

	Global Compact Asia Template
Company phone: 977-1-5000273, 977-1-5000071 e-mail: info@formationcarpets.com geeta@hostehainse.org.np URL: www.formationcarpets.com, www.hostehainse.org.np	COP Report from Nepal
Project Name	Formation Village-Hoste Hainse
Company Name	Formation Carpets (2006 Best practice from Nepal)
About the Company/Council	<p>Formation Carpets is a carpet manufacturing and exporting company. The main concern of the management is to create exclusive carpet designs, ensuring outstanding quality and assuring a sound working environment for employees. Formation Carpets adheres to the principles on human rights,</p> <p>Total Employees 222 (Male 20 Female 202)</p> <p>Administrative staffs 34 (Male 16 Female 18)</p> <p>Carpet Weavers 171 Female</p> <p>Cutting Masters 4 Male</p> <p>Wool Rollers 13 Female</p>
Partners/Participants	<p>Hoste Hainse (HH) acts like a partner of Formation Carpets to implement and maintain the social welfare activities such as Health Care and Day Care facilities for employees and scholarship program for weavers' and employees' children.</p> <p>Formation Carpets believes in the need for integration between business and NGO sector as they are like two sides of a coin. These two sectors working together can bring social and economical changes.</p>
Global Compact Principle(s)	<p>Human Rights :</p> <p>The company's policy is to ensure the protection of human rights. Ms Shah the founder president of Formation Carpets, who worked in anti child labor activities in the carpet sector, led to the establishment in 1995 of the RUGMARK label - the label that guarantees that no child has been employed in any process related to the production of carpet. The president is also a recipient of Human Rights Award from Advocates for Human Rights, USA for her significant contribution in reducing child labour. Formation Carpets</p>

has always followed Corporate Social Responsibility business and carried out its social philosophy focusing on the welfare of company employees. Indeed, the Formation Carpets is the member of Global compact and has been selected as the Global Compact's best practices of 2006 from Nepal.

Labor Standards:

- There is no child labour involved in the company.
- Member of Nepal Rugmark: all carpets obtain the Rugmark label
- Age bar (minimum age –18 years) in the recruitment of the weavers
- It is compulsory for the weavers to send their school-aged children to school
- Sponsorship /Scholarship Support Facility to the weaver's children
- Smaller children have access to a well equipped Day Care Centre
- School going children have access to a Coaching Class.
- Weavers and their children have access to Health Care Facility
- Weavers get subsidized food at a very clean canteen within the complex.
- The wages are much higher than wage standard in the labor act.

All the employees are informed of company policies; the process of dissemination is through quarterly meetings and interactions between the weavers and the staff.

Environment:

- The company has a well-ventilated and well-lit environmentally sound workplace. All the employees have comfortable sitting arrangements. They have access to clean toilet facilities and to drinking water. Training on health, sanitation and safety are provided to the weavers regularly.

Glimpse of working environment (inside the factory)



	<div data-bbox="483 275 915 632" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="573 636 760 669" data-label="Caption"> <p>Finishing room</p> </div> <div data-bbox="943 281 1450 632" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1036 636 1373 669" data-label="Caption"> <p>Play ground for the children</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children of weavers have access to a play ground with swing, monkey bar, table tennis etc. • We have also implemented bio-gas to run the canteen stoves. This way the weavers get educated on how we can take steps to save the environment. • Training was also given to some staff on how to make briquettes out of left over saw dust and paper. Another way to recycle and help save the environment. <p>No Corruption or Discrimination is Practiced: The organization has always worked against all form of corruption and there is no discrimination in hiring, compensation, access to training, promotion, termination or retirement based on race, caste, national origin, religion, age, disability, gender or political affiliation</p>
Project Duration	From 1990 till date
Background/Abstract	<p>Formation Carpets was founded in Kathmandu, Nepal, by Mrs. Sulo Shrestha Shah, a Nepali business entrepreneur and Mrs. Linda Gaenzle, a German designer in 1991. The main concern of the management was to create exclusive carpet designs, ensure outstanding quality and assure a sound working environment for its employees.</p> <p>Hoste Hainse: Founded in 1990, Hoste Hainse had the initial purpose of ensuring sound working conditions for the employees of Formation Carpets and their children.</p>
Initiative	<p>As a paragon in the carpet industry, Formation Carpet gives preference to employing women: 90% of its employees are women, opportunities are also provided to less privileged women. The company has entrusted Hoste Hainse with the responsibilities of implementation and monitoring of staff welfare activities. The following activities have been initiated:</p> <p>Reporting System Hoste Hainse performs quarterly monitoring of the company, its day care centre and the coaching class. It inspects work place conditions and interacts with employees regarding their children.</p>

Day Care Centre The Company runs a Day Care Centre under Hosts Hainse for infants and pre-school children of weavers (20 children currently).



Coaching class



Day Care center

Scholarship and coaching class facility The Company provides scholarship support through Hosts Hainse to the children of weavers in various boarding and government schools of Kathmandu. Currently over 200 children are receiving scholarships, and 60 children are benefiting from coaching class facilities. Over 40 children have already completed their high school exams.

Health Insurance facilities has been enhanced hospitalization and accidental insurance has been added for the staffs and weavers



Canteen Facilities The company has opened a canteen on its premises to provide healthy and hygienic food at subsidised costs.

Other facilities

- Provident fund for permanent employees
 - Dashain festival allowance
 - Leave is provided as per the Labour Act of Nepal.
 - Dearness allowance 750 per month
 - Scholarship support to weaver and staff children
 - Maternity allowance Nrs.5000 two times
- Staff Welfare fund has been introduced in which 10% of net profit will be deposited in staff welfare fund and the fund will be utilized and operated by staff committee members themselves.

Challenges Faced

It was very challenging to sustain the initiatives started under GC during periods of business slow down. Due to the political instability, security issue and degrading social environment Formation Carpet also faced some disturbance. The company workers were on strike claiming additional benefits. The company fulfilled some demand which was felt necessary as per time change such as dearness (Mahangi Bhatta) and Maternity allowance two times. Considering the staff welfare the company handled this critical situation in close coordination and cooperation with its worker which helped company to continue the production and carry on the regular work in peace full environment.

Impacts and Benefits	<p>Because of the GC initiatives undertaken by the company, people look forward to working in the company, which is very encouraging to us. Changes have been observed amongst the weavers and they are more conscious about their health, their children's education, and human rights. The image of the company has improved.</p>
Future Plan	<p><i>Immediate plan (written in last GC report)</i> <i>The company will continue raising awareness, enhancing skills and knowledge, and ensuring the rights of the weavers and their families for a sustainable livelihood. The immediate future plans are as follows:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Establishment of a library to disseminate relevant information.</i> <i>2. Computer training to school going children</i> <i>3. Advancement and protection of rights of women weavers</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Solicit support of a local lawyer's organization engaged in women's rights</i> <i>• Submit a proposal to Advocates for Human Rights (MAHR) which is an organization of lawyers and also a donor of Hoste Hainse</i> <i>4. Health and environmental awareness program</i> <i>5. Support and facilitate eligible children of weavers to get jobs. HH and FC gives first preference to such children during recruitment.</i> <i>6. Provide counseling and guidance to children to choose their subjects/faculty in accordance with their interest and competence.</i> <i>7. Enhancement and upgrading of the existing daycare centre and tuition class rooms by making it more spacious and supplementing it with more facilities and teaching aids.</i> <p>Completed programs from the “Immediate Plan”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provided additional space for coaching class where the teachers help school going children of weavers not only with the homework but also with difficult course materials. Children of weavers are taking coaching class which is running in two different rooms: one for secondary level students and another for primary level students. Earlier because of limited space children had to stay in one room for their home work. 2. Computer training has been provided for few outstanding children of weavers and are also working in Hoste Hainse as interns. They are being trained in computer including internet program and also office management. 3. The quality and quantity of food in day care center has been enhanced. <div data-bbox="483 1499 930 1822">  </div> <p><i>Working as an intern</i></p> <div data-bbox="951 1499 1430 1822">  </div> <p><i>Library in Sankhu village school</i></p>

6. A temporary library has been established for the children of weavers within the complex and a library has also been established in Sankhu School where the children from deprived and poor families of Sankhu village come to study.

5. An environmental awareness program for the children of carpet weavers was organized on 4th January 2008. The program was based on importance of wildlife in eco-system. Various games and activities related to the topic were conducted and a bag pack containing various education materials was provided. The children were encouraged to disseminate the information to their parents and other friends.



5. Consultancy has been provided to SLC passed (completed 10th grade) children to choose their higher study

8. A program was organized in honor of SLC (high school) graduate children of weavers distribute award and prizes to motivate and encourage other students to concentrate on their studies 16 students had passed in the year 2007.



Honoring SLC pass student



Children learning Karate

4. For the physical development of the children of weavers a Karate class was conducted within the complex. 13 interested children completed the 6 month class

	<p>Long-term plan</p> <p>The organization has a long-term plan of establishing the model Formation Village where all the above programs will be implemented in specialized premises that are adequate and congenial for this purpose. The Village will have accommodation with all basic requirements at subsidized rates and other facilities, such as, health clinic including medical shop, playground, sports club, shopping centre, temple for religious and cultural functions, community hall, garden, sports ground, etc. All existing facilities, day care and tuition classes will also be provided. The Village and all the programs to be implemented therein shall be managed and administered by Hoste Hainse.</p> <p><i>For the implementation of long-term plan political stability, peace and safe and sound environment is very necessary. Therefore those plans will be implemented in priority basis as soon as the country political and working environment will be improved.</i></p>
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