

## TFN Impact Report

<b>Name of your Organisation:</b>	Bottles of Hope
<b>Name of the project TFN funded:</b>	Bottles of Hope Distribution & Trip
<b>Date Funded by TFN:</b>	20/11/2018
<b>Were you able to undertake your project as planned?</b>	Yes
<b>Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?</b>	<p>Last November we were fundraising with The Funding Network to distribute solar lamps in the Nilgiris Hills, Southern India. In 2018 we had positively impacted 40 individual's and with The Funding Network donations that totaled £2,100 we have impacted now over 500 individuals with our solar lamps. We started distribution in December and have been continuing with them every since. We began at the Lady Willingdon Homes in Ooty, Tamil Nadu, that housed elderly people in the community. We realised that we had a new market by distributing to low-income rural villages that normally used kerosene lamps and paraffin candles for light. These light sources give off harmful toxins and contribute to CO2 emissions, providing a sustainable and healthy light source to these communities was essential.</p> <p>At the same time, we set a sum of money aside for a trip out to India. This was to ensure that we are able to do door to door assessments for the solar lamps we had distributed. When visiting in July 2019, we were extremely happy to see that all of the solar lamps distributed are still in use and that the design had not broken and worked. It was great to visit our first distribution site and meet the organiser at The Lady Willingdon Homes, as shown in the photographs attached. The whole time we were out in India I was documenting all the work that we had done, this is now being edited into new content to go onto our website to be realised early this year.</p>
<b>What portion of the project did TFN fund?</b>	100%
<b>How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?</b>	504
<b>How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?</b>	509
<b>Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?</b>	No
<b>Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the</b>	No

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event?	
Has the training you received from TFN better prepared you in pitching your organisation to potential funders?	Yes
Has TFN increased your capacity to raise further funds?	Yes
How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?	We wouldn't have been able to achieve our objectives without TFN funding
Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?	<p>After reaching 500 impacted we knew that our business model worked and that our product was in demand. Over the past 4 months, we have been negotiating and researching new suppliers as we know our impact can go further for less with the right supplier. At present we have been looking at manufacturers in China, Shenzhen and Taiwan.</p> <p>Also, we have become aware that we need a sustainable financial model. For the pilot of our project, we have relied on donations but we know that we cannot become dependent on this. Over the past couple of months, we have been looking to invest into a 'buy for buy' strategy. One of project's objectives is to provide a sustainable light source during monsoon season, as outlined in the pitch the Nilgiris Hills endures 2 monsoons a year meaning that for 5 months of the year they have unreliable power suppliers. Creating a product in the new 'buy for buy' strategy that relates to the issues of monsoon season was extremely important. The UK is known for its rainy season and so are Indian monsoons, Bottles of Hope wants to utilise this link to sell umbrellas in the UK and distribute a solar bottle in return.</p>
Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?	It was a pleasure to work with The Funding Network, the host of the event has great energy and made the evening very enjoyable. In addition, the money transfer process was very easy and stress-free. Thank you for everyone who made this possible!
Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?	Bottles of Hope is predominantly a two-man team of Jehan and myself. When setting up the project Jehan managed the assembly and distribution line in India while I continued with new funding opportunities and research in the UK. A personal highlight of The Funding Network donations was that I was able to visit India and see all the beneficial work that we had been doing for 2 years. A moment that stands out is visiting the Lady Willingdon Homes, our first distribution site, seeing all the elderly people with their solar lamps on their bedsides was great. Seeing for myself the impact we have had on some people's livelihoods has given me the drive to go back to the drawing board with Bottles of Hope and make every element better. The beauty of the Nilgiris Hills cannot go unnoticed as shown in the photographs. This reinforced how important our objectives are of

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	reducing the amount of CO2 and plastic waste in the region through the use and distribution of our Bottles of Hope.
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