



Semiannual report, spring 2017

General

This report is available for the public. All sensitive and personal information are therefore excluded. The board gets an additional report on sensitive matters.

This report covers actions between January and June 2017. Ganpati Norway's bank account was set up late March and the section about finances and accounting therefore covers the period from April to June 2017. The projects were private initiatives up until April 2017.

The section about cost distribution in India covers the same period as actions.

Our cooperation with Vio Meena Soni and Vijay Soni is going well. We mainly communicate through text messages and email. We have also done voice calls on WhatsApp and we should do this more often in the future.

We use WhatsApp in our communication with Ravi Soni (the teacher), and some communication with him goes through Vio too.

About 40 people have contributed to our work through membership and various donations.

The board

Board members

The elected board members are:

Cathrine Bergjordet (President and managing director)

Linn Eriksen (vice president)

Therese Bergjordet

Torlaug Bergjordet

Espen Halvorsen

Work done by the board

The board has had one formal board meeting. The board plans to have two more ordinary meetings this year. The board will have more meetings if necessary.

The members of the board live in Våler and in Oslo. In addition to this – our vice President has been overseas for work for a longer period. Because of this, the board has chosen to discuss several board matters through electronic communication only.

The board decided to appoint Cathrine Bergjordet as managing director and give her authorization to make decisions without consulting the board. The board must be consulted before changing the guidelines for the projects or increasing the budget. The board also has to approve all new projects. The managing director is expected to write a quarterly report to the board.

Projects

Aryan's* family (The Family Project)



The house the family lives in has seen some changes over this last six months. The kitchen is now indoors and they have a front door (we paid for the materials and they did all the work themselves). One of the sons is working in Delhi. He has managed to save up money to use towards a proper roof. We also contributed towards the roof, but they covered most of the cost.

The family has also gotten a few other things, among these a sewing machine, chairs, a bicycle and repaired an old bicycle. They also got a fan for the extension of the house – where we also hold the literacy class. They got clothes and a few other things donated to them from Vio and Vijay's friends, as well as from Devidine Association. The mother also got a new sari from us.



The family also has a toilet – build as part of a government project Vio and Vijay gave them information on.

There are still things that need repairs and new thing the family could need. The general rule from now on is that the 10 000 rs they have at their disposal should cover everything as the most pressing issues are taken care of. The family has to plan their spending and future needs within this budget.



All the children have participated in the literacy class, but the eldest son no longer comes to class. The other kids are making good progress. One of the boys attended English lessons at Vio's school before we started the literacy class. It is still not finally decided if he should stay in literacy class or go back to the English class this fall.

All the girls attend formal school. The three youngest girls attend primary school and the oldest girl goes to sewing/design school. We pay her school fees and transportation. The class she takes lasts one year and ends with an exam. None of the boys are currently in school or takes courses besides the literacy class. The eldest son is learning to drive a rickshaw with a friend.

Literacy Class

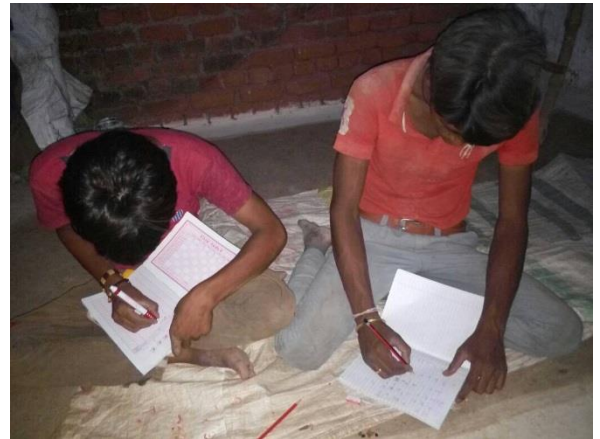


The literacy classes started on April the 24th. The teacher is Ravi Soni, Vijay Soni's younger brother. The classes are held four times a week and can take up to 15 student. Ravi teaches how to read and write in Hindi, but also basic English (and math if needed).

The students age range is between about 6 and 22. The large age gap in the group is a challenge, especially for the older boys in the village. It

might be easier to attract (and keep) the older students if the classes were divided by age. We will try to find a solution for this in the upcoming months. We are hoping the oldest son in Aryan's* family will consider coming back to class if the class is smaller and just with older students. We also know of at least one other boy his age who might be interested in doing the class if organized differently. Some of our students do not have much formal education, and most of them were practically illiterate before the project started in spite of their education.

Ravi says his students are making good progress and seem motivated for learning.



Clothes Donation



Late April we sent 28 kg of clothes to Khajuraho. Vio and Vijay distributed the first clothes in Tikir on the 28th of May.

We still have clothes to donate, and get new clothes from time to time. We need more clothes for children age 5-6 and up especially.

We are currently exploring opportunities to send clothes and materials to Khajuraho with people who travel regularly between Norway and India to reduce the cost of sending. We will also bring with us clothes and materials when we visit.

Other/future projects

Vio Meena Soni has asked us to participate in the Cloth Bags Project. This is an initiative by Vio so she will tell us what kind of help she needs from us – and when she needs this. The idea of the first stage of the project is to make cloth bags to replace plastic bags in Khajuraho. The bags will be made from donated fabric by local underprivileged women and sold locally. There are several possible “stage 2” for this project, but we first have to see how this goes.

Finance and accounting

Balance and accounts movements 1.april to 30.june 2017

Since we are dependent on donations, we choose to practice full transparency when it comes to our finances.

As of 30th of June 2017, we have 4680 Norwegian kroner in our account (about 500 euros).

Prosjekt	Balance
Administration	1100
Family Project	1213
Clothes Donation (parcel)	8
Literacy Project	2359
Total	4680

1100 Norwegian kroner (120 euro) are set aside towards next year's cost for domain and webhosting. This is membership fees and not regular donations so we can use this on administrative costs. We have 1243 nok (140 euro) available for the Family Project and 2359 nok (260 euro) for the Literacy Project. We have regular donors who covers the monthly cost of the Family project and Literacy Project, meaning we have some money to spend on new projects and/or expanding the Literacy Project. Most of the money in our "Literacy Project"-account are from general donations and can be used on new projects if needed.

Prosjekt	In	Out	Balance
Administration	1100	0	1100
Family Project	8100	-6887	1213
Clothes Donation (parcel)	2100	-2093	8
Literacy Project	5309	-2950	2359
Total	16413	-11930	4680

We have received 16 413 nok (1800 euro) in donations since 1.april. Almost 11 000 nok (1200 euro) has come from our regular donors. 4500 nok (500 euro) has been single donations – and half of this was donations towards clothes distribution. 1100 nok (120 euro) was membership fees.

Monthly Budget

Type of cost	Amount (nok)
Teacher salary	1000
Family Project	1430
Compensation Vio/Vijay	670
Transfer fees (2)	140
Sum	3240

Our regular expenses are 3240 nok at the moment (350 euro). Our expenses vary with the exchange rate (the exchange rate as of now means our costs are higher than usual).

Our regular monthly donations are 3700 nok (390 euro) as of 30.june 2017. We have also several donors who contribute regularly – and when we need donations – just not every month.

Cost allocation in India

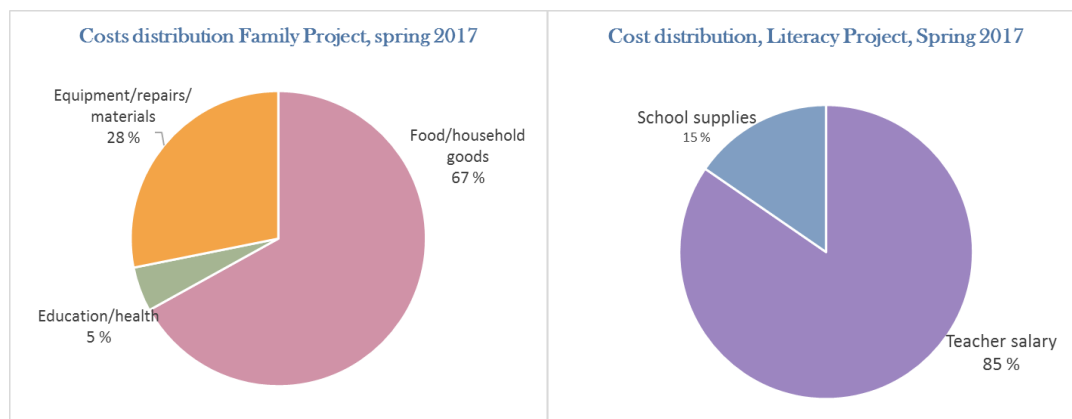
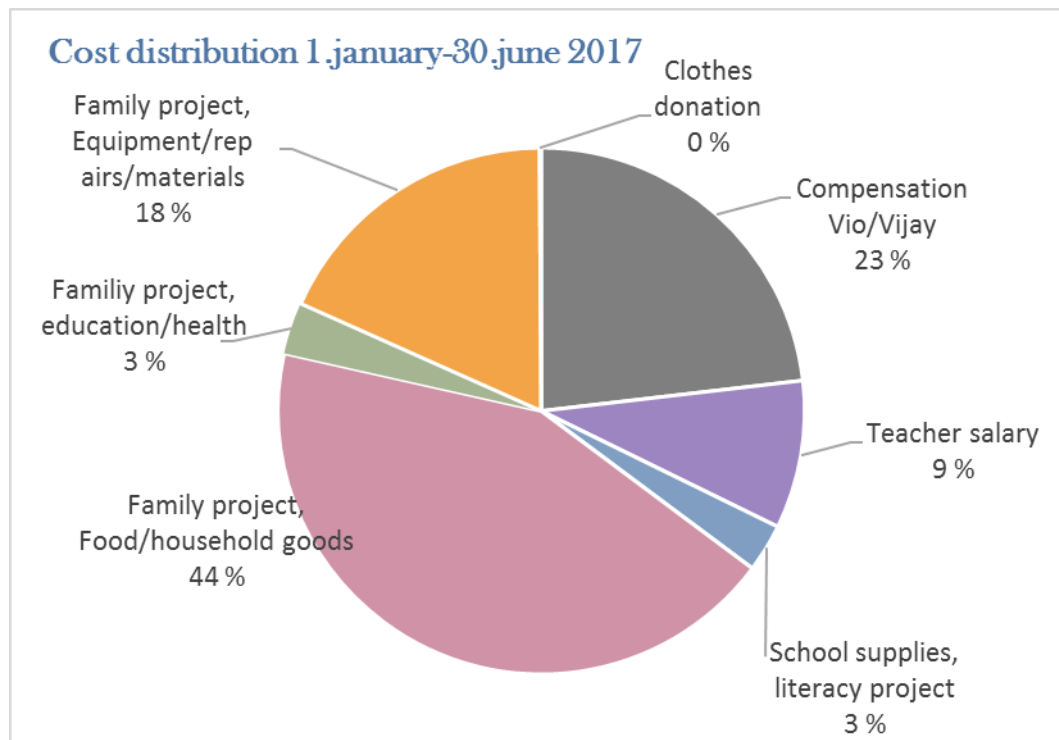
These numbers are based on reports from Vio and costs are in Indian rupee. To finalize the accounts for this report we estimated the costs between June 20 and 30. The accounts covers all actions in India, also before Ganpati Norway was founded.

As of June 30th, Vio has about 3700 rs available for our projects in her account. This money will cover expenses for the Family Project until the next transfer (end of July). The family has done most of the shopping for this period already.

Type of cost	In	Out	Balance
Compensation Vio/Vijay with exchange fees		-35639	
Family project		-99598	
Education/health		-4880	
Equipment/repairs/materials		-28040	
Food/houshold goods/clothes/shoes		-66678	
Literacy project		-18550	
Teacher salary		-14000	
School supplies		-2550	
Fan		-2000	
Transfer to Vio	143466		
Transfer to Ravi	14000		
Total	157466	-153787	

The biggest expenses we have is food/household supplies and equipment/repairs/materials for the Family and compensation for Vio and Vijay. Vio and Vijay's compensation is meant to cover their expenses as well as compensate them for their work. Their knowledge and involvement is very valuable to us, and our projects benefits from this. One example is the toilet the Family got from the government – thanks to help and information from Vio and Vijay.

All repairs etc on the house of the Family is now finished so this type of cost will not be as major in the future.



Communication

Website and Norwegian blog

Google Analytics monitors the traffic on our website and Norwegian blog. From 24th of February to 30th of June, we had 305 “users” on our website, with 800 sessions and 2300 page viewings.

167 users visited us from mobile phone, 108 from a desktop and 22 from a tablet.

Most of our readers are from Norway, but we also see some international traffic. 60 percent of our traffic are from referrals from social media.

We try to write one blog a week if possible.

Facebook

We have 98 likes as of June 30th 2017. We try to post something twice a week if possible. Facebook is our most important platform for communication.

English blog

We do not update this blog as often as the Norwegian blog, but all-important information should be posted here as well. We have visitor statistics from Bloggers own statistical tools. According to Blogger, we have had 634 page viewings.

Other media

On the 21th of June, Solørmagasinet (a local magazine in eastern Norway) did an article on Ganpati Norway. The web version was ready on the 25th of June.

We have a Twitter account and an account on Instagram but choose not to use these platforms yet.

We have made a brochure with the most important information of our work.

Summary and where to go from here.

Our projects are well established by now and our expenses are a bit lower than our regular donations. The board should work on expanding the literacy project after the summer. We are waiting for Vio to give us more details on progress of the cloth bag projects.

We will have to talk with Vijay and Vio (and Ravi) after the summer to sum up the result of our work and get their opinion on how to proceed.

Oslo 1. July 2017

Cathrine Bergjordet
Managing director, Ganpati Norway