

Press release: 05.03.07 (10)

The MUT Foundation and The German World Population Foundation:

The Carstensens support education initiatives in third-world countries

One of the stopovers during the world circumnavigation is Phnom Penh, the capitol of Cambodia. The pilots will visit a project in the South East Asian country dedicated to juvenile sex education, which is funded by the German World Population Foundation (DSW = Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung).

Cambodia is one of the poorest countries in South East Asia. According to UNO records, as many as 2.6 per cent of the adult population there have been infected with the HIV virus (in Germany: 0,05 %). This makes Cambodia the country with the highest HIV rate in Asia. One of the main reasons for the virus spreading so fast is the ignorance of most Cambodians about AIDS and sexuality. Thanks to financial and conceptional support by DSW, the local Indradevi Association was able to employ a consultant to train teenagers as sex counsellors. It is easier for these young people to talk to their peers about taboo subjects. In the first year of the project, they were able to educate several thousand students about sexuality, health and family planning at two schools in Phnom Penh. This was achieved by means of role play and theatre performances by the students.

DSW not only helps young people in Asia to release themselves from poverty, but also in Africa. Unwanted pregnancies and AIDS aggravate poverty and mean death for many youths. Therefore, DSW supports sex education initiatives and family planning projects. Inspired by this work, Maria and Uwe Thomas Carstensen founded the MUT Foundation in 2005. The proceeds and gains of this foundation go to the education projects by the German World Population Foundation.

Your personal contact:

Uwe Jahns
Jott & Pee Marketing
Kommunikation Werbung GmbH
Berliner Allee 46
30175 Hannover
Telefon +49 (0) 5 11 538 398 - 21
Telefax +49 (0) 5 11 538 398 - 22
jahns@jottundpee.de