

Press Release: Commitment to Action at CGI
December 10, 2008

Hong Kong, China, and Mumbai, India, December 10, 2008 – SAGE Foundation announced at the Clinton Global Initiative Asia event that it will establish a self-sustaining model village in Maharashtra, India. Through this project, which will be executed in partnership with global transformational coaching organization Rock Your Life, the SAGE Foundation seeks to end hunger and impoverishment by educating and providing villagers with handicraft skills so that they can be self-sufficient.

The concept for the village roots from a desire to fulfill existing inadequacies in the villages currently under SAGE Foundation's sponsorship. To date, the SAGE Foundation has focused on simply sponsoring villages by providing medical, education and general assistance. In order to create sustainability in the long run, the model village will have the following components:

- 1) A well-built school that will provide quality education for a range of ages
- 2) A craft center that will educate parents in a trade so that they have paid employment and could contribute to their children's education financially.
- 3) Rock Your Life SAGE tours which will begin in March 2009, bringing socially-responsible global visitors to the village to work with the villagers, and assist in training and development and social projects.
- 4) The SAGE Foundation will also dedicate resources to ensure that clean water is accessible by all in the villages, and sanitary conditions meet acceptable international standards. Additionally, a medical care center will be established in the village so that villagers receive holistic physical and mental health treatment.
- 5) The SAGE Foundation, in partnership with other organizations such as PATT Foundation, Times Foundation, and Standard Chartered Bank, will also focus on planting trees, training villagers on horticulture management, and will assist them on distributing products in urban areas.
- 6) The SAGE Foundation has also established a partnership with the Global Dialogue Foundation (GDF), which will be collecting goods in usable form from participating countries ranging from cars to televisions to septic systems, and send them to the village.
- 7) The SAGE Foundation will also focus on microfinance and creating self-help groups to empower women in small scale industries like making pickles, sauces and chutneys, for which ties are being created with organizations like Extraordinary Ones for buying their products.

Under this scheme, which will be launched in January 2009, approximately 1,000 children will gain access to education or improved quality of education, with another 1,000 adults who will be retrained in the manufacturing and marketing of handicrafts via

working at the craft center. Furthermore, 2,000 people living in the model village will enjoy improved food security and/or increased access to safe drinking water. The entire commitment is expected to be implemented over a period of 4 years, and in the long term, is anticipated to not only impact the residents of the model village, but also the 30,000 people who are living in other SAGE sponsored villages.

About SAGE Foundation

About the Clinton Global Initiative

Established in 2005 as a project of the nonpartisan William J. Clinton Foundation, the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) convenes global leaders to devise and implement innovative solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges. Since 2005, CGI members have made nearly 1,200 commitments valued at \$46 billion. Already these commitments have impacted more than 200 million lives in 150 countries, and commitments made at the 2008 Annual Meeting are expected to impact almost 160 million. CGI Asia is the Initiative's first meeting overseas. For more information, contact press@clintonglobalinitiative.org.