2018 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT
2018 has brought us enormous challenges, but we have learned a little more about dealing with any problems that come our way. The results are encouraging and encourage us to continue with this project. This year was the year we had to set aside our goal to decide whether to continue this project or not. And now, more than ever, it is clear that the women from Western Nepal deserve to have a decent life, and as an organization, we must work hard to achieve it. Thank you very much to the stakeholders for all the support we have received; we would not have been able to do this alone. We will continue to grow and learn more in the future.
MISSION

The mission of be artsy is to support communities in developing countries (through artistic and creative activities) with tools to improve communication and open spaces for critical reflection to carry out those internal changes that they consider necessary.

OUR VISION

The fight against poverty and the exclusion of women from society and also restoring their dignity.

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 2018

-Rato Baltin Project
-EDUFEM Project
-Training in Sahara Children Home
-Translation of the Menstropedia & Moontlies video in Nepali
-Talks in Catalonia
During 2018, we had the volunteer help from female teachers and nurses in every village. Our staff included: 2 Staff Nurse or health trainer, 2 Trainer assistants and administrative workers in Kathmandu, 2 Nepali Volunteers, 1 Project Manager, and 10 local girls working as Mentors. As employees in the Rato Baltin project, they earn a salary that makes them more financially independent. This experience will make them leaders in their community and allow them to develop new skills they can use in the future.

Our program has delivered workshop training, film screenings, and education training to more than 3,580 people in 2018, across five villages: Basti, Kunti Bandali, Janali Bandali, Kalagaun, and Oligaun.

An important component of the Rato Baltin project is the distribution of a healthy and environmentally friendly solution to MHM in rural areas of Nepal: menstrual cups. Ruby Cup, a UK based company, are the manufacturers and donors of this life changing, medical grade silicone menstrual cup of the same name.

We have already distributed more than 601 menstrual cups to school girls in remote villages. Each girl received a cup and training in how to use it. They are also given a metal bucket (baltin) to prepare clean water, and have somewhere to boil the cup.
5 remote villages in Achham

- Basti
- Kalgaun
- KuntiBandali
- Oligaun
- JanaliBandali
50% of our Project funding came from our partner ROKPA International. The rest came from our Associates and private donors. Ruby Cup gave us 250 Cups for the Spring Project, and 150 more in August to do an earlier training to female teachers and nurses for the 2019 villages. The cost of these cups on the European market would be 10.080 €. We have been buying and donating 71 menstrual cups more
2 years with this project:

**IMPORTANT NUMBERS FROM THE PROJECT:**

**Resources Used**

- **2017**
  - 20,000 €
- **2018**
  - 15,000 €
  - 10,000 €
  - 5,000 €
  - 0 €

**Direct Beneficiaries**

- **2017**
  - 3,000
- **2018**
  - 4,000

**321**

Young women using the Ruby Cup

**91%**

Acceptance of menstrual cup
2 Talks in Catalunya

Ailaic
(beneficiaries 60)

Centre Cívic Can Basté
(beneficiaries 20)

Un Març de Dones
8 de març - Día Internacional de la Dona
PROGRAMA D’ACTES 2018 A CAN BASTÉ

Training in Sahara
Children Home:
Dhulikhel
Translation of the Menstropedia and Moonthlies video in Nepali

https://youtu.be/2fbUv72vKWM
During 2018, we had the opportunity to have collaborators and donors from various parts of the world:

Volunteers:
Australia
Vietnam
Canada
England
India
Spain
Nepal
**Difficulties:**

We have consistently had an issue where the nurses we hire from KTM do not want to return to Achham after one trip. The life we have there is so hard, and the travel to villages so long, dangerous, and tiring. In September, we had a training of six new trainers, three coordinators, and three new mentors from Achham. A menstrual therapist travelled from Spain to train the future trainers in a more open-minded way to see menstruation. Some of the new trainers are women that have been working against chhaupadi for a long time.

Next year the Project is going to grow. We will try to arrive in more municipalities at the same time, but we will only work with Achhami women.

**Plans for the future:**

This year, be artsy expanded its cup donation to include young women, who did not attend school. Next year, Ruby Cup have agreed to donate cups for more of these young women. The results of the evaluation lead us to the conclusion that the Project is working well. Findings from the survey reveal our initial idea that the cups can break the taboos surrounding menstruation and chhaupadi were correct. However, our evaluation of the program also illustrates a need to implement some changes in the future. We have seen the need to design a workshop component aimed at the men in targeted communities, in order to holistically disseminate MHM knowledge and education. We could not do a men’s group, but we had several conversation with groups of men in every village. We will pursue the implement of a men’s group workshop to be delivered in 2019. This year we have seen the need to stay longer and to arrive in more places quicker. When we were working within a village, a girl was found dead in another village one hour away. A few days later, a girl was gang raped in a Chhaupadi hut. To fight against Chhaupadi is to fight against a wall, beliefs are beliefs. But if the girls are ‘clean’ by the use of the cup, and our presence there is more frequent and recurrent, little by little it will change. The new villages we were in this year were really hard. Educated people trying to hide that they practice chhaupadi, alongside the death of the girl in a chhaupadi hut only one hour from where we were in a village we had on the list for next year, were really heartbreaking moments for us. The cup has a great acceptance rate and as always we have a waiting list. This has led us to take the next step: speaking first with the local government of Mangalsen, and with the staff of the Nepalese Government. Everyone likes our perseverance, good practices, and innovation in the Project: We routinely receive feedback to expand the Project, which we are willing to do, alongside hiring more Achhami staff. This year we had two KTM staff nurses and two Achhami mentors, but we want to expand our presence there by five to seven.
THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE.

Join us:

Website: beartsy.org
Instagram: @ngobeartsy
Facebook: @beartsyNGO
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THIS ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT WAS APPROVED BY ALL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN ASSEMBLY.