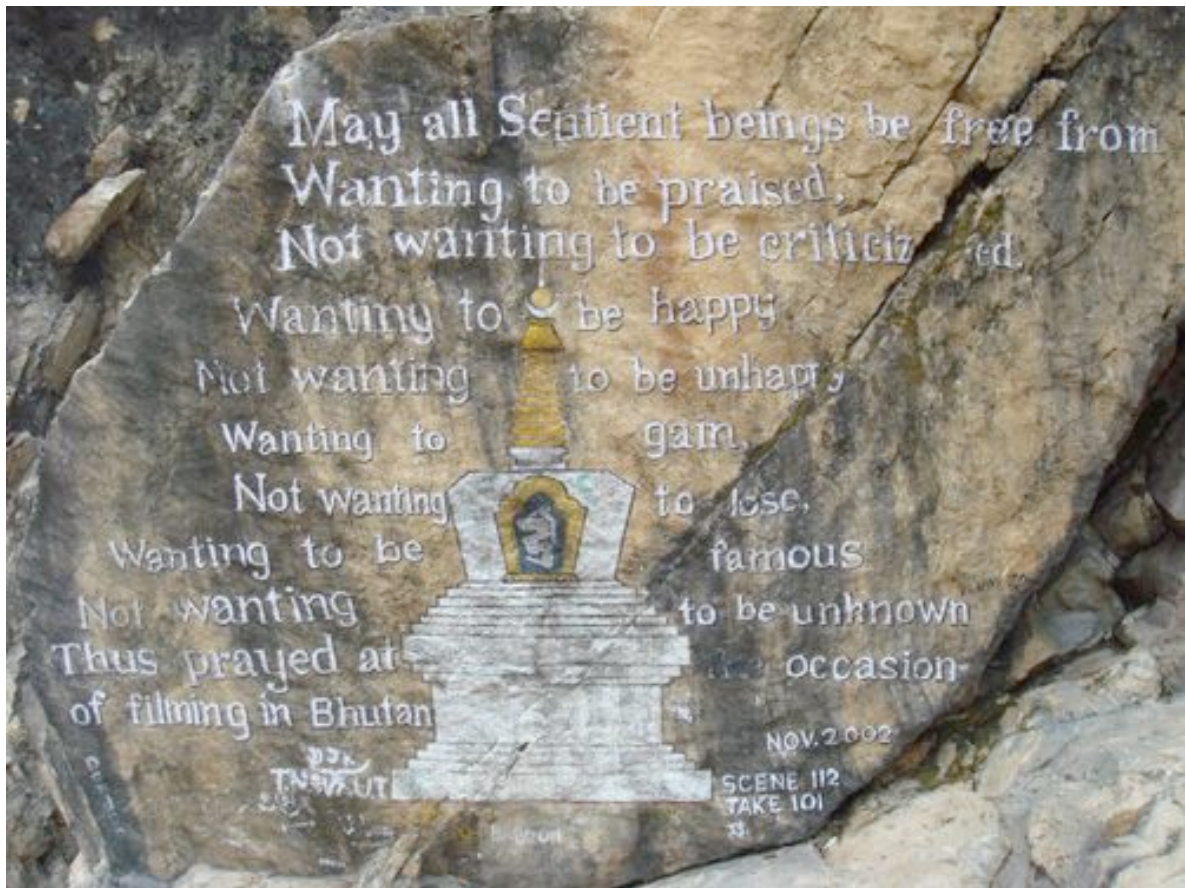


BHUTAN+PARTNERS ACTIVITIES REPORT 2007



We take great pleasure in presenting our report on activities Bhutan + Partners 2007.

There has been a lot of interaction between the Netherlands and Bhutan and visa versa in 2007. Officials from the Royal Government of Bhutan visited the Netherlands. Many Bhutanese came to the Netherlands for their studies and for tailor made programmes. Jigme Drukpa visited the Netherlands twice, once to attend the premiere of the film 'Umoja, a way of coming home' together with Dorji Wangchuk and once to perform with the Trio Druk Yul in Amsterdam and in Utrecht. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Orange and Princes Maxima of the Netherlands visited Bhutan in October 2007.

2008 will be a very special year for Bhutan with the coronation of the fifth Druk Gyalpo, the endorsement of the constitution and the first-party elections on 24 March 2008. We hope that the friendship between Bhutan and the Netherlands will continue to enrich en inspire people on both sides of the globe.



BHUTAN + CULTURE AND ART

Royal Classical Concert Bhutan & Friendship Tour to Bhutan

Bhutan + Partners together with Chenzig Entertainment started preparing for the first ever Royal Classical Piano Concert in Bhutan. In close collaboration with the Royal Government of Bhutan two concerts are scheduled for 22 and 23 November 2008 in Thimphu, Bhutan. Preparations commenced to travel over land in a *friendship tour* with music *en-route* from the Netherlands to Bhutan, and to transport a grand piano and other musical instruments. To ensure maintenance of the grand piano and to encourage future concerts to be held in Bhutan a cultural fund will be established in 2008.

Himalaya Challenge 2008

The Himalaya Challenge 2008, a classical car rally organised by Champ Car Europe BV, will start in Amsterdam and end in Thimphu Bhutan. Bhutan + Partners in close collaboration with the Royal Government of Bhutan and Chenzig Entertainment have started preparing for it's *grande finale* in Bhutan in November 2008, coinciding with the arrival of the grand piano and the musicians of the Friendship Tour and the Royal Classical Concert in Thimphu. Bhutan+Partners organised a preparatory visit to Bhutan for two representatives of CCE in December 2007.

Travel program 3opreis, Floortje Dessing

Floortje Dessing started her journey from Amsterdam to Bhutan over land in 2007. Her journey is part of the *3opreis* travel program by LLiNK and KRO, which is broadcasted every Sunday evening from 25 November 2007 till the end of April 2008. The final programs, three in total, will cover the journey of Floortje Dessing while she visits Bhutan. Bhutan+Partners assisted in planning the *3opreis* journey to Bhutan; in advising the producer about the program and in arranging logistical support in Bhutan for the crewmembers.

Children&Youth Festival 2007, Thimphu – Bhutan

The Children & Youth Festival was a three-day public event. Children and youth from all over Bhutan were invited to express themselves on the on-going political changes taking place in the country. The children choose the relevant topic of their choice within the broad theme of Youth & Democracy and expressed themselves in any of the seven forms of art: painting, photography, poetry, essays, songs, short films or documentaries and drama & street theatre. Participants of the Kids' Media Club Bhutan followed a training course with Dorji Wangchuk prior to the festival. At the end of the course each student used a camera to express his or her view on democracy and changes taking place in Bhutan and submitted their work to the Festival Jury. Bhutan+Partners supported the activities by sending 60 disposable cameras to Bhutan.

The Chorten project

'Peace and prosperity in Europe 2009 – 2011

One hundred and eight small *chortens* will be constructed in different countries throughout Europe and will together form a chain of monuments to reflect peace and harmony. An invisible line will connect the *chortens*, thus reinforcing the energy of the different constructions. Communities in the European countries will decide where, how and when to build a *chorten*. The small or large construction will be



made of local materials (rock, wood, mud, slate) or modern materials. As long as participants feel that a *chorten* is appropriate to mark the place, they can choose the location of a historical event, a site of remarkable scenery or a spot important for another reason as their building site. The number 108 is commonly used in traditions, cultures and religions: it refers to mathematical and astrological principles, Sanskrit, Islam, Buddhism and Hindu beliefs and it links cosmic and day-to-day energies.

BHUTAN + DOCUMENTARIES

Business Invent, UK

Bhutan+Partners conducted a feasibility study for Business Invent for a programme and documentary in Bhutan in 2008. The project focuses on youngsters and education.

Documentary Democratic Process Bhutan

Dorji Wangchuk, producer and filmer in Bhutan, is making a documentary of the election process in Bhutan with Jigmi Y Thinly and Jigme Drukpa as main characters. Bhutan+Partners co-finances the documentary.

BHUTAN + ENVIRONMENT

Bløf: assessment for clean energy projects in Bhutan

Bhutan+ Partners conducted a survey for Bløf, investigating possibilities for environmental friendly projects in Bhutan.

Bio Bhutan

During a meeting in Thimphu, Bio Bhutan has requested Bhutan+Partners to assist in promoting and distributing BioBhutan products in the Netherlands. A plan, including PR activities will be made and carried out in 2008.



BHUTAN + MANAGERS

In 2007 we looked into possibilities of developing a programme for managers to reflect and to exchange experiences and ideas with Bhutanese managers. We will continue to give shape to a suitable programme together with partners in Bhutan.

BHUTAN + PENNY-WISE FUND

We have started the Penny Wise Fund, a fund for small-scale projects in Bhutan. The amounts issued should not exceed 300 € at a time.

BHUTAN + SPORTS

Programmes for Sport and Education

The Sports and Education Program (SEP) was concluded in 2007. Future activities in the field of sports will be coordinated directly with the Bhutan Olympic Committee and sport federations in Bhutan.

BHUTAN + PARTNERS OTHER ACTIVITIES

Bhutan + Partners has assisted the following persons and organisations in 2007:

- Bhutanese visiting the Netherlands for studies and tailor-made programs: met and exchanged ideas. Among them were BBS reporters, members of staff of the Royal University of Bhutan and RGOB officials. We assisted the Core Group Standard Cost Model from Bhutan in organizing a meeting with a dairy farmer and a front desk officer Work and Income on the tours' focus on 15 September 2007.
- Bløf: information for the book *Bløf in Bhutan – Rockin the Himalayan Kingdom*
- Bløf: arrangements for Dorji Wangchuk and Jigme Drukpa to attend the premiere of the film 'Umoja, a way of coming home' in Zeeland, the Netherlands, on 14 September 2007
- Friends of Bhutan Association in the Netherlands: celebration of Bhutan National Day, in Amsterdam on 15 December 2007.
- Himalaya Film Festival Amsterdam: information and contact Bhutanese Filmmakers
- Honorary Consul General to Bhutan, Mr. R. Van Schaik: Bhutan+Partners contributed information for preparing material for the Secretariat of their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Orange and Prince Maxima of the Netherlands for their visit to the Kingdom of Bhutan in October 2007.
- Umoja4kids: information for this primary school programme on mutual respect and tolerance. For information (Dutch only): www.umoja4kids.nl

Bhutan + Partners communicated about and discussed their activities with the relevant ministries in Bhutan, the Bhutan Mission in Geneva, SDS in Thimphu, the Royal Netherlands Embassy in New Delhi and the Dutch Consulate in Thimphu. We maintained contact with the Honourable Consul of Bhutan in the Netherlands, Mr. R. van Schaik, and with the Friends of Bhutan Association in the Netherlands.

Board Members of Bhutan+Partners met and discussed reports, networks and activities on 19 January and 27 August 2007. The chairman Pieter Lammers and the coordinator Henk de Jong both visited Bhutan twice in 2007. They met with officials and friends and discussed programmes and future activities.

BHUTAN + PROSPECTS

Bhutan and Partners will continue to assist and encourage people in Bhutan and Europe to meet and exchange ideas and programmes in the fields of culture, philosophy, art or sports. We will also continue to share all the information available with other persons and institutions interested in Bhutan; it's culture and people.

Besides the above mentioned, we have committed ourselves to the following:

- Penny Wise Fund: formalize the fund and carry out PR activities
- Literature Bhutan: we want to interest a Dutch publisher in literature from Bhutan for publication in the Dutch language
- Sports programmes for young Bhutanese
- Clean Energy projects in Bhutan
- Cultural Fund



February 2008
Ellecom, the Netherlands