

RELEASE IN PART B6
-----------------------

---

**From:** Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 14, 2012 11:38 AM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** FW: Cookstove Researcher

Worth a read. We are following up on this.

---

**From:** Balderston, Kris M  
**Sent:** Monday, May 14, 2012 11:36 AM  
**To:** Sullivan, Jacob J; Cho, Albert H; Moss, Jacob E  
**Subject:** Cookstove Researcher

Jake

As per our chat this am, I wanted to send you the summary of the discussion between the Exec Director of GACC and the lead author of the "negative" MIT research study. They are still talking but have agreed to do a joint op-ed to clarify their views.

Kris

---

**From:** Radha Muthiah [redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 08, 2012 3:49 PM  
**To:** Balderston, Kris M; Moss, Jacob E; Leslie Cordes; Caleb Tiller; Aaron Sherinian; Sean Bartlett; Beatrice Spadacini  
**Cc:** Sumi Mehta; Cookstoves Team Core  
**Subject:** Good call with Esther Dufflo

B6

Sumi and I just completed a one hour, productive call with Esther Dufflo, one of the authors, and arguably best known of the authors of the MIT study that has generated the Post article and all of the blogs in recent weeks. She was generous with her time [redacted] and was very constructive in our discussion.

Key points:

- 1) She agreed that the press had taken their study "a little too far" and made claims that are damaging to the sector.
- 2) She also agreed that the stove used in their study while it appeared to be good at the time is clearly not the cleanest out there and had several issues around durability.
- 3) We all agree that more research needs to be done and she is keen on engaging with us on this and asked a lot of good questions around cleaner stoves that are available today for additional studies.
- 4) We emphasized our approach on sustained adoption not just initial uptake.
- 4) She listened quite intently about Igniting Change, our strategic plan, comprehensive approach, long term focus and the fact that the biggest and first grants out the door from the Alliance quite intentionally have been to support research and to fill in the evidence gaps. She was curious as to what we have done to get a sense of the markets and stoves in existence today and we talked about our market assessment studies and the process of stakeholder consultations in each priority country.

Next Steps:

- 1) She will talk to her co-authors about an op-ed and event. She seemed open to it but wanted to consult with her co authors. She even seemed happy and willing to come down to DC or NYC to make it happen. She laughed and said nothing interesting happens in Boston so if we were hoping to get press that might not be the best location!
- 2) She is interested in learning more about the RFA for child survival that we have open right now. She will have her co-authors send a letter of intent to Sumi. They seem clearly interested in engaging in further research with us.
- 3) We are going to send her our Alliance strategic plan, health and climate working group recommendations and a couple other docs for her reading pleasure.

In summary I think it was as positive a call as we could have expected. So let's give her some time to check in with her colleagues and hopefully we have a positive path forward.

Regards,  
Radha



Radha Muthiah  
Executive Director  
Phone: 202.448.4667 | Fax: 202.862.9800  
  
[www.cleancookstoves.org](http://www.cleancookstoves.org)

B6