



Jacob Moss

**Director, U.S. Cookstoves Initiatives at U.S. Department of State and Senior Advisor at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Peace Corps Volunteer in Togo, 1987-1989**

EDUCATION: Master of Public Affairs, Science Environment, and Technology Policy, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University; Bachelor of Science, Engineering Physics, Cornell University

CURRENT JOB SUMMARY: “I was a key architect of the [Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves](#), and now coordinate U.S. government activities under the Alliance, on behalf of the Secretary of State and the EPA Administrator. The Alliance is a public-private partnership of over 1,000 partners to catalyze global solutions to the world’s 4th worst health risk factor: the 4 million annual deaths due to exposure to smoke from cooking on open fires with wood or other solid fuels. I also advise EPA on a variety of initiatives related to climate change, energy efficiency, and the electricity sector.”

SLICE OF SERVICE: “While living and teaching in Togo in the 1980s, I saw first-hand how families cooked their meals in small kitchens over open fires. I also watched Peace Corps colleagues build more efficient cookstoves for families.”

CAREER SKILLS GAINED: “Serving as a Peace Corps volunteer taught me that, while people look, speak, and act differently the world over, there is a commonness to our humanity and our life aspirations that trumps all those differences. The most important skill I learned in Peace Corps was the agility to adapt in whatever ways were necessary to get a job done.”

CAREER ADVICE: “Find something you can lead, and run with it as hard as you can – nothing will demonstrate your leadership more. And never forget to listen to and follow your inner compass – a lot of people will have ambitions for you in life, but you need to follow your own ambitions, not theirs.” (August 2014)

“My Peace Corps service gave me first-hand experience of the burden of cooking over open fires. Over 20 years later, that experience was essential in defining the concept and vision of what became the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves.”



Installing a clean cookstove in a household in Guatemala. (photo by State Department, 2012)



Jacob’s Togolese neighbor cooking in the poorly ventilated kitchen where he first felt the effects of breathing intense levels of cookstove smoke. (photo by Jacob Moss, circa 1988)