

Partner:



Sustainable Health Enterprises (SHE) aims to “improve the quality of life for people in the developing world” through market-based approaches.

Need:

With SHE, we will initially market Komera to *Rwanda*, where currently:

- 36% of women** miss
- 50 days** of school or work a year because they cannot afford sanitary pads

Solution:

Fiber harvested from the trunk of banana trees can be processed into a fluffy, absorbent material that is effective in sanitary pads. The fiber is inexpensive and locally available, which decreases the price of pads for consumers in the developing world.



If you have any questions or would like to learn more about Komera, please contact:

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Team Members:

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Thank You:

We would like to thank the following people for their help throughout the project:

SHE	Dick Fenner
Elizabeth Scharpf	Joe Cronin
Julian Kayibanda	Jim Dudley
Prof. Clark Colton	Steve Haberek
Rachel Licht	Bob Nuttal
Sina Omran	Fred Cote
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Komera

Strength for Women



Affordable Sanitary Pads for
the Developing World

General Product Overview

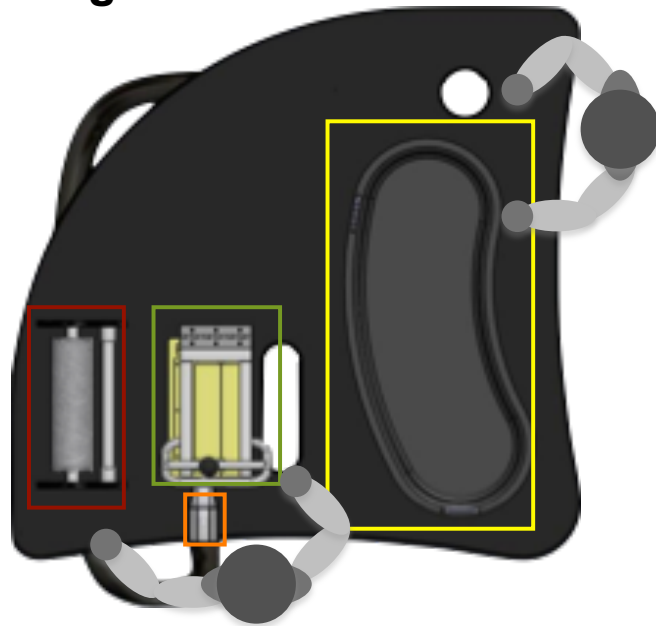


Team Yellow
December 7, 2009

Process:

Person #2		Person #1	Person #2		
1. Pull material over heating block	2. Pull down press	3. Fill hole with pulp from bin	4. Blow in pulp material	5. Push down spring loaded press for final seal	6. Place finished pad in slot

Design:



Person #1

- Nozzle on sliding rail system



- Thermoformed pulp bin



Person #2



- Gauze top layer
- Polyethylene bottom layer



- Press with spring loaded sealing mechanism
- Polyetherimide heating base with nickel chromium heating elements

Business Plan:

Komera pads will be sold in Rwanda using a social enterprise business model:

MIT students pass manufacturing information to SHE

SHE hires local manufacturers

Women get microloan from SHE to buy manufacturing equipment

Women produce and sell pads to local community

Revenue used to pay back microloan

Komera pads can be sold for **35% less** than other pads in Rwanda.

Komera Pad Price: \$0.75/10 pack
Current Pad Price: \$1.10/10 pack

