



Briquette Press

Most displaced people live in regions where wood and other low-tech cooking fuels are scarce and often difficult and dangerous to collect. To address this issue and support sustainability, we are committed to the use of biomass briquettes as a viable alternative fuel source to power our stoves.

InStove is in final development of a manually-operated "low pressure" press that creates stick-shaped briquettes from a variety of materials, from crop waste and animal dung to waste paper and sawdust. These briquettes are optimized for use in our stoves and provide the same energy as wood.

Our press incorporates a mechanical leverage system so that it can be operated with minimal force even by children, yet is simple enough to be built in any blacksmith shop in the world. We plan to bring our first production model to field trials in 2014.



Briquettes drying in the sun – a 2-3 day process in warm, dry weather

Attributes

- **Easy to use** – Press requires minimal physical strength or training to operate
- **Inexpensive** – Most raw briquetting materials are free, common, waste products
- **Economic opportunity** – Briquette production can be operated as micro-business
- **Accessible** – Press can be built with materials and tools available around the world
- **Effective** – In our stoves, briquettes burn with the same fuel value and low emissions as wood
- **Reduces deforestation** – Briquettes provide a readily available, low-impact alternative to wood
- **Lowers risk of violence** – Minimizes the need to risk personal safety – especially for women – in the search for fire wood
- **Undermines illegal fuel** – Briquettes provide an alternative to supporting the armed groups that illegally harvest fuel in conflict areas



Our briquette press in operation



Detail of the press magazine used to form briquettes



An InStove stove fueled by briquettes