

Commercial activities

Planet Hope Nederland's income comes primarily from sponsoring, donations and gifts. To reduce our reliance on unpredictable sources of income and to ensure we can structurally cover the operating costs of current projects Planet Hope is also involved in various semi-commercial activities. All the proceeds generated are used for our social projects. At the same time these activities also provide work experience opportunities for Learning Centre students.

The income-generating projects we have planned include:

- Socially responsible guesthouse, restaurant and travel agency
- Fair trade web store for Learning Centre products
- Personal growth and development courses
- Organising conferences and support facilities

Primary and secondary education in India

Children have a fundamental right to education, and one of the millennium goals was to reduce poverty and inequality. Although India has achieved great progress in recent years in offering primary education to all children, there are still some 9 million children between the ages of 6 and 14, mainly from underprivileged groups such as casteless and tribal communities, who still do not go to primary school. And those who do go to school are usually at government schools, which do not always offer the required quality of education. The number of children dropping out of school is also high, with fewer than forty per cent of all children in India going on to secondary school.



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IBAN: NL94TRIO0390369705
BIC/SWIFT: TRIONL2U

Trade Register: 24476125

Make a world of difference!

Support Planet Hope Nederland and give underprivileged children the hope of a better future. Help us by making a donation to account number 390369705. Together we make a world of difference!



"Be the change you wish to see in the world"

Mahatma Gandhi

Planet Hope

All children have talents, but many don't get the chance to develop them. The key to developing talents is education. But millions of children have no prospect of going to school. They live in almost hopeless situations, trapped in a spiral of extreme poverty, underprivileged backgrounds, medical neglect, broken families and exhausting child labour. The Dutch charity Stichting Planet Hope is seeking to improve these young people's lives by giving them the chance to use their talents and play a full role in society. With targeted help they can create a better future for themselves. Together we make a world of difference!



What do we do?

Planet Hope seeks to promote the rights of underprivileged children. The children we support are underprivileged economically, but sometimes also culturally, as in the case of casteless and tribal communities in India. We focus on their universal right to education by helping these young children to attend primary school. We also encourage young people to learn a trade and complete vocational and other training. But sometimes they first need a solid basis before they can start working on their development. This may mean providing medical or psychological help or making sure they have enough healthy food to eat and somewhere to live.

Children's family situations are also crucial. That's why Planet Hope is actively involved in social programmes based in the children's direct surroundings. These range from providing information to parents on HIV/aids, alcoholism and women's rights to encouraging micro-businesses. Planet Hope also seeks to promote knowledge, understanding and experience of these issues among governments, non-governmental organisations, businesses and knowledge institutions by setting up programmes for internships and knowledge exchange.



How do we work?

Planet Hope sets up and supports educational and social projects. These initiatives are always based close to where the people live and set up in close liaison with local aid organisations. Or, as we call it, *global commitment, local action*. That means providing the right help to those who need it most and making sure every single euro is optimally spent. Planet Hope works with professional organisations, such as knowledge and educational institutes, to improve the quality of these projects.

Commercial projects are also an important part of how we work. After being sponsored in their start-up phase, semi-commercial activities with a social purpose should ultimately be able to be largely self-financing. Planet Hope is committed to open communications with sponsors and donors and to transparent accounting.



Planet Hope children's home

The Planet Hope children's home is located on the northern outskirts of the Southern Indian megacity of Bangalore in the state of Karnataka, where high-tech IT businesses and scenes of terrible poverty exist side by side.

Dirt poor

The Planet Hope children's home opened its doors a few years ago to children from the local quarries. These children live in extreme poverty and a very unhealthy environment. Their parents are migrant labourers and the poorest of the poor; in many cases casteless people from the neighbouring state of Tamil Nadu. They struggle to earn a living in the dusty, baking hot, lunar landscape. Using explosives, drills and pickaxes they break huge rocks into blocks of stone and gravel, which they then have to load onto trucks. In this way they earn just about enough to survive, living in ramshackle huts, with absolutely no money left for medical care or education. And

that means their children don't go to school. Instead, they often have to help by breaking up smaller stones. And that means illness is never far away, including lung and respiratory diseases caused by inhaling dust.

Looking after and educating 125 children

Planet Hope and BIRDS, our local partner organisation, really care about what happens to these people. In 2000 we started a preventive ambulatory programme, which has since been followed by a local medical station and childcare centre.

Since 2004 the Planet Hope children's home has been home to 125 children between the ages of 6 and 14. Obviously in close liaison with their parents, who live and work in the quarries and spend every Sunday with their children. The children receive love and care and, for the first time in their lives, can really be children. As well as providing shelter and good, healthy food, our programme also includes a range of sporting and other activities such as singing, dancing, acting lessons, drawing, yoga and karate, while the children also receive social and psychological help.



For the first time in their lives the children can really be children

Planet Hope Learning & Inspiration Centre

Our next plan is to build the Planet Hope Learning & Inspiration Centre alongside the children's home. This Centre will focus on two key pillars: knowledge transfer and knowledge exchange.

Knowledge transfer: learning and motivating

Children leaving the Planet Hope home at the age of 14 will have built a good basis for their future. But that's not enough for them to survive on their own in society. They need extra training if they are to find work and be able to look after themselves financially. That's why we encourage young people with sufficient intellectual capabilities to remain in education.

For most children, however, practical and vocational training to develop their talents further and equip them for the labour market will be more useful. Their background and financial situation mean they cannot fund this on their own. That's why the Learning Centre will provide *vocational training* for underprivileged youngsters, both from the Planet Hope children's home and other

children in similar situations. And also for women so that they can help create a better future for the children of tomorrow.

Once students complete their education we will help them find a job or to start their own micro-businesses. We see vocational courses and skills training as the route to work, financial independence and a prosperous future.

Knowledge exchange: inspiring and participating

The Planet Hope Inspiration Centre is designed to create a link between Bangalore and the rest of India and between India and the Netherlands, for government authorities, non-governmental organisations, institutions and businesses alike. We are doing this by arranging lectures, workshops and seminars by experts and *for* experts in development aid so that we can share innovative ideas, knowledge, expertise and best practices. By informing and inspiring each other we are seeking to achieve a multiplier effect in development aid, human rights and societal issues such as child labour.

Planet Hope is also seeking to put knowledge exchange into practice by putting Dutch

experts, students and volunteers into contact with Indian NGOs and their projects. Business professionals and academics willing to share their expertise in various areas with societal organisations, students doing internships in social projects and volunteers participating in projects all contribute their knowledge and expertise. And they in turn will be inspired by the new insights and understanding that they gain and can apply in the Netherlands.

