

Successful Project Proposals!

Below is a sample proposal that successfully secured funding at the World Youth Congress. From this proposal the project manager, 24-year-old Maeve Wadge, now has the resources to make a real change in the lives of her local community in Bangalore. A well thought proposal will help you achieve the same.

Project Title: Screen Printing and Paper Production Cooperative

The Context: There are huge communities of migrant workers in Bangalore, living in temporary, tent-like accommodation. In the more developed parts, these have built up into slums and more permanent housing, but conditions are still very poor.

Most of the inhabitants of these areas are migrant workers from neighbouring Tamil Nadu, the majority of whom do not speak the local language, Kannada. The only opportunity to work is on the building sites-hard, physical labour which is extremely poorly paid, or other menial jobs which leave people open to exploitation. It is often only the man in the family who takes up this work, which means women are left to bring up the children on a very tight budget. They are completely dependent on their husbands, and as the work can be quite unpredictable, are often left with nothing.

The Need: The project aims to address the issue of exploitation and social and financial insecurity in these communities of migrant workers. We wish to establish a cooperative of young people, particularly women, and train them in screen painting and the manufacture of products from recycled and hand made paper. We will market products, such as business cards and paper bags, to local shops. We will also prepare products, such as greeting cards, gift bags and books, for the export market.

Your Team:

Project Manager: Maeve Wadge: 24, member of local NGO Arivu/Peace Child India. Recruitment of members for cooperative marketing of products internationally and – locally – for training, coordination and overseeing work.

Raju: 18, Team Leader. Training new members, coordinating work load and marketing of products locally.

Laksmi: 24, screen printer and paper product manufacturer.

Shivagarmi: 25, screen printer and paper product manufacturer.

This team consists of members of the pilot cooperative, who have received initial training and have been working as a unit for the past four months. They have proved to be hard working, resourceful and skilled.

After the cooperative has become sustainable and we are receiving enough orders and demand for the products, we will expand the members of the cooperative to include at least five to ten people. However, we want to start small to ensure that the product becomes sustainable and the funds are not wasted.

The Mentor:

Prabhu MC: member of local NGO Arivu. Prabhu is trained in screen painting and the manufacture of local products, such as gift bags and books. He has a number of local contacts who can provide support and business for the cooperative. Having grown up in very poor conditions, he has many self-taught skills that make him able to understand the social background of the co-operative members and communicate with them in their won languages.
E-mail: email@email.com

The Evaluator(s):

Bernadette Raj: 52, Bernadette is the president of a small NGO. She has been involved in development work for the past 20 years. Email: email@email.com

Venkatesh: 30, Venkatesh has worked for the association for the promotion of social action for the last five year. He has experience running their screen painting unit – training Dalit youth in printing and running the unit as a commercial enterprise. Email: email@email.com

Sustainability: After the initial set-up period, the project will become sustainable by receiving orders from local businesses and selling products overseas. The sales of products will cover all material costs and staff wages as well as replacing wear and tear of tools and materials for screen painting.