



TARAYANA FOUNDATION

Annual Report 2011



Service from the heart

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Message from the President



We are happy to share with you Tarayana's progress report for 2011. The past nine years have been an extraordinary and a meaningful journey in the service of our people. Our interventions have touched the lives of communities in seventy three villages in the eight districts of Dagana, Trongsa, Samtse, Mongar, Pemagatshel, Wangduephodrang, Sarpang and Zhemgang. This past year has been one of expansion of

our services to many new villages as we phase out from some of our earlier communities. Our annual Restorative Surgical Camps have given much relief to hundreds of people with cleft-palates, hare-lips and damages due to burns.

Our key programmes included holistic community development services through skills development initiatives, promotion of eco-friendly technologies, micro-finance, rural day care (Buzip) program and promotion of self-help groups. The spirit of volunteerism continues to grow through the Tarayana School Clubs.

My visit to some of the project sites in Mongar, Samtse and Zhemgang in 2011 brought home a sense of satisfaction with the improvement in the quality of lives of the communities we serve.

We take this opportunity to thank all our donors, members, supporters, contributors, sponsors and Government agencies for your generous support. We would also like to acknowledge all the volunteers, committee members and staff of Tarayana for their sincerity and dedication in the service of our rural communities. Without your help, none of this would have been possible. We seek your continued support and goodwill to ensure that the decade ahead will bring peace, prosperity and happiness to all our communities.

Tashi Delek

Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck
Founder and President

Vision:

A happy and prosperous Bhutan

Mission

To help the vulnerable and the disadvantaged help themselves

Motto

Service from the Heart

Core Values

Compassion: We will be guided by the spirit of compassion, from which the Foundation gets its name, in our service to the most vulnerable people and in working with each other

Dignity: We will act with dignity in our work and seek to respect the dignity of those we serve

Integrity: We will follow the highest ethical standards.

Objectives:

Help the poor communities become self-reliant through the facilitation of income generating activities

Promote artisan arts and crafts through the establishment of work sheds and facilitation of sale of products

Promote capacity building, organisational, socio-economic and developmental skills needed to bring about positive change in the communities

Enable children from disadvantaged and poor families to pursue education

Facilitate and empower local communities to take a larger part in programme planning and implementation at the local level

Instill the values of compassionate volunteerism in the Bhutanese youth

Help patients access medical treatment

Support the establishment of micro and community enterprises through micro finance

ABOUT TARAYANA



The Tarayana Foundation was formally launched by His Majesty Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, the then Crown Prince on May 4th 2003. Tarayana is a non-profit organization working to uplift and enhance lives of vulnerable individuals and communities in Bhutan. Tarayana complements and supplements the efforts of the Royal Government in poverty reduction. The President and Founder was moved to establishing the Foundation as a means of organizing and streamlining assistance to the vulnerable communities and individuals. Having trekked to all the remote communities, it became apparent that specially targeted interventions would be required to mitigate the challenges faced by the most vulnerable groups.

Our focus on vulnerable individuals and communities

All human beings aspire to be happy. This is reflected in the balanced development philosophy initiated by His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo to enhance Gross National Happiness. Bhutan's people centered development has focused on poverty reduction and improving the lives of the people.

While significant progress has been made in the last four decades, studies show that about one third of our people are poor. The difficult terrain and the scattered nature of our communities make it very challenging for many communities to access social services and markets. The incremental cost of reaching the benefits of development is particularly challenging for remote and isolated communities.

Tarayana with its focus on grassroots development lends itself well in serving the small and remote communities one community at a time. Tarayana strives to improve rural livelihoods by promoting participation in mainstream development initiatives and enhancing income generating activities.

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees, chaired by the President, comprises of individuals from diverse backgrounds. The Board meets at least twice a year to review and direct the programs of Tarayana. The members of the Board of Trustees serve for a term of three years, which may be renewed.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee, with guidance from the Board of Trustees, supports the Secretariat in implementing the activities approved by the Board. It supervises proper maintenance of records, work plan preparation and implementation, screening of beneficiaries, allocation of funds, and its utilization. The Committee meets monthly to discuss and work on the planned activities. The members of the Executive Committee are all volunteers and also serve for a term of three years, which may be renewed.

Secretariat

The Secretariat is responsible for the day to-day functioning of the Foundation and implementation of all the programs and projects in the field. It oversees administration and finance of all field programs, projects, prepares financial statements and reports on the work progress twice a year to the Board. It implements the planned activities of the Foundation and ensures that programs are well coordinated.



Aum Chime P. Wangdi, Secretary General,
Tarayana Foundation

Members of the Tarayana Secretariat





Farm Production Input Training in Lotokuchu, Samtse

Activity Report 2011

Objective 1: Help the poor communities become self reliant through the facilitation of income generating activities

Poverty Alleviation and Empowerment of Rural Women in Bhutan Project – Funded by AGFUND and UNDP, this project aims at empowering women through the creation of employment and expansion of economic opportunities to enhance their income. Project sites under this project are Langdurbi; Digala in Zhemgang; and Jigme, Singye, Wangchuck and Lumbey in Samtse. The number of target households in the two districts, Samtse and Zhemgang, are 87 and 153 respectively, making a total of 240 households.

Activities covered under this project include:

Enhanced Farm production through improved agricultural tools and training – Farm tools were supplied to the target groups in all six communities. With technical assistance from the Dzongkhag Agriculture Extension Officer, a two-day training was held for the communities of Langdurbi and Digala in kitchen gardening, including vegetable and maize production. 110 women

from the both communities participated in the training. Both theoretical and practical demonstrations were conducted to enable the women to have better understanding and proper implementation of the training components. In Samtse, the training was conducted in the three communities of Jigme, Singye and Wangchuck as well as in Lotokuchu, where 60 women and 6 men participated. They were trained in seed production; orange and cardamom pruning and treatment; and vegetable production.

Through the trainings, community members gained understanding of how to improve yield, produce a greater diversity of vegetables, and provide their villages with better nutrition.

Training provided on vermi composting in three villages in Samtse – A three-day training in vermi culture was organized for the community members in the villages of Jigme and Singye in Samtse with

technical assistance from the Renewable Nature Resources (RNR) Center in Yusipang. An additional training for the community members of Wangchuck village took place in January 2012. A total of 106 people participated in the trainings (100 women, 30 men). Vermi compost beds were constructed and the entire process of vermi composting was practically demonstrated so that the trainees would have a better understanding of it and be capable of implementing it by themselves. The advantages of vermicomposting are that it enriches the soil with micro-enzymes, improves water holding capacity, enhances germination, plant growth, and crop yield and creates jobs at the local level.

Farm tools for improved seed production of self-help groups: The vegetable production self-help groups in each community have been oriented on the importance of seed production and preservation. Tools such as spades and sickles were distributed to the group members in Zhemgang to enable them to work efficiently. Water sprinklers, pruning shears, flexible pipes, sickles and saws were distributed to the group members in Samtse based on their needs. The on-site field officers provided their knowledge and skills on seed preservation to the community members when needed. The communities also have traditional methods of seed preservation which are now being tested on new vegetables introduced in their communities.

Greenhouses were also purchased (1 for Samtse and 2 for Zhemgang) and set up at the targeted sites for vegetable cultivation and seed production. The field officers and the community members are working closely with the Dzongkhag Agriculture Officer to learn the process of growing vegetable in greenhouses. This will also enable the introduction of new varieties of vegetables in the communities for better nutrition and added income.

One tailoring unit established in each of the six villages, including provision of establishment cost and stipend/rent for at least six months – 6 tailoring units have been established in the 6 target sites and they are providing services not only to their villages but also to neighbouring villages. The trained tailors are able to supplement their income through the provision of their services. The units have been outfitted with sewing machines and other relevant tools. These trained tailors have also requested training in interlocking tailoring.

"Project sites under this project are Langdurbi; Digala in Zhemgang; and Jigme, Singye, Wangchuck and Lumbey in Samtse."

Tools Distributed Enable the Community Members to Work Efficiently



Medicinal plants cultivated in two villages in Zhemgang: With technical assistance from the Agriculture Extension Officer, the Field Officer organized training on the proper cultivation of medicinal plants and fruit trees in order to increase production. A one-day training on medicinal plant nursery management was facilitated by the Assistant District Agriculture Officer in Langdurbi and Digala.

Garlic, ginger and seedlings of guava, mango, papaya and pomegranate trees are also now under cultivation on 2.5 acres of community land in Digala and 5 acres of community land in Langdurbi.

Mushroom cultivation in two villages (Digala and Langdurbi) established: 53 women in Langdurbi, and 32 women and 5 men in Digala were trained in the cultivation of shiitake and oyster mushrooms with technical assistance from the National Mushroom Centre, Semtokha. The training component included both theoretical and practical demonstrations for better understanding. As of now, 4 cropping sheds for mushroom cultivation have been completed in Langdurbi. The mushroom cultivation groups were engaged in the preparation of mushroom beds and spawn (mushrooming seedlings). They are enthusiastic about mushroom cultivation as it will not only supplement their diet but also generate additional income.

Mushroom Cultivation Training in Langdurbi, Zhemgang



Objective 2: Promote artisan arts and crafts through the establishment of work sheds and facilitation of sale of products

In 2011, Tarayana continued to provide on-going arts and crafts training at their established training centers. Rural community members learned bamboo basket weaving in Silambi Geog under Mongar Dzongkhag; wood carving in Goling Village under Zhemgang Dzongkhag; candle and soap making in Langthel Geog under Trongsa Dzongkhag; nettle weaving in Endocholing village under Trongsa Dzongkhag; and pottery making in Tongtophy village under Trongsa Dzongkhag. Tarayana also sponsored weaving groups in Lotokuchu village under Samtse Dzongkhag and in Digala village under Zhemgang Dzongkhag.

Rural artisans produced wooden products made from local trees, including mortars and masks. They also made beeswax candles and organic soaps. Nettle products, woven from the stinging nettle plant, included table runners, bed runners, towels, handbags and purses. The weaving groups produced textiles made of silk, raw silk, cotton



and wool. They wove Kiras, traditional belts, scarves, placemats, table runners, bags, purses, blankets and ties. From bamboo and cane, craftspeople wove storage containers, baskets, pencil holders and hats. Paper workers produced products from the bark of the Daphne plant, such as stationary, lamps, bookmarks and hand-bound notebooks.

All of the crafts detailed above were offered for sale at various Tarayana Rural Craft Outlets, thereby providing income to the artisans who produced them.

To compliment the main Tarayana Rural Craft Store in Thimphu, Tarayana opened a second Tarayana Rural Craft outlet at the Folk Heritage Museum in Thimphu. This outlet will help to provide a wider market for rural craft

1. Bamboo and Cane Products
2. Nettle Products
3. Aromatic Organic Soaps
4. Textile Products

products, since many tour groups and foreign delegation visit the Museum.

The Foundation also set up a Tarayana rural craft stall at the Haa Summer Festival, 2011. During the festival, the stall sold 25000/- Nu worth of crafts, including paper and bamboo products as well as textiles. The stall also obtained orders for books worth Nu 20,000/-. Popular titles included *The River that Ran Away* and *Bhutan Sketch Book*.

In addition, the Foundation was also fortunate to be able to set up stalls at three other events in Thimphu:

the International Trade Fair; the UNDP Roundtable Meeting at the Royal Banquet Hall; and the International Cultural Festival at the Terma Linca Resort.

In the year 2011, the team of Tarayana Rural Crafts has produced a number of items with new designs. For example, the nettle weavers produced nettle cushion covers, bags, purses and table mats with different patterns and designs compared to the previous years. This year, new designs came from almost all of our project sites.



Tarayana Rural Craft Stall at the International Trade Fair

Objective 3: Promote capacity building, organisational, socio-economic and developmental skills needed to bring about positive change in the communities

Community Based Enterprises-for Self Help Group Through TARA Machines Technologies

Tarayana is collaborating with TARA machines and Tech services Pvt. Ltd in Delhi. It is a commercial wing of leading NGO Development Alternatives Group working in creating large-scale sustainable livelihood through providing the most suitable and affordable technologies worldwide.

Tarayana facilitated and conducted a basic level training program on Stabilized Compressed Earth Blocks, Concrete Pavers Technology at Dechenpelri, Gelephu and handloom Technology at Lotokuchu, Samtse from 9th-17th February 2011, with technical assistance from TARA Machines and Tech. Services.

Mr. Hriday Ray, Mr. Amrik Singh and Mr. Pritam Singh Technical Experts from TARA Machines; Ms. Pema, Mr. Karma Wangchuk and Ms. Thinley Bidha from TARAYANA were the key persons to organize the training program at both sites.

The Stabilized Compressed Earth Block (SCEB) has been compressed in a hydraulic press it has been designed to enhance the strength and durability of earth construction. Houses made from these earth blocks are strong and have a longer life. The bricks are as good as the burnt clay bricks in terms of load-bearing capacity and durability, stabilizing 8-10% cement.



A Self Help Group at Dechenpelri producing the Concrete Pavers

"Houses made from these earth blocks are strong and have a longer life."



The Stabilized Compressed Earth Block Machine

More than 18 community members including the 3 coordinators were trained on TARA MechBalar —MV and Concrete pavers machines for production. Unemployed local youth and keen learners were selected as trainees. The trainees were more interested in practical work rather than classroom lectures and accordingly more time was devoted to hands-on practical sessions. The training program was well managed and mainly focused on product manufacturing, quality control and equipment repair and maintenance.

After the training program the trainees expressed their gratitude towards Tarayana for providing them with such opportunities. Most of the community members have never seen those machines in their lives before. Ap Jurmey, the Tarayana coordinator said “it is so amazing to know that the bricks and the decorative pavers are very easy to make with the help of machines.” The trainees greatly appreciated the training as the technology can save time and produce pavers easily.

TARA Handloom at Lotokuchu

The TARA handloom is an ingenious manually-operated machine that incorporates many advanced features to improve the quality of woven fabric and efficiency of the weaver with existing levels of operational skills. It is one of the first of its kind in Bhutan. The TARA technology package caters to weavers engaged in production of cotton, wool, silk and polyester fabrics. The skill needed for operation of TARA handloom can be easily imparted to weavers and non-weavers alike.

The TARA Loom has found widespread acceptance among the weavers. A traditional weaver can learn to operate this machine in less than two hours making the transition to the improved loom practical and easy.

“The TARA technology package caters to weavers engaged in production of cotton, wool, silk and polyester fabrics.”



More than 17 personnel including the coordinator were trained on the TARA handloom at Lotokuchu, Samtse. Most of the trainees came from the weaving community with knowledge and skills in the use of traditional backstrap handlooms. Trainees reported that they were pleased with the TARA handloom, due to higher productivity and ease of operation.

The TARA Loom was provided to the Lhop weaving community so that the young weavers, both men and women, could be self-employed while significantly increasing their income-earning potential. The TARA Loom was purchased from TARA Machines, a subsidiary of Development Alternative, India.

Training on Green Technologies and Participatory Technology Developments

Tarayana Foundation conducted a week long training program on Green Technologies and Participatory Technology Developments from 12th- 19th Sept 2011. The training program was facilitated by Mr. Mamun, an FK (Fredskorpset) Exchange Participant from Bangladesh. The training was attended by the Tarayana Field Officers and Program Officers at the Tarayana Conference Hall, Tarayana Centre.

The five-day training course included presentations on Ecological Sanitation, Design and Construction of Improved Sanitation Options, Vermi Composting, Rain Water Harvesting Systems, Biogas Construction and Eco Toilet and Vermi Composting Field Visits. During the last day of the training program, Mr. Mamun also talked about basic concepts of PRA (Participatory Rural Appraisal) and use of its tools, which included social mapping, resource mapping and Focused Group Discussion (FGD)/ Group Discussion (GD).

The presentation on an Ecological Approach to Sustainable Sanitation included potentials and challenges in Asian countries, low-cost sanitation options and different designs of eco toilets.

Mr. Sonam Gyeltshen from the Department of Public Health led the field visit to Shaba village in Paro. During the field visit on Eco Toilets, the participants were divided into two groups: one group covered the social aspects and the other looked at the technical aspects. Upon arrival, the participants had question and answer sessions regarding both the social and technical aspects.

Tarayana Staff During the Field Visit on Eco Toilets



The social aspect group interacted with the community members about their toilet conditions and discussed the advantages of having an eco toilet. The community said they did not have toilets before and used open areas. Awareness campaigns by the health assistant did not produce results. However after the Department of Public Health introduced eco toilet and supplied construction materials together with an education campaign was the effort to introduce improved sanitation successful in the village.

The community members feel that there are many advantages in using Eco Toilets including the fact that they can use composted waste as fertilizer in their fields and gardens. They also feel that it is easy and simple to construct the toilet as they can use locally available construction materials.

During the training program, the participants also attended a one-day hands on training in making vermi compost (i.e. compost produced by worms that are fed manure) at the Yusipang Renewable Nature Resources (RNR) Center. It was facilitated by Mr. Rajan Rai of the RNR. The training focused on how to produce vermi compost with local materials and the use of local materials avoiding using chemical fertilizers and improving farm productivity.

Overall, vermi compost was found to be very beneficial to the farmers who wanted to practice organic farming and to increase their farm production. It was noted that vermi composting will help the farmers very much and they can also learn how to collect and utilize the animal manures to benefit them.

The participants found that Bio Gas and Rain Water Harvesting techniques were also simple enough to put into operation. They also found that, by providing gas for cooking and clean water for drinking, these techniques would result in improved living standards and be fairly easy to implement in their communities.

The last session was on Monday 19th Sept 2011, covered PRA and the use of its tools, a perfect refresher session that was very useful for all the participants. This session also included social mapping, resource

mapping and Focused Group Discussion/ Group Discussion.

The Field Officers were very enthusiastic about the new skills and knowledge they gained from the training program. They plan to train community members on the Eco toilet and vermi composting when they get back to their project sites.



Hands-on Training in Making Vermi Compost

Promotion of Appropriate Green Technologies to bring about Rural Prosperity — Funded by Fredskorpset, Norway, Tarayana is the lead partner in this project which strives to bring about rural prosperity through promotion of appropriate green technologies. Adoption of appropriate green technologies helps to create jobs, reduce drudgery, and improve living conditions. By freeing community members from time-consuming tasks such as wood fuel collection, green technologies allow villagers to devote more time to nurturing new skills and to gainful activities that result in income generation. The partners of this exchange project have experience in the use of some appropriate green technologies and the project allows for experience sharing and learning apart from the adaptation and adoption of relevant green technologies in our efforts to improve the livelihood options in rural communities.



Other partners in the project are Technology and Action for Rural Advancement (TARA) from India; People, Energy and Environment Development Association (PEEDA) from Nepal; and Practical Action, Bangladesh. In Phase I of the project, there were a total of seven exchange participants with Tarayana contributing two participants:

The first one went to PEEDA, Nepal to learn about pico as well as micro hydro technologies and the second went to TARA, India to learn production, marketing, application and promotion of Compressed Earth Blocks and waste paper recycling.

Tarayana received a participant from Practical Action, Bangladesh to learn Principles and concepts of GNH in daily project implementation, Bhutanese culture, language and way of life and the Holistic Rural Development approach adopted by Tarayana. He helped in the implementation of eco-sanitation and waste management in Tarayana's target areas.

In Phase II of the project, a total of 5 exchange participants have been approved. In this round, Tarayana will send a participant to Practical Action, Bangladesh to learn about Eco-San as well as construction, operation and maintenance of household level water filtration systems. PEEDA, Nepal will send a participant to Bhutan to learn Tarayana's model of Holistic Rural Development.





From Left : Ms. Yangchen Pelden from Zhemgang, Pema Lhaden from Zhemgang, Ngawang Choden from Mongar, Nima Zam from Mongar and Pema choden Doya from Samtse

Objective 4: Enable children from disadvantaged and poor families to pursue education

Rai Foundation Scholarships

Tarayana Foundation facilitated the provision of Rai Foundation Scholarships to three more girls from rural communities to pursue their tertiary education this year. Rai Foundation is a non-government organization that aims to provide equal opportunities for education to all. Its principal goal is to facilitate accessibility of education to students to pursue their career goals. However, unlike last year, the recipients of the scholarship this year had to bear half the boarding fee of Nu 40,000/- while the Rai Foundation offered the other half of the amount. Tarayana was unable to obtain full scholarship slots in spite of its best efforts because the selection procedure was on the basis of merit. All our candidates came from the remotest villages and therefore their marks were comparatively less.

Pema Lhaden from Zhemgang; Ngawang Choden from Mongar; and Pema Choden Doya from Samtse were selected this year, in a three year scholarship. In total there are currently 11 students supported by Tarayana Foundation for their tertiary education in different universities.

ECCD Facilitators Training under Buzip Program Early Child Care and Development (ECCD) is regarded as the most cost-effective investment in human resource development. Tarayana has been promoting the "Buzip" Program in remote communities so that basic early child care can be provided to pre-school children while mothers devote some time to income-generating activities.

The day care centers in all six communities are functioning efficiently with the pre-school children receiving



proper care and guidance to prepare them for formal education. The parents and formal education teachers are also very appreciative of this program as it enables the parents to devote their time to income-generating activities and the teachers have an easier time educating children who have attended the day care. Teaching aids, carpets and other necessities provided to the centers have also enabled the care-givers to be more effective and efficient in their responsibilities while stimulating the interest of the children.

In 2011, the daycare centre in Zhemgang had a total of 35 pre-schoolers (Lamthamg - 11, Langdurbi - 13, Digala - 11) and Samtse had a total of 39 pre-schoolers (Jigme - 12, Singye - 16, Wangchuk - 11). The Buzip care providers attended a 13-day facilitators training program that was organized by ECCD and SEND, Ministry of Education, starting from the 5th of August, 2011, at the Phobjikha Middle Secondary School.

The Buzip from Tarayana Foundation were pleasantly surprised to find that the methods they were using at their respective centers were in line with what was being taught. They were even able to relate to the tailor-made course they themselves underwent for three months before being posted in their respective "Buzip" centers. The participants were happy to learn

"After all They will Need to Sit for the Same Examination for Higher Studies and Job Interviews with other Competitors"



more about the principles practices skills relating to ECCD. It was also an opportunity to clarify doubts and learn from experience of other care givers.

The session on parenting education was new and hence very interesting to our participants. They felt that this would continue to be a challenge to implement in the rural villages where they are posted as all parents are hard-working farmers with very different views as to how to raise their children.

Objective 5: Facilitate and empower local communities to take a larger part in programme planning and implementation at the local level

Eco Friendly Construction under Joint Support Program

The Joint Support Program (JSP), coordinated by Gross National Happiness Commission (GNHC) and implemented by various implementing partners ranging from sectors to Local Governments to Civil Society Organizations, was started in December 2009, with support from Government of Denmark and the UNDP/ UNEP-supported Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI) and primarily aims to build capacity in mainstreaming Environment, Climate Change and Poverty Concerns into Policies, Plans and Programs, among others.

Tarayana is a key stakeholder and partner for local level implementation of the JSP. Under the JSP Tarayana implemented ecofriendly construction in Dak Village under Silambi Geog, Mongar Dzongkhag which is approximately 2 days walk from the nearest road. There are 25 households, 150 inhabitants, 70 Male, 80 Female in the village.

Base on consultative the community members were keen to learn new skills and enhance their capacity and were introduced to eco-friendly construction and its benefits during the meeting. Eco-friendly houses should be created from materials that are either recycled or at least are not made from fossil fuels. Eco-

Eco Friendly Construction Training in Tingtibi, Zhemgang

friendly homes are about reducing waste, making better use of space and keeping things clean. Reduce, re-use, recycle is the philosophy of the eco friendly home builder. To this end, we encourage the villagers to use bamboo and trees that have fallen in storms rather than cutting down healthy trees in the forest for lumber.

In July 2011, Mr. Sonam Jamtsho, the Tarayana Field Officer, along with two carpenters (Karchung and Karma) from Dak, attended a month-long training on eco friendly construction in Tingtibi under Zhemgang Dzongkhag. The training program was organized by the Department of Forestry.

On their return from the training, Mr. Sonam Jamtsho, Karchung and Karma provided the people in the village with hands-on training in eco-friendly construction.

Subsequently the villagers built 25 houses under this project. Fifty community members, 25 men and 25 women, were trained in basic carpentry and masonry skills on a daily basis while constructing the houses. This project helped to alleviate the effects of poverty in the village by providing much-improved housing and by giving community members construction skills that may enable them to earn income in the future.

Objective 6: Instill the values of compassionate volunteerism in the Bhutanese youth

Tarayana School Clubs were first established in the year 2004 in sixteen high schools. Currently, there are 93 Tarayana School Clubs with more than 3500 student members. The main purpose of starting these clubs was to reach out to the communities close to the schools and institutes, and to foster a spirit of volunteerism among the students. It is hoped that club members will learn to be more socially responsible and seek ways to be useful to the community at large. Tarayana Foundation provides Nu. 10,000 to each club as a starting fund to support the activities of the clubs. Club members choose activities based on their community's needs. This in turn encourages innovation in the search for local solutions to the multi-faceted problems of poverty. In the long term, Tarayana would like to see these clubs established at all schools, empowering children and teenagers to be part of the solution to local problems through volunteerism.

In the year 2011, club members participated in some remarkable projects. These included a Cleaning campaign; the provision of uniforms and other necessities to needy students; educating communities on health and hygiene; providing manpower during harvest time; and organizing football matches and other tournaments to generate funds to help people in need.

The Tarayana School Clubs in Thimphu received an audience with Her Majesty, the President of Tarayana in two groups. The first group comprised of the Coordinators and Club members from Yangchenphu HSS, Rinchen HSS, Lungtenphu MSS, Loselling MSS, Babesa MSS received an audience with Her Majesty in the auditorium of YHSS. The second group comprising of coordinators and members from Jigme Namgyel LSS, Changzamtok LSS, Khasadrapchu MSS, and Yangchen-gatsel MSS received an audience the Hon'ble President at the Tarayana Center.

The Tarayana School Clubs in Thimphu During an Audience with Her Majesty, The President of Tarayana





Her Majesty, The President of Tarayana with the Club Members of Gedu High School

During monitoring visits to Mongar, Zhemgang and Sarpang, Her Majesty visited the Tarayana School Club coordinators and members of Chumey MSS, Jakar HSS, Kurichu LSS, Nagor MSS, Gelephu HSS, Gelephu MSS. Her Majesty interacted with the club members after the Club Coordinator presented the various social services that they had carried out in the past year. Her Majesty also visited with club members and faculty of Dorokha MSS, Sangdhen Primary School, Samtse HSS and the Samtse College of Education during her monitoring visit to Samtse Dzongkha. Enroute she also met the faculty and club members of Gedu Higher Secondary School and Tshimalakha Primary School.

Her Majesty reiterated the importance of reading and keeping up their academic grades as it would stand them in good stead in furthering their career options. The President pinned Tarayana School Club badges on all the members and coordinators. The creative ways in which our student club members have made themselves useful in their local communities have been im-

“Her Majesty reiterated the importance of reading and keeping up their academic grades as it would stand them in good stead in furthering their career options.”

pressive. It is very encouraging to note that all these little social workers are being nurtured and given a platform through which to practice compassion. Most have reported that they have grown and benefited from participating in these social services as much as they have been able to give to others. The main aim for organizing this program is to foster the spirit of volunteerism in our youth and to provide them with a social service platform through which they can be of service to their local communities.

Objective 7: Help patients access medical treatment

Surgical Camp 2011

Tarayana has conducted the 6th restorative surgical camp with technical support from Surgicorps International, an American surgical group based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The team is comprised of medical personnel that conduct the surgeries and non-medical volunteers who serve to organize medical charts, assist with pre-operative preparations and help with post-operative care. Surgicorps International serves people across the globe including Bhutan. The Ministry of Health and Royal Government of Bhutan provide support and necessary resources for the efficient operation of the surgical camp.

Paro General Hospital has again hosted this surgical camp as well as all the previous surgical camps. Hospital staff including the Chief Medical Officer, Head Nurse

and nursing staff, OT staff, ward boy, electricians and housekeeping staff all fully participated in a joint effort with the surgical team from America. The collaborative efforts helped this year's surgical camp provide quality care to the patients and achieve our goal of reaching out to those people in need. The visiting team of surgeons, anesthesiologists, surgical technicians, nurses and volunteers was led by Dr. Jack Demos, a plastic surgeon and the founder of Surgicorps International. This restorative surgical camp 2011 was held from 3 - 12 April. Where out of 148 registered applicants, 125 appeared for screening, and 66 patients received surgical procedures.

"Surgicorps International serves people across the globe including Bhutan"

Dr. Jack Demos in Action



The Story of Migma

Migma is a ten year old boy born with a cleft palate. He is one of five children. When he was 6 months old, his father passed away. Migma's family lives in Rubesa, a mountain village in Wangdue. When he was younger, his mother didn't realize that there was anything physically wrong with him although she stated that she noticed when he drank too fast, liquid would come out of his nose. As he became older, she noticed that he didn't hear very well and didn't speak—not realizing that it was due to his cleft palate. She had resigned herself to the fact that her youngest child was partially deaf. Not until he was 7, when he fell and injured his chin, did she learn from the doctors at the hospital where he was treated that he had a "hole in his mouth" that was causing his problems. She was told about the Tarayana Restorative Surgical Camp with Surgicorps International last year and advised that if she brought him to the hospital, it was possible that he could have his palate surgically repaired. Unfortunately, she became ill and wasn't able to bring him.



This year, she was determined to get him to Paro Hospital, in hopes that his palate could be repaired. She left the other children in the care of her eldest daughter and set off for Paro to bring Migma to our clinic. To get to the hospital, she and her son had to walk three hours from her village to the next town where she was then able to catch a bus for the three-hour bus ride to the hospital. After a thorough examination, Migma at long last had his palate repaired by the Surgicorps surgeons, Drs. Jack Demos and Debra Johnson. He made a rapid recovery and was soon ready to go home. Migma's mother hopes now that her son will learn to speak normally and do well in school. The doctors reassured her that most children do learn to speak after the surgical repair. They also advised her how to work with him on developing his vocal skills. Migma himself was impressed with the big town of Paro and looks forward to learning to drive a car when he grows up.

Objective 8: Support the establishment of micro and community enterprises and micro finance

Access to micro credit promoted

Access to credit is essential, in order for any business to grow. Lack of credit is a barrier to investment and inhibits the growth of income of poor households. Access to affordable credit encourages the adoption of new and more advanced technologies that enable rural households to expand both agricultural and non-agricultural enterprises, thereby raising their income and reducing the incidence of poverty.

Tarayana Foundation offered micro credit to its target communities. Community members utilized micro credit loans, offered at a minimal rate of interest, to purchase horses, cattle, seeds/seedlings, and agricultural tools, power tiller as well as to open shops. Villagers have utilized these very low-interest loans to generate additional income, reduce drudgery and improve their standard of living.

In Lotokuchu (Jigme, Singye, Wangchuck) villages Tarayana provided Micro loans to 82 individuals and 4 groups for buying cardamom seed since cardamom is the most profitable agricultural product in southern Bhutan. Some individuals set up shops in their communities. For example, Mr. Dawa Penjor Doya opened a shop in Lotokuchu with the help of a micro loan in the amount of Nu.10000. He states that he can earn a profit of Nu.4000 every month after deducting all expenses. "Finally I can earn enough money to feed my family," he says. Tarayana has also provided micro loans to 3 individuals and 9 groups in Zhemgang as well as 3 groups and 2 individuals in Mongar.

"Lack of credit is a barrier to investment and inhibits the growth of income of poor households."

Ap Tashi Dorji acts as the only Mode of Transporter for the Communities to Carry Their Rations and other Materials



FINANCIAL STATUS

Financial Statement for the year 2011

Receipt		Payment	
	Amount (Nu.)		Amount (Nu.)
Opening Balance	3,951,890.69	Less: Total Expenditure for the Year 2011	26,200,793.53
Add :Total receipts for the year 2011	24,852,728.19	Closing Balance	2,603,825.35
Total	28,804,618.88	Total	28,804,618.88

- This statement Includes all the project Funds and it is based on the Bank Statement
- Unaudited Statement


 Kuenley Gyeltshen
 Finance Officer
 Tarayana Foundation



 Chime P. Wangdi
 Secretary General
 Tarayana Foundation


HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2011

2nd Jan	A group of six members attended a three days training on natural dye making at the college of Home Science, Hyderabad.
9th- 17th February	Tarayana facilitated and conducted a basic level training programme on Stabilized Compressed Earth Blocks, Concrete Pavers Technology at Dechenpelri, Gelephu and hand-loom Technology at Lotokuchu, Samtse with technical assistance from TARA Machines and Tech. Services.
20th February	The study tour was organized by Sustainable Land Management Project, Ministry of Agriculture. The tour started on 20th February, 2011 with nineteen participants from different agency like Local government, Ministry of Agriculture and Tarayana Foundation.
24th Feb - 3rd March	Her Majesty led a 10 day monitoring visit to project sites in Lamthang, Digala and Langdurbi in Zhemgang Dzongkhag. Her Majesty was happy to note the progress made in the provision of basic services to these remote villages and commended the hard work of the Tarayana Field Officers in motivating the people to help themselves.
25th March- 6th April	The Hon'ble President of Tarayana Foundation, Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, led a monitoring team to review project implementation activities in the remote villages of Nagor, Dak, Gyalgaon, Silambi, Chaibi Pam, Brokshar and Kalapang in Mongar Dzongkhag.
1st -8th April	Mr. Dhendup Tshering, Program Officer attended 8 days South Asian Conference on Sanitation (SACOSAN) IV, which was held at the Colombo (Sri Lanka) from April 1 to April 8, 2011.
3rd – 12th April	Tarayana has once again conducted restorative surgical camp with technical support from Surgicorps International, an American surgical group based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. During the camp, 148 people registered, 125 patients came for screening, and 66 surgical procedures were completed.
15th -18th April	The Hon'ble President and Founder of Tarayana Foundation, Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck undertook a monitoring visit to the Samtse project sites from 15th -18th of April 2011.
25th-28th April	Ms. Roseleen Gurung and Ms. Sonam Yangden attended the Prep course for the FK project "Promotion of Appropriate Green Technologies to bring about Rural Prosperity" in Bangkok from 25th -28th April, 2011.
4th May	A photo exhibition titled "Life in Ngangla through the eyes of the Children" was inaugurated by Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck on the 4th of May 2011 coinciding with the 8th anniversary of the establishment of Tarayana Foundation.
6th – 8th May	The 7th Annual Tarayana Fair, was held from the 6th – 8th May, 2011 to celebrate eight years of Tarayana's existence in the service of our rural communities. The Fair was first organized in 2004 to celebrate the birth anniversary of the Foundation and has become part of our tradition.

20th May	Mountain Echoes 2011 was inaugurated on May 20, 2011 at the India House followed by a dinner hosted by India's ambassador to Bhutan, His Excellency Pavan Varma. Mita Kapur, CEO, Siyahi, commenced the event by welcoming the Queen Mother Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck.
18th-23rd June	Tarayana Field Officers attended a week long training as understudies at the Taj-Tashi bakery in efforts to learn basic baking skills. Our Field Officers also spent some time at the Bhutan Agro Industries Ltd. learning to make jams and pickles out of fruits and vegetables respectively.
10th- 11th July	Farm production training was conducted in the villages of Langdurbi, Digala and Lamthang. The training was facilitated by Mr. Dhendup Tshering, Tarayana Program Officer and Mr. Dawa Tshering, the Assistant Program Officer, with technical support from Mr. Choki Wangdi, Agriculture Extension Officer.
20th July	Tarayana Foundation facilitated the provision of Rai Foundation Scholarship to three more girls from rural communities to pursue their tertiary education this year.
5th July-6th August	Mr. Dhendup Tshering, Program Officer accompanied by Mr. Sonam Jamtsho, Mongar Field Officer visited the villages under Khengkhar Geog, Mongar Dzongkhag to undertake the baseline survey for the new project to be implemented by Tarayana.
6th August	Tarayana Foundation conducted a half day training session on vermi composting to the community members of Dechenperi, Gelephu on 06 Aug 2011 at the Brick Production Centre. Ms.Thinley Bidha also conducted a two day training session on vermi composting at Lotokuchu Jigme.
12th -19th September	Tarayana Foundation conducted a week long training program on Green Technologies and Participatory Technology Developments from 12th- 19th Sept 2011.
24th -26th september	Tarayana as a lead partner of the project organized a midterm review meeting at Tarayana Centre from 24th to 26th of September, 2011.
11th – 25th November	This year, Ms. Pema and Ms. Thinley Bidha from Tarayana escorted four Angays and four Agays from Lotokuchu Jigme, Lotokuchu Singye, and Lotokuchu Wangchuck under Samtse Dzongkhag and one Angay from Tashigang Radi.
15th -25th November	Ms. Sonam Pem, Program Director visited Bussien International NGO in Social Works, Japan.
21st-25th November	Ms. Roseleen Gurung, Program Officer attended the TARAGram Yatra in India. It was held from 21st to 25th Nov in Jhansi.
5th-17th December	Mr. Mamun, an FK Exchange participant along with Tarayana staff Ms. Pema, Program Officer and Ms. Wangmo, Marketing Officer undertook a monitoring visit to all project sites in Mongar from 5th- 17th of December 2011.
21st-24th December	Five Tarayana Program Officers attended a training program on Social mobilization and Business Plan (SM &BP) for Enterprise Promotion.



FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

"The Tarayana Fair provides a platform for craftspeople from core communities to market their products and generate income."

Tarayana Fair 2011: Technologies For Sustainable Rural Development

The 7th Annual Tarayana Fair was held from the 6th–8th May, 2011 to celebrate eight years of Tarayana's work in the service of Bhutan's rural communities. The fair was first organized in 2004 to celebrate the birth anniversary of the Foundation and has become a yearly tradition. Her Royal Highness Ashi Kesang Wangmo Wangchuck graciously inaugurated the opening day. The fair was also attended by HM Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, HRH Ashi Sonam Dechan Wangchuck, HRH Dashi Gyel Ugyen Wangchuck, representatives from national & international agencies, members of Parliament, Tarayana Board of Trustees, members and representatives from the rural communities that Tarayana serves, friends and volunteers of Tarayana and the Thimphu community.

The Tarayana Fair provides a platform for craftspeople from core communities to market their products and generate income. Over the years, Tarayana's community programs have helped craftspeople develop their skills and produce the fine products displayed at the Fair.

The theme for the 2011 Fair was 'Technologies for Sustainable Rural Development'. Our development partners, both national and international, that work with green technologies showcased their activities. The 2011 fair was unique in that we had very special area artfully designed by our Honorable Board Member HRH Ashi Sonam Dechan Wangchuck for Crafts, technology, food, and incredible games.

The fair also provided an opportunity for the students of the Royal Institute of Management to put into practice some of what they have learned in theory. Other volunteers, including many talented artists, contributed color, fun and creativity to the Fair. The Tarayana Fair 2011 culminated with a grand dinner at the Folk Heritage Museum. Artists entertained the guests with songs and the Honorable President of Tarayana, Her Majesty Queen Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck thanked all the volunteers, craftspeople and community members who made the Fair a success by acknowledging their dedicated work and awarding them certificates of appreciation.

