



Toit du Monde

REVUE DE L'ASSOCIATION ASSISTANCE MÉDICALE TOIT DU MONDE

EDITORIAL

Yes, we can !

« I was in Nepal when I learned Barack Obama victory. The news has been greeted with joy mixed with hope. As a matter of fact, many young people dream of going to America. Of course, I understand their wish because even as a baby sitter, they will earn far more over there than a doctor in Nepal. But what is the future of the country if all the people who have been educated leave abroad? This is the reason why the valuing of the local teams is symbolically important to me. Especially when their future is uncertain. Indeed, if the Maoists win the election after the promulgation of the new Constitution, all the schools may be nationalized. What will happen then for the schools we have chosen to help because of the quality of their managers and teams?

But the worst is never certain and many tourists go to Nepal again. A good news for the economy of the country. And whatever the future may be, through your commitment, the role of AMTM will always be to provide a medical and humanitarian assistance to underprivileged populations. Basic needs still remain: food, clothing, blankets, drugs... All together, we also can!»

Laurent Charbonnier, Président

ON THE SPOT

Words from... Philippe Weber in the Spiti, India



Philippe Weber, pharmacist and biologist, is taking a sample on a patient



A mobile laboratory at high altitude

«**M**y nose pressed against the windows of the bus, some sleeping, some smoking teas... after all, the fourteen-hour drive between Delhi and Manali, a small northern India mountain resort have spent quickly. After a cheerful reunion with my fellow travelers Christine Chiavelli who is in charge of the logistics and Brigitte Le Cossec, who comes here every year on missions for AMTM since fifteen years, a wonderful travel begins through a region of India where, according to Kipling, “gods live for sure... but where there is no place for humans”.

At the very end of the road, the village of Kungri and its large monastery welcome us. We are at an height of 3,800m. We quickly settle of our “campaign laboratory” in a small room of the monastery. It is well equipped. It must be said that, in Paris, the laboratory partners and technicians have worked to fill up our luggage. We even have brought a microscope the association Biologie Sans Frontière (www.bsf.fr) gave us. The analysis register will be quickly filled: urinary screening, samples and microscopic examinations of infected lesions, hepatitis blood screening... Unlike in Paris, here, there is no fear nor tears among children even if it's the first time they see a needle. But we will not get into a rut, it is already time to leave. It's a heart-break that all those who have already gone in missions with AMTM know well. The staff of the Lady Willington Hospital laboratory in Manali, the director of the hospital in Kasa, Spiti “capital city”, all these many encounters and medical exchanges have been warm and gave us precious information for our future health center and its laboratory. From this very impoverished region, we come back rich! »

The role of the «white coats»

Qualified nurses in France, they join the medical teams in each of our missions. The opportunity to discover other facets of their profession. Close-up of these volunteers who would not change places for the world...



Tenderness break after the treatment with the nurse Sylviane Lemontreer.

They are seven in our organization. Seven qualified nurses who join the medical teams in each of our missions. Seven volunteers today experienced but who had to learn new gestures, new care, almost another profession. “At the time of my first mission to Nepal in 2005, Hadda Nely says, I did not think that the extreme poverty was so widespread. I

had to treat skin diseases which have almost disappeared in France, like ringworm, scabies or tuberculosis”.

Being useful, joining a medical team and saving lives is what prompted Isabelle Godfrin to join AMTM in 2002. “I had good teachers: my sister Fabienne, who is also a nurse, and her husband, Dr J.P. Mathias, with whom I made my first mission, she says. Providing medicines, reassuring, explaining dosages to people who do not speak English, this is our role on the

spot.”. As to Caroline Halley, 39, nurse at Saint-Cloud hospital, her first mission to Nepal was a culture shock. “I did not imagine that I would find myself in the Middle Ages, she explains. In fact, I did not know real misery. At first, it’s extremely hard but we feel that we receive more than what we give very quickly.”

Today, most nurses in AMTM sponsor Tibetan refugees or Nepalese orphans and all they want when coming back from a mission: to leave again.

A C T I O N S

■ **With the allocated donations**, the remaining money amounting to €33,300 of the loan contracted to buy the building of Children of Sagarmatha has been repaid in advance, thus reducing the monthly operating costs.

The final balance of these donations amounting to €13,367 was transferred for the functioning of the orphanage.

■ **Thanks to the donors** who responded to the call for funds against malnutrition, this year, the children in several sites have received food supplement:

€2,600: : Zangdhok Palri, India;

€2,000: Od Sal Chöling, Nepal;

€1,500: Lo Ghe Gar, Nepal

€9,000 : Nyingma Palyul, Nepal.

■ **The site of Godawari**, in India now has 4 new toilets and a bathroom. Cost: €2,200.

■ **During the latest mission in Nepal**, we bought gas cylinders for cooking in Snowland Ranag School and gave uniforms for a total of €2,000.

We also installed solar panels in Palyul school (€1,500), gave blankets and school stationery for the site of Urgyen Do Ngak Choling (€1,730 in total).

CULTURE - ÉDUCATION

Will Tsomo be soon a nurse in France?

Or how the life of a young Tibetan refugee was saved by donations and sponsorship from Daniel Collin, the photographer of our association

When Daniel Collin met Tsomo in 1989, she was only four years old and she lived with her family in a hut in a refugee camp in Orissa (South India). “She was suffering from local treatments resistant tuberculosis and her life was in danger, Daniel Collin remembers. At that time,

AMTM did not exist yet, but I could send medicines and money to enable her to go to a Tibetan school. Then, when the association was founded in 1992, of course I became her sponsor”. Growing up, Tsomo signaled her desire to go to Dharamsala to study to become a nurse and, thanks to Daniel’s sponsorship,

she obtained her degree in 2006. Today, she goes to Paris to join her father who has obtained the French nationality. Recognizing the aid provided by Daniel’s sponsorship, Tsomo wanted to participate to our latest humanitarian mission before leaving to France, where there is a great demand for nurses.



The revival of a monastery

For eight months, AMTM supports the ten young monks of a monastery in Mustang

To revive the Lo Ghe Gar, an abandoned monastery in Mustang, a remote region at a height of 4,000 m of north-west Nepal? Only AMTM could undertake to take up such a bet, first with a donation of €1,500 and sponsorships to come. It began during the latest mission in Nepal when the venerable Ralo Rimpoche, great scholar and “exorcist priest” from the Tibetan sages tradition asked the association to help him for this task. In 2007, during a trip to Mustang, he had stopped near the village of Murang, not far from the monastery. For several years, in this godforsaken spot mainly populated by Tibetans, farmers were reduced to starvation due to drought. So



In the mountains of Mustang, young monks are learning in the monastery of Lo Ghe Gar.



Ralo Rimpoche made “Pujas” (prayers). And it rained again. In thanks, the farmers wanted to revive the monastery, where, from now on, ten young teen-

agers who are these farmer’s children, live six months per year, still under very precarious conditions. In winter, as their parents seasonally migrate to the regions of low Nepal, they stay in the monastery of Ralo Rimpoche in Pharping, near Kathmandu. What is their most cherished wish? Studying to reach a spiritual level equivalent to Ralo Rimpoche’s one, the man who works miracles.

PORTRAIT



On July 25th, AMTM opened its new website. To be seen absolutely.

In this second half of the year, it’s about AMTM website that we have decided to let you know about. It’s a curious portrait, will you think, but not so much finally. As a matter of fact, today a website worthy of this

Birth of a website

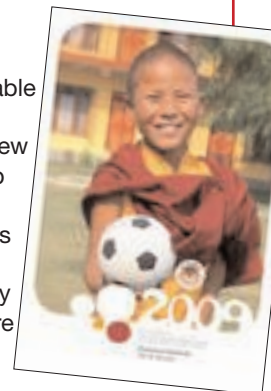
name is a tool of communication and a showcase essential to the proper functioning of an association. And ours, of which the charter was designed for free by André Darmon (laissez l’accent) of the communication agency Strategik & Numerik, which also helps us to design the calendars and booklets of the association, is from now on modern, efficient, interactive and professional. We are not the ones who say so, but the already many surfers all over the world: up to 1,900

per month during the latest mission to Nepal in October, followed by photos and live. Another good news: since the beginning of December, in addition to the general information about the association, the site has an online shop and a space for the volunteers of the association, where the forms of the several working groups can be downloaded or the meetings schedule consulted. From this we can work in serenity and attract new sponsors or donors.

www.amtm.org

MISCELLANEOUS

■ As every year, the association 2009 calendars are available and everyone can order them at the new website online shop www.amtm.org The printed 1,750 copies are sold at a unit price of €7 and they allow to collect more than €10,000. Sets of 4 greeting cards are also proposed with eight themes (nature, children, etc.) at the price of €4 the set.



Persuading the firms

To finance our long-term actions, we have created a pole in charge of establishing partnerships with companies

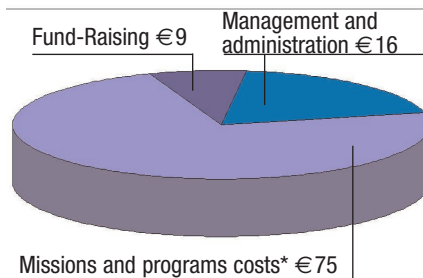
Until now, most of our budget was provided by private donations, sponsorships, legacies etc. and we deeply thank every donor. But today, our actions have multiplied and we must ensure the durability of our missions. This convinced us to develop a "firms pole" formed with a team of five members of AMTM with complementary skills. It is responsible for developing partnerships, corporate patronage, sponsorings etc. with companies. "Some of them already help us with in-kind donations, Marc Gille, the Project Manager, says. Thus, Du pareil au Mème or Coudemail, the well-known textile companies, regularly provide



us with clothes. Agnès B. has also given us 200 pieces. In the same way Qatar Airways allows us special fare and excess baggage and we thank all those firms for their help." This Firms Pole now has communication tools (brochure, slide show, heading website...) to persuade the companies of the interest they have to engage a partnership with us. There are many direct and indirect advantages: the enhanced prestige of their image, citizen involvement,

KEY - N U M B E R S

USE FOR €100 DONATIONS (2007)



- > AMTM budget for 2008 **€515,000**
- > number of donors **3,900**
- > number of sponsorships **950**
- > number of volunteers **120**
- > visits on the Internet site **1,700/month**
- > sponsorship monthly cost **€25** (€8,5 after tax deduction allowance in France)
- > annual subscription **€35**

*Including a reserve for future projects.

cohesive teams, sponsorship tax cuts. Our team is very motivated but your help is welcome and necessary. By giving us the name of a person who may be contacted in a company, we shall multiply the chances of success.

THEY HELP US

■ Since 2005, under the leadership of one of its members, Sébastien Izambard, the band Il Divo helps AMTM and even convinces its fans all over the world to do the same. Thus,

Dutch Divas, a group of Dutch fans led by Jolande have organized an auction and collected €1,000. In America, **Divolympics** collected \$1,000 for AMTM

■ **Sabine Kern**, a young German fan of Il Divo, contacted AMTM. Now, she sponsors a child of the Buddha Academy Boarding School in Kathmandu. She have also donated €200,

the sum she collected for her birthday last September. This money was used to buy blankets.

■ **Virginie Bernascon**, a long-lasting benefactor of AMTM, and her husband, sold their

school of Kinesiology and have donated €30,000. Thank you for their commitment
 ■ Thank you to **JPA** which prints for free or for a small price these cards, calendars and other AMTM journals.

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR AID

Cut and send this donation form to :

Assistance Médicale Toit du Monde 81, avenue du Maréchal Joffre - 92000 Nanterre - France
 Phone : 33 1 47 24 78 59 - Fax : 33 1 47 24 78 07 - E-mail : contact@amtm.org

Name : First Name :

Adress :

Zip code : City : Country

E-mail :

I wish to help AMTM and I make a donation :

30 €

50 €

100 €

ww other :€

You can also use secured online donation at www.amtm.org/en