

## **LAZOLA SOLAR BOX COOKERS A UNIQUE MANUFACTURING CONCEPT**

Lazola-Initiative zur Verbreitung solaren Kochens e.V.  
(Lazola Initiative for spreading solar Cooking)

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**Abstract:** Over the years the Lazola initiative has developed, tested and continually improved various models of metal solar box cookers suitable for serial production in developing countries.

- The cookers are very robust, durable, easy to use and powerful. They come in two sizes.
- They consist of materials that are mostly available locally.
- All production steps can be learned also by non-experts by means of a **video tutorial**: Each step is explained in a short video clip and further explained in writing. Video clips and explanations can be used together on a tablet at the workplace.
- Cookers are produced by hand in the region where they are to be used. This includes after sales services.
- Only few machines are required for production (sheet metal shears, bending bench, circular saw and drilling machine)

Further aspects of the Lazola production concept:

- A great number of simple jigs are used to perform most production steps, making tasks a lot easier and ensuring accurate results. Measuring and marking is largely unnecessary.
- The jigs were developed by the Lazola initiative specifically for the LAZOLA production; They can be obtained from the Lazola Initiative.
- By using the jigs, all working steps are standardized and ensure exact working results.
- The entire production concept is designed for a small-batch production. This saves time and makes the results more accurate.
- The production does not require qualified workers. All construction processes can be learned by skilled, technically interested persons without preceding technical training
- Many skills conveyed in the video can be usefully applied in other fields of work. Therefore, many a knack shown is of particular use in technical training.

The Lazola Initiative presumes that, due to the dramatically increasing scarcity and the prohibitive price of fossil fuels, efficient box cookers will be required in large quantities in the near future.

The Lazola Initiative supports NGOs and private initiatives with know-how in the implementation of LAZOLA production projects in developing countries; but it does not carry out any projects itself. However, it arranges experts for the performance of on-site training Workshops and offers training workshops in Germany.

The Lazola Initiative offers all information free of charge - like the sun - accessible to everyone. We hope that our very solid and practical support may give many an impulse to make good solar cookers.

**Keywords:** Box Cooker , Construction Video , Local production , Adapted technology