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Stakeholder and community perspectives on scaling up cleaner fuels in South West Cameroon

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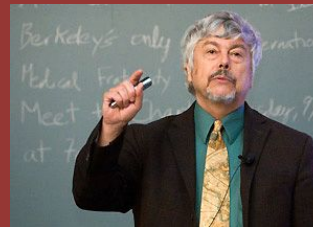
in conjunction with the Energy, Air
Pollution and Health Research Group at the
University of Liverpool, led by Professor Dan
Pope.



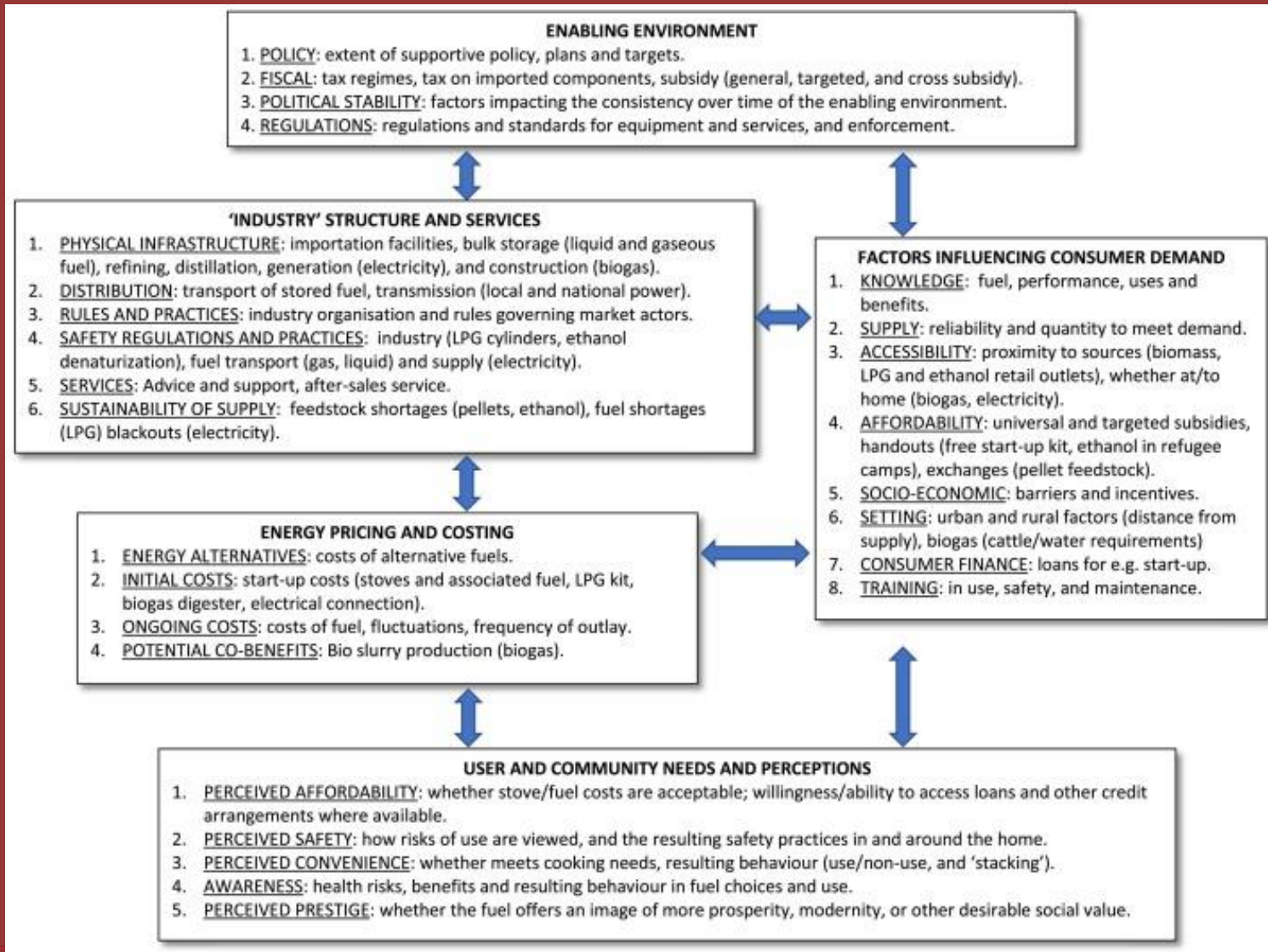
Household air pollution: the killer in the kitchen



Household air pollution due to cooking with solid fuels is a major global environmental health risk factor that kills approximately 4 million people annually, mostly from poorer communities in low-and middle-income countries.



“Having an open fire in your kitchen is like burning 400 cigarettes an hour,” ***Kirk Smith***



Key dimensions and factors
for clean fuel scaling up and
sustained adoption

Taken from Quinn, A, Bruce N,
Puzzolo E, Dickinson K, Sturke
R, Jack D, Mehta S, Shankar A,
Sherr K, Rosenthal J (2018).
An analysis of efforts to scale
up clean household energy for
cooking around the world.
*Energy for Sustainable
Development* (46) pp 1-10

The LACE Studies in Cameroon

Aim - To explore enablers and barriers to adoption and sustained use of LPG from a household and a stakeholder perspective

- ❖ Based in peri-urban Limbe and rural Buea in South West Cameroon (2016-2018)
- ❖ Qualitative findings of LACE One presented here

Householders

- 30 Qualitative interviews and two focus groups were carried out by local fieldworkers with exclusive LPG users, mixed LPG/biomass users and exclusive biomass users



Stakeholders

- 11 Semi structured interviews were carried out with a range of selected stakeholders, including marketers,
- gas retailers and community chiefs, at different levels of the LPG supply chain.

Findings – affordability, convenience, safety and health

- Affordability was a key barrier for almost all participants. The cost of firewood is more expensive than a gas refill over time, BUT it is more feasible for to pay 200CFA a day than it is to save up for a new LPG stove or a new gas bottle.
- Participants reported using the 3 stone fire for convenience, and in order to meet cooking needs including the ability to smoke fish and cooking for a large number of people.
- Safety concerns are a barrier to LPG adoption. Participants recalled incidents that had taken place. Participants suggested that bottles need to have a safety valve to avoid explosions.
- Health considerations were reported as an important motivating factor for biomass users wanting to use LPG for cooking.



Stakeholder findings – factors affecting supply

Factors affecting supply

- Limited infrastructure for gas production and storage
- Shortage in supply due to issues with importation of gas
- Problems with gas distribution
- Gaps in the cylinder supply chain



Factors affecting demand

- Affordability
- Problems with availability and accessibility due to limited retail points
- Some households see LPG as a luxury
- LPG use is expensive for long cooking times
- Safety of LPG is
- Limited awareness of the benefits of LPG

Conclusion

Householders

- Start from the perspective of a community's cooking practices, that is, what they do, to ensure that any scale up programmes address the main barriers to use from the perspective of the user.
- Cooking practices (especially stove stacking) can be viewed as a measure of whether user cooking needs are being met, through appropriate actions being undertaken across the other framework domains.



Stakeholders

- Although the stakeholders mentioned a number of barriers to LPG scale up, they suggest that this could be addressed by breaking down misconceptions about LPG use and increasing government involvement, to provide subsidies and also infrastructure to facilitate production of LPG in Cameroon.

Thank you for listening!

