From the Editor

The success of Tarayana Foundation relies on the shared trust and faith with our partners. It’s our responsibility as one of the social agents to work towards the social transformation, and at the same time as a citizen we are responsible to respond to the need of our people. The communities we serve began to appreciate our dedicated services and unfailing support rendered. Tarayana remains praised in the eyes of our people just because of making our communities realise their potential through our interventions.

As we enter into new social and political transaction, we began to understand and could see manifolds of social problems and issues in a country. We as a citizen of one nation, and also as one of the agencies that responds to the need of our people, we would never shy away to help our people at the cost of our own hardship. We feel great and satisfied to watch our people smiling at least.

With our partnership to BUSSI-EN Social Welfare Organization based in Japan, we wish to further extend our services to the people living with disabilities, elderly citizens, students, women and children in a various capacities. Our partnership with one of the reputed organisations of Japan may not only mean extension of our services, but it indicates the trust between the two organisations.

Though we are faced will unforeseen challenges, yet we dare to face them through collective initiative and cooperation. We have never kept any stone unturned even in a midst of challenges. It is our wish and hope that our donors, supporters, volunteers and an individual who has supported at their own capacities continue to be a part of Tarayana family. We wish you all a good luck in your future endeavour.

Hon’ble President Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck’s Visit to Japan.

On the invitation of the President of BUSSI-EN Social Welfare Organization, Mr. Ryosei Oya in Japan, Hon’ble President of Tarayana Foundation, Her Majesty The Queen Mother Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, accompanied by Aum Chime P. Wangdi, Aum Chhimmy Pem, Ms Wangmo, marketing officer of the Foundation and Mr. Tamiki Nakashima paid a visit to Japan on 23rd March.

Inauguration of Share Kanazawa Township

On 26th March, Her Majesty inaugurated Share Kanazawa Township, a project that BUSSI-EN Social Welfare Organization is undertaking based on the social inclusion philosophy to have inclusive township among people living with disabilities, elderly citizens, students, business enterprises, local community people and BUSSI-EN staff, which is the first of its kind in Japan. Her Majesty and the delegation also visited Ryozen-ji temple, Gyozen –Ji temple, Sainen-ji temple, and Nihonkai Club, where BUSSI-EN Social Welfare Organization is based.

Bhutan in Bhutan Fair

Her Majesty graced “Bhutan in Bhutan Fair” at Mitsukoshi-Isetan department in Tokyo, one of the biggest department stores in Japan. The Fair showcased Bhutanese tradition and culture through photography exhibition and arts and crafts. Through dedicated supports from BUSSI-EN and volunteer work extended by-product and art designers from Japan, Tarayana took part in the Fair and managed to promote some of the products produced by rural artisans from our sites to export rural products to Mitsukoshi.

Her Majesty has expressed deep appreciation to BUSSI-EN and the people of Japan for their warm reception and gracious hospitality extended to the entourage.
**Upcoming Events**

*April, 2014*

- 26th - 5th May: Paro Surgical Camp
- Preparation of Business plans for Self-help Groups
- Pico-hydro Feasibility Survey at Zhemgang
- Construction of Solar Dryers

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**Support Tarayana**

We invite you to be a part of reaching out to the most vulnerable members of our society through your support to Tarayana. We operate with financial support of individuals and organizations, without which we would not have the opportunity of helping so many families help themselves. Tarayana complements and supplements the initiatives of the Government in empowering rural communities towards sustainable livelihoods.

The Foundation maintains its accounts in accordance with accepted financial norms and is audited annually by the Royal Audit Authority of Bhutan. An audited financial report and an annual progress report are published every year and is available for all interested individuals and organizations.

Please contact us for more information.

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**Land lease Survey**

Mr. Pema from the Land Register Office of Samtse Dzongkha conducted land lease survey for the construction of community work sheds, Areca Nut and Cardamom plantation in a total of 25.21 acres of land in eight villages. The land lease is proposed for 30 years from the Land Commission. Construction of eight Cardamom electric dryers were also completed for identified self-help groups, and they have started group saving scheme.

**Construction of new work-sheds & Green Houses**

Eleven green houses were set-up for vegetable self-help groups including Namgyel Taba Areca Nut SHG. The vegetable groups were provided with potato seedlings, pipes and spiking tool kits and have started vegetable plantations. Along with the supply of churning motors and diary production equipments, sixteen sheds for the Bara Diary Farm SHG were also constructed. By the month of April, groups are expected to receive Jersey Cows.

Construction of Food Processing Unit for the vegetable groups at Chimung was completed and they have started to produce Banana and Potato chips. The chips making machine was provided by the Foundation. They were also provided with the electric dryer to dry excess vegetables. Similarly, the vegetable group of Mekuri under Dungmin Gewog, new work shed was constructed on the land contributed by one of the members of a group. The Pineapple group of Durungri received pruning materials and juice machines.

For the construction of juice machine shed, the land was contributed by Chiwong Tshogpa, who is also one of the members.

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Ssomlachen tailoring work shed was also completed and the groups have started textile productions with improved designs. 10 tailoring machines, 10 interlocking machines and clothes for production were supplied to the groups. The work sheds for Cane and Bamboo groups at Ngawang Droemte and vermin compost and mushroom at Ugyentse and Yoeseltse completed. 21 biogas plants, 11 at Kinzangling and 10 at Ugyentse also completed. In addition, training on bamboo treatment was provided to 20 members of has also benefited 150 family members.

**Food Processing Training at Dagapela**

From 7th to 11th March, a total of 14 participants from five Chiwogs under Goshi Gewog, Dagana attended training on food processing facilitated by Mr Dawa Tshering and Mr Namgay. The training components included washing, sorting, peeling, trimming, slicing (1/15 inch), drying, frying (170ºC), and storing. Mr Tenzin, one of the staff of National Post-Harvest Centre of Dagapela introduced participants on the importance of maintaining hygiene during food processing.