

Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts renews partnership with Right4Children boosting career hopes for disadvantaged youngsters



Hospitality firm continues to support the Nepal-based NGO's efforts to improve the lives of underprivileged young people and their families through training and job opportunities

Bangkok, 10 July 2017 - Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts has renewed its long-term partnership with Right4Children, giving more disadvantaged young people access to hospitality training and job prospects in the Middle East.

The global hospitality firm and Nepal-based NGO have agreed to run their successful Mövenpick Hospitality Programme for at least another year, offering underprivileged youngsters and their families the chance to boost their living standards through skills creation and career opportunities.

Mövenpick and Right4Children launched the initiative in 2009 and since then, 132 youngsters have completed the six-month training programme, on one of three tailor-made courses - Housekeeping, Culinary Services (chefs) and Food and Beverage Services (waiters).

Of those graduates, 85% have secured job placements at a Mövenpick property in the Middle East, with participating hotels to date located in Dubai (Ibn Battuta Gate, Jumeirah Beach Residence, Al Mamzar and Bur Dubai), Jordan (Dead Sea, Aqaba and Tala Bay) and Doha (West Bay), while others have gained employment in the local hospitality industry.

The wider impact of this programme is just as significant, with more than 650 family members of participants benefiting from the outcome of their training in terms of gainful employment with regular income.

"Right4Children aims to provide disadvantaged young people with what they need most — access to education and training. The Mövenpick Hospitality Programme has achieved this goal, demonstrating the positive impact the hotel industry can make on underprivileged communities through vocational training initiatives. We look forward to nurturing more talented students and bringing them into the Mövenpick family as future employees," said Craig Cochrane, Senior VP Human Resources, Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts.

Programme graduates include Radhika Ghatri, Housekeeping Attendant at Mövenpick Hotel Jumeirah Beach, Dubai, who was named 'Employee of the Year' in 2014.

"Joining the team at Mövenpick Hotel Jumeirah Beach has been a life-changing experience," said Radhika. "It's not only taught me responsibility, but given me the chance to meet with people from many cultures, which has improved my communication skills, and I am immensely proud of these achievements. I will always be grateful for this once-in-lifetime opportunity, which has given me and my family hope for a happy future."

Another programme graduate, Niraj Bimali, joined Mövenpick Ibn Battuta Gate Hotel Dubai as a Food & Beverage trainee in May 2014 and in just three years, has worked his way up the career ladder, most recently promoted to the property's Captain of Banquets.

"I came from an economically underprivileged background and my family could not afford higher

education for me, but Right4Children supported me with vocational training, which led to a job with Mövenpick,” explained Niraj. “I have learned new skills and gained confidence, enabling me to build a career and help me and my family to live a better life.”

Mövenpick’s partnership with Right4Children is part of ‘Shine’, the hospitality company’s global corporate social responsibility programme. Shine’s initiatives are grouped around three pillars — Environment, Employer and Social Sustainability — with Education the common focus. More information on these community-driven initiatives can be found by visiting www.movenpick.com and www.right4children.org

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For further information or high-resolution photography, please contact:

Sarah Fernandez
Director of Marketing Communications Asia
Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts
E-mail: Sarah.fernandez@movenpick.com
Two Pacific Place, Level 18, Suite 1803, 142 Sukhumvit Road | Bangkok, Thailand

Laura Perez Diaz
Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts
Shatha Tower Floor 39, Office 3903 | Dubai Media City, United Arab Emirates
E-mail: laura.perez@movenpick.com
Tel: +971 4 365 4712

About Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts:

Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts, an international upscale hotel management company with over 16,000 staff members, is represented in 24 countries with 83 hotels, resorts and Nile cruisers currently in operation. Around 20 properties are planned or under construction, including those in Chiang Mai (Thailand), Al Khobar (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) and Nairobi (Kenya). Focusing on expanding within its core markets of Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia, Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts specialises in business and conference hotels, as well as holiday resorts, all reflecting a sense of place and respect for their local communities. Of Swiss heritage and with headquarters in central Switzerland (Baar), Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts is passionate about delivering premium service and culinary enjoyment – all with a personal touch. Committed to supporting sustainable environments, Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts has become the most Green Globe-certified hotel company in the world.

The hotel company is owned by Mövenpick Holding (66.7%) and the Kingdom Group (33.3%). For more information, please visit www.movenpick.com.

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