area

The survey focused on the central and southern region of Malawi. The survey leveraged areas where EnDev partners, have been active and have an existing relationship, to facilitate an effective data collection process. The areas accessed are, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Salima, Phalombe, Mulanje and Dedza.

1.2.2. Sampling and Sample Size

According to the Malawi Cookstove Database 2016 there are over 322 stove production groups in Malawi, this is taken as the population for the survey.

A systematic sample size computation was taken at a confidence level of 95% and confidence interval of 5. From the total population, 60 stove production groups were to be sampled following a convenient sampling technique.

The population of the survey participants includes SPGs affiliated to the EnDev-MW programme, and beneficiaries of other initiatives.

1.2.3. Data collection

The survey utilised a mixed data collection approach, allowing data collection via phone and in-person field interviews with SPGs.

Data collection tool: A survey questionnaire was developed (see Annex) capturing SPGs general details, gender attributes, production activities, challenges, training needs to list a few. For efficiency in data capture, the survey utilised a mobile data collection tool called EnDev Surveys². EnDev Surveys allow real-time data collection and provide efficiency in data processing, geo-data (GPS) and evidence collection (pictures of sales records).

¹ Malawi Cookstove DB - https://energypedia.info/wiki/Malawi_Cookstove_DB

² EnDev Surveys - <https://surveys.endev.info/PublicEndev/MainPage.aspx>

Survey Team: The survey had integrated skilled experts in cookstoves, gender, and monitoring and evaluation to necessitate appropriate data capture. The three facets played a critical role in the co-development of the survey tool, and were trained on how to collect data using the EnDev Survey App.

2. Stove Group Production and Promotional Capacity

This section provides an overview of SPGs demographics, production capacity including key activities observed for marketing and promoting their products.

2.1. SPG Group Size

On average the SPGs surveyed constitute about 19 members in the group. Minimum of 1 individual to maximum of 35 people members in an SPG.

Table 1 Membership Size and Distribution

Value	Group Size	Women in Group	Men in Group
Minimum	1	0	0
Maximum	35	31	13
Average	19	16	3

Women in the SPG constitutes on average about 84% in membership. The remaining are men with 16% in the group. The survey also identified groups that have full women membership (17%), fully men membership (3%) and the 80% of SPG with inclusion of men and women in the group.



Figure 1 Gender composition for SPG

2.2. SPG Geolocations

The survey focused on SPGs located across 10 districts namely, Chikwawa, Dedza, Lilongwe, Machinga, Mangochi, Mulanje, Nsanje, Ntcheu, Phalombe and Salima, Figure 2 showcases the geo representation of the SPGs across the districts.

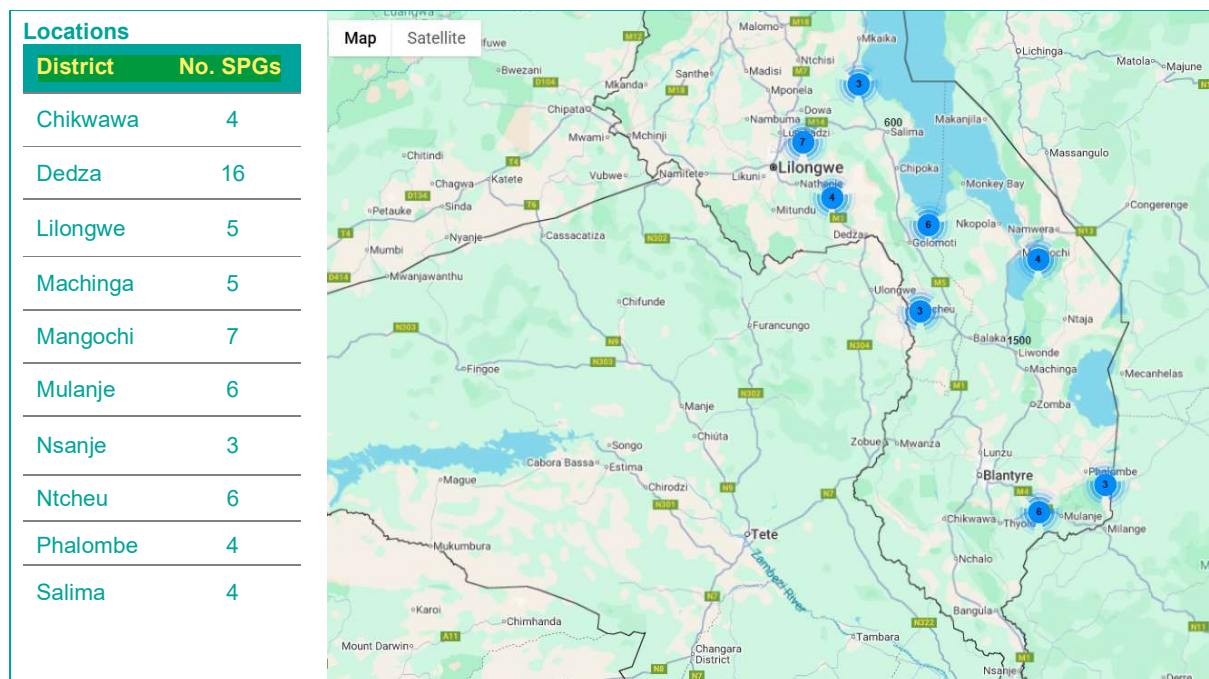


Figure 2: Survey SPG Geolocations

2.3. SPG Groups Activity

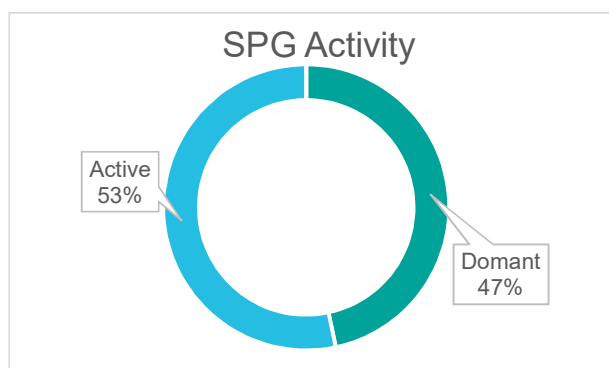


Figure 3 SPG status in producing stoves

The figure 3 showcases the proportionality of SPGs that are currently active (still producing) and those that have been dormant/inactive (stopped producing stoves). About 53% of the SPGs are active. The remaining 47% of the SPGs are domant.

The survey found that for SPGs that became inactive as a result of lack of market of the stoves, lack of resources, unattractive business case, low return of investment (no business case), lack of stable market, an elaborated in the subsequent section.

Common Reasons for SPG Inactivity

Lack of Market Demand: SPGs (Stove Production Groups) consistently faced poor sales due to minimal or no demand from individuals or organizations. Many stoves remained unsold (some groups reported 250 to over 4,500 units in storage), leading to demotivation and halted production.

High Production Costs vs Low Returns: The cost of producing stoves was too high compared to the purchase prices offered. This imbalance made the venture financially unsustainable for many groups.

Operational and Infrastructure Challenges:

Issues such as lack of secure storage, absence of kilns, and theft of materials disrupted production. Some groups stopped due to damaged or lost kilns—especially from natural disasters like Cyclone Freddy.

Impact of External Shocks: Events such as Cyclone Freddy and the COVID-19 pandemic further crippled operations by damaging facilities, cutting off supply chains, and reducing customer activity—making recovery and remobilization difficult.

The table 2 below provides a tabular overview for the reasons the SPGs became dormant, categorised per districts the SPGs came from.

Table 2 Reasons for SPGs Inactivity

District	Reasons for the SPG being dormant
Dedza	- Lack of markets (no people and organisations buying the stoves) - Due to not making sells the SPG start focusing on agriculture - SPG stopped because they noticed that there are no sales being made.
Lilongwe	Most times stoves were collected once a year and they stored the stoves in their houses which would make the stoves to be damaged
Machinga	The costs of making of the stove was too high which was not matching with the price at which the stove was bought from them.
Mangochi	- People have not been buying and they stopped. They had 330 stoves and since their warehouse is not secure they stopped producing. - The organisation stopped buying and the group disbanded to be making stoves individually but later on still stopped. - Their storage space was full and they couldn't produce more and later their materials were stolen by another group to make farming tools such as hoes. - They have never made sales and have stoves they have been sitting in their stores around 250 pieces. - They have over 4500 stoves which have not been bought and lack storage places. - They last made stoves in 2019, with no fulfilled order from a customers. Due to the waste of resources and uncertain market, they stopped producing.
Mulanje	- Post covid an SPG did not have market and it demotivated them in producing. - SPG in 2019 had unfulfilled order from an organisation and furthermore lost their kiln due to rains and were unable to rebuild. - Natural disaster, particularly, Cyclone Freddy washed away the kiln for the SPG making them unable to build. - Covid effects, no sales made during covid and ended up stopping production in 2020.
Nsanje	- SPG lack market as their buyer's project phased out, with no other market linkages, and later on in 2019 flood due to Cyclone Freddy washed firing kilns. - Scarcity of markets for the stoves and soil source quite far
Ntcheu	Lack of markets as no organization came to buy from them
Phalombe	- After cyclone Freddy it was hard to remobilise they are just gaining ground again - Cyclone Freddy made it impossible to find the right soil - Ever since they were taught no stoves were bought. they were not taught how to make a Kiln and do not have one - SPG lost the materials for making the stoves to Cyclone Freddy
Salima	- The return on investment (ROI) was not being seen, as customers took longer to procure from them since they were taking time to come and buy - Lack of markets and sales stopped.

2.4. Road infrastructure and accesibility to SPG

About 70% of the SPGs visited indicated that the roads are accessible throughout the year. The remaining 30% represents SPGs whose access roads to the site are only accessible during the dry season. The surveys also investigated the conditions of the roads to the SPG, to assess accesibility for both the SPGs to external markets and also customers/projects that might be able to procure the stoves.

The majority of these roads are dusty, untarred roads, which when it rains become muddy, restricts vehicles accessing the SPG sites.

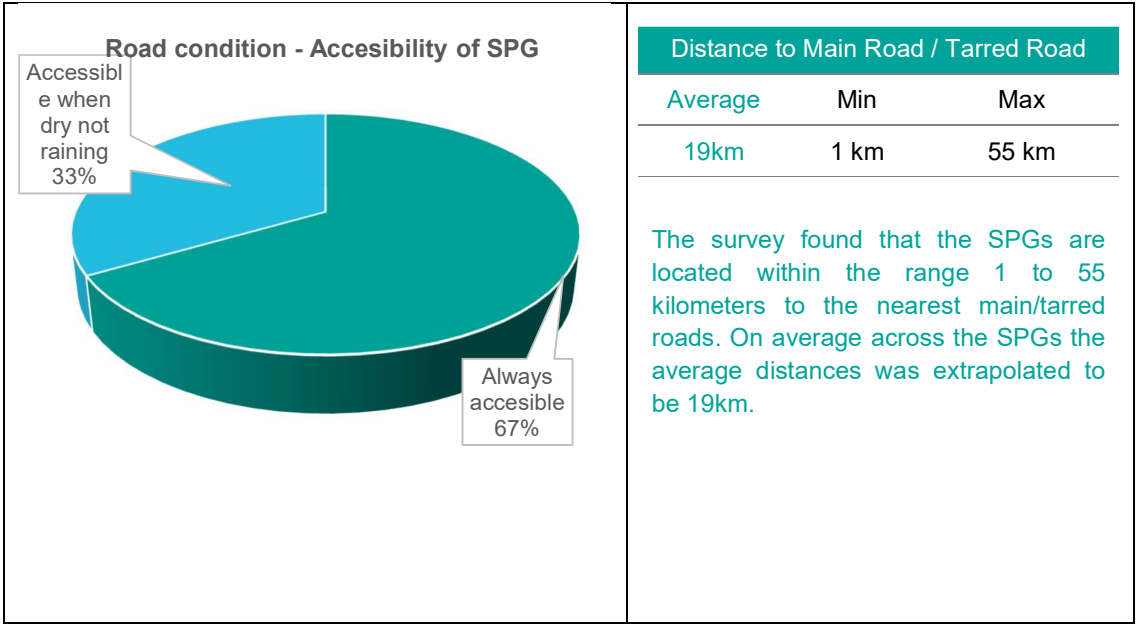


Figure 4– Road accessibility to the SPGs in the year

2.5. Record keeping at the SPG

36 of 60 of the SPG were found to keep records for their production site. The remaining 24 SPGs indicated to not keep any production records – see table 3 below.

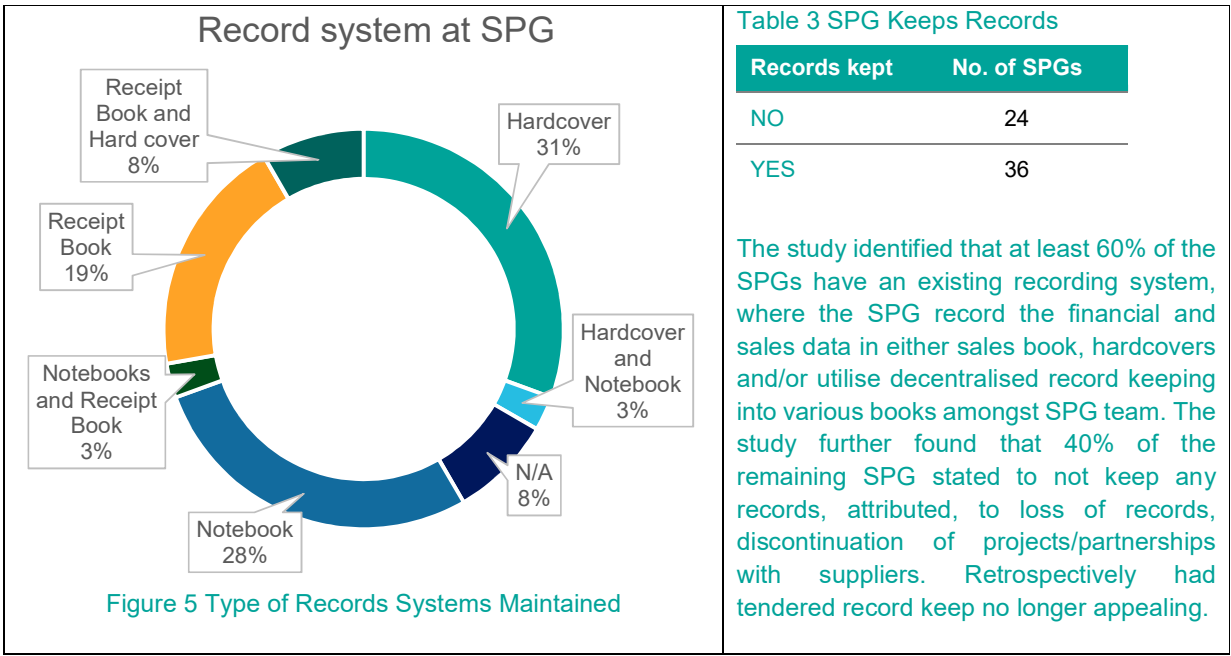
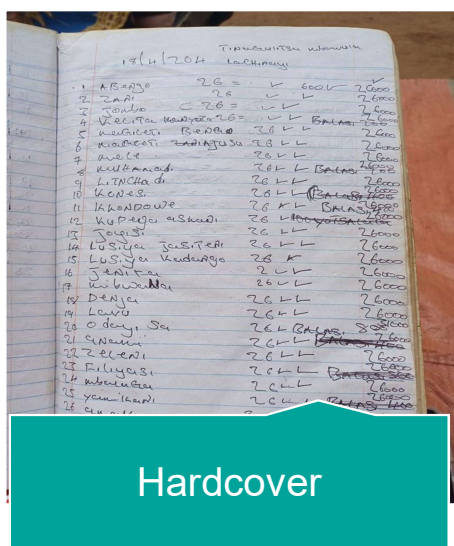
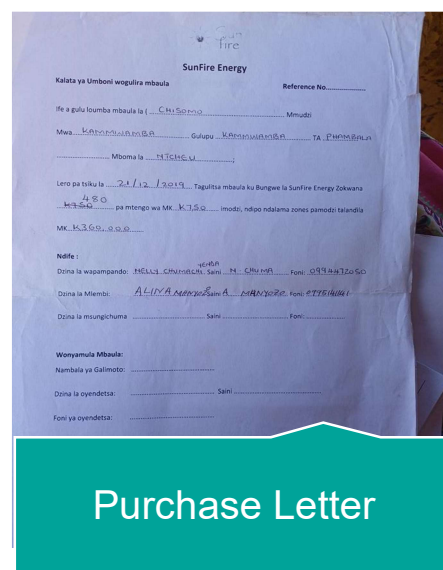


Figure 5 Type of Records Systems Maintained



Hardcover



Purchase Letter

Figure 6 Examples of Records Maintained by the SPG

2.6. Selling price of the stoves

The survey investigated the pricing structure of the stoves to households and organisations. On average the study found that households procure the stoves at MWK 1300, while for organisation purchase the stove at MWK 900 (approximately). The variation may be influenced by volume of stoves purchased across those two customer types. Furthermore, it should also be observed from the table 4 that the maximum price to household is slated at MWK2500 and MWK1500 to organisation.

Table 4 Selling Price of Stoves

Value	Price to Individual	Price to Organisation
Minimum Price (MWK)	500	400
Maximum Price (MWK)	2500	1500
Average Price (MWK)	1300	900

2.7. Purpose of SPGs in the Stove Business

The majority of the SPGs are motivated to produce the stoves with the sole purpose of economic empowerment only. Other SPGs, 10 of 60, are interested to empowering the SPGs members, and community to have an economic gain and also conserve the environment. There is another set of SPGs whose focus is only environment conservation (conserving the natural forest/reducing firewood consumption) represented by 17 of 60. The survey also found that 4 of 60 SPGs did not have a clearly defined purpose, but were only motivated by an NGO to start stove production.

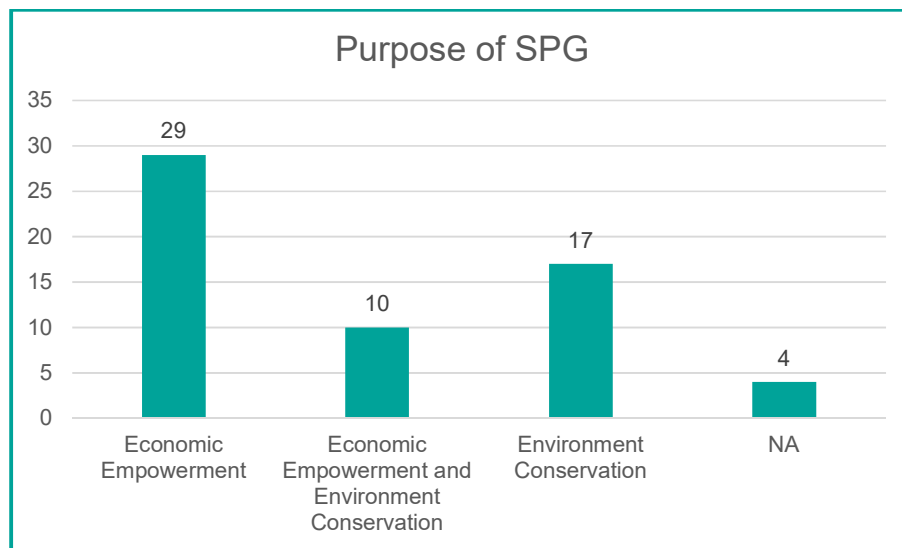


Figure 7 Purpose of SPG

SPG has bank Details

The table 5 below showcases that 25% of the SPGs confirm to have bank accounts. The majority represented by 75% utilise mobile banking and cash payments for transactions with beneficiaries and/or potential clients.

Table 5 SPGs has an active bank account

Bank Account	Frequency	Percent
No	45	75%
Yes	15	25%

2.8. Marketing strategies adopted by the SPGs

Table 6 Marketing strategies observed by SPGs

Marketing Strategy	Frequency	Percent
Direct market sales	6	10%
Government Structures	1	2%
None	37	62%
Organised Community Meetings	9	15%
Poster Advertising	1	2%
Word of Mouth	5	8%
Poster Advertising and Word of Mouth	1	2%

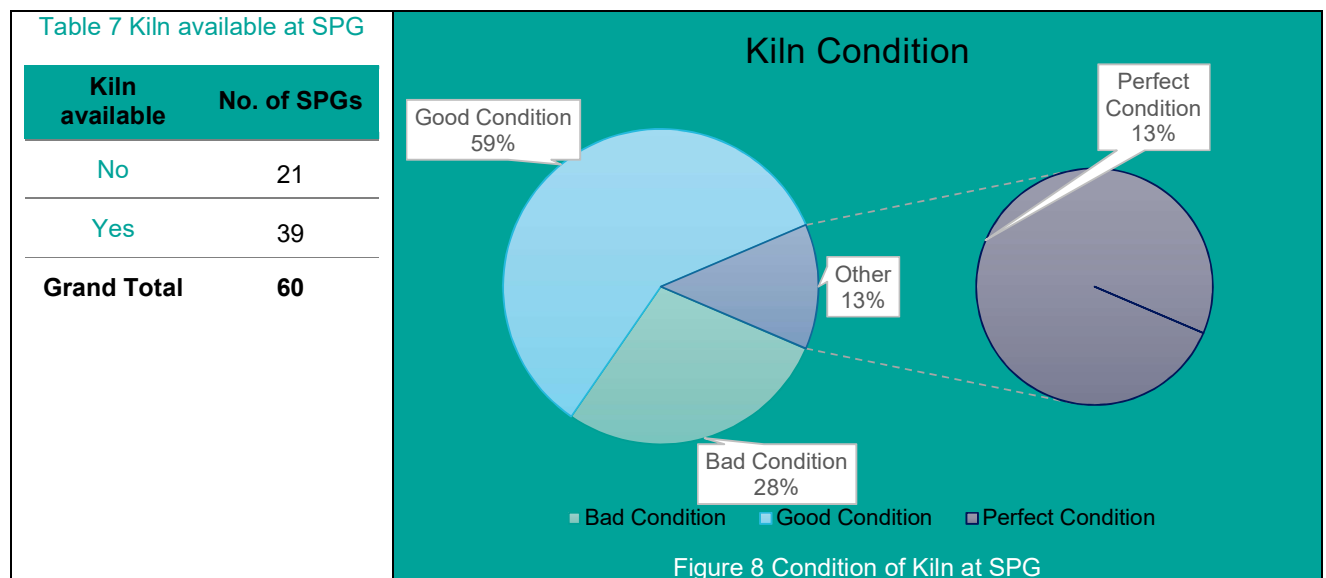
About 62% of the SPG indicate that they do not use any form of marketing for their stoves. The study also found that SPGs utilised direct market sales, and organised community meetings, representing 25% cumulatively. Some of the SPGs also make use of government structures such as departments to help in spreading the information about the stoves. Furthermore, some SPGs use Word of Mouth and Poster Advertising as a means of communicating to the potential clients.

Reasons for not having a specific marketing strategies are provided below:

- Readily available market and buyer of the stoves offers convenience and better margins: Some SPGs have readily available markets, have organisations who directly buy the stoves, and do not see the need to market it further. For some they solely produce for organisations. They rely on organisations; they feel it is more profitable to have organisations buy from them than individuals
- SPGs are well known in their community and community members are aware of the stoves they produce.
- Stoves are heavy and a lack of resources to help in transporting them to market fair, are not available. They are not too mobile to be able to easily market them.
- Some SPGs indicated that they do not have access to marketing channels.
- Lack of knowledge and/or training on how to market the stoves. Some indicate that they do not have a smartphone that they can use to support in marketing the stoves.
- Some SPG stopped since when they tried marketing in their own locality nobody bought the stoves. They tried to use an agent but it did not materialise

2.9. Kiln availability and condition at SPG

Across the 60 SPGs visited on 39 indicated to have access to Kilns at the production site. The remaining 15 SPG highlighted an absence of the same. For the 39 SPGs, 59% were observed to have kilns in very good and 13% perfect condition. The remaining 28% represents in bad condition, none functional requiring renovation.



2.10. Warehouses at SPG

Warehouse is a storage facility that is constructed to allow safe keeping of stoves and other production materials at the SPG sites. The survey found that 38% of the SPGs have the warehouse/storage space and the remaining 62% do not have any.

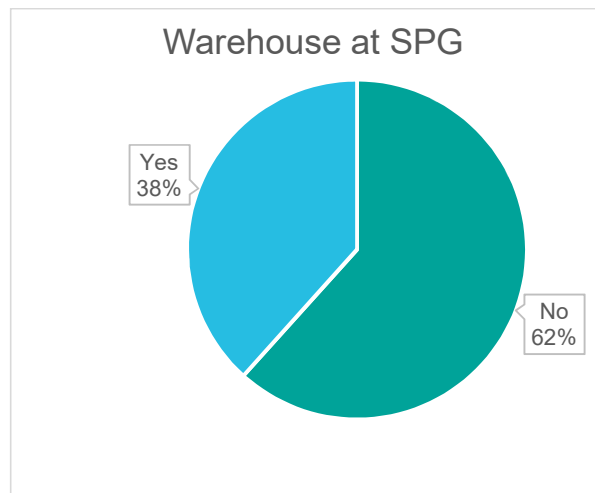


Figure 9 Warehouse present at SPG



Figure 10 Picture of Shed for Stove Storage

In the **absence of a warehouse**, SPGs utilise other storage options as to ensure they don't compromise on the product quality. Majority of the SPGs indicated that they utilize their houses, dilapidated buildings, and/or construct sheds at their homes. Depending on the volume and wealth condition, the stoves are either stored in the house and/or left outside the house with proper covering (plastic sheets/covering) to prevent stoves from being damaged (compromised quality). For example, during the rainy season, the SPG member ensures that the stoves are kept in the house, and also covered with plastic sheets. SPGs consider road accessibility, houses that are close to roads and where cars can easily access are selected.

Table 8 Condition of warehouse at SPG site

Warehouse Condition	Frequency
Bad	2
Good	19
Moderate	2

Table 8 indicates the conditions of warehouses across the SPGs. The survey found that there are 19 out of 23 SPGs with warehouses that are in good condition and are functional. In addition, 4 of 20 SPGs having warehouses in bad condition and moderate condition, requiring for some complete maintenance and minor maintenances respectively, for instance that some needed rooftop replacement to ensure usage of the warehouse during also in the rainy season.

1.10. Material replacement

The survey investigated the frequency for material replacement critical for stoves production. It should be noted that SPGs make replacement at least 2 times in a year. It was noticed as per the figure 11

that there are SPGs that do not make material placement (21 SPGs), and with the maximum of 12 replacements per year registered by 1 SPG.

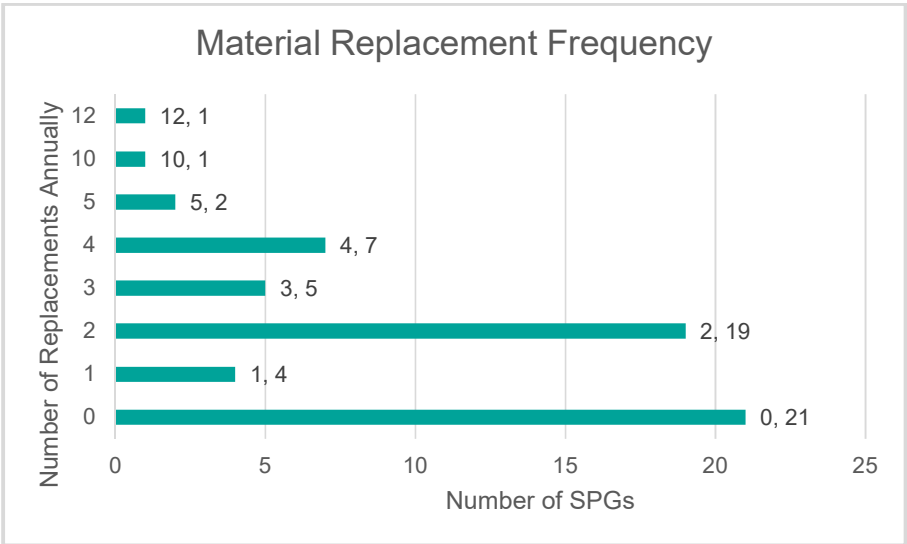


Figure 11 Material replacement frequency per year

2.11. Safeguards

The survey also assessed the knowledge of safeguards, which, are precaution and protection measures taken by individual or entity against undesirable outcome. The SPGs responded to observing some safeguards related to Child Protection, Sextortion, Discrimination and Health & Safety (Protective Gear). The survey as per the figure below, indicates that SPGs are knowledgeable of the Children Protection, Sextortion, Discrimination and Health and Safety (adoption Protective Gear) at the following rates 20 of 60, 29 of 60, 20 of 60, and 6 of 60 respectively.

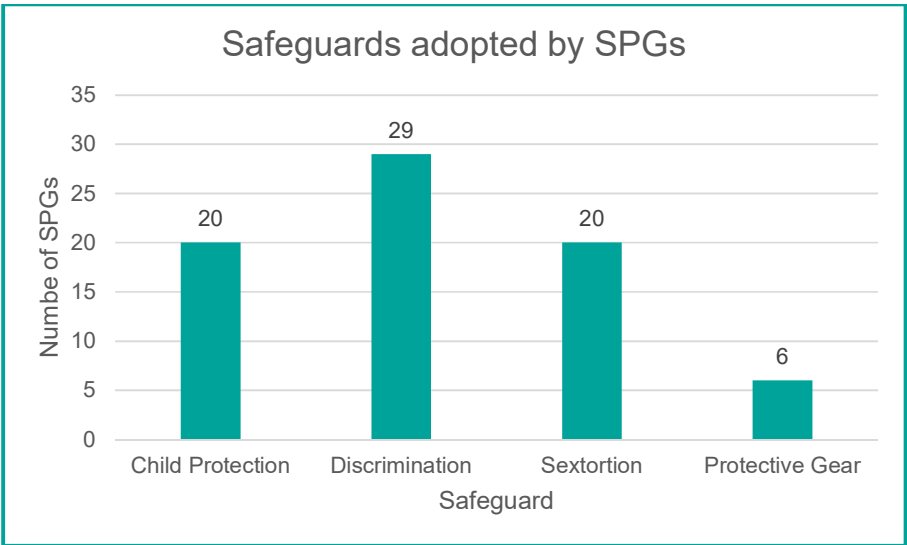


Figure 12 Safeguards adopted by the SPG

It should be observed that there are some SPGs that observe more than one safeguard. Discrimination is largely observed amongst the SPGs. The table provided below shows the combination of safeguards known by the SPG.

Table 9 Combination of safeguards known by the SPGs

Safeguards	Frequency	Percent
Child Protection	1	2%
Child Protection, Discrimination	5	8%
Child Protection, Discrimination, Protective Gear	2	3%
Child Protection, Sextortion, Discrimination	10	17%
Child Protection, Sextortion, Protective Gear	2	3%
NA	23	38%
Discrimination	8	13%
Protective Gear	1	2%
Sextortion	4	7%
Sextortion, Discrimination	3	5%
Sextortion, Discrimination, Protective Gear	1	2%

2.12. SPG Accessibility

The survey checked on the aspect of accessibility of the SPG to the members. The survey found that 77% of the SPGs indicated that it's the SPG is accessible to all its members, in close proximity to the all the member. About 13% of the SPGs they confirm that the SPG is accessible for most of the members, with very few coming from far distance. Furthermore, there are other SPGs which are located further off from member located, represented by 10%. The figure below provides representation of access across the SPGs to its members.

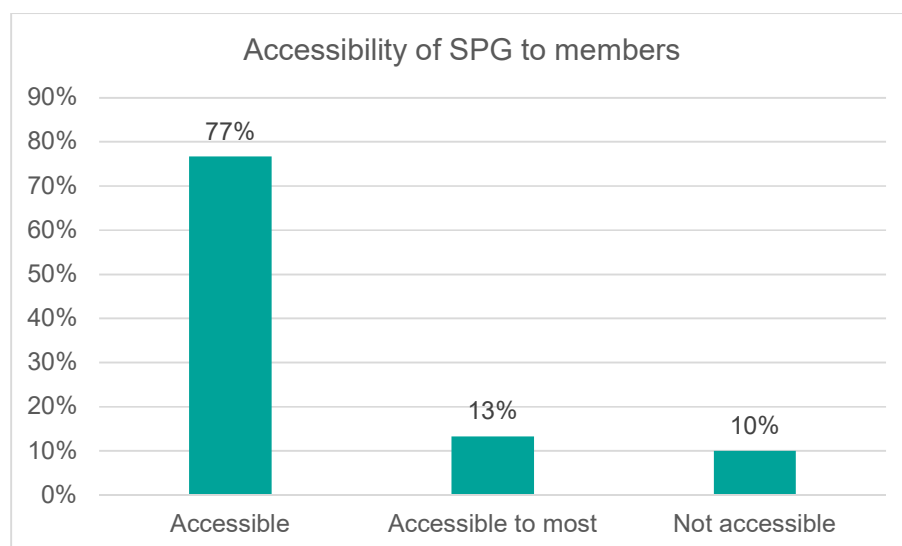


Figure 13 Accessibility of SPGs to its members

2.13. Challenges experienced by members of the SPG

The section covers the challenges members of the SPGs group, starting with the collective challenges. Subsequent sections outlined the challenges across different gender groups (men, women, youth and people with disabilities). It should be noted, that this section provides examples of key issues that are observed across the SPG that took part in the survey.

2.13.1. Challenges experiences by the SPG member entirely

Challenges with Production and Resources

Limited Materials: Insufficient soil and fuel wood for firing kilns, with good soil located far away.

Labour Intensity: Hard physical work leading to leg and back pain, and use of one moulding template affecting stove quality.

Financial Struggles

Low Profit Margins: Minimal profits from stove sales make it difficult to improve livelihoods.

Late or Unreliable Payments: Delays or non-payment for stoves (e.g., K150,000 unpaid in 2016), causing financial instability.

Market and Sales Issues

Unstable Market: Lack of consistent buyers, with organizations stopping purchases, leading to unsold stock.

Unreliable Buyers: False promises or claims of destroyed stoves prevent timely sales and income.

Health and Well-being Concerns

Physical Health Impact: Hard labour causes pain, fatigue, and exposes workers to health risks without protective gear.

Menstrual Health Challenges: Women lack private spaces to manage menstruation while working.

Gender Dynamics and Family Challenges

Unequal Labour Distribution: Women do the majority of stove production, while men contribute less or are unsupportive.

Time Poverty: Balancing household chores and stove-making leaves women with little time for other responsibilities.

Impact of External Support

Lack of Organizational Support: Organizations stopped purchasing stoves, affecting income and food security.

Need for Male Assistance: Women need male help to collect soil, fire kilns, and support physical tasks due to clothing constraints.

Other Social and Logistical Issues

Long Distances for Materials: Collecting soil and water is difficult due to long distances, requiring additional support.

Small Working Space: Limited space restricts the ability to produce more stoves efficiently.

External Pressures

Additional Work Necessity: Slow stove sales force individuals to take on other jobs, negatively impacting stove production quality.

Unstable Markets: Market instability forces workers to seek alternative sources of income and reduces overall production focus.

2.13.2. Challenges experienced by women

Women in the group highlighted a range of challenges provided below:

Health and Safety Concerns

Lack of Protective Gear: No protective clothing for stove production, leading to injuries (e.g., burns from fire).

Health Risks: Work requires good health, but challenges like cold winters and lack of resources make it difficult.

Challenges in Production

Limited Materials: Lack of resources such as firewood, sand, and appropriate moulds, reducing production efficiency.

Labour Intensity: Heavy physical work (e.g., carrying sand on heads, intense manual labour), worsened by few men participating.

Market and Financial Struggles

Unstable Market: Lack of stable markets makes it feel like stove production is exacerbating poverty rather than alleviating it.

Low Sales Price: The price of MWk1,000 per stove is not profitable, especially as production costs (e.g., firewood and sand) have increased.
Slow Payments: Delayed payments and intermittent income streams hinder financial stability.

Gender and Social Dynamics

Ridicule for Work: Women are often ridiculed for working with mud and being involved in stove production, which is viewed as "women's work."

Social Stigma: Women face criticism for participating in what is perceived as unprofitable, hard work.

Operational Challenges

Lack of Market Access: Women face limitations in selling stoves freely, as the SPG is dependent on organizations like SHA.

Insufficient Training: Few lessons lead to insufficient skills for producing high-quality stoves.

Transport Issues: Lack of transportation for collecting and carrying heavy materials, which adds to the difficulty.

Time and Livelihood Strain

Time Poverty: Balancing household chores and stove production work leads to time poverty, negatively impacting overall well-being.

Livelihood and Food Security: Slow payments and inconsistent work affect livelihoods and food security for families.

Resource and Infrastructure Limitations

Lack of Infrastructure: No warehouse for storage, limited paddle moulds for stove production, and lack of resources like sand and firewood.

Cost of Resources: The rising cost of sand and firewood further reduces profitability, making stove production less viable.

2.13.3. Challenges experienced by youths

Below are challenges that the youths in the SPG experience:

Resource and Material Challenges

Distance for Materials: The right soil for stove production is far and sometimes needs to be purchased.

Limited Materials: Few resources and production materials (e.g., paddle moulds), impacting efficiency and output.

Physical and Health Concerns

Heavy Physical Labour: Bending for long periods and heavy work cause headaches and body swelling.

Lack of Protective Gear: Workers are exposed to health risks due to the absence of protective wear during stove production.

Market and Financial Issues

Unstable Market: The lack of stable markets, low buying prices, and late payments contribute to financial instability.

Delayed Payments: It can take up to 4 months to receive payment, often leading to debt.

Youth Involvement and Challenges

Underage Participation: Some youths under 18 are involved in stove production, potentially impacting their other activities.

Youth Disinterest: Poor customer patronage and unstable income discourage youths from continuing in the stove production group.

Operational and Infrastructure Problems

Lack of Warehouse Space: No proper warehouse, and existing storage spaces (e.g., leaky warehouse) hinder production.

Additional Work Demands: Forced to engage in extra tasks (e.g., shed building) to compensate for lack of storage space.

Time and Livelihood Strain

Time Poverty: Difficulty balancing household chores and stove production work, leading to time poverty.

Livelihood Impact: Financial strain due to delayed payments and unstable markets affects overall livelihoods and food security.

Social and Community Issues

Limited Income Activities: No other accessible income-generating activities, limiting economic opportunities.

Lack of Awareness: Some workers were unaware of challenges, leading to uninformed participation in the work.

2.13.4. Challenges experienced by disabled group members

Physical and Mobility Challenges

Mobility Issues: Difficulty walking or moving, especially for individuals with leg or arm

impairments, limiting participation in tasks like soil stomping and stove stacking.

Health-Related Limitations: When ill or experiencing pain (e.g., from a broken leg, arm, or back), it becomes difficult to work, handle heavy items, or participate in the stove-making process.

Labour and Workload Challenges

Labour-Intensive Work: Stove production requires heavy lifting and long periods of physical work, which is challenging for elderly individuals or those with disabilities.

Dependence on Support: Disabled members require help from family members or youths for tasks like carrying stoves, collecting materials, and stacking stoves.

Material and Resource Access

Sourcing Challenges: Difficulty accessing necessary materials like fuel and soil, which are located at a distance, making it harder for disabled individuals to participate in stove production.

Storage Issues: Inability to store stoves properly at home due to mobility limitations or lack of proper storage space.

Economic Strain

Need for External Help: Due to physical limitations, disabled individuals must hire additional workers (e.g., peace workers), reducing their overall income.

Travel Costs: Costs associated with traveling to and from the SPG site are an additional financial burden for those with mobility challenges.

Health and Safety Concerns

Difficult Firing Process: Some disabled individuals are unable to participate in the firing of the stoves, which is a critical part of the production process.

Physical Strain: The demanding nature of the work (e.g., bending, lifting) causes pain in legs, arms, and back, making it difficult to keep up with production.

Social and Psychological Impact

Isolation: Physical and mobility limitations contribute to feelings of exclusion from group work and the overall stove production process.

2.14. SPG Volume

On average of the SPGs surveyed produce 1899 stoves in a month. Minimum volume of 42 stoves per month and a maximum volume of 10000 stoves is found – refer to table 10. The survey also found that almost 40% of the SPGs produced within the range of 0 to 1000 Stoves. The majority of the SPGs produce between 1000 to 7000 stoves in a month, as shown in the figure below.

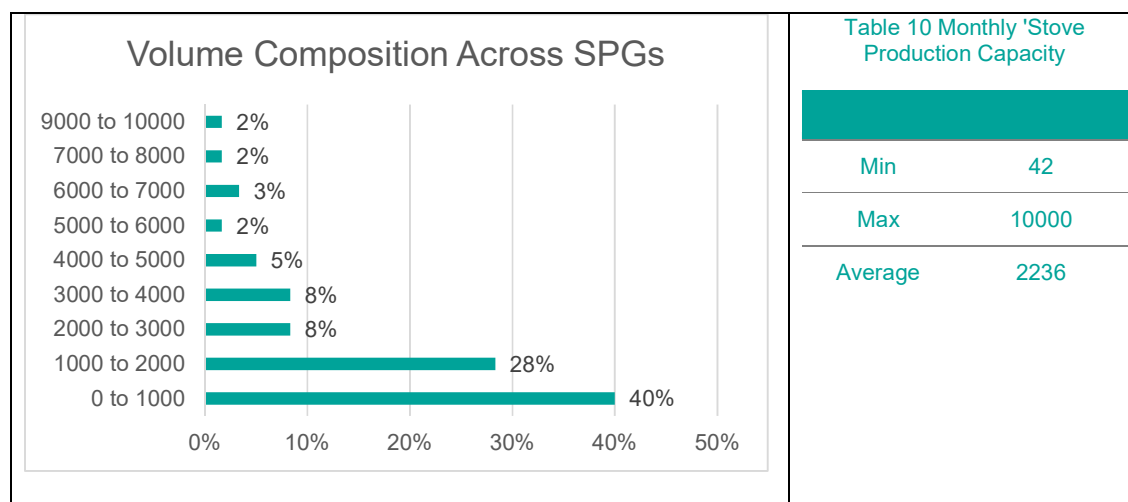


Figure 14 SPG Volume Per Month

2.15. SPG Production History

The survey reveals that 52% of the SPGs produced stove over 12 months ago (a year ago). About 24% of the SPGs produced stoves 1 to 4 months to one year. The rest of the SPG are observed to have produced between 4 to 12 months – see Table 11.

Table 11 Recent Production

Recent Production	Frequency	Percent
8 to 12 months	9	15%
4 to 8 months	6	10%
1 month ago	10	17%
Over 12 months	31	52%
2 to 4 months	4	7%

2.16. Recent Production Size

Table 12 Production Size of SPGs

Value	Production Size
Minimum	20
Maximum	10000
Average	1456

Table 12 indicated that there are some SPGs that are producing up to 10000 stoves, with other SPGs having a minimum production capacity of 20 stoves. The survey identifies also that on average the SPGs interviewed have a monthly production capacity of 1466 stoves.

Table 13 Monthly Production Capacity

Production Size	Frequency	Percent
0 to 1000	34	57%
1000 to 2000	10	17%
2000 to 3000	9	15%
3000 to 4000	1	2%
4000 to 5000	2	3%
6000 to 7000	1	2%
9000 to 10000	1	2%
(blank)	2	3%

As referenced in table 13 above, the survey found that 57% of the SPGs produce up to 1000 stoves per month. Few SPGs, represented by 9% are able to produce between 3000 to 10000 stove per month. Out of the few SPGs, only 2% of the SPGs have a production capacity of up to 10000 stoves.

2.17. Sales Channels

SPGs are noted to have engage in a variety of sales channels for the stoves they produce. The sales channels ranges from solely household, markets, institutions, organisations, and/or a combination of those channels. The survey found there are SPGs that solely sale to households, institutions and organisations represented by 8%, 2% and 30% respectively. It should also be noted from the table 14 that cumulatively, organisations, constitutes 85%, which shows a higher dependency on organisations for sales of the stoves. Specifically, to households constitutes 67% as a direct sales channel for some of the SPGs. Institutions on the other hand constitutes 6% for the sales distribution.

Table 14 Sale channels

Sale Channels	Frequency	Percent
Other	1	2%
Households	5	8%
Households, Other	1	2%
Households, Institutions	1	2%
Households, Organisations	32	53%
Households, Organisations, Institutions	1	2%
Institutions	1	2%
Organisations	18	30%

3. SPG Institutional Capacity

The section provides a highlight of the SPG's institutional capacity, provide clarity of the leadership structure, SPGs involvement in trainings and linkage to microfinancing institutions.

3.1. Leadership Structure

Approximately 7% of the SPGs are noted to not have an existing leadership structure. The remaining 93% have existing structures for governance, including having policies.

Table 15 SPG has a leadership structure

Existing Structure	Frequency	Percent
No	4	7%
Yes	56	93%

The survey also found that the SPGs have voting system and selection progress for those that are to lead the SPGs. About 100% of the SPGs indicated that the group votes members into leadership role, in a democratic manner considers also the members fit and capability to the respective roles that have to be filled.

3.2. GESI Membership Distribution

The survey further examined gender and social inclusion within the SPGs. The table below shows the membership distribution of youths, elderly people and people with disabilities. On average female youths, male youths, elderly and PWD constitutes on average 3, 2, 1 and 0 people respectively. It should be noted, that female youths take the larger share across

Table 16 GESI Membership Distribution

	Female Youth	Male Youth	Elderly	People with Disability
Min	0	0	0	0
Max	22	10	6	1
Average	3	2	1	0
Std	3	2	1	0

3.3. Trainings received by SPGs

83% of the SPGs confirmed as per the table below, that they have received trainings on various aspects related to stove production and gender among others.

Table 17 SPGs received trainings

Trained	Frequency	Percent
No	10	17%
Yes	50	83%

3.3.1. Training topics

Five key topics were identified in the survey as per the table below. Some of the SPGs were noted to have been trained on Financial, Production, Business Development, Gender Makes Business Sense, and other topics rated at 33%, 67%, 35%, 13% and 10% respectively.

Table 18 Frequency of Training Topics SPG participated in

Training Topics	Frequency	Percent
Production	40	67%
Financial	20	33%
Business Development	21	35%
Gender Makes Business Sense	8	13%
Other	6	10%

It should be noted, also that some of the SPGs, were also trained in multiple topics. The table below shows the combination of topics respective to the number of SPGs taken part. There are other topics which were also identified which included other income generating options such as soap making, and environmental conservation (how to take care of the forest and environment).

Table 19 Combination of Trainings SPGs Participated in

SPG Training Topics	Frequency	Percent
Other	2	3%
Financial	1	2%
Financial, Business Development	2	3%
Financial, Business Development, Gender Business	4	7%
Financial, Other	1	2%
Production	21	35%
Production, Business Development	4	7%
Production, Business Development, Other	1	2%
Production, Other	1	2%
Production, Financial	2	3%
Production, Financial, Business Development	7	12%
Production, Financial, Business Development, Gender Business	2	3%
Production, Financial, Business Development, Gender Business, Other	1	2%
Production, Gender Business	1	2%

3.3.2. Trainers for SPGs

The survey unveiled that over 70% of the trainings are conducted and/or supported by local and international organisations (which include, Self Help Africa, Concern Worldwide, COOPI, MAEVE/Area 55, GOAL Malawi, UNDP, World Vision, Sunfire among others). In addition to NGOs, the survey also found that there are seasoned SPG members and Community Facilitators that also been support in training other SPGs. The figure below provides an illustration on the distribution of trainers for SPGs.

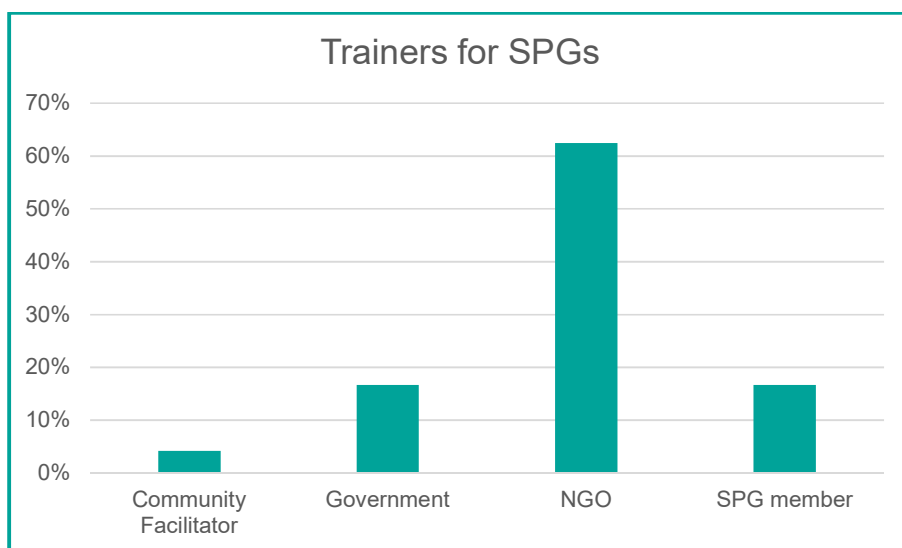


Figure 15 Trainers used by SPGs

3.3.3. Training inclusivity

The table below shows the number of SPGs that confirmed gender inclusion on trainings. About the 74% of the SPGs confirmed that the trainings are gender inclusive.

Table 20 Frequency of Trainings in Gender Inclusivity

Gender Inclusive	Frequency	Percent
No	13	26%
Yes	37	74%

Each SPG, depending on their policy and the organisation they are affiliated to has an influence on who can participate in trainings. The survey found there are SPGs that are open to have the entire group, and for others only a few (limited) depending(basing) on the organisers requirements, availability of SPG members to attend to the trainings. There are SPGs that ensure that equality on participation is observed, by ensuring rotations among members to participate in trainings and who thereafter relay lessons learnt to the rest of the group. Figure 16 indicates that over 48% of the SPGs allow members to participate in trainings, and 22% are selective for reasons provided earlier.

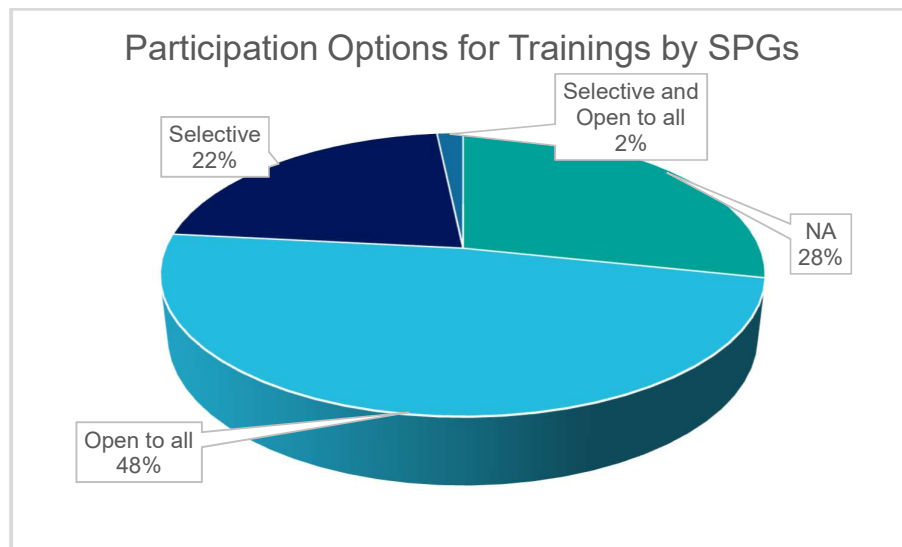


Figure 16 Training and Participation Policies in SPGs

3.3.4. How groups ensure training inclusivity and participation for all

The survey finds several measures the SPGs leadership observe in support of having members participate in trainings. Below are some examples on how some SPGs are working towards inclusivity.

- Capacity building to ensure all members have skills to transfer trainings. ensure capacity building remains for all because when one leaves they leave with the knowledge
- Engage with the groups equally. Make sure that all are present at the time
- Ensure quota selection criteria is employed to prevent bias
- Everyone is allowed so all attend or receive trainings
- Men are mostly not interested in these groups women are more active. There are only a few men and women got to participate more
- More engagements on the goodness of inclusive development
- Offering support for more than one member to attend the trainings.
- Make sure that on every figure, they take 2 men and 3 females
- Have more trainings and often that teach about these things
- Rotate the names to ensure that different set of groups is receiving the trainings to just the same people.

4. SPG Gender Needs Assessment

4.1. SPGs understanding concerning Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI)

The SPGs provided clarity on their understanding on gender and social inclusion. Further and elaborate points for SPGs understanding is provided in Annex.

Equality in Roles and Responsibilities

Equal Work Distribution: Men and women can perform the same tasks, and there is an equal distribution of labour without discrimination based on gender.

No Discrimination: There is no unfair division of work between men and women; all are encouraged to perform equally in both developmental work and business.

Working Together as Equals: Men and women collaborate in tasks without gender-based differences, supporting each other in roles traditionally assigned to the other gender.

and women contribute equally without discrimination.

No Gender Barriers: Men and women are included equally in decision-making and development processes, as everyone has the potential to succeed when given equal opportunities.

Gender Sensitivity: There is an understanding that failure to promote inclusion causes divisions, and that men and women working together as equals brings additional benefits.

Equal Opportunities: All genders should have access to the same training and opportunities to ensure they can perform their roles effectively.

Inclusivity in Development and Training

Inclusive Development: Gender equality is vital in development work, ensuring that both men

4.2. Tasks distribution in the SPG

About 75% of the SPGs equally distribute tasks among its members. For this specific case, women and men or youths are allowed to work on similar tasks. There are some groups represented by 18% whose tasks vary amongst various gender types, and also limit some specific gender from working on certain aspects in the production group. The figure 17 provides a representation on tasks categorisation across SPGs surveyed.

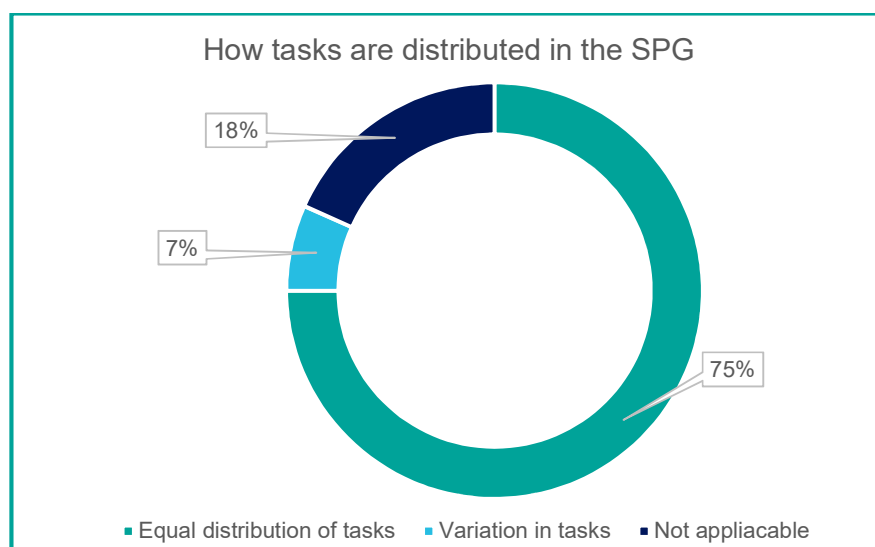


Figure 17 Categorisation of Tasks Distribution

4.3. Factors influencing SPG member participation

4.3.1. Barriers for Women Participation in SPG

1. Material and Resource Constraints

Low materials: Shortage of essential resources like clay or mud makes it difficult to consistently produce stoves. This impacts the quantity and quality of production.

Lack of materials for making the stoves: Insufficient or unreliable supply of materials such as mud or clay means women struggle to meet production demands.

The stoves being heavy and having to pay for mud if they find it in someone's field which makes it expensive: The cost of materials, especially when they are sourced from private land, can be prohibitive and further strain their finances.

Not having enough materials and the markets not being stable: The dual problem of material scarcity and fluctuating markets makes it difficult to plan or profit consistently.

Example: When women cannot secure enough clay or mud, they are forced to delay production, leading to income loss or unfulfilled orders, ultimately reducing their economic stability.

Market and Economic Barriers

Lack of markets: Without stable and accessible markets, women are unable to sell their stoves, which leads to unsold stock and no income.

No stable markets: An unreliable market environment makes it hard for women to predict demand and plan production effectively, resulting in wasted resources and unprofitable ventures.

Late payments: Delayed payments from buyers or customers create cash flow issues, affecting their ability to reinvest in the business or cover basic needs.

The lack of information when stoves are broken and it makes them get less money: Without guidance on how to repair stoves or handle customer issues, women may lose income when stoves malfunction or are returned.

Example: Women invest significant time and resources into making stoves, but the inability to find consistent buyers or deal with late payments makes the venture unsustainable.

, but the lack of time for rest or family care can negatively impact their well-being and productivity.

Labour Constraints and Health-Related Barriers

Elderly women hire youths to support in the preparation of the clay: As women age, their physical capacity to handle the labour-intensive tasks like preparing clay diminishes. They rely on younger people for help, adding to their costs.

They have less energy to do the work as elderly women at times: Older women may lack the stamina or physical ability to work for extended periods, limiting the number of stoves they can produce.

Sickness, overburdened with work: Health issues, whether chronic or acute, can prevent women from participating in production activities. Additionally, the physical and emotional toll of balancing multiple roles can worsen health problems.

Example: Elderly women may not be able to handle all the physical labour involved in stove production, so they either work slower or need to hire others, reducing their profit margins.

Time Constraints and Overburdened Schedules

Time poverty, have to sacrifice household duties because they are working: Women often must choose between fulfilling their domestic responsibilities (cooking, childcare, etc.) and participating in stove production, leading to stress and a reduced focus on either role.

Skipping stove production to go to other part-time jobs, time poverty lead working at night at times: To make ends meet, women might have to work late into the night or prioritize other income-generating tasks, leaving them unable to focus on stove production.

Since she is the only one if she has other engagements, it means she will not be making stoves: If there is no support system, the absence of one woman due to other duties or engagements directly halts production.

Example: Women may sacrifice sleep or family time to make stoves during the night

4.3.2. Barriers to Men Participation

Material and Resource Constraints

Not having enough materials: The scarcity of necessary materials (e.g., mud, clay, or other components for stove production) makes it difficult for producers to meet demand or maintain consistent production.

Not having enough moulding templates. Not having a good place to take care of the materials: The absence of proper tools or a

suitable environment for storing and managing materials hinders efficient production.

To find the right soil is not easy and it costs them more: Sourcing high-quality soil is both time-consuming and costly, adding additional financial strain to the production process.

Paying for mud: The additional cost of acquiring mud, especially when it is sourced from someone else's field, increases the financial burden on the stove producers.

Example: Limited materials or inadequate storage facilities cause production delays, leading to financial losses and missed market opportunities.

Market and Economic Barriers

Lack of markets: Without stable demand for the stoves, women face difficulties in selling their products and earning a reliable income.

The markets not being stable: Unpredictable market conditions, including fluctuating demand and new competitors, make it hard for stove producers to plan and grow their businesses.

Lack of markets and lack of materials: The combined issue of limited market access and resource shortages creates a double challenge, preventing women from succeeding in the stove production business.

It gets demotivating when they do not buy: Low or inconsistent sales lead to discouragement, making it hard to stay motivated and continue producing stoves.

Unstable markets. New organisations coming up with other stoves that kill the market: Emerging competition from new businesses or organizations with different stove designs can drive down demand, leading to market saturation.

Late payments: Delays in payment from buyers or customers create cash flow problems, preventing women from reinvesting in their business or covering operational costs.

Example: Unstable markets and late payments disrupt the women's ability to sustain their business. When sales are inconsistent, and competitors undercut their prices, it demotivates producers.

Labour Constraints and Health-Related Barriers

Being a few men makes the job hard: Limited manpower, especially in communities where men are fewer or unavailable to help, increases the physical workload on women, making the production process more difficult.

Some men are busy with other businesses as well: The lack of male support due to their engagement in other businesses further strains the labour available for stove production, leading to increased workloads for women.

The responsibilities to take care of their families forces them to take on additional tasks aside from that of the SPG: Women are often forced to balance stove production with family and household responsibilities, which limits their time and energy for production.

Lack of protective wear affecting their health: Without protective clothing, women are at risk of injury or health problems due to exposure to harmful materials like clay, mud, or other chemicals used in stove production.

Example: Health issues, like respiratory problems or back pain, arise from working without proper protective wear. Additionally, the limited number of workers (especially men) makes the workload burdensome for the few who are actively involved.

Time Constraints and Overburdened Schedules

Food insecurity making it hard for them to do the job: When women face food insecurity, their focus and energy are diverted to securing food for their families, which reduces the time and effort they can put into stove production.

The distance causing marital problems: Long distances required to gather materials or attend to other obligations may lead to strained relationships or marital conflicts, reducing the time available for stove production.

Repeated question: Repeated questioning or revisiting unresolved issues wastes time and causes frustration, ultimately reducing productivity and progress.

They view stove production as less lucrative than other businesses: When the stove production business is seen as less profitable compared to other ventures, women may prioritize other income-generating activities, leaving stove production on the back burner.

Example: Time spent on dealing with family or marital issues, or responding to repetitive inquiries, leads to less focus on stove production. If stove production is seen as less profitable, it becomes harder to justify dedicating the necessary time and energy to the business.

4.4. Stereotypes for Women and Men

4.4.1. Stereotypes for Women

Negative Perceptions of Women's Behaviour and Character

Belittling each other, gossip, being lazy: Stereotypes about women often revolve around

negative social behaviours such as gossiping and being lazy, which can impact their reputation and how they are perceived in the community.

Gossip culture: Gossip among women is seen as a cultural norm that distracts from work and can create an environment of conflict, reducing productivity and trust.

Women being the source of gossip: Women are stereotypically associated with gossip, which undermines their credibility and social standing, especially in group settings.

Women pull each other down always: This stereotype suggests that women are prone to jealousy or competition, leading them to undermine each other instead of supporting one another.

Example: Women engaged in stove production may be seen as more concerned with gossip than with their work, creating tension and undermining their collective progress.

Perceptions of Women's Professionalism and Work

It was considered a dirty job but now mind-sets have started changing: There is a stereotype that certain work, like stove production, is unclean or beneath women, although attitudes are slowly shifting.

The work makes women look ugly and they should not do it: A stereotype that women involved in manual or physical work, such as stove making, might be judged negatively based on their appearance, as the work is seen as unappealing or demeaning.

The job is seen as muddy and for crazy people and very woman-like: The work of making stoves is perceived as dirty, labour-intensive, and suited only for women, further reinforcing gendered views about appropriate work roles.
Example: Women who engage in stove production are often seen as performing low-status work that harms their image or

reputation, creating a barrier to acceptance and support within the community.

Social and Economic Stereotypes

They are accused of being visionless women as the job is not viewed as respectable: There's a belief that women involved in stove production are "visionless" because the work is considered lowly or without future prospects, thus not deserving respect.

They are viewed as being richer in the community and face challenges to find piecework for this reason: Women involved in stove production may be seen as economically successful, leading to resentment or jealousy, making it harder for them to find additional work.

Women view SPG work as loose: The stereotype that women involved in stove production (or similar work) are seen as morally lax or "loose" based on their involvement in a non-traditional role.

Example: Women working in stove production may be unfairly judged as financially independent but socially isolated due to perceptions of the job's low status or supposed moral implications.

Social Dynamics and Gender Expectations

Women being passive: Women are stereotypically seen as passive, lacking the agency to drive change or make decisions, especially in roles where leadership or entrepreneurship is involved.

Group dynamics issues which they 'feel' some are problematic: Women in group settings might be seen as prone to interpersonal issues or conflicts, reinforcing the idea that women cannot work together effectively without drama. Women always busy with gatherings that do not bring about money and end up staying away from making stoves: Women are stereotyped as prioritizing social events and gatherings, particularly those that do not contribute to income, instead of focusing on productive work like stove production.

4.4.2. Stereotypes for Men

Below are stereotypes of men

- Belittling women and causing trouble
- In the beginning, the community accused them of doing women's work. After seeing benefits of the work, this stopped happening. Said to be playing with mud like children
- men considering the work female
- men should not take part in kitchen tasks and thus cookstoves are a woman's task
- men usually shun the work and dictating things that destroy the group

- men working together with women in bad terrain areas sometimes is considered as promiscuity
- Not easily rebuked when they are wrong and women fearing to address some issues
- There are no stereotypes
- They are mocked for doing women's work.
- Viewed as weak and they not to have a plan for their life.
- Following misunderstandings on sexual relationships in the group, women started viewing men in a negative light
- working in a women space and not having sells makes them a laughing stock

4.5. Decision making

The decisions with the SPGs interviewed are observed on larger scale to be made jointly by women and men, represented by 80%. There are some SPGs whose decisions are only made by women or men represented by 17% and 3%, this also correlates to ownership and gender composition with groups. Cumulatively the survey extrapolates that there is higher indication of participation of women and men in decision making, with women represented by 97% and men represented by 83%.

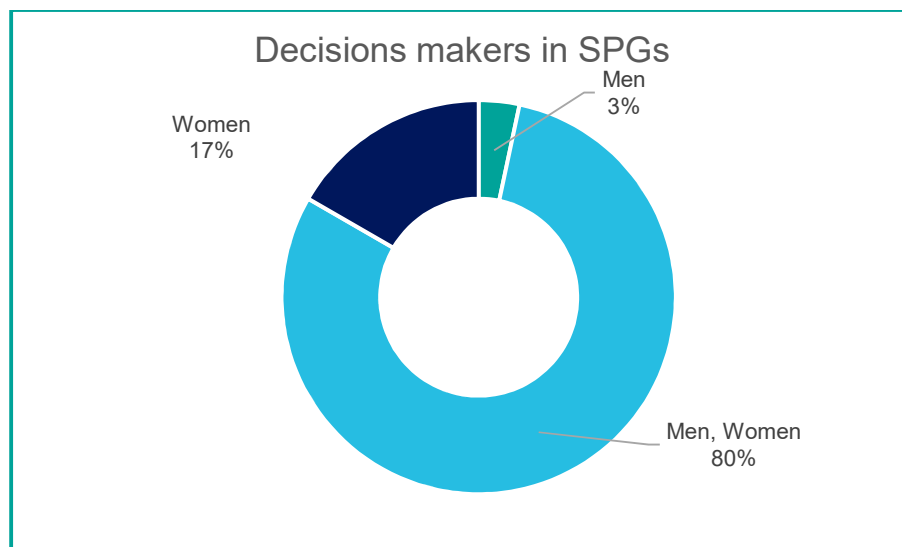


Figure 18 Proportionality on Decision Making within an SPGs

4.5.1. Nature of decisions that made by the SPG members

Decision maker	The nature of decisions and examples	
Men	• farm inputs	
Women	• Each member made decisions on how to spend their share of money. • sharing dividends	
Men, Women	• Each member received their share of the money and made independent decisions on how to use this money. • Each member receives the exact amount as the number of stoves produced. • helping with making the mbaula and paying off loans and develop a budget together • household decisions on farming and what to buy • How much each member must contribute to any group activity. • "How much money should be put back towards the production materials for the SPG. This money is then reinvested in the business. • They also decide from the remainder of the money how much should be shared among the members. " • paying off loans from piece works from the ones that helped with making stoves • replacing materials • sharing the money after sales • Sharing the money equally • The money is spent based on household need for each SPG member. • They decide on how much each member must receive based off the number of stoves each member produced. • they decisions are made at household level since everyone gets their own money • to buy firewood, mud, transportation, food, livestock, fees • to divide the money and buy what they need at the time • to first fix the issues on the group and then share to the individuals • to make the stoves and sell the stoves • to share the money, they decide on how to spend the money	

4.5.2. Decision making at households

Decision maker	Percent	Nature of decisions being made
Husband	5%	How to spend the money in the family? How much to spend on education, infrastructure, food and farming?
Wife	3%	What household items to be procured
Jointly	92%	Home expenses: pay off piece workers, purchase of fertilizer and seed, livestock, construction materials, business investments How to spend the money? Mostly the men make the decision How the money should be used in the household? How much of the money should be spent on education, food and farming? How best the money should be used in the household? What household needs to be prioritized? What investment and expenses to made related to the SPG? Procurement of books for children and take care of household by buying some basic necessity

4.5.3. Spouses Support

Spouses support each other	Percent	Kind of support provided by Spouse
Yes	65%	Active Involvement in Stove Production Tasks: Spouses support in nearly all aspects of stove-making, including mixing soil or mud, moulding stoves, and packing them in kilns.
		Support with Material Collection and Transport: Common tasks include fetching or carrying soil, collecting firewood, ferrying water, and sourcing clay—often shared between partners.
		Shared Kiln and Firing Responsibilities: Many spouses assist with constructing, loading, burning, and maintaining kilns, showing hands-on involvement in critical production steps.
		Collaborative Household Effort: Stove-making is often a joint activity, particularly in households with both partners present. Some single-headed households manage independently.
No	35%	Emotional and Motivational Support: In a few cases, support is non-physical—such as encouraging participation or helping reach production targets rather than doing the manual tasks.
		No support provided by spouse

4.5.4 Decisions made by spouses

Decisions by Male Spouse	Decisions by Female Spouse
Prioritizing Immediate Household Needs: Male spouses make financial decisions based on what the household urgently requires, such as food, school fees, or farming inputs. Deciding to Involve the Wife in Financial Planning: Many male spouses choose to make joint decisions with their wives on how income should be used, promoting shared responsibility. Allocating Funds Toward Budgeted Household Expenses: Decisions include developing household budgets and directing funds to essential items like fertilizer, home materials, and soap. Choosing to Reinvest in Livelihoods: Male spouses often decide to use income to reinvest in farming, small businesses, or purchasing livestock to improve family sustainability. Designating Money for Food and Education: A common decision is to allocate money specifically for feeding the family and covering children's school fees. Making Spending Flexible Based on Current Priorities: Male spouses decide to adjust spending depending on what the household needs most at a given time. Taking Responsibility for Household Welfare: Many decisions are aimed at maintaining and improving the home, reflecting a commitment to family welfare and stability. Limiting Focus to Household Over Group Needs: In some instances, male spouses choose not to engage in broader group financial matters unless it directly affects the household.	Spending Based on Household Needs: Female spouses make decisions primarily guided by the immediate and essential needs of the household, such as food, school fees, and farming inputs. Managing Daily Household Purchases: Women decide on buying household items like groceries, salt, and other necessities that ensure the home is running smoothly. Reinvesting in Livelihoods and Education: Decisions include using money to reinvest in small businesses, purchase livestock, and support children's education for long-term family welfare. Joint Financial Planning with Spouses: In most households, women participate in budgeting and jointly deciding with their husbands how to allocate money for food, fees, investments, and household upkeep. Sole Decision-Making in Female-Headed Households: Women in single-headed households independently make all financial decisions, handling budgeting and spending without partner input. Focused Use of Money for Basic Needs: Spending is often directed toward immediate essentials such as food, soap, and paying casual labourers when needed. Limited Financial Autonomy in Some Cases: In certain situations, women have limited control over money, with some experiencing restrictions or even abuse when attempting to make financial decisions. Participation Driven by Household or Group Needs: Women's involvement in decision-making may vary based on household or group needs, with no major individual decisions made outside that context.

4.6. SPG VSL Linkages

In relation to financial savings, the SPGs affirmed to be aware of saving groups options. Specifically, on villages savings loans, 45% of the SPGs are indicative to be affiliated to VSL, and the remaining SPGs are not. The figure below shows the proportionality of the SPGs affinity to VSLs.

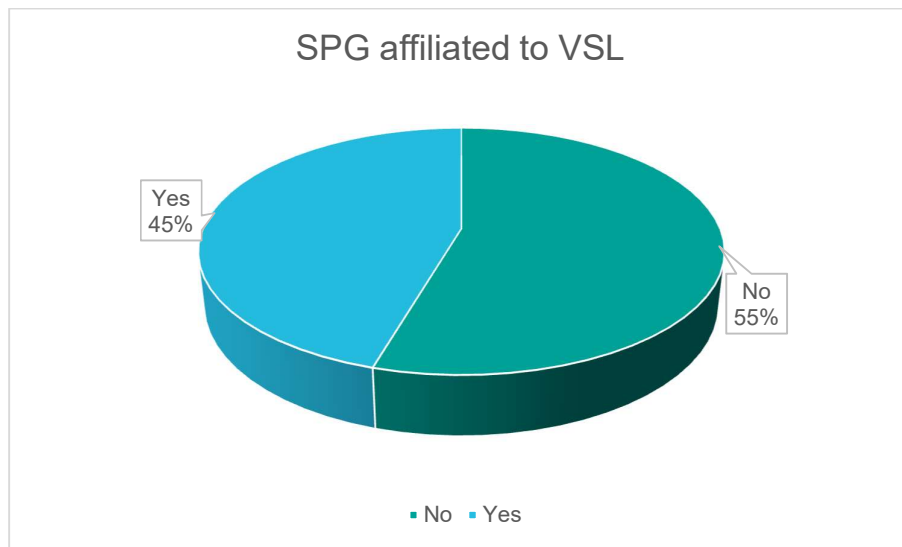


Figure 19 Proportionality of SPGS Involved in VSL

References

Appendices

Annex 1: Questionnaire

Questionnaire SPG Mapping and Gender Needs Assessment

Description | General Details

- Survey Information
- Name of Interviewer
- Other Interviewer (Name of Interviewer)
- Date of Interview
- Survey District
- Traditional Authority
- Group Village Headman
- Village
- Name of the focal point of SPG
- Contact number

SPG Group Information

- Name of Stove Production Group
- Year when production centre was created?
- Why was this SPG created?
- What is the vision of the SPG?
- Is the stove production group still active?
- Why have you not manufactured stoves in the last six months? State the reason why you are not active at the moment!
- How many members does the group have?
- Number of women in group
- Number of men in group
- Number of elderly people in group
- Number of youths in group
- Number of people with disabilities (PWD) in group

Production and Promotion of Chitetezo Mbaula

- When was the last time the SPG produced Chitetezo Mbaula stoves?
- How many Chitetezo Mbaula stoves did it produce?
- What is the largest volume of Chitetezo Mbaula stoves that the SPG has ever been able to produce in a month?
- What is the largest volume of Chitetezo Mbaula stoves that the SPG can sell/ was able to sell in a month?
- Does the SPG have a system for recording these sales
- Please take a picture of the recording system!
- If yes, what is the recording system?
- Who do you sell the stoves to?
- Other (Who do you sell the stoves to?)
- At what price does the SPG sell a Chitetezo Mbaula stove to an individual?
- At what price does the SPG sell a Chitetezo Mbaula stove to an organisation?
- Names of organisations you are selling to i.e. above the standard price (MWK750)
- Name of organization you have been selling to i.e. below the standard price (MWK750)
- Does the group have an active bank account?
- Does the SPG carry out any marketing activities for the Chitetezo Mbaula stoves?
- If yes, what kind of marketing activities does the group carry out?
- If no, why not?
- What materials do you have and use when making your Chitetezo Mbaula?
- Other (What materials do you have and use when making your Chitetezo Mbaula?)
- Does your group have an operational firing kiln?

- In what condition is the Kiln?
- Does your group have a warehouse?
- If do not have a warehouse, how and where do you store the stoves?
- In what condition is the warehouse?
- How often do you replace the production materials in a year?
- Does the group know about safeguards?
- How accessible is the stove production site?
- What are some of the challenges that are faced in production by women?
- What are some of the challenges that are faced in production by men?
- What are some of the challenges that are faced in production by youths?
- What are some of the challenges that are faced in production by differently abled?
- Road accessibility to your production centre?
- How far are you away from the next tarmac road?
- How far are you away (roughly) from the next tarmac road?

SPG Institutional Capacity

- Does your group have a leadership structure?
- If yes, how was this decided?
- Number of female youth in leadership structure
- Number of female youth in leadership structure
- Number of elderly in leadership structure
- Number of PWD in leadership structure
- Has your group ever received any training?
- If so, what were the topics that you were trained in?
- "e. Other (If so, what were the topics that you were trained in?)"
- Who provided the training/s?
- How often do you get these trainings in a year?
- Do both males and females attend these trainings?
- How is participation in these trainings determined?
- What can be done to ensure that all genders have an equal chance to benefit from these trainings?
- Is your group a member of a micro-financing institutions (such as a SACCO, VSL, etc)?
- What is the name of the micro-financing institutions you are affiliated to?
- How many years have you been with the said MFI above?

SPG Gender Needs Assessment

- How does the group understand Gender and Social Inclusion?
- Do you break down tasks between female and Male members of the group? If yes, how?
- Are there any barriers that hinder your participation as women in the work of the SPG?
- Are there any barriers that hinder your participation as men in the work of the SPG?
- Are there any gender stereotypes for women in the group that need to be addressed?
- Are there any gender stereotypes for men in the group that need to be addressed?
- Who makes decisions on how the proceeds from Chitetezo Mbaula sales are used in the group?
- What are these decisions?
- Who makes decisions on how the proceeds from Chitetezo Mbaula sales are used in the households?
- What are these decisions?
- Do your spouse's support in the stove promotion work (for those that have?)
- If so, in what way?
- General comments and notes (if any)
- What decisions are made by the husband(male)?
- What decisions are made by wife (female)?

Annex 2: Definitions and understanding of GESI by SPG Members

- Absence of separation of work responsibilities between men and women.
- As understanding each other in development and work between males and females.
- both male as female can perform the same work
- did not receive any training
- did not receive any training only from forestry which was another project
- equal distribution of labour without discrimination on one's sex
- equal distribution of labour and opportunities
- Equal inclusion of all as poverty is not selective. They understand the hazards of discrimination.
- equality among genders in development work
- equality between men and women
- everyone has the capability of doing anything when given a chance.
- have basic knowledge since was taught once
- Men and women doing working without unfair division
- men and women helping each other work equally
- men and women working together
- no discrimination between men and women in developmental work
- no discrimination in development based on gender
- not differentiating between men and women in working and business
- received no training at all
- They understand that failure to bring inclusion brings divisions
- this help the division of labour to be shared and helps supporting in case one is not able and the other is able
- This means working together as men and women. Men should be able to do the work done by women and vice versa.
- women and men working together
- work that is done by men and women without discrimination
- working equality between men and women
- Working in unity and not discriminating based on one's gender
- working together as men and women
- "Working together as a group without disparities between men and women brings additional benefits.
- There is no need to have differences between men and women in a group. "
- Working together as men and women
- Working together as men and women in a group as well as the inclusion of people living with disabilities.
- working together equally
- Working together with men and women with no difference
- working without discrimination on one's sex
- working without any differences between men and women
- working without discrimination between men and women
- yes, hear from other trainings

Annex 3: Barriers for Women Participation in stove production

• community disturbances • "community engagements like funerals that hinder them from working whilst funerals are in procession • low materials " • "Elderly women hire youths to support in the preparation of the clay. This service is paid for by the member. • They have less energy to do the work as elderly women at times." • health issues, food insecurity • labour constraint issues • lack markets • lack of autonomy, the distance where they are to get the soil	• Skipping stove production to go to other part time jobs, time poverty lead working at night at times • some women were busy with other chores hence not joining • The dressing is sometimes not appropriate for some of the tasks. • "the lack of information when stoves are broken and it makes them get less money • the lack of markets • the late payments • The need to split themselves to take on various other tasks because the SPG work is not profitable.
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• lack of markets, and the lack of materials • lack of materials for making the stoves • not having enough materials and the markets not being stable. not learning from others and also to be able to market • "not having enough materials having too much communal work" • not having enough strength to do the job and the workmanship to make a high standard stove • not having markets, lack of materials • not having other sources of income • Repeated question • sickness, overburdened with work • since she is the only one if she has other engagements, it means she will not be making stoves	• the stoves being heavy and having to pay for mud if they find it in someone's field which makes it expensive • "the terrain of where the soil is makes it hard for them to participate often • no stable markets" • There are no barriers that hinder the participation of women in this SPG. • They said to have no barriers except when one is sick. • Time poverty, have to sacrifice household duties because they are working • to find mud there are some places which are not easily accessible and have hazards
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Annex 4: Barriers to Men Participation

- being a few men makes the job hard. paying for mud.
- community disturbances
- "food insecurity making it hard for them to do the job
- the markets not being stable"
- lack of markets
- lack of markets and lack of materials
- lack of markets. it gets demotivating when they do not buy
- "lack of protective wear affecting their health
- to find the right soil is not easy and it costs them more
- the distance causing marital problems"
- late payments
- not having enough materials
- not having enough moulding templates. not having a good place to take care of the materials.
- not having protective wear which might affect their healthy
- Repeated Question
- some men are busy with other businesses as well
- The responsibilities to take care of their families forces them to take on additional tasks aside from that of the SPG.
- There are no barriers
- They view stove production as less lucrative than other businesses.
- unstable markets. new organisation coming up with other stoves that kill the market

Annex 5: Stereotypes for Women

- belittling each other, gossip, being lazy
- conflict
- general knowledge on gender so that they can progress with the new changes and gain new knowledge
- gossip
- it was considered a dirty job but now mind-sets have started changing
- the gossip culture which distracts the group
- the work makes women look ugly and they should not do it.
- There are no stereotypes
- They are accused of being visionless women as the job is not viewed as respectable.
- They are viewed as being richer in the community and face challenges to find piecework for this reason.
- They view women in SPG work as loose
- Women are always busy with gatherings that do not bring about money and end up staying away from making stoves
- "women being passive
- group dynamics issues which they 'feel' some are problematic "
- women being the source of gossip

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Deutsche Gesellschaft für
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Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5
5760 Eschborn, Germany

E endeve@giz.de
I www.endeve.info