MESSAGE FROM THE GNHCB

The GNH Centre Bhutan extends a warm greeting to friends in Bhutan and beyond. We are delighted to share the GNH Pulse - a quarterly newsletter to share our aspirations, work, and events in promoting the vision of Gross National Happiness. We hope that 2018 will continue to bless the Centre’s humble efforts going forward.
Happy reading!

FAREWELL AND GRATITUDE TO DR HA VINH THO AND WELCOME TO DR. JULIA KIM

The GNH Centre Bhutan the Centre bids farewell to Dr. Ha Vinh Tho, Programme Director. As the first internationally recruited staff of the GNHCB, Dr. Tho was responsible for shaping the international programs that the GNHCB offers to various partners today. Dr. Tho's contract with the GNHCB formally ends in March 2018. His hard work and dedication to the Centre is deeply appreciated. We wish him all the very best.

We are also delighted to announce that Dr. Julia Kim will now move into the position of Program Director of the GNH Centre Bhutan. Dr. Julia brings a background in programs, policy and research in the fields of global health and sustainable development. Prior to coming to Bhutan, she worked in Africa, Asia and the United Nations, and served on the International Expert Working Group for a New Development Paradigm (convened by the Royal Government of Bhutan). We are confident that Dr. Julia will help us bring the growth and development of the GNHCB and its partners to the next level.

At a time of growing social, economic, political and environmental crisis, many in the world are now seriously questioning the current development paradigm and seeking innovative and life-affirming alternatives. GNH, as a holistic and sustainable development process aimed at happiness and the wellbeing of all life, is more compelling than ever. The GNHCB will continue to work with our partners to offer programs in Bhutan and internationally, that aim to put this transformative wisdom into practice in daily life and across many fields - including youth empowerment, leadership development, organizational change, education, and business. All of this would not be possible without the warm support and friendship of our GNH Community!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 16-22 MARCH: IMPACT SAFARI, A JOINT EFFORT WITH SMALL GIANTS, AUSTRALIA
- 7-18 MAY: GNH MASTERCLASS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SCHUMACHER COLLEGE, UK
- 23 JULY - 3 AUG: BRIDGING MASTERCLASS, WITH SCHUMACHER COLLEGE, UK
- JULY: GNH YOUTH IN ACTION MODULE 2
**GNH YOUTH IN ACTION**

Although there is no universally agreed age range that defines “youth”, there is growing awareness that this threshold between childhood and adulthood is a critical period in shaping one’s identity, values, and future livelihood. Keeping this in mind, the GNHCB launched a national youth project, GNH Youth in Action in 2017. The overarching goal of the project is to create a responsible Bhutanese citizen who embodies the essence of GNH values. Components of the project are tailored as advocacy activities, leadership workshops, communication styles, emerging social issues and understanding entrepreneurship.

In January 2018, the GNHCB conducted a week-long Module 1 GNH Leadership Workshop for over 30 youth. They represented 6 different colleges and came from various parts of Bhutan. The leadership workshop covered an introduction to GNH, understanding the tools - GNH Index and the GNH Survey. Participants also conducted a mock survey. The exercises were designed to enhance their understanding of GNH, realize their role as future citizens of Bhutan and embrace GNH values.

The event also led a panel discussion with experts from the Youth Development Fund, the National Parliament, Bhutan Narcotics Control Agency, Drizlam Namzha Department and a spiritual discussion with Khenpo Tshewang. The informal setting and interaction encouraged the young participants to have an open dialogue and created a platform for innovative project ideas.

**GNH FRENCH CONNECTION**

In February 2018, the GNH Centre Bhutan welcomed a team of French participants for the Journey Through GNH programme. The programme is part of the international GNH work in taking GNH beyond Bhutan. The group spent a week in Bhutan learning about GNH, speaking to national experts and prototyping their own projects.

The participants expressed how learning programmes like the Journey Through GNH is crucial especially in times of change and chaos in the world today.

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