

Hellabeem

Sri Lanka

Business plan



Hellabeem

Initiative by

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Hellabeem

The word 'Hella' is derived from the Greek word 'Hella' meaning light. Beem refers to the English word 'beam'.

Hellabeem actually means 'Light beam'

*In Sinhalese the word means '**Motherland**'.*

To summarize this: Hellabeem has the aim to support the disabled children in Sri Lanka, to give them support in their neglected situation.

Not only to offer them a "motherland", a home, but also to improve their social status in life and to give them a chance to work.

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Introduction

Hellabeem has arisen from a need to do something structural for the deprived young handicapped people in developing countries.

Travelling through a lot of developing countries made it clear that young handicapped people belong to the absolute bottom of society.

In 1997 Helene van Beek-Heijen and Jan van Beek met the Sri Lankan couple and family Lahir from Galle Forte, who were also interested in their fate.

Lahir is a retired teacher who worked in the poor rural areas. He saw how disabled children were locked away due to shame or economic reasons, because there was no money to let them go to school or to integrate them in society.

Religious reasons also play a role. This complex background leads to the fact that disabled children are hidden away from society. In some cases mothers with children like that are cast out.

Mission

This direct confrontation led to the conclusion that we should do something about it.

Together with Lahir and his wife the project Hellabeem was born. A solid idea for action to help these children. Hellabeem SriLanka is doing this to give them their basic necessities for life: food and shelter. Hellabeem is a special place where these children can be who they really are. A surrounding where they are accepted in their imperfections, where they get love and respect.

Vision

“Dis-ability is not In-ability”

Hellabeem SriLanka is more than an offering for a roof and food to help these children. Hellabeem SriLanka does not only offer them safety, but offers structural help for the handicapped children to help them with their potential and offer them support for an independent future.

Helene van Beek-Heijen herself is a qualified therapist trained in several areas, where as Jan van Beek can contribute by electronics, digital technology and teaching. As a handyman he is indispensable in maintenance (See: appendix Record of service page 35)

By personal attention, caring, and education, we mean to strengthen their physical, social and psychological powers. The target is to take away the social and psychological isolation in which they are imprisoned. Within their possibilities, their capacities and especially boosting their confidence it will lay the foundation for a new future.

The ultimate result will lead to semi-autonomy for these children.

Hellabeem will help them towards physical, mental and social wholeness

Hellabeem SriLanka offers these children a perspective of being worthy of a human being.

How Hellabeem SriLanka puts this into practice you can read in our Business plan.

Objectives

Hellabeem offers integral care. This kind of care does not only reduce their pain, but also takes steps to offer these children structure and a better future. A summary of the targets are:

- *A safe place to live*
- *To give love, safety and security*
- *To take care of mental and physical welfare*
- *To strengthen confidence and the feeling of self-respect*
- *To develop and stimulate their possibilities and competence*
- *Learning a trade which their handicap allows them to practise, so they can earn their own living after a thorough education*
- *To develop a plan to integrate them in society*
- *To create an independent future*

The target group

Hellabeem is an institution, which addresses a specific target group. Which children can apply for our project?

- *Poor deprived handicapped children*
- *Ages from 12 till 18 year*
- *Children with leg deformations, amputations, partial back lesions, polio and so on.*
- *Children from one-parent families or no family at all.*
- *Motivated parent(s) and child.*

Hellabeem Sri Lanka focuses for the moment only on boys. This has to do with practical reasons. A mixed boarding school would ask more facilities, more organisation and money. We will have girls but on daily short courses. They will come from the neighbourhood.

Hellabeem Sri Lanka will focus on one type of handicap, namely legs and low back injuries.

That makes the structure of the institution, the furnishing and the therapy of Hellabeem Sri Lanka more structural and realistic. Because of this specialisation Hellabeem Sri Lanka offers more value in the region than similar institutions

Of course we will look to the urgency and living circumstances of the child. Also Hellabeem Sri Lanka would like to take good care of children with different religious backgrounds: Hindu, Buddhist, Christian, and Muslim. We hope to offer and teach these children from different backgrounds more respect for each other. To learn about each other's religion.

Network

Major goal of Hellabeem Sri Lanka is re- integration of deprived children in their own local community. To make this a success it is clear that Hellabeem Sri Lanka should be connected to the local environment community. When the neighbourhood and our trustee-family from the community itself accept us, and the family Lahir are familiar, the risks of isolation, corruption and miscommunication can be avoided.

By making use of the local social and religious infrastructure Hellabeem Sri Lanka can work fast. Because of this natural and social network it is possible to locate and to take care of these children.

The selection process of course has to be a very careful job. For this selection it is desirable to have a committee who can judge whether the involved disabled person fits within the Hellabeem Sri Lanka system. The committee exists of a medical-trained person, a social worker (teacher) and a member of Hellabeem Sri Lanka itself.

Family network

Hellabeem Sri Lanka finds it of a great importance that children do not lose contact with their family or their network. To be in a boarding school does not mean that they cannot have contact with their family or their social background. On the contrary just like 'normal' children they will be dependent on their relations. They go home on school holidays when possible. Therefore it is most important to involve the family as a part of the re-socialisation. In that sense they are also part of the project.

Of course there will be cases in which this is not possible and where the child must be taken out of an unsafe neighbourhood to give it a new prospect of safety.

The handicapped children who are considered for our project will be located especially in the poor urban slums, in rural and deprived areas. (See page 39) *Information on disabled persons by department of Census and Statistics – 2001.*

Region

Hellabeem Sri Lanka will focus especially on the children from the south district namely, Galle, Matara, and Hambantota. But also in the direction of Deniyaya where most of the poor teapicker families live. They are often Hindu's.

As already said Hellabeem Sri Lanka finds it important to combine the social network to re-integration. If children live too far away from their original community, contact with family and friends will be difficult. It gives trouble when they return to their home. Because of this it is very important to operate on a regional basis.

It is estimated that in Sri Lanka there are about 247,711 handicapped people:

158,446 men en 89,265 women.

24,9 % includes a handicap of the legs, of which 9,8 % lost either on or both legs. The main reason is illness.

* See *Information on disabled persons by department of Census and Statistics - 2001*

Social situation of the target group

Hellabeem Sri Lanka focuses on children of 12- 18 years old
These children have a handicap on one or both legs.
They come from the poorest of children. These children have often been neglected, physically or mentally. The expectation is that most of these children have had hardly any education at all.

Because the parents have no money or means of transport to bring them to school, and also because they are found to be 'not worth' it.
Hellabeem Sri Lanka focuses especially on these children.

The children come from the area Hambantota, Galle, Matara, and Deniyaya. These areas are very poor districts. The distance from Hellabeem Sri Lanka located in Ibbuwella to these areas is ca. 50 km, the region where we will be active.

Because of the limited capacity of Hellabeem Sri Lanka it is important to accept these children who are not too far from the boarding school due to transport limitations.

Local medical centre

As said before, Hellabeem's importance for the neighbourhood is evident. Hellabeem Sri Lanka wants to play a significant role as a medical centre if that is financially possible. The facilities and expertise that are available for the disabled children can also be used for the local community. A centre with a First Aid character where people can come for medical care is what we have in mind.

We can provide information on handling handicaps and obtaining prostheses.

Finally Hellabeem Sri Lanka wants to organize courses and give information in general for all kind of matters concerning health. This way we can help the local people. Of course it is also necessary to know that we cannot help everybody, but maybe together with the Social Services we can help in some way or another.

The Market

Comparative research

In preparation for the start Hellabeem Sri Lanka has studied similar initiatives and paid them a visit.

In total 2 orphanages, 1 mother Theresa house, 1 handicapped home, 2 deaf institutes, 1 SOS house have been involved in our field study.

Research has made it clear that most of the houses have started on a small scale. They start small and then grow bigger and bigger. This has some advantages. You need a small capital and you are flexible. The disadvantage is that the facilities are inadequate. The lack of vision and planning for funds and growth will cause problems. The result is that facilities that are necessary for an efficient modern business structure are absent.

Hellabeem Sri Lanka wants to start in the correct way, as we see it, right from the beginning to realise the infrastructure and the realisation of a solid foundation.

with a planning of 6 years. That includes funding and building. It is our vision that the starting-up must be durable as well as practical in the long run.

Our slogan!

“First you build your nest, then the young ones are welcome”

Care

There are three points of departure for care and education

- *Physical care*
- *Mental care*
- *Social care*

This comes in three care aspects:

Physical care as made to measure. This means:

- *Medical care to correct or to stop the deformations*
- *Corrections for more social acceptance*
- *Revalidation with necessary aids*
- *(Physio) therapy to maximize their mobility*

Mental care as made to measure

- *Psychosocial development as a result of trauma*
- *Working on empowerment to give self-confidence and self-respect.*
- *Assertivity and power development*

Social care as made to measure

- *Offering a stable surrounding*
- *Resocialisation of the children to allow them to be a child*
- *Offer education with a possibility for learning to practise*
- *To develop social skills*

Education

Next to care education is of great importance. Handicapped children are looked upon as imperfect and will be treated as such. Due to their physical state they will also be retarded. As such they are not able to integrate properly in society and therefore are not treated as 'a whole' person.

To stop or partly stop this retardation, education is an essential and important part of accompanying these children. By education Hellabeem will enlarge their verbal possibilities, the basis of a return to normality.

Basic education

The education consists basically of communication possibilities to improve their own language. These conversation lessons are important to give them self-confidence. Like this they learn make themselves more assertive.

We also want to make the English language an important medium. With these skills they have a great advantage on the tourist market.

It will be a challenge to learn to read and write to compensate for their inability to walk. They must learn to develop their skills in a different field.

It offers better chances as a salesman or office clerk.

For those who have a talent we will teach arithmetic, accountancy and business administration.

Arts and performance are also part of the plan to give them more self-confidence.

Professional training

Finally the choice for a profession will be made and the appropriate education will be given.

To teach a range of subjects including woodwork, metalworking, electronics, engineering, and computer studies (including hardware and software skills) computer programming, design and manufacture of jewellery, needlework, office skills and creative subjects

There are quite a few professional possibilities. The most favoured will be in tourism, stonecutting as well as a training to be a goldsmith, in sewing or administrative skills.

Exploitation

Hellabeem Sri Lanka is a Trust, which is dependent on donations and gifts on a structural basis in the first 7 years. It is the aim of Hellabeem Sri Lanka to become as independent as possible. Independency of funds and of third capital streams is a necessity for the start-up of the project. For a healthy future it is of upmost importance for us to become independent and self-supporting.

This means more self-support and guarantee for the continuation of local care. Of course Hellabeem Sri Lanka is aware of cost and income. To make it self-supporting, Hellabeem Sri Lanka must work efficiently. We will maximize the existing funds and make the most of it.

In practice this means that Hellabeem Sri Lanka has to develop some business activities. To give a few examples

- *Renting out (housing facilities for tourists, handicapped people, researchers)*
- *Exploitation of soil (growing of vegetables for own consuming and selling them)*
- *Production (of jewellery and stonecutting, bread baking, making chocolate delicacies, as well as growing flowers and mushrooms for sale)*
- *Training in English classes and computer classes for outsiders.*

- *Repair workshop (repairing of electronic/mechanic devices)*
- *Maintenance (prostheses and technical devices)*
- *First aid (local medical help service at low costs)*

Of course there will be more alternatives. Which activities we choose will be depend on many factors, but also on the means, the possibilities and support. Efficiency will always be the main point, when balancing cost and effort

Autonomy as a vision

To strive to autonomy is foremost in the vision of Hellabeem Sri Lanka

This way it works out both ways. The development of the business activities offers these children a practical education for a new future, as well as making Hellabeem viable

Children can work by learning a trade while having support and medical care. Because the business activities also form a part of their learning routine they will learn how to be independent and go on the market. This is important because they need to earn their living.

The children learn not only to produce but also to bring their stuff on the market commercially.

Finally Hellabeem Sri Lanka will help these children to start their own business with a starting capital. One way is to ask for micro credits from financial institutes, but also from the profit of Hellabeem Sri Lanka's business administration. The children can save part of the profit of their products on a savings account. Like this they start the basis of their future.

Marketing Research

Hellabeem Sri Lanka has done qualitative research about the handling and cost of several projects like orphanages, houses for unmarried mothers and children, Deaf schools and homes with mixed handicaps.

We collected the figures concerning exploitation, personnel and staff, furniture, maintenance, building and food. We also have had conversations with several institutions and people about management and organisation.

Out of this fieldwork research a few conclusions became clear.

The distinction between Hellabeem Sri Lanka and other institutions is that Hellabeem Sri Lanka has an intensive, specialised and integrated approach. Intensive because the children have fulltime care. Also intensive because they take care of children with deformations of spinal column or legs. Because of this the approach our project is more costly than other projects, as these disabled children need more room to move about. Every sleeping bed and all the sanitary rooms need a circle of minimum 1 meter 50 to turn around with a wheelchair. This is the minimum to move freely.

This means more space, adapted furniture and provisions. Of course this is more costly for in building but also for maintenance and personnel. For instance instead of 20 children we could accommodate at least 40 children or more if we could use double beds. That means more than 50 % in adding space to their living quarters and school. More staff is required than for instance with deaf children and children in an orphanage; they can go to school in their neighbourhood because they are more mobile.

Most institutions give a simple education of about 1,5 to 2 years.

These educations give the same courses like sewing, computers and so on, but Hellabeem Sri Lanka with her integrated approach will give much attention to physical and social conditions.

Besides our education takes 6 years in total and so they have more chance of being independent in their life subsistence.

Project realisation

Time planning in four phases

The plan comes in four phases and the construction of the infrastructure; water tower etc. for Hellabeem has been started in the middle of 2004.

Phase 1

- Levelling ground and preparing for construction.
- Install septic tanks.
- Prepare infrastructure: building roads on the land.
- To build a water tower, construct a well, installing the water supply.
- Install electricity.
- Start 70-meter long school with the workshops.
- Start hexagonal school

Phase 2

- The construction of 1st boys' house.
- Small prayer rooms in a sanctuary for four religions.
- Fruit trees and vegetable gardens.

Phase 3

- The construction of our private living quarters
- Construct the two cabanas so that all may be constantly supervised.
- Install a swimming pool with special modifications to aid the disabled children in and out of the water.

Please note that this is not part of the Hellabeem project but comprises private enterprise.

Phase 4

- Dining room and kitchen
- Physiotherapy
- The construction of second boys' house.
- Medical centre

Promotion and advertising

Our goal for autonomy is visionary, if not essential. This means we need full attention for parties involved.

To keep their attention financially you need to make it interesting for these parties.

The parties involved are:

- *Private donations*
- *Lions clubs, national and international*
- *Other service clubs, Rotarians, Zonta's, Soroptimists, Round table, Kiwanis*
- *Schools, churches*
- *Companies*

Hellabeem is trying to interest companies, funds and private people for support, by giving lectures; and organising all kind of activities (like benefit concerts, bookselling and so on) Hellabeem Sri Lanka has also managed to attract the attention of the media.

Of course Hellabeem Sri Lanka makes use of her own website <http://www.hellabeem.org/>, to inform those interested about the progress.

Hellabeem Sri Lanka is realising that she needs to pay a lot of attention to transparency. This is the basic trust for the future of Hellabeem Sri Lanka. The bookkeeping will be done by international accountancy to keep things transparent.

Budget Personnel

Nrs	Functions	Full time
1	Guard	Daytime
2	Guards	Night time
1	Nurse	Daytime
1	Attendant	Daytime
2	Cooks	Daytime
4	Cleaners and helping hands	Daytime
3	“Auntie’s”	Day and night time
3	Wardens	Daytime
6	Teachers	Daytime
1	Gardener	Daytime
2	Administrative help	Daytime
1	Handyman	Daytime

To keep the starting-up cost under control we need volunteers and some may come from Holland. We are also looking for pensioners.

For the need of this group of children we also need specialised staff like physiotherapists, orthopaedic technicians or ergo therapists. Because there are hardly any specialised people for this kind of job in Sri Lanka, we need people from Holland, who can handle this. Also we will ask VSO an organisation that is specialised in medical and para medical volunteers in England and Holland.

We also need people from the local society to assist in the afternoon for extra lessons or to guide them in their games and sport.

We can make use of people in lots of ways.

There are two voluntary people now from the Netherlands, who are willing to help with the start-up of the project for two and a half years. But we also hope and trust that people in the neighbourhood will help us.

Personnel cost

The Trustees and the advisory committee will not be paid. Only travel expenses.

Our permanent staff will have a reasonable salary approximately 7000 RPS per month is 84.000 Rps per annum

If we employ 16 Personnel & staff salaries for 16 to 20 children adds up to € 10.560,00

If we employ 25 Personnel & staff salaries for 48 till 60 children adds up to € 16.500,00 depending on the exchange rates and the inflation

Management and Trustees in the Netherlands

In Holland the foundation is called Stichting Hellabeem.

Its main goal is to raise money for Hellabeem Sri Lanka, in case Hellabeem Sri Lanka is in financial disorder, the funding will stop. It was founded in December 2002 and approved by Dutch law.

Art. 24-lid 4 of income tax law.

Like the Trust in Sri Lanka the people on this board are volunteers.

Trust Hellabeem Sri Lanka

Founders Helène van Beek Heijen and Jan van Beek

Trustees:

- *Jan van Beek*
- *Helène van Beek- Heijen*
- *S.A.H. Lahir*
- *M. Lahir*

Advisory Committee Hellabeem Sri Lanka

The following persons have been asked to be members of the advisory committee and were present at the foundation laying ceremony on 19th of august 2004:

1. Judge Dr C.G. Weeramantry, Former Vice President of the International Court of Justice, Honorary Doctor in Literature for his distinguished publications in humanities, Professor Emeritus.
2. The past governor of district 306A, Lions Chandra Kumara Wijegunawardane, a former mayor of the town of Matara. He was a Member of Parliament and has his own firm as a lawyer. He can guide us as a Lions representative.
3. Mr Deshapriya, former director of the Department of Social Services of the Southern Province of Sri Lanka.
4. Mrs Silvia Vithana, a highly qualified teacher of English in the Aloysius School in Galle (4000 pupils). She is also attached to the educational office for teachers.
5. We are still looking for a children's doctor.

Mr Mahendra Amarasuriya, PID (past international Director of the Lions) is our advisor but he is not in our committee

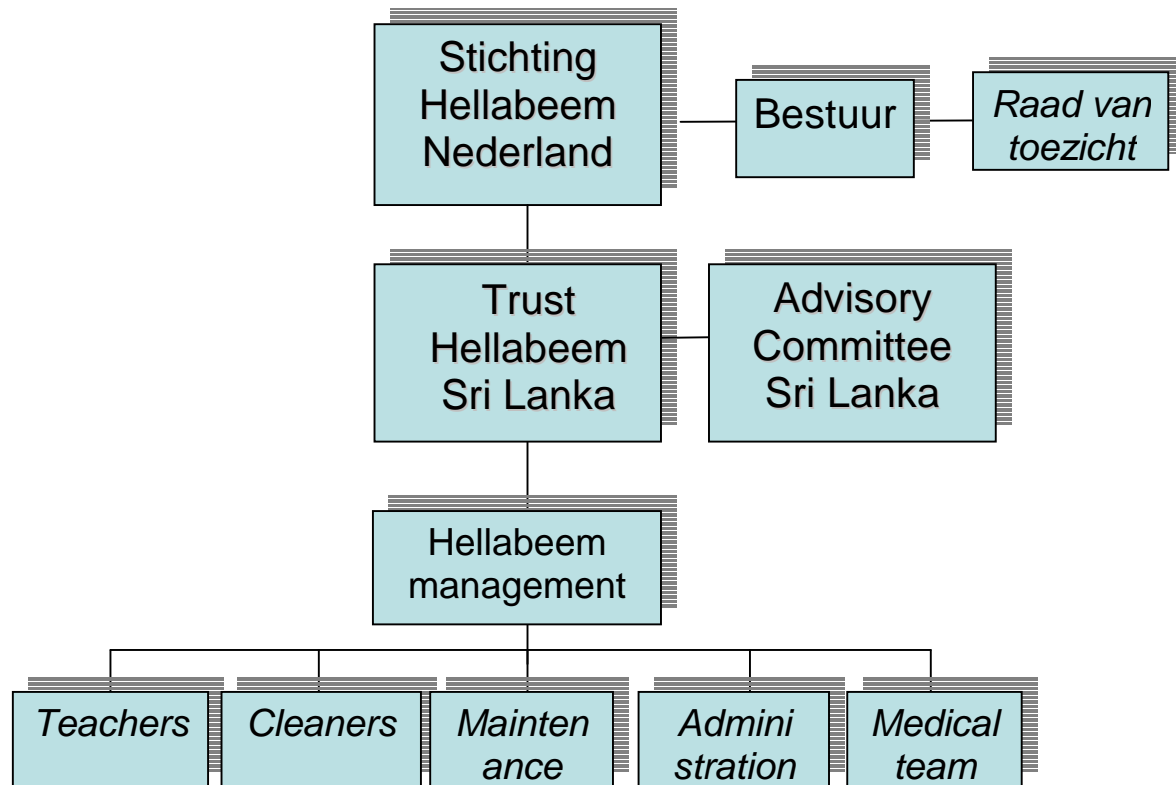
The committee comes fully in action when we actually start the project in 2006 or whenever necessary.

Management

The daily management:

- *Jan van Beek (technical, teaching, maintenance)*
- *Helène Heijen (daily management, teaching)*
- *S.A.H. Lahir (teaching, staff (management))*
- *Mahrooza Lahir (household, kitchen management)*

Organigram



Appendix Inventory of needs

- beds, cupboards by wholesale,
1 bed cost 5000 rps, cupboard 10.000 rps
- household appliances, by wholesale
- computers, *we already have*
- machines for stonecutting and goldsmith 80.000 rps

We try to get sponsors for our project

Appendix Education Organisation

The Hellabeem education consists of a basic education of two years. In these two years the children will have the following lessons:

The school starts at 07.30 till 13.30 hours with a small break. After lunch first there is a rest hour, after that sports or physiotherapy or swimming. In the evening there is time for homework or games.

1 st year	Basic year
2.0 hours	Arts and crafts/computer
1.0	Singhalese language
0,5	Arithmetic
0.5	Common knowledge
1,0	English
0,5	Social science, social skills

2 nd year	Basic year
1.0 hours	Arts and crafts/computer
1.0	Technical and mechanical skills
0,5	Social science, social skills
1.0	English
1.0	Arithmetic
0,5	Singhalese language
0,5	General knowledge

3 th year	Advanced year
1.0 hours	Arts and crafts
1.0	Computer
1.0	Singhalese/English language
0.5	Social science, social skills
1.0	Technical and mechanics
	Final exam

4 th year	Applied curriculum depending on skills
1.0	Arts and crafts
1.0	Computer
1.0	Business administration
0.5	Singhalese / English
1.0	Technical and mechanical skills
0,5	Social communication
Evening	Extra lessons also in weekends
	Computers
	Science (facultative)
	Mathematics (facultative)
	Final Exams

5th en 6th year

	Training and practical year
	Depending on knowledge and skills
	Being an entrepreneur

Appendix Accompaniment and Care

Hellabeem Sri Lanka distinguishes itself by handling the education of handicapped children in a many-sided ways. It is not only about cognitive development but also physical development. The combination of learning and moving especially is of importance. It must be clear what their possibilities and limitations are. Because Hellabeem has a purpose to reintegrate these children in their society, this is of utmost importance.

To accompany these children optimum in their movements as far as possible, Hellabeem Sri Lanka will realise a revalidation swimming pool. Sports also are very important. For the development of these children it is important that by feeling well and by being physically well mental health is stimulated. Of course it works the other way round as well.

Hellabeem Sri Lanka also offers art therapy (non verbal therapy) besides basic vocational training. In this way we make use of painting, drawing, modelling-work, sculpture, music, dance and theatre. By playing free expression is stimulated. This is essential to develop their potentials. Besides it is for the child a *discovery journey* to see who they are and what they can be. This strengthens their self-awareness and self-assurance. Both are absolute conditions for self-respect.

Another way of learning is the *children's teaching farm*. By making the children responsible for plants or animals, they will learn how to obey rules, tasks and responsibilities. It will also strengthen their self-worth.

In short Hellabeem Sri Lanka will have other ways of teaching besides the traditional ones in many creative ways. Improvement of the quality of handicapped children is our main objective.

Appendix Entrepreneur

After finishing education Hellabeem Sri Lanka advises them in their choice of profession. Jobs that have most chances to succeed and are in demand. Hellabeem will help them in getting *micro financing*. Like this Hellabeem Sri Lanka can help the children to structure an independent future.

It has been known that handicapped people tend to revert to begging. Because of lack of self-esteem and expectations from the family. They know it is easy money.

Hellabeem Sri Lanka has ideas to start cooperative works to work together as a start-off. It is an alternative way for the handicapped who are not capable to do it by themselves. With more *partners in distress* they enlarge their possibilities. They encourage and complement each other.

Appendix Administration and Finance

Hellabeem Sri Lanka will take care of the operational bookkeeping. To keep the transparency of income and cost optimal and also to insure the integrity and reliability, an official *international accountant* will control the bookkeeping. Besides this the accountant gives advice to improve the efficiency and quality of the organisation.

Appendix Location

Hellabeem Sri Lanka is situated in the south of Sri Lanka between Galle and Matara. Nearby Weligama and Ahangama there is a little town called **Ibbuwella**, Midigama, 6 km inland from the coast.

In 2000 the founders bought a coconut tree plantation of 5 acres.

By setting up a Trust the founders have donated this land to the Hellabeem Sri Lanka Trust with their own money.



↑
Ibbawella

Appendix

RECORD OF SERVICE OF INITIATORS

Activities Helène Heijen

- ✓ Late sixties worked in a pharmacy as a trainee.
- ✓ - 1976 worked as a medical assistant in the cardiology department of the regional hospital in Hoorn, performing ECGs, research of metabolism and functioning of the lungs, blood tests, and injections. During the last year and a half worked as a part time secretary/receptionist of the rehabilitation department.
- ✓ -1978 Head Holter analyst (analysis and detection of ventricular and atrial arrhythmias and conductive failures, a specialization of cardiology), detection of pacemaker failure, first in the Wilhelmina Gasthuis in Amsterdam, later on in the Academical Medical Centre (university) in Amsterdam.
- ✓ In this function I also trained medical assistants and nurses during a 1,5 year course to be Holter analysts. I organised activities to help cardiologists prepare for their theses and doctorate.
- ✓ 1989 – 2000 I had my own business in marketing research. I managed 60 freelance pollsters and 3 drivers, countrywide and used buses were converted to research offices.
- ✓ I took many courses and training in the field of additive medicine.
- ✓ 1990 - 2003 a part time psychosocial and energetic/art therapist, own practice at home.
- ✓ 1995 - 2003 Simonton therapist (support of cancer patients)
- ✓ 2000 – 2004 part time teacher of art therapy, mentor of students and coach of other mentors.
- ✓ 2000 - 2004 several courses in my own “Sophia” Centre, in the field of painting, modelling, drawing, meditation and visualization
- ✓ In 2001 I gave workshops to 12 to 14 year old children in the Asylum Seekers Centre of Culemborg and coached trainers.
- ✓ I have accompanied disabled children on motoring tours with sidecars for five years.

Activities Jan van Beek

- ✓ 1970 – 1974 Propaedeutic at the Technical University of Delft, electronics. Then digital technology and programming in computer language for machines. Traineeship in department of “Signals and systems” of Professor Veltman.
- ✓ 1977 – 1996 Work at NCR Netherlands NV. Rework Centre engineer, everything about hardware, repairs, power supply, and screens, video, at the level of electronics, mechanics and chips. Coaching of trainees and technicians. Development and adaptation of testers, methods and systems.
- ✓ Remote support engineer Unix Systems: application specialist “Wocas” at CFT Public Housing, later NWR.
- ✓ 1997 Certificate “Hogeschool Utrecht” part time
- ✓ 1996 - NCCW – Casa system specialist: support of clients by telephone and on location. Installation of hardware and software on Unix and NT servers, computerizing offices, Informix systems.
- ✓ For 20 years accompanied disabled children on motoring tours with sidecars.

Activities Lahir and his wife Mahrooza

Lahir has been working as a teacher of English in different parts of Sri Lanka for twenty years. His first teaching experience was in the deprived areas of the Ratnapura and Kalutara districts. At these schools there are many children from extremely poor families.

These experiences made him decide to do something for these children. Especially the helpless and hopeless situation of the disabled children moved him deeply.

Meeting Helène and Jan van Beek gave him the chance to realise his idea to do something for these children.

Lahir and his wife own a jewellery shop in Galle and both of them design jewellery. They have three sons.

Appendix Statistics and information about handicaps in SriLanka

There are 90.576 persons with a handicap of the legs, 56.529 men and 34.047 women.				
56.529 men			34.047 women	
age			age	
0-4 years	1078		0-4 years	729
5-9 years	1907		5-9 years	1403
10-14 years	2291		10-14 years	1445
15-19 years	2343		15-19 years	1469
20-24 years	3238		20-24 years	1517
total boys	10857		total boys	6563
Different sectors				
Urban sector total handicap both sexes				9228
Of which	men			5549
	women			3679
Rural sector total handicap both sexes				77245
Of which	men			44369
	women			28876
Tea plantation area's sector total handicap both sexes				4103
Of which	men			2611
	women			1492
Total of disabled persons is 274,711.				
No education: 87105 is 31.7 percent				
Of which		46340		
		40765		
achieved grade 6-8				
Of which	men	29566		
	women	17832		
With degree and above level of education				
Of which	men	545		
	women	238		
				c

Addendum "Information on disabled persons by department of Census and Statistics – 2001"

Income first year for 16 children	EURO	Income second year for 32 children	EURO	Income third year for 48 children	
6% interest of 500.000 euro	30.000,00	6% interest of 500.000 euro	30.000,00	6% interest of 500.000 euro	30.000,00
Donations/adoptions Hellabeem	17.000,00	Donations/adoptions Hellabeem	32.000,00	Donations/adoptions Hellabeem	49.000,00
Social welfare (€3 /month /child)	576,00	Income productive work	9.000,00	Income productive work	15.000,00
		Social welfare (€3 /month /child)	1.152,00	Social welfare (€3 /month /child)	1.728,00
Total for 16 children	47.576,00	Total for 32 children	72.152,00	Total for 48 children	95.728,00
Expenses for 16 children		Expenses for 32 children		Expenses for 48 children	
16 Personnel & staff salaries	10.560,00	20 Personnel & staff salaries	13.200,00	25 Personnel & staff salaries	16.500,00
Personnel & staff meals 1x /day	5.840,00	Personnel & staff meals 1x /day	7.300,00	Personnel & staff meals 1x /day	9.125,00
Children's meals 3x /day €2,5	14.600,00	Children's meals 3x /day	29.200,00	Children's meals 3x /day	43.800,00
Electricity	3.652,00	Electricity	4.382,00	Electricity	5.4800,00
gas	667,00	gas	876,00	Gas	1.085,00
Office costs	708,00	Office costs	952,00	Office costs	1.196,00
Car costs	751,00	Car costs	932,00	Car costs	1.113,00
Medicines/doctor	826,00	Medicines/doctor	1.252,00	Medicines/doctor	1.827,00
Legal advice	417,00	Legal advice	417,00	Legal advice	458,00
Insurance	156,00	Insurance	124,00	Insurance	136,00
maintenance	217,00	maintenance	434,00	maintenance	477,00
Unforeseen	1.918,00	Unforeseen	2.043,00	Unforeseen	2.234,00
Extra labour-coconutplukkers	260,00	Extra labour- coconutplukkers	286,00	Extra labour- coconutplukkers	289,00
Entertainments	180,00	Entertainments	190,00	Entertainments	210,00
Repairs equipment	520,00	Repairs equipment	590,00	Repairs equipment	649,00
Clothing materials	379,00	Clothing materials	760,00	Clothing materials	836,00
Microcar for 10 years per year	600,00	Microcar for 10 years per year	600,00	Microcar for 10 years per year	600,00
Fuel	360,00	Fuel	490,00	Fuel	539,00
Garden/vegetables plants	250,00	Garden/vegetables plants	410,00	Garden/vegetables plants	451,00
Printing	208,00	Printing	318,00	Printing	349,00
Telephone, Fax and email	1.930,00	Telephone,Fax and email	1.980,00	telephone,Fax and email	2.178,00
Teaching materials	626,00	Teaching materials	1.262,00	Teaching materials	1.388,00
photography	62,00	Photography	172,00	Photography	189,00
Building materials	313,00	Building materials	810,00	Building materials	891,00
Travelling hire car for wheelchairs.	434,00	Travelling hire car for wheelchairs.	790,00	Travelling hire car for wheelchairs.	869,00
Miscellaneous	626,00	Miscellaneous	688,00	Miscellaneous	768,00
Taxes	356,00	Taxes	1.514,00	Taxes	1.874,00
Postage	160,00	Postage	180,00	Postage	216,00
Total June 2004	47.576,00	Total	72.152,00	Total	95.728,00
Per child E 2973,50		Per child E 2259,00		Per child E 1994,00	