



Great Grants and Initiatives

Grantor: **Bohemian Foundation**

Grantee or Initiative: **Envirofit**

Amount: **\$1.9 million** Period of Grant Award: **2005-2007**

The Bohemian Foundation has awarded \$1.9 million in start-up and general operating funds to Envirofit between 2005 and 2007. Envirofit's mission is to develop well-engineered technology solutions to improve the human conditions on a global scale, with a primary emphasis on applications in the developing world. Envirofit's goal is to develop and distribute well-engineered energy products for low-income markets that traditionally have been overlooked. Their two primary products developed thus far are: a retrofit kit for two-stroke engines and clean-burning cook stoves.

A major source of outdoor air pollution is carbureted two-stroke engines, which power 100 million vehicles across Southeast Asia, each of which produces the pollution output of 50 modern automobiles. The retrofit kit for two-stroke engines is cleaner and more fuel efficient than replacement four-stroke engines. Envirofit ran highly successful pilot programs in two cities in the Philippines, clearing up the smog-clogged air. They plan to expand these efforts throughout Asia.

More than three billion people cook in their homes using traditional fire and stoves. Indoor Air Pollution (IAP) currently claims the lives of 1.5 million people a year worldwide, or one person every 20 seconds. Envirofit designed, developed, markets and distributes clean cookstoves that are engineered to emit significantly less toxic emissions and use less fuel. In this way, Envirofit is contributing to a reduction in deaths caused by indoor air pollution around the developing world. Successful pilot programs have been conducted throughout India. They plan to expand their sales throughout the developing world, including Africa and Central & South America.

Both of these efforts have the potential to address significant problems on a global scale. Indeed, pilot efforts point towards huge success and worldwide impact. Envirofit has won multiple awards for its efforts, including: Popular Science's 2008 Best of What's New Green Tech award, the 2008 Rolex Awards for Enterprise, the 2007 Plenty Twenty – Twenty Companies that will Change the World.