



Solar Food Processing Conference 2009

14-16 January 2009

Indore, India

www.solarfood2009.org

Conference Resolution

The International Solar Food Processing Conference 2009 held in Indore, India from 14 – 16 January 2009 and attended by participants from around the world recommends and resolves the following:

Solar food processing should be an integral part of all sustainability strategies and policies for creating renewable energy economies and ensuring a safe and healthy food supply.

A vital part of any economy is food industries. A transition to the use to solar energy for food production is a necessary strategy for the future of any nation. Shifting from conventional food processing to solar food processing is a major step to help our societies shift from non-renewable to renewable energy sources.

Food security is coupled with the availability of energy for processing and conserving food. An integral part of poverty alleviation includes not only access to healthy food, but access to safe, affordable and clean energy to prepare and conserve food. The global society must use solar food processing as one tool amongst many to improve living conditions, create jobs and income and reduce CO₂ emissions.

Support for the existing networks:

Two networks (Solar Food Processing Network, Solar Cookers World Network) emerged in the last three years to build and strengthen a global network for advancing solar food processing technologies. Both existing networks have worked towards and made unique contributions to hundreds of independent promoters to help spread solar food processing and solar cooking technologies. We urge support to strength these networks to accelerate the spread of these vital technologies.

Integrated action

Solar food processing must be coupled wherever possible with health, environmental, social and economic strategies and actions. Creating and raising awareness is one of the first steps to be taken. Integration of solar food processing into our societies is possible through literacy, health, management, engineering, IT, medicine, tourism, home science, agriculture, communication, arts and culture.

It is necessary to provide funds – also through micro-credit institutes – specifically to promote the shift to solar technologies and to support income generating activities. Documentation and monitoring of all efforts must be easily available (e.g. Solar Food Network)

Technological Focus

The focus for developing technologies and applications further – as well as for dissemination – must be realized with local manufacturing and available materials. Hereby information and training is a key to success. Technologies need to be chosen considering local maintenance and availability of materials, also using recycled and reused materials. It must be a priority to equalize living standards globally. Opening up access to sustainable technologies and training will spread knowledge and create skills.

Regulations

International standards for “solar food” will help manufacturers, users and promoters. The development of those standards as well as establishing a certification structures must be supported.
