Sustainable Hospitality Industry Ell delegation dinner program When the East met the West...

Inclusive of Native Entrepreneurs

Displayed Raw Flowers and its's Dishes

The SHINE Team had a very timely and honourable opportunity to invite the EU delegation to experience the Regional Food Program on 19th September, 2022 at Hotel Zhiwaling Ascent, Thimphu. The group consisted of Members of Parliament, Secretariat South Asia Delegation, Political group staff, EU Delegation to India and Bhutan, and UN Heads of Agencies, and they were on an official visit to Bhutan. The dinner menu was designed to highlight the authentic way of Bhutanese cuisine with the freshly organized ingredients from eastern districts, such as papaya flower, banana flower and orchid. The raw ingredients - flower blossoms and shell were displayed together with the handicraft products of east, especially from Trashi Yangtse and Zhemgang. Different types of plates and utensils made of wood and bamboo cane were used



Mrs Tshering Wangmo, Local Coordinator of GrAT, gave an introduction of the SHINE project, Regional Food Program, and the flowers and dishes before they were served. The flower dishes were made in authentic Bhutanese style by Folk Heritage Restaurant in Thimphu. The restaurant has extensive experience in making Bhutanese dishes and is one of the prominent restaurants for both local and tourists in Thimphu. Five different dishes were served to the guests. They prepared inner pods of banana flowers and salad, papaya blossoms cooked and fried, and wangpem curry from Tupisatra flower.

The delegates were welcomed by the Executive Director Mr. Chorten Dorji from Handicraft Association of Bhutan. He also guided them through the handicraft items. His excellency Ambassador of the EU to India and Bhutan, Ugo Astuto, expressed thanks to all the SHINE team for organising the dinner program with special exotic dishes from east Bhutan, which is one of the activities under the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme of European Commission. Moreover, he appreciated that the project has successfully carried out its activities despite the pandemic. The delegation wished that the SHINE project will further carry out its activities and achieve the planned results. Feedback forms were distributed after the dinner to grasp their feedback and comments on the dishes. The feedback was very good and positive.



Mrs. Tshering Wangmo from GrAT explaining the ingredients and dishes

