



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

About RENEW	5
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OVERVIEW

RENEW's VISION & MISSION	6
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ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Internal Monitoring And Evaluation System	7
2. RENEW Strategic Plan 2019 -2023	8
3. Assessment of RENEW's Community Based Support System (CBSS) in Bhutan	9

UPSCALING ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS TO END GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

1. International Women's Day 2019.	11
2. International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women: Taking a stand against 'Rape'.	12
3. UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador's Advocacy for promotion of sexual reproductive health & rights (SRHR) of young people and prevention of GBV and harmful practices	13
4. Interaction with young monks and nuns on Life Skill Education focused on Sexuality Education at Pangrizampa, Thimphu.	14
5. Her Majesty leads the delegation to ICPD 25, Nairobi Summit.	15
6. Promoting Sexuality Education for Children.	15

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

1. Moving Domestic Violence Prevention Act 2013 into action	17
2. Moghi Mikhar: Coming Together On Media for Violence Free	18

STRENGTHENING PRODUCTION CAPABILITY

1. 66 participants certified as National Certified Counselor during 5th Bhutan Biennial Counseling Conference	22
2. 5th Biennial Bhutan Counseling Conference.	22
3. MSTF-CBSS Annual Conference : Reaching Out Together.	23
4. 3rd DAISAN Annual Camp held in Tsirang	24
5. Comprehensive Sexuality education for young people.	25
6. Training of Trainers on Consensus Building Initiative (CBI) program.	26
7. Mobilizing champions in the monastic institutions for continued campaigns on Comprehensive Sexuality Education based Life Skill Education.	28
8. Creating Redress Mechanism to Response to GBV in communities with the help of MSTF-CBSS members and Religious Heads.	29
9. Extending Tsechu Garcham Gyi Shepa project to grassroots.	30
10. Mobilization of community volunteers in Tsirang to promote safe and healthy family	30
11. Training of trainers for youth volunteers and school coordinators on Child Protection & Participation.	31
12. Sensitization Workshop for Religious Leaders from the southern part of Bhutan.	32

RENEW SERVICES

1. Reported cases in RENEW Crisis Center.	34
2. Client distribution based on dzongkhags for RENEW and GHH.	34
3. Number of Legal Aid provided at renew crisis center.	35
4. Number of Medical Services provided at Static Clinic RENEW Crisis Center	35
5. Number of Clients at Gawailing happy home.	36
6. Number of Medical Services provided at Gawailing Happy Home.	36
7. Beneficiaries of GHH month wise for 2019.	37
8. RENEW Scholarship supported by Australian Himalayan Foundation.	38
9. Economic Empowerment through livelihood skills training supported by Fida International.	38
10. Types of Livelihood Skills Training provided at Gaiwailing Vocational Training Center.	40
11. Community Based Support System.	43
12. MSTF-CBSS Reaching Out Together at Community Level	44
13. Financial Statement	46
14. Circle of Compassion 2019.	47
15. Partnership.	48




ABOUT RENEW

Empowering women means enabling roughly half of a country's population to play a positive roles towards the development of the country. Gender inequalities, especially Gender-Based Violence, Domestic Violence, and Sexual Harassment have been some of the major reasons that has suppressed the development of women in Bhutan.

Active since 2004 in Bhutan, Respect, Educate, Nurture, Empower Women (RENEW) is a non-profit organization established by Her Majesty the Queen Mother Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck to empower families affected by Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence, with a special focus on the vulnerable women and children. The first and only NGO of its kind in Bhutan, RENEW has been working tirelessly to provide multi-dimensional services to survivors of Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence with a specific focus on women and children.

RENEW has volunteer groups known as CBSS (Community Based Support System) and DAISAN (Druk Adoloscet's Initiative on Sexual Awareness Network). RENEW is committed to identifying new methods and meaningful ways to nurture, support and empower women and children.

RENEW is pleased to bring out its annual report for the year 2019 as part of its achievement.




Major General Chimi Dorji
Chief of Police, RBP



Aum Kunzang Lhamu
Director, NCWC

Board Members



Dr. Ugen Dophu
Secretary,
Ministry of Health



Dasho Sonam Tobgay
MD, Jigme Mining



Dasho Thinley Namgyel
Secretary, GNHC



Mr. Tashi Tshering
Director, Lhaki Group of
Companies

VISION

*A Just Equitable and
Happy Society*

MISSION

*To empower disadvantaged women and
children in Bhutan and integrate them
back into their own communities as
independent, socially and economically
productive members of the society*

**ORGANIZATIONAL
CAPACITY
DEVELOPMENT**

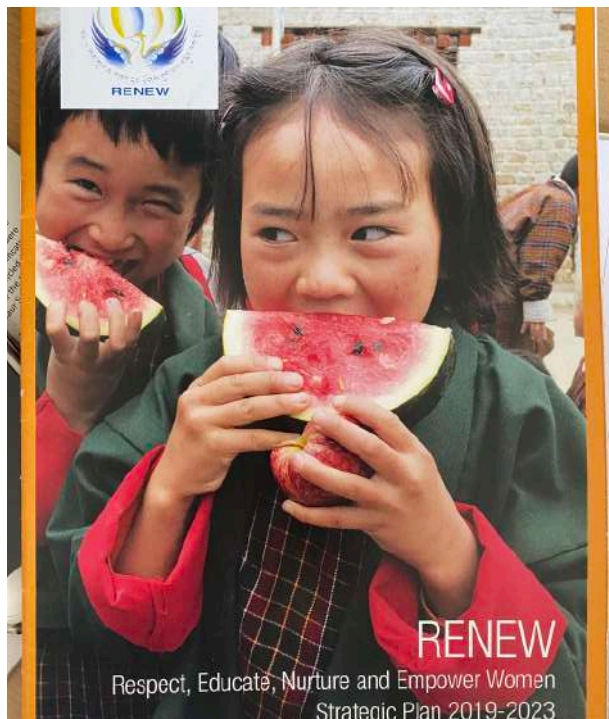
Internal Monitoring and Evaluation System

To strengthen and enhance monitoring and evaluation system (MEIMS)¹ in RENEW, a five-day training for RENEW staff was organised from 24th- 31st March 2019 with the financial support from IPPF. Mr. Suchira Suranga, Sr. Technical Advisor, IPPF SARO, was invited to conduct the training. During the training, the staff identified additional features of the systems to generate reports for internal and external communication for consistency conveniently.



RENEW staff with Mr. Suranga, Technical advisor, IPPF

1. To improve monitoring and evaluation process to track RENEW programs and services, the Monitoring and Evaluation Information Management System (MEIMS) was initiated in 2018 with support IPPF SARO



RENEW Strategic Plan 2019-2023

RENEW has its five-year Strategic Plan to be implemented commencing from 2019. It was the outcome of the consultative meeting with each department/unit in the organization and with the key stakeholders and development partners, including MSTF-CBSS members from all 20 districts. The plan was finalized, keeping in line with the NRKAs (National Result Key Areas) and SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) to ensure effective implementation of the activities towards achieving the national goal.

Assessment of RENEW's Community Based Support System (CBSS) in Bhutan

RENEW was established in response to the needs of the vulnerable population facing gender-based violence, including sexual abuse. Since its inception, it has witnessed an increasing number of reported cases of domestic violence and sexual gender-based violence. One of the essential services RENEW focuses is prevention through advocacy, awareness, and training. One of the strategies RENEW finds most useful is the mobilization of community volunteers. Towards this, the Community Based Support System (CBSS) was initiated in 2005 throughout 20 districts. CBSS has been in active operation in all 20 districts for a span ranging from 9-15 years now. RENEW has received positive feedback with regards to the presence of CBSS in the communities and was encouraged to strengthen the network.

RENEW had first assessment study to find its effectiveness and challenges in the first five districts way back in 2015. This year's 2nd assessment study covering all 20 districts, was conducted with financial support from UNDP, IPPF, UNICEF and technical support from Australian Himalayan Foundation. The study also found that 90 percent of the respondents reported attending to different cases, significantly relating to physical violence. Over three in five clients contacted their members in person or over the phone to seek support.

However, the study also found that 50 percent of the members did not receive any training and, therefore, face significant challenges in dealing with various forms of violence. Besides, CBSS faces the challenge of weak monitoring and coordination, financial constraint, and insufficient time on the part of members.

Recognizing that addressing DV/SGBV¹ is a long-term development challenge, it has been strongly recommended that RENEW and relevant agencies need to build strong partnerships to foster strategic investment. Furthermore, to strengthen CBSS, RENEW needs to consider reviewing the current functional arrangement of CBSS and its memberships, enhancing the capacity of CBSS, incentivizing members through reward and recognition, and integrating some of its activities in the yearly plans of local government.

1. DV/SGBV – Domestic violence/Sexual Gender Based Violence

**UPSCALING ADVOCACY
AND
AWARENESS
TO END GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE**

International Women's Day 2019

RENEW collaborated with the National Textile Museum (NTM) under the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, the National Commission for Women and Children (NCWC), and the Royal Textile Academy (RTA) to celebrate International Women's Day, 2019. This year's theme was "Celebrating Women Artisan and celebrating International women's day – Think Equal, Build Smart, Innovate for Change". It was a three-day festival where our women artisans displayed and sold their products at the Centenary Park in Thimphu.

Her Royal Highness, Gyalsem Ashi Chimi Yangzom Wangchuck, graced the occasion as the guest of honour. The members present were newly elected Prime Minister, cabinet ministers and eminent Members of Parliament, Government Officials, UN dignitaries, and CSOs fraternity.

The highlights of the event were the launching of the report of the first comprehensive national survey on the prevalence of Violence Against Women & Girls in Bhutan carried out by NCWC with support from Austrian Development Cooperation (ACD) & UNDP. The report revealed that 1 in 3 women aged between 15-49 were likely to experience at least one act of violence in her lifetime.



Her Royal Highness Gyalsem Ashi Chimi Yangzom Wangchuck with the distinguished guests and dignitaries



APIC products on display at the Souvenir shop

Furthermore, 1 in 5 women aged 15-19 was more likely to experience all three forms of violence. The report also showed that the prevalence of violence among women aged 15-49 is significantly higher in rural areas (1 in 3) than in urban (1 in 5). The study showed that lack of financial autonomy of women put them at risk of economic violence and other abuses, especially in the rural areas.

The textile festival was a gesture to celebrate women's achievements and contributions to the country's economic development through their craftsmanship. It was also a platform for them to showcase their skills and exchange knowledge with other women artisans from different dzongkhags. Eight women artisans representing eight dzongkhags (Samdrupjongkhar, Trashigang, Trashiyangtse, Zhemgang, Trongsa, Haa, Paro, and Punakha) were invited to participate in the program with their products ranging from bamboo products to woven cloths and woodcrafts. They went back motivated and committed to enhancing their skills.

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women: Taking a stand against 'Rape'.

This year during the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25th November 2019, RENEW organized the event with the theme 'Orange the world: Generation equality stands against rape.' RENEW was joined by members of the parliament and officials from key agencies – NCWC, RBP, JDWNRH, and CBSS-MSTF, DAISAN members. Every year, globally, the day serves as an excellent platform to remind people to reflect on the injustices that continue to be committed against women and girls all over the world. RENEW, and its key partners presented the issue of rising domestic violence and sexual abuse cases among women and children in Bhutan.

An awareness animation video clip titled "Acho Khegpa," produced by RENEW was screened during the event. The video shed light on the prevalence of child sexual abuse and aims to empower young children with knowledge and skills to identify and report abuse.



Opening remarks by Aum Kunzang Lhamu, Director, NCWC.



UN address on IDEVAW by Ms. Azusa Kubota, Resident Representative, UNDP



GOKAB dance group

To inspire and encourage people, especially the silent victims/survivors of violence to speak out, youth dancers from the group GOKAB performed the one billion rising dance anthem, 'Break the Chain.' This performance was a continuation of the commitment to One Billion Rising, a global campaign initiated in 2012 to end rape and sexual violence against women.

The program concluded with a strong national commitment from the government representatives and stakeholders to continue supporting the effort in addressing violence against women and girls in Bhutan through enhanced systems and services

UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador's Advocacy for promotion of sexual reproductive health & rights (SRHR) of young people and prevention of GBV and harmful practices



Her Majesty the Gyalum Sangay Choden Wangchuck with Dr. Natalia Kanem, ED of UNFPA.

More than 600 youth and adolescents from five schools and training institutions in Punakha had an audience with Her Majesty, the Queen Mother Sangay Choden Wangchuck, the UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador on the 25th of October 2019. The Executive Director(ED) of UNFPA, Dr. Natalia Kanem, joined the Royal entourage to the school. UNFPA has been one of the primary development partners of RENEW in promoting reproductive health and rights and the prevention of gender-based violence in the country.

During the program, the youth raised their concerns and issues on SRHR through a powerful skit presented by Ugyen Academy students. The 15-minute storytelling highlighted the challenges faced by young people: from teenage pregnancy, divorce, depression, suicide, molestation, harassment to rape. The skit revolved around self-love and confidence, the need for safety, sex- education. The students reiterated the need to remove the stigma attached to them so that they could share the problems.

The advocacy team well received the concerns raised, and Her Majesty reminded young people of their responsibility for their health and well-being. Her Majesty thanked the UNFPA ED for her presence and for their unstinted support and valuable contribution in realizing the social and health priorities of Bhutanese people.



Her Majesty the Gyalum with students from Ugyen Academy, Punakha.



Her Majesty the Gyalum with Dr. Natalia Kanem, ED of UNFPA and Minister of Health, Dechen Wangmo.

Interaction with young monks and nuns on Life Skill Education focused on Sexuality Education at Pangrizampa, Thimphu.



Dr. Natalia Kanem and UNFP Staff with the monks and nuns at Pangrizampa

On 24th October 2019, Dr. Natalia Kanem, Executive Director of UNFPA, during her brief visit to Bhutan, had extensive interaction with 200 young monks and nuns on the impact made by Life Skill Education Training. Such interaction, especially on sex education, was the first time for many nuns and monks.

A nun from eastern Bhutan shared that before attending the LSE training, menstrual hygiene in her nunnery was rarely talked about and given the least priority due to inadequate information. After the LSE training, as committed, she continues her effort as an advocate for sensitizing her peers and community on menstrual hygiene.

A monk teacher shared that after attending the LSE training, he could communicate better with his students because of the skills acquired from the training. He also shared how he was able to save a student from committing suicide.

Likewise, the participants shared their experiences and expressed their gratitude for LSE training provided to them.

Key Achievements:

- Challenges of SRHR faced in the monastic institution were made aware of relevant stakeholders.
- Encouraged meaningful participation and youth-adult partnership.
- LSE has been well-received by the young monks and nuns and has requested continued support.

Her Majesty leads the delegation to ICPD 25, Nairobi Summit

Her Majesty, the Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck led the high-level delegation to attend the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) at the Nairobi Summit from 12-14 November, 2019. Twenty-four delegates from Bhutan included the Health Minister, officials from the Ministry of Health, officials from UNFPA, country office, CSO representatives, and youth representatives.

Her Majesty delivered a statement at the high-level session on Women Leaders Dialogue. She also shared the achievements and challenges faced in promoting Sexual Reproductive health and rights in Bhutan.

Bhutan made commitments to continue putting efforts to ensure safe maternal health, promote family planning and sexual reproductive health and right. Commitments were also made to prevent violence against women and girls, promote gender equality, ensure budgeting for the ICPD Programme of Action to achieve SDGs, and harness the demographic dividend at the Nairobi summit.

The platform was a source of inspiration for youth who committed their active participation in promoting what they learned to their friends through the YPEER network.



Her Majesty the Gyalyum receiving award for her role as UNFPA Good-Will Ambassador

The summit marks the 25th anniversary of the ICPD. The first summit was held in Cairo in 1994, where 179 governments adopted a farsighted plan for advancing human wellbeing by placing the reproductive and sexual health needs of women and men at the center of the development plan rather than numerical population targets.

The Nairobi Summit on the International Conference on Population and Development drew a clear path to transform the world for women and girls. Her Majesty was presented with an award for her role as the Good-will Ambassador of UNFPA for the past 20 years.

Promoting Sexuality Education for Children

RENEW participated as one of the reviewers and subject expert during the incorporation of sexuality education (SE) components for classes IV-VI. During the incorporation, RENEW was able to contribute to the Ministry's noble effort to introduce sexuality education to young people or school youth through the technical and financial support received from IPPF.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Moving Domestic Violence Prevention Act 2013 into action

With the successful establishment of CBSS (Community Based Support System) at the dzongkhag level across 20 dzongkhags, RENEW initiated its intensive awareness campaigns on health and social priorities at the grassroots level with the aims and objectives to expand community volunteers as an action group in the rural areas from 2018. Henceforth, the program will be carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, keeping in line with Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to reach out together for the most effective and efficient implementation of activities related to health and social priorities.

The program kicked off in Trashigang with the training of trainers program for all the local leaders under the dzongkhag with the theme “Stimulating smooth and responsible sexual and gender-based violence service in Bhutan at all levels: moving Domestic Violence Prevention Act 2013 into action” in 2018.

Trashigang

With the financial support from Helvatas and DFAT- IPPF, a team from RENEW and Ministry of Health with the support from the local leaders (trained in 2018) carried forward the sensitization workshop in all 15 gewogs and Thromde. 3247 local people were reached and sensitized on the 4 social and health priorities covering Gender-Based Violence, Adolescent Reproductive Health, HIV & AIDS, and Mother & Child health care. The campaign started from Merak and Sateng in the north on 20th March 2019 and completed touring 15 gewogs plus Thromde on the 26th of April 2019.



Tsirang

With the financial support from IPPF-DFAT, the campaign was carried out in Tsirang dzongkhag covering 12 gewogs and 01 Thromdey (Town Area) under the dzongkhag. Following the same strategy, it began with trainers' training for local leaders and MSTF-CBSS members before carrying out the awareness campaigns in the gewogs. A total of 1440 people were reached in Tsirang.



The immediate outcome of the campaign observed was:

1. A network of key stakeholders strengthened at the grassroots level and with the dzongkhag network through MSTF-CBSS.
2. The local leaders have been identified as the first point of contact for survivors during the emergency.
3. Commitment from the local leaders to address triggering factors such as alcohol; consistent awareness program to promote family values; Commitment to incorporate social and health priorities in their local government plans;
4. Commitment from the Health Sector under the dzongkhag to monitor the progress of the action plans;

Feedback from the participants from Trashigang

'The workshop on social issues is not only going to help me but also to my community people. A situation will definitely improve compare to the previous one after attending a three day program'.

*-Nangang (Tshogpa)
Thrimshing Gewog*

'A three day workshop organized by RENEW and MoH (DPH) on social issues like domestic violence, consumption of alcohol and teenage pregnancy will be reduced drastically, if geog officials initiates the awareness program on it effects to the general public. Moreover, we are expecting to reduce the consumption of alcohol rate in the community after attending the workshop.

*- Sonam Tenzin (GAO)
Merak Gewog*

'After attending the workshop only I could able to analysis this concept properly. I could know that until and unless if our mental health is not peace and there is no use of outer/physical peace. So to create a harmonious society, I assure to create a awareness program in disseminating the information related to violence and character development in the community levels'

*-Pelden Dorji (Gup)
Phongmey Gewog*

'After attending a three day workshop organized by RENEW is going to change the life style of the communities in reducing the brewage of alcohol and domestic violence. Henceforth, LG officials will strive to eradicate those social issues'.

*-Dhendup Delma (Mangmi)
Shongphu Gewog*

'I would like to pay my humble respect/gratitude to RENEW and MoH for giving such opportunities to attend the workshop that I haven't attended in the past. After attending the event, I have learned so many things which I haven't heard in my life and 'now onwards I shall interpret and disseminate that information like domestic violence, teenage pregnancy, alcohol, divorce, etc in my chiwog level to reduce or eradicate those social issues'.

*-Tenzin Dorji (Tshogpa)
Sakteng Gewog*

"I learnt that condom is not only to prevent pregnancy but also to prevent STDs."

*-Dawa Choezom (student)
Sakteng Gewog*

Feedback from the participants from Tsirang

“The practice of isolation during menstruation in Lhotsham communities as per the finding done is found to be associated with culture wherein a menstruating woman is given a period of resting. It has nothing to do with being discriminatory to that menstruating women or girl”.

*-Thrizin,
Phuntenchu gewog*

“The women during menstruation in olden times had no pad to maintain hygiene like they do now so restriction was imposed. Now we even do not know if woman is on menstruation or not so question of discrimination is baseless”.

*-Tshogpa
Phuntenchu gewog*

“The Geog is very much grateful to RENEW and MoH for bringing such program to the community which will help the Geog Administration to reduce Domestic Violence, substance abuse and STI cases. We would highly appreciate if it can be replicated in Chewog wise if not at least for fund support”

*-Mangmi,
Dunglagang Gewog*

“The topics in the presentation are bit embarrassing and there are participants who are related by blood so awkwardness is bound to happen. There is no need to feel bad as it is important related to public health issues”.

-Gup, Tsholingkar.

“In a span of 32 years of marriage I realized hitting your partner begets nothing but trouble. So I normally do all the household chores mutually with my spouse. I attended as many as twelve awareness on gbv and dv, I heard biased assumption on women matter but it is found as collective effort to enhance relationship matter and family issues”.

-Ap Kencho, (Participant).



Moghi Mikhar: Coming Together On Media for Violence Free Happy Society

Recognizing the influential role of media in shaping values and perceptions and as a useful Mass Communication tool for dissemination of information and advocacy, RENEW collaborated with Bhutan Broadcasting Services (BBS), and Bhutan Media Foundation (BMF) and produced a 12 episode television talk show. The program brought 38 guest speakers from various backgrounds; CSOs, Politicians, government staff from the health, education and law sector, private sector, artists, expats, and ordinary citizens to talk on different thematic issues from sex & gender, parenting, relationship, and feminism to choices, youth, mental health, and social media, from sexual abuse, women and art, and domestic violence to women in Buddhism. Moghi Mikhar was produced to explore topical and often tricky issues confronting Bhutanese women in particular and Bhutanese society. The panelists were engaged in a frank conversation on those issues that attempted to ignite a process of deeper thinking and reflection within the community and seek solutions and remedies.

The program is first of its kind as it was conducted in Dzongkha, the local language, to enable inclusive engagement of Bhutanese mass even from rural areas of the country. This is an effort to trigger an encouragement for healthy and open discourse among the Bhutanese population to tackle issues on women and gender. The program was launched coinciding with International Women's Day 2019.

**STRENGTHENING
PRODUCTION
CAPABILITIES**

66 participants certified as National Certified Counselor during 5th Bhutan Biennial Counseling Conference

There were 66 additional participants from various agencies such as the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Bhutan Narcotics Control Agency (BNCA), Civil Society Organizations, and private candidates who completed five-day training on Mental Health Facilitators training conducted by BBCC (Bhutan Board for Certified Counselors). The training was held from 24th -28th October 2019 at Financial Institutions Training Institute (FITI) training hall. Among them were also School Guidance counselors, Teacher counselors, Mental Health Counselors, Peer Counselors. The participants were conferred certificates to practice as front-line helpers due to their enhanced capacity to understand, recognize, identify, and refer clients to various social issues. The training was facilitated by 13 mental health professionals constituting psychiatrists, counselor supervisors, master counselors, college lecturers, and senior counselors.

5th Biennial Bhutan Counseling Conference

Her Majesty *Gyalum* Sangay Choden Wangchuck graced the 5th Biennial Bhutan Counseling Conference on 30th October to 1st November at Namgay Heritage, Thimphu. 110 additional counselors, including those upgraded, were conferred certificates of certified Bhutan National Counselors.

Her Majesty in her keynote address emphasized that modernization continues to propose new challenges impacting people's social, economic, spiritual, and career aspirations. She pointed out we are increasingly witnessing a rising burden of mental health problems and illnesses, gender-based violence, domestic violence, and sexual violence.

The conference had organized a series of sessions on the Global Counselling Movement, Enhancing Creativity in Counseling using Transpersonal Models, Prevention of substance use and related problem behaviors, Early identification and Safe Referrals for child protection. The participants were re-orientated on existing acts, policies, and procedures of childcare and protection and prevention of domestic violence in the country.

As a part of the conference, Her Majesty also inaugurated an exhibition on cottage enterprise for paper and textile recycling for the environment and livelihood for women in Bhutan jointly organized in partnership South Asian Forum for Environment (SAFE).



Her Majesty Gyalum Sangay Choden Wangchuck with His Excellency Prime Minister, Their Excellencies Education Minister, Foreign Minister, Finance Minister, Chair of NBCC, Professor of Southeast Missouri State University, CEO of Kuadra Counseling Service and Professors from Israel



Her Majesty Gyalum Sangay Choden Wangchuck with the certified counselors.

MSTF-CBSS Annual Conference: Reaching Out Together



MSTF-CBSS attending the Annual conference

20 MSTF member Dzongkhag Health Officers (DHO), 21 CBSS members from 20 districts, and Phuntsholing Thromdey, 41 CBSS, and MSTF members from 20 dzongkhags came together during the annual conference held from 23rd to 25th November 2019 in Thimphu with the financial support from IPPF (International Planned Parenthood Federation). The outcome of the conference was:

1. Commitment from the members for effective implementation of monitoring and evaluation strategy in their respective dzongkhags.
2. Finalization of the action plans for 2020 to be carried out together through improved coordination, collaboration, and communication between the two networks.

3rd DAISAN Annual Camp held in Tsirang

The 3rd DAISAN (Druk Adolescent Initiative for Sexual Awareness Network) Annual Camp was organized with the fund support from IPPF & UNICEF. It was five day Camp held at Mendrelgang Central School in Tsirang Dzongkhag from 14th -18th January 2019. A total of 84 student DAISAN members (Youth Volunteers), including 20 teacher coordinators from 29 schools, attended the camp.

The camp was inaugurated by Dasho Dzongrab, who, in his opening remark, reminded the youth that the contributing factor for most of the social evils is the high consumption of alcohol. He also mentioned that the misuse of social media leads to gender-based Violence, Domestic Violence, and Violence against children and health issues such as HIV, STIs, and Teenage pregnancy. He encouraged the members to take the initiative to sensitize themselves and the public on these issues.

The camp's highlight was the participatory training program provided to the DAISAN members who have been engaged in advocating and creating awareness on gender equality and gender-based violence in their schools and communities, on the use of the toolkits.



RENEW, with technical support from the Ministry of Health and fund support from IPPF, developed four sets of facilitator's toolkits for MSTF-CBSS and DAISAN members with comprehensive illustrations on Gender-Based Violence, Adolescent Reproductive Health & Rights, HIV&AIDS and Mother, and Child care.

After the three days of rigorous training sessions, the members were sent out into the community with the toolkits for practical experience. The members expressed that the kits made their awareness campaigns a lot smoother and effective.

Dasho Dzungda graced the closing ceremony, and in his closing remark, he expressed his appreciation to the team for organizing youth camp in his Dzongkhag. He reminded the local leaders and dzongkhag officials to continue working with local people to prevent domestic Violence and promote public health public in their respective geogs or chiwogs. Dasho Dzungda gave away the certificates to the participants. The program ended with a group photo with the Chief Guest and refreshment.



Comprehensive Sexuality Education for Young People

This year the 4th annual DAISAN youth camp was conducted from 24th to 26th December 2019 at Gawailing Happy Home, Thimphu, with the theme 'Learning Comprehensive Sexuality Education'. The camp aimed at providing enhanced knowledge and skills to handle ever-increasing challenging issues of adolescent and sexual reproductive health and rights. A total of 64 DAISAN youth volunteers -all students and 21 DAISAN teacher coordinators from 21 schools covering all 20 districts attended a three-day camp.

During the camp, the participants were introduced to 7 key components of Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) based on IPPF CSE guidelines for young people. After that, field visits to key agencies working for young people were organized.



DAISAN members with teacher coordinators



Aum Dechen Chimi, country program officer interacting with DAISAN members



DAISAN Youth Activity

They visited Women and Children Division in National Commission for Women and Children, Adolescent Friendly Health Service Unit in Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital, Women and Child Protection Desk in Royal Bhutan Police, where the members engaged in an interactive session with the respective officials.

The participants expressed their experience and committed to share and implement CSE activities with fellow students and out of school youth in their communities. The camp concluded with the final drafting of action plans.

The program was supported by IPPF

Training of Trainers on Consensus Building Initiative (CBI) Program

17 RENEW staff and officials from key agencies –(JSWSL, CBSS, RBP, Local government and WCPD) were provided with training on the Consensus-building initiative from 29th April – 1st May 2019 in Thimphu to equip them with the knowledge and skills to carry forward the training for rest of the officials and CBSS members in 20 dzongkhags. The training was conducted by Mr. Stephan Sonnenberg, Facilitator, and Kunzang Lhamo, Lecturer of JSW School of Law.

Following the ToT, the training was rolled out for the RBP officials, local leaders, and MSTF-CBSS members of Haa dzongkhag. 22 female (comprising of 20 CBSS Volunteers and 2 RBP officials) and 12 male (consisting of 5 CBSS Volunteers and 6 local government official and 1 RBP official) participants attended the training program. RENEW's CBSS Volunteers with the support from the local leaders and key agencies in the communities can play a constructive role in strengthening and clarifying the interrelationship between Bhutan's formal and informal justice sector when dealing with issues of domestic violence. Due to the sensitivity and complexity of the issue, the model is a straightforward approach to access the justice system, which has a less adversarial framework. It is typically oriented towards more restorative types of outcomes keeping in line with Bhutan's equally strong commitment to globally accepted human rights norms concerning women's and girls' rights and protection. Apart from creating legal awareness to the participants and strengthening local networks to prevent domestic violence, the people in the communities will have more access to local social services, including medical aid, legal aid, counseling, livelihood skills training, and micro finance



Shar Tshogpa, sharing his experience dealing with cases in his community

The RENEW secretariat will be working closely with the members to help the people access the support service more effectively and efficiently.



Participants group activity

The program was carried out with the support from UNDP, IPPF and Swiss Embassy.



Team building exercise

The training continued for 26 participants constituting local government leaders, Royal Bhutan police, and MSTF- CBSS volunteers from western region (Paro, Thimphu, Wangdue, Puankha and Chukha).



Participants trained on CBI



Mobilizing champions in the monastic institutions for continued campaigns on Comprehensive Sexuality Education based Life Skill Education.



With the objective of continued dissemination of life skills based on CSE throughout Religious institutions, RENEW in collaboration with Commission for Religious Organizations conducted five-day Training of Trainers (ToT) on Life Skill Education (LSE) for 33 religious persons comprising of Lams, Lopens and Anims from 18th to 22nd June 2019 in Paro.

The training continued from 2nd to 6th September 2019 for 87 monks from Druk Phodrangling College for Astrology, Thimphu, monk representatives from other monastic institutes, and 13 Nuns from Woesel Choling Nunnery.



The topics on reproductive health & rights, sexuality, and sexual orientation and gender & Sex were highlighted extensively as religious body happens to be one of the centers of communication with the people, especially in the rural areas. The program enabled the members to discuss the subject extensively and identify priority issues according to which they drafted their action plan to be implemented.

RENEW has organized 8 batches of such training for religious institutions since 2016 with the technical and financial support from UNFPA.



Creating Redress Mechanism to Response to GBV in communities with the help MSTF-CBSS members and Religious Heads.

With the financial support from IPPF-DFAT, the training workshop with emphasis on (behavior change communication respond to Social and Health issues) was conducted for 20 Lam Netens (-Head of monastic institutions in the districts) from 20 districts, MSTF-CBSS Member Secretary and CBSS volunteers in Bumthang from 4-6 November 2019 and in Phuentsholing from 10-12 November 2019. This workshop is the 2nd round of training to Lam Netens after the 1st meeting with local leaders in Gelephu in 2018.

This time the training brought them together with the MSTF-CBSS members as they are the first point of contact for people in their communities and, therefore, together can create a support mechanism and appropriate service delivery point on any health and social priorities.

This workshop was also to ensure that health and social priorities are incorporated within their local government plans, and the budget is allocated to address any issues related to these subjects in the communities. MSTF-CBSS and Lam Neten are member participants during Dzongkhag Tshogdu meetings and can make a difference in people's lives.

Extending Tsechu Garcham Gyi Shepa Project to Grassroot



RENEW continued with the training on “Tsechu Garcham Gyi Shepa”-a guideline on social messaging during national and local festivals, was carried out for additional 33 Lams, Lopens, and Anims from different monasteries in collaboration with Religious Organization in Paro from 23rd, - 25th June 2019.

Tsechu Garcham Gyi Shepa is a guideline specially designed for monastic teachers and cultural officials published in 2017 with technical and financial support from UNFPA.

The social priorities related to gender-based violence/ gender inequality, sexual harassment, teenage pregnancy, menstrual hygiene, and health priorities have been incorporated in the messaging.

This guideline was developed by expert consultants from Zhung Dratshang Lhentshog and the Royal Academy of Performing Arts (RAPA).

Mobilization of Community Volunteers In Tsirang to Promote Safe and Healthy Family



43 women center leaders for the RENEW microfinance program in Tsirang were provided training workshops on gender-based violence and sexual reproductive health and rights for the first time. The training was organized to establish support services in the rural community in all 12 gewogs for easy access to services.

These women leaders have set up small businesses with the help of microfinance programs and are considered economically independent. They have been an example in their locality, thereby having great potential to advocate for a safe and healthy community. The 3-day program concluded with 43 microfinance members registered as the community volunteers and out of which 16 joined the mainstream MSTF-CBSS network at the gewog level.

The program was carried out with financial support from UNFPA.

Training of Trainers for youth volunteers and school coordinators on Child Protection & Participation



Participants presenting their work



Teacher coordinators who attended the training

19 youth volunteers (DAISAN and Y-VIA)¹ and 6 coordinators from 11 districts (Gasa, Punakha, Dagana, Mongar, Trongsa, Trashigang, Tsirang, Bumthang, Gelephu, Haa and Lhuntse) attended three-day training from 22nd-24th July 2019 on child protection and participation. RENEW, YDF, and UNICEF jointly organized the training in Tsirang.

The program is a continuous training program being provided to the volunteers to keep their knowledge and skills up-to-date. They are expected to be the first point of contact for those in need of help in their communities and also to roll out the training further down to their colleagues and peers. Two youth volunteer network with their core mandates work hand-in-hand to address common social challenges in their respective communities.

Following the training, the volunteer participants in 6 districts- Gasa, Punakha, Dagana, Trongsa, Mongar, and Trashigang organized a 4-day training workshop to disseminate the practice to 200 students and teachers from 14 schools in total.

The program is being financially supported by UNICEF.

¹ DAISAN (Druk Adolescent initiative for Sexual Awareness Network) youth volunteers network established under RENEW and Y-VIA (Youth volunteers in Action) established under YDF.

Sensitization Workshop for Religious Leaders from the southern part of Bhutan

Two-day Sensitization cum consultation workshop on social issues such as domestic violence/ gender-based was held for 15 pundits, 11 Purohits of Hindu Dharma Samudya of Bhutan (HDSB) and CBSS volunteers associated with the Samudaya. The workshop took place on the 21st and 22nd of April 2019 in Phuntsholing Bhutan. This was the first-ever sensitization workshop on the social issues that the participants attended. The workshop was presided by Swami Vivek Ananda Saraswati, the Chairperson of HDSB. The participants expressed that the seminar was very informative and will help them play a more significant role in their community because they often gather people for prayers in their temples, and Purohits visit houses for rituals. They were aware of the issues in their community but did not realize that they can play a role in curbing violence in the family. Also, a session on alcohol and suicide was presented.

In Bhutan, Alcohol is a leading cause of domestic violence, and suicide is comparatively high in the southern part of the country



The recent study on VAW 2019, launched by the National Commission for Women and Children, showed a high prevalence of domestic violence in Tsirang and Samtse in the south. The workshop with Pundits and Purohits was to bring out the reality of the lives of women and girls and roles they can play in bringing harmony in the family and community through promoting gender equality. They committed to:

1. Have the subject as one of the agenda during their Annual Hindu Meet;
2. They committed to work closely with RENEW in addressing social issues;
3. Start Yoga sessions for children and youth to teach values at an early age;
4. Disseminate information to people during a discourse on Purans;
5. Develop a booklet on social issues for Purohits to carry with them during their visits;
6. Help translate GBV/SRHR toolkits into their local language;

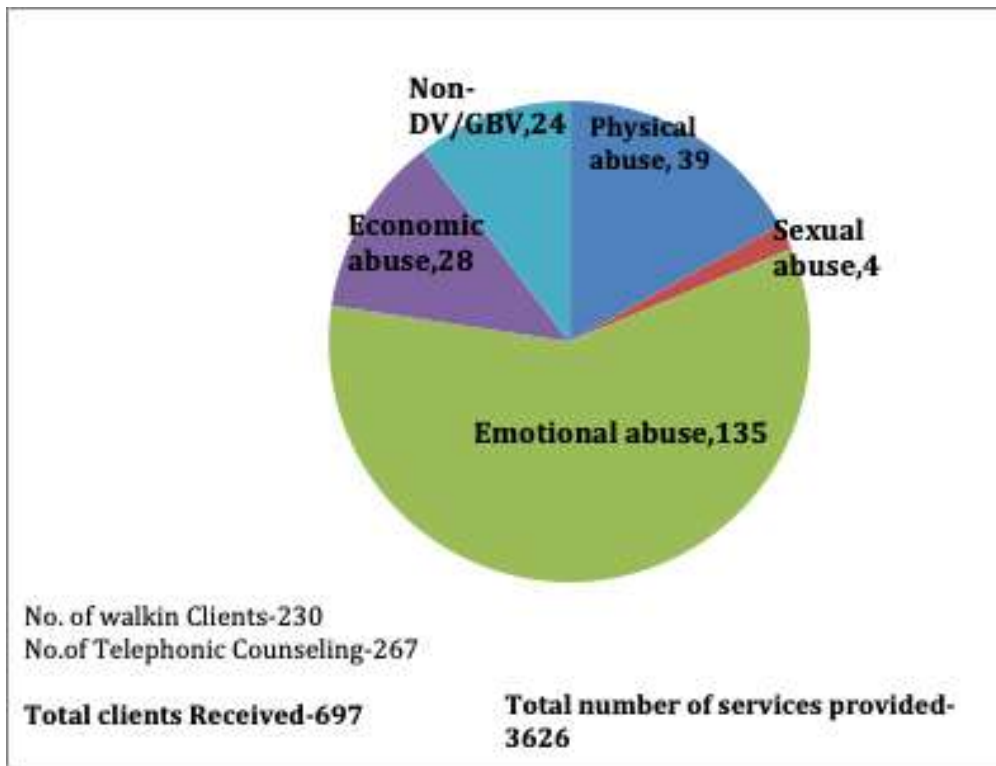


Trained pundits and purohits with facilitators for sensitization workshop

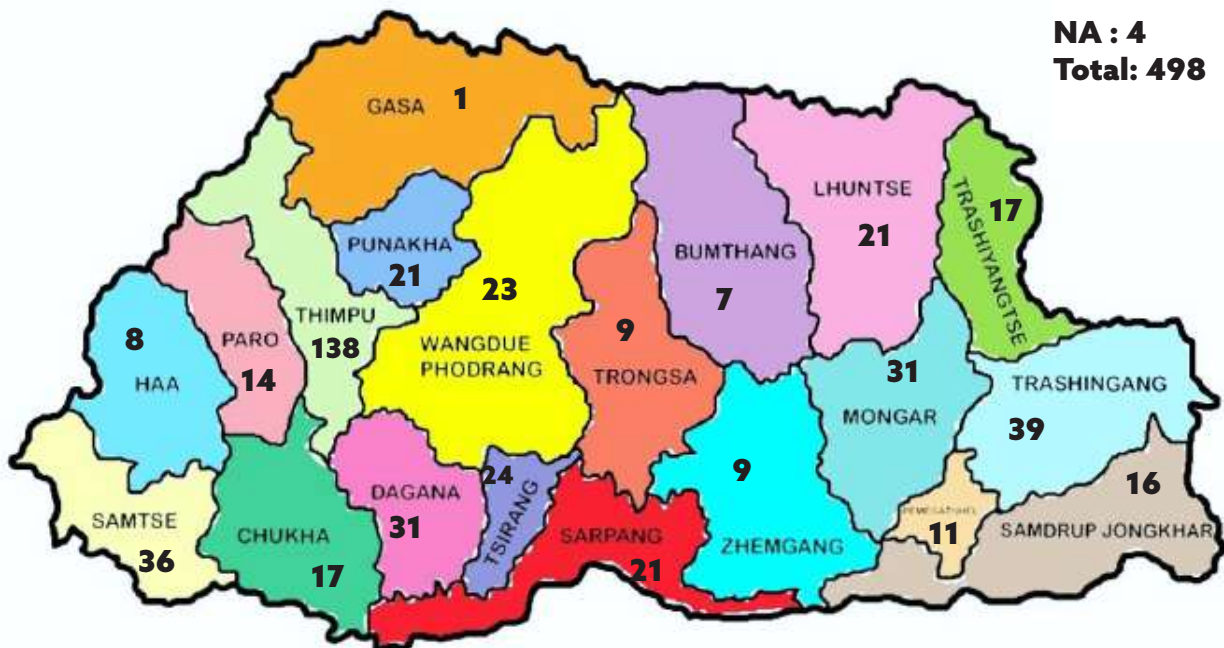
RENEW

SERVICES

Reported Cases in RENEW Crisis Center



Client distribution based on dzongkhags for RENEW and GHH



Number of Legal Aid Provided at RENEW Crisis Center

Service Type	Services
Specialized Legal Counseling , Consultation and Aid	91
Specialized Legal Counseling , Consultation and aid on PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIP	30
Specialized Legal Counseling , Consultation and aid on DENIAL OF RESOURCES OPPORTUNITIES SERVICES	15
Specialized Legal Counseling , Consultation and aid on MARITAL - PARTNER NEGOTIATION	11
Specialized Legal Counseling , Consultation and aid on NEGLIGENCE	10
Specialized Legal Counseling , Consultation and aid on EMOTIONAL ABUSE	2
Specialized Legal Counseling , Consultation and aid on MARITAL -RELATIONSHIP	8
Specialized Legal Counseling , Consultation and aid on CUSTODIAL AGREEMENT	8
DEED OF DIVORCE	8
SCREENING FOR GBV	6
APPLICATION OF PLAINT	4
RECONCILED AGREEMENT	4
Specialized Legal Counseling , Consultation and aid on FAMILY RELATIONSHIP	4
Specialized Legal Counseling , Consultation and aid on PRE MARITAL	2
Specialized Legal Counseling , Consultation and aid on UNMARRIED CASUAL RELATIONSHIP	1
Referral	18
Total	222

Number of Medical Services Provided at Static Clinic, RENEW Crisis Center

Sl. No	Category of Services	No of services Provided
1	Contraceptives Services	12
2	Gynaecological Services	1
3	HIV and AIDS Services	2
4	Non SRH Medical	241
5	Non SRH Non-Medical	891
6	Non SRH Specialised Counselling	35
7	Other SRH Medical	3
8	SRH Specialised Counselling	2333
	Total	3518

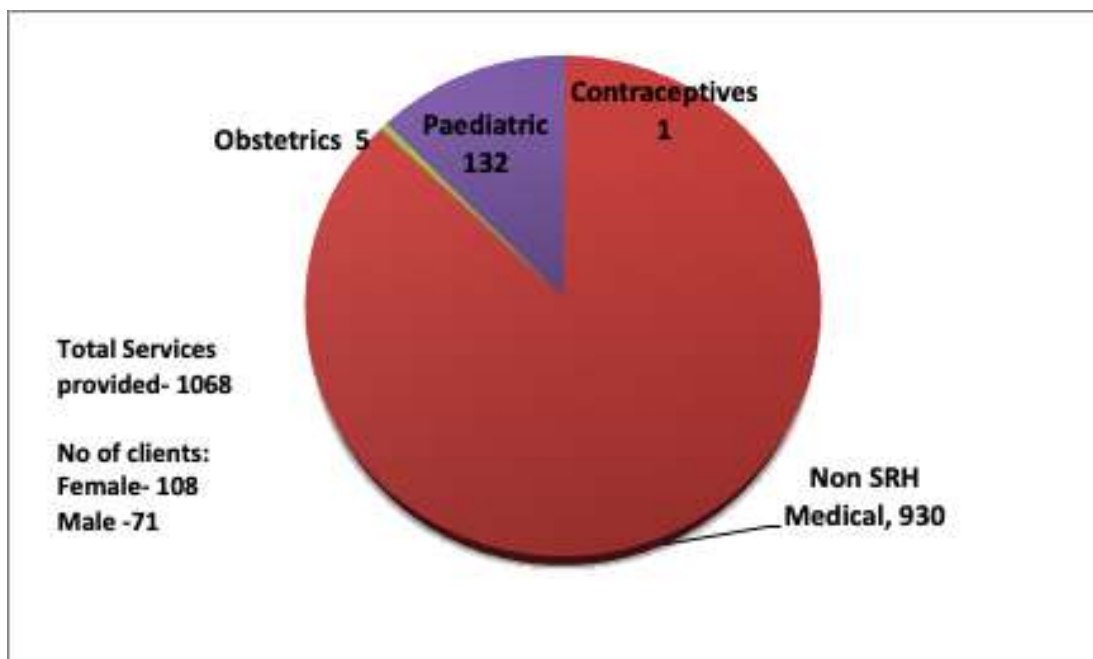
Number of Clients at Gawailing Happy Home

Total number of client: 43

Total number of Service: 755

Service types	Services
Care services for shelter clients	656
Escort clients for further services	93
Providing shelter for survivors	6
Total	755

Number of Medical Services Provided at Gawailing Happy



Beneficiaries of GHH Month Wise for 2019

Months	Women	Girls	Boys	Men	Total
January	2	22	4	*	28
February	3	22	4	*	29
March	2	6	*	*	8
April	2	4	1	*	7
May	1	5	1	*	7
June	1	5	2	*	8
July	2	19	4	*	25
August	2	4	2	*	8
September	2	4	2	*	8
October	*	5	*	*	5
November	1	20	2	*	23
December	1	19	2	*	22
Total	19	135	24	*	178

RENEW Scholarship Supported by Australian Himalayan Foundation



Total Students 168 are currently being supported under the scheme with highest number of children in Haa dzongkhag.

Economic Empowerment through livelihood skills training supported by Fida International

Through Skills to Income and Well-Being- The Female resources for Happy Bhutan

With technical and financial support from Fida, the livelihood skills training program was introduced to duty bearers for their support to reach vulnerable women and their family in their community. The training unit approached the duty bearers to identify the areas of training skills required in the communities based on their strength. The ownership of the program is being vested on them so that they do the monitoring and evaluation. The immediate outcome of the collaboration enabled 15 different long term and short-term skills training benefiting 240 women, 17 men and 24 children 5 dzongkhags covering Thimphu, Punakha, Dagana, and Bumthang & Samtse.

During the assessment, it was found that the trained women are interested, have gained confidence and ability to start income generation activities based on their new skills acquired from the training. Some women expressed that they enjoy their independence and can now be active members in the society. For instance, in Samtse 65% of all the trainees mentioned that their family role has changed after the training. Their economic engagement has encouraged other members of their family to extend helping hand in the household chores. 88% of trainees mentioned that their life has improved.

The program supports the most vulnerable women and their children to fulfill their basic rights, especially the right to adequate living standard. The main beneficiaries are the women, their children and communities. The women will get chance to learn new skills and start earning through the skills. Economic empowerment creates safety, gives possibilities to take better care of children, for example, by providing them longer education. Working with mothers has a wide and sustainable impact on their own families and society.

Activities	Place	Women	Children	Man	Total
3 months basic tailoring Training & 1 Month advance tailoring training.	RENEW Center (RC)	40		1	41
3 months basic tailoring Training & 1 Month advance tailoring training.	Dagana	12		0	12
2 month training for gho tailoring	R E N E W (RC)	8		0	8
Ginger candy	RENEW (RC)	13		0	13
pickle and biscuits	Gawaling	11	24	0	35
Design Thinking process training	RENEW (RC)	14		1	15
Felting Training	RENEW (RC)	10		1	11
3 months basic tailoring Training & 1 Month advance tailoring training.	Punakha	10		0	10
Felting Training	Bumthang	10		0	10
Basic Beauty parlour training	Samtse	9		0	9
5 days Business management and Marketing Training	RENEW (RC)	24		1	25
3 days Business Mgt & marketing training	Punakha	28		0	28
3 days Business Mgt & marketing training	Samtse	17		9	26
3 days Business Mgt & marketing training	Dagana	23		4	27
Tailoring and Doll making	Darkstho		23		
Total		229	47	17	270



Types of Livelihood Skills training provided at Gawailing Vocational Training Center.

Sl	Type of Training	No. of days	No. of Partipants	Donor/Partner	Remarks
01	1. Recycle Training 2. Tie & dye training 3. Fabric Recycle mat Weaving	5 days	1. 4 women from Bumthang. 2. 2 young women from GHH 3. 2 clients	SAFE, Kolkata	During the training the participants were taught how to make products out of paper pulps and tie and dye using cotton material.
02	Floriculture Training 1. Buiding a Green house 2. Sowing Seeds 3. Potting of plants 4. Repotting of plants in a bigger pot 5. Landscaping 6. Names of the flowers		1. 12 women participants from nearby communities. 2. 15 children form GHH 3. 3 clients from GHH 4. 8 weavers from the vocational centre.	1. SGP-GEF, UNDP Bhutan 2. Technical support by NBC experts	
03	Financial Literacy	1 day	8 weavers of vocational centre	By Fida	
04	Fabric printing	1 day	9 participants (weavers and recycle project's trainer)	By Fida	
05	Felting training	5 days	Recycle project trainer and caregiver of GHH	By Fida	
06	Marketing and prodcut development for Euro-pean market			EU (European Union) textile project and APIC	Fida staff and GHH livelihood specialist attended the training and still contiues from time to time as RENEW has been identified as one of the beneficiaries of EU Trade Project.
07	Basic baking and pickle making training for children and staff at GHH	5 days	18 children (both boys and girls)		
08	Pangthag weaving (backstrap loom)	no specific days	2 clients 4 GHH children		Training closed due to COVID-19 pandemic

Photo Archives of Floriculture Project Supported By SGP, GEF-UNDP



Products from Recycle training Program



Community Based Support System

SL	Dzongkhag	Case Handled
1	Bumthang	15
2	Chukha	32
3	Dagana	10
4	Gasa	3
5	Haa	1
6	Lhuentse	5
7	Mongar	5
8	Paro	37
9	Pema Gatshel	17
10	Punakha	4
11	Samtse	12
12	Sarpang	59
13	Samdrup Jongkhar	101
14	Trashigang	69
15	Thimphu	14
16	Trongsa	7
17	Tsirang	13
18	Wangdue Phodrang	11
	Total	415

MSTF-CBSS Reaching Out Together at Community Level





FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Consolidated Receipt and Payment statement: For year ended 31st December 2019

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT (Nu.)	PAYMENTS	AMOUNT (Nu.)
1. Opening Balances:		1. Expenditures:	21,388,180.29
a. RENEW Secretariat:	610,876.47	a. RENEW Secretariat	9,668,356.49
Cash	56,212.00	b. RENEW Scholarship Fund	1,078,581.36
Bank	554,664.47	c. RENEW IPPF	6,657,088.20
		d. RENEW - Gawailing Happy Home	3,846,004.24
		e. RENEW - SAFE	138,150.00
b. RENEW Scholarship Fund:	252,022.66	2. Outstanding Advances:	164,089.45
Cash	1,000.00	a. RENEW Secretariat	48,927.38
Bank	251,022.66	b. RENEW Scholarship Fund	58,000.00
c. RENEW IPPF:		c. RENEW IPPF	11,659.85
Cash	43,044.00	d. RENEW - Gawailing Happy Home	45,502.22
Bank	170,978.90	e. RENEW - SAFE	-
d. RENEW - Gawailing Happy Home:	1,202,298.89	3. Closing Balances:	1,325,206.47
Cash	115,864.70	a. RENEW Secretariat:	
Bank	1,086,434.19	Cash	23,874.18
		Bank	226,641.36
e. RENEW - SAFE:	101,730.09	b. RENEW Scholarship Fund:	
Cash	-	Cash	247,649.16
Bank	101,730.09	Bank	132,455.50
2. Fund Received during the Year:	18,856,922.25		
a. RENEW Secretariat	8,975,419.56	c. RENEW- IPPF:	
b. RENEW Scholarship Fund	408,430.20	Cash	1,593.59
c. RENEW IPPF	6,714,256.38	Bank	319,597.49
d. RENEW - Gawailing Happy Home	2,552,058.00	d. RENEW - Gawailing Happy Home:	
e. RENEW - SAFE	206,758.11	Cash	8,062.86
		Bank	194,994.13
3. Advance Recovery::	1,639,602.95	e. RENEW -SAFE	
a. RENEW Secretariat	381,503.38	Cash	-
b. RENEW Scholarship Fund	856,233.16	Bank	170,338.20
c. RENEW IPPF	61,659.85		
d. RENEW - Gawailing Happy Home	340,206.56		
e. RENEW - SAFE	-		
Total	-		22,877,476.21

CIRCLE OF COMPASSION 2019

TAKIN CIRCLE (Donation above Nu. 1,000,000)

1. Pilots - Druk Air
2. Pilots - Bhutan Airlines

BLUE POPPY (Donations above Nu. 100,000)

1. CBSS Samdrup Jongkhar
2. Bhutan Foundation
3. Lhaki Group of Companies
4. Bank of Bhutan
5. NCWC

CYPRESS CIRCLE (Donation above 10,000)

1. Deki Rabgay
2. Yeshe Seldon



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