



ANNUAL REPORT
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RENEW



ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Vision:

A gender-based violence-free happy society

Mission:

To better the lives of survivors of gender-based violence and reintegrate them as economically and socially productively members of the society



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Foreword by Ms. Tandin Wangmo, Executive Director



messages using short theater performances. DAISAN also performed at the World Population Day using the module and their performance was much appreciated.

Another new initiative was the engagement of religious personnel to respond to GBV/ DV as communities highly regard and look up to our khenpos, lams and lopens. This initiative saw at least 90 religious leaders from various Gomdeys and Choedeys

coming onboard to join in creating awareness on Gender Based Violence and Domestic Violence. The highlight of this initiative was His Holiness Chabje Je Khenpo presiding over the closing ceremony and awarded certificates to one batch of participants of the workshop at the Autsho Moenlem Chenpo in Lhuentse.

A three-day Symposium to mark the International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women saw volunteers from all over the country and key stakeholders coming together to share challenges and propose ways for collaboration. A compendium of the symposium will be released separately. The performance “Yours Truly- Bum Jarim”, real stories of eight women enthralled the audience including the Australian Ambassador to Bhutan, HE Ms. Harinder Sidhu who was also invited to observe the day with us at Thimphu.

RENEW also collaborated with the Ministry of Health to train 20 Chairpersons of the Local Government, planning officers, DHOs and CBSS leaders in preparing towards 12th Five Year Plan (FYP) – how to project social issues in the 12FYP.

Towards the end of the year in September, Her Majesty Gyalum Sangay Choden Wangchuck began the High Level Advocacy on “Priority Public Health and Social Issues” from Dagana and covered Sarpang and Tsirang meeting around 3000 public, students, teachers, vulnerable groups and the military personnel. The journey will continue in 2017 to cover all 20 Dzongkhags. Her Majesty the Gyalum continues to be an inspiration not just for RENEW, but also everyone in both urban and rural communities.

And yes! Aum Yeshey Dawa, our lead protagonist on Advocacy related to Violence against Women and Girls, lives on and is growing each day!

Trashi Delek

Om Jetsun Phama Drolma la Chag Tshelo!!!

2016 was a very eventful and enriching year for us at RENEW.

The year began with our President, beloved Gyalum Sangay Choden Wangchuck leading the celebrations of the International Women’s Day at Chumigthang MSS, Phuentsholing realizing the myriad challenges of the families living right next to the Indian border. The Community Based Support System (CBSS) Volunteers of Chukhha and Phuentsholing in collaboration with the Core Group volunteers from Thimphu organized a fundraising dinner with the proceeds being donated to the RENEW Women’s Fund.

As usual, RENEW had a hectic year with clients, awareness programs and trainings, but the team also took on innovative and daring initiatives in 2016. I would like to highlight here a few new initiatives undertaken in 2016 -

A module was designed for the youth called the 3I’s (Intuition, Instinct and Intelligence) - Transformation through Theatre. This was followed by a five day Youth Leadership Camp at Gawailing Happy Home during the winter holidays where DASIAN members and leaders from all over the country were trained on using the module to effectively spread awareness

Raising strong children



Of Child Rights and Protection

The Community Based Support System (CBSS) and the Multi-sectoral Task force (MSTF) are RENEW's implementing arms of child protection. RENEW has trained around 90 participants from 15 dzongkhags in 2015-16 with UNICEF's financial support.

The trained participants have gone on to train and sensitize their communities further.

The training on Child Rights and Child Protection for the remaining five dzongkhags is currently being planned. This initiative sensitizes community

members in all 20 dzongkhags on child protection issues. The training has educated different community members on Convention on Rights of Child (CRC) rules and regulations and its unified aim for a safe, sound, and happy environment for children.

Bumthang learns about children's rights

Learning to respond to children's need and rights

A three-day training workshop on Child Rights and Child Protection was conducted at Hotel Peling in Bumthang for five dzongkhags: Tsirang, Trongsa, Dagana, Wangduephodrang and Bumthang in May 2016.

The participants were RENEW's Community Based Support System (CBSS) volunteers, MSTF member secretary, Officer In-charge from Royal Bhutan Police (RBP) and Druk Adolescents' Initiative for Sexual Awareness Network (DAISAN) Coordinators and focal person. The training was held to sensitize the volunteers on child rights and protection.

Program facilitators from the Department of Youth and Sports and the Department of Immigration covered a wide range of topics on child rights and protection during the training.

Topics such as the historical evolution of child rights, convention on the rights of child and rights to protection and defining child protection were discussed.

Other topics included situation of child protection and key issues related to child protection, services and facilities supporting child protection in Bhutan. The core principles is to engage young people in the community, adolescent participation and consultation among

others.

Group exercises stimulated discussions on various child issues within the local context.

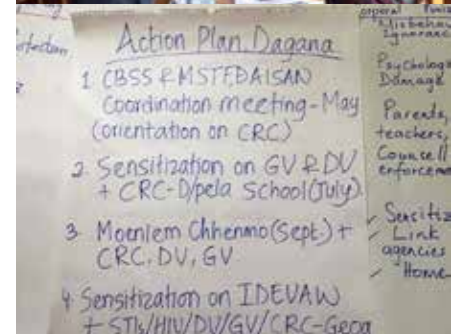
The participants were educated on proper channels while seeking reprisal and aid. They were also informed about types of services provided by different agencies. Contact information of these agencies were also shared among the participants.

To make the programs lively, videos on relevant issues were also screened.

From the feedback, it was learnt that the participants were particularly pleased when facilitators from relevant agencies shared their knowledge and experiences while working with child related issues.

Towards the end of the workshop, the participants drew up action plans to be implemented in their dzongkhags.

Many participants said the training helped them understand issues related to rights of the child better. They said even though children are part of almost every household, many are unaware of their rights and ways to bring them up to be responsible citizens. They also said they are now in a position to share the acquired knowledge with their family, friends, and other members of the community.



Investing in youth for change

DAISAN expands to five more Dzongkhags



RENEW successfully established its youth volunteer network, Druk Adolescents' Initiative for Sexual Awareness Network (DAISAN) in 15 dzongkhags with the support of UNICEF.

From 10 dzongkhags in the beginning, the volunteer network expanded its reach to five more dzongkhags of Gasa, Tsirang, Sarpang, Trongsa and Mongar in 2016.

The network in each 15 dzongkhag has office-bearers comprising President and Vice-President who oversee and coordinate group programs and activities.

Since DAISAN's inception in 2011, the network has targeted youth between the age of 13 to 24 years to enable positive behavioral change early on to eliminate Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Domestic Violence (DV) from the society.

DAISAN members spread awareness on GBV while simultaneously sharing information on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights for youth.

RENEW has been working closely with teacher-coordinators of all 20 dzongkhags so that not a single district is left out. To bring these five new dzongkhags within the network's fold, a two-day training workshop for each of the dzongkhag was held.



Gasa

The training workshop held at Bjishong Central School premise from April 8-9, 2016 had young volunteers from some of the most remote pockets of the country. Even though many of them were keen to have DAISAN in their dzongkhags, they were unaware of the procedures involved to form one or come up with program DAISAN engages in. Since Gasa is among the least developed dzongkhags, awareness programs have limited reach to the communities.

Trainers from RENEW and UNICEF successfully trained 34, including 16 female students, to become DAISAN volunteers. The students were from Bjishong Central School and Laya Lower Secondary School.



Tsirang

Many students in Tsirang had questions and recommendations to involve more of them in DAISAN network. In a workshop held at Damphu Lower Secondary School from April 16-17, 30 participants, including 15 male, from Damphu Central School, Damphu Lower Secondary School, Mendrelgang Central School and Tsirangtoe Lower Secondary came to be part of DAISAN. The students said they would take up initiatives to coordinate DAISAN programs and advocacy in their School.



Her Majesty in Bumthang during High level Advocacy tour



MSTF-CBSS meeting in Tsirang



Her Majesty visiting hospital in Tsirang during High Level Advocacy tour

Gelephu

A few schools in Gelephu already had DAISAN clubs in place and had clear ideas about the network's programs. The members were ready to take on more responsibilities to make the network stronger to help other students.

The two-day training held at Gelephu Higher Secondary from April 23-24, 2016 saw 30 participants including 17 female from Gelephu Lower Secondary School, Gelephu Higher Secondary School, Pelrithang Middle Secondary School, Losel Gyatsho Academy and Kuendrup Higher Secondary School. Some students suggested more of such trainings so that they could build their capacities and learn from other participants as well.



A community woman raising question during High Level Advocacy Tour in Pelrithang, Sarvang



Her Majesty in Trongsa during High level Advocacy tour

Trongsa

Most of the 30 participants who came forward to be members of DAISAN in Trongsa had no prior knowledge on Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence. Of the total participants in the workshop held at Sherubling Central School from May 7-8, 2016, 14 were female. The participants were from Sherubling Central School, Tshangkha Central School and Samcholing Middle Secondary School.

Mongar

The training held at Mongar Lower Secondary School on May 14-15, 2016 had 27 participants. Majority of the participants, were female. They came from Mongar Higher Secondary School, Mongar Lower Secondary School and Sherub Reldri Higher Secondary School.



DAISAN's goal

Many new volunteers learnt to be effective ambassadors of change within the limited resources at their disposal. They learnt through exchange of ideas and experiences to conduct DAISAN's programs.

To manage the network and coordinate better with RENEW, a President and a Vice-President was democratically elected in each of the five dzongkhags. With the office bearers in place, the

participants collectively developed plan of action (PoA) for their individual dzongkhags. They want to set the ball rolling from their schools and represent change they want to see in their society.

Within two days, the member-volunteers were able to learn about RENEW, services of RENEW, DV, GBV, the correlation of GBV with SRHR and mostly importantly Child Rights and Protection. The students said they would still require in-depth capacity building. Regular trainings and programs such as joint

conference among DAISAN members and other youth groups in the country should be initiated for learning and sharing, according to a few of them. Such networks will not only motivate the members but also enhance youth volunteerism in the dzongkhags.

Almost all the participants recommended the need to introduce insignia for DAISAN members so that they could easily be recognized.

When Yeshey Dawa advocates



RENEW created a character, Yeshey Dawa, to advocate awareness on rights of women and children. The lead protagonist is a young woman, aged 25-30, representing an embodiment of liberation, compassion and action. She represents goddess Tara, widely accepted as a metaphor for compassion and liberation.

Yeshey Dawa appears in Kuensel in the form of a comic strip, talking about statutory rights available to women in Bhutan. She also creates awareness among men and women of all ages on legal rights and remedies available to women, rights against physical and sexual abuse, rights as a student and at workplace. The series is a blend of statutory provisions, real life cases, and illustrations, among others.

The first series started off on June 6, 2015. Its focus was the importance of Marriage Act.

Yeshey Dawa also made a television appearance on Bhutan Broadcasting Service followed by Radio.

With the support from DFAT, her messages were translated in Lhotsham and Sharchop as well.



WITHOUT EDUCATION, POOR HEALTH, AND WITH LITTLE OR NO CONTROL OVER HER OWN BODY, HER FUTURE CAN BE DERAILED, AND HER POTENTIAL MAY NEVER BE REALIZED.

WHEN A TEENAGE GIRL IS EMPLOYED, HAS THE MEANS AND THE INFORMATION TO MAKE HER OWN DECISIONS IN LIFE, SHE IS MORE LIKELY TO RESIST SEXUAL ABUSE AND BECOME A POSITIVE FORCE FOR CHANGE TO HER HOME COMMUNITY AND NATION.

SAY NO TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE !

www.renew.org.bt Phone: +975-2-332159 email: info@renew.org.bt

Knowing more about Women and Children's rights in Bhutan from **Yeshey Dawa**

A child in conflict with law is a child who is above 12 years of age and who has been found to have committed an offence.

Aum Pem! You look very troubled today. Is everything okay?

No, everything is not okay. My 15 year old son has been detained by the police last evening on charges of theft. I am worried that he might get bullied by the adult inmates.

Try not to worry. According to the Child Care and Protection Act, a child detained for an offence must be treated with respect and dignity. They also must be kept separate from the adult offenders at all times. You can go and meet with and stay in contact with your son.

Hi, I am Yeshey Dawa, and you will learn more about Women and Children's rights in Bhutan. Every Saturday with Me!

Australian Aid IPPF UNICEF UNFPA

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Colour with **YESHEY DAWA !**

Dedicated to Gyalum Digma Namgyel Wangchuck

Published by RENEW

Supported by Australian Aid



Stakeholders respond to Gender Based Violence

Polycymakers for teenage welfare

The initiative came into being after RENEW shared with the parliamentarians the status of teenage girls with the emphasis on the increasing cases of teenage pregnancy and sexual harassment.

Even though there are number of modules developed by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education

on Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health, it has done little to deter sexual harassment and other related issues.

The slow response was attributed to lack of implementing agencies and limited skills to impart knowledge to young adolescents.

The Members of Parliament felt the teenagers' wellbeing is a priority as

it is linked to social and economic development and is one of the key factors to the country's overall progress.

The UNFPA made a brief presentation on the findings from National Statistic Bureau's study on the adolescent sexual reproductive health.

As an outcome of RENEW's previous meeting with the National Council's Social and Cultural Affairs Committee, a stakeholders' consultation was held at the National Council's conference hall in Thimphu on September 15, 2016.

Thirty five representatives from different agencies participated in the meeting.

The consultative meeting also enabled other stakeholders such as Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labor and Human Resources, Judiciary, Royal Civil Service Commission, Royal Bhutan

Police, National Commission for Women and Children, RENEW and UNFPA to identify issues and challenges related to dealing with teenage pregnancy, sexual abuse, and harassment.

The National Commission for Women and Children presented the overall status of violence against women and children in the country. The Commission also presented the challenges such as lack of manpower, financial and infrastructural constraints, and lack of forensic facilities and formalized social protection.

RENEW said there is a lack of reporting

mechanism for sexual harassment. The overall understanding of the issue is difficult and the legal provisions are unclear, they added.

Another stakeholder, UNFPA presented the findings from a study, "Sexual Reproductive Health of Adolescent and Youth in Bhutan" carried out by National Statistics Bureau in 2015.

According to the study, as much as 22.2 percent male adolescents and 9.7 percent female adolescents have had early sex. Many of the respondents said they engaged in sexual activity for fun and pleasure. They also said media and western culture influenced them.

Mobilizing people at the grassroots



Even after a decade of nationwide advocacy, HIV/AIDS, STIs, Domestic violence, Gender Based Violence, and teenage pregnancy cases were found to be still on the rise.

While there appeared to be a fairly good understanding of the issues among public, complacent attitude deterred advocacy programs from achieving the intended impact.

To bridge the gap between advocacy

and impact, the President of RENEW and UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador, Her Majesty Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck led a high-level advocacy in six dzongkhags tour last year.

In the first segment, held from September 29 until October 4, Dagana, Tsirang and Sarpang were covered. The second leg covered Trongsa, Bumthang and Zhemgang.

The advocacy program consulted young people in and out of schools, community members, local leaders and community

volunteers, and through their inputs, identified subjects and challenges related to health and gender based violence, among others.

The program involved decision makers, planning officers, local leaders, and school authorities at district level and incorporated priority social messaging in the local work plan.

RENEW jointly organized the advocacy with the Ministry of Health with the support from UNFPA.





Her Majesty interacting with Royal Bhutan Police and Royal Bhutan Army personnel in Sarpang during High level advocacy.



Segment one

Talking in schools

Discussion with students and teachers of three schools in Dagana, Tsirang, and Sarpang found common challenges; alcohol addiction and drug abuse, teenage pregnancy, and suicide.

The list also included young girls being taken out of schools to be sent as domestic help, gender based violence, gender identity, and academic stress, among others.

In Dagana, 400 participants comprising students, principals, vice-principals, teachers, health coordinators and counselors from Daga Higher Secondary School, Drujegang Community School, Gesarling Ccommunity School and Dagapela Middle Secondary School took part in the advocacy training.

In Tsirang, around 600 participants including students and teachers of Damphu Higher Secondary School attended the program.

Around 350 observed the awareness program in Sarpang.

Meeting with MSTF- CBSS

As part of the advocacy, meetings with MSTF- CBSS members were also held in Dagana, Tsirang and Gelephu. Close to 130 members attended the meetings.

Many members said the coming together of two networks enabled them to mobilize funds. However, a few of them felt the MSTF-CBSS partnership needs to be strengthened further.

Meanwhile, an information booklet on priority public health issues including domestic violence was launched. MSTF-CBSS guideline was also distributed among the members.

Rallying with the public

From Dagana's four gewogs: Tsendagang, Tashiding, Goshi and Gesarling, 340 participants including religious leaders, Lam Neten, Dagapela Lam, Dzongdag, Drangpon, Sector Heads, Dagapela



Regional Heads, Village Health Workers, and MSTF/CBSS attended the awareness program.

In Tsirang, 521 people including the Dzongda, Lam Neten, Drangpon, Sector Heads, VHWs, MSTF/CBSS and Regional Heads, among others attended the workshop.

Gelephu saw 280 participants including Sector Heads, village health workers, and CBSS-MSTF members.

The Goodwill Ambassador and the team also met with Armed Force Officers and their family members.



The vulnerable groups

Of the many issues raised, stigmatization and discrimination of those infected with HIV/AIDS and workers in Drayang being tricked about the nature of their work were the main ones. About 35 taxi drivers, Drayang workers and proprietors discussed health and gender based violence.

The Goodwill Ambassador also visited hospitals in Dagapela and Tsirang.

Segment two

Talking in Schools

During the second phase of the awareness campaign targeting central dzonkhags: Trongsa, Bumthang and Zhemgang, Her Majesty spoke on the need to strengthen value education among children.

Most teachers were found to focus only on finishing the annual curriculum. They were encouraged to take an active part in the overall growth of students. They were urged to expand their knowledge on social and health issues such as on HIV/AIDS, STI, teenage pregnancy, and Gender Based and Domestic Violence, among others. They were encouraged to become role models for their students.

The parallel meetings held for students and school principals saw 357 participants from seven schools in Trongsa, 456 from 13 schools in Bumthang, and 341 from

four schools in Zhemgang

The meeting with MSTF-CBSS

Many members of MSTF-CBSS said abuse of alcohol in Bumthang is rampant given the increasing number of Drayangs and bars. Other issues such as child negligence, domestic violence, and public nuisance, among others were also raised during the meetings conducted for MSTF-CBSS.

Bumthang's MSTF-CBSS meeting had 45 participants. In Trongsa where 60 members gathered, the increasing number of HIV/AIDS and STD cases were brought to the limelight. A few members said screening of workers and several rounds of awareness on the prevention have not proven successful to keep the number in check.

Mangdechhu Hydropower Project, located in Trongsa, has more than 6000 employees.

The team visited the Taktse College of Language and Cultural Studies and spoke to the students on health, gender based violence and the support system. During a similar meeting held in Zhemgang 60 members came together. The discussions revolved around domestic violence, teenage pregnancy, gender based violence and other health concerns.

Rallying the public

After meetings conducted for the people of Trongsa, Bumthang and Zhemgang, it was decided that RENEW and NCWC will collaborate to address social issues they had raised. They will partner with the local authorities and community members for effective outcome.

It was also decided that RENEW will partner with Kidu Office to explore scholarships to children from economically disadvantaged families.

Another major issue raised was alcohol abuse and addiction. There are 208 bars in Bumthang.

Close to 560 people attended the MSTF-CBSS meeting in Trongsa.

In Bumthang, 600 people from four Gewogs comprising of business communities, sector heads, regional heads, local leaders, village health workers, MSTF/CBSS members, RBP families, vulnerable groups attended the meeting.

Zhemgang saw 350 members constituting business community, sector heads, local leaders, village health workers, MSTF and CBSS members, some locals and RBP personnel and their families.

Where healing begins

Gawailing Happy Home



for women and children where they heal and prepare to connect with their families and communities.

The survivors at Happy Home received interventions such as counseling, legal assistance, vocational trainings, literacy program, and capacity building.

They were also trained on livelihood skills. To help the beneficiaries reintegrate in the society, they celebrated New Year, Losars, and went for Loday on February 1, 2016. Health checkup for the staff and students of Gawailing Happy Home was also conducted.

Training for the shelter's staff

Two staff of Gawailing attended Result Based Management Training at RENEW on January 11-13, 2016. Another staff attended Right Based Approach to Development at Rochokpel, Thimphu from February 3-5, 2016. The core group members met in April 2016 and charted out future for Gawailing.

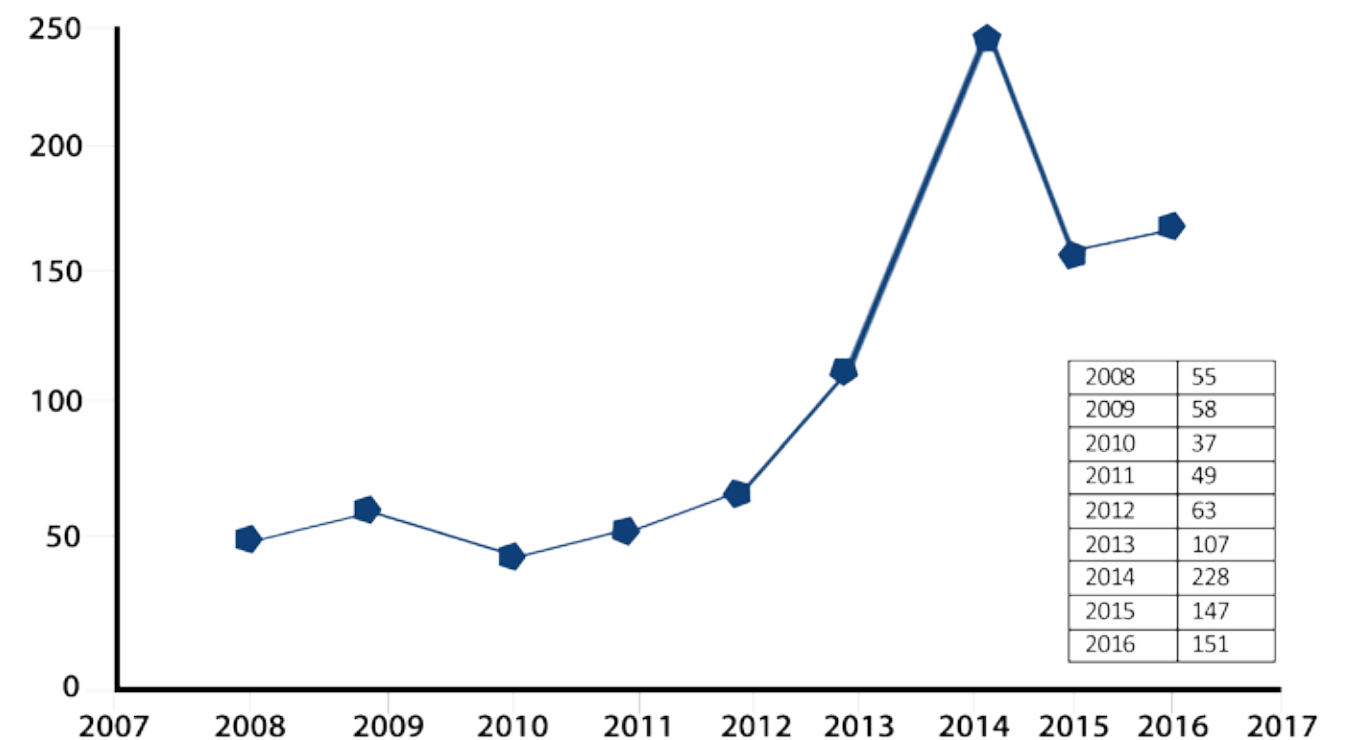
Earning from catering

Workshop	Total
Life skill workshop for transgender	Nu.80,000/-
Long term care plan workshop	Nu. 22,000/-
Natural dye training	Nu. 86,500/- as
Education meeting	Nu.9,000/-
Donation by cash	Nu. 20,000/-
Total	Nu. 217,500/-

Two staff took part in a two-day "In House Capacity Building", training



Clients availing Gawailing service (2008-2016)



Since its inception on April 27, 2013, Gawailing Happy Home has provided shelter to 669 women, children and a man and their family members up until the end of 2016.

RENEW's President, Her Majesty Galyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck said the long-term shelter would open doors to the victims of domestic violence to rebuild their confidence and lives through counseling.

At present, there are 17 students at Gawailing Happy Home.

The Center, located at Selekha in Thimphu, provides comprehensive whole-life approach to address the needs of survivors. It is a long-term shelter

During the inaugural of the shelter,

Up scaling training program in Gawailing Happy Home

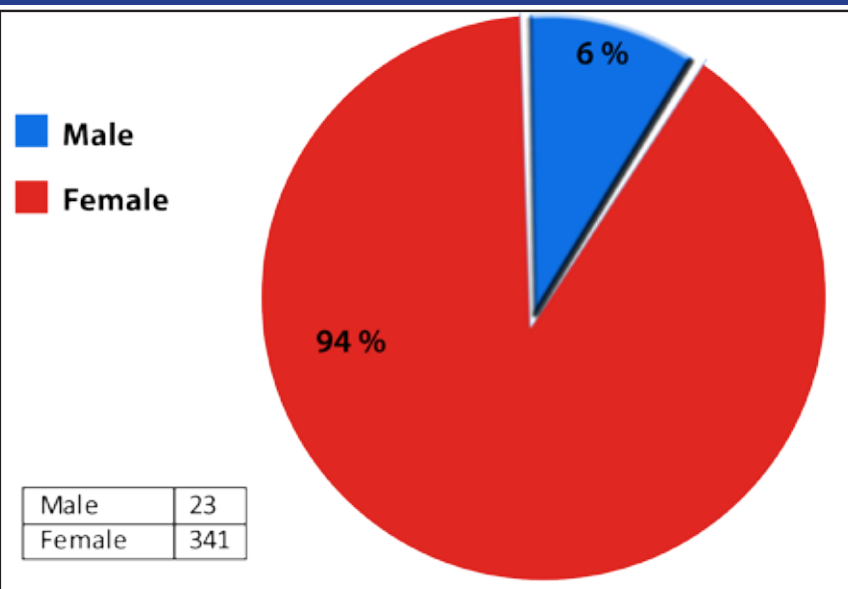
Supported by Australian Himalayan Foundation, RENEW introduced Assamese Loom in Gawailing Happy Home in Wangsisina on December 21, 2015. In 2016 alone, 27 Bhutanese women were trained in three batches.



Case Classification (2009-2016)

Types of Violence	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
DV/Willful negligence	43	85	83	119	127	121	108	102
DV/Physical assault	102	142	118	146	110	104	114	88
DV/Psychological abuse	1	1	1	1	43	61	67	63
DV/Extra marital affair	21	29	31	33	56	41	49	54
DV/Alcohol and substance abuse	6	7	9	11	0	0	0	0
DV/Sexual assault	2	3	1	2	2	5	2	1
DV/incest/Rape	5	6	6	5	4	2	5	4
DV/Mental health	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	
Non DV	60	52	69	57	33	48	24	52
Total	243	328	318	374	375	382	369	364

Sex wise distribution of clients 2016



for counselor in Paro. Three attended Karmic Healing at Namgay Heritage.

Extending support to Gawailing

His Majesty granted Nu 150,000 for the electric fencing of Happy Home. Zimrda Industries Private Limited donated a Maruti Van to Happy Home. Lions Club donated a Mahindra Ambulance, 400 kilograms rice, 20 liters refined oil, pulse, peas, and seven trays of eggs on June 8, 2016.

Aum Babara donated towards construction of a playground. She also sponsored lunch for the staff and trainees of Gawailing. Tshering Tobgay and Sherine Tobgay of METTA Resort in Paro donated 18 Jackets for the shelter's children and women.

Achievements

Since July 2015, Gawailing has been able to meet staff expenses on their own. The shelter constructed an additional greenhouse with the help of students of Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Science and technical expertise from Dzongkhag Agriculture on January 19, 2016.

Beneficiaries of Gawailing

Year	Female child	Male Child	Women	Man	Total
2013	86	13	21	***	107
2014	85	66	77	***	228
2015	82	24	40	1	147
2016 Till Nov end	90	32	29	***	151

In 2017, Gawailing Happy Home will construct additional greenhouse and work towards meeting the operational costs.



Towards enhancing Gawailing services



The possibility of accommodating vulnerable boys and men in Gawailing Happy Home was discussed during a half-day meeting of key stakeholders: RENEW, National Commission for Women and Children (NCWC), UNICEF and Royal Bhutan Police. No proper shelter facilities were accessible for men and boys.

In a meeting held at Gawailing Happy Home on February 16, 2016, the discussion revolved around the possibilities of expanding services to men and boys, especially those, whose family members were availing Gawailing services.

The stakeholders thought it would encourage reintegration of family. They also said it would be easier for the stakeholders to engage men in their

programs. RENEW's partners proposed to explore the possibilities to house vulnerable men and boys.

The group also discussed streamlining the census issue of children with RENEW.

Most children were either abandoned or orphaned with no proper records. Streamlining the census issue for these children would require proper documentation, uniformity of system and sharing information with partners to avoid duplication of efforts.

Among other important issues discussed was children's education and development. RENEW was asked to chalk out both short term and long term plans to address these issues.

Another suggestion for RENEW was to develop a creative aftercare program for

the children in Gawailing to assess the impact and efficiency of services. The need to incorporate disability care plans was also suggested.

The objective of the meeting was also to discuss strengthening current services of Gawailing Happy Home by overcoming current challenges and pooling in resources and capacity of various agencies. The meeting concluded with the stakeholders expressing the need to conduct more multilateral meetings and discussions on a regular basis. They said this would help the service providers and caregivers have a better understanding of the issues and accordingly implement changes to overcome the challenges.

The meeting was part of the RENEW's ongoing program on child protection. It was supported by UNICEF.

Bhutanese pledge to eliminate violence against women



RENEW, in collaboration with key stakeholders, organized a national symposium to observe the International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women on November 24-25, 2016.

RENEW's President Her Majesty the Gyalum Sangay Choden Wangchuck graced the inaugural symposium held on November 23.

Her Majesty launched 3Is: Transformation through theatre, a training module for facilitators to work on issues faced by youth through drama and the report on UNFPA state of population policy.

On the inaugural day, seven women portrayed true stories from RENEW through monologues under a special program, Bum Jarim: Bhutanese Women's Monologue. The symposium brought together close to 350 stakeholders from the Royal Bhutan Police, Supreme Court, Ministry of Health, National Commission for Women and Children, Bhutan National Legal Institute, National Statistic Bureau and Sherubtse College.

Also present were the Australian Ambassador to Bhutan, Harinder Sidhu, Works and Human Settlement minister Lyonpo Dorji Choden, Health minister Lyonpo Tandin Wangchuk, Education minister Lyonpo Norbu Wangchuk,

members of the parliament and other officials.

Sixty members of the Multi Sectoral Task Force and Community Based Support System from 20 districts also attended the symposium. Also present were representatives from the Civil Society Organizations, Bhutan National Legal Institute, Judiciary, and Media.

Seventeen panelists from different agencies involved to help the survivors of domestic violence, spoke on issues revolving around the day's theme - "The Bhutanese Pledge: A shared commitment towards eliminating Violence Against Women".

Newly elected local leaders onboard to combat gender based violence

RENEW, in collaboration with the health ministry, reached out to the recently elected local leaders of the six eastern dzongkhags to bring down incidences of domestic violence and gender-based violence.

Including the members of MSTF-CBSS, 39 local leaders from Mongar, Trashigang, Trashiyangtse, Lhuntse, Pemagatshel, and Samdrup Jongkhar, attended the

two-day workshop held in December 12-13, 2016.

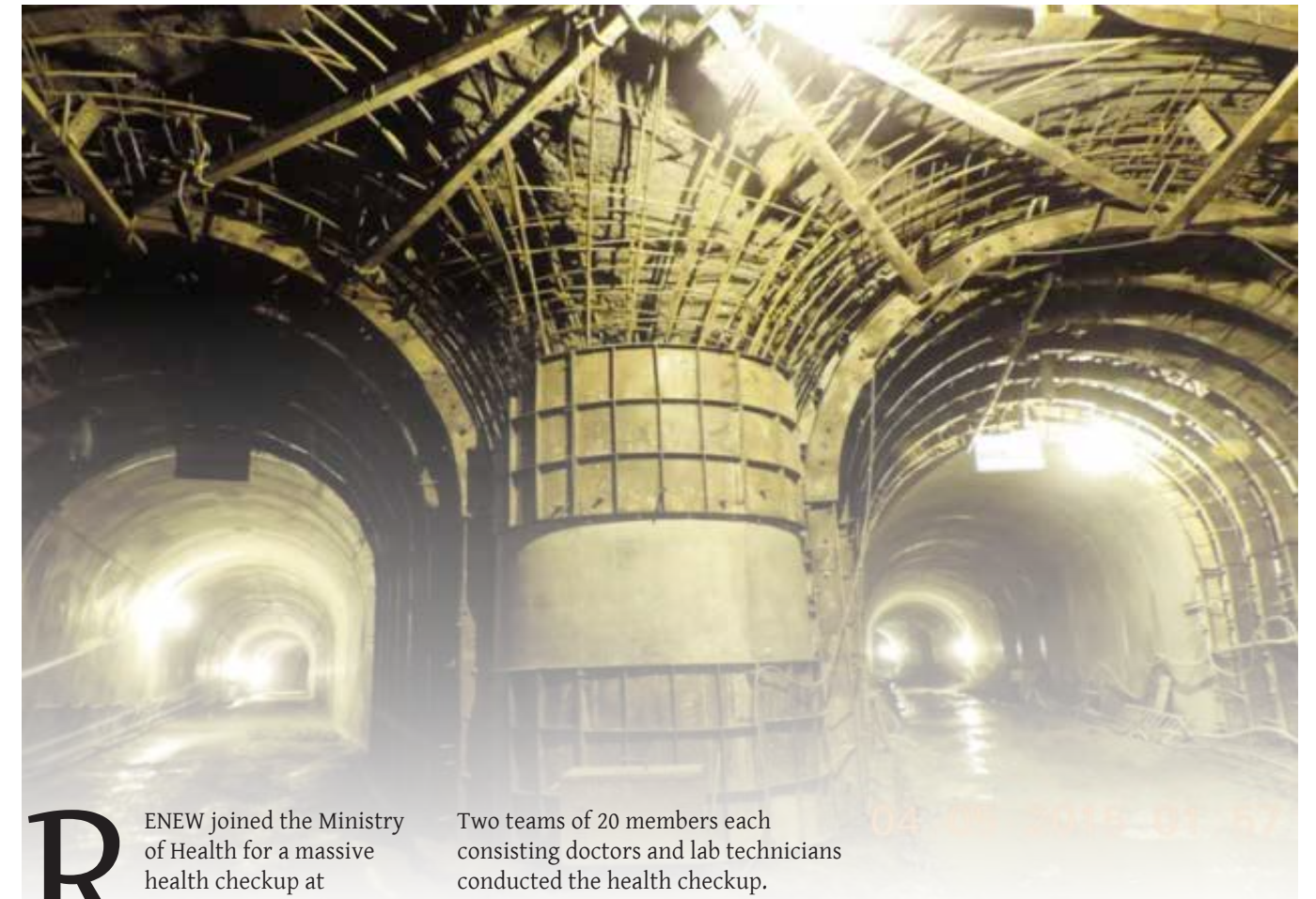
The local leaders were sensitized on health and social issues. Group works at the workshop resulted in identifying and prioritizing issues affecting their communities.

The participants developed cost effective action plans to be included in their dzongkhag and gewog development

plans.

Chairpersons of Local Government for the six eastern dzongkhags and planning officers also committed to include the communities' priorities as part of the development plans.

Teams comprising officials from RENEW and health ministry will monitor the inclusion. They also agreed to provide expertise on issues identified.



RENEW joined the Ministry of Health for a massive health checkup at Mangdechhu Hydro Power Project, fulfilling one of its objectives. RENEW has been part of the National HIV Control Program since 2010.

Close to 2,300 workers underwent checkups at four different sites of MHPA during the eight-day surveillance survey conducted in May 2016.

The surveillance survey was conducted to help prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS, provide treatment and care at the earliest to the infected.

Data collected from the surveillance will serve as a baseline survey for future programs.

The locals of Trongsa were also given opportunity to get tested. Of the total tested, six reacted to HIV test. The samples were sent to laboratory for confirmation.

Two teams of 20 members each consisting doctors and lab technicians conducted the health checkup.

Each team had RENEW officials assigned for logistic support. They also provided pre-counseling at the sites.

Check-ups were also conducted for Malaria, Tuberculosis, and other diseases.

RENEW could be part of the program with the financial support from IPPF: an approved activity under the HIV prevention themes of 2015.

After the surveillance survey was conducted, it was found out that the level of understanding on diseases' prevention and transmission among those tested positive, increased significantly.

The shared platform has also given an opportunity for RENEW and the health ministry to forge strong ties for future collaborations.

Health check up for MHPA workers

Dagana

RENEW directed its financial services to the women and their families of Dagana from March 1-14, 2016. The dzongkhag falls under poverty level.

Microfinance Project began in eight gewogs: Tseza, Gayseling, Drujegang,

Khebisa, Tashiding, Goshi, Tsangkha and Tshendengang. The project allowed women to actively participate in socio-economic activities to enhance their level of income.

By the beginning of December 2016, the project extended to the remaining gewogs of Largyab, Kana, and Dorona.

During the meetings conducted in these gewogs, the project was introduced to the members. The purpose, benefits, and types of services under the scheme were shared.

A video on self-reliance called “self-produced” was also screened.

By the end of last year, 771 members from Dagana had registered with the project.

In the same year, Microfinance Project recruited five field officers increasing the number of staff to 18.

Thimphu

On June 8, 2016, as a pilot project, financial literacy training was conducted among its members in Thimphu.

The main purpose of the training was to strengthen understanding of finances amongst members with the responsibility and opportunity to deal with rural businesses.

Targeting Dzongkhags for Financial Services



The members were taught financial literacy program, setting financial goals, saving methods, expenditure management, and how to make borrowing decisions.

Budgeting Booklet, published by the project, was also distributed to many of its members.

Asian Development Bank and the German Savings Banks Foundation for International Cooperation helped publish 10,000 copies of the Budgeting Booklet.

The project has trained close to 2,950 members. More members will be trained in 2017.

Samtse and Bumthang

Microfinance project of RENEW observed the first Entrepreneurship Day in Samtse and Bumthang to spread financial awareness, sense of fraternity, and create an opportunity for non-members to be part of the project. As part of the day, RENEW also updated the members on the microfinance project activities.

Microfinances services also worked on data transfer with the Credit Information Bureau (CIB) on March 1, this year.

CIB has agreed to aid microfinance institutions in taking correct credit decision by making the project members' credit history available.

The Microfinance Project is looking at growing into a private limited company in the near future. The project is also planning to open a new branch in Punakha and Wangdue Phodrang.

Working with educators for better future

Around 68 participants comprising school principals, school health coordinators and school counselors attended a four-day awareness workshop on Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence in Trashigang from April 4-7, 2016.

Besides creating awareness on domestic violence and other social ills in the communities, the objective of the program was also to expand RENEW's two volunteer network: CBSS and DAISAN in schools for effective communication.

It was also to share the findings from RENEW's 2015 study on Status of Vulnerable Children in Bhutan.

Several pertinent issues related to youth such as substance abuse and suicide were discussed.

Program facilitators comprised of officials from different agencies like the dzongkhag court, Royal Bhutan Police, dzongkhag hospital and UNDP.

The workshop saw a lot of interaction among facilitators and participants. Different opinions and issues on domestic violence were raised.

From the feedback, it was learnt that the participants were particularly pleased with the involvement of facilitators from different agencies.

Towards the end of the workshop, the participants drew action plans to be implemented in their respective schools.





Getting educators in Paro onboard

RENEW continued to create awareness on the widespread domestic and gender-based violence. A study, 'Status of vulnerable children in Bhutan', conducted by RENEW in 2015 revealed high prevalence of domestic violence and children related issues in Paro.

Awareness programs for the School Principals, Guidance Counselors, Health Coordinators and Teachers were conducted in two phases.

The target members were from central, higher and middle secondary schools. Students from primary schools attended the second phase of the program held on June 13-14. RENEW was able to cover all the 22

schools in Paro including three private schools. Close to 50 attended the awareness programs.

Supported by UNDP, RENEW through the programs, chose teachers as the target group since they deal with children on a daily basis.

Also, the awareness campaign's intent was to have a multiplier effect as the educators are respected and looked up to in a community. During the awareness campaign, experts from UNDP, Royal Bhutan Police, and Legal Officers from District Court spoke on sexual reproductive health and rights, vulnerabilities of children, police crime report, and Childcare and Protection Act, among others. Apart from these topics, sustainable development goals (SDGs), suicide

prevention in schools, and drug abuse were discussed.

The discussion also included many pertinent social issues in the communities and the participants collectively came up with solutions and suggestions to curb them.

Feedback from the participants said they found the awareness campaigns timely and relevant. Some suggested having such workshops more often in the future.

Once they return to the communities, the participants said they are willing to work with RENEW to reduce the prevalence of domestic violence and other youth related issues. The program was supported by UNDP.



RENEW with financial support from the UNFPA, IPPF, SARO and EC observed a youth-led event on the World Population Day at Royal Banquet Hall in Thimphu on July 11, 2016.

Other participants were the Department of Youth and Sports, Department of School Education, Ministry of Education and Thimphu Thromde.

Her Majesty Gyalum Sangay Choden Wangchuck, the President of RENEW and UNFPA's Goodwill Ambassador graced the occasion as the guests of honor.

The Department of Youth and Sports under education ministry led a two-day program preceding the main event at the Harmony Center.

A youth group Y-peer steered a conversation on teenage girls.

RENEW's youth volunteers, Druk Adolescents' Initiative for Sexual Awareness Network (DAISAN) showcased a special drama series titled "I".

During the main event, the youth groups also presented issues confronting teenagers and submitted a list of recommendations.

RENEW also launched a drawing book called, "Yeshey Dawa" for children. The launch was made possible with support from RENEW's Micro Finance Program, SBFIC.

The event was attended by the Minister of education, Lyonpo Norbu Wangchuk, Minister of works and human settlement, Lyonpo Dorji Choden who is also the Chairperson of National Commission for Women and Children and other dignitaries including parliamentarians, secretaries, principals and teachers.

RECOMENDATIONS

- CSE in schools to be implemented strongly to reduce gender discrimination, teenage pregnancy and unhealthy relationships.
- Promote responsible parenting skills to understand and provide support to vulnerable teenagers.
- Increased advocacy on laws, acts, regulations and stakeholders.
- Implement effective awareness programs for teenage girls to motivate them and boost self-confidence.
- Strong school management system, which includes parents in educating children on the ills of eve teasing.
- Stringent implementation of laws, rules and regulations to combat rape and harassment.
- Effective media literacy to promote a better understanding of positive and negative information among young girls.



No more closeted and quiet

Creating opportunities for LGBTIQ members

RENEW initiated the first ever training workshop on Life Skills Education (LSE) based on Reproductive Health Training in Bhutan. LSE is offered in most schools and universities however an essential part of the LSE, the comprehensive sexual education (CSE) is left out in the schools. Bhutan's Life Skills Education is a CSE based module and it is also included as part of the teacher training curriculum at Royal University of Bhutan's two colleges in Samtse and Paro. From 25-29 January 2016, 17 members

from the LGBTIQ community attended the five-day training workshop at Gawailing Happy Home, Thimphu.

RENEW took upon itself to organize a workshop with members to educate them on health and social issues through LSE. The workshop enabled the members to coordinate and liaise their programs smoothly.

From the training workshop, it was clear that the members require more such trainings and capacity building for them to make more informed decisions. Many

were attending such training for the first time.

It was also evident that within the network itself, streamlining of responsibilities and sharing of work was an immediate priority.

HIV/ STI prevention and Sexual Health and Rights were some of the discussions that took place during the workshop.

The workshop was conducted with technical assistance from UNFPA and financial assistance from IPPF.



Combating Homophobia together

To celebrate diversity and solidarity, the members of Bhutan's LGBTIQ, its allies, and other stakeholders joined the global community to observe International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHOT) in Thimphu on May 17, 2016.

In line with the theme, “coming together”, the members of the community and stakeholders discussed the social, health, and legal issues confronting by the community.

Speaking to local media, the coordinator of the LGBTIQ community, Dechen Shelden said discrimination and stigmatization were their biggest challenge.

“They discriminate us because we are different. But, we are just like them, we are also human, but with different sexuality,” she told the National Newspaper, Kuensel.

She told the paper, with social stigmatization comes self-stigmatization, which could lead to depression prompting drastic decisions such as suicide.

The objective of the event was to increase the involvement of as many stakeholders and enable the community to address issues and challenges.

Stakeholders such as RENEW, UNDP Bhutan, MoH, LHAKSAM, UNFPA, and other allies came together in solidarity with the community.

The event was widely covered by the local media.



Joining the global force
through HeforShe

Over a thousand Bhutanese signed up for HeforShe: a global campaign advocating gender equality.

RENEW and UN women spearheaded the campaign in Bhutan, especially targeting the male population: a half of the humanity in an effort to support the other half.

The solidarity movement, which began in 2014 and ended in 2016, was to identify the role of men and boys to fight gender inequality by increased engagement in the campaign and conversations.

Over a billion men and boys became part of the advocacy worldwide. They pledged to take action against all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls. In Bhutan, RENEW has taken the lead to involve communities in the movement since 2015.

HeforShe goes local

RENEW launched its first HeforShe campaign in March 2016 in Phuentsholing.

Over 200 participants from the College of Science and Technology, 200 from Phuentsholing Higher Secondary School, 300 from Reldri Higher Secondary School and 100 from Phuentsholing participated in the campaign.

Facilitators from RENEW and UN Women urged the participants to act against gender bias, discrimination and violence against women and girls. They were told gender equality subsequently benefits the entire society.

Information on how to join the global movement was also disseminated. They were given hands-on training to join the campaign through online registration.

When He stood for She



HeForShe

UN Women Solidarity Movement
for Gender Equality

The participants were also shown short video clips to give them a better understanding of the campaign.

In April, the campaign garnered close to 1,500 participants in Trashigang. They were students from Trashigang Middle Secondary School, Rangjung Higher Secondary School, and Jamphele Higher Secondary School.

With a budget of Nu 166,152 the participants were also taught the campaign's aim and objective and taught how to join the global HeforShe activism.

The campaign, which moved on to Paro in June 2016, saw collaboration with the Royal Bhutan Army, the first of its kind.

The two-day advocacy program kicked off with an introductory session of over 400 participants comprising army personnel and their families.

Like in the other dzongkhags, the participants were informed on the purpose and importance of the advocacy.

Since the launch, RENEW has been able to take forward the campaign to many parts of Bhutan, reaching out to men and young boys in schools, colleges and institutes.

RENEW and UN Women also launched a HeForShe digital campaign garnering support from those with access to the Internet.

Economic empowerment through skills development

Having realized the importance of financial independence for the survivors of domestic violence, RENEW has prioritized their economic empowerment through skills development. Funded by a Finnish NGO Fida International, RENEW started implementing a project called Creative Minds – Busy Fingers in 2011.

In its initial phase, the project targeted only the survivors in Thimphu. The project had a small pool of financial and human resource and a limited number of trainees.

In 2014, the work expanded to two other areas, Samtse Dzongkhag and Open Air Prison.

The project then expanded rapidly, covering eight dzongkhags, by the end of 2016. The project included more beneficiary groups; from victims of domestic violence and gender based violence to other vulnerable women and youth group.

The exponential expansion of the project is the result of RENEW's successful savings and loan schemes.

In 2015, the first male trainees were accepted. Also, the thematic coverage had widened. Up to 2015, the project focused on teaching women participants.

The project expanded to other need-based trade such as ginger candy making and fruit tree

Of creative minds and busy fingers



planting.

By 2016, all women participants, being trained in skills development courses in any RENEW Center, were offered ginger candy making training.

Cooperation with Gawailing Shelter in Selekh, the other entity in RENEW giving vocational training, has intensified. Trainees were trained to use looms and natural dye. They were also taught to bake. Marketing the products locally and internationally has also been a shared effort.

Activities in focus

In 2016, the project implemented a three-month basic tailoring course. Twenty-nine women were trained in Thimphu, 23 in Gawailing Shelter, 42

in Trashigang, 16 in Tsirang and 13 in Dagana.

The training ended in December 2016. Under an advanced three weeks tailoring course, 58 women were trained in purse and bag making.

On the job training, such as basic weaving, machine embroidery, administration and finance was also conducted for those at RENEW Center.

A Finnish Designer trained 39 participants, in two batches, between March and September on product development and quality management. They were taught color combinations, new models, and economic use of materials, among others.

A basic training on Japanese Peach Cultivation saw 15 participants in

Trongsa Dzongkhag.

The Micro-Finance Project also provided financial literacy courses to the participants undertaking tailoring courses.

RENEW also took up several advocacy activities such as monthly RENEW Coordination Meetings, a symposium, and “The Bhutanese pledges: A shared Commitment to eliminate Violence against Women”, in November.

An annual retreat and organizational development meeting were also organized in December.

RENEW also actively participated in



several fund-raising events such as Paro Tshechu, Mega Spring Sale in Thimphu, Thimphu Tshechu, and Bhutan Fair in Singapore, among others.

New products for local and international market: laptop bags, mobile purses, souvenirs and shopping bags were launched. They can be found at the Royal Textile Museum, UMA

resort, Museum of Traditional Medicine, Jamtsho Bhutan Tours, Store of Hope in Finland and Aman Kora.

Based on feedback, trainees at RENEW continue to develop products.

The other activities RENEW took up was on-the-job staff training on networking, marketing, fund-raising and sale for all project staff. It was conducted during unit meetings and training sessions. The

training was put into practice during advocacy and sale events.

Unit planning, update, and feedback meetings while implementing projects were also among the activities RENEW implemented. It included daily guidance of administrative and finance staff of the project. Participatory project planning for 2018-21 was also organized with the representatives from Civil

Society Organizations, youth group representatives, and RENEW. Other participants included Skills Training Project staff, two groups of tailoring trainees, representatives of Ministry of Labor and Human Resources and Ministry of Health. RENEW also celebrated team building during the International Women's Day, Independence Day of Finland, and farewell dinners.

Three from RENEW took part in Development Training for Fida's Asian Partner organizations in Bangkok, Thailand. Two took part in the convention for recovering addicts in Sikkim, India.

Impact

Women, mainly the survivors of the domestic violence, could acquire and hone their skills to earn livelihood through the trainings organized by RENEW. The skills have enabled them to generate income not just for themselves but also for their family members. According to an interview-study conducted among the former trainees in May 2016, 90 percent of the trained women started to earn right after the trainings. Some of them work from home, some in tailoring shops and a few of them in stores run by a cooperative group. Representatives were also sent to Thimphu for further trainings indicating their willingness to develop their skills further.

Some of them have been provided monitored opportunities to train others. This has improved their self-esteem. Motivation, ownership, and skills among the trained members in weaving, tailoring and embroidery have improved through capacity building trainings on product development, design, colour combination, quality assessment and use of different techniques.

The project has built the partner organization's capacity, especially in project management, networking, and marketing. It has made possible for the expertise and funds to flow from Bhutan, Finland, India and Switzerland into the project. The functional cooperation with different stakeholders has added more

value.

The Project also followed the working areas of the Micro Finance Project (MFP), which paved way in the communities by networking, building relationship and providing loan to trainees for purchase of machines.

Also, the Ministry of Labour has recognized the trainings and is giving financial support to the participants attending the trainings or interning with RENEW.

The project has also received appreciation and visibility through active participation in different awareness and fund-raising events.

The trainers have become experienced and capable and their products are selling well. The interest towards RENEW's Skills Training as a possible cooperation partner has increased both in Bhutan and abroad.

The project could meet and exceed its set target set for 2016.

More ambitious projects have been charted out for 2017. Long-term participatory project is also planned for 2018-21. The concept note for the extension of the Project has been submitted to Fida International/ Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Finland.

Also, in partnership with Swiss Fund, negotiations for long-term support to skills training are underway.

The future of Skills Training in RENEW looks promising.

Step it up for Gender Equality



The President of RENEW and UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador, Her Majesty Gyalum Sangay Choden Wangchuck said it is the moral responsibility of every parent to prevent HIV transmission to their child.

Her Majesty said timely intervention could have saved children who have acquired the infection from their parents.

It is the moral responsibility of those infected to avoid spreading the virus knowingly to others, added Her Majesty.

Her Majesty was speaking during the International Women's Day, which was observed on March 8, 2016 at Chumithang MSS in Sampheling Gewog under Phuentsholing Dungkha.

About 1000 people, including students, teachers, and people from six villages under Phuentsholing Dungkha was part of the event which was themed, "Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality".

Her Majesty said despite collective measures by various agencies to prevent violence against women and children, it is persistent in Bhutanese society and is a growing national concern.

"Children often get caught up during these situations and are either witness to or victim of some kind of domestic violence each year."

Her Majesty said parents have the

responsibility to educate their children to understand the concepts of respect, loyalty, and trust.

Her Majesty also drew attention to the increasing number of HIV/AIDS cases in the country. She expressed concern saying almost a half of the infected population appears to be women and children.

She urged the Ministry of Health to accelerate responses to control the spread of HIV in the country and Multi-Sectorial Task Force (MSTF) across the country to step up efforts to prevent HIV/AIDS in their Dzongkhags.

The event was jointly organized by RENEW, NCWC, Chithuen Phendey, Chumithang MSS, Dzongkhag administration and UNFPA.

Also present at the event were the United Nation Resident Coordinator, Christina Carlson, works and human settlement minister, Lyonpo Dorji

“**...It is the moral responsibility of every parent to prevent HIV transmission to their child.**”

Choden, and health minister, Lyonpo Tandin Wangchuk.

Towards the evening, Her Majesty presided over a meeting where Chukhha Dzongkhag's MSTF Member Secretary reported their activities. He said 76 individuals came forward for voluntary testing during World AIDS Day on December 1, 2015.

He also said they visited 39 villages creating awareness on HIV/AIDS, MDR-TB and TB-HIV. They could reach out to 86 truckers and taxi drivers, 71 workers of Indian origin, and 21 Drayang workers.

Such joint interventions at the community level, the presenter said, helped in educating vulnerable people at the grassroots.

Integration of such programs into the work plan of the dzongkhags could help streamline and sustain gender-based violence prevention and intervention.

Her Majesty also had a meeting with the hospital staff. She emphasized on the need for more focused interventions from the health ministry for youth, as Phuentsholing is a border town.

As a follow up, a technical team from the education ministry, health ministry, UNFPA and RENEW visited Dechencholing School to sensitize students on HIV/AIDS, suicide, mental health, Gender-Based Violence, and sexual and reproductive health and rights.



Monastic Body as Agent of Change

For a CSO like RENEW, engaging monastic body as the agent of change is effective as they are respected in the community. As the communities rely on these figures on a daily basis, for religious and cultural purposes, RENEW included them during the third phase of Life Skill Education, Gender-Based Violence and SRH training workshop.

Twenty-five religious figures attended the training held in Paro from September 19-23, 2016. It was part of a training series conducted for representatives from monastic body. Of the 25, four were nuns and one female teacher. Others were principals, assistant principals and teachers.

The workshop was a collaborative effort of RENEW, Ati Foundation and ToTs from the previous two workshops.

Four facilitators were participants who had previously undergone training workshops conducted by RENEW.

The topics covered during the five-day workshop ranged from 10 core life skills, HIV/AIDS, STI, Safe Sex, Family Planning, Puberty and Adolescent Health, Maternal Health, Reproductive Health, Domestic Violence, Gender Based Violence, Hygiene and Sanitation.

Resource person for the workshop also included representatives from district health and Lhak-sam. Their input was crucial to enhance the training since they could provide first-hand experience of working on health issues.

On the final day of workshop, participants worked on individual work-plans since they came from different institutes. They committed to share knowledge in their

institutes on a weekly basis. Majority of the institutes they came from have 50 to 150 students.

They also said they would interact with the communities in their vicinity as much as possible to make them aware of issues related to gender based violence.

Participants also requested such trainings be conducted on a regular basis and suggested also training representatives from institutes that haven't been covered.

They suggested such workshops should include both male and female participants to break stereotypes and gender discrimination.





Their recommendations also included:

1. Integration of LSE into Buddhist teachings when relevant subject matters are taught.
2. Making them the messengers of anti-gender based violence during public gatherings such as local festivals.
3. Conducting LSE for students in schools once a week.

Tackling religious stereotypes

A major outcome from Life Skills Education training workshop, held for the monk body, was dispelling religious typecast; women are inferior to men by nine births.

During the discussion, many religious figures said the reference was in context of physical strength and not to be inferred otherwise.

RENEW, along with Ati Foundation, organized the gender-based violence prevention and reproductive health and rights training workshop for religious body from March 25 to April 1, 2016 at Namdroling Dratshang in Autsho, Lhuntse.

Thirty-three Trulkus, Khenpos, Lams and Lopens from 29 monasteries attended the training.

“In the past, physical strength of men was considered more important due to circumstances at that time. But now time has changed and it is the wisdom that is important... it is high time we tap the potential our women possess...” said the principal of Namdroling Dratshang.

However, he also said it is still mostly women and young girls who come to seek support.

“We have to provide proper guidance, much needed support as many of them are still vulnerable.”

The training was divided into 18 modules. To break the monotony of the training, different trainers took up different sessions. The sessions included the joy of growing and puberty, reproductive health, and religious symbols among others.

RENEW’s objectives and the reasons for partnering with UNFPA were also discussed. The participants said they could bring about positive changes in their

communities and monasteries by applying the new skills and knowledge they have acquired from the workshop.

Role-plays were enacted to make session on HIV/AIDs interactive and educative.

Myths and facts of HIV/AIDs were also discussed. Statistics and findings from a study, conducted in 2015 by the National Statistics Bureau for the religious figures;

Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) were part of the learning modules.

At the end of the session, the participants drew up action plans to impart knowledge from the workshop in their Chodeys, Gomdeys and community pujas.

Coaching of coaches

Prior to the main training, six Lams and Lopens underwent an intensive three-day training. The six facilitators were identified from the first batch of training held in Phuentsholing to roll on the LSE training to others in the monastic body.

They were re-oriented on the subject and each was allotted a session from the LSE training manual in addition to sessions



that was taken up by resource person from UNFPA and RENEW.

Along with two resource people from UNFPA and RENEW, the six re-visited the sessions they were taught in Phuentsholing.

After brainstorming, each of the six came up with their own lesson plans including presentations and exercises deemed appropriate for the Khenpos, Lams and Lopons.

All of them committed to integrate gender-based violence prevention and sexual and reproductive health and rights messages in their monasteries and communities.

Involving district heads

Many members of the Multi-Sectoral Task Force agreed for better coordination amongst them to integrate the prevention of domestic and gender-based violence into their main action plan.

During the orientation on MSTF-CBSS Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), carried out jointly by RENEW, MoH and UNFPA, the members agreed coordination among the members was inadequate and required continued effort to bridge the coordination gap.

The orientation programs were held last year in three dzongkhags: Gasa, Punakha, and Wangduephodrang on May 27, 30 and 31 respectively. It was carried out in three different dzongkhags to accommodate the maximum number of participants.

During the orientation, the new Gasa Dzongda, Dzongrabs and other members were informed about the progress of MSTF-CBSS activities.

After the discussions, the members decided to integrate the agendas of DV/GBV in Gewog Tshogdu and Dzongkhag Tshogdu to trigger discussions among the communities.

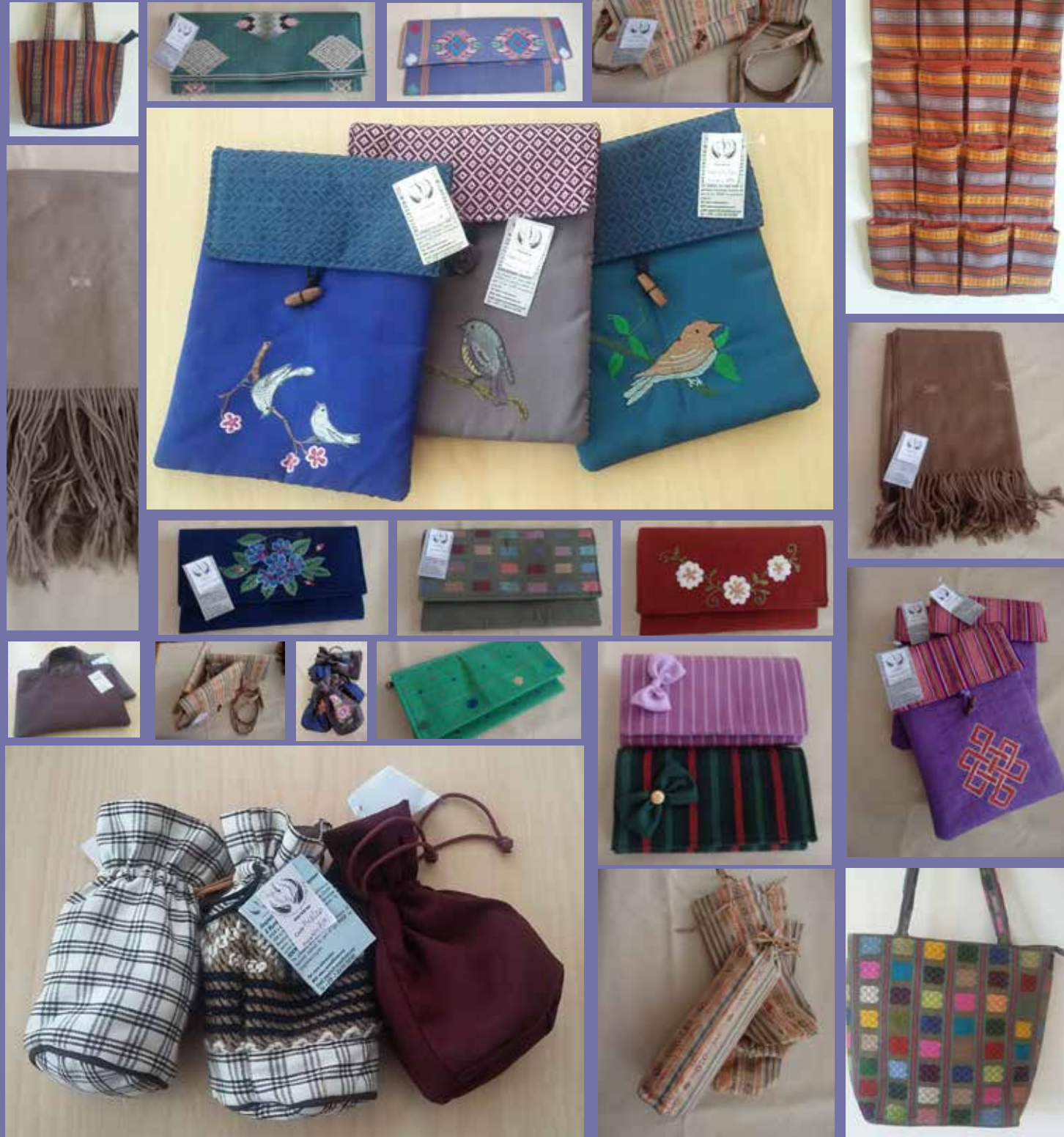
They also said they would incorporate these agendas in the annual performance agreement in the next two years of the 11th Five Year Plan and carry it forth to the 12th Five Year Plan.

One of the major outcomes was to allocate budget for capacity building of the members.

The participants were Gasa Dzongda, Dzongrab’s of Punakha, Wangdue and MSTF members who are all sectorial heads. Others included teachers and Hydropower Project volunteers.

In total, 105 members: 42 from Gasa, 33 from Punakha and 29 from Wangduephodrang took part in the orientation.

FIDA launches new products



Annual Financial Statement **2016**

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS STATEMENT For the year ended 31st December 2016

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT (Nu.)	PAYMENTS	AMOUNT (Nu.)
Opening Balances:		Expenditures:	16,517,096.62
RENEW Secretariat:	3,945,996.01	RENEW Secretariat	6,155,710.18
Cash	61,773.17	RENEW Scholarship Fund	1,111,501.80
Bank	3,884,222.84	RENEW IPPF	7,076,284.82
		Gawailing Happy Home:	2,173,599.82
Fund Received during the Year:	19,690,210.82		
RENEW Secretariat	5,299,144.61	Advances:	1,086,082.00
RENEW IPPF	1,753,615.58	RENEW Secretariat	28,577.00
RENEW Scholarship Fund	10,456,956.63	RENEW Scholarship Fund	495,000.00
Gawailing Happy Home:	2,180,494.00	RENEW IPPF	550,000.00
		Gawailing Happy Home:	12,505.00
		Closing Balances:	
		RENEW Secretariat:	6,033,028.21
		Cash	46,852.55
		Bank	5,986,175.66
Total	23,636,206.83	Total	23,636,206.83

Circle of Compassion 2016

RAVEN CIRCLE

Donations above Nu 10,000,000 (USD 2,50,000)

1. Dr. Tanya Marie Brandes, Los Angeles, California.

TAKIN CIRCLE

Donations above 10,00,000 (USD 24,000)

1. FOBC, Kind courtesy of Ms. Pamela
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3. Ms. Elena and Sergey, Russia
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19. DashoTobgyel Dorji

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19. The Wise Women of YALE F&ES 2006, USA
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22. Debby Jagerman
23. Aum Sangay Zam, Thimphu
24. Rinzin Ongdra Wangchuk, Thimphu
25. Peter N. Dean and Gillian Carol Dean
26. GREECE Bhutan Friendship Association
27. Italy Bhutan Friendship
28. Ms. Kriti Kapoor
29. Chimi Wangmo, RENEW
30. Ms. Dorji Yangki
31. Mrs. Robi Martzy
32. Mr. Tomoko Nitta
33. Mr. David Martz
34. Mrs. Anne Morrison, Peru
35. Ms. Holly Scheib, USA
36. Ms. Kristin Kokish Nelson, USA
37. TOSA-OY

38. Ashi Sonam Choden, Thimphu
39. Mr. Tony Chow, Singapore
40. Mrs. Bubble Singh, President, FWO, India
41. GepkeHingst, RR UNICEF, Bhutan
42. Simon Teoh
43. RICBL
44. DSB Enterprise
45. Megah Enterprise
46. DSB Book
47. Indian Embassy
48. DHPC (Dagana)
49. MOH
50. WHO
51. City Corporation
52. Dzongkha Education Officer (Trongsa)
53. Dzongkha Education Officer (Sarpang)
54. Druk Green Power Corporation
55. DekiRabgye
56. YesiSeldon
57. KCD Production
58. Wander Tours
59. SBFIC (Project Renew)
60. B.B Gurung, Eight Eleven Shopping Complex
61. ParoCollege
62. RIHS
63. KiranRai
64. SolveigKolaas
65. Dasho Karma Tshiteem
66. Lyonpo MingboDrukpa
67. Lyonpo Damcho Dorji
68. Kipchu Tshering
69. David & Catherine
70. Namgyel Lhendup
71. Lyonchen Tshering Tobgay and Aum Tashi
72. Tshewang Thinley
73. Aum Kinley Wangmo
74. KhenpoGarab
75. DolmoChoso
76. ThinlayPalden
77. Jigme Mining Pvt Ltd
78. Songwah
79. Bhutan Foundation

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