## GONE RURAL COPPER-WORKING PROGRESS REPORT

To: The Sahee Foundation, Switzerland

Date: February 27<sup>th</sup> 2008

Compiled by: Julie Nixon and Philippa Thorne









Dear Cyril,

The copper project funded by The Sahee Foundation to enrol men into our production process has been working exceptionally well and we would like to take this opportunity to say a very sincere thank you to you and your foundation.

The key to creating a sustainable project lies in the development of a marketable, price sensitive and beautiful product. Philippa Thorne is the designer behind the finished copper products and after market testing we can tell you that the products are finding favour with our customers.

The small copper bowl was tested at the SARCDA International Gift Show in August 2007 and received excellent reviews. We took orders for twenty units at the show. We then decided to include this product as part of our range.

One of our largest customers, The Tiger's Eye in South Africa are now buying the small copper bowl on a monthly basis for their stores at Johannesburg International.

At the Design Indaba held in Cape Town from February 22<sup>nd</sup> until 25<sup>th</sup> the copper bowls were on display for buyers and the general public at large. The product testing was a success. The large copper bowls, which have been highly polished, have been very well received. We also launched the new brass bowls which received favourable comments. We are now awaiting the show orders and will let you know the final figures when they come in.

We have an enquiry now for small scarf broaches and we have created samples using copper and grass. The samples are on the way to Canada for final approval and if we get the go ahead the order is for one hundred and sixty thousand units. This would mean that we could employ more men in the rural areas whilst ensuring that the current three men have work for the foreseeable future.

Exipro our partner in the training programme have offered continued support and training for our metal workers. They have been kept informed of the progress of the product and continue to assist us whenever necessary.

Yours Faithfully

Julie Nixon and Philippa Thorne

## **Reporting Form for the Copper Metal Working Project**

Number and names of the men currently working with metal Number of women trained  Wages paid to men during training.	Mduduzi Dlamini– Ngoyiya Group Elijah Vilakati- Mtholweni Group Themba Mkhabela- Mahlabatsini Group Ten women from our Mahlanya Group have been crosstrained to do the refined grass work on the copper and brass bowls. We have also trained two women on the grass work for the broaches.  Exipro a metal working company in the local industrial site trained our men for eight weeks which was paid for by the donor funds.
	A total of E 6681.70 was issued to the three men during their training period. Each of the three metal workers have been earning a salary of ZAR 40.00 per day to train
Cost of Raw Materials	A total outlay of E13867.46 was paid for raw materials and E 934.99 for the tools necessary for the metal work.
Financial Report	Total Grant E 15367.23  Wages Paid E 2288.00 Raw Materials E 13867.46 Tools E 934.99 Training Wages E 6681.70  Total Expenses E 23772.15
Order values	Total sales from metal products E 10500.00 This figure is wholesale value of the bowls sold.

## Reporting Form for the Copper Metal Working Project

Number and description developed products	of	Small copper bowl with grass
		Large Shiny copper Bowl
		Broach Pins
Total orders received		Small Copper Bowls The Tiger's Eye – 20 Units Danye- 15 Units Due South- 15 Units Elephant Sanctuary-10 units
Product Launches		SARCDA International – Johannesburg August 2007 Design Indaba- Cape Town February 2008 SARCDA International March 2008

We are also developing a wine holder and coaster set for our wine farm companies.
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