# WFTO ASIA Newsletter No.6



### **Register for WFTO pavilion Ambiente 2016**



WFTO participated in Ambiente 2015 (Germany), gift and interior fair with 19 WFTO members. WFTO had an information booth guiding buyers to WFTO members' stands. Ambiente will provide more space for WFTO members in 2016!

Registration for Ambiente 2016 is already ongoing, register <u>here!</u>

For details timothy.straight@gmail.com

WFTO members, if you register, inform WFTO at <u>communications@wfto.com</u>



#### The True Cost Movie

WFTO-Asia guaranteed members Creative Handicrafts in India, Thanapara Swallows Development Society in Bangladesh, and Kumbeshwar Technical School in Nepal are among the many WFTO-Asia members who supply People Tree featured in the True Cost Movie. The True Cost movie shows the hidden costs of the clothes we wear and the lives of those who make them. It covers many countries and has interviews with members of the fashion industry. Click <u>here</u> to watch the official trailer!

The Italian premier of <u>The True Cost</u> film at Milan Conference 2015 featured Mynul Haque Santo of <u>Thanapara Swallows</u> in Bangladesh. Stars in the audience were Safia Minney from <u>People</u> <u>Tree</u> and the film's director, Andrew Morgan. It is available in 19 languages!

#### Women Empowerment Video

Watch this <u>WFTO-Asia Video</u> showing women empowerment and the many skills of the textile and clothing producers working in Fair Trade in WFTO-Asia!

### Milan Conference 2015

Biggest Fair Trade Event of the year had over 260 participants from over 50 countries. Milan was named **The World Capital of Fair Trade**!



We were happy to have Nepal members come after recent suffering of the earthquake. Fair Trade Group Nepal thanked all who helped. They still need help however and would appreciate donations.

Communication in Milan was a big success and created new ideas shared across Fair Trade members. WFTO Global will send conference reports on the outcomes of Milan workshops.

### WFTO-Asia Annual General Meeting (AGM)

On 26th May 2015 was WFTO-Asia's AGM. Accounts and plans approved. The networks and goverence groups will continue, please let us know if you would like to join these groups. A discussion was held on Fair Trade fashion cat walks. Johnny Joseph (<u>Creative</u> <u>Handicrafts</u>) was (re) approved WFTO-Asia representative on the global Board.



## WFTO-Asia Regional Conference 2016

The Milan Conference is over. Time to plan the next WFTO-Asia regional conference in mid-late October 2016 in Bangkok. Exact dates coming soon. It will have a market focus with an online marketplace for Fair Trade Organisations promoting Fair Trade producers. If you want to be part of planning the conference please let us know!

### **New Guaranteed Fair Trade Organizations**



#### **TWINE**

WFTO's first guaranteed member from Taiwan! <u>TWINE</u> is committed to environmentally friendly products and design and promotion of the concept of Fair Trade goods.

#### SETU - The Bridge to Artisans

<u>SETU</u>, literally "Bridge", of India acts to connect underprivileged producers with rich, international markets, while protecting both environmental social standards.

#### **TARA Projects**

<u>TARA Projects</u>, India, has been working on Fair Trade for over forty years. TARA Projects educates producers, helps with the production of handicrafts, and fights against exploitation and illiteracy of the underprivileged.



# Fair Trade Spotlight Shujog ACTS

Shujog's award winning ACTS Program prepares social enterprises (SEs) to raise capital by advancing the cost of technical assistance (TA) and managing a network of technical assistance providers (TAPs).

Shujog supports SEs to show their financial and operational strengths to investors with TA that includes:

- Tailored package of investment readiness support from TAPs; and
- Impact Assessment conducted by Shujog

As SEs become successful in raising capital, they pay back the program so Shujog can support more SEs sustainably.

The program also grows the impact investing circle by bringing in new TAPs



SECURE INVESTMENTS, GROW BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND EXPAND IMPACT Reach Out To Us At: acts@shujog.org



### SmartFarming App

*Empowerment through knowledge*, Smartfarming's smartphone app tells farmers of eco-friendly farming methods and hazards. Farmers can rate methods they have used for others to see. Watch the short video <u>here!</u>



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