

A report on the donation to the Youth Development Fund by the Swiss Bhutan Friendship Society.

Title of project: Bhutan Souvenir Production & Training Centre

Funded by : Helvetas (start up for the 1st year) and Swiss Bhutan Friendship Society (basic furniture for the centre) / Beringen SH

Objectives

- Empower at least 30 unemployed out of school youth in a very innovative and positive venture each year and working towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
- Generate income and improve quality of life of the trainee graduates and their families thus assisting in poverty reduction.
- At least 10 –15 young adults will go back to their communities to start up small cottage industries or cooperatives each year thus reducing the Rural – urban migration and enhance community support.
- At least 80% of women living in communities will achieve economic self-sufficiency and independence through skills shared by center's alumni and training programs offered at village cluster levels by the year 2010.
- 50% of the handicrafts industry will be develop by the year 2007.

1. Overview of the project

The Bhutan Souvenir Production and Training Center, a pilot project of the Youth Development Fund was started for disadvantaged girls not qualifying for further studies or in any of the Vocational (Technical) Training Institutes. This year the Center has 25 trainees undergoing one-year training course in making souvenir items that are traditional, creative and entirely new, or with a blend of traditional, using waste and raw materials found in abundance within the community environment. The trainees are also taught basic financial skills including simple accounts, costing and pricing of items etc. After completion of training at the end of April 2006, 15 best trainees will be employed in the Production unit of the Center. The other 10 trainee graduates will return to their community as entrepreneurs and form co-orporatives. The Center will continue to support its alumni through refreshers course, marketing their products etc. Given that they will be the first alumni and also to encourage them to return to their communities, the Center will provide each of them with a sewing machine and accessories along with other essential tools as incentives to help set them up. However the alumni will not be allowed to sell or rent the equipment. They will remain affiliated to the center for at least two years during which they will be monitored and supported by the center.

As for trainees of the following years, they will need to pay for the equipment and tools that they take back with them after the training. Payment will be done in small installments to the center.

The Youth Development Fund was able to start the project with financial aid from the Helvetas and a generous donation of Nu. 202,800.00 (Two hundred two thousand eight

hundred) only from Swiss Bhutan Friendship Society¹. Fund from the SBFS was able to buy basic furniture fro the centre.

2. Details of expenses is attached as annexure

SL.No	Description	Qty.	Rate	Amount
1	Double bunker bed with small locker attached with latch.	15	7,680.00	115,200.00
2	Mirror with frame(Double)	1	3,100.00	3,100.00
3	Working table	5	2,990.00	14,950.00
4	Stools with wooden top	31	630.00	19,530.00
5	Ironing table	1	4,890.00	4,890.00
6	Chairs	5	1,250.00	6,250.00
7	Pigeon holes	31	410.00	12,710.00
8	Show case with glass	3	7,310.00	21,930.00
9	Centre table	1	1,900.00	1,900.00
10	Coffee table	2	1,150.00	2,300.00
	Total payment			202,760.00



Ausbildung von jungen, z.T. leicht behinderten Frauen

¹ Funds donated by Municipality of Beringen, SH



Die Kandidatinnen mit Ernst Reinhardt beim Feldbesuch, Mai 2005. Oben: Wohnraum



Schulhaus / Werkstatt / Wohnheim