**The Eco Community Centre in Kaza**

Commissioned by Spiti Projects Charity

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**Why are we building the community center?**

- To provide a Meeting Hall for the Spitians to meet in winter, when work in the fields is over.
- For young people to practise their traditional music and dance routines, and listen to stories from the Elders.
- To incorporate a Dental and Eye Clinic to serve the community of 10,000 people who currently do not have any facilities.

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**How is the Centre being built?**

- By using stone masonry foundation, CSEB bricks, and rammed earth walls, to provide passive solar heating in winter against the harsh winter climate.
- Mud bricks are cheap, cement is expensive, it does not have thermal properties and is damaging to health.
- Using solar panels on the roof to take advantage of over 300 days of sunshine in the Spiti Valley.
- Using solar energy will provide heating and lighting in winter, without burning wood – expensive to buy and environmentally detrimental to the planet.

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- There will be simple accommodation upstairs for homestays which will provide income so that the Community Centre may become self-sustaining.
- Building for the next phase will begin at the end of May 2014 when the last of the snow has melted.

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Designed by the Auroville Earth Institute  
Largely funded by Adventure Ashram Charity  
Managed and constructed by the Spitians

www.spiti.org, Reg Charity No. 1105720