

6 Degrees Academy for Women

Annual Report 2017-2018



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ANBI

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Message from the Founders



'The challenges women face to achieve economic independence are great. More so in countries where women face cultural, social and economic barriers'.

Debbie and I met in Singapore in 2011. We often spoke about how fortunate we were to have had the opportunity to pursue our own career and realise our potential. This was something we wanted to offer to other women for whom, because of cultural, social and economic reasons it is not always possible.

We chose Nepal as the country to start with, in part because I was born there but mainly because we both love the country and its people. In October 2017 we went on a fact-finding mission, together with our eldest sons, to test our concept - facilitating vocational skills training opportunities and finding meaningful employment after training completion. We spoke to many women and listened to their dreams and met with potential local partners who shared our vision of empowering women. On 14 December 2017, our foundation 6° Academy for Women became a reality.

The premise of our foundation is based on the theory of '6 Degrees of Separation', which states that we are all connected to each other in six or less steps. This theory demonstrates the power of networks. It is our networks that will work to our advantage to realise our goal - empowering as many women as possible in developing countries by providing vocational skills training opportunities so that they can become financially independent.

The most memorable moments of 2018 were the launch of our first pilot project - Professional Driver's training in Kathmandu - seeing our trainees behind the wheel for the first time and when our first trainees passed their driving exams. The inauguration ceremony, organised by community stakeholders, for our second project - Wildlife Guide training in Chitwan was another highlight of the year.

Besides these wonderful highlights we also learned a lot in our first year as a foundation. We have had to learn the virtue of patience and flexibility and when to take targeted action. Our lessons learnt regarding local partner selection, candidate selection and finding suitable employment opportunities have been incorporated into our future project plans.

We are busy planning new projects for 2019 so that we can empower even more women. May we count on your support?

Sincerely,

Gita Pelinck & Debbie Middendorp

Founders

Mission

The 6° Academy for Women aims to connect women throughout the world, who are motivated in becoming financially independent, and who in turn are inspired to connect and reach out to other women within their communities and networks to provide the same opportunities.

We aim to achieve this through targeted vocational skills training programmes based on local needs and context, enabling them and future generations to improve their lives.

Vision

Women who participate in training programmes facilitated by 6° Academy for Women are encouraged to become part of our network and to connect with other women in their communities so as to provide other women with the same skills training opportunities and thereby grow their own networks.

We Inspire - Empower - Connect

Goals

6° Academy for Women's goal is to empower as many women as possible in developing countries so that they can become financially independent and choose their own future. Our mid-term goal (2018-2022) is to train 40 to 50 women and help them find meaningful employment or help them set up their own small business.

6° Academy for Women's longer-term ambition is to play an advisory and support role for individuals and organisations who want to set up and carry out social projects in Nepal and other countries where 6° are active. Through this income generating model, 6° hopes to be able to focus fulltime on empowering as many women as possible in developing countries to gain financial independence.

Approach

6° Academy for Women's approach is vocational skills based. Together with our local (NGO) partners we develop training programmes based on the needs of and demand for vocational skills training by the local community.

1. Facilitate short vocational skills training programmes.
2. Offer business training programmes to start own small businesses.
3. Matchmaking between potential employer and employee after successful completion of training programme.
4. Monitoring and support.
5. 'Pay it forward' principle - trainees that have successfully completed their training programme are expected to support other women who also want to learn vocational skills.

Projects 2018

Pilot Project - Professional Driver's Training

Local Partner: New Sadle - www.newsadle.org.np

Project Start: March 2018

Budget: Euro 6,500

Number of Candidates: 10



In March 2018, through an interview process, we selected ten women who wanted to join our pilot project in Kathmandu to become professional drivers so that they could, after successful completion of the training become drivers for (I)NGO's and other government organisations. The curriculum included driving lessons, English language classes and hospitality training.

Most of our candidates have passed their theory exams and three candidates have also passed their practical exams. The rest are waiting for the next available opportunity to sit for their practical exam. In the meantime, we are working together with our local partner New Sadle and our candidates to discuss employment opportunities and next steps.

One of our lessons learnt from this pilot project is ensuring a stricter candidate selection process. One of our candidates turned out to be under age (17 years old) and too young to join the programme. Another candidate quit the programme due to personal circumstances and another candidate decided she wanted to pursue another career. We have since developed a short training document where we ask future candidates who want to join our training programmes to sign a training agreement to show their commitment and ask them to pay back part of their training costs (max 10%) into a 'Pay it Forward' fund so that other women can benefit from similar opportunities.

Second Project - Nature Guide Training

Local Partner: Sapana Village Social Impact - www.svsi.org

Project Start: November 2018

Budget: Euro 10,875

Number of Candidates: 15



On November 1st, 2018, together with our local partner Sapana Village Social Impact (SVSI) and in collaboration with Chitwan National Park (CNP), Nepal Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) we started our second project to train 15 women to become nature guides. During the training programme, our trainees will get nature guide training, English language classes, hospitality training, self-defense and first aid. Our trainees will also follow a compulsory NTNC training programme and sit for the official government exam in order to obtain their license to be able to work as guides in Chitwan National Park.

Our local partner SVSI has done extensive research in the Chitwan area to find out if there is demand for female wildlife guides. Since a large part of the male population has gone abroad to seek employment as a consequence of the devastating earthquake in 2015, many lodges and hotels are looking for licensed wildlife guides and are inspired to employ women wildlife guides once they have completed their training successfully.

Our wildlife guide trainees are expected to contribute part of their salaries (7%) to the 'Pay it Forward' fund within the first two years of employment, thereby ensuring that future candidates can also benefit from similar opportunities.

Our Organisation

Our Board of Directors consists of four members:

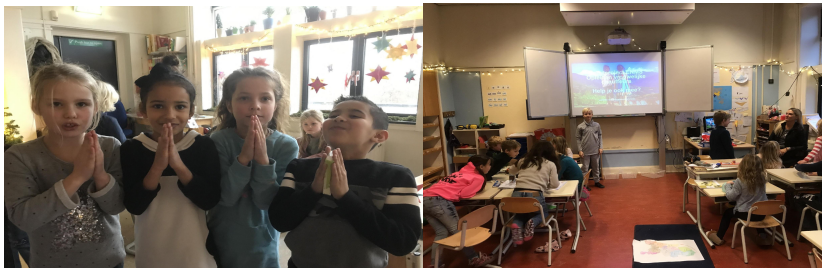
Chantal Heutink
Debbie Middendorp
Gita Pelinck
Marco de Swart

The rest of our team is made up of enthusiastic and motivated team members spread out over the world who support us with marketing, fundraising, online and offline communications and finance. Without them we would not be the foundation that we are.

Our Partners

We are privileged to have both Private Donors and Corporate Donors who generously support us to realise our mission to empower women:

Private Donors
Eerste Nederlandse Montessori School (ENMS)
Strandpaviljoen De Kwartel
Service Clubs - Rotary Voorburg-Voorschoten
Enviro-Pure
Your Trust



Financials



6 Degrees Academy for Women

Balance Sheet December 31, 2018

	31-12- 2018
	€
<u>ASSETS</u>	
Current Assets	9.166
Receivables	1.045
	<u>10.211</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Reserves	1.149
Project Liabilities	9.062
	<u>10.211</u>

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6 Degrees Academy for Women

Income Statement 2018

	<u>2018</u>
	€
<u>REVENUE</u>	
Revenue Events	4.559
Donations	<u>12.397</u>
	<u>16.956</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Fundraising Costs	471
Management Costs	167
General Expenses	610
Project Costs	<u>14.559</u>
	<u>15.807</u>
Operating Result	<u>1.149</u>
Total	<u>16.956</u>

