



Stichting Batashi: Five Year Plan 2013-2017

Stichting Batashi is a foundation supporting small scale development initiatives in Bangladesh

From the beginning in November 2007, Batashi supports the Santeen initiative, an education programme to raise the awareness on health and hygiene for adolescents, in particular girls, in Dhaka. Initially 4 schools participated, slowly increasing to 8 schools, madrassa, young women's club. The schools are typical 'poorer' schools. The regular programme consists of 5 modules (see box). Besides the regular programme, every year new bottom up initiatives are encouraged in a pilot programme. These are always based on the request of the girls in the schools, the teachers, staff, or out counterparts, the trainers and coordinator. From 2011, based on the initiative of our Bangladeshi counterpart, a small scale initiative to explore the concept of 'old age home' in the Bangladesh setting, has been supported. The objective is to explore ways and means to improve the quality of live for older women in an urban environment.

Plan for the coming 5 years (2013-2017)

Continue what we are doing: support the Santeen and old age initiative and encourage new initiatives through pilots. Continue to be a low cost initiative, with its base in Bangladesh and its supporters anywhere in the world.

<p>Santeen initiative</p> <p>The regular programme consists of a year long, bi-weekly (25) lessons of 1 hour, after school, addressing various health and hygiene related topics. Innovative teaching methods, involving the students actively are used. Besides, school management and teachers are actively involved, and updated through quarterly meetings. And, based on demand, also teacher training is organized. In two orphanages linked to the regular school programme, counselling sessions are organized bi-weekly. The girls indicate themselves which topics they like to discuss.</p>	<p>Pilots Santeen Initiative</p> <p>2007 start up 2008 no pilot 2009 2nd year programme (not continued in 2010, successful elements from this programme incorporated in the regular programme) 2010 Counselling ('kringgesprek'), part of the regular programme since 2011 2011 Teacher training 2012 Consolidation of regular programme 2013 Writing contest, SRHR</p> <p>Possible future pilots Santeen</p> <p>Involvement of parents Exploring SRHR network as a means to support staff development and quality of programme Writing longer term plan (vision)</p>
<p>Old age home initiative</p> <p>Characteristics: Collection of information Focus Group Discussion with like-minded people Conceptualize future action</p>	<p>Possible future pilots:</p> <p>Involvement of legal and 'business' partners Development of 'business plan'</p>





Financing

All Batashi activities are funded by donations of individuals or organisations (church groups, foundations, charities). Based on our expectations for the coming five year, we expect that the current level of funding (8800 Euro in 2013) will remain more or less the same. In order to address current inflation in Bangladesh (8% over the last 5 years), we expect to need 12000 Euro in 2017. Of this amount, at least 75% is used for the regular programme, and maximum 25% is used for the pilots.

We expect to raise the money through donations, in the same way as during the last five year. These may be from family and friends, as well as from organizations that support our goals and way of working. We want to explore longer term commitments and crowd funding possibilities (like 1% Club). Each year we will formulate a particular target in this regard.

Communication

The communication with our partners in Bangladesh takes place through face to face contacts (as long as Catharien as board member is in Bangladesh), Skype meetings and email. Our experience is that this works well, and we'll continue in the same way.

We reach out to our supporters personal contact as well as through our newsletters (in Dutch), website, facebook (in English), and annual report (in Dutch). Newsletters are sent 4 times a year. We are planning to intensify the use of the Facebook page in the coming 5 years.

This is why we work on these issues:

One of the girls in the programme, indicated in an evaluation form she indicated that she was harassed by her step-father. The trainers identified which girl it was, and discretely addressed the topic in a discussion. The girl felt encouraged and discussed the matter with her mother. The mother first did not believe her, but action was taken. The girl changed from a pale and quiet student into a happy young lady!

Organization

Board: Dieuke Joosten (chair), Iris van Werven (secretary), Catharien Terwisscha van Scheltinga (treasurer)

Bangladesh counterparts for both Santeen and old age initiative: Sumita Choudhury, Ainun Nahar, Liza



Volunteers

In the coming five year we expect to involve volunteers in Bangladesh providing them internship possibilities.

In the Netherlands we are supported by a website manager and based on experienced needs, we will seek and welcome other volunteers.

Contact details: www.batashi.nl and batashi@mail.com

