Enabling Electric Cooking Ecosystem in Rural India Modern Energy Cooking Forum 2024

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Funding by





Introduction



Electric cooking supply chain is to build a network based on existing network of local retail shops in rural and peri-urban areas. This is integrated with evidence-based policies through action research. It involves activities such as collecting a range of data and subsequent analysis to enhance the contextual and market understanding of various aspects. Based on the data, learnings, and consultations with the project partner agencies JWIRES and Jeevika/BRLPS, a supply chain activation plan for electric cooking appliances has been designed.



Implementation of Supply Chain Activation plan for Clean Cooking Appliances

Based on the designed structure, the implementation of the supply chain for clean cooking appliances involves strengthening the last-mile distribution and service network for e-cooking appliances, while also adding to the portfolio of J-WIRES. Document the challenges encountered and the myriad adjustments made to the structure throughout the implementation phase. Chronicle the adoption of electric cooking appliances. Sustainability of Supply chain for Clean Cooking Appliances

March 2025-Dec'2025

Phase

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J-WIRES as the focal company shall continue to provide sustained access to electric cooking appliances and support services to the consumers.

Preparation of Supply chain Activation Plan (Phase I)



Electric Cooking Supply Chain Activation plan



	Electric Pressure Cooker	Business Model Canvas		Feb 24-25 2023
Key Partners/ Stakeholders UMRES Uerkia Usopplers Transporter Retrailers StG Network TER/CEEW II Bombay II Bombay II Bombay II Bombay University University Solar Marts	Rey Activities Marking and Sales Procurement Hing and Training Transportation Intersportation Intersportation Accounts, finance Accounts, finance Accounts, finance Content development Content development Content development Documeration Dashboard Key Resources Trained Mangover Master Chef Clean Cocking, Champions Identified CI: and cadres Computer Systems, Phone, Internet Website	Value Propositions New Exchange Option for Cooking Available for immediate purchase Antifoxable price Last mile delivery Local envice/repair/warranty Local envice/repair/warranty Promote nutritious cooking Promote nutritious cooking Promate and Compact Multi-option cooking Promate and Compact Preprogrammed cooking options Antifoxable cooking Early to operate Safety	Customer Relation Detection Detectio	Customer Segments Households O Urban, Peri-Irban Students Bachelors Bachelors Department Saffs- Govt/P-K. Event Manager/Wedding Planner Institutions (gr. Didl Ki Rasoi, canten) Mess Hotels Small Verdok (sg. fast food, tea stalls, dhaba)
Costs	Variable Cost	Rever	ue	 Cash/UPI
 Fixed Cost Salary Establishment cost (laptop, printer, test equipment, etc.) 	Material cost Training Advertising Transportation Utilities (electricity, water) Ta and DA Consumables(Maintenance changes, Stationary items)	Incentives, honorarium, and Clean Cooking Champion salary	Sales to customer Sanler charges/frome visit charges/frame visit charges/frame Payment From retailer – 100% advance to 100% post sales Carbon Tradine	EMI upfront payment

Business Model Canvas (BMC)

BMC helped to bring and visualise the different aspects of the business together on a single template. J-WIRES, although having experience in solar products and improved cookstoves, electric cooking appliances is a new line of business.

Expression of Interest

- An Expression of Interest (EOI) was issued to various suppliers/ distributors/ manufacturers, inviting them to express their interest in supplying the electric cooking appliances.
- The details requested form interested parties included technical specification and other related points
- Total 3 EPC manufacturing companies has shown interest in our EOI

Sustainable Supply Chain Activation (Plan Implementation)

The objective is to provide sustained access to affordable, quality products and services to encourage rural communities to transition to electric cooking.

Designed with J-WIRES as the focal company. Strengthening the last-mile distribution & service network for e-cooking appliances, and adding to the portfolio of J-WIRES.

Location and Target Market



Target Market

Electrified rural/ peri-urban households especially using biomass for cooking purpose

Key Opportunities

- Strong presence of SHG Network
- Close to 100 % Electrified HHs
- *Low* Penetration of Ecooking appliances but potential is *High*
- Availability of Skilled manpower for installation and services.
- Good potential for carbon market \rightarrow Significant use of Biomass by HHs.

Challenges

- Affordability (addressed by access to credit)
- Technology readiness (addressed by awareness, demonstrations, localised support)
- Adoption (addressed by demonstrations, localised support, incentives)

Proposed Appliances

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IoT Enabled Induction Cookstove



Wattage 1600 Watts

Operating Voltage 220-240 Volts

Brand RealFlame

Induction Friendly Utensils



Induction Friendly Utensils 5 Ltr. Induction Friendly Pressure Cooker 1.5 Ltr. Saucepan 3-3.5 Ltr. Kadhai 250 mm Induction friendly tava

Electric Pressure Cooker



Capacity 6 Ltrs

Wattage 1000 Watts

Operating Voltage 220-240 Volts

Brand Aufla

Proposed appliances are manufactured in India and subsequently purchased from the said manufacturing companies mentioned above based on the demand of the product.

Main Stages of Sales of Electric cooking Appliances



Supply Chain Network Design

J-WIRES will sell the cooking appliances through the network of Retail shops (S-Marts), ably supported by Clean Cooking Champions (CCCs).



Clean Cooking Champions (CCCs)

- Sales and customer support personnels.
- 3-4 CCCs with each S-Mart. Role of CCCs:
 - help raise awareness, do cluster level product demonstrations, interact with potential buyers.
 - Connect customers with the S-Marts & J-WIRES for services.
 - help provide after-sales support.

Consumer Finance





Loan via SHG

Customers who are SHG members can avail the loan facility from the SHG group for procurement of the electric cooking appliances



At the time of Purchase : Rs.1900 (Inclusive 500 Pre-booking) 2nd Installment : Rs. 1450 3rd Installment: Rs. 1450

'Pay for performance' based on their cumulative usage of their electric cooking appliance will be given to all the ~150-300 interested participants who participated in the survey and allowed to deploy energy meters along with the electric cooking appliances

After Sales Support



Cooking demo by CCC

Verification by S-Marts/JWIRES

All customers will be provided after sales service support by JWIRES through the S-Marts and CCCs

- Within 10 days of purchase of the appliance, cooking demonstration by CCC at the customer HH.
- Review the various benefits and demonstrate the usage of the appliances by CCC
- A basic follow up/ verification call by JWIRES between days 10-20.
- Whatsapp/ SMS to households with customer care contact • information/ digital pamphlets/ videos link/ information about future demonstrations in that area.
- Customers can call the customer care number to discuss and clarify any device usage clarifications they need.

Proposed Job Creation

In Phase II, the long-term job creation at JWIRES will be about 30 CCCs, 10 S-Marts owners, and six staff at JWIRES

As per the margins planned, the expected earnings by CCC during Stage 1 is approximately INR.3167/month/CCC; and that of SMart during Stage 1 is approx. INR.6500/month/SMart



Apart from these direct job creation, a significant amount of capacity building (through awareness) and institution building of the SHG network is also planned. The training modules like Onboarding workshop, Training for electric cooking, Technical training, Marketing and Awareness Creation Training, Business operations and Record keeping Training are planned in the first quarter.

Performance Dashboard

(Till 20th September 2024)

Training & Capacity Building

Training conducted for electric cooking based on Technical aspect, Marketing and Awareness Creation, Business operations and Record keeping Duration of the training : 5 days





Training Session



Cooking demonstration



Mock Awareness Practice



Cooking Competition

Awareness Creation

Awareness of electric cooking appliances are facilitated by *Clean cooking champions* at *village and Gram panchayat levels*, utilizing *Awareness kit*.



Awareness campaign conducted by CCC using Awareness kit.



Awareness activity in village Barachetti block, Gava



Awareness created **420+**

People aware about electric appliances: 6100+

Interested participants/Potential customers:

1000+

Awareness activity in the village of Kutuma block, Aurangabad

Product Demonstration session

Demonstration of electric cooking appliances are facilitated by **Clean cooking** *champions* at **Cluster level Federation (CLF) office**, utilizing **Demo kit**.



Cooking demonstration conducted by CCC using demo kit.



Cooking demonstration at CLF in Sherghati



Cooking demonstration at CLF in Barachetti

Demo conducted:

40+

Interested participants attended Demonstration Campaign : 200+

Sales through S-Mart



Sales conducted by S-Mart owner .



Sales at Satyam S-Mart



Total Sales: **198**

Sales at Ankush S-Mart

Product Installation and Household demonstration



Installation and HH demonstration conducted by

CCC.



Household level demonstration by CCC





Data Logger installation and testing by technician

Total Installation and HH demo: **170**

Survey



Survey conducted by IIT Bombay Research team.



Baseline survey in household

Follow up survey in household

Aim of this survey of the programme to understand:

- Marketing, sales, and after-sales strategies for increasing electric cooking uptake.
- Financial options
- Appliance usage in rural households, and identifying strategies to enhance appliance utilization.

It also includes data collection on demographic information, household composition, economic status, cooking habit, cookstove and their stacking, Stove usage, User experience and perceived Barriers/ Enablers for the adoption of electric cooking appliances.

Total Baseline Survey: **150** One month Follow-up Survey: **36**

Data Collection Tools

0 Last Day Units Cosumption

Record Books used to collect Primary level of data collection



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Mobile App: Data collection of all the stages of inventory, awareness, demonstration, sales and household visit



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JWIRESt interface

Impact: Job Creation & Total Earnings



Job Creation



Impact: Earning*



S-Mart Earnings

This earning exclude the monthly compensation (given for initial 6 months for setting up) *Majority of sales has happened after July 10, 2024

Timeline & Operational challenges



Other Operational challenges during execution:

- 1. Customers showed less interest if the product name is not available on ecommerce site or on Google
- 2. Delay in procurement of IoT enabled induction cookstove

Research and Data Collection

Research Design

Assessing the sustainable adoption and consumer finance plan

The finance option chosen by the customer will be noted, and the performance of the instalment option (in terms of ability to collect full payment) will also be studied.

Research Design Plan



Sample of 150-200 HHs will be selected from among the total HHs who purchased electric appliances

- **Treatment 1 (T1)**: Bi-monthly visits by CCCs to give additional info, maintenance, and support.
- Treatment 2 (T2): Informed of their monthly usage via SMS,
- Control (C): No additional intervention.

Research Design (contd.)

Action Research for Operations Management

- Activation of the electric cooking supply chain to be closely monitored, its inherent risk anticipated, assessed, and possible risk mitigation strategies & other course corrections employed, as required.
- Adherence to standard and recommended business practice of Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) cycles.
- In practice, J-WIRES together with IITB will implement monthly/quarterly PDCA cycles towards
 - (i) monitor progress,
 - \circ $\,$ (ii) record best practices, and
 - (iii) design & implement course correction required, if any, to continue and sustain the business.
 - Detailed records of the findings and learnings are to be documented (action research)

Towards Action Research/ PDCA

- Standardised workflows, maintain records, Management Information Systems (MIS).
- In order to assess possible future pathways, a simulation model of the detailed supply chain operation is being developed

Appliance and Fuel Stacking

- 94% of HHs have LPG, but still 85% continue to have a biomass cookstove
- 77% of HHs stack LPG and Biomass, and 15% use only LPG for complete cooking.
- 6% HHs reported using biomass or improved biomass only for cooking purposes



Cooking Options available in the HHs

Reported cookstove stacking



Based on Baseline Survey N=137

Understanding of Cooking Culture and ease of use

Based on *Baseline Survey* N=137

Easy Normal Difficult Biomass

Cookstove: Ease of use

Food cooked on Biomass and LPG



- 38% of participants find biomass cookstoves difficult to use, with only 35% reporting ease of use.
- 91% of users finding them easy to operate, indicating a strong preference for this fuel type.
- Biomass and LPG has been used approximately equally for cooking the dishes

Advantages of Cooking with Electric Stoves

Based on Baseline Survey N=137



- 89% of users appreciate that electric stoves eliminate smoke, enhancing indoor air quality.
- 76% find electric stoves very convenient, with 58% noting significant time savings in cooking.
- 40% feel electric stoves are very safe, and 18% report cleaner kitchens and walls, reducing maintenance efforts.

Survey highlights

- The average household size is 6.
- 66% of the respondents have a BPL card.
- The average household income is approximately 11,000 rupees.
- On average, participants reported usage of 6 LPG gas cylinders per year.
- The average cost of refilling a cylinder is 990 rupees.
- All households have an electricity connection, and the average electricity supply available in each house is 19 hours.
- On average, respondents spend 2 hours each time they go for collection of wood.
- Respondents spend 500 rupees on buying firewood every month.

Datalogger



IOT based smart plug

Datalogger Dashboard

Duration (Month)	Meter Installed	Approximate unit consumed (kWh)
July 11 - 31, 2024	34	210
Aug 1 - 31, 2024	34	1396
Sept 1 - 19, 2024	57	1775

As per preliminary analysis, average consumption per day per household is 0.81 kWh

* 170 dataloggers has been installed, here 125 dataloggers has been included in the above analysis.

Future Plan



Sales Projection



Cumulative Sales

Summary

- Initial supply delay led to a late start in appliance sales.
- During the initial Sales, a technical error was encountered resulting in the halting of sales activities.
- Resolved the initial issue, but faced a different technical error, causing further sales halts.
- The sales resumed on July 10 and an increase in sales is anticipated in the coming months.
- Mobile app and data logger dashboard is helping us to keep track of the activities.
- Plan-Do-Check-Act cycle is useful for strategic decision for improving the business.

Thank You