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The World Health Care Congress

Affordable Health Innovations Global Initiative

News — October 2010

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October's featured innovation: E+Co— How Clean Energy Is Addressing Health Issues in Developing Countries



The impact of clean and efficient energy goes beyond better lighting and heating – it also significantly impacts health quality. The WHCC Affordable Health Innovations Global Initiative recently spoke with Anne Murray, Senior Development Officer at E+Co., a U.S.-based non-profit organization that is a source of training, advice, support and capital for small and growing clean energy entrepreneurs.

Q: What is the connection between clean energy and health care? Are there examples of traditional energy sources in the developing world that are particular health hazards?

A: The connection between clean energy and improved health is clear. And yet the developed world has still not made the connection.

Even today, over 1.6 billion people continue to live without access to electricity. Many are still using dirty fuels, like kerosene, which are costly and severely impact health. Burns occur when spilled, and asthma and other congestive disorders occur from fumes and smoke. Clinics and hospitals either can't provide care after dark, or are hampered by poor light when performing evening operations. Vaccines can't be refrigerated.

For many of the 2.4 billion people who cook with biomass (firewood and animal fuels), indoor air pollution results in more deaths per year than malaria, especially among women and children. But energy efficient cook stoves will reduce the amount of smoke and carbon released through cooking. Energy efficient liners that retain heat for long periods are cost-effective, as they reduce the amount of charcoal and firewood needed to prepare a meal. Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) is also used in mostly urban regions, replacing charcoal, which is bulky and expensive, with a cleaner cooking source.

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This month's featured health innovations

- [Clean Energy Enterprise in Action](#)

- [The Patient Navigator: Assisting Patients in Managing Chronic Illness](#)
- [Pediatric Diabetes Ocular Telemedicine Program, Caracas, Venezuela](#)

Have an affordable health innovation? In addition to featuring content on its Web site, www.whcchealthinnovations.org, The WHCC Affordable Health Global Initiative offers innovators the opportunity to display their projects and programs at many of our conferences. Presenters are welcome to display of poster of their innovation, and are permitted to attend the accompanying conference. Posters are generally included as part of the main conference exhibit hall.

Present it at our poster exhibits at one or more of these events: Click the links below to submit an abstract on the innovation you would like to include as part of the poster program.

The World Healthcare Innovation and Technology Congress, November 7-10, Alexandria, Virginia

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The World Health Care Congress Middle East, December 5-7, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

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Contact:

Patrick Golden
Director

WHCC Affordable Health Innovations Global Initiative
patrick.golden@worldcongress.com

1+781-939-2511



About the WHCC Affordable Health Innovations Global Initiative

The WHCC Affordable Health Innovations Global Initiative promotes programs that are working to improve health care through unique innovations that are affordable, sustainable and scalable. The site seeks well-established organizations and social entrepreneurs, non-profits, academic and research institutions developing technologies and business models that can improve health care delivery to underserved populations. Through our Web site www.whcchhealthinnovations.org and poster exhibits held at several events, we provide multiple options for organizations to display their innovations and connect with others in the field.

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