

“Impact on Homebased Workers in SAARC Region”

“Organizing Homebased Workers in the SAARC Region”

The SDF-approved project on women's empowerment 'Strengthening the Livelihood Initiative of Homebased Workers in SAARC Region' is a unique project that has been made possible by the team work of SAARC Development Fund, the funding and approval agency, Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) and Home Net South Asia (HNSA), the implementing agency. The project was kick-started in August 2008, and is now well into its third year of implementation.

The project has resulted in building the network of home-based workers and creating impact on the lives and work of home-based workers in the SAARC region.



Following milestones of the project have been achieved so far:

- Full-fledged production with knitting, weaving, garmenting and knot crafts in Nepal and Pakistan.
- Inauguration of 'Ananta'.
- Training of 358 members for stitching, knitting, product design etc in Nepal.
- Set up of 'Yomari Café' in Nepal, with food prepared by members of SABAH.
- SABAH unveiled the refurbished lifestyle format store in August, 2011.

Recently, a workshop for Homebased workers was organized in SABAH Bhutan office attended by 38 Homebased workers from Zhemgang, Mongar and Sarpang Dzongkhags. The aim of the workshop was to create a sense of team work among the homebased workers after they return from the training. The Project Manager gave an overview of the training programmes to be held in India and made specific mentions on how SEWA, the LIA is customizing the training according to our requirements and needs, and that they should try to learn as much as possible during their stay in India.

They were advised to interact with the officials and trainers during the training period and extract as much information as possible so that they confirm all their doubts and clarifications.



Of the over 100 million home-based workers in the world, half are in South Asia alone, of which, almost 80% are women.