

A photograph of three young children, two girls and one boy, smiling and looking towards the camera. They are wearing school uniforms consisting of blue shirts with pink accents. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

CarbonUP

Affordable, clean energy with social benefits Our fuel-efficient stoves create carbon credits *and* livelihoods

United Purpose's acclaimed fuel-efficient stoves have been leading the way in clean, affordable energy in Malawi. The stove is carefully designed to a tested template, and runs on just a few sticks, needing a third less wood than a fire. This saves women and children time in collecting firewood and prevents deforestation.

But the benefits of the fuel efficient stove do not end there. They also use our innovative thermo-electric generator technology, developed in partnership with Trinity College Dublin. Thanks to a small metal contraption and a circuit board, the fire from the stoves generates electricity enough to charge phones, power small radios and recharge batteries for an LED light.

Through CarbonUP, production of the stoves is now an accredited carbon trading programme, due to its clean, affordable energy benefits. However, the social benefits of the fuel efficient stoves go far beyond access to energy. We have provided training and advice to several Malawians who now earn a living from creating these stoves.

Nanias Bwande was trained by United Purpose and provided with all the skills and tools necessary to build and sell his stoves, and is now producing about 30 per week. The income has changed Nanias's life and that of his family. His children (pictured) now eat breakfast every day and are doing much better in school and he has even

started building a house from the profits. It has also helped him buy fertilizer for his crops and he has big plans for the future.

"I want my house to have electricity and my plan is to install solar power when I finish building my house", he says.

Patricia Chinyama is adept at multi-tasking. A mother of 5, she also spends half her day tending her crops. She too took part in our stoves project and now has a much needed income stream during difficult periods when the villager's crops have failed.

"Before I started making stoves, life was very hard especially finding enough food and money" Patricia says, "some of the children had to drop out of school and because of lack of food and clothes we also had frequent outbreaks of diseases". She concludes:

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Now we are so happy and we never dreamed that the support United Purpose gave us would take us this far.”