“My income is the determinant of the kind of fuel I use, if I was to change my standard of living today I will not hesitate to go for the most convenient and clean energy available like electricity”

“I would like to use a soot free fuel/stove combination because I won’t have to struggle with scrubbing the cooking pot after use”

Please tell us your name and what fuels and stove you use to cook food in your home.

Zulfa: Charcoal and kerosene
Hafsa: Charcoal and kerosene
Elias: Charcoal and kerosene
Joyce: Charcoal and kerosene
Saumu: Charcoal and kerosene

What are the reasons for choosing these fuels?

S: Both charcoal and kerosene are easy to procure.

J: The fuels last longer.

Z: The fuels and their stoves are cheaper relative to others.

What do you think are the negative/bad things associated to the fuels you use?

E: Charcoal is not environmental friendly; it causes deforestation and contributes to environmental degradation.

S: Kerosene stove have risk of explosion.
H: If charcoal is burnt indoors, there are chances of inhaling poisonous gases.

**Given an opportunity to choose a stove and fuel to use, what would you choose? And why?**

J: Moto poa, easy to use.

E: Moto poa, easy to use and have little effect on the user.

S: Electricity, easy to procure.

Z: Electricity, there is no smoke when you use electricity, flexible easy and to use. You can even cook in the bed room if you have a small electric stove.

H: Moto poa, because the fuel is easy to store. I won’t go for electricity because if the power goes away then it means I won’t eat.

**Who decides on what fuel to use?**

J: I decide what to use in my house.

E: the whole family discusses on convenience of use of the fuel to the whole family then we make a decision.

S: My sister in-law makes the decision because she is in charge of the cooking business in her home and I live with her.

Z: I make the decisions in my house.

H: I live alone and so I make my own decisions.

**What do you take into account when you buy a stove and fuel for cooking?**

J: For me it is the size of the family and the kind of food we prefer to cook at home

E: I will think of the family members and the risks that they may encounter if I decide to buy that particular stove, if you have younger children you rarely use kerosene and gas
is even much dangerous. Young children may temper with the gas cooker or rats may chew the gas pipe and cause leakage and the end of all this is explosion.

S: I will consider the cost.

Z: I will consider the cost and the space and place I use for cooking.

H: I will see how much it the stove and fuel will be my priority and then comes the cost.

**Which fuels do you consider very smoky and less smoky**

All: Fire wood is the smokiest fuel

E: Sawdust stoves used by many bars in cooking pork are the smokiest, followed by fire woodstove.

Z: kerosene gives a little soot but lots of bad smell, especially if you have to put off the fire using water when you are done with the cooking. It all depends on the kind of stove you have, if you don’t use water to quench the fire then it’s much better.

S: sometimes gas cookers give a little of soot, which you find on the cooking pans.

S, Z, and E: the cleanest fuel is electricity, followed by moto poa and gas because there is no smoke and soot coming out.

**What are the symptoms of a smoky fuel on the user?**

E and J: Most people who use fire wood have red eyes

E: Sometimes fire wood users cough a lot in the process of starting up the fire. When they blow the fire with their mouths they inhale smoke and start coughing.

Z, S and J: When you use fire wood, the whole of your body smells of smoke.

Do you think there are stoves that you will consider dangerous, why?
E: Leakages could cause great harm to property, you may lose everything in gas explosions because the fire burns even in the air, doesn’t have to burn on wood. The thing with gas is that you don’t easily realise there is going to be an explosion until when you have the match lit up.

J: the kerosene stove if not managed properly may cause

H: kerosene is the most dangerous, I saw a man working with TATAKI (Institute of Kiswahili studies) who was burnt by an explosion from a kerosene stove, it was horrible!

S: I think electricity is the most dangerous because of electric shock id you touch it with wet hands and bare feet, also when you use an iron cooking pan and place it on the electric stove without making sure the outside is completely dry.

Z: Electricity is the most dangerous because people tell me electric shocks can seriously harm a person.

**In your experience which fuels/stove combination are most expensive and which ones are least expensive.**

Z: Electricity is the most expensive stoves, and of course the electricity is also expensive. Moto poa will be moderately cheaper and cheapest kerosene and fire wood.

E: I think electricity is the most expensive, followed by gas and least expensive is fire wood

J: I think gas is expensive than other fuels, followed by charcoal, kerosene is moderately expensive and firewood is the cheapest

S and H: Charcoal and fire wood are the cheapest

**Do prices of fuels and stoves vary in different parts of the town?**

E: Prices of fuels and stoves vary in different parts of the depending on how much the retailers/service provider spent on the product including rent.

J: It depends on how much the product has cost the person selling it to you
Z: the prices do vary from one place to another but not significantly.

**What things would you consider when choosing fuel and stove?**

E: the risks of using the fuel, I must take to consideration of the different age groups I have in the family. When you use fuels like fire wood you must have a separate room or somewhere outside where there is enough air

J: I will think of the durability of the stove

Z: the area I live is important; it’s always easy to store ethanol and kerosene than fire wood and charcoal

**Experience on the game**

The game was refreshing and did not seem difficult; however some combinations were a little bit difficult to decide. Two of the participants did not know about moto poa, three of had heard of moto poa but not used it and so it was kind of difficult to judge on moto poa. One participant knew and used moto poa, so the exercise was more of a real situation.