Heart 2 Heart Community



Summary

Heart 2 Heart Youth Hostel is a social enterprise under the auspices of Yunnan Heart to Heart Community Care.

Mission: To promote sustainable living practices, social and service learning, eco-farming, healthy eating, love and care of the countryside and animals. The ultimate objective is to achieve community development among the ethnic minority groups in the area.

Vision: To build a harmonized community by means of local participation through hostelling, eco-farming and agricultural business.

Economic

Social

100% non-profit

Social enterprise **Transforming lives** Supporting local NGOs in cash & in kind

Environmental

SDG Contribution

8 DECENT WORK AND 10 REDUCED INCOUNTINES

3 GOOD HEALTH

1 NO POVERTY

Eco-farming and related activities Sustainable living practices Environmental awareness education programs



With its facade untouched, the hostel has been converted into contemporary accommodation inside. The hostel provides plenty of open space, an amphitheatre, a meeting room, a camp site and open courtyard, and is ideal for a countryside retreat, outdoor activities, training sessions and conferences. There are also historical temples, ethnic minority villages, bike tracks, country parks, rock climbing walls, a grass ski field, a pottery workshop, a paintball range and walking trails in the vicinity. In addition, the route to Tuan Jie Zhen is a popular and challenging route for cyclists.

There are many fruits and vegetables available for sale locally, and visitors are able to pick strawberries, apples, plums and pears when in season.

This hostel is run by "Heart to Heart Community Care" (A Registered Charity in Kunming) for the advancement of education, culture, environment and social development. Proceeds are used for the social services.

Methodology

How our social enterprise is different

- It is a business with a mission & vision for the benefit of our society;
- Making money is important but not the top priority or prime objective;
- Profits from the business for charitable activities;
- The mission underpins our business operations and prevails when there is a conflict of interest.

The hostel provides several services:

- Accommodation & Camping facilities
- Conference & Seminar venue
- Nature/Environmental Awareness Program
- Cultural Exchange & Social/Service Learning
- Rural Community work
- Internships

Sustainability

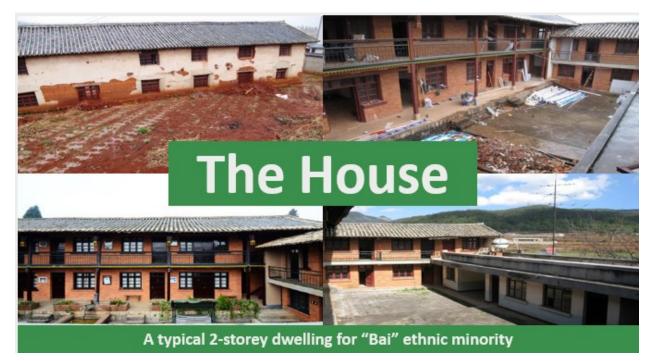
- Right from the beginning, sustainable development was the prime consideration for the renovation work of this house, based on following principles:
- Minimise construction waste;
- Use of recycled building materials;
- Apply energy saving systems wherever possible;
- Conservation





Key Features

1. Conservation of Ethnic Minority's Architecture and Culture





Local folk culture is introduced to visitors whenever possible





Torch festival

Cultural exchange



2. Sustainably Environmental Practices

Use of natural light in corridors, bath rooms, bed room and common area	Lights are either energy saving bulbs or LED	Communication with customers - conservation signage, reusable signage	
Coreless toilet rolls	Reduction for use of paper and printed matters	Recycling for bottles, tins, cans, papers, batteries, plastic bag, bottle tops, eggshells and washing water	No disposable items such as slippers, tooth brushes, toothpaste, shower gel etc.
Provide drinking fountain to reduce plastic bottles		Use of vacuum cooker to save energy	Use kitchen waste oil to make soap
Use natural cleansing products to replace detergent	No smoking except designated area	Provide bucket in bath rooms and encourage hostellers to keep bathing water for toilet flushing	Work together with organizations sharing the same interest









3. Social/Experiential/Service Learning

Several Universities and Colleges are involved:

- Peking University
- Yunnan University
- Yunnan Finance & Economic University
- Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- Hong Kong Chinese University
- Hong Kong Vocational Training Council
- Hong Kong College of Technology
- Fu Jen Catholic University, Taiwan
- Chicago University, USA
- HK Baptist University
- Shu Yan University
- HKU Space Community College





4. Community-based Social Services

- Volunteers and Migrant Children
- Children Summer/Winter Program





"My daughter enjoyed this summer camp tremendously. She learnt something interesting and had a good time. She seemed keeping a good memory of those days too. Children of her age are particularly fond of activities and not sight-seeing, please let us know if any similar event next time."

"Since returning from summer camp, I feel elder brother have changed a lot. He is not that harsh to his younger brother and becomes more intimate to me. His sense of humor is improving. I checked his composition yesterday, his level of expression has suddenly risen. Surprise, surprise!!!"

Finance: 100% not for profit

Eat Well Farm: An eco-farm under development in conjunction with H2H Hostel

- The maximization of economic benefits is not our prime goal.
- Our goal is to be a replicable case of ecofarming as an example for community development

Integrated services:

- Eco-agricultural Products
- Farming Experience
- Nature/Earth Friendliness Program
- Eat Well Experience
- Rural Community
 Farming Participation
- Internship





Care for Countryside and Animals, Live in Harmony with Nature





Reach: Local/ Regional/ National/ International

Target audience: HI Members/ Guests/ General Public/ Staff/ Children

Would you like to know more about the Heart 2 Heart Youth Hostel?

Contact: Rawdon Lau, Hon. Chairman of YHA China and former Secretary General & Chief Executive of Hostelling International

Email: rawdonlau@hotmail.com

Read more about YHA China <u>here</u> Read more about the H2H Youth Hostel <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>, <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>

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Awards and Recognitions

• One of the 100 best practice in social enterprise operation awarded by China National Social Workers Association in 2016.



Heart 2 Heart Youth Hostel & Eat Well Farm Mr. Rawdon Lau won the title of "the 100 best practice in social enterprise operation" which is awarded by the National Social Workers Association China in 2016.

• Read more about the other <u>Awards</u> of the Heart 2 Heart Youth Hostel

