

## BACKGROUND

The Royal government of Bhutan, in line with the deeply-held belief of the King, attaches particular importance to the social sectors – health and education – which are considered to be integral sectors for realizing the goal of gross national happiness. It has, therefore, invested generously in the social sector. Bhutan, in fact, is one of the few countries in the world where education and health care are provided completely free to the people.

While Bhutan has attained 90% Primary Health Care coverage and many other significant achievements such as universalization of immunization coverage, elimination of leprosy and Iodine deficiency disorders, etc., sustainability and enhancement of the quality of services delivered amidst rising cost, increasing demand and competing needs are the key concerns.

An alternative financing mechanism appeared as the most feasible solution to the problem. The outcome was the Bhutan Health Trust Fund (BHTF) launched on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1998.

## VISION

“Ensure health and well being of the people for generations to come”

## TARGET

US \$ 24 Million

## OBJECTIVES

- To sustain primary health care by meeting the annual expenditure of vaccines and essential drugs by the annual income generated from the investment
- To eliminate financing uncertainties for priority health care services
- To achieve self reliance in the health sector (An integral component of Gross National Happiness)

## FINANCING MECHANISM

The Royal Government will match every donor contribution to the Health Trust Fund on a one to one basis. Thus the Royal Government is committed to providing 50% for the capitalization of the fund amounting to US \$ 12 million.

The management of the Fund is governed by the Royal Charter issued by His Majesty, the King of Bhutan in 2000.

A milestone in the evolution of the Trust Fund was the dramatic “Move For Health Walk” in 2002 which generated a sum of almost 2 million dollars (US).

## OPERATIONALIZATION

The operationalisation of the fund began from 2003 with procurement of Hepatitis B Vaccines and ARVs.

*For more information, please contact*

### **Bhutan Health Trust Fund**

Tel : +975-2-328091/93 Ext. 341

Telefax : +972-2-324632

Email. Lekibhtf@druknet.bt

Lekibhtf@health.gov.bt

### **Permanent Mission of Bhutan to the United Nations**

2, UN Plaza, 27<sup>th</sup> Fl.

New York, N.Y. 10017

Telephone : 212 826 1919/212 826 1991

Facsimile : 212 826 2998

E-mail : pmbnewyork@aol.com

### **Permanent Mission of Bhutan to the United Nations**

17-19, Chemin du Champ d’Anier

1209 Geneva, Switzerland

Telephone : 41 22 7990890/96

Facsimile : 41 22 7990899

E-mail : mission.bhutan@ties.itu.int

**OR**

Visit our website at [www.bhtf.gov.bt](http://www.bhtf.gov.bt)

## STATUS OF THE FUND & ITS CONTRIBUTORS

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	1,000,000.00
The Summit Foundation	1,000,000.00
Govt. of Norway	988,371.88
Dr. Frederik Paulsen Foundation	99,945.00
Govt. of Australia	63,850.00
Govt. of New Zealand	53,374.33
Andrew Evans, Canada	50,000.00
Amex, New York	49,989.00
Others	280,075.01
Government of Bhutan	11,801,102.87
Local Contributions	1,414,730.75
Interest earned as of 3/12/04	1,311,362.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,112,801.07</b>

*Information on any contribution made to the BHTF must be provided to the Project Director for acknowledgement and proper accounting.*



## HOW TO REMIT CONTRIBUTION

*Contributions can be remitted through the following:*

**Bhutan Health Trust Fund**  
**Account No. 1241,**  
**Bank of Bhutan, Thimphu, Bhutan**

The following are correspondent banks in Europe and USA):

Credit Suisse  
Postfach-8021, Zurich, Switzerland  
**Ac No.** 992400-03

West Deutsche Landes Bank, Gionentrale Herzogstrasse-15  
Post Fatch-1128 D4000, Dusseldorf-1, Germany  
**Ac No.** 59331

American Express Bank, GMBH  
Post Fatch-110162, Theoderr Heirss, Aller-112-60036,  
Frankfurt AM Main, Germany. **Ac NO.** 01-8074503

Commerz Bank International  
Banken 60261 Frankfurt, Franfurt Am Main, Germany  
**Ac No.** 3996-037673

State Bank of India  
Toronto Suite-401, North Tower P.B-81, Royal Bank Plaza  
Toronto, Ontario MJ2J2, Canada  
**Ac No.** 5245-0002321

Den Danske Bank  
Holmes Kanal 2-12, DK-1092, Copenhagen, Denmark  
**Ac No.** 0072-6208  
**DKK Ac No.** 399606 3429

Dornbiner Sparkasse Bank  
A-6850 Dornbirn, Austria  
**Ac No.** 0998 0202 486

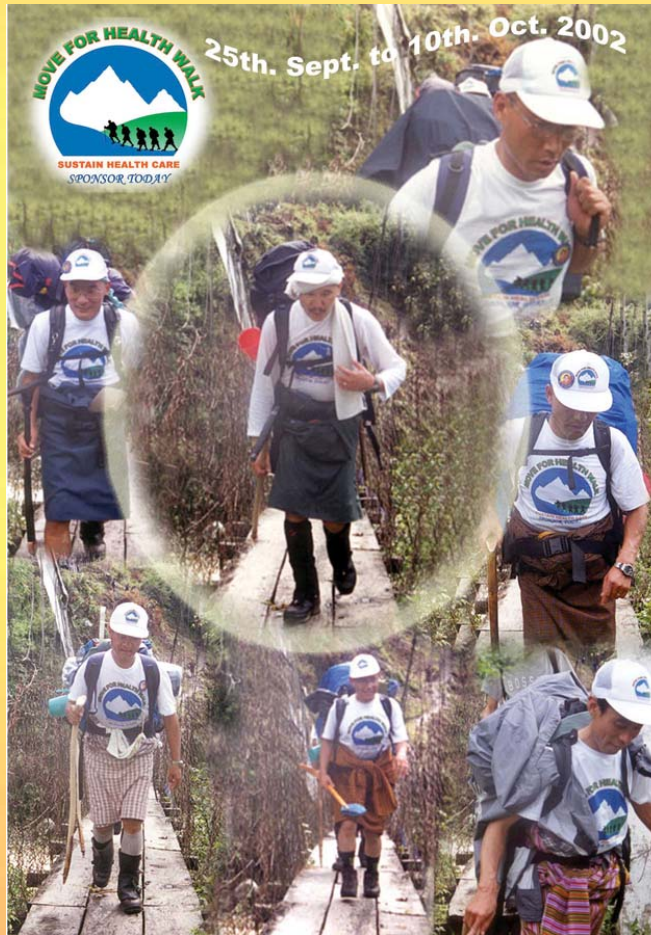
Standard Chartered Bank, City Office, 37 Grace Church  
Street, EC3V OBX, London  
**Ac No.** 0001-8042047-01

State Bank of India, Down Town Service Branch  
39 Broad way, 8th Floor, NY 10006 New York  
**Ac No.** 2113-050407-001

Standard Chartered Bank  
7 World Trade Centre, NY 10048 New York  
**Ac No.** 3582-036 853-001

American Express Bank Ltd  
American Express Tower, World Financial Centre, NY 10285-  
2150 New York  
**Ac No.** 0072-6208

**Contribution can also be made through American Himalayan  
foundation using credit card facilities. For more information,  
please visit [http://www.himalayanfoundation.org/bhutan/  
sponsor.php](http://www.himalayanfoundation.org/bhutan/<br/>sponsor.php)**



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