The World Health Organization estimates that indoor and outdoor air pollution accounts for about 7 million deaths per year. Air pollution is not only a climate issue, but a public health crisis as well. As technology improves, there are multiple solutions to this issue, many of which can be implemented in households and at the community level. We heard from WEA Leaders, Brady Seals from RMI in Colorado and Olanike Olugboji from WISE in Kaduna, Nigeria, about the impacts of air pollution in their communities and the innovative solutions arising from the grassroots. Below are some action items and resources from the World WEAner event.

Resources:

- Learn more about the health effects of gas stove pollution, the risks of having a gas stove in your home, common FAQ's about pollutants from gas appliances, how gas appliance pollution is inequitable and how building electrification can benefit health.
- Click on your state to see the outdoor health impact of burning all types of fuels in buildings (premature deaths and economic health burden) based on a study last year from Harvard School of Public Health.
- Review this EPA guide to installing air sensors in the home and community.
- Check out this website with resources on electric stoves, including incentives if you live in California.
- Watch Brady Seals on Full Frontal: “Here’s Why Your Gas Stove is Killing You”.
- Visit Solar Cookers International to learn about their work advocating for solar cookstoves.

Action Items:

- Advocate for clean building solutions with groups around the U.S. interested in building electrification for climate + health + equity. Email bseals@rmi.org for more information about efforts in your location/state.
- Make the switch to induction stoves and electric kitchens. If you live in California, you might be eligible for an incentive to switch to an electric stove. There are also some lending programs where you could try out an induction stove for free.
- Participate in citizen science projects to better understand the impacts of gas stoves and poor air quality. If you live in New York City, Washington D.C., or Pittsburgh, PSE Healthy Energy is conducting a citizen science project with gas stoves so they can see what else is in “natural gas”. More information and sign up here.
- Reduce your exposure to gas stove pollution at home by using the range hood if you have one and cooking on the back burners, opening a window, trying a plug-in induction stove, or shifting some cooking tasks to electric appliances (see graphic below).
Recommendations for Individuals: Gas Stoves

To reduce or eliminate exposure to gas stove pollution

- Install & maintain a CO detector
- If available, run your exhaust hood while cooking
- Open a window while cooking
- Cook on the back burners

- Use other electric appliances like toaster oven or kettle.
- Try a plug-in induction stove ($50)

Switch to an electric/induction stove