

Tang Rigtshe Tshokpa - Tang Farmers Group
Tang, Bhutan



The Programme & Project Manager Bhutan,
Bhutan Network,
Austria.

Subject: Expression of interest to host a mushroom workshop in Bhutan.

Bumthang 3rd March 2019

Dear Madam,

I, on behalf of the Tang Farmers Group would like to thank your organization for your unwavering support.

As communicated over the phone, holding a workshop for the farmers group in Tang on the mushroom collection process would be of great help.

Our Dzongkhag hosts a wide range of different mushrooms. One of the most famous mushrooms in our region is known as *Sangay shamu (Tricholoma matsutake)* and every year the Matsutake mushroom festival is held in Ura valley attracting a large number of tourists and providing a source of income for the villagers. In our forests, a large number of excellent edible mushrooms can be found which are not yet collected at present (e.g. *boletus*). However, it is important to identify mushrooms correctly. Every year people get poisoned because they collect the wrong mushrooms. Prior to start with mushroom collection we need to improve our knowledge on identifying mushrooms. Furthermore, are interested to learn how to harvest and process this precious non-timber forest product sustainably.

Thus, participating in this workshop would help us immensely in gaining more knowledge about sustainable harvesting and post-harvesting methods. Furthermore, the workshop will help in improving the livelihoods of the people residing in Tang. Upon considering the above mentioned benefits to the local community, having a mushroom workshop would be of great benefit.

With Regards

Tshering Ongmo
Tang Farmers Group