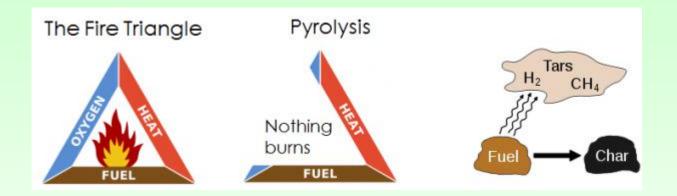
Gordon Hirst
Chief Engineer
Laos Institute for Renewable Energy
gordon@lao-ire.org

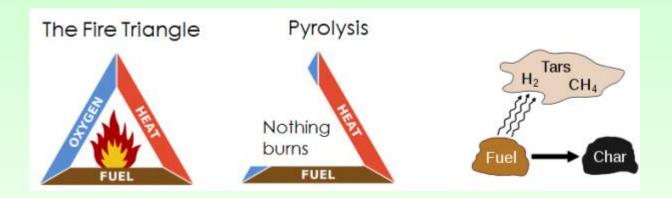


Charcoal produced by pyrolysis or carbonisation of Biomass





Charcoal produced by pyrolysis or carbonisation of Biomass



#### Three Phase Process

- Drying
- Carbonization (pyrolysis)
- Cooling



#### Traditional charcoal making methods











#### Traditional Charcoal Production

Inefficient - Gravimetric yield (12% - 18%)

- waste of potential bi products

Slow: 4 - 7 days

Release of Green House Gases (GHG): Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)

NB: CH<sub>4</sub> has a GWP 21



Data on usage Charcoal Lao PDR

25 kg – 40 kg per household per month

30,000 - 60,000 tons per annum

90% on fuel used in Laos Biomass

fNRB = 85%

Contributing to Global warming and deforestation



#### Gases and other emissions from charcoal making

N	Methane Page 1981	CH₄	:	<b>GWP</b>	21
<u> </u>	riettianie	$\cup \sqcap_4$	•	GV	' <b>–</b>

Water vapor	$H_{2}0$	)

$$\mathsf{O}_{\mathsf{S}}$$
 Oxygen

$$\blacksquare$$
 Ethane  $\mathsf{C}_2\mathsf{H}_6$ 

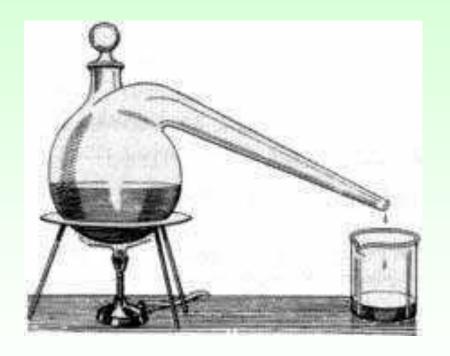
- tar, formaldehyde, phenols, hydrocarbons, and volatile
- organic compounds (VOCs).



Charcoal production can be improved by using 'Retort' technology



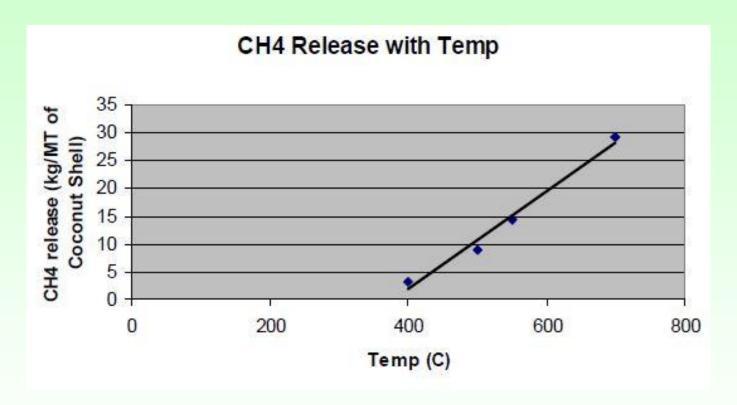
# Charcoal production can be improved by using 'Retort' technology





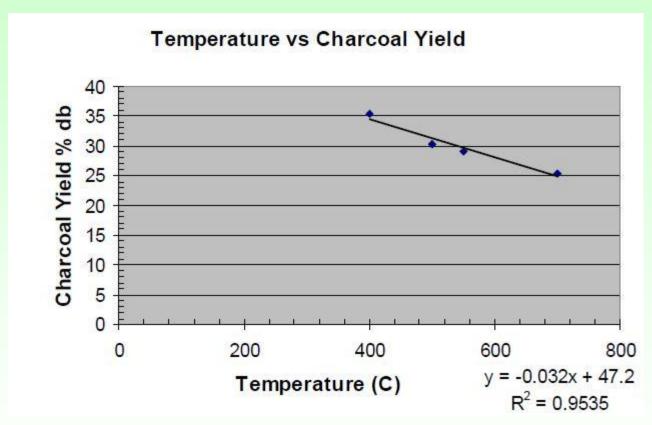






Source: methane release study of coconut shell charcoaling in Sri Lanka





Source: methane release study of coconut shell charcoaling in Sri Lanka







**ADAM Retort** 

Low cost technology that can be used for rural production of charchol

Not seasonally dependant

More efficient Charcoal Production

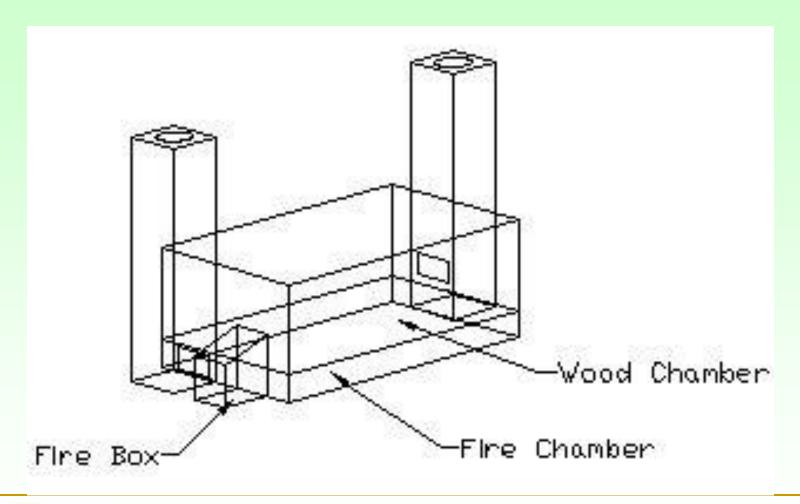
Increases gravemetric yield by up to 30%

Reduces greenhouse gas emmissions











#### Lire ICPS Program

- Supply side
  - Build of a pilot ADAM retort to test functionality and comparative tests with traditional charcoal making
- Demand side
  - Quantity and demographics of charcoal making and possible future projection
  - Value adding possibilities















































































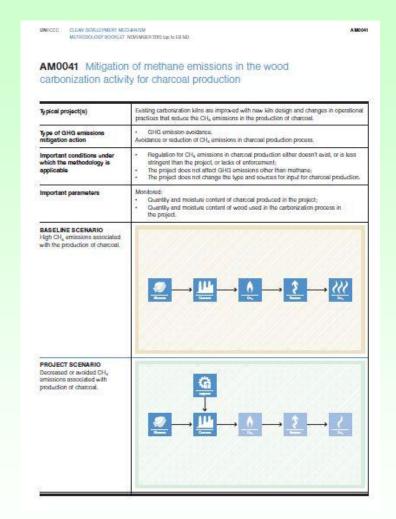


#### Value adding to charcoal

- Briquetting char into usable charcoal briquettes
- Activated charcoal
- White charcoal
- Wood vinegar
- Wood tar
- 'Piggy backing' using methane to 'pre dry' next batch



Carbon Credits?





## Summary

- Reduction in GHG emissions
- More efficient charcoal production
  - Quicker from 4 6 days to 30 hours
  - 30% increase in gravimetric yield



#### Next steps:

- Minor modifications of pilot retort
- Comparison tests with traditional charcoal making
- Calculate/ estimate GHG reduction
- Value adding Briquetting
- Demand side study



## RAMIGUME COVILLAGE



#### Questions?

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