

## November 2012: Partnership for Integrated Sustainable Development Association

**(PISDA) promotes solar cookers in Ethiopia** – PISDA a non-government, local organization, has re-registered as Ethiopian Residents Charity Association. PISDA was initially established with the name Donkey for Development organization in May 27, 1999. PISDA is a member of the Consortium known as **Christian Relief and Development Association**. The organization was established by individuals who acknowledged the needs of female heads of households who support their children by collecting and selling firewood, cow-dung and grass/straw for small amounts in the market. It is believed that the current EU project will enable PISDA to promote the Integrated Sustainable Fuel Saving Stoves particularly the CookKit on a wider scale. PISDA aspires to see a situation in Ethiopia where the natural environment is rehabilitated and renewable energy resource utilization is enhanced. In participation with partner organizations and the community PISDA will do its utmost to improve the use of renewable energy and rehabilitate the natural environment in its project areas through production and promotion of fuel saving stoves, planting of trees in degraded lands and improving the livelihood of the community through entrepreneurship training and provision of seed capital. Currently, PISDA is engaged in the production and distribution of the solar CookKit, rocket and MIRT stoves and hay baskets. PISDA's Production workers are manufacturing CookKits at the production center established at Adda district. Initially, almost all required input materials came from abroad. At present all, except the aluminum foil, are obtained and bought from local market. PISDA is also working towards forest development to curb soil erosion and soil degradation. Since one of the major missions of PISDA is working towards poverty alleviation of the poor women heads of households, it every year plans and organizes the target beneficiaries into Saving and credit Scheme with a very minimum startup fund, Partnership for Integrated Sustainable Development Association in its fruitful years of project implementation has succeeded in scoring the following results, despite the financial and other administrative problems faced.

- 1 Provision of 1050 donkeys to 1050 needy female heads of household
  - 2 Distribution of fuel saving stoves:
    - 3,686 Solar CookKits
    - 2,139 Mirt and 1,540 Rocket stoves
    - 1,929 Hay baskets
  3. Organized 350 beneficiaries in two rural Kebeles in saving and credit cooperatives.
  4. 119,843 Different species of tree seedlings planted on 15 hectares of land obtained from the local government.
  - 5 The practical application of renewable and solar energy for cooking has gained ground within the beneficiary community.
  - 6 Beneficiary women are able to use the time they used to spend collecting fuel wood and cow dung for communal improvements.
  
  - 7 The women are exposed to less smoke from their traditional biomass stoves and have reduced the need to travel 2 – 3 Km in search of fuel wood daily.
- Gullilat Abera, PISDA Manager (donkey4development@yahoo.com; cthomas@kpnmail.nl)