

POLICY PLAN 2026–2028

I. Introduction

The Ignite a Better Future Foundation is committed to promoting the balance between ecology and well-being in African countries. This policy plan describes the objectives, working methods, activities, finances and spending policy. The document serves as a guideline and provides transparency to stakeholders.

In accordance with its articles of association, the Ignite a Better Future Foundation (IaBF) aims to “contribute to combating climate disruption and strive for ecological balance”. In addition, the foundation promotes the wellbeing, well-being and prosperity of people and communities in Africa. The foundation wants to make a substantial contribution to the transition to clean cooking. This is important and urgent, because around 3 billion people still cook with wood and charcoal, resulting in hundreds of thousands of women suffering from eye and lung diseases, many of whom die as a result. In addition, thousands of children suffer burns from falling into cooking fires. This method of cooking is extremely harmful to the environment: CO2 emissions are comparable to those of the global aviation industry, and unbridled deforestation leads to desertification and declining biodiversity.

Clean cooking – a combination of warm-keeping baskets, including hotboxes, the panier thermos and Kaamoto Bags, and smart cooking appliances – can bring about a turnaround. The foundation is a driving force behind initiatives in this area in African countries. Part of the introduction of clean cooking involves providing information about the switch to this cooking method. Information is given a lot of attention, as is improving local food production. An initial project has been launched and there is appetite for more.

II. Goals

The foundation contributes to the following goals:

1. Sustainable Products and Services

Supporting the development, production and distribution of sustainable products related to clean cooking and supporting the development of services that can be provided by local organisations. Both the products and services contribute structurally to the local economy and have a positive financial result.

2. Local Social Entrepreneurship

Encouraging and guiding local social entrepreneurship that contributes to economic and social development. Making pellets requires a chain of activities and people – from collecting organic waste streams to creating a distribution chain. Making insulated baskets can immediately provide work for many people on a local scale, mainly women.

3. Circular Initiatives and Suitable Products

Supporting initiatives and enterprises that operate circularly and use local raw materials and resources that are suited to local conditions. In Niger, for example, the foundation works with the Pandacooker, a cookstove that uses wood as fuel but consumes 80 to 90% less than traditional wood fires. Organic waste from agriculture and other sources is used to make pellets, the fuel for the Mimi Moto. In Niger, the foundation also works with

the local company Sonitech. This company manufactures cookstoves that run on biochar – charcoal made from organic waste and waste wood.

4. **Education and Information**

Setting up and organising information and education programmes, workshops and other information activities that lead to a healthier lifestyle without smoke emissions and inhalation of toxic gases. Cooking is culturally determined. The transition is not just a matter of offering a cleaner alternative, nor is it simply a matter of implementing a new technique or form of cooking. Changing traditional cooking methods requires a long process and frequent guidance, information and education.

5. **Strengthening the role of women**

Promoting initiatives that encourage and strengthen the role of women in society. After all, it is women who suffer most from smoke emissions. Embracing the transition to a different way of cooking gives them more time for other things, such as pursuing an education.

III. Working Method

The Ignite a Better Future Foundation works locally with communities and partners to develop sustainable solutions. Our approach is characterised by:

1. **Community focus:** We involve local communities in the development and implementation of projects, so that they feel a sense of ownership and the impact of the results of our efforts is guaranteed.
2. **Education, Information and Community Building:** The foundation organises workshops, training courses and information sessions to raise awareness and share knowledge.
3. **Innovation and Sustainability:** Our projects use innovative technologies, that help reduce wood consumption, toxic gas emissions in the home and CO2 emissions.

In every country and every community, Ignite a Better Future will work with local organisations, people and communities. Through local parties, we will collaborate with local decision-makers. This is the only way that clean cooking can grow as a movement, reach millions of people, and enable them to make the switch to clean cooking. Our goal is to reach millions of households. By the end of 2028, we aim to have 75,000 people make the switch. That is also quite a challenge.

IV. PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

1. **Resto-Scolaire Harobanda**

The foundation is working on a large multi-year project in Niger: Resto-Scolaire Harobanda. The CES-Rive Droite school in Harobanda, one of the largest neighbourhoods in the capital Niamey, has 7,000 children. Together with their parents/carers, this is a large group of people who are relatively easy to reach because they belong to the community – the school. The project was created to increase food security and introduce clean cooking methods. The school restaurant

provides daily meals to a hundred children and serves as a model for other schools. The number of children receiving meals is being expanded.

Other schools have already signed up and the aim is to have four more schools participate in a similar project. The concept can also be easily replicated in other cities and areas. Currently (October 2025), preparations are underway for a project in Somaliland and clean cooking is being added to an ongoing project in Chad.

Activities:

- Setting up a school restaurant with clean cooking technology, warming baskets and alternative fuels.
- Preparing the 5,000 m² of land donated to the project by the school management to turn it into a partially self-sufficient school garden for the kitchen.
- A programme for older pupils to become entrepreneurs somewhere in the agricultural and horticultural value chain, either alone or together with their parents/guardians.
- Community building around clean cooking by setting up a series of educational sessions on clean cooking for parents/guardians – and their friends and acquaintances.
- Initiating pilot projects for clean cooking appliances that consume 80% less fuel.
- Setting up payment arrangements for the purchase of cooking appliances.

2. Teenage mothers of Sarh, Chad

This project was set up as a programme to improve the lives of single young women with children and teenage mothers. The women receive basic education (literacy) and learn the trade of product processing as independent entrepreneurs. This is a very promising approach, as the area in the south of the country is very fertile and countless fruits are left to rot because there is insufficient processing capacity. The project is being implemented by Fondation PetitPouss Chad.

Activities:

- Basic education and vocational training.
- Training focused on the needs of the community and providing opportunities for the target group.
- A lot of cooking is involved in processing the fruit. These are the moments when clean cooking is introduced.
- Guiding entrepreneurship somewhere along the agricultural and horticultural value chain.

3. Proposis Energy & Regenerative Horticulture, Somaliland

Proposis juliflora is an invasive tree species that has affected large areas of agricultural land in Somaliland, particularly in the Awdal region. This project proposes an integrated solution: clear the overgrown Proposis, convert the biomass into wood pellets and biochar, and restore the land for productive, climate-resilient agriculture. The project is in its initial phase.

Activities

- Writing a project plan.
- More than 50 hectares of land affected by Proposis will be transformed into restored agricultural land.
- Building a viable business model around the valorisation of biomass and regenerative agriculture.

V. Finances

The foundation's funding comes from various sources:

- **Donations from individuals:** Contributions from donors who support our mission.
- **Funds and subsidies:** Subsidies from governments, NGOs and private foundations.
- **Bequests and gifts:** These funds are obtained under the privilege of estate inventory, whereby funds are used for the development of projects.
- **Music, sports and cultural activities:** Collaboration is sought with local musicians, DJs, sports heroes and other artists. On the one hand as local influencers, on the other hand as a source of income.
- **Local initiatives:** Efforts are also being made to generate income on a local scale. In Harobanda, for example, the restaurant will sell dishes with the proceeds going to the laBF project.
- **Sales:** The KaaMoto Bag is manufactured in Kenya. Twenty percent of the proceeds from the sale of this designer insulated bag in the United Kingdom will go to laBF.

Principles

The Ignite a Better Future Foundation is a non-profit organisation. All funds obtained are used to achieve the objectives. The following principles are applied to the spending policy:

- At least 80% of the funds received are spent on goods, project implementation, educational programmes and other initiatives that directly contribute to the mission of laBF;
- A maximum of 20% of the funds may be used for operational costs, including administration, marketing and fundraising;
- A financial overview is prepared annually and presented to donors and partners to ensure transparency and trust.

Budget

Based on current projects, the expected costs for the policy period are as follows:

- Niger: EUR 440,000 for the establishment of four additional Resto-Scolaire initiatives, including horticultural facilities, solar energy installations and educational programmes.
- Chad: EUR 200,000 for setting up local Clean Cooking communities.
- Somaliland: EUR 300,000 for starting the project, clearing the first 50 hectares and purchasing pelletising equipment.

The exact budget is available in detail.

V. Vision for the future

Our plans focus on expanding the impact we make

- To other schools and places in Niger. Goal: 25,000 people will switch to clean cooking between January 2026 and December 2028.
- To other Sahel countries, starting in Chad. Goal: 15,000 people to switch to clean cooking between July 2026 and December 2028.
- To other African countries such as Somaliland, where the invasive species *Propolis* is overgrowing entire agricultural areas. The shrub can serve as a basis for fuel. Project plan has been drawn up.

Our plans are in line with the tradition of management by coincidence and we are

- Open to new questions and opportunities. Requests have been received from Zimbabwe, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Open to new collaborations – such as with AllGreen, which may receive an order from the Nigerian government to supply millions of Pandacookers.
- Open to (inter)national collaboration, where we strive to enter into more partnerships to further realise our vision of a sustainable and resilient community.

VI. Conclusion

The Ignite a Better Future Foundation is working towards a world in which everyone has access to clean cooking, sustainable resources and technologies that promote health, well-being and prosperity. This will create a new balance between people and their environment – or rather, restore the old balance in which people live in greater harmony with their environment, with nature, with forests – the entire ecosystem.

We invite companies, individuals and other organisations to join us in our mission to inspire change and help ensure a better future. For now, but certainly for the generations after us.