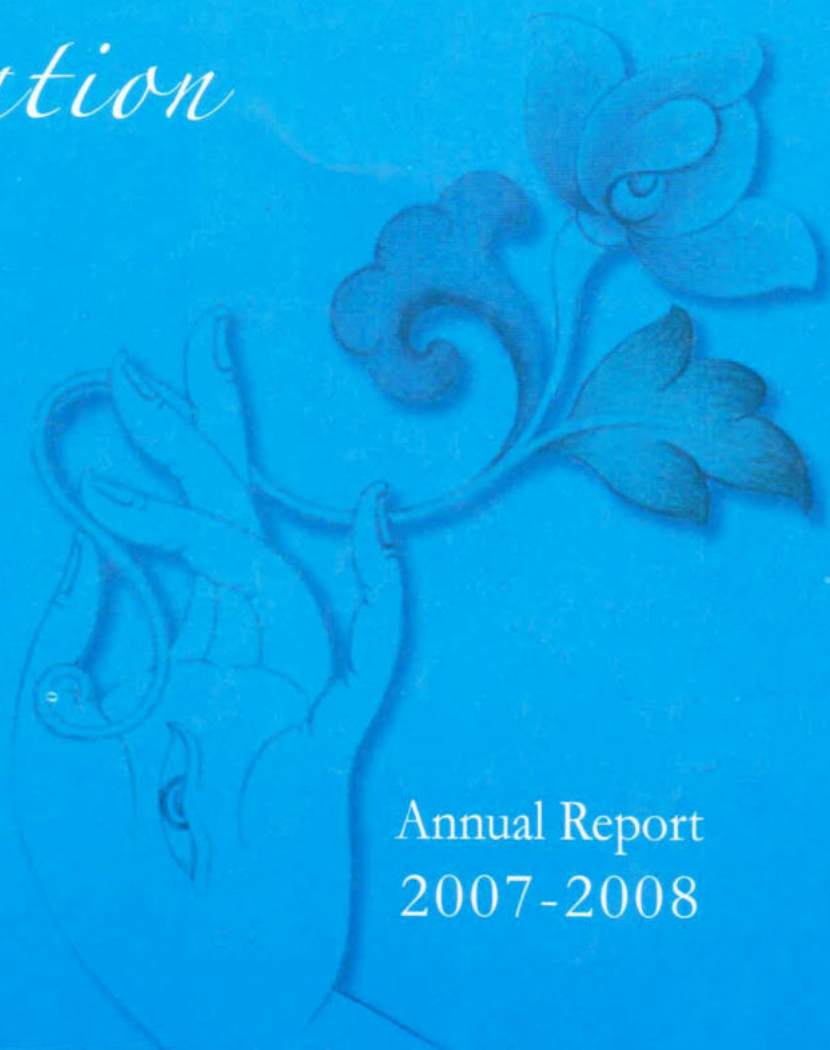
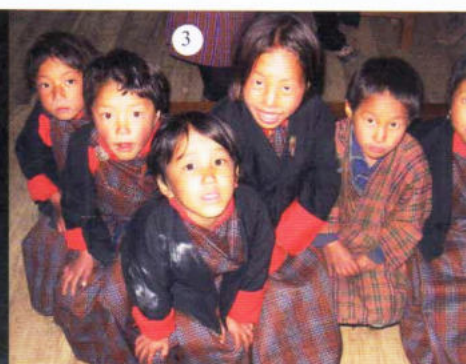


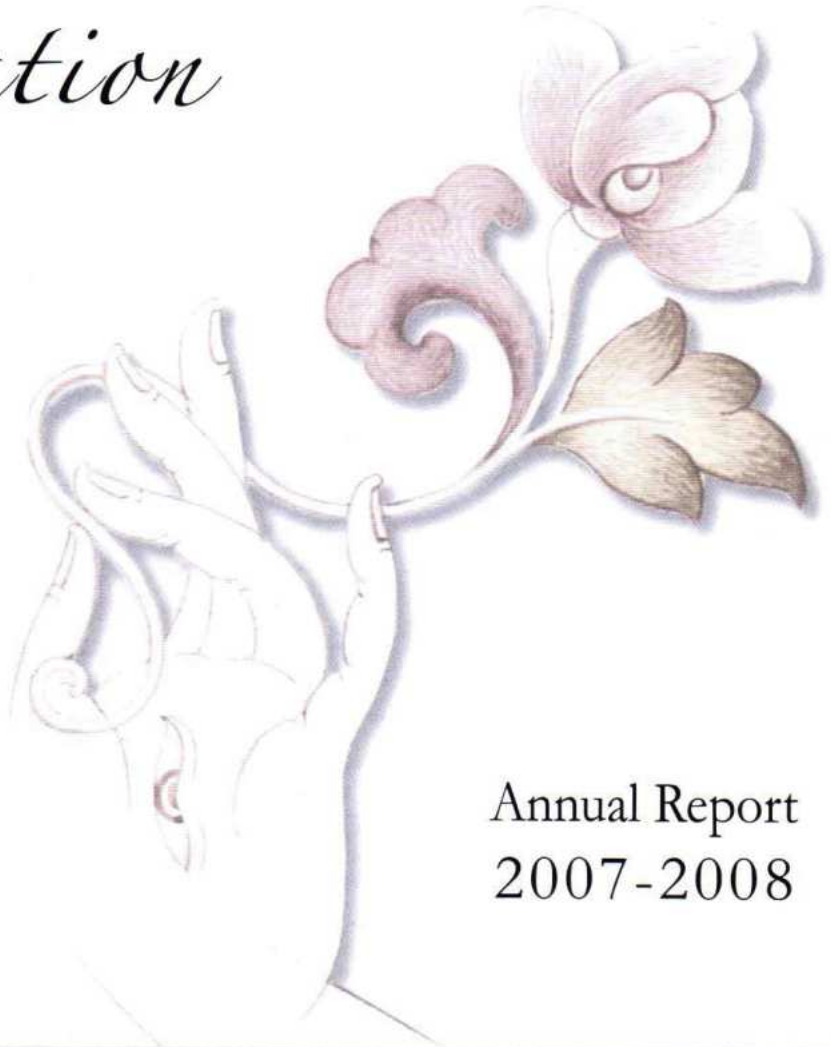
Tarayana Foundation



Annual Report
2007-2008



Tarayana Foundation



Annual Report
2007-2008

*Five years of
Service from the Heart
2003 ~ 2008*

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Message from the President

Tarayana Foundation turns five this year and as we take stock of what we have achieved in helping local communities and individuals help themselves, we have much to be grateful for. We take this opportunity to acknowledge all our donors, volunteers, friends and well wishers for sharing our vision and supporting our work towards realizing the vision. It gives us special pleasure to share with you the progress made over the past year.



The implementation of the Integrated Community Development for Poverty Alleviation funded by UNV/UNDP has been a rewarding experience for Tarayana. Under this project, a small community in Rukha, Wangdiphodrang has demonstrated that with a little facilitation and some funds communities are capable of tackling most challenges using local solutions. This success begs replication in the surrounding villages benefiting over fifty impoverished households.

Almost 60 percent of all households in the Lhop area now live in improved houses. In Rukha, twelve of the fifteen houses that the Foundation has been assisting to construct have been completed. Housing improvement works are also underway in the Monpa community. The Girls hostel construction in Sha Taksha School, supported by Terre des Homme, Denmark, has been completed and handed over to the school.

In our endeavor to transform lives and empower vulnerable individuals, Tarayana is supporting 920 students across the country through the Scholarship Programme and providing financial support for subsistence to 200 highly vulnerable individuals. Further seventy people benefited from restorative surgeries at the Paro camp held in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Surgicorp, USA.

We are grateful to each and every volunteer and donor for supporting our activities. We would like to acknowledge the institutional and project support received from Helvetas, Save the Children, UNDP, UNV, GEF-Small Grants Programme, the Rai Becker Foundation and the Royal Netherlands Embassy, New Delhi. We are grateful to Mr. Pankaj Guar and the Jai Prakash Group for supporting the construction of the Tarayana Craft Center and Ms. Serena Chopra for her support in furnishing the Craft Center.

We would also like to acknowledge the support received from the Royal Government and look forward to continued cooperation as we continue our work in uplifting the lives of the most vulnerable people in our country. Tarayana is hopeful that with the focus on poverty alleviation during Tenth Plan, funds will be available for NGO projects aimed at addressing poverty especially in remote and small communities.

Tashi Delek!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Her Majesty the Queen

Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck
Founder and President

ABOUT TARAYANA FOUNDATION

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 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:

1. Help the poor rural communities become self reliant and self sufficient through the initiation and establishment of income generating activities
2. Promote artisan skills through the establishment of training centres and facilitation of sale of products
3. Enable children from disadvantages and poor families to pursue education through support grants for basic need of uniforms, shoes and other related expenses
4. Provide greater economic security and dignity of life to vulnerable individuals through grant of maintenance allowances
5. Instill the values of volunteerism in the Bhutanese youth
6. To help patients access medical treatment
7. Institutional development and fund raising

BACKGROUND

Tarayana Foundation was formally launched by His Majesty the King, then HRH the Crown Prince Dasho Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck on 4th May 2003. The Foundation was established by Her Majesty the Queen Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck after her many travels to remote rural communities in the country. Her Majesty's close personal interactions with some of the poorest individuals and communities in the country resulted in the small but highly targeted interventions of the Foundation which help these poor people to take advantage of the opportunities spawned by the government's development processes. Thus the Foundation assists the vulnerable and disadvantaged gain greater economic independence through small and targeted interventions at the individual, household and small community levels. The Foundation has been in active operation for the last five years. This report covers the progress made in 2007-08.

Our focus on vulnerable individuals and communities

All human beings aspire to be happy. This is reflected in the balanced development philosophy pursued by the Royal Government 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, Poverty Analysis Report 2007 shows that a quarter of our population continue to live under the poverty line. 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 Foundation 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. Social mobilization and empowerment of local communities to take charge of developmental initiatives in their own localities have also gained importance over the years.

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees, chaired by the President, comprises of individuals from diverse backgrounds. The seven member Board meets biannually 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 every month to discuss and review progress of the planned activities on a regular basis. The members of the Executive Committee 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.

The Tarayana Training Services Center was established in 2007. This is in line with the policy of ensuring sustainability as well as to provide quality training services in the field of volunteerism, life skills as well as in hosting meetings and seminars. The Center also supports artisan skills development and promotion, including assistance with marketing of the products. Further the Director of Training Services Center will be responsible for fund raising and also oversee the operations and sales of the Tarayana Rural Crafts.

ACTIVITY REPORT 2007 - 2008

Goal 1: Support vulnerable individuals achieve greater socio-economic security

As an organization focused on helping the most vulnerable, the Tarayana Foundation provides maintenance allowance of Nu.500 per month to individuals who are on the margins of subsistence and lack any other means of support. Currently there are 200 beneficiaries nation-wide. This is nearly a two fold increase from 113 individuals in 2007 and costs approximately Nu.1,200,000 per annum to support this scheme.

The beneficiaries are categorized into three groups:

1. Senior citizens support
2. Special needs program
3. Regular beneficiaries

1. *Senior citizen support*

The Foundation is currently supporting 119 senior citizens with a basic maintenance allowance of Nu.500 every month. These senior citizens are old people who have no one to look after them. While some do have family members, they are themselves very poor and unable to support the aged. The beneficiaries also include some old nuns staying at different Lhakhangs spread all over the country.

2. *Special Needs Program*

The group consists of people who are paralyzed, physically disabled, visually impaired or mentally challenged. There are currently 71 people on this list of beneficiaries.

3. *Regular beneficiaries*

The regular beneficiaries are people who are very poor and are facing financial difficulties. This group includes children and adults up to the age of 45. We have 10 regular beneficiaries.

Khadom: A success story



In 2005, Kadhom from Dagana completed class ten, but she could not secure the grades needed for admission into a college in Bhutan. Suffering from leg disability since birth, and dependent on her mother as the sole income earner, there was no option for her but to discontinue her studies. Due to her disability it was impossible to get formal sector jobs and self-employment was the only alternative. However she lacked the seed capital to start a business and sought assistance from the Foundation. In realizing her difficulties and appreciating her determination, the Foundation provided her with a modest grant to start her own business. She successfully managed to open a small shop in Dagana. In March 2008, the Foundation nominated her to participate in a week long workshop on Regional Leadership Training of Women with Disabilities at Kolkata, India. This trip provided her with an opportunity to share her experiences and also learn from other fellow participants. With three years experience of running her own business, Kadhom is not only empowered but has gained self-confidence and is looked upto as an adept business woman.

Goal 2 : Sponsor students in disadvantaged circumstances

Activity 1 : Scholarship Endowment Fund

The Tarayana Scholarship Endowment Fund was established with the goal of enabling every child from the most disadvantaged families to realize their potentials and at least complete basic education. This fund currently provides scholarships to 920 students across twenty Dzongkhags at a cost of Nu.1,380,000 annually. The scholarship provides for their uniform, school fees, supplementary meal contributions and other incidental expenses. In addition to the above, the various Tarayana School Clubs collectively support another 51 vulnerable students in schools.

Furthermore, there are 40 students in Tongtongphey Community Primary School, Langthel, Trongsa who receive monthly ration support. These students live in make shift temporary huts near the school as they would, other wise, have to walk at least two hours each way to school and back home daily. Tarayana supports all the Monpa students studying in Jangbi Community Primary School. This support includes the provision of one meal a day from April 2007, in addition to the other meal provided by WFP. Tarayana received 1000 woolen blankets through the India



Students on the scholarship program at Bardoh Community Primary School

Centre Foundation, facilitated by late Dr. Ashok Sakia. These blankets were distributed to students in Jangbi, Nagor, Silambi, and Sha Taksha. Hotel Jumolhari provided bed-sheets and towels that were distributed in the remote schools.

The Foundation supports all the 267 students of the Sha Tasha Community Primary School at Wangdue. In addition, the Foundation provides monthly ration support and has also facilitated the construction of the girls' hostel with financial support from Terre des Homme, Denmark and labour contribution from the local communities. The furnishing of the hostel and the provision of other needs have been made possible with donations from private individuals.



Construction of Girls Hostel at Sha Tasha Community Primary School

The Foundation continues to receive the equivalent of US\$ 7500 from Terre des Homme as per their commitment to support 200 students for 12 years starting from 2005.

The feedback on the scholarship programme has been very positive. This intervention is vital because without such support most parents would not send their children to school as they cannot afford the expenses of providing uniform, school fees, supplementary meal contributions and other incidental expenses.

Tarayana has also been supporting families by purchasing their hand-woven fabrics and facilitating in the sale of their rural handicrafts at the beginning of the school term. This helps parents earn cash income needed to meet the children's education expenses. These are families who are better off compared to the others and do not need direct cash support from Tarayana.

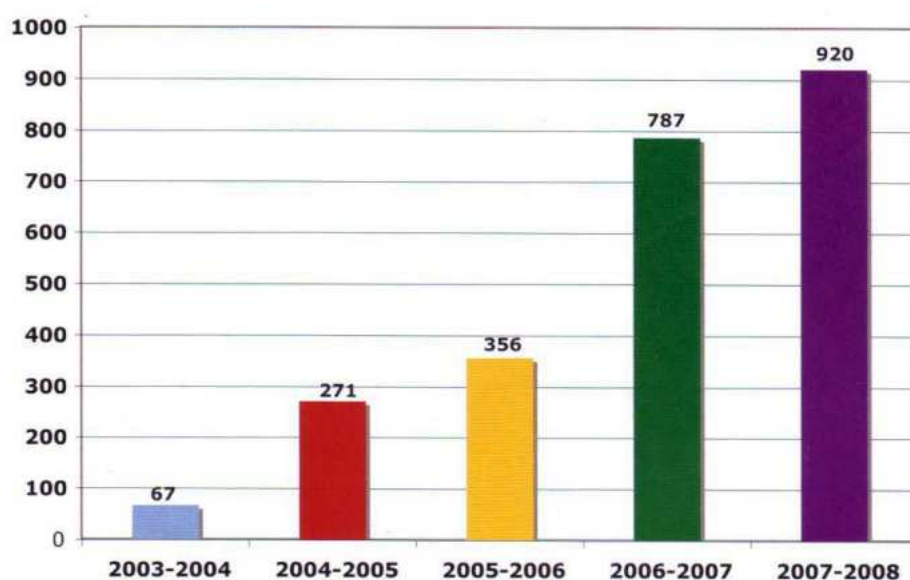


Figure 1: Increase in Students supported by Tarayana

Dzongkhag wise breakdown of students supported by the Scholarship Programme

Sl. No.	Dzongkhag	No. of Schools	Boys	Girls	Total
1	Bumthang	5	6	7	12
2	Chhukha	5	7	12	19
3	Dagana	1	1	-	1
4	Gasa	1	1	-	1
5	Haa	7	16	15	31
6	Lhuentse	3	3	2	5
7	Mongar	4	6	7	13
8	Paro	7	7	9	16
9	Punakha	5	4	3	7
10	Samdrupjongkhar	1	1	1	2
11	Samtse	2	67	44	111
12	Sarpang	3	-	4	4
13	Thimphu	8	10	11	21
14	Trashigang	6	27	25	52
15	Trashiyangtse	4	3	6	9
16	Trongsa	13	78	107	185
17	Tsirang	1	2	1	3
18	Wangdue	8	141	164	305
19	Zhemgang	18	68	54	122
	Total	102	448	472	920

Apart from these students, Tarayana supports ten special needs students in higher grades on a case by case basis depending on their circumstances. The Foundation has helped place some of the student beneficiaries in relevant boarding schools in the country. Tarayana continues to liaise between students and donors and help with the disbursement of scholarships as per the request of the donors.

Goal 3 : Support needy patients in receiving medical care

The Restorative Surgical Camp 2007 was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and with technical expertise from Dr. Jack Demos and his team from Surgicorp, USA. Over the week, seventy one procedures were carried out benefiting many poor patients who would not have been able to get such medical treatment otherwise. Tarayana provided the logistical support to all the patients and their escorts coming from all the remote corners of the country.



Members of the SurgiCorp attending to a patient after operation

Tarayana would like to acknowledge the support received from all the people who made the camp successful. Our special appreciation goes to the national doctors, nurses and volunteers who worked exceedingly hard. We also thank the management of Zhiwaling Hotel, Paro.

Tarayana has helped poor patients get back home after their treatment at the Referral Hospitals in the country. The provision of travel grant has enabled poor patients to reach home safely after their treatment.



President of the Foundation visits with patient after surgery

The 2008 annual restorative surgical camp is underway as this report goes to press. The Ministry of Health has been most supportive in making the camp a success, providing all facilities including the services of doctors and increased nursing staff during the camp.

Sonam Yanden Smiles Again

Sonam Yanden is a 13 year old girl from Panglen village, Thangrong geog, Mongar. She is the youngest of the six children of Aap Sangay Thinley and Aum Tshering, who are both in their mid fifties. In December 2006, Sonam was on her way to the Non Formal Education class when she was unfortunately mauled by a bear. She lost her nose and upper lips completely and part of her left cheek. After the incident she was referred to Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital (JDWNRH). In May 2007, during the restorative surgical camp organized by Tarayana, Sonam underwent a major surgery which took three highly skilled surgeons about four hours to reconstruct her nose and upper lips. In January 2008 she was referred to Sri Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi for further surgery and care. Dr. Ashwini Chopra and Dr. R Khazanchi from Sri Ganga Ram Hospital facilitated the surgery and medical supervision of the patient. Ms Pema Lhamo volunteered as the care giver. Sonam Yangden is in Delhi for the next phase of her treatment as this report goes to press. She still has to undergo a few more rounds of surgery before the full reconstruction is completed. The air tickets for Sonam and Pema were sponsored by Mr. Deepak Tamang of Raven Travel Services and Mr. Tandin Tshewang of Yak Adventures. For her current trip to Delhi, both the air tickets are sponsored by Windhorse Travel Adventures. We gratefully acknowledge their kindness in giving Sonam a new lease on life.

Goal 4 : Promote relevant artisan skills to enhance rural income

Activity 1 : Establishment of Tarayana Craft Centres

Tarayana Craft Centre

There has been some delay in the completion of the Tarayana Craft Centre. It is hoped that the construction will be complete by June 2008. The Centre, built with the financial support of the Jai Prakash Group of Companies, will house the secretariat as well as all the artisan craft workshops, community resource centre, exhibition galleries, and a multipurpose hall. The procurement of the furniture has been possible with financial support from Mrs. Serena Chopra, a dependable Tarayana donor. The Centre will attract both tourists and locals for educational as well as recreational purposes. They will also be invited to volunteer in the many programmes that will be organized at the Centre.

Kalapong Craft Centre

This centre is being developed as the Cane and Bamboo Centre and the preliminary planning has been completed. 'Yula' and other bamboo species of commercial value will be planted around the Centre. Though funds mobilization for this Centre has been slow, some progress has been made in this direction. This site is located at the entrance into lower Mongar and will be an important center to disseminate improved techniques in the cane and bamboo handicraft development as well as in championing the use of bamboo as a an alternative to timber.

Pottery Training Centre

The ground work for the construction of this training centre at Tongtongphey, Langthel, Trongsa is complete. Two Monpa youth trained in traditional pottery are currently making pots for both local use as well as for sale in Thimphu during the annual fairs. There is provision for the inclusion of a small ceramics unit at the Centre to train rural youth in various pottery skills. The site in Trongsa is centrally located and we anticipate many youth will come forward to learn this skill and become self-employed.



Tarayana Field Officer with Dak Community Members at the Cane and Bamboo workshed



Potters at work in Tongtongphey, Trongsa

Activity 2 : Promote skills of artisans

The Olep community has also been trained in basic carpentry and masonry, skills which can be used to improve their houses. Though there are 18 households in Rukha village, only three families had managed to construct permanent houses while the rest of the villagers lived in small huts made of bamboo mats and wooden planks.

In early 2007 the Foundation stepped in to provide decent living space and has now completed 12 of the 15 houses to be constructed. Through this UNV/UNDP funded project the community has gained access to education and skills to generate cash income, improve nutrition, health and sanitation. Women play equal role in all community development initiatives. With gender equality maintained in all the activities of the project, it also enabled them to revive their traditional handicraft skills. The construction of a community workshed has been initiated. The community members have also started organic farming practice through the technical assistance of our field staff

Tarayana Rural Crafts

The Foundation opened “Tarayana Rural Crafts” a small shop on Norzin Lam, to market the artisan craft products coming in from our core communities. The Olep community of Wangdi produce Smoked fish (Nga Doseam), the Endocholing Mandips of Trongsa produce candles and soap, Nettle weaving in Baling and Pottery in Tongtonphey. Cane and Bamboo products are made by the Silambi Kheng self help groups, and Daphne paper products by the Lhops in Samtse.

These products are sold directly by the community or self help representatives at the Annual Tarayana Fair and through the National Craft Festival. Tarayana sponsors all logistical support for these groups to bring their product to the fairs. These fairs give the artisans the sales market and valuable feedback to help improve the product quality and also a gain better understanding of consumer taste and demand.



Community members being trained in Carpentry at Rukha, Wangduephodrang



Natural and Eco friendly farming at Rukha, Wangduephodrang

During the rest of the year, the “Tarayana Rural Crafts”, provide a marketing space for the products sent in from the various communities. The sales proceeds are sent back to the communities thus helping them earn cash income throughout the year. The principal of fair price is followed ensuring that the artisans receive their due.

In the past year many villagers have been trained in product design and development, standardizations, marketing and product handling, storage and packaging. Trial marketing of some select products were carried out in markets outside the country. Various volunteers and monitoring missions have also looked at the processes adopted by these self help groups and helped strengthen them through their inputs and observations.

Activity 3 : Implementation of GEF-Small Grants Programme funded project in Silambi Geog

The SGP funded project “**Regeneration of Cane and Bamboo species in Silambi geog**” was started in the Silambi Kheng area last year. Basic bamboo and cane worksheds have been built in the villages of Dak, Nagor, Gyelgaon and Broksar in Mongar. The villagers have benefited substantially from selling bamboo products and there has also been an improvement in the product quality. The worksheds also provide community space for meeting and other local activities. Further four solar light sets were distributed to these worksheds so that the villagers can work at night when they have finished their work in the fields. Basket weaving skills development was also undertaken in all the work sheds. Master craftsmen were identified and their products were set as examples of quality products to be followed by the others.

One acre nursery was set up in Nagor to raise the cane and bamboo planting materials. Seven acres Yula and one acre cane plantation was taken up in Nagor; four acres Yula and one acre cane each in Dak and Gyelgaon. There were two marketing visits to Thimphu during the Tarayana Fair in May 2007 and in August 2007. The production of cane and bamboo products is in full swing. One house was constructed in Salipong village for a mentally challenged beneficiary. Corrugated Galvanised Iron sheets were provided to two poor households. Natural and ecological vegetable farming practices have also been introduced in the area and more households are now growing vegetables for consumption.



Cane and bamboo weavers of Nagor, Mongar



Cane and bamboo weavers of Gyelgaon, Mongar

Activity 4 : The Semi-literate rural women solar electrifying their own villages in Bhutan Project

The Semi-literate rural women solar electrifying their own villages in Bhutan project, is being implemented in collaboration with the Department of Energy, The Barefoot College, Tilonia, Rajasthan. Tarayana helped with the identification of the villages as well as with the selection of the women for their 6 months training in Tilonia. The Barefoot College of Rajasthan believes in identifying traditional knowledge, skills and practical wisdom and facilitating them apply it for their own development.

Twenty four women from eight Dzongkhags have completed a six months training programme at the College, while the second batch of twelve young ladies are in the process of completing their training. The training ensured that the participants learnt the various theoretical concepts of solar panel lighting and practical application of this knowledge and how to set up a rural electrical workshop. They are now back in their respective villages and are in the process of facilitating the fabrication and installation of solar lighting units for 200 households in 20 villages.

This is a project that has multiple stakeholders and key players. The Rural Electrification Division of the Department of Energy is involved, with technical backstopping from The Barefoot College, Tarayana works at the village level with the 'Barefoot Solar Engineers'. Our engagement with this group revolves round the processes of empowerment, group formation and social mobilization and also to work in smoothening out any implementation hitches in the actual village electrification activities. The 'Association of the Semi-Literate Rural Women Solar Barefoot Engineers' has been formed. Office bearers were already selected from amongst the group and activities are already underway to get the villages electrified now that the first consignments of necessary supplies and parts have arrived. Mr. Laxman Singh and Mr. Dorji are the direct counterpart from the Barefoot College. Tarayana's engagement is covered under a special GEF-SGP project that has leveraged a larger fund for village solar electrification. This SGP funded project was started in December 2007 and will benefit twenty five villages in eight Dzongkhag.

Activity 5 : The Rai-Bekar Foundation Funded Project

The Rai-Bekar Foundation funded project "Preservation of Culture and Tradition: The Dzongs and Chortens' Colour Sketch Book and Etchings" was started in March 2007. The main objective of the project is to help preserve our cultural heritage enshrined in the Dzongs and promote better understanding of the roles they play in the lives of all Bhutanese. The artist will donate the artwork to the Foundation and the sketch book as well as the box of etchings depicting the Dzongs and Chortens will be marketed and exhibited in fairs and exhibitions to generate funds. These funds will be ploughed back into the Tarayana Fund to address issues of poverty amongst the vulnerable communities. The artist had completed the artwork and Foundation is working on the final production. The mock-up is being prepared by Harrington and Squares, UK.

Activity 6 : The Dutch Embassy Funded Project

The Dutch Embassy funded project "Cultural Preservation of Indigenous Communities" was implemented in the Monpa community in Langthel geog, Trongsa and the Olegpa community in Athang geog, Wangduephodrang. The project was started on 1st Oct, 2006. The need for the project was felt as Tarayana had been working with these communities since 2003 and it soon became apparent that documentation both in film and print was necessary so that the ethnic knowledge and way of life can be recorded. These are small communities with vast knowledge of their environment. It is essential to document their ethno-botanical knowledge before the tide of development reduces their dependence on these natural resources and gradually erode this traditional knowledge.

The Foundation worked in collaboration with the National Agro-bio diversity Centre, Park Officials and the community for data/specimen collection. Besides this, sample specimens for the National Herbarium have also been collected from the Monpa villages in July 2006 and from the Olegpa villages in September 2006. A book on the ethno-botanical knowledge is being put together for publication. Tarayana also collaborated with Chenrizig Communications to produce a documentary film on the ways of the communities with particular reference to their cultural heritage, management of natural resources and socio-economic development. Both the above task will be complete in 2008.

Pilot Project: Biogas in Silambi and Gongue Gewogs

A pilot project bio-digester was constructed in Nagor, Silambi Gewog in Mongar Dzongkhag. Villagers in Nagor currently have to travel for up to 3 hours to collect firewood, in the absence of improved fuel efficient stoves, the smoke is hazardous to health and the high per capita consumption of firewood is contributing to deforestation. Biogas is composed of mainly methane and carbon dioxide providing a clean burning alternative. It is produced through the biological breakdown by bacteria of organic matter, mainly livestock dung, in a low oxygen environment. Due to the remoteness of the region the technology was optimized to reduce cost and to limit the amount of goods that had to be brought through pack horse. The Construction of the pilot project was completed on April 14th, gas production is expected to be sufficient for use in 3 weeks. The project will enable tests to determine gas yields and allow for improvements to be made to the technology and construction process. It will further demonstrate and prove the effectiveness of the technology to the villagers, allowing for its dissemination throughout the Gewogs. The ultimate goal of the project is to construct hundreds of biodigesters in the area and allow for the technology to be disseminated throughout Bhutan. Funding through the purchase of carbon emission reduction credits is being pursued.



Nettle products from Baling, Trongsa



Spinning nettle yarn at Baling, Trongsa

Activity 7 : Nettle weaving

There has been an increase in the number of people interested in taking up nettle weaving activities both within Baling as well as in the nearby villages. Some of the other villages have started supplying the raw materials for the production of nettle fabrics. Product development has played a crucial role in increasing the sale of the nettle fabric. Amankora continues to buy the bed runners while small coin purses and pencil cases are being purchased directly from the Tarayana Rural Crafts by both tourists as well as by the locals.

Activity 8 : Alternative Livelihood for Indigenous Community

The Alternative Livelihood for Indigenous Community is another small project supported by the SGP in Rukha under Wandue Dzongkhag. This project provides the community with eco friendly technology to reduce the dependency on firewood and the forest. It also supports the community to control land degradation and alleviate poverty by providing opportunities for enhanced income and improve the quality of life through cleaner technology. This Project also enables the Oleps to practice their age old tradition in making *Nga Dosem* that will also earn them some cash income. Through this project, villages nearby Rukha will also be provided with solar lanterns which will substitute their usage of kerosene lamps and resin barks extracting from the pine trees.

Activity 9 : Literary Activity

The Foundation held a nationwide poetry competition to commemorate the Centenary Celebrations of the Monarchy by inviting entries on the "Golden Reign of the Fourth Druk Gyalpo, His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck". The response was very good with entries coming from a diverse group of people ranging from students to teachers to office workers, depicting the love and respect for the Fourth King. Her Majesty, the Queen Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, awarded the prize to Kesang D. Wangmo for her poem "Beyond Praise" which was chosen as the winning poem. A compilation of the best poems submitted for the competition will be published by the Centenary and Coronation Celebration Committee. These books will be distributed to the schools and libraries in the country.



Award presented to poetry competition winner

Goal 5 : Improve socio-economic security of vulnerable communities

Housing improvement has picked up as an important programme in securing the day-to-day wellbeing of the small communities. It has been proved beyond doubt that having a safe roof over the head allows for the individual members to begin engaging in other developmental initiatives.



A traditional Olep house



Improved Housing for the Olep Community

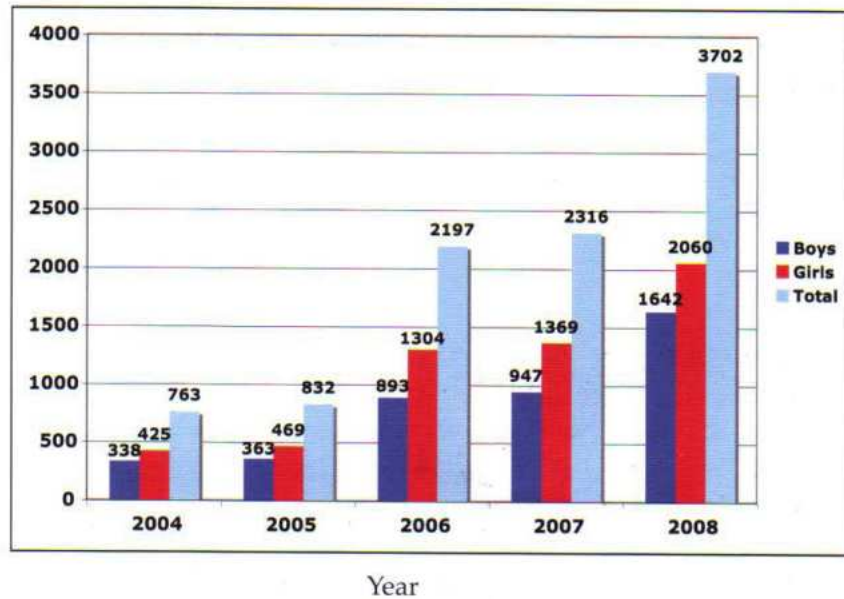
Goal 6 : Make Tarayana an organisation of compassionate professionals

The Tarayana School Clubs were first introduced in the schools in 2004 with the objective of instilling the spirit of volunteerism among the youth of Bhutan. Volunteerism is the core message espoused by the Tarayana School Club. There are 75 Tarayana School Clubs as of April 2008 in 19 Dzongkhags, with a volunteer population of 3702 students, of which 2060 are girls and 1642 boys. The surge in the number of Tarayana Clubs is due to the multiplier effect of the club members graduating from the National College of Education, Paro, who have gone as teachers to all corners of the country.

It is heartening to note that the Club activities have been spread out to all school levels starting from Community Primary Schools to the College of Education Paro as well as in Samtse.

Distribution of Tarayana School Clubs across the Country

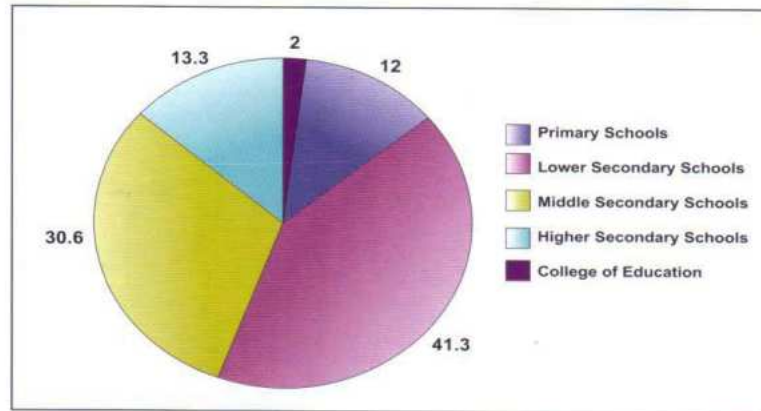
Dzongkhag	No.of Clubs	Dzongkhag	No.of Clubs
Bumthang	2	Samdrupjongkhar	1
Chhukha	8	Sarpang	2
Dagana	1	Trashigang	3
Haa	1	Trashiyangtse	7
Lhuentse	4	Thimphu	11
Mongar	4	Tsirang	5
Paro	2	Trongsa	1
Pemagatshel	1	Wangdue	6
Punakha	3	Zhemgang	4
Samtse	9	Total	75



Total Number of Tarayana Club Members Yearwise

Tarayana School Club Activities

Sl. #	Activities
1	Sponsoring students to enable them to continue their studies by:
a	Paying school fees; supply uniform; stationery; toiletries and pocket money
b	Admitting them in the hostel as boarders
c	Supply of ration for unofficial boarders
d	Payment of higher education school fees
2	Assistance to senior citizens and economically deprived families:
a	Financial help for old people and disabled children
b	Repairing and constructing living quarters for these beneficiaries
c	Rendering assistance to these families during plantation and harvest time
d	Rendering medical assistance to the senior citizens
e	Spending time with the senior citizens
f	Distributing clothes to deprived families
g	Establishing income generating activities
3	Awareness and cleaning campaigns:
a	Dissemination of the Tarayana philosophy to the communities through their work
b	Execution of cleaning campaigns; planting flowers
c	Adoption of chortens and lhakhangs for maintenance
d	Regular blood donation
e	Production of films and audio cassettes on the Tarayana philosophy
f	Raising awareness through write ups in school magazine
g	Creating awareness of diseases like HIV / AIDs
h	Vegetable gardening
4	Promotion of Artisan skills
a	Learn traditional artisan skills from elders
b	Display of the products at school fairs, fetes, etc.



Institutional coverage of the Tarayana School Clubs

As part of the Tarayana School Clubs Programme, the Foundation organized a workshop on Promotion of Volunteerism in Rural Community Development through Tarayana School Clubs in Samtse from 21st Dec 2007 to 2nd Jan 2008. The aims of the workshop were to:

- Share, explain and evaluate the participant's own experiences in promoting volunteerism
- Develop genuinely usable leadership skills and experiences with special reference to - Communication skills; organization and management of programmes; team work; conflict management; critical and creative thinking
- Design and adopt a suitable club management protocol
- Practice the skills learned together in a way that ensures they are able to apply their learning and make real progress in their skills

The participants identified the following as major issues they face as members of the club:

- Difficulties of fundraising/lack of funds
- Community perceptions of Tarayana Foundation
- Identification of genuine /deserving beneficiaries
- Reluctance of student beneficiaries to ask for/ accept help
- Time factors in completing projects



Group activity in session at the Winter workshop, Samtse.



House construction for Gazey Lham and her brother by workshop participants



House construction nearing completion on the 3rd day, Lotukuchu, Samtse. Gzey Lham and her brother Sonam Tshering in their new house.

The Tarayana Club Coordinator and a student representative each from 65 clubs attended the workshop. A total of 136 people participated in the workshop. The workshop provided lessons on Communication skills and conflict resolution, Time management skills, Presentation skills, Leadership skills and Empathizing and Confidentiality skills. A part of developing practical skills the participants worked in groups, applying what they learnt, to carry out a survey as well as to construct a two roomed house for two orphan siblings in three days.

The evaluation of the workshop was very positive and it was proposed that such sessions be held on an annual basis. All the objectives set out were accomplished within the workshop stipulated timeframe.

The Honorable Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Aum Sangay Zam graced the concluding session and issued certificates to the participants and guest facilitators and encouraged the participants to carry on the good work of community service as part of wholesome development of the students. A message from the Hon'ble President was also read out to the participants.

It is heartening to note that the Club activities have been spread out to all school levels starting from Community Primary Schools to the College of Education Paro as well as in Samtse.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Activity 1 : Tarayana Fair 2007 (4-7 May)

The 4th Annual Tarayana Fair was organized at the Clock Tower Square from 4 to 6 May 2007. The guest of honour was Her Royal Highness Ashi Kesang Wangmo Wangchuck. The fair featured game stalls, a silent auction, jumble sale, a snacks bar and an information centre. The crowd was thrilled with some of the new games that had been ordered from Kolkata. The volunteers who assisted in the stalls were PGDPA, Royal Institute of Management trainees and other young professionals. The star attraction was the rural crafts stall which earned a substantial amount of money for the artisans from the core communities. Representatives from the communities along with the project field staff exhibited and marketed their products. The Tarayana Annual Fair is one of the major events where community people sell their products and learn about the types of products desired in the market. A dinner was hosted by the Hon'ble President for all the volunteers on 7 May at Wangchuk Resort where certificates of appreciation were also awarded. The net profit from the Fair '07 was Nu 200407.



The Chief Guest, HRH Ashi Kesang Wangmo Wangchuck at the Fair

Activity 2 : Fundraising Sales

a) Sale of post cards:

Tarayana continued with the sale of postcards donated by Ms. Serena Chopra and UNICEF.

b) Tara-thon

Tara-thon was the brainchild of two Sherubtse College lecturers, Mr. Tony Smith-Robinson and Ms. Nadya Ladouceur. With eleven students from the college, they organized a run from Trashigang to Thimphu to raise funds for the scholarship programme. With donations from outside and within the country, the Tara-thon team raised Nu. 568,259.00 for the Tarayana Scholarship Endowment Programme.

c) Sale of Books:

A photography book, 'Bhutan: A Certain Modernity' by Ms Serena Chopra was launched on 6th of September, 2007 in Folk Heritage Museum and 50% of sale proceeds were donated to the Foundation.

d) Sale of shoes:

Mr. Matthias Beck, Mr. Thorsten Hein and their group donated 3665 pairs of Elefatan shoes. 995 pairs were distributed to students in remote schools and 1520 pairs were sold to raise funds as well as to cover the cost of transportation and distribution. The balance 1190 pairs of shoes that are in stock will be distributed during the course of the year to needy children.

e) **Royalty received:**

The royalty earned on the sale of the book 'Treasures of Bhutan' written by Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, and published by Penguin India, was donated to Tarayana as desired by the author. The first installment of the royalty for the "River that Ran Away" by Louise Dorji was also received from Cambridge University Press.

Support from Save the Children – USA (SCF)

The SCF continues to be one of the main donors in strengthening the Scholarship Endowment Fund. The activities supported by SCF has reduced slightly in the past year. However, it is envisaged that relevant children based projects will still be supported. Currently they are supporting the improvement of the packaging and marketing of the soap and candle products. A proposal submitted for setting up training centres for rural youth did not come through at the last moment although the concept had been approved.

Support from Helvetas

The first phase of Helvetas support covering three years (2005-2007) is over. An independent evaluation mission was fielded in Nov 2007. The findings of the mission were largely positive. The areas that needed strengthening were in improving documentation and sharing of our experiences. There was also a mention on the need to sharpen focus of what was being supported under Helvetas support. A second phase support was strongly recommended. A planning mission was fielded in Feb 2008 to work on the details of the second phase support.

Helvetas has been a steady partner in the development and growth of the Foundation. As of today Helvetas has committed another CHF 330,000/- for the next three years..



Tarayana Craft Centre under construction at Chubachu, Thimphu

FINANCIAL STATUS

Financial Status (May 1st, 2007-29th February, 2008)

A. <u>Donation/Project funds</u>	=	Nu.	20,447,249.51
B. <u>Fund Raising</u>			
1. Tarayana Fair	=	Nu.	211,320.00
2. Sale / Royalty from books	=	Nu.	41,813.00
3. TARA-THON	=	Nu.	568,259.00
4. Sale of Shoes	=	Nu.	929,475.00
C. <u>Interest received from Saving Account</u>	=	Nu.	17,416.29
D. <u>Fixed Deposit</u>			
Amount	=	Nu.	20,000,000.00
Interest Rate	=		2% P.A for 140 days
Maturity Date	=		25 April 2008
Maturity Amount	=	Nu.	20,153,080.00
E. <u>Share Holdings</u>			
Bhutan National Bank	=		4384 Numbers

(These shares were brought on 21st December 2006 at Nu. 650 per share and till date we have received dividend on 3rd April 2007 = Nu. 394,470.00)

F. <u>Expenditure : Core Fund Account</u>			
Furniture for the new Centre	=	Nu.	870,400.00
Maintenance Allowance	=	Nu.	1,048,900.00
Scholarship Programme	=	Nu.	2,447,445.75
Support to Taksha School	=	Nu.	409,479.00
Tarayana Fair expenses	=	Nu.	249,479.00
Purchase for Rural Crafts product for the shop	=	Nu.	156,856.00
Advances	=	Nu.	463,987.00
Special Support for groups	=	Nu.	55,457.00

Income & Expenditure for SCF, SGP, UNDP and Helvetas from 1st May 2007 till 29th February 2008

Sources	Balance of 2006 (Nu)	Total Release (Nu)	Amount Expensed (Nu)	Balance Amount (Nu)
Save the Children	972,937.58	1,651,000.00	2,210,189.15	413,748.43
SGP Project	784,950.00	695,100.00	698,094.00	781,956.00
UNDP Project	-	1,798,004.49	1,129,275.12	668,729.37
Helvetas	3,819,951.27	1,652,500.00	4,624,059	848,392.11
Tarayana Core Fund				9,601,751.30

* Note : Tarayana Annual Report is brought out in May each year while the Audit Report is available only by July/August.

Tarayana Foundation Accounts for the year ended 31.12.2006

Statement of Affairs (Balance Sheet) as at 31 Dec. 2006

	Schedule	2006 Nu.	2005 Nu.
Assets			
Fixed assets			
Office equipment	IX	50,257.60	64,332.40
Total Fixed Assets		50,257.60	64,332.40
Current assets			
Cash		64,892.00	32,867.00
Bank (Saving A/c)		8,029,588.86	929,651.49
Bank (SGP A/c)		795,883.15	
Bank (Helvetas A/c)		3,686,314.22	3,198,589.51
Bank -Fixed deposits		4,000,000.00	7,900,000.00
Advances	X	1,294,404.70	1,209,248.20
Shares		2,848,950.00	-
Prepaid Rent (property)		35,000.00	40,000.00
Total Current Assets		20,755,032.93	13,310,356.20
Less current liabilities			
Salary Tax		4,822.00	-
Provident Fund		12,548.00	-
Audit Recoveries		533.00	-
TDS Payable		652.00	4,836.00
Bills Payable	XI	121,370.46	587,047.26
Total Liabilities		139,925.46	591,883.26
Net Current Assets		20,615,107.47	12,718,472.94
Total Assets		20,665,365.07	12,782,805.34
Financed by:			
General Fund	XII	10,481,669.22	6,342,291.96
Endowment Fund		3,500,000.00	2,400,000.00
Deferred Income			
SCF/SGP/Helvetas -SDC	XIII	5,577,838.85	3,627,813.38
Relief Fund		412,700.00	412,700.00
Candle & Soap project	XIV	693,157.00	-
Total Deferred Income		6,683,695.85	4,040,513.38
Total Accumulated Fund		20,665,365.07	12,782,805.34

Prepared By:

Sonam Yangden

Sonam Yangden
Finance Officer
Tarayana Foundation

Approved By:

Chime P Wangdi

Chime P. Wangdi
Secretary General
Tarayana Foundation



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR MAY 2007 – APRIL 2008

2007

- 4th - 6th May Tarayana celebrates its fourth Foundation Day with a three day Fair held at the Clock Tower Square, Thimphu
- 12th - 20th May Restorative Surgical Camp Held in Paro, jointly organized with the Ministry of Health and with technical expertise from Surgicorp team lead by Dr. Jack Demos
- 18th May Dinner hosted by Zhiwaling for the surgical team and the volunteers. The Hon'ble President graced the occasion
- 19th May The Steering Committee Members of the Integrated Community Development for Poverty Alleviation: Olep Project visited Rukha to take stock of progress to date.
- 21st-24thMay Four staff led by the Director, Training Services, attended the four days training programme on Understanding the principles and practices of NGO and NGO governance in Thimphu.
- 9th June The Foundation announced a nationwide poetry competition to commemorate the Centenary Celebrations of the Monarchy, dedicated to the Fourth King, His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuk.
- 20th June The 87th session of the National Assembly enacted the Civil Society Organisation Act of Bhutan.
- 30thJune A day long coordination meeting was held at the Tarayana Rural Crafts for all personnel of the Foundation to review all the field activities and to smoothen and streamline processes and protocols.
- 4th July Yangbums and Lubums were placed at strategic sites within the the Tarayana Craft Centre, Chubachu (being constructed by Damchu Construction Company and financed by Japyee Group of Companies) the Zhung Zunglop of the Central Monastic Body in a simple traditional ceremony conducted at the construction site.
- 20th July The Executive committee members of the Foundation reviewed the draft Administrative and Financial Guidelines so as to align them to the Civil Society Organisations Act.
- 6th Sept The President of Tarayana Foundation inaugurated the black and white photo exhibition titled Bhutan: A Certain Modernity, by Ms. Serena Chopra at the Folk Heritage Museum.
- 18th Sept Four Field Officers of Tarayana attended a two week training in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India on various aspects of grassroots support with particular emphasis on organic farming for increased household income and improved nutrition.
- 10th Oct The President of Tarayana Foundation presided over the graduation ceremony for the Masters of Arts Degree, the Future Generations Graduate School of Applied Community Change and Conservation, at the Royal Conference Centre, Thimphu.
- 13th – 15th Oct Tarayana carried out a special sale of shoes and warm clothes at the Haa IMTRAT Mela
- 19th -25th Oct The Staff and representatives from the local community participated in the National Crafts Festival organised by the National Textile Museum, Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs in collaboration with Department of Labour and UNDP.
- 19th Oct-11th Nov Mr. Frank Chamberlain visits Tarayana Field sites in the capacity of an independent monitoring mission. He was accompanied by the Adm. Officer, from the Tarayana Secretariat. Ms. Yin-wah Ma and Ms. Gayley Yangzom also visited the Langthel project sites including a visit to Jangbi

6 th Nov	The 2 nd Steering Committee meeting for the Integrated Community Development for Poverty Reduction Project being implemented in Rukha was held to review the progress till date.
10 th -12 th Nov	Tarayana participated in the Children and Youth Festival (CYF) 2007, held at the Clock Tower Square, jointly organised by Kids Media Club, Youth Development Fund, Kuzoo FM, the New Theatre Company, UNICEF, Voluntary Art Studio of Thimphu (VAST), Department of Youth and Sports, National Commission for Women and Children and Tarayana Foundation.
17 th -18 th Nov	President of Raindrop Foundation, Dr. Pensak Chagsuchinda and Ms. Ngamwalaya Tasneeyanond visited Sha Tasha Primary School on behalf of Terre des Hommes, Denmark
21 st -24 th Nov	Ms. Dechenla Sherpa, independent evaluation mission fielded by Helvetas visited Rukha village. Ms Preeya and Mr. Mahesh Nair, short term volunteers, also visited Rukha during this mission.
23 rd Nov	Tarayana finalized the list of students to be supported through its Scholarship Endowment Fund.
24 th Nov	A special session of the Executive Committee meeting was held to update all the members of the various missions in place as well as the progress to date at the community sites.
1st - 5 th Dec	The Foundation organized a five day sale of shoes and clothes to raise funds towards the student scholarship programme.
7 th Dec - 24 th Jan'08	Two lecturers from Sherubtse College, Mr. Tony Robinson-Smith and Mme. Nadya Ladouceur along with 11 students organized a run, the Tarathon, from Trashigang to Thimphu to raise funds for the Tarayana Scholarship Endowment Programme.
17 th Dec	The President of Tarayana Foundation awarded the prize to Kesang D. Wangmo for her poem "Beyond Praise" which was chosen as the winning poem, at a simple ceremony held for the occasion.
21 st Dec - 2 nd Jan'08	The Foundation organized a two week Intensive Workshop on Promotion of Volunteerism in Rural Community Development through Tarayana School Clubs at the Samtse College of Education. The workshop was attended by 125 participants from 65 schools across the country.
29 th Dec	The independent review mission for the Helvetas support to the Foundation was completed with a very strong recommendation for the continuation of Helvetas support through a second phase project.
2008	
3 rd – 6 th Jan	Tarayana Retreat was held to review activities, progress and forward planning for the next five years
12 th – 16 th Feb	Prof. Anna Maria Riedi from Zurich University and Ms Tashi Pem, Chief Programme Officer visited Rukha as part of the Planning Mission input for the second phase support to Tarayana from Helvetas
26 th Apr - 6 th May	Tarayana in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and with technical input from Surgicorp, USA is organising the 2008 annual restorative surgical camp in Paro.



*Five years of
Service from the Heart
2003 ~ 2008*



(1) Carpentry training in Rukha village, Wangdue (2) Wangchuk Dema (right) a beneficiary with her family (3) Community members constructing a new house in Rukha (4) Consultations with community members (5) Recipients of clothes donated by Youngone Co. Ltd. Korea (6) Inauguration ceremony on completion of a new house in Rukha (7) Community members from Endocholing, Trongsa with their products at the Tarayana Fair 2007 (8) Beneficiary family in Rukha with Aum Choden (right), the last person able to speak Olep (9) Face painting was popular at the Tarayana Fair 2007 (10) Traditional folk music is an integral part of community life (11) President of Tarayana with some young participants at Tarayana Fair (12) Poster preparation at Tarayana Winter Workshop (13) Participants from Tarayans School Clubs attended the Winter Workshop (14) Pelzang, a club member and beneficiary from Sha Tasha Community Pry. School addresses the Winter Workshop (15) The Education Secretary graced the closing of the Winter Workshop.



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