



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Northern Rangelands Trust Factsheet

Advancing Women’s Health and Wellness through Clean Energy Deployment in Kenya

The Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) is a grassroots organization promoting community conservation in northern and coastal Kenya. With support from the Department of the Interior’s International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) and the United States Agency for International Development Kenya and East Africa Mission, NRT is installing new biogas digester units in 600 households across Northern Kenya.

Biogas digesters use anaerobic digestion to generate electricity from biofuels like animal waste and food scraps. Switching from wood-based fuels to biogas helps combat climate change by reducing carbon emissions. Introducing biogas digester cookstoves will also have incalculable health and education benefits for Kenyan women and girls, who are often disproportionately burdened with firewood gathering and cooking responsibilities at the expense of schooling.



Northern Kenyan woman using her biogas digester cookstove. Source: Northern Rangelands Trust

Objectives

Objective 1: To increase local understanding of clean energy solutions through awareness campaigns and events, targeting leadership and community members from each of the twenty participating conservancies.

- Demonstrate the socio-economic, environmental, and health benefits of clean energy technologies, especially for women.
- Encourage proper use, storage, and maintenance of biogas digester units.

Objective 2: To scale-up biogas digester use in households across twenty community conservancies.

- Improve socio-economic, environment, and health conditions in northern Kenyan communities.
- Reduce deforestation and land degradation associated with the need for wood-based fuels.
- Reduce fuel costs for low-income families and households.
- Decrease greenhouse gas emissions and airborne particulate matter that causes respiratory disease.
- Enable more women and girls to pursue education and career goals.



Northern Kenyan women Source: USAID/David Mutua



Working biogas digester cookstove Source: Northern Rangelands Trust

PROJECT SUMMARY

Budget: \$635,000
Duration: FY21-FY22
Activity Location: Kenya

Implementing Partners:

- DOI-ITAP
- Northern Rangelands Trust

Key Partners:

- USAID Kenya and East Africa

DOI-ITAP CONTACTS

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