SOLAR OVEN MICROCREDIT PROJECT



Within Maputo, Mozambique more then 6,000 children have lost their parents to AIDS. While most are left raising themselves, local NGO Reencontro works with community-based support to help these children. Many of these caregivers are women who have themselves lost their husbands to AIDS and take care of orphaned children along with their own family.

One of the greatest challenges for the women is getting fuel for cooking. Firewood is very expensive so many women walk several miles in the rugged terrain to get wood for cooking. While this takes up almost an entire day, little time is left for any other activity. Without time to work, many of the caregivers are supporting families on less then a dollar a day.

The solar ovens will allow the women to save money and time to begin new income generating activities. Small loans will be given to the women to start small enterprises using their cookers such as baking bread, drying vegetables, and frying food.

The Solar Oven Microcredit project is a sustainable and replicable program that will allow women to develop small businesses allowing economic empowerment.



SOLAR OVEN MICROCREDIT PROJECT





B eatri Ernesto Lougs, 48 years old, has a husband who is HIV positive and does not work, supporting 7 children 2 who are not her own that have been orphaned by AIDS, working her farm she grows cassava and vegetables that she sells earning \$1.50 a day, she wants to use the solar oven to dry vegetables to sell in the market to provide her children with a better home.

Adelina Fenias Tamele, 29 years old, supports her son and six younger brothers after losing their parents to AIDS, her family is currently supported by Reencontro with food rations and school fees, the solar oven project will allow her to earn an income to support the family, she is interested in using the solar oven to fry chicken and bake cakes in the market.

