



Introduction

Hereby we present to you the annual report 2007 of Smart Shelter Foundation. Last year we have finished our first official project: the pre-school in Vellalapatty in Tamil Nadu, South India. Also we have finished our first school building project in Nepal and we have started with the construction of 4 more earthquake resistant mountain schools in Kaski District. Before we have started with these constructions, we gave masonry trainings to the local laborers. This book year covers January 1st until December 31st, 2007.



The Organization

Smart Shelter Foundation was officially founded on March 8, 2005. We are a Dutch non-profit organization, registered at the Chamber of Commerce under nr. 28104850. Also we have been approved by the Dutch Tax Authorities as being a charitable trust.

Address	Stichting Smart Shelter Foundation Regentesseplein 1 2562 ET Den Haag, The Netherlands www.smartshelterfoundation.org info@smartshelterfoundation.org	
Bank account nr. IBAN / BIC code	43.60.25.469, Alphen aan den Rijn, The Netherlands NL80 ABNA 0436 0254 69 / ABNANL2A	
Chairman	Martijn Schildkamp	Architect
Secretary	Dennis Hofman	Architect
Treasurer	Wiebe van der Veen	Financial manager
Think Tank	Richelle de Jong Mark van der Hoff Erwin de Maar Lotte Middelkoop Frank Schildkamp Rene Bak Marieke Pluk Ilse Zuijderwijk	Architect Architect Architect Architect Educational specialist ICT specialist Public Relations Public Relations
Partners	Chitra Vishwanath SEED Foundation Impulsis	Architect (Bangalore) NGO (Nepal) Funding agency (NL)



Objectives of Smart Shelter Foundation

Our aims are:

- a. To initiate, supervise and construct building projects for the most poor, in order to improve the quality of life and their living environment; in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.
- b. To do research how to lower the building costs, by using natural materials, local techniques and passive energy concepts. Also we look for ways to transfer the technologies.
- c. To offer simple, understandable and affordable solutions.
- d. To promote durable improvements and to empower local entrepreneurship.



Rules of Smart Shelter Foundation

- a. Smart Shelter Foundation is a non-profit organization. Our motto: Idealism with a healthy dose of realism.
- b. The foundation and all the needed work and tasks are not meant to provide for a full-time job. Everything we do is on a voluntary basis.
- c. Expenses made in Holland will not be paid, since they are out of proportion compared to the project costs in Asia.
- d. Initiative and responsibility of the projects are with the Asian partners. We make the projects possible by technical and financial support.
- e. Projects can only start, when all finances are covered for. Payments will only be made afterwards.
- f. All contracts have to be set up in English.
- g. Evaluation and care after completion.



Fields of Research

1. Building with natural materials and indigenous techniques, such as bamboo, straw bales, earth techniques etc.
2. Building with secondary materials and recycling techniques, like natural fibers, domestic solid and plastic waste, and building debris.
3. Use of passive energy concepts, for instance solar cooking and rainwater harvesting.



Projects 2007

In 2007 we have been working on the start up and execution of the following projects, in South India and Nepal:

Pre-Literacy Centers Salem, Tamil Nadu, South India:

Completion of the design for the first playful, child friendly and safe pre-school in Vellalapatty, with the help of Chitra Vishwanath Architects. The design includes a variety of alternative building techniques, as an example for the local community of a cost-effective way of building. With a local group of people we produced stabilized mud blocks, which can be used in the walls and in the roof. The project has been successfully completed in July 2007.

Construction of 5 new classrooms in Janatako Chautara, Kaski, Nepal

In 2006 part of a 35 year old building has collapsed, caused by light earthquakes over time. In 2007 Smart Shelter Foundation has prepared a design for 5 new rooms, which includes all the necessary earthquake resistant features. The walls have been built with vertically reinforced hollow cement blocks and horizontal reinforced concrete bands. Construction has started in August 2007, there was some delay during the rainy season. The construction was finished in December and on January 16, 2008 the building was officially inaugurated. The people's participation of Janatako Chautara was 40%.

Masonry trainings in Kaski District, Nepal

Before the start of the actual construction of all school buildings in Bhirchowk, Syastri, Thumki en Phalangkot, we have given trainings to the local laborers. The topics included general construction principles, knowledge about earthquakes and earthquake resistant construction methods, and proper material handling. The trainers came over from Kathmandu, and they have conducted two theoretical training days and two practical training days on site.

Construction of 4 earthquake resistant mountain schools in Kaski District, Nepal

After a long preparation period, we have started in November with the construction of the first 4 schools. Our local partner SEED Foundations takes care of all the administration and communication with the villages. Smart Shelter Foundation provides for the financial and technical support. The average contribution of the villages is around 30% and the Dutch funding agency Impulsis is co-financer of this project.

In Bhirchowk at the Chandra Prava Secondary School we construct 6 new classrooms, which will replace a 30 year old building.

At the Kalika School in Syastri we build 5 new rooms and 2 rooms will be repaired.

In Thumki the existing Kuleshwor Primary School will be replaced completely by 5 rooms and an office room.

In Phalangkot the Jotheshwor Secondary School will get 3 new rooms, to replace a building that has collapsed.



Financial Review

In 2007 we have made project expenses for the pre-school in South India (completed), the school in Janatako Chautara (completed) and 4 earthquake resistant mountain schools in Kaski District in Nepal. This project will be completed in 2008, representing roughly 90% of the balance of this book year. The remaining amount is meant for the forthcoming projects in Nepal in 2008. **This year again we did not include any overhead, the only non-project related we had to make were the banking costs.**

Revenues:

Balance 31 december 2006	+ € 11.133,44
Private donations total	+ € 7.949,96
Corporate donations total	+ € 6.100,00
Donations Serviceclubs	+ € 2.000,00
Donations schools	+ € 500,00
Interest	+ € 29,12
Foreign currency in cash	+ € 15,62

Expenses:

Pre-school Vellalapatty	- € 3.680,26
School Janatako Chautara	- € 5.659,09
Four mountain schools in Nepal	- € 8.500,00
Masonry trainings	- € 714,81
Banking costs	- € 54,03

Balance 31 december 2007 + € 9.099,95



Media and Campaigning

Our first aim was to make as much people as possible familiar with Smart Shelter Foundation and we succeeded very well. More and more people are contacting us for information, publications and ways of cooperation. Our second goal was to establish good relationships with the Dutch funding agencies, which we have found in Impulsis. We have continued to write a monthly article in the Magazine Recycling Benelux, as well as a two-weekly contribution in a local newspaper and we were published in some newspapers and magazines.

For financial support we continue to look for sponsors with a direct link with our projects. We still see that most of the support comes from our direct family and relations, so we have to expand our PR activities more to the outside.



Projects 2008

For the coming year these projects and activities are planned:

Construction of 6 earthquake resistant mountain schools, Kaski District, Nepal:

In cooperation with SEED Foundation we will continue our work on the construction and renovation of at least 6 mountain schools in the remote hill areas. By giving trainings, we will promote and introduce earthquake resistant construction principles, in a way that the knowledge is transferred to the villages. The contribution of the communities is around 30% on average, in money, materials and labour.

Construction Animal and Agricultural Service Center in Khudi, Kaski District, Nepal

This new Service Center will include 2 office rooms, 6 working spaces including a lab, and a training hall. The already existing foundation will be reinforced up to the earthquake resistant standard, as well as the completion of the building. The A&A Center, the Nepali government, and Smart Shelter Foundation, will all contribute 1/3 part.

Hostel for blind students, Kaski District, Nepal:

Near a large school at the plain area, 10 blind children are currently educated in reading and writing, in a specially adjusted classroom. For them we will make a design of a new hostel on the school premises, including all the necessary amenities. The wish is to expand from 10 to 20 students and to enable them to follow the school program for the complete course of years.

Drinking Water, Rainwater Harvesting and Sanitation, Kaski District, Nepal:

At all school sites we will look at the current state of the water and sanitation amenities. We will start with awareness programs on healthy and hygienic sanitation. If needed and requested by the communities, we will take the proper action to improve and construct the necessary. A simple way to improve the water situation is to harvest the rainwater in large tanks and then purify this water. We are looking for cooperation with Unicef.

Introduction of Alternative Construction Techniques

We will start with the introduction of the Stabilized Mud Blocks, like we have done in India. Also we will develop a small-scale manually operated stone crusher, enabling the people to make the proper size of pebbles for use in good concrete.

Strengthening of our own organization:

Expanding of the PR activities and professionalizing of our organizational structure, in order to create a constant financial money flow and to create a durable basis for the Foundation. We will also focus on possibilities outside our current network and we will start up or continue our cooperation with several Dutch founders.



Approval of Annual Report

This Annual report has been approved by the board of Smart Shelter Foundation. We would like to thank everyone, who has supported our activities in any way!

Martijn Schildkamp
Chairman

Dennis Hofman
Secretary

Wiebe van der Veen
Treasurer