

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Any Soroptimist Club or group can support the principles and activities of the Project overall, or a particular location within it.

The most efficient way to give a donation is to send money to your Federation noting whether it is for general funding or a particular project. Federations will transfer this directly to the Project Five–O bank account, which saves on currency loss.

HOW TO START A FIVE–O PROJECT

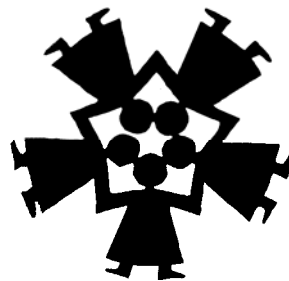
- * It must be in an area of a developing country or country in transition where at least two of the organisations have established clubs.
- * There must be a real need for training for underprivileged women so they can acquire the ability to earn a living.
- * There must be tutors and a centre for study available suitable for the training to be given.
- * Five–O funding targets equipment, materials, and salary and rental costs, usually not buildings.

Discussion with your Friendship links could be useful in identifying a project or, if the site is in your country, could provide possible sources of support.

If there is sufficient information, the proposal then goes to the International President for her approval. She will refer the proposal to the Project Five–O Coordinator who will contact the other four members of the Project Five–O International Committee. If three out of five organisations approve the proposal, the Coordinator will organise the payment of the initial grant up to US\$15,000.

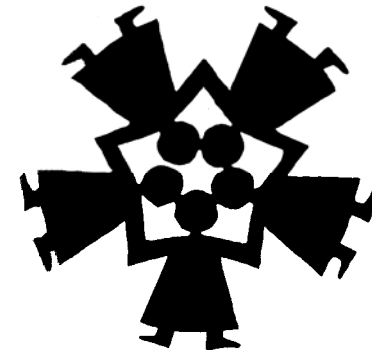
RELEVANT ADDRESSES

Five–O website: www.project-five-o.org



08/2003

Project Five–O



Business & Professional Women
International

International Council of Women

International Federation of University
Women

Soroptimist International

Zonta International

The distinctive features of Project Five–O are:

- * Located in an area of a developing country or country in transition.
- * The provision of vocational and other training for women & girls.
- * The requirement that at least two of the organisations should be represented on the local committee of a project.

THE PRINCIPLE

The establishment of a Five-O Project in a developing country or countries in transition makes a significant contribution to alleviating poverty and improving the status of women by teaching basic education, vocational skills, marketing and small business operations which leads to employment. Health care, education, and nutrition are also included.

HOW IS PROJECT FIVE-O ADMINISTERED?

By the International Committee, consisting of the International Presidents of the five organisations who appoint an International Coordinator and a Treasurer to communicate with the Committee and the individual project and to arrange for the transfer of funds.

WHO MANAGES A PROJECT?

The Local Committee consisting of two representatives of each organisation present in an area. They may also co-opt other non-governmental organisations and seek support of local, regional, and national governments and others such as business organisations that may wish to help with the project.

HOW ARE PROJECTS FUNDED?

A first grant of up to US\$15,000 may be followed by a second grant of US\$7,500 after the project is well established and if need is shown, but local committees are expected to seek funding from local sources for the continuation of projects.

WHERE ARE THE PROJECTS?

Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, India, Madagascar, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines (Bacolod), Philippines (Davao City), Philippines (Pampanga), Samoa, South Africa (Cape Town), Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Uganda.

WHAT DO PROJECTS DO?

A few examples of recent projects:

Philippines – Davao City

A Soroptimist building is the centre for vocational training for domestic helpers. Skill development will include the demonstrations of the actual household including the use of appliances and their care. Upon graduation their Certificate lists: Food – preparation, processing and preserving, housekeeping, table napkin folding, table set-up, waitering, gardening and flower arrangement, plumbing, carpentry and electrical installation. The course also includes infant care and care of the elderly.

Samoa – Apia

A training centre for home economics where girls and women are taught the basic skills of sewing, cooking, home management and nutrition to an acceptable standard so that they themselves can train women and girls in outlying villages and on the Island of Savaii.

The Project hopes to provide skills for the 80% of school leavers every year who do not find employment or continue on to tertiary education so that they gain employment, and contribute to the welfare of their families and villages, and especially their own personal development and independence.

Turkey – Terme

Four greenhouses have been built and given to four different families to grow vegetables. In three growing periods different vegetables are grown and sold by the owners to supplement their households. The first phase included tomatoes and cucumber, the second eggplant and green peppers and tomatoes, and the third, lettuce.

Madagascar – Antsirabe

Training in catering and pastry making, sewing and embroidery, housekeeping and good manners, child welfare and family planning, first aid, French language, management and economy followed by practice in handicraft and laws relating to women's rights.

Bangladesh – Dhaka, Village Gacha

The health centre treated 2,400 mothers and children during the year. The number of patients had to be restricted to 35–40 patients per clinic day. The medical officer comes once a week. It is a great desire to be able to extend clinic hours to twice a week.

Classes in sewing, tailoring and embroidery are running regularly. They are very popular among the village girls and women, as they enable them to earn some money from the products sold. Some trainees have become trainers. Certificates are given to the successful trainees at the end of the course.

The Pre-Primary School for children aged 4–6 years started in June, 2001 in cooperation with 'Nijera Shikhi' (Let's Learn). This NGO deals with mass literacy in Bangladesh and provides teachers, teaching and training material and also paid the first six months of the programme. Each course is for six months, and 30–35 children attend each course.