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Annual Report 2013

Friends of Humanity

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2013 was an important year of sustained progress for Friends of Humanity. We continued our mission to improve the lives of the most disadvantaged populations by steadily delivering on our main projects with focus on education, health care, and human rights, while also serving as a foundation that brings together companies, donors, and social projects to share ideas and experiences.

In 2013, FOH supported three important projects in three different countries: the Alice Project in India, Maison Shalom International School in Burundi, and Lamp of the Path in Mongolia.

The funds to support our critical initiatives mainly came from public institutions and private donations. As with previous years, we focused our efforts in 2013 to strengthen our partnerships with private companies and public institutions.



The International School in Rugiyi, Burundi

Friends of Humanity (FOH) is a Geneva-based non-profit organization, created by Graziella Zanoletti in May 2007, with the purpose of improving the living conditions of the most disadvantaged people.

Friends of Humanity supports **small scale, culturally adapted projects** that answer real needs of local populations and promote sustainable development in four key areas:



Human rights and dignity



Healthcare and medicine



Education and training



Environmental protection

FOH projects are currently underway **in Asia and Africa**. We operate both directly, by supporting initiatives and providing funding, and indirectly, by playing an intermediary role in supporting projects of other humanitarian organizations when they are consistent with the statutes and objectives of FOH. Moreover, communication and raising public awareness are an integral part of the FOH mission.

Education

In 2013, Friends of Humanity focused on education, one of the most important determinants of a population's economic growth and a path out of poverty. The Alice project in India and Maison Shalom in Burundi

represented two vital projects in educating underprivileged children in two of the poorest countries to become active members of their local communities. The anniversary of the Maison Shalom in Burundi marked one of the highlights of the year 2013 for FOH.



1 – India - Alice Project

FOH has been supporting the Alice Project since 2009. Since its launch in 1994 by Italian teachers Valentino Giacomini and Luigina De Biasi, the Alice school project has grown from 60 to well over 1000 pupils, and opened its doors to students in three locations in Sarnath (Uttar Pradesh), Bodhgaya (Bihar), and Bodhisatta (Arunachal Pradesh).

The school in Bodhisatta serves 125 disadvantaged children with poor educational prospects in a community plagued by poverty, illiteracy, and a lack of infrastructure. The addition of a girls' boarding school in 2010 provides 20 girls from remote villages with education, food, lodging, and health care.

2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2013, the branch school in Bodhisatta was home to 20 girls, ranging in age from toddlers to teenagers, covering grades 1 through 6. At a monthly cost of 508 CHF, the school provided not only education, but shelter, three daily meals, clothing, laundry, toiletries, school supplies and medicine.

The education of girls is one of the main purposes of the Alice Project, particularly in a traditionally male dominated society. Most girls come from very poor families, some are orphans. The school provides these girls from otherwise illiterate families not only with an opportunity for education, but a safe and nurturing environment in which to thrive. It empowers them with a foundation for a better future for themselves, as well as the opportunity to be a positive influence in the lives of others.

FOH supports the running costs of the girls' boarding school for three years.

2013 FINANCIAL SUPPORT = CHF 20'649.-



Students in Sarnath School



Students in Bodhisatta School

2 - Burundi – Maison Shalom and the International School



Established by Maggy Barankitse in war-torn Burundi, the Maison Shalom started as a place of shelter to 25 orphans in 1993, and has since helped over 20,000 children. FOH has worked with Maggy since 2008 on various humanitarian projects, including the International School project in Ruyigi which started in 2009 to fulfill the education initiative of Maison Shalom. The project aims to provide more children in post-conflict Ruyigi with the opportunity to attend school and have a better education. Social justice is at the heart of the teachings of Maison Shalom. FOH's assistance centers on outfitting nine classrooms with the required bench desks, books, and computers, providing adequate learning tools, and creating recreational facilities for the students.

2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The objective of the project is to accept 450 students by the year 2016. The accomplishments in 2013 are a major step for Maison Shalom towards that goal. Starting with 185 students in the beginning of the year, enrolment reached 241 students by November 2013, an increase of 56 new students who will benefit from an affordable primary education that aims to lead the region to sustainable economic development and social justice.

2013 FINANCIAL SUPPORT = CHF 1'867.-

3 - Mongolia – Lamp of the Path

Since 2004, Lamp of the Path has operated a Community Centre in Ulaanbaatar, which provides poor and homeless individuals with hot nutritious meals 5 days a week, as well as free clothing and medical assistance. In 2013, Friends of Humanity continued to support the soup kitchen which has helped save many lives of people living in excruciatingly cold conditions and improved the nutritional status of many children entering school.

2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



2013 FINANCIAL SUPPORT = CHF 4'207.-

Shop&help

The shop&help e-commerce platform is an initiative led by Friends of Humanity (FOH). It serves as an ongoing fundraising instrument to finance the projects supported by FOH and other nonprofit organizations. Through shop&help, donors are able to purchase a variety of products and services from local vendors, with 85% of the purchase price going



directly to the donor's project of choice. Shop&help allows ethically-conscious consumers to help a good cause with their purchases. It allows vendors to sell excess capacity and resources, while building a socially-responsible image and gaining access to new clients. In addition to benefiting both the buyer and the seller, the shop&help directly benefits FOH's supported projects.

In 2013, shop&help continued its growth and generated a sustainable amount of revenues to support humanitarian projects.

In 2014, shop&help will develop its partnerships in Switzerland and abroad. This year our e-shop will be part of the "Guide du Shopping Ethique" of Nice Future.

Perspectives for 2014

For 2014, Friends of Humanity will still focus on education and support the projects in Burundi, India and Mongolia. Nevertheless, FOH would also like to focus on gender issues, notably in Burundi and Mongolia so that to help women to be independent.