

### 3.1 S.P.I.R.A.L. FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Our eight-year partnership (2002-2010) with the S.P.I.R.A.L. Foundation has come to its natural end. To support the S.P.I.R.A.L. Foundation's guiding principle of self-sufficiency, HHC will continue the production and sale of the handicrafts and support the hundreds of women artisans of northern Dhading in central Nepal and their families through work of dignity and pride.

In the past eight years of partnership, S.P.I.R.A.L. Foundation has provided more than \$826,000 for the entire crafts project making it the biggest partner and supporter of HHC to date. The funds covered handicraft production, shipment as well as humanitarian projects which were in support of the village health and education projects that helped the artisans and their families directly through HHC. Over \$322,000 was provided for humanitarian projects alone for such projects as entire medicine supplies for three villages of almost 18,000 people for a whole year, additional salary for village health providers, salary for additional village teachers and their training in colleges in Kathmandu, training of village midwives and nurses, safe mother project, books and supplies to establish rural libraries, stipendiary support of orphaned and *dalit* village children, and women literacy and empowerment classes.

Of the humanitarian funds, S.P.I.R.A.L.



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FINANCIAL REPORT OF SPIRAL FOUNDATION SUPPORT OF NEPAL THROUGH HHC					
2002-2010					
	YEAR	HANDICRAFT PRODUCTION	SHIPPING	HUMANITARIAN	TOTAL US\$
1	2002	20,503.00	1,788.00	10,000.00	32,291.00
2	2003	31,065.00	5,762.00	31,100.00	67,927.00
3	2004	39,991.98	3,071.64	31,000.00	74,063.62
4	2005	36,651.50	12,752.95	40,000.00	89,404.45
5	2006	68,084.53	18,132.04	7,080.00	93,296.57
6	2007	103,405.71	25,114.60	75,258.56	203,778.87
7	2008	44,831.15	17,466.00	44,176.00	106,473.15
8	2009	40,785.80	5,004.44	37,115.04	82,905.28
9	2010	25,427.15	3,850.69	46,923.52	76,201.36
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>410,745.82</b>	<b>92,942.36</b>	<b>322,653.12</b>	<b>826,341.30</b>

Foundation provided over \$111,000 to help the Ilam community hospital project in eastern Nepal. The hospital project was able to buy the first anesthesia machine from this fund to carry out obstetrical and other emergency surgeries that has helped save hundreds of lives in the Ilam and neighboring region of Nepal. A room was created over the rotunda of the hospital to house the medical library which is the pride of the hospital now. Medical and other books, computers and software were provided by this fund. The hospital was able to provide short and long term training of staff and was also able to provide

safer motherhood program for the 48 villages of Ilam for a number of years. Medical and dental camps and outreach clinics were also funded through the S.P.I.R.A.L. humanitarian funds.

For the production of the crafts, S.P.I.R.A.L. Foundation helped train women artisans from the remote villages of Tipling, Sherthung, and Lapa through workshops held in Kathmandu. During the seven workshops, Marichia and her many artist friends ensured that the designs and productions of handicrafts was carried out with a consciousness



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### VILLAGE INCOME

towards ecology, local traditions, and with awareness of the resale potential in the global market.

S.P.I.R.A.L. Foundation first and foremost ensured that the handicraft production's primary beneficiaries namely the artisans (and their families) were also provided with fair salaries, assistance in the know-how of crafts production to be shared with their communities, assistance in becoming independent ongoing self-reliant entrepreneurs, a sense of well-being by being involved in a good humanitarian project that spreads its benefits to its communities, a sense of pride in supporting local indigenous knowledge and also creating exclusive handicrafts that have international appeal, and a portion of the revenue generated by the sale of these beautiful crafts would be returned to them in the form of primary health care and educational services provided through HHC.

In the past eight years through the support of S.P.I.R.A.L. Foundation, many of our village women generated income for their families through the handicrafts in spite of the global economic situation. The S.P.I.R.A.L. Foundation not only facilitated the handicraft project by providing funds in advance for the production but also helped sell the crafts for the entire duration of the project. The women working in the handicraft project receive better wages than comparable projects in Nepal. One third of all funds raised from the sale of the handicrafts were returned to

the villages to support health and education programs.

As a last bid to ensure self-reliance and self-sustenance, Marichia visited Kathmandu in September 2010 to help establish a handicraft store in the tourist district of Kathmandu called Thamel. The revenue generated from the store is used to support both the artisans with fair wages while it financially supported the health and educational projects of the artisans' villages as had been carried out by S.P.I.R.A.L. in the past eight years.

HHC will continue strongly in the tradition of handicraft production by helping preserve traditional skills, supporting individual entrepreneurial initiatives and community responsibility, and creating products that are environmentally sensitive and of the highest quality. We thank S.P.I.R.A.L. Foundation for their immense support throughout the eight years and wish them good fortune in the coming years.

In Nepal in 2010, we thank Nal Bahadur Kumal, Laxmi Maharjan, Timila Maharjan, Rita Karki, Rabina Maharjan, Saru Maharjan, Ashmita Gurung, Bishnu Newa, Ram Hari Khadka, Tilu Maya Gurung, Chesang Tamang, Ghari Maya Tamang, Geeta KC, and Kali Maya Tamang for providing quality work for this unique handicraft project started by S.P.I.R.A.L. Foundation in partnership with HHC.