

# SOUTH CENTRAL INDIA NETWORK FOR DEVELOPEMNT ALTERNATIVES



**PROJECT PROPOSAL ON SMART, CLEAN  
IMPROVED COOKSTOVES AND A SIMPLE,  
RENEWABLE ENERGY SOLUTION**

**PERIOD 4 Months**

**DATE OF SUBMISSION – 30.05.2025**

# South Central India Network for Development Alternatives (SCINDeA)

219, Kottaiyur Road, Yelagiri Hills – 635 853 Tirupattur District, Tamil Nadu, India

## PROJECT PROPOSAL ON SMART, CLEAN IMPROVED COOKSTOVES AND A SIMPLE, RENEWABLE ENERGY SOLUTION

**PROJECT PERIOD : 4 Months**

### **SECTION : I**

#### **Organisational Profile**

##### **1. BASIC DATA ON THE PROJECT HOLDER**

Full name and acronym (abbreviation)	South Central India Network for Development Alternatives (SCINDeA)													
Postal address	219, Kottaiyur Road, Yelagiri Hills – 635 853 Tirupattur District, Tamil Nadu, INDIA													
Mobile	(0) 9443322093													
E-mail	<a href="mailto:scindea1@gmail.com">scindea1@gmail.com</a>													
Website	<a href="http://www.scindea.org">www.scindea.org</a>													
Contact person (including cell phone no.)	Dr Sheila Benjamin (0) 9443322093													
Any branch offices /subsidiaries	15 Field Project Offices in 3 States of Southern India													
Bank Details	<table><tr><td>Name</td><td>:</td><td>South Central India Network for Development Alternatives</td></tr><tr><td>Name of Bank</td><td>:</td><td>INDIAN BANK , YELAGIRI HILLS</td></tr><tr><td>A/c. No.</td><td>:</td><td>6417589205</td></tr><tr><td>IFSC Code</td><td>:</td><td>IDIB000Y008</td></tr></table>		Name	:	South Central India Network for Development Alternatives	Name of Bank	:	INDIAN BANK , YELAGIRI HILLS	A/c. No.	:	6417589205	IFSC Code	:	IDIB000Y008
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## **1. INTRODUCTION TO SCINDeA**

SOUTH CENTRAL INDIA NETWORK for DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES is a reputed pioneering Networking NGO that has been specializing in the field of development for the past 30-32 years. SCINDeA is constituted of 15 field project offices that are geographically situated in south central regions of India – 1 district of Andhra Pradesh, 2 districts of Karnataka and 8 districts in Tamil Nadu.

The togetherness strengthens and supports the goal of the SCINDeA to collectively participate in empowering the vulnerable, marginalized, underprivileged, socially, degraded, culturally alienated and the politically and economically powerless communities.

Through partnerships, programme designs, programme management impact and sustainability assessment SCINDeA has built a fairly good community rapport with different sectoral groups in grass root communities covering 283 villages, 205 panchayats, 39 blocks, 26 taluks, 11 districts & a population of 2,73,576.

## **2. GOAL**

Promotion of self-reliant, social and economic development of poor subaltern communities (dalits, quarry workers, small & marginalised farmers, adivasis, fisherfolk, ex-miners) through peoples participation in the SCINDeA area of operation.

## **3. VISION**

SCINDeA envisions a society that is based on a just sustainable order; a society where all subaltern groups (Dalits, indigenous communities, quarry workers, slum dwellers, fisherfolk, unorganized sectors of women, youth & children) collectively participate in alternative socio-economic, cultural and political development programmes based on the principles of justice, equality, liberty & fraternity.

#### **4. MISSION**

Build empowered and self reliant people's movements of Dalits, fisherfolk, quarry workers, slum dwellers, tribals, ex-minors, women & youth in the South Central region of the country by enhancing the capacity of staff of the field project offices of the SCINDeA and evolving sustainable development programmes focused on gender equity, human rights and environmental protection through people's participation.

#### **5. STRATEGIES**

- Identification of socio, economic, cultural & political issues affecting subaltern groups through their participation and promotion of People's movements
- Enhancement of capacities and skills of staff of field project offices of the SCINDeA in order to promote community health, natural resource management, environmental protection, education and prevention of HIV/ AIDS programmes
- Initiation of programmes that promote & protect the rights of women & children.
- Collaboration with likeminded NGOs, Networks and government departments on development programmes and lobbying on issues of common concern.

#### **6. OBJECTIVES**

- To capacitate SCINDeA staff in realising the set programme objectives towards empowering communities socially, economically, culturally and politically in order to build strong people's movements.
- To support and facilitate SCINDeA staff in promoting alternative development initiatives
- To federate at the SCINDeA level people's movements promoted by field project offices.
- To interact with likeminded organisations and other forums on issues of common concern through advocacy and lobbying

## **7. CORE NON NEGOTIABLE VALUES OF THE SCINDeA**

- Collective democratic participatory decision making
- Gender sensitivity
- Decentralisation
- People centered initiatives
- Transparency & accountability
- Mutual sharing
- Solidarity
- Respect for one another.

## **8. UNIQUE FEATURES OF SCINDeA**

- All staff of SCINDeA have field experience of 15-20 years.
- Work among women, youth and children, quarry workers, tribals, dalits, fisherfolk and slum dwellers are some of the unique features of the SCINDeA.
- One third of the field project offices are headed by women.
- SCINDeA is coordinated by the Central Office with a full time Executive Director.
- Planning, implementation, reporting and evaluation of the SCINDeA are done collectively ensuring transparency and accountability. The collective decision of SCINDeA is final.
- All field project offices share a cordial relationship with one another and with the Central Office.
- Within SCINDeA there is no hierarchy and all field project officers are equal
- Policy decisions are taken by the Executive Committee of the SCINDeA and ratified by the SCINDeA General Body Association
- The Executive Committee takes all interim decisions such as making provisions for budgetary requirements that are required to ensure the smooth running of the SCINDeA
- Deviation of programme implementation with adequate justification is placed before the Executive Committee for consideration via the Central Office

## **9. AREA OF OPERATION**

SCINDeA currently works in the three states of Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka covering a total of 11 districts, 20 blocks, 18 taluks, 40 panchayats, 267 villages and a population 1,47,528.

## **10. SCINDeA's CURRENT WORK IS FOCUSED ON**

- a. Socio economic empowerment of poor and marginalised rural and tribal families
- b. Child development
- c. Climate smart agriculture
- d. Social education
- e. Climate change education
- f. Menstrual health and hygiene
- g. Climate action

The programmes have been designed based on people's needs. Various consultative meetings are conducted at different levels with the respective communities to evolve suitable programmes. The draft programme is then submitted to the Executive Committee of SCINDeA for approval and finalisation.

## **11. GENERAL COORDINATION**

The Central Office Coordinates the various programmes by :

- Maintaining a steady line of communication with all field project officers.
- Facilitating inter-organisational communication as well as dissemination of information.
- Making regular visits to the Field Project Offices for strengthening programme components.
- Arranging periodic visitation programmes, technical consultancy etc.
- Providing a steady flow of information between Field Project Offices, SCINDeA Central Office and our Resource Sharing Partners.
- Arranging for in house evaluation/assessment of programmes.

## **12. PROGRAMME & FINANCIAL COORDINATION**

- The Central Office has developed its own programme and financial monitoring systems. All Field Project Offices are required to submit a narrative report and unaudited financial statement every three months.
- Every six months each Field Project Offices makes a request for transfer of funds based on programme needs and balance of funds available.

- The funds are released to the Field Project Offices only after they submit their narrative reports and un-audited/audited statements.
- Periodically the Central Office coordinating staff and the accountant visit Field Project Offices to review the accounts and field level programmes.
- All Field Project Offices participate in the annual joint campaign of the Central Office and share responsibility equally.
- Once in six months the narrative report and audited statement of the Central Office is submitted to the Partner Agency.

## **SECTION : II**

### **Project Proposal**

#### **1. INTRODUCTION TO THE SCINDeA PROJECT AREA**

The geography of the South Central India Network for Development Alternatives (SCINDeA) includes Chittoor district in the south-west of Andhra Pradesh; Karnataka district in the south-east of Karnataka, and 10 districts in Tamil Nadu. One of the main criteria for selecting this area is that, due to the geopolitical proximity of the primary and intermediate Field Project Office level, it may be easy to SCINDeA and effectively implement the participatory model of development interventions. Secondly the common language is Tamil, Kannada and Telugu which are also being extensively used. A large percentage of Dalits and tribals live in this area. Among the Dalits there are a large number of bonded and landless labourers, mainly migrants. 60 - 65% of the people in the villages in the South Central Region of the country live below the poverty line.

#### **2. PROJECT BACKGROUND & PROBLEM DESCRIPTION**

Access to clean and efficient cooking solutions is essential for the well-being of communities and the environment. Traditional cooking methods, such as open fires and rudimentary stoves, pose significant health and environmental hazards. This project proposal aims to address these challenges by implementing clean cooking solutions and promoting the use of improved cookstoves. By adopting sustainable and efficient cooking practices, we can improve air quality, reduce deforestation, enhance health outcomes, and empower communities.

Unlike fossil fuels, which are finite and contribute to environmental degradation, renewable energy sources are sustainable and emit little to no greenhouse gases during energy generation. Renewable energy is energy derived from natural sources that are replenished on a human timescale, such as sunlight, wind, water, and geothermal heat.

In addition to promoting improved cookstoves, SCINDeA intends to provide a simple renewable energy solution through the provision of a LED intervater bulb.



### 3. OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of this project are as follows:

- Promote the adoption of smart improved cookstoves that reduce fuel consumption, emissions and indoor air pollution.
- Enhance awareness and education of communities about the benefits of clean cooking solutions, proper stove operation, and maintenance practices.
- Promote the use of a simple renewable LED inverter bulb
- Establish a monitoring framework to assess the impact of the project, including the reduction of indoor air pollution, fuel consumption, and deforestation, as well as improvements in health outcomes.

The smart stove is ideal for a family of 4-5 members. The stove can use wood, cow dung, agricultural waste or any solid biomass fuel. The patented design produces 70% less smoke and uses 65% less fuel than the traditional mud cook stoves. With smoke emission reduced considerably, it stops 2.5 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions from entering the atmosphere every year. The stove is portable and easy to maintain. Its loading capacity is up to 40 kg. and offers 36% thermal efficiency.

The advantages of using clean cookstoves are :

- ❖ Reduces indoor air pollution, minimizes respiratory illness and improve overall health outcomes, particularly for women and children who are most affected by traditional cooking methods.
- ❖ Decreasing deforestation and carbon emissions through the adoption of eco-friendly technologies
- ❖ Providing economic benefits to rural communities by creating jobs and reducing fuel costs.

The LED inverter bulb offers significant reduction in energy consumption while offering longer life span than traditional bulbs along with uninterrupted illumination. It offers bright light with 900 lumens and comes with rechargeable 2200 mAh lithium-ion battery. There is a battery backup of up to 12 hours and can be recharged in 10-12 hours time. It is provided with a free smart holder and makes it a good portable option. An added advantage is that it is provided with 3 adjustable brightness levels.

Advantages of using simple, renewable energy solution like the LED bulb are:

- ❖ Enhanced reliability, security and resilience of the power grid.
- ❖ Saves lighting, reduces the risk of accidents and improves the living condition in rural areas.

- ❖ Access to electricity with inverter bulbs.
- ❖ Lower energy costs

The use of improved cookstoves and LED inverter bulbs will definitely make a grassroots level impact on underserved rural communities by directly addressing issues such as environmental sustainability, public health, climate action, and economic empowerment which are aligned with multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

#### **4. DURATION OF THE PROJECT : 4 months.**

#### **5. TARGET AREA**

The project will be implemented in 15 rural & tribal field locations of Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka. A total of 300 families will be covered @ 20 families / location. The 300 families will be short listed from 30 villages (Annexure – 1). The 30 villages are characterized by a high dependence on traditional cooking methods, significant deforestation, and poor air quality. The target area has been selected based on its vulnerability to the adverse effects of inefficient cooking practices.

Each of the 300 families will be provided with an improved clean cook stove and an LED inverter bulb.

#### **6. ACTIVITIES**

##### **a. Community Engagement and Awareness**

Community meetings, workshops and awareness campaigns will be conducted to educate the local population about the benefits of clean cooking and renewable energy solutions. This will involve collaborating with local leaders, community organizations and schools to reach a wide audience. A minimum of 30 community meetings will be conducted in the short listed villages.

##### **b. IEC Material Preparation**

Pamphlets, handbills etc. on the need for clean improved cookstoves and LED inverter bulb to address issues of environmental sustainability, public health, climate action, and economic empowerment will be printed in tamil, telugu & kannada and shared during the community engagement awareness programmes.

#### **c. Capacity Building Programme of Project Staff & Community Members**

Capacity building programmes will be organized for 25 staff & community members about the proper operation and maintenance of the improved cookstoves. At the same time local entrepreneurs will also be trained and empowered to manufacture, distribute, and service these stoves, creating sustainable livelihood opportunities.

#### **d. Distribution of Improved Cookstoves & LED Bulbs**

Partnerships will be established with cookstove manufacturers and distributors to procure and distribute improved cookstoves and LED inverter bulbs in the target area.

#### **e. Monitoring and Evaluation**

A comprehensive monitoring framework will be developed to collect data on key indicators such as fuel consumption, emissions reduction, indoor air quality, and health outcomes. Regularly evaluate the project's impact will be regularly evaluated and necessary adjustments will be made to maximize effectiveness.

#### **f. Stakeholder Collaboration**

SCINDeA will collaborate with local government agencies, non-profit organizations, and international partners to leverage resources, expertise and ensure the sustainability of the project. Partnerships that can provide ongoing support and expertise in clean cooking solutions will also be explored.

### **7. SUSTAINABILITY PLAN**

To ensure the long-term sustainability of the project, the following measures will be implemented:

- **Capacity Building**

Train local entrepreneurs and technicians to manufacture, distribute, and service improved cookstoves. This will create a self-sustaining market and support local economic development.

- **Behavior Change Campaigns**

SCINDeA will continuously reinforce the benefits of clean cooking solutions through awareness campaigns and educational programs. The adoption of improved cookstoves as a long-term practice will be encouraged.

- **Policy Advocacy**

SCINDeA will collaborate with local and national authorities to advocate for policies and regulations that promote clean cooking solutions and facilitate their adoption. This will create an enabling environment for the sustainable use of improved cookstoves.

- **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The project's impact will be regularly monitored and evaluated to identify areas for improvement and ensure accountability.

## 8. BUDGET

The estimated budget for the implementation of this project is Rs. **12,37,500.00**. The budget will cover activities such as stakeholder engagement, community awareness campaigns, procurement and distribution of improved cookstoves & LED inverter bulbs, training sessions, monitoring and evaluation, and project management costs.

S.No.	Budget head	Unit cost	Amount Rs.
1.	a. Capacity building of staff (food, accommodation & travel)	Rs. 2000/ staff x 25 staff	50,000.00
	b. Resource person's fee & travel	Rs. 5000 / Prog.	5,000.00
2.	Purchase of a. Improved cookstoves	Rs. 1800 / unit x 300 families	5,40,000.00
	b. LED Inverter bulb	Rs. 300 / unit x 300 families	90,000.00
3.	Transportation cost for distribution of cookstoves and LED inverter bulbs	Rs. 2,500/ field location x 15 field locations	37,500.00
4.	Preparation & printing of IEC materials (posters, pamphlets & hand bills)	Rs. 35,000/-	35,000.00
5.	Community awareness programmes including demonstration of use of cookstoves	Rs. 7,000/field location x 15 field locations (tea, banner & hall rent)	1,05,000.00
6.	Field level monitoring and coordination	Rs. 5,000/field location x 15 field locations x 4 months (staff honorarium & travel)	300,000.00

S.No.	Budget head	Unit cost	Amount Rs.
7.	Project management cost	Rs. 60,000/- (honorarium & travel for 4 staff)	60,000.00
8.	Audit fees		15,000.00
<b>TOTAL.....</b>			<b>12,37,500.00</b>

(Rupees twelve lakhs, thirty seven thousand & five hundred only.)

## 9. CONCLUSION

By implementing clean cooking & renewable energy solutions and promoting the use of improved cookstoves & LED inverter bulbs this project will contribute to improved health outcomes, reduced deforestation, and enhanced livelihood opportunities. We seek support and partnership from stakeholders to create a sustainable and healthy cooking & lighting environment for the target area. Together, we can empower communities and protect the environment through the adoption of clean cooking and simple renewal energy practices.



**Dr. Sheila Benjamin**

**Executive Secretary-SCINDeA**

## Annexure - 1

COOK STOVE PROJECT - 2025			
S. No	FIELD OFFICE	NO. OF VILLAGES	VILLAGE
1	Dindigul	2	Vairavan patti
			Kurunji Nagar
2	GD Nellore	2	Vejjipalli
			Bandharlapalli
3	Gudipala	2	Gollamedu
			Gudipala HW
4	KGF	2	Malayala lane
			Cynide lane
5	Manamadurai	2	Semmanur
			Chettikulam
6	Pallipalayam	2	Karatankadu
			Thattankuttai
7	Pudukottai	2	Mela savariyarpattinam
			Uppliyakudi
8	Pulicat	2	Edayankulam
			Andarmadam
9	Ramanagara	2	Gulavadidoddi
			Danayakanapura
10	Tiruvannamalai	2	Pudhupattu
			Panaiolai padi
11	Tirupathur	2	Anna Nagar
			Gandhi Nagar
12	Udumalpet	2	Myladumparai
			Salayur
13	Yadamari	2	Ottivaripalli
			Yenadi colony
14	Yelagiri	2	Mettukanniur
			Kottur
15	Yercaud	2	Mavuthu
			Arangam
TOTAL		30	