

Annual Report 2009



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Friends of Humanity

Annual Report 2009

I. About the organization

1) Mission

Friends of Humanity SA is a Geneva-based non-profit organization supporting initiatives and projects in five essential areas: human rights and dignity, education and training, healthcare and medicine (including alternative medicine), environmental protection and conservation, and microfinance.

Projects are currently underway in Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America. **FOH** operates both directly, by spearheading initiatives and funding them, and indirectly, by supporting other organizations' projects when they are relevant to **FOH**'s purpose.

FOH was founded on 16th May, 2007, and is registered in Geneva/Switzerland as a non-profit corporation. Upon creation, **Friends of Humanity** took over several ongoing projects started in previous years by Graziella Zanoletti, **FOH**'s president. The organization is constantly expanding the number and scope of projects it supports.

2) Objectives

Education and training

- To support educational projects which encourage long term economic development.

Healthcare and tradition medicine

- To provide solutions where basic health care is deficient.

Environment

- To promote a sustainable approach to the environment this is crucial for economic development to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising those of the future generations.

Human rights

- To defend the dignity of children, women and men all over the world

II. Projects supported

1) India - Nirmala Hospital (Holistic health center)



THE FACTS

On December 26th 2004 a tsunami hit India, killing thousands of persons and leaving many of others without homes or means of making a living. This is when the support of **FOH** started in the region by funding two boats for the local villages and 60 mattresses for the beds in the Nirmala hospital. Later **FOH** funded the creation of a Holistic Health center of Sister Clara, the installation of air conditioning in the hospital and a solar water heater in order to further battle harsh conditions.



The holistic center is aimed especially to the poor in order to help them to access a better health system. The activities of the center are wide ranging, to answer the needs of 2000 local families: educational classes on HIV/Aids, values and self defense; yoga, stress and grief management courses; children's camps; prayer therapy; counseling and home visits.

THE ACTION

Today, Sister Clara has developed a project to turn a dry quarry into a pond. The pond is projected to provide an open water surface of approximately 376 square meters to the health center. The construction started in November 2009 and **Friends of Humanity** funded it in two phases (one end of 2009 and one beginning of 2010).

THE IMPACT

1. **Climate control:** The pond will change the place's microclimate from extreme heat to pleasant
2. **Water resource:** The pond will provide sufficient water for the herbal plants, coconut and other trees as well as some water for the hospital
3. **Income generating:** The sale of fish will generate income for the holistic center

THE 2009 FINANCIAL SUPPPORT = CHF 3'230.-

2) Brazil - Farmacia Verde

THE FACTS

The project "Farmacia Verde" was created in 1995 to promote the fabrication and use of plant-based first-aid medicine elaborated according to local traditional remedies. Based in the city of Altamira, in the state of Pará, north of Brazil, the Farmacia Verde centre is composed of a garden and a laboratory and employs four people full time. The use of drugs made from medicinal plants allows access to an alternative and effective therapy for the population in the respect of their culture. The use of these plant-based medicines is a sensible alternative to regular drugs, as they are just as efficient and more cost effective to produce than conventional medicines.



THE ACTION

Thanks to the support of **Friends of Humanity**, over forty different medicinal plants are grown and about thirty different medicines are produced. The plants include ginger, mint, marigold, arnica and regional varieties such as boldo or mikania glomerata. Farmacia Verde's drugs are manually prepared and disclose information such as: composition, indication, method of use and restrictions.



THE IMPACT

In 2009, medicines were produced and distributed to 2'664 individuals from 18 Altamira communities.

Villages	Total Households	Total of Families	Total men	Total women
AJURUTY	34	34	69	72
APYTEREWA	41	54	127	134
ARARA	14	46	124	125
BAKAJÁ	31	51	121	122
CURUÁ	38	38	91	92
IPIXUNA	53	53	103	107
IRIRI	18	18	38	39
KARARAÔ	9	11	23	26
KWATINEMU	25	28	75	77
MRÔTIDJÂM	31	56	155	159
PAKANÁ	15	15	31	33
PAQUIÇAMBA	18	22	49	54
POTIKRÔ	17	26	60	66
PYKAJAKÁ	17	19	39	43
TERRÁ WANGÁ	17	17	57	59
TUKAMÁ	9	9	20	25
TUKAYA	9	9	23	29
XINGU	28	34	98	99
18 TOTAL of PEOPLE	424	540	1303	1361 2664

THE 2009 FINANCIAL SUPPORT = CHF 5'000.-

3) Libertà - Helpline for victims of Human Trafficking

THE FACTS

Human trafficking is the third largest criminal activity worldwide, after trafficking in arms and drugs. Approximately 2.5 million people are trafficked every year. The victims are recruited or transferred through some forms of coercion or deception and exploited, mainly for forced labor or sexual exploitation. Every country is affected either as a source, transit or destination or a combination thereof. Switzerland is not an exception.



The project Libertà started as a joint pilot project of the campaign "End Human Trafficking Now!" and **Friends of Humanity** back in June 2008. After a 6 months pilot phase, Libertà successfully achieved its objectives: detect and identify potential victims; provide specialized help and support to victims (shelter: medical, social and psychological assistance, legal counseling...); raise awareness of the general public on this issue; improve the existing network for the assistance of victims. This confirmation of the existence of human trafficking in Geneva and the identification of the gaps and needs in victims' protection, encouraged **FOH** to further this project.

THE ACTION

In this optic, an independent association has been created in June 2009 to take care of this project. In the person of Graziella Zanoletti, **FOH** took the responsibility of the vice-presidency of the Association Libertà.

Libertà specific objectives for the period 2009 were:



1. Raise the awareness on the human trafficking issue and broadcast the helpline number for potential victims and to a larger public
2. Provide specific help to victims of human trafficking
3. improve the capability of the identification and assistance of victims of actors involved in the protection process
4. Support prevention projects against human trafficking in source countries

Objective 1:

Through campaigns, media coverage, volunteers and distribution of material as well as information to the network Libertà was able to raise awareness on this issue. In September 2009, the association launched its second massive campaign in public transport. During 2009, Libertà had also good media coverage (Los Andes, Ecolatino, Hebdo Hispano, Tribune de Genève, GHI, SIT Newspaper and 20 Min).

THE IMPACT

The consequence of the campaign was an increase in the number of calls (42 in total for 7 during September and 7 during October). However, it's relatively hard to assess the increase of awareness in the population.

Objective 2:

The reception, counseling and accompaniment of victims were the major novelty of 2009. Thus several cases have been followed and Libertà has accompanied or referred victims to different services and institutions. In order to improve the quality of the assistance and adapt to the specific needs of each victim, Libertà has signed and established different partnerships with local actors (legal, administrative, assistance...).

THE IMPACT

The following table sums up Libertà assistance provided between September and December 2009

Origin	N°	Assistance required					Followed	On Going
		Legal	Psychosocial	Shelter	Police	Return		
Africa	5	5	2	2		1	5	1
Latin America	4	4			2	1	3	2
Eastern Europe	1	1			1	1	1	
Asia	1	1			1			
Total	11	11	2	2	4	3	9	3

Objective 3:

This objective takes time to be reached. However, some trainings and information sessions to local actors were planned.

THE IMPACT

The origin of the calls were coming more and more often from local actors.

Objective 4:

Not achieved in 2009

For further information on this project, see the 1 Year Assessment of Association Libertà

THE 2009 FINANCIAL SUPPORT = CHF 60'000.-

4) Tibet - Clean Kailash

THE FACTS



In 2007, 70'000 tourists and pilgrims from all around the world visited the sacred region of Mount Kailash. This influx of people has caused an exponential increase in waste, with dramatic effects on the environment. As part of its commitments to environmental protection, **Friends of Humanity** has supported the Clean Planet Association efforts to solve this pollution problem.

THE ACTION

To overcome the lack of effective waste management, the Clean Planet Association, in partnership with the Mount Kailash Environmental Protection Organization (MKO), has developed a project with 2 areas of focus: an awareness campaign on waste littering and the construction of a storage centre for used batteries and plastic bags.

THE IMPACT

Thanks to the donations, MKO built a storage centre for batteries and plastic bags in April 2010. The salary of the project manager could be assumed and 2 signs were placed at the entrance of the site. Furthermore, MKO was able to print 2000 informative comic in Tibetan and another 1000 in Chinese. They raise the awareness of the villagers, tourists and pilgrims on the importance of waste management for the conservation of natural heritage.



THE 2009 FINANCIAL SUPPORT = CHF 5'000.-

5) Brazil - Jardim de Juramidam

THE FACTS

Jardim de Juramidam is an area of 57 hectares located near the village of Alto Paraiso in the Brazilian Cerrado. Situated in central-western Brazil, this region has unique fauna and flora and one of the richest biodiversities in the world. Despite its unique biodiversity and warnings from organizations, a large part of the region has been transformed into pasture and soya fields which endanger the environment balance.



THE ACTION

Friends of Humanity strives to preserve the reserve's wildlife and to replant deforested areas. There is already a significant improvement in the situation, as hundreds of indigenous fruit trees and floral species have been replanted. For this project, **FOH** uses a holistic approach by integrating the social and economic reality of the local population with the ecological interests of the region. Indeed, all cultivations are organic and are made thanks to agroforestry techniques. This farming approach consists of cultivating medicinal herbs and other small plants under fruit trees.

THE IMPACT

Ecological impact

By protecting the zone from hunters, woodcutters, fires and cattle; the fauna, flora, and rivers are preserved. By preserving the area and reforesting ecologically sensitive zones, the Jardim de Juramidam project contributes to combating climate change.



Social and economic impact

The construction and reforestation crews largely consist of marginal and native people from the local villages. This project gives hope and dignity to these people who have in the past been marginalized. Handicraft items made from the dried fruits of the planted trees are also a potential source of profit.

Also an ecotourism centre is under construction.

Spiritual Impact

A part of the project is to help people to become more peaceful and conscious. A wish is to become a point of light, a centre of healing and meditation, where people with the help of the contact with nature and spiritual works can awake a new consciousness.

THE 2009 FINANCIAL SUPPORT = CHF 17'000.-

6) Burundi - Hopital Rema

THE FACTS

In Burundi, the weakness of the health system lies not only in the amount of hospitals, largely insufficient for the local population, but also in the poor quality of health care. The Rema Hospital, founded by Maggie Barankitse, was built to tackle this situation. The hospital is opened to everybody but aims specifically to provide health care to mothers and their children. Most patients are victims of civil war or AIDS.

THE ACTION

FOH and the Rema Hospital which officially opened on 22nd January 2008 both strive to fund the work of doctors and physicians at the hospital. The following services have been created: emergency, paediatrics, maternity, surgery, operating suite, laboratory, pharmacy, radiology, ultrasound, and morgue.



THE IMPACT

The medical care provided through the hospital reduces mortality among pregnant women and new-borns by offering them top medical assistance and follow up. It also limits mother to child HIV transmission and facilitates access to health care to vulnerable populations. An education centre, which is part of the project, informs on hygiene, nutrition, vaccines and birth control.



THE 2009 FINANCIAL SUPPORT =

CHF 12'750.- were raised on November 8th 2009, during the event « A Day to Share », nevertheless the money was transferred in January 2010.

7) Nepal - Tashi Chime Gatsal Bigu



THE FACTS

The village of Bigu in the Dolkha District of Nepal is located in one of the most remote region of the country. The Tashi Gatsal Nunnery was built in 1934 and has never had any lighting for the 60 nuns who live there. The nunnery serves both as a home and an educational center, as the nuns are taught various skills.

THE ACTION

Friends of Humanity has undertaken a project to provide solar lighting to the Tashi Chime Gatsal Nunnery. This project has a total budget of \$39'000 to be done in three stages. After around two months of work, the two first stages were completed end of 2008 with a budget of \$26'000. Within these two phases almost the whole solar power system was installed. This includes the dormitory, monastery, kitchen, bathrooms, some toilets and guest room installation. After have supported the first stage in 2008, **FOH** undertook the responsibility of the second one's funding in 2009.

The third and last stage is planned for 2010 with a budget of 12'000\$. The goal is to finish the work started by installing solar power system for a small office complex and some toilets.

THE IMPACT

The solar lighting will help improve the living conditions and the quality of teaching in Tashi Chime Gatsal Nunnery without having any harmful impact on the environment. Moreover, it allows the nunnery to be self-sufficient in term of energy.

THE 2009 FINANCIAL SUPPORT = CHF 12'950.-

III. OTHER FOH PROJECTS LED BY RUSSEL BRICE

1) Samagon medical initiative – Nepal



THE FACTS

The remote Samagon village is located at the foot of Manaslu Peak. The access to this region is very critical. The transporting of food and health care is also very difficult. Changes in eating habits, particularly increased consumption of refined sugar is causing a drastic increase in the number of dental problems among children. This mainly affects populations living in remote communities of Nepal, where little or no dental service is available.

Initiated by Russell Brice of **FOH**, a joint program between World Food Programme (WFP), Smilehigh, Nepal Doctors and Himalayan Experience took place in Nepal to bring food and healthcare to remote population.

THE ACTION

Russell and his team provided the logistics and tent accommodation for Smile High and the doctors who went to Samagon. They also coordinated the liaison between the Doctors, Smile high and the UN World Food Program who supported this initiative by helicopter support.

WFP helicopters transported 3 doctors and 6 dentists into the remote Samagon village at the foot of Manaslu Peak. The Doctors treated about 700 people whilst the Dentists presented dental hygiene lectures and treated about 600 people. The WFP as part of its "Food for Work Program" took over and donated about 12 tons of rice to local people in exchange for work on paths, bridges and community projects. Himalayan Experience donated the infrastructure to enable the Doctors and Dentists to be accommodated and temporary clinics.

THE IMPACT

This project aims to improve quality of life through the oral health care of those living in remote areas in Nepal as well as reducing malnutrition and improving infrastructure of the region.

THE 2009 FINANCIAL SUPPORT = only logistic support

2) Nepal – Manaslu Base Camp path and clean up

THE ACTION

On behalf of **FOH**, Himalayan Experience donated \$750 to the local community to send a work party to improve the path from Samagon to Manaslu Base camp. This donation for work also enabled 30 local porters to come to the Base Camp and collect 900kg of rubbish which was carried down to be disposed of correctly in a pit that had been dug for dealing with rubbish.

THE IMPACT

These improvements make the path much safer for the local porters who are carrying loads for expeditions, so hopefully no porters will fall off and injure themselves or be killed. It also participated to the reduction of human harmful impact on the environment.

THE 2009 FINANCIAL SUPPORT = \$ 750

3) Nepal – Sleeping Bags to Old People's Homes



THE FACTS

Nepal is a poor country and the winter there is very tough. The most resourceless people risk their life every winter

THE ACTION

Thanks to Mountain Equipment and Himalayan Experience, **Friends of Humanity** was able to distribute 300 sleeping bags to Tibetan Old People's homes in Kathmandu.

THE IMPACT

These sleeping bags provide heat during the cold winters to people with weak health.

THE 2009 FINANCIAL SUPPORT = £360 for the cost of freight

IV. Activities

1) A Day to Share 2009

On 8th November 2009, **Friends of Humanity** has organized its first annual Event A Day to Share. The purpose of this day is to gather friends of **FOH** together in order to present them 4 projects that dare to us. This event is under the sign of the solidarity and the generosity. The first edition has been organized in Onex (GE) in the private residence of our friend Fabienne Feldman. During this day a beautiful raffle was organized as well as an auction. The succulent "standing brunch" was offered by our partners the Four Seasons Hôtel des Bergues, The Hôtel de la Paix and the Hôtel Richemond.

The 80 invitees were also entertained by the music offered by Anna & Cheo and friends as well as the Capoeira demonstration.

FOH is quite satisfied of its first solidarity event. CHF 40'000.- were raised and the organization has limited the costs.

The four projects presented were Clean Kailash in Tibet, Hôpital Rema in Burundi, Libertà in Switzerland and Jardim de Juramidam in Brazil.

2) Petit-déjeuner des PME et start-up

With its partnership with Elite Rent-a-Car, **Friends of Humanity** has taken in charge to reduce the environmental and social impact of this car rental company. On this occasion, **FOH** as followed the 5 May 2009 the conference PME et Développement durable of the Guichet des PME of Geneva. This conference focused on the issue of sustainable development in SMEs and gave us some tools to further our partnership with Elite Rent car.

3) International Geneva Yearbook 2009

This report aims at gathering the activities of International Institutions in Geneva. **FOH** is proud to be part of this book for the first time. It rewards the work done by **Friends of Humanity** from its beginning.

4) Trainees and conference followed by FOH in relation to the Helpline project

a. Mécanisme de coopération administratif pour la lutte contre la traite des personnes à Genève

In 2009, **FOH** has participated to a working group for the setting up of an administrative cooperation mechanism for the fight against human trafficking in Switzerland. Presided by Fabienne Bugnon of the Geneva Human Rights office, this group was formed of representatives of civil society, public services and juridical services.

b. Trainee at the FIZ (Zurich)

FOH participated to a three days training from the 23 to the 25 September at the FIZ (Advocacy and support for migrant women and victims of trafficking). This organization is considered as a leader for the assistance of victims of Human Trafficking in German speaking Switzerland. FOH has learned a lot from this training in the perspective of its helpline and the assistance of victims.

c. Meetings with the SCOTT

The SCOTT (Service de coordination contre la traite d'êtres humains et le trafic de migrants) was a particular interlocutor for FOH in 2009. In fact, this service is coordinating the helps to the victims. These meetings aimed at developing strategies and measures to fight human trafficking as well as finding how to coordinate helps to victims in French Speaking Switzerland. FOH through its helpline project Libertà was one of the principal actors in this field in 2009.

d. Trainee at the IOM (Rom)

Italy is a model country for the whole UE in terms of protection and assistance to victims of human trafficking. FOH has followed from the 15-17 April 2009 a trainee at the IOM (International Organization for Migration) in Rom (Italy) in perspective of its helpline.

e. Trainee at the HETS and LAVI center (Geneva)

FOH team has followed some trainee during 2009 about issues like attackers-victims, assistance to victims at the LAVI (Loi fédérale sur l'aide aux victimes d'infractions) or at the HETS (Haute école de travail social) of Geneva.

5) Elite goes green

This past year the staff of Friends of Humanity provided guidance to Elite Rent-a-Car in operating its sustainable development program "Elite goes green". The campaign is designed to cut down the environmental impact of the company by minimizing waste and switching to products and systems that have a smaller negative impact on the environment. With the support of Elite Rent-a-Car, FOH started a reforestation project in the area of Brazilian "Cerrado" to offset CO2 emissions.

V. Financial Summary

Financial Statement 31-12-09		
Assets		Preceding year
	CHF 2009	CHF 2008
Curent Assets		
Liquidities	22,575	25,661
Securities & investments	18,640	126,448
Donation's pledges	23,895	0
Settlement account	31,777	0
Total Assets	96,886	152,109
Liabilities		
Outside funds		
Debts in bank	0	178
Providers	0	28,322
Miscellaneous creditors	411	2,969
Ongoing projects	21,608	0
Settlement account	12,751	4.646
	34,770	36,115
Own funds		
Capital stocks	100,000	100,000
General reserve fund	900	100
Profits and losses brought forward	15,094	1,705
	- 53,878	14,189
	62,116	115,994
Total Liabilities	96,886	152,109

Profit and loss account from 01/01/09 to 31/12/09

		CHF 2009	Preceding year CHF 2008
Charges			
	Staff costs and emoluments	132,023	67,654
	Allocation of costs to projects	- 56,591	0
	General costs and office expenses	7,702	3,616
	Financing costs	2,234	1,743
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total operating costs	85,368	73,012
Products			
	Financial products and miscellaneous	4,434	2,543
	Total of Products	4,434	2,543
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	Subtotal	80,943	70,469
	Tax		0 -700
	Loss on stocks	16,412	-16,412
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	Result before project management	- 64,522	-86,181
Projects management			
	Donations received	131,483	142,906
	Donations allocated	- 120,839	-42,536
	Donations non allocated	10,644	100,370
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Revenue excess of financial year (- expenditures)		- 53,878	14,189

VI. Acknowledgments

Friends of Humanity could not deploy its activities without the generous support of its sponsors:

Carroserie Antonio Lamartina, Chamonix Experience, Château des Bois, Commune de Choulex, Cricket Holding LLC, Delance, Domaine de la Vigne Blanche, Elite Rent-a-car, Eurocall, Eurovestech plc, Farah Novias, Firel et Mandaco SA, Galerie Leda Fletcher, Galerie Quint-Essences, Hôtel La Barcarolle, Hôtel Beau-Rivage, Hôtel des Bergues Four Seasons, Hôtel Intercontinental, Hôtel de la Paix, Hôtel Le Richemond, Himalayan Experience, Hyeronimos, La Bâloise, Vivere, Mercedes-Benz Automobil AG, Moët-Hennessy, Rencontres avec des Hommes, Shava Creation, Stars in the Eyes, Studio Messaggio, The Prostate Cancer Charity, Trend Mania, Veuve Clicquot, Vom Fass, Vulcan Assets Management SA.

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