



Proyecto Mirador
LA JUSTA DOS POR TRES

Subsidiary of the Overlook International Foundation

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**Proyecto Mirador Stove Project announces Gold Standard certification,
Sale of First Monitoring Period Carbon Offsets, and Receives Two U.S. Government
Awards**

Proyecto Mirador LLC Honduras, a non-profit, fuel efficient cookstove project based in the rural northwestern coffee-growing highlands of Honduras, today announced the issuance and concurrent sale of its first Gold Standard Verified Emission Reduction (VER) Credits, the receipt of a *Renewable Energy Award* from the U.S. Embassy, Honduras, and a *Special Achievement Award* from the Partnership for Clean Indoor Air (PCIA), a U.S. EPA-sponsored organization.

Adrian Rimmer, CEO of The Gold Standard Foundation, said, "The Gold Standard is proud to certify this wonderful project because it marks the culmination of Proyecto Mirador's research, testing, and stove improvement efforts. Gold Standard certification also affirms the social benefits brought about by the La Justa Dos por Tres stove because no project can be certified by the Gold Standard without proven environmental, economic and social co-benefits for the local community."

"Although it took 4 years of hard work, the sale of these VER's has transformed the economics of our project. Our market-based solution has freed us from dependence on donations, enabling us to provide meaningful health and welfare benefits to some of the poorest families in the world, while having an impact on global warming," said Richard Lawrence, Proyecto Mirador Director.

"We are also pleased to acknowledge our two awards. First, we thank Ambassador Hugo Llorens, U.S. Embassy, Honduras for his recognition of the work we have done with regard to renewable energy in Honduras. We are also grateful to the PCIA for their recognition of the social benefits of our cookstoves. More than any other organization, the PCIA has brought global attention to the health issues of toxic indoor air caused by cooking with inefficient stoves," he continued.

Proyecto Mirador is the 4th stove project in the world to be certified by the Gold Standard. Each La Justa Dos por Tres stove has proven emission reductions of CO₂ by 2.73 metric tons per year. The equivalent carbon reductions by 3.5 stoves would be sufficient to neutralize the annual carbon footprint of the average American at a cost of less than \$300. Thus, fuel-

efficient cookstoves are among the most inexpensive and fast means of reducing greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming.

Cookstoves also provide a series of valuable co-benefits to the poor. They drastically diminish carbon monoxide and soot emissions in the home, thus improving the respiratory health of women and children and helping to keep homes clean. Stoves also reduce deforestation and degradation of fragile ecosystems, and improve the economic income of families through wood savings.

In addition to certification by the prestigious Gold Standard (www.cdmgoldstandard.org), Proyecto Mirador's emissions reduction claims were independently validated and verified by SGS, a London-based United Nations Designated Operational Entity after thorough audit. Stove testing and forestry studies were completed with the assistance of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, the Aprovecho Research Center, and Zamorano University, Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Each Proyecto Mirador La Justa Dos por Tres cookstove is built on site in a family's home and is built to last about 6 years with an average use of 6 hours per day. Prior to construction, the family must agree to co-invest in their stove by providing certain materials and some of their own labor at an equivalent cost of about \$12-15. No cash payment is required.

The project has been operated under the guidance of Director Emilia Mendoza since inception, 7 years ago. Ms. Mendoza said, "Certification is the culmination of our hard work. Our system of co-investment with our beneficiaries insures they value the stoves as their own and take the time and care to maintain them. We employ pre and post education, monitoring and follow up to make sure our stoves are used properly and deliver the maximum carbon savings possible."

Mrs. Patricia Pineda, a project beneficiary from the village of Nuevo Celiac said, "*Me encanta mi Dos por Tres!* (I love my stove!) I use about half the amount of fuel that I used before so we spend less time collecting wood. I don't have to breathe a lot of smoke and my food cooks faster so I don't have to spend as much time by the fire."

The stove name "Dos por Tres" was submitted by an 11-year-old school girl, Reina Meija, in a naming contest held in La Vega, one of Proyecto Mirador's beneficiary villages. The name she suggested is Honduran slang for "in an instant." In her contest entry Reina communicated the idea that the "Dos por Tres" stove reduces smoke and soot in the home, reduces wood consumption, and cooks food in a "Dos por Tres".

A case study done by the Gold Standard on Proyecto Mirador can be seen here: http://cdmgoldstandard.org/fileadmin/editors/files/1_case_studies/GS690_PM_Case_Study.pdf

The Proyecto Mirador website is <http://www.proyectomirador.org/>.