



Introduction

Hereby we present the annual report 2008 of Smart Shelter Foundation. Last year we have finished the construction of 4 earthquake resistant mountain schools in Kaski District. Also we have started the construction of 6 more schools, we have been working on the new animal and agricultural centre, we have developed a manually operated stone crusher and we made a start with the hostel for 20 blind students. Before we have started with these projects, we gave masonry training to the local laborers. This book year covers January 1st until December 31st, 2008.



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.

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Secretary	Dennis Hofman	Architect
Treasurer	Wiebe van der Veen	Financial manager
Think Tank	Erwin de Maar Demen Hartman Frank Schildkamp Robbert Bouman Wijnand van Huut Edward Dalmulder Judith Stoop Tessa van Weelie Wim Koning Rene Bak	Architect Product Designer Educational specialist Fundraising Fundraising Public Relations Public Relations Public Relations Coaching ICT specialist
Partners	SEED Foundation Impulsis Hivos	NGO (Nepal) Funding agency (NL) Funding agency (NL)



Objectives of Smart Shelter Foundation

Our aims are:

- 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.
- 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.
- To offer simple, understandable, durable and affordable solutions.
- To transfer the technology to the local people and to empower local entrepreneurship, so they can continue the project independently.



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 2008

In 2008 we have been working on the start up and execution of the following projects, in South India and Nepal:

Masonry trainings in Kaski District, Nepal

Before the start of the actual construction of all school buildings in Nepal, we have given training to the local laborers. The topics included general construction principles, knowledge about earthquakes and earthquake resistant construction methods, and proper material handling. The training for the first 4 schools have already been financed in 2007, all other training has been sponsored by our foreign sponsors. That's why we have not included any costs for training in our balance sheet.

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

After a long preparation period, we have started in November of 2007 with the construction of the first 4 schools. Our local partner SEED Foundations has taken care of all the administration and communication with the villages. Smart Shelter Foundation provided for the financial and technical support. The average contribution of the villages was around 30% and the Dutch funding agency Impulsis has co-financed this project. All schools were officially inaugurated at the end of 2008.

In Bhirchowk at the Chandra Prava Secondary School we have constructed 6 new classrooms, which have replaced a 30 year old building.

At the Kalika School in Syastri we have built 5 new rooms and 2 rooms were repaired.

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

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

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

In January we have started with this new Service Center, which includes 2 office rooms, 6 working spaces including a lab, and a training hall. The already existing foundation needed to be reinforced up to the earthquake resistant standard, as well as the rest of the building. The A&A Center, the Nepali government, and Smart Shelter Foundation, with the help of the Dutch funding agency Hivos, will all contribute 1/3 part of the total sum. At the end of 2008 the building was not ready, the people were busy with plastering and finishing. In 2009 we will pay our final contribution.

Construction of 7 earthquake resistant mountain schools, Kaski District, Nepal

In cooperation with SEED Foundation we have first built one school, for the local organization World Vision. They have paid for the building and the training sessions. Then we have started with the repair of 26 rooms and the construction of 24 new earthquake resistant classrooms. This complete project including training has been sponsored by the local organization CWS in Pokhara, Nepal and was paid directly through our local partner SEED Foundation. Therefore both projects do not appear on our balance sheet.

Hostel for blind students in Bhandardhik, Kaski District, Nepal

Near a large school in the plain area, 10 blind children are currently educated in reading and writing, in a specially adjusted classroom. For them we have made a design of a new hostel on the school premises, including all the necessary amenities. The hostel can house 20 students and will enable them to follow the school program for the complete course of 10 years. The construction was started in December of 2008 and the project is co-financed by our Dutch partner Impulsis. This year we only made some costs for printing.



Research 2008

Development of a manually operated stone crusher, Pokhara, Nepal

Student Demen Hartman has started with the development of a simple machine to crush stones. What we see in Nepal, is that the people use too big stones for aggregate in concrete. This makes it difficult to mix the concrete properly, and the quality of most construction in Nepal is very low. Demen has found the sponsoring for the project himself, therefore it is not included in our sheet.

Suitability of mountain soil for earth construction, Kaski District, Nepal

Since May of 2008 we have been working on an elaborate research about the composition of the Nepali mountain soil, to see whether it is suitable for certain earth construction techniques. A large amount of soil samples from the hill areas around Pokhara have been tested. The research and the end report will be finished in 2009. The research was partially needed to obtain a long-term visa, for which Martijn Schildkamp became a researcher at the Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu.



Media and Campaigning

This year we have divided our team into two groups; a technical team and an organizing team of 5 new people for fundraising and public relations.

We will continue to search for new sponsors, of which we have found several that keep supporting us on a regular basis. We hope to expand these activities extensively with the help of our new team.

Besides several publications in the Netherlands, this year we have also been published internationally; in a Spanish book about durable architecture in developing countries. Also Martijn Schildkamp has given a lecture at the School of Architecture in Limerick, Ireland. We are proud of the fact that our work is also recognized outside the Netherlands!



Financial Review

In 2008 we have made project expenses for the 4 earthquake resistant mountain schools in Kaski District in Nepal (completed), the Animal and Agricultural Center, the soil reseach (both to be finished in 2009) and some initial costs were made regarding the hostel for blind students. This project will approximately be finished near the end of 2009 and most of balance of this book year is reserved for this project. The remaining amount is meant for the other running projects in Nepal.

This year again we did not include any overhead, the only non-project related we had to make were the banking costs.

Revenues:

Balance December 31, 2007	+ €	9.099,95
Private donations total	+ €	5.157,70
Corporate donations total	+ €	9.891,00
Regular donors	+ €	585,00
Donations Service Clubs	+ €	250,00
Donations institutions	+ €	7.540,00
Donations schools	+ €	320,00
Foreign currency in cash	+ €	<u>145,20</u> +
Total	+ €	32.988,85

Expenses:

Four mountain schools in Nepal	- €	8.467,00
Animal and Agricultural Center	- €	5.107,20
Research mountain soil	- €	1.405,00
Hostel for blind students	- €	6,05
Banking costs	- €	<u>196,98</u> +
Total	- €	15.182,23

Balance December 31, 2008 + € 17.806,62



Projects 2009

For the coming year these projects and activities are planned:

Completing construction of 6 earthquake resistant mountain schools, Kaski District, Nepal

Around May of 2009, the schools as describes on page 3, which are sponsored by CWS, will be finalized and officially opened. For this project we do not need to raise funds.

Completing construction of the hostel for blind students in Bhandardhik, Nepal

The construction of the hostel, our biggest project so far, will take about a year and will be finalized around the end of 2009. Most of our funds have been reserved for this project, which will be co-financed by our regular partner and Dutch funding agency Impulsis.

A compound wall built with plastic bottles, Nepal

Around a school complex in the village of Pachbhaiya a new compound wall is needed, since the old wall has partially collapsed. We will try to collect enough discarded plastic from out of the waste stream and build the wall with them. A fine example of cost-effective and eco-friendly construction.



Research 2009

For the coming year these research projects are planned:

Finalizing research suitability of mountain soil for earth construction, Kaski District, Nepal

In 2009 we will continue the research and Martijn Schildkamp will follow a course on soil recognition and earth construction techniques at the Earth Institute, in Auroville, South India.

SSF is moving to...

From the start of 2009 we will explore to which country we are going to move our activities after the summer. This as a result of the constant visa problems in Nepal. Conditions for our new destinations are: the need for building related projects, the local interest for alternative construction techniques, and the visa possibilities. For now we have contacts in Peru, Surinam, Indonesia and Cambodia.



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