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ABOUT TARAYANA FOUNDATION

Tarayana Foundation was founded by Her Majesty the Queen Mother Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck and formally launched on May 4th 2003, by His Majesty The King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, the then Crown Prince. We are a Public Benefit Organization, registered with the Civil Society Organization Authority of Bhutan.

Tarayana Foundation is supported & advised by a Board of Directors & an Executive Committee. The Board provides overall guidance at the policy level, while the Executive Committee supports the Secretariat in implementing the activities approved by the Board. The Secretariat plans, coordinates, and rolls out all interventions through a network of programme and field officers.

VISION

A Happy and Prosperous Bhutan

MISSION

Tarayana Foundation believes in maximizing happiness and harmony among all Bhutanese people by providing opportunities for life improvement to the vulnerable communities in Bhutan. By helping these community members learn and integrate new skills, Tarayana Foundation promotes self-empowerment and the importance of serving each other.

MOTTO

Service from the heart

CORE VALUES

Compassion: We will be guided by the spirit of compassion from which the Foundation derives its name, in our service to the most vulnerable people and win 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



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The past year has seen the Foundation take giant strides in serving and empowering our rural communities through its various initiatives and activities. "Support a Home", the flagship programme launched during last year's annual fair has garnered expansive support from both individuals and organizations for its holistic approach, which apart from providing improved and stable homes also capacitates the community members and enhances community vitality.

I am happy to inform that our continued partnerships with various Government agencies have yet again resulted in synergies benefitting vulnerable rural communities. These collaborations have allowed effective and efficient delivery of services and productive use of resources thereby contributing to the national goal of sustainable development.

Our regular programmes such as the Surgical Camps, Early Childhood Care and Development, Tarayana School Clubs, Annual Pilgrimage and Scholarship Programme have consistently provided the beneficiaries with opportunities and contributed towards the improvement in quality of life. Capacity development activities have empowered the community members to participate actively in income generating ventures and, climate change mitigation and adaptation measures through green technologies promotion have enabled communities the responsible utilization of natural resources and environmental preservation.

Our sister organizations, the Tarayana Rural Crafts and the Folk Heritage Museum have sustained the tradition of culture and arts preservation while ensuring that the communities are in a position to benefit from these activities. These organizations have taken efforts to revive and impart cultural practices in danger of extinction to the younger generation and will continue to do so.

All of our achievements would not have been possible without the constant consideration and support of all our partners, supporters, volunteers, community members and leaders, donors and various development sectors of the Government. We will count on your support in continuing to serve our communities in need.

Tashi Delek!

Her Majesty The Queen Mother, Gyalyum Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck
Founder and President



Some of the Rural Economy Advancement Programme (REAP) II Activities

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Tarayana Foundation introduced its social development programme to help reduce vulnerabilities in rural Bhutan. The programme spans across rural housing, medical care, social inclusion, education and green technologies. Initially, the programme aimed at enhancing rural lives by providing housing for vulnerable families, support for the elderly, young children and those with special needs.

1) VULNERABILITY REDUCTION

A) HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

The Housing Improvement Programme has been instrumental in achieving the goal of vulnerability reduction in the rural communities since its initiation in 2003. Improved shelter with proper toilets to maintain sanitation, home repair and renovation, replacement and new housing were facilitated by the Foundation.

- Since the inception of the Housing Improvement Programme in 2004, a total of 1,583 houses and 600 toilets have been constructed till date in the Dzongkhags of Samtse, Tsirang, Zhemgang, Gasa, Monggar, Lhuentse, Trongsa, Wangdue Phodrang, Haa, Pema Gatshel and Sarpang.
- Through the Rural Economy Advancement Programme (REAP) II, funded by the Government of India, executed by the Gross National Happiness Commission and implemented by Tarayana Foundation, a total of 701 families would have proper roofs over their heads through the housing improvement programme by the end of the project period. The updates of 2017 and the cumulative figures are presented in the table below:

Sl. no	Dzongkhag	Houses constructed	Houses renovated	Cumulative figure for houses constructed	Toilets constructed	Cumulative figure for toilets
1	Zhemgang	2		9		
2	Sarpang	2		10	6	64
3	Tsirang	40		114	16	100
4	Wangdue Phodrang	10	2	35	4	74
5	Trongsa	16	1	16	27	27
6	Haa	24	2	43	25	27
7	Samtse	33		160		116
8	Pema Gatshel	22		108	5	14
9	Gasa	2		8		
10	Lhuentse	41		80	63	75
11	Monggar	21		75	94	94
	Total	213	5	658	240	591

Figure 1: Houses and toilets constructed under REAP II

“Support a Home”

The Housing Improvement Programme was launched as the flagship programme by the President of the Foundation at the 14th Tarayana Annual Fair in 2017 to raise funds. This provides an opportunity for organizations and individuals to collectively contribute towards helping economically disadvantaged families meet their basic necessity, a modest home. The progress of this drive is presented below.

A total of 70 houses were sponsored by different organizations and individuals since the inception of this programme;

- 13 families in Gangzur Gewog under Lhuentse Dzongkhag have stable and improved house that were supported by Love, Peace and Harmony Foundation, USA.
- Bhutan National Bank Limited partnered with the Foundation to provide access to improved housing for 30 vulnerable families in Jurmed Gewog in Monggar.
- 18 houses at Tading in Samtse and Jurmed in Monggar were supported by various organizations and individuals.
- Nine houses at Dechen Pelri Chiwog in Sarpang were improved through support from the following Young Presidents Organization (YPO) Chapters: YPO Sea Dragon, YPO Malaysia, YPO ASEAN United and coordinated by the King's Challenge.

In addition, Tarayana acknowledges the donations from organizations and individuals whose generosity has improved the lives of community members in rural villages through the provision of improved and stable homes.



Rinchen and family in front of their old and improved house in Moogtangkhag village under Jurmed Gewog in Monggar

B) SURGICAL CAMPS

Initiated in 2006, the Surgical Camps are organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Health to address specific health issues and undertake corrective surgeries.

Sl. No.	Medical Team	Total no. of patients screened in 2017	Total no. of patients treated in 2017	patients screened since 2007	Total no. of patients treated since 2006
1.	Duang- Keow Foundation, Thailand	0	0	141	49
2.	Surgicorp International, USA	116	61	1623	749
3.	Smile Asia, Singapore	40	22	580	205
4.	Eye Camp (KEPCO, Better World and Vision Care)	844	87	1617	142
5.	Total	1,000	170	3,961	1,145

Figure 2: Total surgical camps conducted till 2017

Eye Camp

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Korea Electric Power Corporation, Vision Care and Bhutan Power Corporation, the eye camp was held in Punakha from 11 to 21 August, 2017 for the second year. Tarayana facilitated the logistics of the camp which treated various eye diseases including cataract, pterygium, ectropion, entropion, lid and naso-lacrimal system, corneal, refractive error and presbyopia. 844 patients from 18 Dzongkhags were screened out of which 87 patients underwent surgery to correct cataract and pterygium. This camp contributes towards reducing the backlogs of the aforementioned treatments in the hospitals across the country. No technical experts from outside the country are involved in this particular camp.



Patients getting ready for surgery

Restorative Surgical Camps

The 11th restorative surgical camp was conducted from 22 April to 2 May, 2017 at the Paro District hospital in collaboration with **Surgicorps International, USA** and Ministry of Health for correction of cleft lips, cleft palates, patients with burns and bear mauls. 116 patients were screened from 16 Dzongkhags and 61 patients underwent surgery.

In addition, 212 senior citizens received knee injections to relieve arthritis while 238 patients were provided with free prescription eye glasses after necessary checkups.



A senior citizen receiving knee injection



Reading glasses provided to Wangsel Institute at Paro



Jamyang Seldon and her mother

Case Story

"People were very sympathetic towards my daughter Jamyang Seldon, 5 months old, because of bilateral cleft lip disorder. My family lives in Paro near the district hospital. I heard about the Surgicorps coming to Bhutan and I feel really lucky for my daughter because my daughter got the treatment I never imagined in my dreams. I am very thankful to Tarayana Foundation and especially to Surgicorps for providing treatment to people for free."

**-Tshewang (mother)
29 years old**

Case Story

Sonam was mauled by a bear in 2007 while going to attend her non-formal class in the evening when she was just 14 years old. She travelled all the way from the Eastern Bhutan to receive her follow up treatment from Surgicorps in Paro and is very grateful that Surgicorps has made her a "proper nose." Sonam expressed her gratitude towards the surgical team and Tarayana Foundation for giving her second life. She is now 24, married and has a son, leading a good life.



Sonam Yangden

Case Story

"I was really worried about my daughter Tandin Tshomo, 8 months old, after my cousin's baby passed away in 2003 because both the babies suffered with similar problems of cleft lips and palates. After hearing about the Tarayana Foundation's restorative camp with support and expertise from Smile Asia, Singapore on the BBS television, it gave me and my family hope and I registered for the surgery for my daughter. I am very thankful to Tarayana Foundation and Smile Asia team for giving a second life to my daughter. I can now face the public without hiding my daughter."

**-Sangay Lhamo (mother)
19 years old**



Tandin Tshomo before surgery



After surgery

Smile Asia, Singapore conducted their 5th consecutive restorative camp for the correction of cleft lip, cleft palate and revision of fistula at Paro District Hospital from 13 to 19 November, 2017. 40 patients from 10 Dzongkhags were screened out of which 22 patients underwent surgery.



Smile Asia team screening patients



Smile Asia team performing surgery

C) ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE



Nine senior citizens accompanied by Tarayana staff at Bodhgaya, India

Commenced in 2008 to commemorate the Coronation of His Majesty The Fifth Druk Gyalpo, King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, the annual pilgrimage programme undertakes spiritual journey to Bodhgaya for senior citizens, who otherwise do not have the means to make the journey. Nine senior citizens from Wangdue Phodrang, Trongsa and Zhemgang were able to fulfill their dreams of visiting the sacred places at Bodhgaya for which the Foundation is grateful to the donors. 84 senior citizens have made visit to India under the Annual Pilgrimage Programme till 2017.

"I never thought that I would get this kind of opportunity to travel to India for pilgrimage because of my poor financial status. With all the expenses covered by Tarayana, I was so happy and excited to travel in the plane for the first time in my life. I am very thankful to Tarayana staff for guiding us and taking care of us throughout the trip."

**-Agay Phub Dorji, 70 years old,
from Darkar Gewong in Wangdue Phodrang**

D) COMMUNITY RADIO PROGRAMME

Piloted in 2016 with support from the Ministry of Information and Communications and the Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC), the "Edi Community Radio" in Dechen Pelri, Sarpang and "Lhop Community Radio" in Dorokha, Samtse have enabled the community members to share their stories and facilitated promotion of dialogue, debate and discussion for change.



Ap Damay Doya and his family listening to radio broadcast in Lhop Community, Samtse

Programmes to create awareness on child rights & protection and prevention of suicide was conducted in both Dzongkhags of Samtse and Sarpang with support from UNICEF, Royal Bhutan Police, schools of the respective Dzongkhags and the Local Government.

Strong engagement from the student body was promoted by organizing competition of songs and dramas based on the theme *Child Rights and Protection*; Sengdhen Lower Secondary School under Dophuchen Gewog in Samtse Dzongkhag won the cash prize of Nu. 15,000/- for their radio drama and Dechen Pelri Primary School under Samtenling Gewog in Sarpang Dzongkhag won for their child rights song. The competition was judged by a panel consisting of officials from schools, gewogs, UNICEF Bhutan and Tarayana Foundation.

The selected drama and songs were then recorded and translated into local languages with the help of community members. To maximize the audience reach, the audios were shared among the community radios broadcasted at 91.1 FM.



Awareness Program on Child Rights and Protection in Lhop Community and Tading Gewog in Samtse



People of Dechen Pelri Chiwog under Samtenling Gewog in Sarpang engaged in group activity



Nono Lham Doya

Case Story

"The Lhop Community Radio has brought many changes in our lives. We can now connect with our friends by sending messages through the radio and we also get to listen to more Lhop songs. It is now easier to hold Gewog, Health and School meetings with the help of radio broadcast."

**-Nono Lham Doya, 29 years old,
from Jigme Village in Samtse**

Case Story

"Since the establishment of Edi Community Radio in 2016 by Her Majesty the Queen Mother Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, people of our community are more informed about our country. Now we do not have to travel by foot to each and every household when there are Gewog and Chiwog meetings to be held. We now know when a guest comes to visit our village and we are also informed about local festivals. The activities carried out by Tarayana Foundation are also broadcasted on air. I would like to thank Tarayana Foundation on behalf of the community for providing us with such facilities."

**-Tshogpa Karma Tenzin, 46 years old,
from Dechen Pelri Chiwog in Sarpang**



Tshogpa Karma Tenzin



Awareness Programme on Child Rights and Protection at Dechen Pelri, Sarpang

2) SCHOLARSHIPS AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



His Majesty's birthday celebrations by students of Asian University for Women in Bangladesh

A) SCHOLARSHIPS

The Tarayana Foundation Scholarship Programme facilitates scholarships for students from humble backgrounds to help them pursue higher studies. The scholarships are based with various universities, national and regional.

Total of 44 students are currently enrolled under Tarayana scholarship programme.

- In 2017, 20 students were enrolled.
- 12 students graduated from various universities.

Case Story

"I am proud to be a graduate of Asian University for Women in Bangladesh. Looking back, my time at AUW equipped me with valuable knowledge and skills and helped me become a better and stronger individual. AUW not only brought positive impact in my personal life but also in my social life. Being in AUW was the most beautiful experience I ever had. We get to experience diverse culture, language, food and friends from various countries.

-Pema Yangzom,
a scholarship recipient of the year 2015,
now working as Programme Officer at
Ministry of Health



Pema Yangzom



Ms. Kezang Choki Tshering, a scholarship beneficiary, received two Certificate of Excellence from Regent's International School in Bangkok, Thailand and is currently attending a Global Leadership Development Programme at Wheaton College, USA.

B) TARAYANA EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (BUZIP)



Children at Dechen Pelri ECCD, Sarpang

The Tarayana Early Childhood Care and Development Programme was initiated to address developmental needs of rural children and enable the mothers to participate in economic activities.

In 2017, three ECCD centres were constructed; one each in Namgyel Taba and Ngawang Ramtoe under Samtse Dzongkhag and the third in Somzhing under Lhuentse Dzongkhag. Two ECCD centres in Khomshar and Langdurbi under Zhemgang Dzongkhag were renovated. Currently, there are 34 functional ECCDs in nine Dzongkhags that caters to 680 pre-school children.

The ECCD centre facilitators are recruited by the respective Dzongkhags. Five additional ECCD centres have been approved for establishment in 2018.

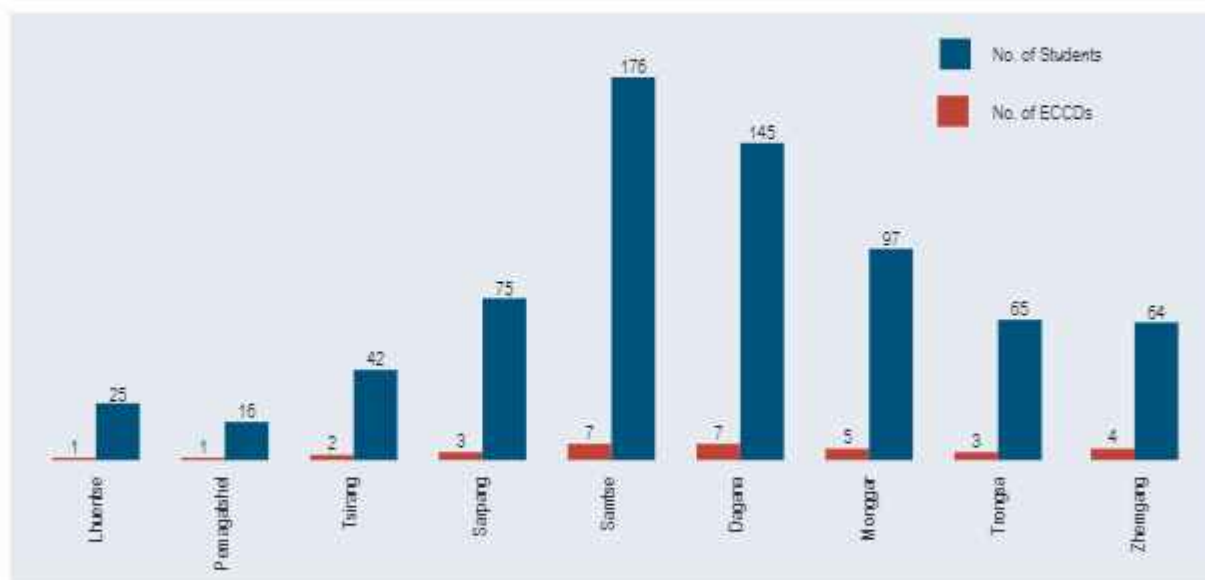


Figure 3: ECCDs with number of students in nine Dzongkhags

Case Story

"The parents receive a lot of support in providing proper care and guidance for their children. The ECCDs have helped to enhance the motor, cognitive and social skills of children and they also have a lot of fun making friends in the centres."

-Yeshey Dema and Tashi Chezom
ECCD facilitators, Namgaycholing, Samtse



Tashi and Yeshey, ECCD facilitators



Manita Gurung



Jamyang Ugyen Yoesel

Case Story

"I enrolled my daughter, Jamyang Ugyen Yoesel, 5 years old, at Namgaycholing ECCD centre in Samtse to prepare for her educational journey. After doing so, I saw a lot of improvement in my daughter's overall physical and mental development. She developed her language, communication and vocabulary skills by interacting with other children with help from the facilitators. I am very thankful to Tarayana Foundation for establishing an ECCD centre in our village."

-Manita Gurung (mother)

C) TARAYANA SCHOOL CLUB

The Tarayana School Club Programme promotes the spirit of volunteerism and giving back to the society at an early age; organizing cleaning campaigns, aiding senior citizens, visiting patients at hospitals, providing rations to the ones in need and organizing club exhibitions.

In 2017, 11 new clubs were established with 606 members.

There are currently a total of 108 active Tarayana school clubs with 4,980 members across the country in 20 Dzongkhags. The clubs are present at all levels of institution ranging from primary schools to colleges of education.

Highlights of 2017:

- The club coordinator and 15 student members from Rangjung Central School, Trashigang Dzongkhag participated in the Youth Festival 2017 at Kolkata, India from 21 to 27 January, 2017.

- Two club members, Ms. Kithso Tenzin Dema Wangchuk, a student from UWC ISAK in Japan and Ms. Tshetsho Wangdi, a student from Yangchenphug Higher Secondary School, attended Asia Youth Leadership conference at Singapore from 14 to 16 July 2017.
- Six club members from Yangchenphug Higher Secondary School in Thimphu attended waste product making and financial literacy training at Tarayana Centre, Thimphu from 17 July to 2 August, 2017.

A separate report on the clubs will be published as a tribute to all the services rendered by the different clubs across the country, this year.



Tarayana Club members of Samtse College of Education actively volunteering to construct a house



Club members of Sherubtse College cleaning chorten at Kanglung, Trashigang



Community members of Legpagang (Lumbey), Samtse clearing water source



3) GREENTECHNOLOGIES:ENERGYANDENVIRONMENT

A) NATIONAL ADAPTATION PROGRAMME OF ACTION (NAPA) II

The National Adaptation Programme of Action aims to build the resilience and capacity of the community members to prepare for and respond to climate induced multi hazards to reduce potential losses of human lives, national economic infrastructure, livelihood and livelihood assets.

Funded by the Least Developed Countries Fund and executed by the by National Environment Commission, Tarayana's focus is on promoting climate resilient water harvesting practices to address water scarcity in the rural villages of Monggar, Tsirang, Samtse and Pema Gatshel.

Capacity of community members in the targeted villages was enhanced in: Construction of check dams using wooden logs, bamboo and stone to not only prevent loss of topsoil but also to retain free flowing run-offs as they would gradually recharge the ground water table and act as storage, basic landslide and erosion control measures and land management and water source protection.

Members of the water user committees have been trained in watershed and land management along with sensitization of climate change issues so as to enable them to make informed decisions regarding development activities within their communities. Equipped with these knowledge and skills, the community members are organized and better prepared to take ownership/responsibility of water management and protection.

- Across the four Dzongkhags, 852 community members (310F & 542M) have been trained in watershed and land management.
- 763 people (330F & 433 M) in the targeted sites have been trained on Local Organic Climate Change Action & Learning.

Reports from the field indicate that these interventions have been successful in mitigating the water issues and the communities have access to water during the water stressed months. More efforts are being undertaken to recharge the ground water and protect the water sources and springs.

Natural water harvesting at Tsirangtoe village in Tsirang



Water tank construction at Migkuri village, Pema Gatshel



The following table shows achievements of the project activities till December, 2017:

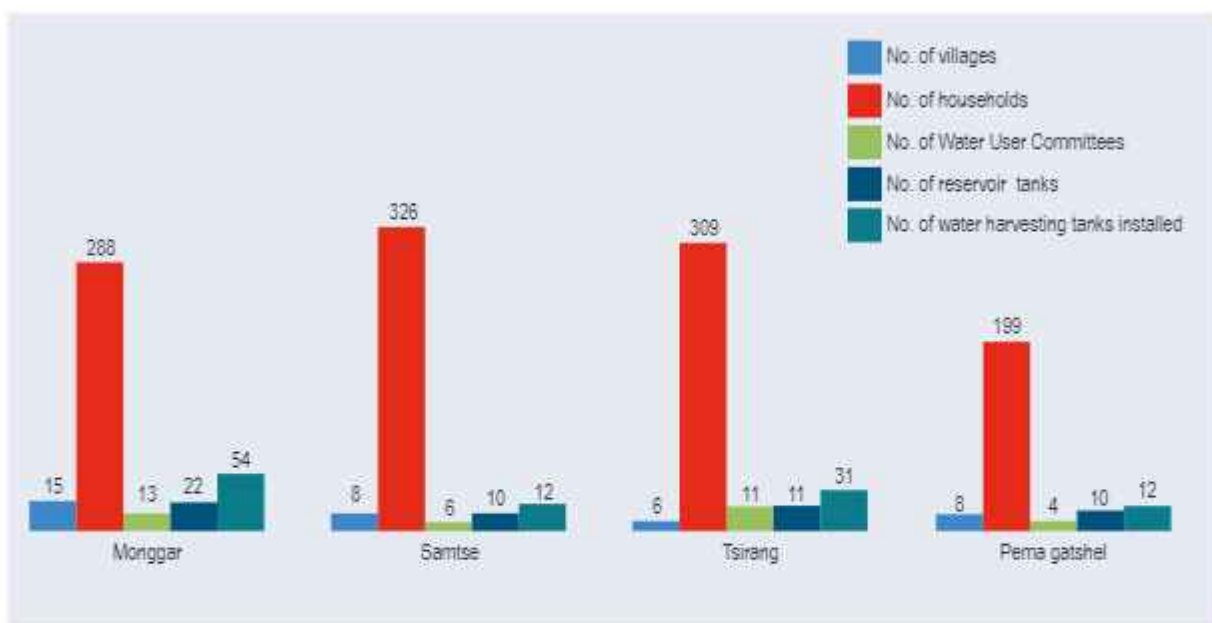


Figure 4: Achievements of the NAPA II project till December 2017

B) REDUCE EMISSION from DEFORESTATION and DEGRADATION (REDD+)



Consultative meeting at Wangling village in Trongsa

The Foundation on behalf of the Watershed Management Division (WMD), Department of Forests under the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests & Park Services organized awareness programmes on REDD+ and also conducted consultations on Drivers of Deforestation in the target villages under Sarpang, Trongsa, Lhuentse, Monggar, Haa, Pema Gatshel and Samtse Dzongkhags.

Supported by the World Bank, this activity contributes towards the REDD+ Readiness programme of the country. This also enabled the community members at the grassroots level understand issues related to climate change in a more in-depth manner and introspect on finding local solutions. They also got opportunities to discuss on the drivers of deforestation in their vicinity and engaged in brainstorming possible solutions among themselves. As a part of these awareness and consultations, the Foundation also supported the following activities to address some of the issues discussed more practically:

- Three Reservoir Tanks (one 2000 liters and two 500 liters) and water source protection has been undertaken in Ney village of Lhuentse Dzongkhag which will benefit 104 households.
- Water source and watershed protection works were carried out in the villages of Lhuentse Dzongkhag.
- Training on water source protection was carried out and traditional management practices have been documented.
- With the support of the District Agriculture Office and Livestock, awareness on unproductive cattle was organized as it was identified as one of the major contributors of deforestation in relation to the REDD+.

- Awareness programmes were carried out in the target villages of Pema Gatshel on REDD+ and how they can contribute towards keeping the green house gas (GHG) emission low. Inaccessibility to water due to improper management and sources drying up is one of the practical issues they face. To address this, water pipes of 25mm have been distributed to enable them to access water.
- Two reservoir tanks (each 15000 Liters) have been constructed to aid the community with the supply and protection of their water source.
- Four dire households lacking access to water in Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag now has enough water after the source protection works were carried out.
- Eight villages under Samtse Dzongkhag have been provided with pipes - Kuzugang, Khempa, Melonggang and Thuluggang, Sanglung A and B. A total of 73 households have benefited from this intervention. Furthermore, source protection works are underway with the supply of barbed wires.

C) TRAINING ON WASTE RECYCLING



Waste management training at Tarayana Centre in Thimphu

Two levels of training on recycling waste into product making were conducted for the low income residents in Thimphu, especially women both married and single, at the Tarayana Centre. A total of 36 women participated in the basic course and 38 in the training of trainers. Supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) through the grant TA 9016 BHU(48491-001): *Decentralized Coordination & Partnerships for Gender Equality Result*, this activity contributes towards women empowerment by developing skills, creating employment and income generating opportunities. It also created awareness on issues related to solid waste and contributes towards reducing and recycling. The trainings focused on developing products such as bags, purses, jewellery etc. out of waste collected from different places like hotels, shops and residential areas.

D) SOLAR LAMPS



CEO Club, Hyderabad, India donates solar lamps to Sertena village in Haa



Sertena Primary School students can now study at night with the use of solar lamps

CEO Club, Hyderabad, India donated 100 solar lamps. The Foundation distributed the lamps to different villages that do not have electricity. Ten solar lamps were donated to Sertena Primary School to be used by the students residing in a makeshift hut.

E) PROMOTION OF ELECTRIC DRYERS



Cardamom and vegetables dried using electric dryer at Yokha village in Haa

A new Cardamom Electric Dryer fabricated by a local entrepreneur with a capacity to dry 120 kgs has been issued to Yokha village in Haa. The dryer can also dry vegetables and meat items and consumes less time and energy as compared to the traditional way of drying cardamoms. Such technologies will contribute towards reducing social issues such as distrust among the villagers as it involves men having to stay out of their houses for days leaving their wives alone with the children. Dangers of wild animals and deforestation are other drawbacks of the traditional method which is now solved by the convenience of electric dryer. Promoting homemade technologies also reduces import and encourages more local enterprises.

F) ANNUAL COLLABORATION ON GREEN TECHNOLOGY

The 5th Annual Green Technology Challenge in collaboration with the College of Science and Technology (CST) at Rinchending in Phuentsholing Dungkha was held at CST premises on 2 June 2017. This challenge was initiated in the year 2013, with the intention of contributing towards the national goal of remaining carbon neutral as well as giving platform to showcase innovation and creativity of our future engineers towards efficient technologies that would benefit rural communities.

The theme for the 5th Annual Green Technology was “Low Cost Solar Water Heating,” and saw the participation of the final year students of Civil and Electrical Engineering Department. A total of five teams entered the competition and the three best entries were awarded cash prizes. The Foundation will disseminate the best entry in the rural villages as per need.

The result of our past Green Technology Challenges (Solar Dryers in 2013, Low Cost Water Filtration in 2014, Low Cost Insulation Materials in 2015 and Solar Fencing in 2016) are being adopted in the villages that Tarayana works with and continues to improve the living standard of the community members and provides them with life skills, and knowledge for sustained rural development and growth.



Low Cost Solar Water Heating demonstration by CST students

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



Cane and bamboo weaving in Migkuri, Pema Gatshel



Cane and bamboo furniture making at Ngawang Ramtoe, Samtse

Tarayana Foundation's second objective is to support rural communities with sustainable income generating activities ensuring capacity building of the beneficiaries for a better future. In order to help improve vulnerable lives through sustained livelihood, the Foundation has undertaken various interventions supporting the economic development of the communities. The economic development programme includes skills development of the communities, promoting income generating activities and market facilitation of products.

A) INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES

Between 2017 and 2018, 74 Self Help Groups (SHGs) have been formed in the nine Dzongkhags of Haa, Sarpang, Samtse, Trongsa, Tsirang, Wangdue Phodrang, Lhuentse, Monggar and Pema Gatshel. These SHGs have been formed in several villages to encourage joint effort among the community members for common income generation. In total, the groups have generated an income of Nu2.3 m from the various activities undertaken.

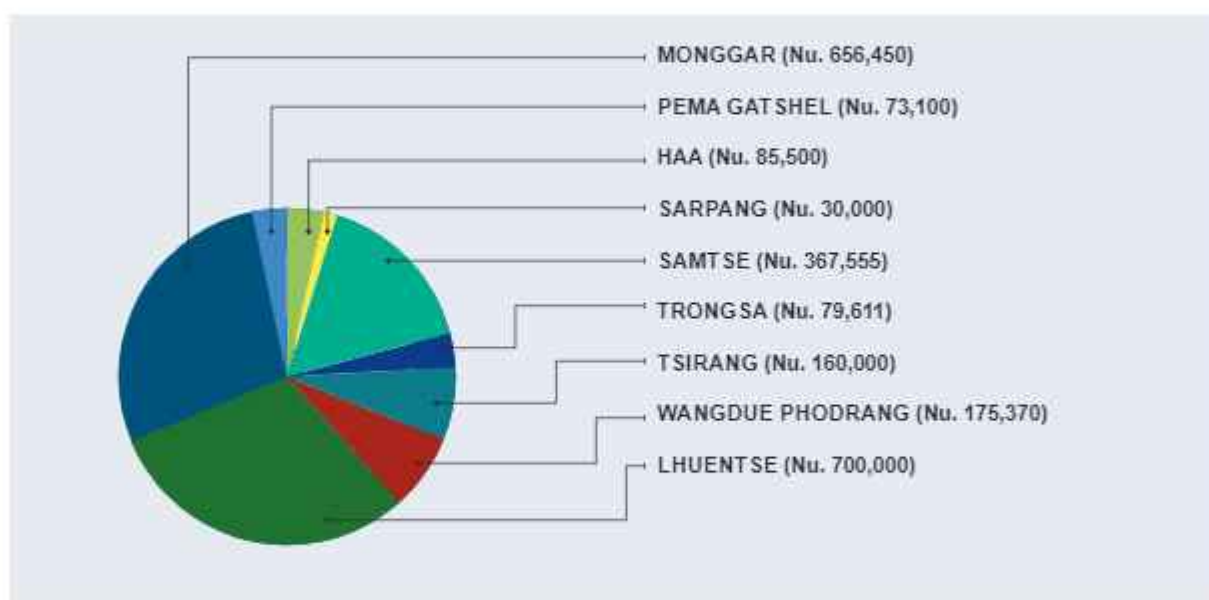


Figure 5: Income of Self Help Groups in 2017

The activities ranges from vegetable production, harvesting different cash crops, bee keeping, traditional paper making, sheep wool weaving, furniture making and textile, cane and bamboo weaving. Apart from generating cash income and collective bargaining, working in groups also promotes cohesiveness and team work.



Pluck Tray Nursery group at Migkuri, Pema Gatshel



Natural Dyeing training at Ugyentse, Samtse

B) COMMUNITY FACILITY CENTRES/ COMMON WORK-SHED

The basic objective for the establishment of Community Facility Centre/ Common Work-shed is to provide collective space to work together and exchange skills among the Self Help Groups. It enables the groups to develop group cohesion, social inclusion and offers a platform for every group member to have rights in decision making. These work-sheds are also used as multipurpose halls to organize various activities for the development of the groups. In 2017, 8 centres were established in Lhuentse, Trongsa, Pema Gatshel and Monggar.

C) SKILLS TRAINING

The Foundation collaborates with various sectors and service providers to build and upgrade skills of the community members according to their requirements and aspirations. The trainings provided in 2017 are as follows:

Sl. No.	List of trainings provided in 2017
1.	Natural farming/ vermi compost
2.	Cardamom plantation and management
3.	Financial literacy
4.	Hygiene and alcohol awareness
5.	Leadership skills, functions and management of Self Help Groups.
6.	Land management and water sources management
7.	Natueco farming
8.	Costs benefit analysis of cotton, cane and bamboo
9.	Youth awareness program on child rights and protection; and domestic violence
10.	Training on beekeeping
11.	Entrepreneurship training
12.	Youth farmers' convention
13.	Electric dryer training
14.	Natural dyeing training
15.	Low cost bamboo filters
16.	Low cost poly house
17.	Green house management
18.	Waste management
19.	Gender equality and equity
20.	Food processing

D) MARKET FACILITATION



Products showcased during Haa Summer Festival

The Foundation facilitates the marketing of the products and produce sent in by the various SHGs through different outlets of the Tarayana Rural Crafts.

The production team in Thimphu works on improving the packaging and overall presentation of the products supplied by the artisans. The team also designs new products and gives different product samples to the interested community SHGs.

In 2017, the SHGs got the opportunities to showcase their products through various events and festivals such as:

- Tarayana Annual Fair, 2017 at Thimphu.
- Tarayana's Programme Exhibition in Weringla Dungkhag, Monggar during the 117th National Day celebration in 2017.
- Haa Summer Festival, 2017.

E) RURAL TO URBAN SUPPLY GROUP



Rural to Urban Supply Group in Haa



Making Dalley pickles

The Rural to Urban Supply Group was initiated in 2016 in Sertena village in Haa to encourage youth (especially school leavers) to engage in vegetable production to generate income and supplement their parents efforts. Currently there are 15 (10 male and 5 female) members from the villages of Sertena, Fentena, Gongdhokha and Babuna under Gakiling Gewog in Haa Dzongkhag.

They are working on raising nursery farms to supply to the community members and will provide technical support to them in the future. They are currently focusing only on the vegetable production, however, they have aspirations and plans of marketing the agricultural products of their villages on a larger scale.

F) TARAYANA ANNUAL FAIR 2017



Products showcased during the Annual Fair



Tarayana Annual Fair 2017

The 14th Tarayana Annual Fair was held at Tarayana Park in Chubachu, Thimphu from 28 to 30 April, 2017 with the theme “Celebrating Partnerships.” More than 70 community members from 13 Dzongkhags across the country participated in the Annual Fair.

The Tarayana Annual Fair provides a platform to the rural artisans to promote, sell and get valuable feedbacks from the customers. During the fair, the artisans also get to interact and learn from fellow artisans from other Dzongkhags. A photo exhibition was also organized to present works carried out with different partners since the inception of the Foundation.

G) TARAYANA RURAL CRAFTS



Tarayana Rural Crafts outlet at Tarayana Centre, Thimphu

Tarayana Rural Crafts is the production and marketing arm of the Foundation that works closely with SHGs to improve and market products from the rural villages, including handicrafts, cane & bamboo, wooden as well as agricultural products. Hundreds of artisans, SHGs from different villages and communities across the country are involved in the production of the products.

Each product is painstakingly handmade by the artisans, whose families have been involved in the craft for many generations, using locally available natural materials. The artisans are provided with the required tools and skills to revive the traditional arts and crafts, with improved and better designs. In 2017, Nu. 6.4m worth of products were marketed through different outlets with the gradual increase of 58% compared to the previous year.

Product line and groups from various Dzongkhags:

Dzongkhag	Products
Zhemgang	Cane & Bamboo products
Samtse	Daphne paper products, silk scarves & stoles
Samdrup Jongkhar	Nettle products
Trongsa	Nettle & natural dye products, candle
Monggar	Wood products –mask, wine containers, bowls
Paro	Candle
Lhuentse	Earthen pots, Cotton table runners
Pema Gatshel	Cotton and silk scarves & shawls, bamboo products
Trashigang	Wool & felting –rugs, felted products
Haa	Honey
Tsirang	Wool rugs & bamboo products
Bumthang	Wool products
TRC design & tailoring team	Accessories – bags and other items

TRADITIONAL AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION

A) FOLK HERITAGE MUSEUM

The museum provides a glimpse of the traditional Bhutanese lifestyle, in addition to the artifacts from the rural household objects; it also displays an impressive collection of typical household objects, tools and equipment. The museum also organizes regular demonstrations of rural traditions, skills, habits and customs as well as hosting educational programs for the children.

The highlights of the year 2017 are:

Celebration of Nyilo(Winter Solstice in the Bhutanese Lunar calendar) as new year coinciding with the annual harvest in parts of Western Bhutan. Lolay is the recitation of traditional song with wishes for a happy and bountiful new year to mark Nyilo, was sung by a group of children coordinated by the Folk Heritage Museum at Lingkhana Palace on 2nd January 2017 before His Majesty the Fifth King, Her Majesty the Gyaltshuen and His Royal Highness the Gayalsey. On 3rd January 2017, the children recited Lolay at hotels and other households to usher in a prosperous new year.



Lolay recitation by a group of children in front of a hotel



Zaw (roasted rice) making demonstration at Folk Heritage Museum

Her Imperial Highness Princess Mako of Akishino, Japan visited Folk Heritage Museum on 1st June 2017 as a part of her tour in Bhutan.



Her Imperial Highness Princess Mako's visit to Folk Heritage in Thimphu

Acknowledging culture as major determinant of Bhutan's development philosophy, the Folk Heritage Museum organizes Lhapsang and Sangchoey rituals as quarterly events to keep cultural heritage alive by passing the knowledge of rituals and performances from one generation to another.

The Folk Heritage Museum had its first International Collaborative Climate Education Project titled "Weaving Strand of Knowledge Connecting Culture and Science to Climate Change," a partnership between the Montshire Museum of Science in Vermont, the University of New Hampshire, Tarayana Foundation and the Royal Thimphu College in Bhutan. Funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and administered by American Alliance of Museums, the project aimed to engage two culturally distinct communities, rural New England and Bhutan, in conversations and knowledge sharing focused on urgent issues of environmental sustainability.

The US team travelled and visited Tsirang from 29 May to 4 June 2017 while the Bhutanese teams were in the US from 2 July to 15 July 2017 to document narratives of climate change impacts. An exhibition titled "Climate and Culture Day" consisting of photo display and audio stories was organized in both countries to demonstrate and display output of the exercises. In Thimphu, the event was held at the Folk Heritage Museum premise for two week from 31 August 2017 onwards



The team from USA at Tsirang



Museums Connect exhibition

B) CULTURAL SANCTUARY



Conducting survey for the Cultural Sanctuary project



Consultation with the Olep community members

The main objective of this project is to propose Rukha village under Athang Gewog in Wangdue Phodrang as a Cultural Sanctuary for the protection and preservation of the traditional Olep culture and language. Rukha has a very distinct tradition and culture including a language that is at a brink of dying. The inhabitants residing in this village are known ancestrally as 'Oleps'.

The Foundation in partnership with the Cultural Sanctuaries Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in the US, with the consensus of the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forest and Park Services, carried out a comprehensive survey of the Olep culture and language. The team working on this included local linguist, botanist and an anthropologist backed up by three expat members of the same field. This first cultural snap shots of Rukha comprises of the Olep's way of life, their tradition, culture, language and botanical aspects. This report is currently being reviewed by relevant stakeholders before it is published for the public domain. The proposal to ratify the sanctuary is put up to the Department of Culture through the Local Government and the Dzongkhag administration of Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag.

The final, but crucial part of the project is to build a cultural centre for the Olep community, which will be a gathering place for the village, a centre for community workshops and discussion, a "living museum" of the Olep culture, an archive of the survey and language dictionary and a guest house for tourists. The centre will be in traditional Bhutanese style on land contributed by the community, and built by the carpenters of the Olep community.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

14th January	A survey was conducted to assess the listenership of the Community Radio in Ngawang Ramtoed and Namgyal Taba, Samtse.
20th January	A week long training of trainers was conducted at Chhimoong in Pema Gatshel for 56 participants and focused on organic farming practices such as vermi composting, seed banking, root treatment, pruning and natural pest control methods, book keeping, food processing, bamboo plantation and filtration, low cost green house set up, electric and solar dryer.
30th January	A joint monitoring visit by the Gross National Happiness Commission and Tarayana Foundation was carried out in REAP II sites in Samtse to monitor the project activities, as well as to engage and interact with the community members.
30th January	Two week long training on making products out of waste was held at the Tarayana Centre for low income residents in Thimphu, especially women both married and single and was funded by Asian Development Bank(ADB).
10th February	Tarayana participated in the second CSO retreat that was held in Phuentsholing.
15th March	Tarayana Foundation along with all the CSOs were invited to attend the opening of the 13th Round Table Meeting
21st March	The Tarayana Dragons organized an event to showcase the photographs taken by the students of Wangsel Institute in Paro, at the Clock Tower Square. The students were taught this skill by the photography team from Thailand, part of the "Young Photographer Project" in Thailand and the event was organized to commemorate the Thailand-Bhutan Friendship.
3rd April	Tarayana's Field and programme officers attended a two day long training of trainers on Value Chain Analysis & Development which was organized by READ Bhutan for the Asian Development Bank Project.
5th April	A two day long national level workshop for community and campus radio experience sharing was organized by the Foundation in Thimphu.
10th April	As part of their corporate social responsibility, the Singye Group of Companies donated a maruti van to the Foundation.
22nd April	The 11th Annual Restorative Surgical Camp for correction of cleft lips and cleft palates was held in Paro in collaboration with Surgicorps team and Ministry of Health.
28th -30th April	Tarayana held it's 14th annual fair based on the theme "Celebrating Partnerships", at the Tarayana Park in Chubachu, Thimphu.
3rd May	Her Majesty the Queen Mother, Gyalyum Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck launched Namita Gokhale's book titled "Things to Leave Behind" at the Tarayana Centre.
2nd June	Her Majesty The Queen Mother Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck inaugurated the 60th Anniversary Park dedicated to His Majesty The Fourth Druk Gyalpo, Jigme Singye Wangchuck, at Dochula.
27th June	The construction of the new Early Childhood and Care Development (ECCD) at Ngawang Ramtoed under Tading Gewog in Samtse Dzongkhag was completed.

29th June	The 27th Tarayana Board Meeting was conducted at the Tarayana Centre
18th July	The second training on Waste Management was held at the Tarayana Centre, organized by the Tarayana Foundation in collaboration with the Kilus Foundation
24th July	Tarayana Foundation in collaboration with the Asian Development Alliance, and supported by KOICA organized a national workshop on UN Sustainable Development Goals for CSOs in the country.
8th August	Tarayana held their half yearly review meeting with the participation of field and programme officers.
10th August	A workshop on Child Protection and Gender Equality was organized at the Tarayana Centre for the Program and Field Officers of the Foundation by the National Commission for Women and Children (NCWC) with support from UNICEF Bhutan.
13rd August	The Eye Camp at Punakha was held for the second year.
23rd August	An exhibition on the theme "Climate and Culture" was held at the Folk Heritage Museum as an output of the "Weaving Strands of Knowledge: Connecting Culture and Science to Climate Change" project.
27th August	"Echoes of Bhutan", A book co-authored by Barry Shaffer & Barbara Shaffer was launched by Her Majesty The Queen Mother Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck at the Mountain Echoes
17th September	Tarayana Foundation organized an awareness program on child protection and rights, to assist the parents and youth work leaders who work with young people at the community level in Sengdhen, Sunlung and Singye chiwog in Samtse.
18th September	Tarayana received 10 numbers of 'Ozone Anti-bacterial Sanitizer, Cashido 10 Second Machine' donated by Mr. Vancelee Tèng Kien Meng and Mr. Lee Kok Hong from Malaysia.
16th October	Senior Field Officer, Namgay participated in the World Food Day program held at Damphu School, Tsirang and demonstrated green technologies such as low cost-water filter and cold storage for vegetable preservation.
3rd November	Tarayana Foundation along with various CSOs and the RUB Colleges in the country attended a workshop on "Bridging the Royal University of Bhutan to the Civil Society Organizations" by the Department of Research and External Relations under RUB .
13th November	Tarayana Foundation in collaboration with Smile Asia, Singapore organized the 'Restorative Surgical Camp' for cleft lip and cleft palate patients at the Paro District Hospital.
29th November	The Tarayana Centre for Social Research and Development held its first research seminar "Meaningful Gender Participation in National Adaptation Programme of Action: Water Harvesting and Storage in the Context of Climate Change in Rural Bhutan" at the Tarayana Conference Hall.
30th November	Her Majesty the Queen Mother Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck inguarated the Harachhu Bridge that connects the two chiwogs of Rukha and Lawa Lamga with the national highway.
24th December	A monitoring team lead by the Director of GNHC, accompanied by Planning Officers, Asst. Monitoring & Coordination Officer of Monggar Dzongkhag & Dasho Dungpa of Weringla Dungkhag visited the REAP sites in Monggar in Silambi & Gungdu gewogs.

GOVERNANCE

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

1. Her Majesty Gyalyum Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, Founder and President
2. HE Dzongsar Khyentse Norbu Rinpoche, Honorary Member
3. HRH Ashi Sonam Dechan Wangchuck, President, Bhutan National Legal Institute and Royal Institute of Law
4. HRH Dasho Jigyel Ugyen Wangchuck, President, Bhutan Olympic Committee
5. Dasho Karma Ura, President, Centre for Bhutan Studies
6. Dasho Yanki T. Wangchuk, Former Secretary, Ministry of Finance
7. Mr.Thinley W.Dorji, President, Tarayana Dragons Motorcycle Club& CEO, Bhutan Tourism Corporation Ltd.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Mr. Tshewang Tandin, Director General, Royal Institute of Management
2. Ms. Chhimmy Pem, Director, Tourism Council of Bhutan
3. Mr. Chhimi Dorji, Director, Tarayana Centre for Social Research & Development
4. Ms. Chimi Zangmo, CEO, Hotel Dorji Elements & Executive Director, Voluntary Artists Studio (VAST Bhutan)
5. Mr. Dorji Wangchuk, Founder-Advisor, Centennial Radio
6. Mr. Karma T. Wangchuk, Architect, United Consultants
7. Mr. Kunzang Thinley, Principal, Royal Academy for Performing Arts
8. Lt.Col Kinley Wangdi, Royal Bhutan Police
9. Mr. Neten Dorjee, Executive Producer/Archive Manager, BBS
10. Ms. Rinzi Pem, National Coordinator, UN Women Programme in Bhutan
11. Mr. Sonam Lhundrup, General Counsel, Company Secretary, Druk Holding & Investment (DHI)
12. Mr. Thinley Namgyel, Chief Environment Officer, National Environment Commission
13. Mr.Kalden Sonam Dorji, Proprietor, Terton Travel Bhutan & Founding Member, Tarayana Dragons Motorcycle Club
14. Mr.Tashi Tshering, Proprietor, Jojos Adventure & Founding Member, Tarayana Dragons Motorcycle Club
15. Mr. Sonam Tshering Dorji, Dy. Chief Planning Officer, Policy & Planning Division, Ministry of Economic Affairs
16. Mr. Tashi Penjor, Chief Urban Planner, Ministry of Works & Human Settlement
17. Aum Sangay Zam, Rinchen Enterprise
18. Aum Rinse Pem

SECRETARIAT TEAM

1. Chime P. Wangdi, Secretary General
2. Kuenley Gyeltshen, Finance Officer
3. Pema Lhendrup, Administrative Officer

PROGRAMME DIVISION

1. Sonam Pem, Director of Programmes
2. Roseleen Gurung, Chief Programme Officer
3. Dhendup Tshering, Programme Officer
4. Wangmo, Programme Officer
5. Karma Wangchuk, Programme Officer
6. Jamyang Phuntsho, Asst. Programme Officer
7. Palden Ongmo, Asst. Programme Officer
8. Tashi Choden, Asst. Programme Officer

DOCUMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

1. Yeshe Dema, Documentation & Communication Officer

FIELD OFFICERS

1. Namgay, Tsirang
2. Sonam Jamtsho, Lhuentse
3. Passang Tobgay, Monggar
4. Thinley Bidha, Lotokuchu, Samtse
5. Jigme Wangchuk, Wangduephodrang
6. Ugyen Tshomo, Pema Gatshel
7. Phuntsho Wangmo, Trongsa
8. Tashi Tshering Doya, Samtse
9. Sonam Gyaltshen, Haa
10. Som Bdr Rai, Trongsa
11. Deki Zam, Pema Gatshel
12. Karma Dendup, Zhemgang
13. Pratap Singh Rai, Sarpang
14. Namgay Tshering Doya, Tading, Samtse

FIELD ASSISTANT ON CONTRACT

1. Ngawang Tashi, Zhemgang
2. Suk Bdr Rai, Khempa, Samtse
3. Harka Bdr, Monggar, Sarpang
4. Indra Bir Ghalley ,Tharpaling, Samtse
5. Santosh Rai, Thulonggang, Melonggang, Samtse

SUPPORT STAFF

1. Meme Bongtong, Caretaker, Kapapang site
2. R.B. Ghalley, Driver
3. Tobgay, Gardener
4. Dendup Tshering, Night Guard
5. Namgay Om, Cleaner

TARAYANA RURAL CRAFTS TEAM

1. Yuden Dorji, Consulting Manager
2. Sonam Dema Drukpa, Production Manager
3. Thukten Tshering, Marketing Manager
4. Pema Yangzom ,Embroidery Expert/Needle Felting,
5. Pema Wangchuk, Traditional Paper Expert, Production Division
6. Goma Devi, Salesperson, Tarayana Rural Crafts, Thimphu
7. Tshetenmo, Salesperson, Tarayana Rural Crafts Outlet, Folk Heritage Museum, Thimphu
8. Pema, Salesperson, Tarayana Rural Crafts Counter, Paro International Airport

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

The Foundation would like to thank all our institutional partners in Bhutan and from around the world for joining us in our service towards the betterment of our community and the people in Bhutan.

Leading Corporation, foundations, international NGOs and the government have partnered with us to further our mission through monetary contribution, program partnerships, in kind support and employment engagement. Through these partnerships, we have been able to expand our reach across Bhutan.

DONORS IN 2017

1. Government of India
2. UNDP Bhutan
3. The World Bank
4. UNICEF
5. UN Women
6. Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCE) – UNDP
7. Swiss Development Corporation (SDC)
8. SAARC Development Fund Bhutan
9. Love, Peace and Harmony Foundation
10. Asian Development Bank
11. Cultural Sanctuaries Foundation
12. US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
13. Korea Electric Power Corporation
14. Cultural Sanctuaries Foundation

PROGRAMME PARTNERS:

1. Gross National Happiness Commission (GNHC)
2. Ministry of Education
3. Ministry of Health
4. Ministry of Agriculture Forests & Park Services
5. Ministry of Home & cultural Affairs
6. Ministry of Information and Communications
7. National Environment Commission

8. National Commission for Women and Children
9. Department of Renewable Energy, Ministry of Economic Affairs
10. College of Science and Technologies, Bhutan
11. Bhutan Foundation
12. World Bank
13. Asian University for Women, Chiittagong, Bangladesh
14. The American Alliance of Museums
15. WADAH Foundation
16. The Regent International School, Bangkok, Thailand

Tarayana Foundation

- Unaudited Statement



Chime P. Wangdi
Chime P. Wangdi
Secretary General