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RENEW ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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Respect Educate Nurture Empower Women





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Our Vision

A just, equitable, inclusive and happy society.

Our Mission

1. Empower, nurture and support the reintegration of survivors of SGBV including vulnerable individuals and communities with psycho-social support and livelihood skills to become socially, economically productive individuals and promote gender equality.
2. Mobilise inclusive human capital and build empathy to promote vibrant and happy communities through people-centered care.
3. Strengthen public/private partnerships with national and international stakeholders and with communities for sustainable cross-sectoral support to SGBV survivors for effective, accessible and sustainable delivery of quality services.
4. Deliver quality services through efficient, knowledgeable and highly motivated workforce supported by comprehensive (inclusive and equitable) internal mechanisms.
5. Ensure financial growth and programme sustainability for RENEW's continued delivery of core functionalities and programs.

Our Priorities

1. To keep developing its own in-house capacities (in terms of both numbers as well as demonstrated qualifications of human resources) to provide timely and effective services to DV/GBV victims all over the country.
2. To seek for an even stronger partnership with government, private and international agencies to ensure far more effective and efficient collective efforts.
3. To ensure its operations' sustainability by exploring appropriate and realistic fund raising activities as well as piloting carefully planned social enterprises on a phase by phase basis.



RENEW

MILESTONES

- DAISAN youth volunteers' network launched.
- National Board for certified counsellors (NBCC) - Bhutan board for certified counsellors (BBCC) partnership launched.
- RENEW Microfinance established.
- Community Based Support System (CBSS) established in all 20 dzongkhags.

2011

- 2nd Nationwide High-level advocacy.
- RENEW receives National order of merit.

2016

2008
Inauguration of RENEW HQ at Mothithang, Thimphu.

- Inauguration of Gawailing
- Happy Home at Wangsisina, Thimphu.

2013

2004
RENEW was established.

2007

- Initiated temporary shelter services in Thimphu.
- Initiated Livelihood skills training program.

2005

- RENEW opened its first counselling center in Thimphu for the survivors of DV/GBV.
- Initiated Scholarship program
- Community Based Support System (CBSS) volunteers' network established.

- Accreditation as an IPPF Member.
- Inauguration of Tsirang Community Service Center.
- Established partnership with Edith Cowan University (ECU).
- Initiated temporary Community service centers in 3 more dzongkhags adding up to 10 RENEW community service centers in Bhutan (Dagana, Trashigang, Zhemgang).
- Transfer of Bhutan Board for Certified Counselors (BBCC) mandates to Bhutan Qualification and Professionals Certification Authority (BQPCA) Ministry of Education and Skill Development.

- Initiated RENEW Socio Economic Empowerment Program

2021

2023



2022

- Initiated temporary Community service centers in 7 dzongkhags (Paro, Punakha, Bumthang, Phuntsholing, Tsirang, Samtse, Gelephu)

2019

Nairobi summit: HM receives award of appreciation for 20 years of GWA

2020

- Individual Laureate for the 2020 United Nations Population Award.
- Established RENEW Vocational Training institute at Wangsisina.



EW

Partnerships Established



2014- MoU signed with the Ministry of Health to strengthen the MSTF-CBSS network partnership

2016- Signed MoU with Royal Bhutan Police (RBP)

2021- MoU signed with Ministry of Education & Skills Development (MoESD)

2022- MoU signed with the Paro college of Education (PCE)

Message from the Management

In the transformative year of 2023, RENEW proudly presents its annual report, a testament to two decades of unwavering commitment to empowerment and positive change. This year's narrative unfolds with a spotlight on significant milestones, including the successful establishment of the Tsirang Community Service Center.

Tsirang Community Service Center: A Beacon of Hope in the South

In our relentless pursuit of community-driven impact, Her Majesty joyfully inaugurated the first permanent CSC in Tsirang. Nestled in the heart of the southern region, this center stands as a beacon of hope, offering a range of services to empower and uplift individuals and families in the Tsirang district. From counseling and legal assistance to educational initiatives, the Tsirang Community Service Center exemplifies our dedication to fostering resilience and positive transformation at the grassroots level.



Advisory Board Members of RENEW

Advocacy for Change: Her Majesty's High-Level Advocacy in Tsirang

The year 2023 also witnessed a high-level advocacy campaign led by Her Majesty the Gyalum Sangay Choden Wangchuck. Her unwavering commitment to empowering communities and advocating for positive change echoes throughout our initiatives. Her Majesty's leadership has ignited a spark, inspiring collective action and fostering a culture of advocacy that reverberates far beyond our immediate impact areas.

Expanding Reach: Community Service Centers Across Bhutan

In line with our commitment to comprehensive nationwide coverage, RENEW is proud to announce the establishment of community service centers in 10 districts across Bhutan. In addition to Tsirang, these centers are strategically positioned in Paro, Punakha, Phuntsholing, Gelephu, Samtse, Zhemgang, Dagana, Trashigang, and Bumthang. This expansive network enables us to extend our reach, ensuring that individuals in diverse regions have access to the support and resources needed for empowerment.



RENEW Staff with the Advisory Board Members

As we reflect on the past year, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated team, invaluable partners, and the communities we serve. Together, we have woven a tapestry of resilience, compassion, and positive change, embodying the spirit of RENEW's two-decade journey. As we embark on the future, guided by our principles and the vision of a harmonious and empowered Bhutan, we remain committed to fostering transformation and uplifting lives across the nation. RENEW holds profound significance as an agent of positive and sustainable community change. Through the establishment of Community Service Centers and impactful advocacy campaigns, the organization demonstrates a dedicated approach to addressing diverse needs at both individual and community levels. RENEW's unwavering support for women and children creates a transformative ripple effect, contributing not only to immediate challenges but also fostering broader societal progress. The initiation of the RENEW Social Enterprise showcases innovation in blending social impact with an entrepreneurial spirit, exemplifying the organization's forward-thinking approach to sustainable community transformation. RENEW emerges as a catalyst for positive change, embodying a vision for resilient and thriving communities through holistic and adaptive solutions.

ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLIMPSE IN PAST 5 YEARS

In the past five years, RENEW has held profound significance as an agent of positive and sustainable community change. Through the establishment of Community Service Centers and impactful advocacy campaigns, the organization has demonstrated a dedicated approach to addressing diverse needs at both individual and community levels. RENEW's unwavering support for women and children has created a transformative ripple effect, contributing not only to immediate challenges but also fostering broader societal progress. Accreditation as an IPPF member indicates RENEW's commitment to global standards and institutional strength. The initiation of the RENEW Social Enterprise showcases innovation in blending social impact with an entrepreneurial spirit, exemplifying the organization's forward-thinking approach to sustainable community transformation. In essence, RENEW has emerged as a catalyst for positive change, embodying a vision for resilient and thriving communities through holistic and adaptive solutions.



1. Conducted Two High-Level Advocacy Campaigns in Lunana & Tsirang:

Advocacy lies at the heart of our mission. Through two high-level campaigns in Lunana, one of the most remote places in Bhutan and Tsirang, we have passionately championed the causes that matter, striving to bring about lasting impact and positive change in the attitudes of people towards SRHR & GBV at both local and national levels.

2. Established 10 RENEW Community Service Centers:

In our commitment to fostering lasting change, we have established 10 Community Service Centers across regions, creating vital hubs for community engagement, support, and empowerment. These centers serve as beacons of hope, providing sustainable infrastructure for community development.

3. Accreditation as an IPPF Member:

In our pursuit of excellence, we have achieved accreditation as a proud member of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). This recognition signifies our unwavering commitment to upholding global standards and contributing to international efforts in the realm of community service and welfare.

4. Transfer of Bhutan Board for Certified Counselors Mandates to BQPCA:

As part of our commitment to institutional strength and credibility, we have facilitated the transfer of Bhutan Board for Certified Counselors mandates to the Bhutan Qualification and Professionals Certification Authority (BQPCA) under the Ministry of Education and Skill Development. This strategic move ensures a solid foundation for sustained impact and growth.

5. Initiated RENEW Social Enterprise:

Innovation is at the core of our mission. The initiation of the RENEW Social Enterprise reflects our commitment to exploring new avenues for sustainable community transformation. By blending social impact with entrepreneurial spirit, we aim to create innovative solutions that contribute to the long-term well-being of our communities.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

HIGH-LEVEL ADVOCACY AND INAUGURATION OF FIRST COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER IN TSIRANG

In a momentous occasion, Her Majesty the Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck, the Royal Patron of RENEW (Respect, Educate, Nurture, and Empower Women), graced the inaugural ceremony of the RENEW Community Service Center in Tsirang. This endeavor, a collaboration with the dzongkhag administration, represents a significant leap forward in enhancing access to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) services in a region plagued by escalating reported cases of GBV.

With unwavering support from UNICEF, the center has been endowed with essential facilities and two dedicated center manager and case manager to oversee its operations. The core services offered at the center encompass counseling, case management, legal assistance, emergency shelter, and efficient referrals to crucial support and services. Beyond immediate assistance, the center plays a pivotal role in empowering women and girls through skill development, offering training in livelihood skills.



The establishment of the RENEW Community Service Center in Tsirang is not an isolated effort but part of a larger national initiative. In partnership with the National Commission for Women and Children (NCWC) and UNICEF, three such centers were established in 2022, reflecting a collective commitment to address GBV issues at a broader scale.

In conjunction with the center's inauguration, Her Majesty the Gyalyum conducted a high-level advocacy program in Tsirang Dzongkhag. As the Royal Patron of RENEW and the Goodwill Ambassador of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), her focus was on creating awareness and advocating for women and girls' empowerment, along with their Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR).

During this advocacy program, Her Majesty engaged with the students and staff of Damphu Middle Secondary School and Damphu Central School, including 26 children with disabilities. Officials from RENEW, the Ministry of Education & Skills Development, and the Ministry of Health conducted interactive sessions addressing various aspects of public health, Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE), and discussions on gender, gender-based violence, SRHR, cultures, and values.

Recognizing the multifaceted challenges faced by the youth, including rising teenage pregnancy, suicides, drug abuse, and school dropout rates, the Director of the Department of Education Programs, presented immediate and long-term strategies. A significant stride has been the integration of Comprehensive Sexuality Education into the national school curriculum since 2021. This initiative provides students with scientifically accurate and age-appropriate information on SRHR, fostering conversations on gender equality, relationships, and consent.

The Ministry of Education & Skills Development is actively working on additional initiatives, including health and well-being focal points in all schools, mentor-mentee programs, school parenting programs, and e-counseling services, among others. These efforts collectively aim to enhance the overall health and well-being of students.

As part of the advocacy program, Her Majesty the Gyalyum also visited the hospital, interacted with health staff, and met with the 38 multi-sectoral task force members, community volunteers (CBSS), and local leaders. This collaborative approach ensures a holistic response to the challenges faced by the community, promoting a sense of community ownership and engagement.

The establishment of the RENEW Community Service Center in Tsirang and the advocacy program led by Her Majesty the Gyalyum exemplify a commitment to creating a safer, more empowered society. Through collective efforts and strategic initiatives, we aspire to transform lives and foster positive change in communities across the nation. The journey continues as we strive to build a society where every individual, regardless of gender, can thrive in an environment of respect, education, nurturing, and empowerment.

ESTABLISHED 10 RENEW COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTERS



TSIRANG CSC, FIRST PERMANENT STRUCTURE

In a stride towards fostering community well-being and empowerment, RENEW has successfully established 10 Community Service Centers across various dzongkhags in Bhutan. These centers, strategically located in Paro, Punakha, Dagana, Bumthang, Phuntsholing, Gelephu, Samtse, Tsirang, Trashigang, and Zhemgang, stand as beacons of support and resources for individuals facing various challenges within their communities.

This initiative, born out of a deep commitment to addressing the diverse needs of communities nationwide, reflects RENEW's mission to create a safer and more empowered society. The establishment of these centers aims to provide critical services, support systems, and resources to individuals, particularly women and girls, who may be navigating the complexities of gender-based violence, mental health concerns, and other socio-economic challenges.

Each Community Service Center is equipped with a comprehensive array of facilities and personnel, ensuring that individuals in need receive timely and effective assistance. The centers serve as hubs for various core services, including counseling, case management, legal assistance, emergency shelter, and efficient referrals to crucial support and services. Moreover, they play a pivotal role in empowering women and girls by offering training programs in livelihood skills, contributing to sustainable community development.

The vision behind establishing these centers is not only to provide immediate support but also to create lasting positive impacts on the communities they serve through diverse programs including livelihood skills training. RENEW recognizes the unique challenges faced by different regions, and these community-specific centers aim to tailor their services to address the particular needs of each dzongkhag.

These initiatives have garnered significant attention, with press releases and news coverage highlighting the purpose and impact of RENEW's Community Service Centers. Online platforms have featured success stories, testimonials, and the transformative journeys of individuals who have found solace and support through the services offered by these centers.

The establishment of these Community Service Centers is a testament to RENEW's unwavering commitment to empowering individuals and transforming lives across Bhutan. As we reflect on this milestone in our annual report, we celebrate the collective impact of these centers in creating resilient, empowered, and thriving communities. The journey continues, and RENEW remains dedicated to its mission of fostering positive change.



BUMTHANG CSC





PUNAKHA CSC



GELEPHU CSC



PARO CSC



ZHEMGANG CSC



PHUENTSHOLING CSC



DAGANA CSC

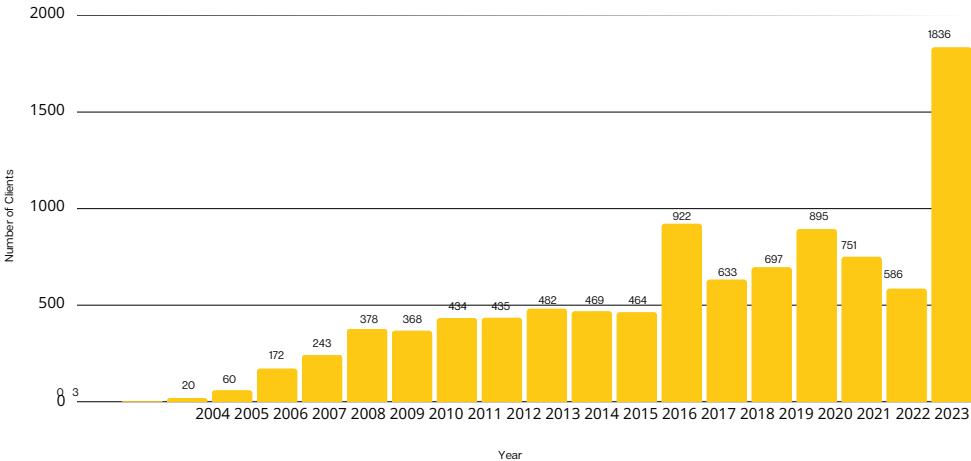


TRASHIGANG CSC



SAMTSE CSC

IMPACT THROUGH OUR CORE SERVICES



2,64,288

SERVICES WERE PROVIDED TO

9,848

CLIENTS FROM 2004 TILL 2023

NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED

29,881

TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED

13,392

MALE

16,445

FEMALE

42

OTHERS

ABOVE 18 YEARS OF AGE

14,735

TOTAL NUMBER

6,942

MALE

7,793

FEMALE

0

OTHERS

BELOW 18 YEARS OF AGE

15,146

TOTAL NUMBER

6,450

MALE

8,652

FEMALE

44

OTHERS

CASE SUMMARY 2023

788

TOTAL NUMBER

496

WALK IN

292

HELP LINE

MALE



89

FEMALE



699

PHYSICAL ABUSE

WALK-IN	HELP-LINE	TOTAL
76	56	132

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

WALK-IN	HELP-LINE	TOTAL
211	166	377

SEXUAL ABUSE

WALK-IN	HELP-LINE	TOTAL
17	7	24

NON-DV/SGV

WALK-IN	HELP-LINE	TOTAL
171	45	216

ECONOMIC ABUSE

WALK-IN	HELP-LINE	TOTAL
21	18	39

TOTAL : 788



STORIES OF OUR CLIENTS

A RAY OF LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

TLT, 27 years old is a survivor of sexual harassment. During her preschool years, she discovered that she and her younger sister were adopted. Their adoptive mother had passed away when they were little, leaving only faint memories. They were raised solely by their adoptive father and was very strict. He would impose curfews and had tight restrictions, leaving no room for freedom. It may seem that he was worried and cared out of love, but the love for TLT was tainted. **"I was treated more like a wife than a daughter"**, she said. When she was around 7 years old, she was abused emotionally, physically and sexually. If she did not allow him to have sex, she would often be left outside, even on cold windy days. Feeling suffocated within the confines of her home and his frequent abuse, she grappled with frustration, even attempting suicide several times in a desperate bid to escape her torment. Life felt like dwelling in a birdcage, only glimpsing the sunlight beyond yet trapped by invisible barriers. Her father's threat remained like a shadow, following wherever she would go. He made her believe people would only ridicule her. These hardships persisted until she was at the age of 14 in grade 4.

Gradually, the school counselor doubted her situation and approached her. Initially, she could not open up as she feared her father's words. However, as the counsellor continued to approach her lending her help, she finally shared about her situation and then was referred to RENEW in 2011. At the age of 14, she along with her younger sister who was around 6 years old, in grade 1 was bought to Gawaling Happy Home (shelter), RENEW. For 13 years she and her sister had been under the care of RENEW. Throughout this time, they continued their education with the organization's support, participating in various training programs during school breaks, including baking and tailoring. Alongside their academic pursuits, she underwent counseling sessions to address the trauma she had endured. Moreover, she actively engaged in numerous sensitization programs focused on recognizing different forms of abuse, understanding the concepts of good touch and bad touch, and learning about hygiene maintenance. These initiatives aimed to empower her and equip her with the knowledge and skills necessary for a brighter future.



She reflects, "If RENEW hadn't intervened back then, my life may have taken a completely different path. I may have succumbed to suicide, continued enduring the control and harassment of my adopted father, or even ended up in the dangerous world of sex work." Her journey was fraught with darkness until the age of 14, and RENEW's intervention illuminated her path like a candle in a dark room. Completing her education up to grade 12, she now stands independently employed in a shop, a testament to her resilience. Her younger sister is currently studying in class 12 and she hopes to support her and be the parents that they never had.

VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Jas Bdr. Chettri's passion for agriculture and farming blossomed from his childhood. Despite completing his studies up to class 8, his strong communication skills and proactive nature have opened doors of opportunity for him. It has been two years now working as a Community Resource Person in his block, channeling his enthusiasm into community development.

His vision led him to establish the Dophulakha Organic Vegetables group in his block three years ago, aiming to promote organic farming and reduce dependency on imported products. When he learned about an oyster mushroom training programme supported by RENEW, he eagerly participated and encouraged fellow community members to join. The training sparked a surge of interest, expanding the group to 30 members. The advantage of cultivating oyster mushroom is that they are able to sell in the market within 14-20 days after planting which provide a steady course of income for the group. It has been around 6 months that the group started oyster mushroom cultivation and it is already attention from neighboring blocks for similar training sessions.



Jas Bdr. dreams of further expanding mushroom cultivation, envisioning comprehensive training programmes and the promotion of organic farming practices. **He aims to diminish the need for imports by tapping into the potential of the local market**, thereby boosting economic growth and fostering healthier, organic diets within the community.

“The support provided by RENEW and the FIDA team has made my dream come true. RENEW not only supports women and children but also men. Currently, I am working in a remote area, which is advantageous due to the smaller population. I am committed to supporting the women here by providing them with employment opportunities.

This employment is seasonal, aligned with the mushroom cultivation season, and offers minimal wages. However, if these wages help them achieve financial independence, it will bring me great happiness. “



Kinley Dema, an aspiring entrepreneur, has embarked on a remarkable journey of resilience and creativity, fueled by her passion for crafting and her unwavering commitment to caring for her family. Her story is one of determination and resourcefulness, exemplifying the transformative power of skill development and entrepreneurship. Kinley's journey took a significant turn when her father fell ill, requiring constant care and attention. Despite holding a job at a private company, she made the difficult decision to resign to prioritize her father's well-being. However, Kinley's entrepreneurial spirit remained undeterred, as she harbored dreams of establishing her own business. Driven by her ambition and guided by her desire to balance caregiving responsibilities with her professional aspirations, Kinley seized the opportunity to participate in tailoring and recycling training organized by RENEW. This training equipped her with the skills and knowledge needed to transform her passion for crafting into a viable business venture.

She started to operate from home while also caring for her father. She created unique and innovative products through recycling materials from vases and home decor items to stylish bags, her creations bore the mark of her creativity and craftsmanship. Despite the challenges she faced, including the demands of caregiving and the struggle of starting a business from scratch, Kinley remained firm in her pursuit of success. She used the power of social media to leverage platforms like Instagram, where she **established her page, "kdck_handmade_production," to showcase her products and connect with potential customers.** Through captivating imagery and engaging content, she captured the attention of a growing audience, garnering recognition for her distinctive creations. Furthermore, Kinley seized opportunities to showcase her products through Women Enterprise and CSI market, leveraging these platforms as invaluable opportunities to expand her customer base and promote her brand. Through strategic marketing and networking efforts, she steadily carved a niche for herself in the competitive marketplace, earning a reputation for quality craftsmanship and innovative design.

There are still challenges such as not having enough sales and not being able to buy materials for next crafts. However, she believes over few years, her business will be well settled and growing in the market. As Kinley continues to navigate the dynamic landscape of entrepreneurship, her story stands as a shining example of resilience, creativity, and the limitless potential of the human spirit to triumph over adversity. With each handmade creation, she not only crafts beautiful artifacts but also weaves together the threads of hope, resilience, and determination that define her remarkable journey.



Scan to visit [kdck_handmade_production](#)





ADVANCING SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE & SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS.

In pursuit of RENEW's commitment to empowering vulnerable individuals and survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), RENEW undertook several transformative initiatives each with distinct objectives aimed at fostering positive change in diverse settings.

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION FOR YOUTH AT THE HAPPINESS CENTRE, PHUNTSHOLING.

The initiative at the Happiness Centre aimed to empower youth through Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE), filling crucial knowledge gaps and enabling informed decision-making regarding sexual and reproductive health. Testimonials from participants underscored the transformative impact of the program, revealing heightened awareness about gender, sexuality, and abuse. Notably, the initiative shattered stereotypes, evidenced by a participant's initial misconception about RENEW's focus solely on women. These testimonials reflect the profound impact of CSE in fostering understanding, challenging preconceptions, and ultimately supporting individuals' well-being and successful reintegration into society.

Empowering youth through Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE), filling crucial knowledge gaps and enabling informed decision-making regarding sexual and reproductive health.



ASSESSMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION IMPLEMENTATION IN 21 PRIORITY SCHOOLS.

The study delved into the awareness, perception, and execution of Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) among teachers and students in Bhutan's Priority schools. Findings revealed a remarkable 70.6% of students now have knowledge and better understanding of various aspects of comprehensive sexuality education, 16.3% of students are aware of values and attitude that motivate healthy sexuality education. Moreover, 13.1% of students have easy access to information and teaching methods that has led to self-efficacy for engaging in healthy discussions. These results highlight the tangible positive outcomes of CSE, emphasizing its crucial role in shaping students' attitudes, knowledge, and behaviors towards healthy sexuality, underscoring the importance of continued efforts in its implementation and further research to ensure its sustained impact on the community.

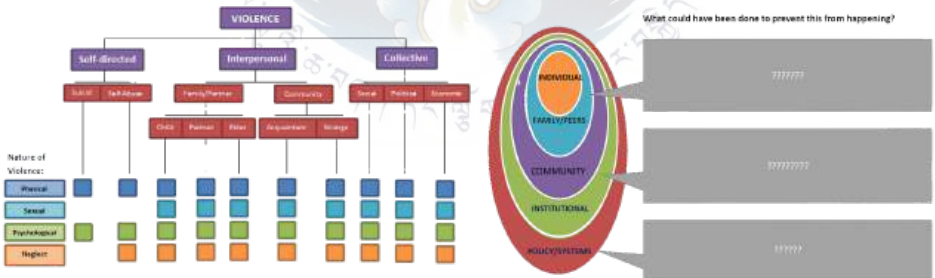
Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) workshop conducted in Bumthang for teachers from 21 priority schools in Bhutan.



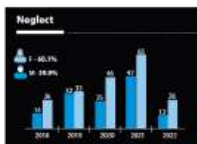
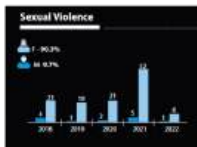
Sexual & Gender based violence and SRHR sensitization program for inmates in Chamgang & Dawakha, in Paro and Thimphu.

RENEW spearheaded Sexual and Gender-Based Violence program targeting 100 inmates (37 male, 63 female) at Chamgang Prison in Thimphu. The program was also extended to 55 inmates of Dawakha Prison in Paro and their residential family members. This initiative marked a historic milestone as the first-ever awareness program tailored specifically for inmates, covering critical topics such as SGBV, SRHR, and Child protection. The program's overarching goal was to empower inmates with knowledge on gender-based violence, domestic violence, child protection, and legal mechanisms. As a direct result, inmates not only acquired an understanding of existing legal frameworks but also developed a heightened awareness of the repercussions of gender violence, equipping them with the necessary skills to identify, report, and address such issues effectively. Through interactive sessions, inmates were provided with a safe platform to articulate their challenges, thereby fostering a collaborative environment between RENEW's programs/services and the prison administration. This initiative's impact transcended mere awareness-raising, catalyzing tangible shifts in attitudes, behaviors, and institutional responses towards gender-based violence within the prison community, ultimately contributing to a safer and more inclusive environment for all.

SGBV and Engage Men & Boys sensitization program targeting 100 inmates (37 male, 63 female) at Chamgang Prison in Thimphu.



Based on reported cases with NCWC, RENEW and Naehoen Lamten for 2018-June 2022



Social & Behaviour Change



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT & REHABILITATION CENTER (YDRC) PROGRAM

Through our dedicated efforts, RENEW has made a profound impact on the lives of vulnerable youth entangled in the complexities of conflict with the law. We embarked on an enlightening journey by conducting a tailored awareness program for 42 youth inmates and their residential family members at the Youth Development & Rehabilitation Center in Chhukha. This initiative, now in its second phase, transcended mere education by delving into critical topics vital to the holistic development of these young individuals. By addressing issues such as gender-based and domestic violence, child protection, legal mechanisms, and imparting life skills, we empowered these youth with the tools to navigate life's challenges with resilience and dignity. The ripple effect of this program is palpable as it not only equips them with knowledge but instills within them a survivor-centered approach to combating gender violence, thereby fostering a safer and more inclusive community for all.

Awareness program for 42 youth inmates and their residential family members at the Youth Development & Rehabilitation Center in Chhukha.



ADVOCACY AND MULTI-SECTORAL ENGAGEMENT TOWARDS ADDRESSING HARMFUL SOCIAL AND GENDER PRACTICES.

The partnership between the Bhutan Football Federation, UN Bhutan, and RENEW at the Gelephu Girls Academy stands as a beacon of hope and progress in the fight against gender-based violence. Through the inauguration of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign, this collaborative initiative has catalyzed tangible change, fostering a culture of empowerment and awareness among the academy's students and the wider community. By uniting their resources and expertise, these organizations have not only raised awareness about the pervasive issue of gender-based violence but have also inspired collective action towards its eradication. The impact of this endeavor extends beyond mere rhetoric; it has sparked meaningful dialogue, challenged societal norms, and empowered individuals to stand up against injustice. As a result, the Gelephu Girls Academy serves as a model for cultivating safe and inclusive spaces, where every individual, regardless of gender, can thrive and contribute to building a society free from the scourge of gender-based violence.

As a part of the advocacy "Orange the World" TikTok Challenge was organised and has made significant strides in raising awareness about gender-based violence and promoting gender equality on a global scale. By harnessing the power of social media and the creative talents of two singers affiliated with RENEW, the campaign has effectively utilized TikTok's platform to engage users with a total reach of 2,48,903 and 789 participants. During the annual 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, the challenge sparked vital conversations and encouraged individuals to take action against violence targeting women and girls. Through innovative video content, participants have been educated, inspired, and empowered to stand against gender violence, fostering a strong sense of community and solidarity. The impact of the challenge extends far beyond the digital realm, igniting tangible efforts to combat gender-based violence and promote a more equitable society.

Women football players at the Gelephu Girls Academy stands as a beacon of hope and progress in the fight against gender-based violence.



GBV SPECIALIZED TRAINING TO RBP PERSONNEL

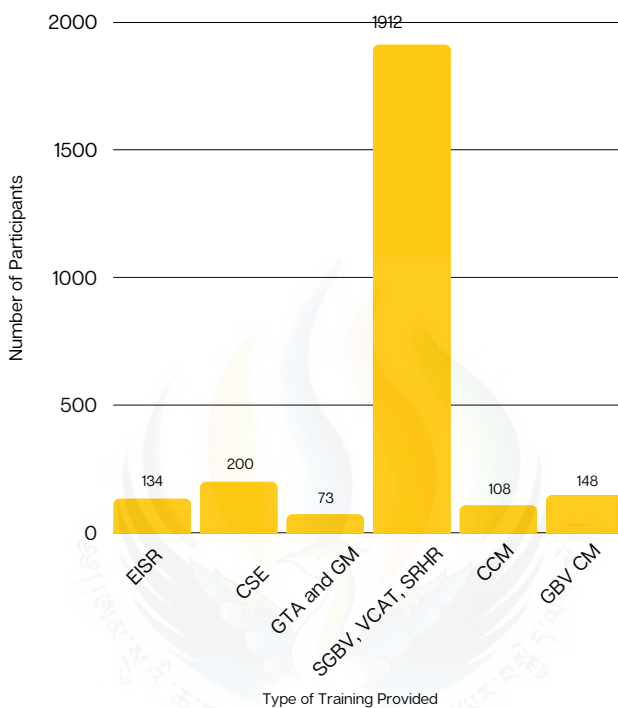
RENEW in collaboration with NCWC and with the support from UNICEF, successfully conducted a two-day (September 21- 22) training program focused on Gender-Based violence Prevention and Response for Specialized Service Providers within the Royal Bhutan Police (RBP). A total of 20 participants, comprising of 15 males and 5 female attended the training. Through our concerted efforts in strengthening response systems and services for survivors of violence, abuse, and neglect, particularly amid emergencies like the COVID- 19 pandemic, we have witnessed profound impacts on the ground. The roll-out of our Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and case management protocols, alongside Child Protection (CP) case management initiatives and the implementation of the Emergency Infant and Young Child Feeding in Stressful Situations (EISR) program, has not only bolstered our ability to swiftly address critical situations but has also provided essential lifelines to vulnerable individuals. The establishment of safe spaces for women and girls has served as sanctuaries for those seeking refuge and support, ensuring their safety and well-being. Moreover, our comprehensive training programs, including refresher courses for Child Protection Case Management and specialized training for GBV service providers, have significantly enhanced the skills and capacities of governmental and non-governmental actors alike. By fostering a survivor-centered approach embedded with rights-based principles and gender non-binary counseling techniques, we are not only improving service delivery but also fostering environments of trust and empowerment. These collective efforts are not just mitigating immediate crises but are laying the foundation for sustainable, inclusive, and compassionate responses to gender-based violence and child protection concerns, creating lasting positive impacts in the lives of survivors and communities as a whole.

A total of 20 participants, comprising of 15 males and 5 female attended on Gender-Based violence Prevention and Response for Specialized Service Providers within the Royal Bhutan Police (RBP).



TRAININGS PROVIDED IN NUMBERS

No. of trainings provided and Volunteers trained in 2023



GLOSSARY

- Early Identification and Safety Referrals (EISR)
- Comprehensive Sexual Education (CSE)
- Gender Transformative Approach and Gender Mainstreaming (GTA and GM)
- Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)
- Value Clarification and Attitude Transformation (VCAT)
- Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)
- Child Case Management (CCM)
- Gender-Based Violence Case Management (GBV -CM)

Empowering survivors of Domestic and Gender Based Violence by enabling them to be financially sustainable and emotionally independent individuals towards a socially productive members of the society has been a key mission of RENEW over the last 20 years.

In line with this, RENEW through its BEST project has taken a holistic approach to ensure equitable access to TVET education, addressing barriers and championing the cause of gender equality and accessibility for persons with disabilities. The program activities, executed with the collaborative efforts of RENEW Volunteers and MSTF-CBSS Volunteers, incorporates targeted approaches, including gender-sensitive curricula and awareness campaigns. to instill lasting change in Bhutan's education landscape.

Engaging with the Bhutan Education and Skills Training (BEST) Project aligns seamlessly with RENEW's overarching mission to empower individuals and foster societal transformation, particularly in the context of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). This visionary initiative, funded by the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada and executed by Humber College (Canada), holds immense significance in reshaping Bhutan's educational landscape from 2022 to 2027.

RENEW's commitment to gender equality, environmental sustainability, accessibility for persons with disabilities, and the profound philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH) harmoniously intertwines with the holistic approach championed by BEST. Beyond conventional educational reform, BEST aspires to broaden access to TVET education, equip graduates with industry-relevant skills, and facilitate their seamless integration into the labor market, aligning perfectly with RENEW's mission of creating empowered and skilled individuals.

Promoting TVET education through a comprehensive outreach and awareness campaign focusing on gender inclusivity and accessibility. Training and mobilizing volunteers from Dagana, Zhemgang, Tsirang, Gelephu, Chukha, and Samtse.



At the core of BEST's mission is the aspiration for a society where TVET education becomes a conduit for economic empowerment. RENEW's engagement in this project is driven by a recognition of the pivotal role of community engagement and awareness in enhancing economic participation for TVET graduates. As part of this transformative journey, RENEW Volunteers and MSTF-CBSS Volunteers collaborate in executing community outreach activities and a comprehensive awareness campaign across 20 districts.

In the realm of gender equality, BEST's impact is palpable through the dedicated efforts to sensitize 64 MSTF-CBSS Volunteers and reach approximately 3,000 students across 14 Dzongkhags. This underscores BEST's commitment to fostering an inclusive and empowering environment for women pursuing TVET education. Simultaneously, the initiative actively promotes accessibility in TVET, ensuring equal opportunities for individuals with disabilities to acquire skills that lead to meaningful employment and participation in society.

As the BEST Project unfolds, its impact resonates not just in conducted activities but in transformative shifts within Bhutan's education ecosystem. RENEW's collaboration with BEST becomes a catalyst for societal change, setting a precedent for education that aligns with the principles of Gross National Happiness. BEST is not merely a project; it is a powerful tool for empowerment and upliftment, echoing RENEW's mission of creating socially productive members of Bhutanese society.

Building a society where TVET education becomes a conduit for economic empowerment.



'Tell me and I forget
Teach me and I remember
Involve me and I learn'

29th - 31st August, 2023

Venue: Royal University of Bhutan
Lower Motithang, Thimphu

DAISAN Volunteers Network

RENEW prioritizes children and young peoples engagement, involving Bhutan's youth in decision-making for collaboration and innovation. The DAISAN network in 41 schools by 2023 demonstrates commitment to empowering youth. Through projects like the Youth Conclave, addressing mental health and gender concerns, and initiatives like the Mini-Youth Carnival showcasing technology's positive impact on mental health, RENEW promotes youth leadership. Ensuring youth representation in governance and facilitating transition to higher education via the Y-PEERS initiative, RENEW embodies holistic empowerment for societal transformation.

YOUNG VOLUNTEERS: DRUK ADOLESCENTS INITIATIVE FOR SEXUAL AWARENESS NETWORK (DAISAN)

In recognition of the dynamic role that children and young people play in shaping the future, RENEW has strategically placed youth engagement at the forefront of its initiatives. Acknowledging the invaluable contributions and unique perspectives of Bhutan's young minds, RENEW has actively involved them in decision-making processes, fostering a culture of collaboration and innovation. The engagement of youth not only serves as a catalyst for transformative projects but also strengthens and expands partnerships with stakeholders, ensuring the effective delivery of quality services. As a testament to this commitment, by the end of 2023, RENEW has successfully established the DAISAN network across 41 schools nationwide. This expansive network represents a powerful force for change, embodying RENEW's dedication to empowering the youth and creating a society rooted in compassion, understanding, and positive transformation.

Within RENEW's dynamic young volunteers network, DAISAN has played a pivotal role in spearheading transformative projects that transcend conventional boundaries. The Youth Conclave, a collaborative effort involving RENEW, MAVA, and Samuh, served as a platform to showcase DAISAN's capabilities and address critical issues like mental health and gender concerns among Bhutan's youth.

The Conclave featured impactful movies, sparking insightful discussions, particularly among the younger participants. Conversations, enriched by diverse ideas and experiences, shed light on the challenges faced by Bhutanese youth. The event also emphasized creativity and expression, with schools presenting visually engaging materials on Adolescents Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights, Gender-Based Violence, and Adolescents Mental Health.

DAISAN young volunteers network during the Youth Conclave.



Post-Conclave, DAISAN transitioned into the digital realm with the Mini-Youth Carnival. Conducted in 27 DAISAN schools across 10 districts, the carnival centered around the theme "Tech4Youth: Enhancing Adolescents' Mental Health Through Technology." It aimed to showcase how technology could positively impact the mental health of young people.

Notably, the Mini-Youth Carnival took a youth-led approach, with young individuals taking charge, generating ideas, and executing the entire event. This approach rendered the carnival authentic and relatable, emphasizing the exploration of self-care apps and challenging stereotypes around technology's negative impact.

Moreover, RENEW acknowledges the importance of youth representation in decision-making processes. Youth members are actively involved in the organization's governance, with representatives holding positions on the Board. This commitment to incorporating the voices and perspectives of young individuals ensures that RENEW's strategies and initiatives remain relevant and responsive to the needs of Bhutan's youth.

In a forward-looking approach, RENEW facilitates a seamless transition for youth engagement. As students progress from high school into higher secondary education, the DAISAN initiative evolves into Y-PEERS, a vibrant youth network under the care of MoESD. This continuum ensures that the focus on youth empowerment is not only sustained but also deepened as individuals progress through different stages of their education. It reflects a holistic and promising approach to youth engagement, aligning seamlessly with RENEW's overarching goal of empowering the youth and fostering a society rooted in compassion and positive transformation.

The Youth Conclave, a joint initiative by RENEW, MAVA, and Samuh, showcased DAISAN's abilities and tackled vital issues such as youth mental health and gender concerns.



”

“Letting us explore on our own made it challenging but learnt a lot and it's quite interesting to guide ourselves with support from elders”

◀.....▶
- DAISAN member

”

“It would be helpful to have more of such awareness program to cater to emerging technology concerns which youths are now into”

◀.....▶
- TEACHER

”

“I am seeing students creating logo of social media with leaves and gravels for the first time in the school and it was a cool thing to observe them discussing how these platforms could promote mental wellbeing.”

◀.....▶
-TEACHER

”

“I have heard about mental health before but I was not fully aware of it. With today's activity, I learnt something about mental illness as well.”

◀.....▶
-- DAISAN member



SHIFTING SOCIAL NORMS

RENEW's impactful engagement with diverse groups through Monastic institutions and Religious leaders has demonstrated significant positive outcomes, fostering meaningful change and addressing specific challenges faced by different communities.

SGBV and SRHR Workshop with Religious Leaders

From 30 - 31 October, a two-day SGBV and SRHR workshop was organized where RENEW engaged 21 male leaders from the Hindu community in Phuentsholing. This workshop emphasized the significance of working with religious leaders to propagate key messages on SGBV & SRHR. Leaders were educated on legal mechanisms to address Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), and the workshop aimed to leverage their influence in spreading messages through daily religious activities. This collaboration with religious leaders is a crucial advocacy agenda for RENEW, enhancing the reach and impact of awareness programs.

Following the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), Value Clarification and Attitude Transformation (VCAT) & Child Case Management (CCM) Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop conducted for Buddhist religious leaders, 11 roll-out training programs were executed, reaching a total of 462 individuals (371 male, 91 female) including monks, teachers, and nuns. These programs, conducted in various districts, ensured that key messages on SGBV & SRHR reached a wider audience. Participants from the ToT workshop took proactive steps to conduct awareness programs and sensitization workshops in their respective communities, thereby amplifying the impact of RENEW's initiatives.

21 leaders from the Hindu community in Phuentsholing attended SGBV and SRHR workshop organized by RENEW.



RELIGIOUS TRAINING ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV), GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) AND SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR)

The training initiative is designed for a profound impact, aiming to elevate awareness among religious leaders about Domestic Violence (DV) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) within the context of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). The objective is to inspire leaders to take concrete actions in their organizations and communities.

The program focuses on equipping participants with a deep understanding of various forms, root causes, and consequences of GBV, fostering practical engagement. By strategically involving religious leaders, the initiative recognizes their potential as influential advocates, envisioning a ripple effect in transforming community attitudes towards DV and GBV.

The collaboration also aligns with the acknowledgment of religious leaders' significant role in shaping community values. Engaging them is seen as a means to catalyze broader societal changes, actively condemning and combating DV and GBV.

Additionally, the targeted training religious leaders reflects a commitment to comprehensive societal transformation, addressing attitudes at their roots and contributing to a cultural shift away from violence. In essence, the initiative envisions a harmonious blend of heightened awareness, informed action, and transformative cultural shifts, ultimately working towards resilient communities free from DV and GBV.





“

I HAVE LEARNED THAT EVERY HUMAN BEING MUST BE RESPECTED AND TREATED EQUALLY. THERE IS NO ROOM FOR VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN, WOMEN AND ANY OTHER GENDER. LASTLY, STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHT

- NIMA GYELPO

”



“

THE IMPORTANT LESSON LEARNED FROM TRAINING IS NO DISCRIMINATION, NO EXPLOITING OF POWER, BUT TO RESPECT EVERYONE EQUALLY AT ANY LEVEL.

- NGAWANG TENZIN

”



“

THE TRAINING SESSION WAS REALLY HELPFUL. THIS KIND OF TRAINING WITH MEN WAS NEVER CONDUCTED, SO I FEEL PRIVILEGED TO RECEIVE SUCH KIND OF TRAINING, AND I WILL TRY TO SHARE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO THE COMMUNITY.

-TSHERING WANGCHUK

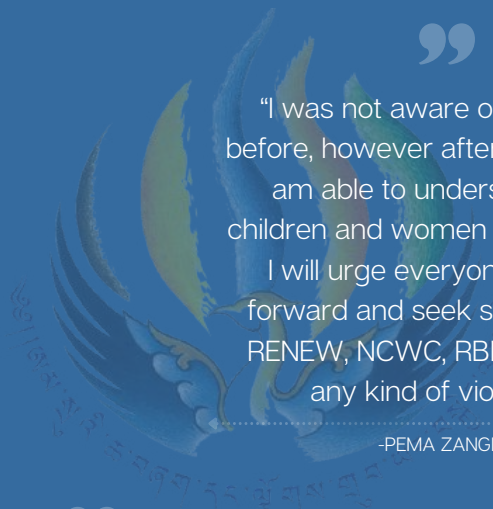
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”

“Attending training with RENEW was fantastic. I can differentiate between violence and its type. I’ve noticed an increased understanding of SGBV. I believe this is to Buddhist philosophy, to be kind and compassionate”

◀-----▶
- PEMA CHODA

”



“I was not aware of DV/SGBV before, however after the training, I am able to understand how children and women face violence. I will urge everyone to come forward and seek support from RENEW, NCWC, RBP if you face any kind of violence. ”

◀-----▶
-PEMA ZANGMO

”

“I didn’t have much knowledge about child abuse, but I am aware now through this training ! I am able to understand about rights and acquainted with knowledge of LGBTQIA+ and how they face problem.”

◀-----▶
-YONTEN TSHERING

MEETING WITH RELIGIOUS DRATSANG AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE ON INTEGRATING TSHECHUI GARCHAM GI SHEBA INTO DISTRICTS TSHECHUS:

Through collaborative efforts involving officials from CROB, Royal Academy of Performing Arts, RENEW, UNFPA, and representatives from religious organizations, a comprehensive action plan was crafted to review and implement Tsechu Garcham Gi Sheba. This strategic plan, disseminated during the annual Thrizin meet, outlines crucial steps such as mapping Tsechu months, identifying resource persons, conducting trainings, and integrating the program into district Tsechus. The culmination of this initiative was a six-day workshop led by CROB, attended by key stakeholders, resulting in the successful development of a training package emphasizing the significance of mask dance performances for disseminating social messages. With a shared vision of fostering a just, equitable, and happy society, this milestone ensures the effective rollout of training across 20 districts, promising widespread impact and cultural enrichment for communities across Bhutan.



ADVOCACY ON LIFE SKILLS EDUCATION (LSE) INTEGRATION INTO RELIGIOUS CURRICULUM AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION GUIDELINES, TSHECHU GARCHAM SHEBA IN 233 RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION THROUGH TO 139 RELIGIOUS THRIZIN;

The high-level advocacy meeting held during the 7th Annual Choedey meeting in June 2023, organized by the Commission for Religious Organization of Bhutan (CROB) in collaboration with RENEW and UNFPA, fostered a significant impact on addressing harmful social and cultural norms. Over 107 religious organization chairpersons registered under CROB convened, collectively engaging in learning and adopting best practices. Notably, Lopen Karma Jurmey's presentation on the successful integration of Life Skill Education (LSE) into the monastic curriculum at Tamzhing Lobdra and Kenchosum Shedra resonated deeply. His account of the positive transformations witnessed among student monks since the program's inception sparked enthusiasm among fourteen Religious Organizations, expressing eagerness to follow suit. This event catalyzed a ripple effect, paving the way for a widespread embrace of progressive educational initiatives within Bhutan's religious institutions, thereby nurturing positive societal change and fostering holistic development among future generations.

The Commission for Religious Organization of Bhutan (CROB) along with the focal person from RENEW and UNFPA led a 6 days workshop to develop a training resource package on Tshechu Garcham Gi Sheba in Paro.



DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMEN'S RIDE COLLABORATION

As a part of an advocacy program engaging men and boys to promote gender equality we collaborated with the bikers (Thimphu Badgers) who have been RENEW's active members who organized a global motorcycle event known as "Distinguished Gentleman's Ride (DGR)" where total of 71 participants took part. Among which 57 were male and 14 were female taking part in the event from Thimphu and Paro on 21 May 2023 RENEW used DGR as a platform to advocate on eliminating gender-based violence keeping in mind the community engagement in preventing the GBV towards bringing positive change.

In collaboration with the Thimphu Badgers, RENEW supported an impactful initiative aimed at raising awareness on domestic violence, gender-based violence, prostate cancer, and men's mental health. The program not only contributed to awareness but also fostered meaningful dialogues among participants. This collaborative effort reflected RENEW's commitment to supporting social causes and community-driven efforts.

A global motorcycle event known as "Distinguished Gentleman's Ride (DGR)" where a total of 71 participants took part.





REACHING OUT THROUGH COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER (CSC)

In 2023, RENEW expanded its Community Service Centers (CSCs) to seven hubs, later adding three more in Trashigang, Dagana, and Zhemgang, ensuring comprehensive support for diverse communities. These centers served as vital channels for RENEW's impactful initiatives, including awareness sessions on sexual and reproductive health, domestic and gender-based violence, and vocational training for sustainable livelihoods. Coordination meetings with stakeholders and observance of international days showcased RENEW's commitment to global causes and community engagement. Through skill development programs, gender initiatives, and mental health awareness, RENEW fostered holistic well-being. Livelihood and economic empowerment initiatives, along with partnerships with local authorities, demonstrated a commitment to tangible, sustainable change. Overall, RENEW's CSCs aimed not only to provide services but also to catalyze transformative change, leaving a lasting impact on the communities they served.

In the transformative journey of RENEW's Community Service Centers (CSCs) throughout the year 2023, the organization's overarching objective was to extend a helping hand to communities, fostering positive change, and addressing their unique challenges. At the core of our mission was the establishment of seven community service centers, which served as dynamic hubs dedicated to the well-being of their respective communities. Recognizing the critical demand for our services, we expanded our reach by adding three more centers in Tashigang, Dagana, and Zhemgang. Emphasizing our commitment to inclusivity, these CSCs serve as crucial channels, allowing RENEW to extend its impact even to the most remote and underserved parts of the country, ensuring that no community is left unreached in our pursuit of positive transformation.

RENEW's strategic expansion reflected a commitment to acknowledging the distinct needs and challenges of each community. This move aimed to create a more comprehensive and inclusive support system, recognizing the unique fabric of each region. The decision to establish centers in Tashigang, Dagana, and Zhemgang underscored our commitment to making a meaningful impact on the lives of individuals and families in these areas.

Through our expanded services, we aimed to contribute to positive transformations, promote well-being, and strengthen the social fabric of these communities. This commitment was further manifested in the multitude of impactful initiatives carried out across diverse community service centers.

One of the primary objectives was to raise awareness and sensitize communities on various issues. This included sessions on RENEW services, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), as well as addressing domestic violence and gender-based violence (DV/GBV). Through these awareness programs, our goal was to empower individuals with knowledge and facilitate a positive attitude transformation.

Coordination meetings played a pivotal role in our strategy, fostering information sharing and collaboration. Meetings with stakeholders such as health assistants, taxi associations, and local government officials aimed to strengthen ties and enhance our collective impact. The observance of international days further showcased our commitment to global causes, marking events such as One Billion Rising Day, International Women's Day, Menstrual Hygiene Day, International Youth Day, Suicide Prevention Day, and World Mental Health Day.

Training and skill development programs, such as vocational skills training and financial literacy training, were instrumental in empowering individuals for sustainable livelihoods. Gender initiatives implemented a transformative approach to address gender-based violence, advocate for the elimination of violence against children, and promote positive attitude transformation.

Engagement with communities on the importance of mental health, recreational activities, and sessions on good leadership demonstrated our commitment to holistic well-being. Observance of special days, consultation and coordination with stakeholders, and collaborations with various community groups, schools, and government entities further solidified our network of support.

Livelihood and economic empowerment initiatives, youth engagement programs, and sensitization sessions in schools contributed to a comprehensive approach. The inauguration of inclusive tailoring training for economic empowerment and collaboration with the Dzongkhag Administration for livelihood programs emphasized our commitment to tangible, sustainable change.

In sum, the objective of RENEW's Community Service Center in 2023 was not just to list activities but to create a ripple effect of positive change. The outcome was a woven tapestry of support that strengthened the bonds of community, empowered individuals, and left an indelible impact on the diverse communities we serve. The essence of our efforts was not merely the activities themselves, but the transformational journey toward creating resilient, empowered, and connected communities.

SERVICES THROUGH COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTRES

	DZONGKHAG	COMMUNITY OUTREACH	CASES
1	Bumthang	7490	209
2	Phuentsholing Thromde	7034	148
3	Dagana	800	9 (Jan - May)
4	Gelephu Thromde	2555	65
5	Paro	11,477	124
6	Punakha	4317	62
7	Samtse	3990	41
8	Trashigang	1583	9 (Jan -May)
9	Tsirang	6379	85
10	Zhemgang	1695	5 (Jan-May)
	Total	47,320	757



Coinciding with the International Youth Day, 12th August 2023 the Center trained 47 children and youth of the Phuentsholing Youth Center between the ages 12-25 years. They were trained on SGBV, CP, SRHR, youth empowerment and engagement topics.



EVAC and Child Protection training provided to 16 (2 male, 14 female) caregivers of PWDs/CWDs on 7th September 2023.



Community awareness program was done for 26 participants (24 W, 2 M) of Kamji village in RNR (Renewal Natural Resources) premises by center staff. The participants were trained on SGBV, CR and SRHR.



120 community members (57 male, 63 female) of Jangchukha, Damchenkha and Dolopchen villages attended SGBV awareness on 12th October 2023.



VCAT and GTA training was provided to 19 (7 male, 12 female) first respondents and partner stakeholders on 25th September 2023.



56 community members (12 male, 44 female) of Chimuna village attended awareness on SGBV and Mental Health on 10th October 2023.



Coinciding with International Youth Day on 12th August 2023, the center conducted CSE program for 40 youth (19M, 21 F) from the Khuruthang Youth Center.



18 community members (7M, 11F) of Guma Block (Gewog) were trained on GTA & GM on 16th September 2023 in Guma Gewog Hall.



GTA training was conducted for 55 students and teachers (13 male, 42 female) of College of Natural Resources on 26th October 2023.



GTA & SGBV training provided to 25 health staff (11 male, 14 female) of Punakha District Hospital on 27th October 2023.



7 MSTF-CBSS members (7M) attended the virtual consultation cum awareness meeting on 6th October 2023 conducted by the center staff.



35 (31M, 4F) sector and regional heads of different portfolios of the district attend GTA & GM training organized by the center staff on 22nd September 2023 in District Hall.



22 (17M, 5F) Red Cross members attended GTA & GM and VCAT-SGBV training organized by the center staff on 21st September 2023.



9 (6M, 3F) MSTF CBSS members attended GTA & GM training organized by the center staff on 18th August 2023.

BUMTHANG CSC



20 members of Technical Training Institute (TII) Chumey were training on GBV and Mental Health on 10th October 2023



EVAC and SGBV awareness was done for 55 (29 male, 26 female) annual festival performers on 18th October 2023.



2nd batch of GTA/GM roll out program by CSC staff for 20 police members (8 female, 12 male) on 16th October 2023.

TSIRANG CSC



21 participants (14M, 7F) from Tsirang Red Cross members were trained on GTA/GM and VCAT-SGBV by center staff on 29th September 2023 in Center hall.



44 teachers (15F, 29M) of Mendrelgang Central School were trained on VCAT-SGBV and GTA/GM on 16th September 2023 by center staff.

- 18 community women of Sergithang block were trained on VCAT-SGBV and GTA/GM on 20th September 2023 in block hall by center staff.
- 16 MSTF-CBSS members (12F, 4M) were trained on GTA/GM on 26th August 2023 by center staff in the center hall.

GELEPHU CSC



34 MSTF-CBSS members (17 male,17 female) participated in MSTF-CBSS consultation meeting on 26th November 2023.



SGBV awareness done for 385 members (209 female, 176 female) of Royal Bhutan Police on 25th November 2023. The participants were police and their family members.

SAMTSE CSC



Conducted a sensitization and awareness session on Domestic Violence and Gender- Based Violence (DV/GBV) for the second cohort of Health Assistants (HA).

SAMTSE CSC

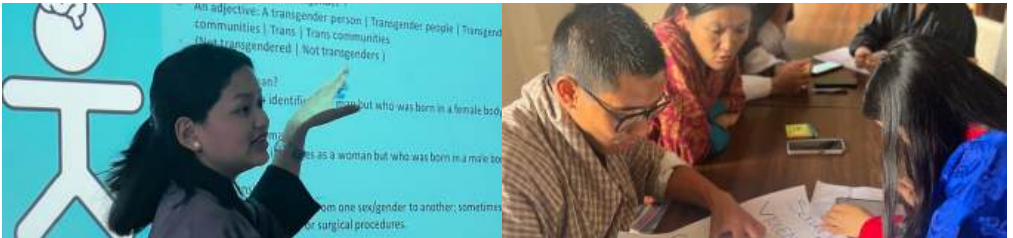


Conducted a program on Ending Violence Against Children (EVAC) with the MSTF-CBSS team.



GTA and SGBV awareness was provided to 29 students (11 male, 8 female) the students of Aurora Nursing college.

PARO CSC



Conducted two trainings on EVAC and GTA with the teaching staff and non-teaching staff of Shaba Higher Secondary School.



Conducted a sensitization program on Child protection, DV/ GBV at Drugyel Lower Secondary School



Observed "ONE BILLION RISING DAY" in Lamgong Higher Secondary School and Khangkhu Middle Secondary School.



The 4 month basic tailoring training at Drukgyel with the support from Paro Dzongkhag

A photograph of several students in a vocational training institute. They are seated at long tables, each with a sewing machine. The students are focused on their work, with some looking down at their machines and others looking towards the camera. The room has large windows in the background, letting in natural light. The overall atmosphere is one of a busy, practical learning environment.

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT THROUGH RENEW VOCATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE, WANGSISINA, THIMPHU

RENEW's establishment of the RENEW Vocational Training Institute in 2020 marks a transformative stride towards economic empowerment.

RENEW's establishment of the RENEW Vocational Training Institute in 2020 marks a transformative stride towards economic empowerment. By extending vocational skills opportunities, RENEW addresses a critical void in national initiatives, reaching segments of the population often overlooked. This includes illiterate women, drop-out youths, survivors of domestic violence and sexual/gender-based violence (DV/SGV), individuals of diverse genders, and persons with disabilities (PWDs). RENEW serves as a beacon of inclusivity, providing a platform for the participation of women, including those from key populations, and equipping individuals with practical skills essential for securing gainful employment and achieving economic self-sufficiency.

This tailored approach to vocational training not only elevates the employability of vulnerable individuals but also fuels broader economic development. By nurturing a skilled workforce capable of making substantive contributions to the economy, RENEW cultivates a pathway towards sustainable prosperity. Currently, the RENEW Training Institute offers a diverse array of courses, including Basic Tailoring, Bakery and Confectionary, Weaving in Assamese Loom and Back Strap Loom, and Home Care Training. These programs not only empower individuals with tangible skills but also foster a sense of dignity, independence, and purpose within the community.

Advanced Tailoring Training for 15 participants



Training on Mushroom Farm Management and Business Development at RENEW Vocational Training Institute, Wangsisina, Thimphu.



A woman with dark hair, wearing a red sweater, is focused on working with wood in a workshop. She is using a tool to shape a piece of wood. The background shows other people and workshop equipment, creating a busy, industrious atmosphere.

RENEW SOCIO ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

The Livelihood Skills Training Program empowers survivors of violence through diverse skills like baking, mushroom cultivation, and tailoring. Seven batches of training have benefited 158 individuals, with notable success stories including participants joining RENEW's Socio Economic Empowerment Program. A six-month tailoring program at RENEW Paro Community Service Center provided skills to 13 beneficiaries, including awareness sessions on SGBV and DV, ensuring ongoing support and sustainability.

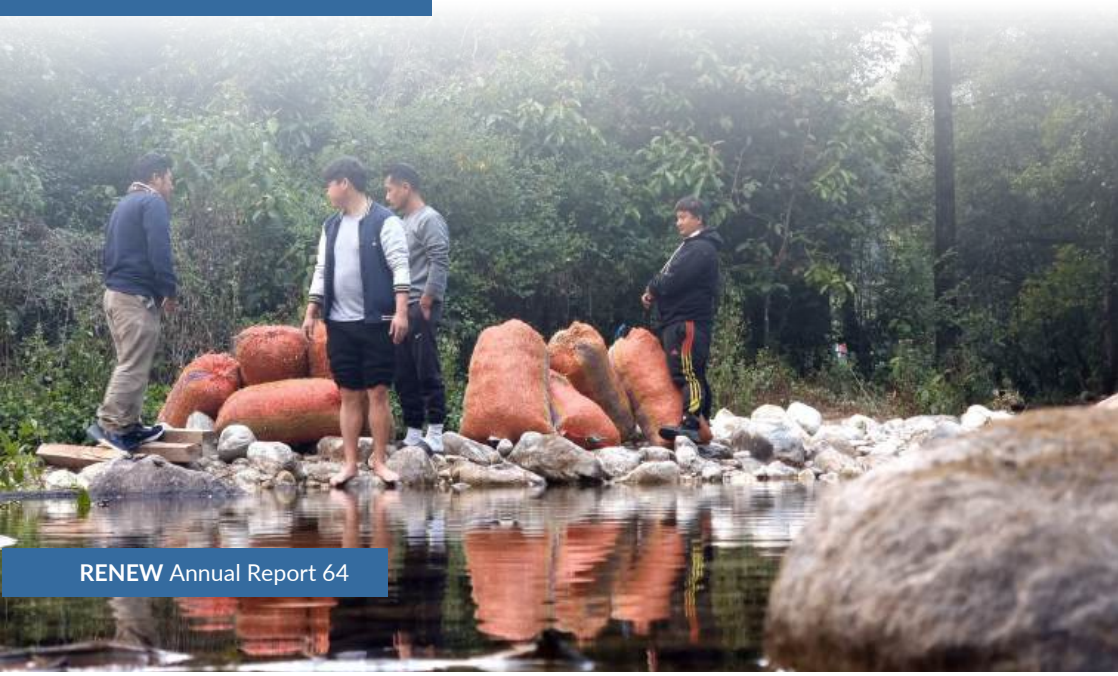
The expansion of the Livelihood Skills Training and Entrepreneurial Development Program is making significant strides in empowering vulnerable population. Through a holistic approach, the program encompasses diverse skill sets such as baking, mushroom cultivation, floriculture, recycled product development, tailoring masks, weaving, and entrepreneurship.

The initiative has successfully conducted seven batches of comprehensive livelihood training, covering areas like weaving and natural dye, tailoring, cooking, baking, floriculture, recycling, and entrepreneurship. A total of 158 individuals, including women, girls, and men, have benefitted from these skill-enhancement sessions.

One notable success story arises from a two-month weaving and five-day natural dye training session designed for 12 homemakers. Beyond imparting technical expertise in weaving and natural dye, the participants were sensitized to crucial topics such as Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). Impressively, a significant number of participants subsequently registered themselves in RENEW's Socio Economic Empowerment Program, showcasing the program's tangible impact on participants' lives.

Additionally, a six-month tailoring program conducted at RENEW Paro Community Service Center provided essential skills to 13 beneficiaries, including 12 women and one Trans-woman. The participants not only gained proficiency in tailoring but also received awareness sessions on SGBV, Domestic Violence (DV), and SRH facilitated by external experts. The program actively involved community leaders from the outset, ensuring ongoing support for women interested in establishing businesses. To promote sustainability, RENEW implemented a cost-sharing model for the provision of tailoring machines to beneficiaries. The program's success was celebrated during a closing ceremony, highlighting the transformative impact on the lives of those involved.

Mushroom training site, Pemagatshel



All in all, 7 batches of Livelihood training (weaving & natural dye, tailoring, cooking, baking, floriculture, recycle, entrepreneurship) have been provided from the project so far. 158 women, girls and men have been trained.

- 2 weeks baking training was provided to 35 trainees (33 female and 2 male) from 15-27th November 2021 in RENEW Vocational Training Institute, Gawailing Happy Home.
- 10 days training on recycle was conducted in RENEW vocational training center in Gawailing Happy Home for 15 participants (all female) from 15-26th November 2021. The participants were housewives, school dropout youth, Covid-19 affected and unemployed young girls.
- 10-day basic entrepreneurship and financial literacy training was conducted with support from the SGBV-CSE project in RENEW Vocational Institute, Thimphu with collaboration with Royal Monetary Authority and Prudent's Office (German Project) from 6-15th April. The training was attended by the 21 women and 2 female youths who are survivors of Domestic / Gender based violence. The participants are mostly housewives and unemployed who have earlier undergone RENEW skills training like tailoring, baking, floriculture, recycle, weaving, etc.
- 10 days cooking training on Indian Cuisine from 21-30th March 2022 for 30 participants (4 male and 26 female) in RENEW Vocational Institute. This was provided by IMTRAT. A total of 14 Indian dishes, 6 starters and 7 puddings were taught to the participants. IMTRAT support the training by providing a professional chef and 2 assistant trainers. Besides the cooking training, training on SGBV and SRHR was also provided to the participants.
- 6 days oyster mushroom training was done in RENEW Gawailing Vocational Institute for 30 women from 10-15th July 2022. The objective of the training was to empower women and girls with livelihood skills and economic empowerment for income generation opportunities; build the capacity of the women to grow oyster mushrooms and to encourage them to venture into mushroom growing businesses; and lastly empower women and girls through awareness and knowledge building on SRHR, Child protection, and Gender-based Violence/Domestic violence.
- 6 months basis tailoring was provided in RENEW Paro Community Service Center for 6 months from 15th August 2022 to 11th February 2023 for 13 beneficiaries (12 women, 1 Trans-woman). Besides the tailoring training, the participants were also made aware of SGBV, DV and SRH by resource persons from outside. At the same time, the women were also provided by opportunities to engage with financial and commercial business set up ideas. RENEW also ensured that the local community leaders were involved right from the inaugural stage to ensure that the women would be provided with necessary support in case they would like to set up businesses. RENEW also supplied the beneficiaries with tailoring machine on a cost sharing basis so as to further ensure that they would take businesses in the long run. The closing ceremony was held on 11th February 2023.

- 2 months of weaving and 5 days of natural dye training was conducted for 12 women (homemakers) from 30 March to 3rd June 2023 in Langthel, Trongsa district. Besides the technical training on weaving and natural dye, the women were also sensitized on SRH and SGBV. At the end of the training, 9 participants from the training also registered themselves in RENEW's Social Enterprise scheme.
- 500 numbers of recyclable sanitary pads and kits were produced from RENEW Livelihood unit following the 'Days of Girls International' sanitary kits in 2022. The kits were distributed to 20 district MSTF-CBSS members and RENEW Community Service Centers for subsequent dissemination to vulnerable groups in respective districts following trainings and demonstrations programs in 2022.

Empowerment and Employment of Women Through Sustainable Mushroom Cultivation

Pemagatshel, known as the 'Blissful Land of Lotus,' faces challenges despite significant developments such as farm roads and improved mobile network coverage. With a population of around 25,000, it has one of the country's highest poverty rates at 29.9%, attributed to limited income opportunities and crop damages by wildlife.

Empowerment of Rural Women



To address these challenges RENEW, in collaboration with UNDP, launched the 'Empowerment and Employment of Women through Sustainable Mushroom Cultivation' project in Kerong, Pemagatshel, supporting the group 'Kerong Aumtsu Datshen'. This initiative aims to empower vulnerable women, develop cultivable land, and create employment opportunities for low-income communities. The first stakeholder consultation meeting was held with the technical consultant, Thrizin (Choeckhorling Gup), Forest Officer, and Tshogpa. Their commitment and enthusiasm towards the project's success were evident, highlighting the importance of honesty, commitment, and accountability in rural development efforts. The project is poised to bring positive change to the region, aligning with Her Majesty Gyalum Sangay Choden Wangchuck's vision for empowering women and children nationwide.



Kerong Aumtsu Datshen

Through active participation in both theory and practice, they now feel confident to take on individual entrepreneurial roles, ensuring the farm's sustainability and boosting the community's economy. This dedication has not only equipped them with mushroom cultivation skills but also with valuable lessons in gender equity, teamwork, and commitment. Additionally, they've gained practical business insights, enhancing their overall capabilities. Their hard work and training continue to yield results, as they apply their newfound skills in their cultivation efforts.

The project has empowered low-income women in Kerong through mushroom farming, fostering economic independence for both individuals and the community. This initiative not only helps the women cover various expenses such as education, healthcare, and livelihood but also contributes to reducing domestic violence and promoting gender equity. The participants have seen a significant increase in income from th

In 2021, RENEW took a significant step forward by launching a Socio Economic Empowerment Program that centres on the development of Traditional Specialty Product infused with contemporary designs. This strategic move underscores RENEW's commitment to fostering economic empowerment, particularly among women beneficiaries. The primary objectives behind the inception of Socio Economic Empowerment Program is to provide a sustainable source of income for home-based workers, thereby promoting their economic independence within the society.



Currently, RENEW'S Socio Economic Empowerment Program has 29 registered women in Thimphu and Trongsa actively engaged in its operations specializing in tailoring, weaving and dyeing . These women predominantly work remotely from their homes, allowing them flexibility while contributing to the enterprise's activities. One of the significant benefits provided to members is the opportunity to enhance their skills based on their individual needs and interests. This emphasis on up-skilling not only empowers women economically but also equips them with valuable capabilities that can support their personal and professional growth. Through this approach, RENEW's Socio Economic Empowerment Program not only fosters sustainable income generation but also promotes their self esteem and self leadership.

Furthermore, RENEW through its Bhutan Education and skills training (BEST) project has taken a holistic approach to ensure equitable access to Technical and vocational Education and Training (TVET) as well addressing barriers and championing the cause of gender equality including accessibility for persons with disabilities. Engaging with the Bhutan Education and Skills Training (BEST) Project aligns seamlessly with RENEW's overarching mission to empower individuals and foster societal transformation, particularly in the context of TVET. This visionary initiative, funded by the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada and executed by Humber College (Canada), holds immense significance in reshaping RENEW's commitment to gender equality, environmentally sustainable accessibility for all who missed the opportunity. This initiative also serves as the bridge course for young people who missed the minimum qualification required by the government vocational institution.



Beyond conventional educational reform, BEST aspires to broaden access to TVET education, equip graduates with industry-relevant skills, and facilitate their seamless integration into the labour market, aligning perfectly with RENEW's mission of creating empowered and skilled individuals. At the core of BEST's mission is the aspiration for a society where TVET education becomes a conduit for economic empowerment.

RENEW's engagement in this project is driven by a recognition of the pivotal role of community engagement and awareness in enhancing economic participation for TVET graduates. As part of this transformative journey, RENEW Volunteers collaborate in executing community outreach activities and a comprehensive awareness campaign across 20 districts. In the realm of gender equality, BEST's impact is palpable through the dedicated efforts to sensitize 64 community Volunteers and reach approximately 3,000 students across 14 Dzongkhags. This underscores BEST's commitment to fostering an inclusive and empowering environment for women pursuing TVET education.

RECEIPT & PAYMENT STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR : 1ST JANUARY 2023 - 31ST DECEMBER 2023

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS				
Particulars	Schedule	Amount(Nu) 2022	Amount(Nu) 2023	Particulars	Schedule	Amount(Nu) 2022	Amount(Nu) 2023
Opening Balance:	1			Expenditure			
i. Cash at Bank		23,304,654	26,156,014	i. Project Expenses	6	59,723,508	62,917,306.31
ii. Cash at Hand		355,824	77,942	ii. Administration Expenses			
				a. Employment Benefits	7	14,570,137	18,044,484.33
				b. Other Administrative Expenses	8	3,275,918	4,205,092.27
Fund Received							
Grant Received	2						
Cash		52,992,446	68,599,006				
Kind							
Other Income	3	15,278,834	23,517,132				
Recoveries	4	3,055,985	11,822,323	Remittance	4	3,046,217	11,834,668.99
Employee Loans & Advances	5	15,119,137	26,523,543	Employee Loans & Advances	5	14,908,134	26,552,348.01
				Closing Balance	9		
				i. Cash at Bank		14,504,924	33,142,061.38
				ii. Cash at Hand		77,942	-
		110,106,781	156,695,961			110,106,781	156,695,961

DONORS OF RENEW

Takin Circle (Donation above Nu. 1,000,000)

- Pilots - Druk Air

Blue Poppy Circle (Donation above Nu. 100,000)

- Dasho Sonam Tobgay - Lhaki Group of Companies

Cypress Circle (Donation above Nu. 10,000)

- Friends of RENEW, USA.
- Bridge to Bhutan
- Keysang W. Samdrup
- Lee Choi Heng
- Ugyen Yoezer Supply
- 8 Eleven
- Blue Poppy Tours

Sl#	Name	Designation	Organisation	Amount in Nu
1	Yab Dhondup Gyeltshe	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
2	Captain Sonam Choeda	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
3	Captain Chhimi Dorji	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
4	Captain Chenda Wangchuk	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
5	Captain Kinga Tshering	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
6	Captain Tshering Galey	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
7	Captain Ugyen Dema	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
8	Captain Tshering Sonam	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
9	Captain Kelzang Wangchuk	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
10	Captain Tenzin Namgyal	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
11	Ms. Sonam Lhamo	Pilot	Druk Airline	39,650.00
12	Mr. Karma Shedrup Tshering	Pilot	Druk Airline	39,650.00
13	Mr. Namgyal Wangchuk	Pilot	Druk Airline	39,650.00
14	Mr. Tshering Penjor	Pilot	Druk Airline	51,850.00
15	Mr. Yeshey Jamphel Dorji	Pilot	Druk Airline	51,850.00
16	Mr. Sanga Dorji	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
17	Mr. Tshering Penjore	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
18	Mr. Kuenga Yarphel	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
19	Mr. Tshering Norbu Jigme	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
20	Mr. Sonam Younten Wangchuk	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
21	Mr. Thinley Norbu	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
22	Mr. Tandin Wangchuk	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
23	Mr. Tashi Tshering	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
24	Mr. Yesel Rangdrol	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
25	Mr. Jigyel Jamtsho	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
26	Mr. Kencho N Dradul	Pilot	Druk Airline	30,500.00
27	Mr. Yeshey Dhendup	Pilot	Druk Airline	30,500.00
28	Ms. Chuni Lhaden Dorji	Pilot	Druk Airline	30,500.00
29	Mr. Pema Rangdol	Pilot	Druk Airline	30,500.00
30	Mr. Choki Wangchuk	Pilot	Druk Airline	33,550.00
31	Mr. Dhendup Tashi Namgyel	Pilot	Druk Airline	33,550.00
32	Mr. Jigme Thinley	Pilot	Druk Airline	33,550.00

NATIONAL



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Ministry of Education and Skills Development ཤེས་རིག



INTERNATIONAL



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P.O.Box No. 1404,
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