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ASIAN “SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS OF THE YEAR 2011” AWARDED BY THE SCHWAB FOUNDATION FOR SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Dalian, People’s Republic of China, 12 September 2011 – Five social entrepreneurs from Asia will be awarded by the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship as Asian Social Entrepreneurs of the Year 2011. Joining a global network of leading social entrepreneurs from over 50 countries, the founders of these organizations will be actively participating in the Annual Meeting of New Champions on 14-16 September in Dalian, People’s Republic of China.

Demonstrating successful impact in Cambodia, Japan, the Philippines and Pakistan, these social enterprises address healthcare access, clean water supply, the distribution of everyday goods in hard to reach areas, and the nutritional imbalance in underserved communities.

“The selection of winners this year reflects an unprecedented diversity of Asian social enterprises whose work has transformative implications both locally and globally,” says Hilde Schwab, Chairperson and Co-Founder of the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship. “We see a proliferation of services for low-income consumers such as micro-insurance and micro-enterprise development. We also see a deliberate effort from social enterprises to collaborate more closely with companies to multiply that impact.”

The Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship is proud to award the following innovators the title of Asia Social Entrepreneur of the Year 2011.

Bam Aquino and Mark Ruiz, Hapinoy (The Philippines)



Hapinoy is improving the viability and efficiency of the more than 10,000 small “mom-and-pop” stores in the Philippines. It provides business coaching, leadership training, and store branding to women small store owners in remote areas. By aggregating demand and delivering supplies directly, Hapinoy benefits store owners with a 5-15% cost savings plus access to a greater variety of goods, including over-the-counter medicines, mosquito nets and pre-paid phone minutes. (<http://www.hapinoy.com>)

Lo Chay, 1001 fontaines pour demain (Cambodia)



More than 900 million people around the world living in rural areas do not have access to safe drinking water. Using sand filtration and solar-powered water purification technology, 1001 fontaines provides clean, affordable drinking water to over 50,000 people at a price of US \$0.01 per litre. To encourage local ownership, village entrepreneurs are trained to sell and distribute the water as well as maintain the water production site. (<http://www.1001fontaines.com>)

Asher Hasan, Naya Jeevan (Pakistan)



Naya Jeevan partners with companies to roll out emergency health insurance to low-income workers making less than US\$ 6 per day. Drivers, cooks, waiters and security guards can be insured at US\$ 2.50 per month with a yearly coverage limit of approximately US\$ 1,780 – enough for a cardiac bypass surgery. Naya Jeevan also packages the insurance with a variety of services, such as annual medical checks, preventative care workshops, as well as access to a 24-hour medical care and claims assistance hotline. (<http://www.njfk.org>)

Masa Kogure, Table for Two (TFT) (Japan)



One in seven people suffer from malnutrition, whereas 1.6 billion adults in the world are overweight or have health conditions related to overnutrition. TFT corrects this imbalance by transferring excess calories across the globe from developed countries to developing countries. Corporate cafeterias, university dining halls and public restaurants serve healthy TFT meals, donating US\$ 0.20 per meal to purchase free lunches in impoverished primary schools in African villages. (<http://www.tablefor2.org>)

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The Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship was co-founded by Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum, and his wife, Hilde. Since its inception in 2000, the Foundation has been identifying the world's leading social entrepreneurs in over 50 countries around the globe. Social entrepreneurs implement innovative and pragmatic solutions to social problems by tackling the root causes and creating social transformation. Selected social entrepreneurs of the Schwab Foundation network participate in World Economic Forum events, thus providing unique opportunities for them to connect with business, political and media leaders.

About the World Economic Forum

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