

can

culture art and nature

甘樂文創

making things happen



A letter from the Founder

To the partners who have accompanied the growth of CAN Culture, Art & Nature, thank you for supporting and loving CAN Culture, Art & Nature. You are our most faithful friends, comrades and families. Your support and trust are the greatest drive pushing us forward. In the past eight years, from the minority children accompaniment of Grass Book House to Green Grass Function School, the function education of HIDEKAWA, the Sanxia cultural tour, and the supports for local shokunins, THE CAN has accomplished many milestones under your support and care. The care for the local cultures of Sanxia has brought numerous resources.

We have always been exploring and adjusting the way to balance our income and expenditure by expanding brand benefits and improving the operating model to further continue maintaining our ideal ecological chain. I would like to take this opportunity to share the plan on my mind, a new beginning. I have a few visions:

1.Brand repositioning

The most important matter next will be making both ends meet. The operation and sales of HIDEKAWA will become THE CAN's focal point for planning, including diversified channels and product development, setting of annual goals, personnel training, e-commerce operation, etc. It is hopes that these plans can enable THE CAN to have surplus for maintaining the original intention of helping the underprivileged.

2.Underprivileged groups

For accompanying the disadvantaged children, skills cultivation of dropouts, and reentering the job market of rehabilitated criminals and people pursuing a second career, these are only a small part of underprivileged groups. How to extend this love and care to more things that we can do, such as maintain stable fund sources, make small donations periodically, and continue to expand teacher education, is the direction of our endeavor and an important goal in the future.

3.Cultivation and growth of local cultures

The businesses of THE CAN cultural tours have brought travelers from all over the world to know Sanxia's declined cultural shokunins and the local stories. Indigo dyeing, tea making, ironworks and pottery, are only a part of Sanxia's culture. We want to bring travelers across the globe into Sanxia, develop more diversified and more interesting experiencing courses, and even combine it with travel channels for more people to see the beauty of Sanxia and understand the love of CAN Culture, Art & Nature.

4. Pass on the love for the land

Homecoming youths investing their love for the homeland in cultivating local culture; this is what I expect of myself. There are more cities and towns and more people with love for their hometown, and they all need to be encouraged and inherit experiences. I wish I can expand my humble experiences to each city and town, so that, in every corner, there is a force like CAN Culture, Art & Nature:

Symbiosis, co-prosperity, coexistence, and sharing.



Contents

About Us	03
Social Influence	16
Future Prospects	22

A close-up photograph of a brown leather surface, likely a book cover or folder. The leather has a fine, pebbled texture. In the center, there is a circular embossed logo. The logo consists of a dark brown, textured center surrounded by a lighter, tan-colored ring. To the right, a portion of a red leather strap is visible, also with a pebbled texture. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the leather.

About Us

Challenge

Sanxia, New Taipei City, is similar to many cities and towns in Taiwan. From the old street developed in the early days and the old town area where Zushih Temple is located to the urban planning areas of the Taipei University Special District developed in the past two decades, the life function may seem convenient and comfortable, but the traditional crafts, environmental ecology and cultural education have been dying from our lives during the rapid development process.

The more urgent matter is that there is a group of schoolchildren around us who have been isolated by society and are facing challenges in learning and survival.

As these challenges continue to expand, what kind of future are we leaving for ourselves and for the children who will be living on this land?



The social problems that Sanxia is facing are also what Taiwan is facing



Loss of local cultures

Destruction of environmental ecology

Imbalanced educational resources

Economical and industrial dilemmas

Difficulty in survival and employment

Vision

Use design to enable our hometown and children to find hope and energy!

We have expectations and imaginations to the ideal society, and this is the practice process of a “social enterprise”. Through artistic and cultural activities as well as independent publications, a group of youths, who are returning to their hometown or moving to the countryside with passion to the land, use images and words to record the stories of ordinary people in Taiwan. These ordinary people bring pure affection to the disturbed land; they work hard to run community restaurants and quality food shops for local industries and inclusive employment to grow in the community.

THE CAN is in its ninth year, and we have not forgotten our original intentions and beliefs along the journey. We have led our partners to engage in community work, such as accompanying disadvantaged children, social education, community construction and environment caring, continued to spread the beautiful stories of this land, and devoted ourselves in establishing a foundation without hesitation to make influences silently. We hope to bring to more positive energy, courage and sunlight this land. Every CAN event that you take part in will become a drive of sustainable and cycling feedback.

THE CAN

Return to Sanxia, and plant a seed of hope in the community and children's lives.

We are a social enterprise team composed of a group of homecoming youths. After we returned in 2010, we have executed many operating plans with Sanxia as the core, such as shops built in old houses, art and culture curating, cultural and creative commodities, and craft experiencing, and we expect to become a social enterprise that shares common good with society and community. For the past eight years, we have operated local culture development in Sanxia, as well as engaged in the plan of accompanying the disadvantaged children in the community in the hope to bring positive influence through every movement.



GRASS BOOK HOUSE

Guard the second home of the children in our hometown!

In order to build a second home for the children in the community, THE CAN and volunteers established the "Taiwan Sustainable City and Town Caring Association" in the summer of 2015. We began to cooperate with ten elementary and junior high schools in Sanxia to operate long-term accompanying living and learning bases, i.e. "Grass Book House" and "Green Grass Function School". These bases provide living and learning resources for children from low income, single-parent and grandparenting families, and even elementary and junior high school students that have committed drug-related crimes. Over the past years, we have accompanied over 100 children to help them go through the toughest times of their life. From Monday to Saturday, from semesters to winter and summer vacations, from breakfast to dinner, and from schoolwork to family, we guard the children of our hometown all year round!

HIDEKAWA

Take a sip of the soy milk that is good for both the land and life!

In 2016, during the process of accompanying children, we discovered the challenge of parents reentering career and the "employment survival" of teens. That was when we met a few soybean farmers, who worked in central and southern Taiwan, and some masters, who were willing to teach how to make traditional soybean products, so we opened up a quality food shop – "HIDEKAWA Domestic Soybean Products". HIDEKAWA started from the soybean products that are most common in the dietary culture of Taiwan, including soy milk, tofu, dried tofu, etc., and uses the freshest 100% non-GMO and pesticide-free soybeans of Taiwan to make fresh products every morning. The products are not added with additives, so they are safe to children. HIDEKAWA hires parents who are reentering the career, dropouts and teens with low learning achievements to implement employment and guidance plans for the store to become a transfer station of life for everyone to find the power for learning and the value of life.

Management Team



Members of the Board of Directors

Chairman:

Jun-Cheng Lin,
Founder of CAN Culture, Art & Nature

Director:

Yu-Han Zhu,
Co-founder of CAN Culture, Art & Nature

Director:

Chi-Tong Wang,
representing B Current Impact Investment Inc.

Director:

Zhi-Yuan Lin

Director:

Ting-Rui Huang

Supervisor:

Jia-Yan Yang

Business Model of Social Enterprise

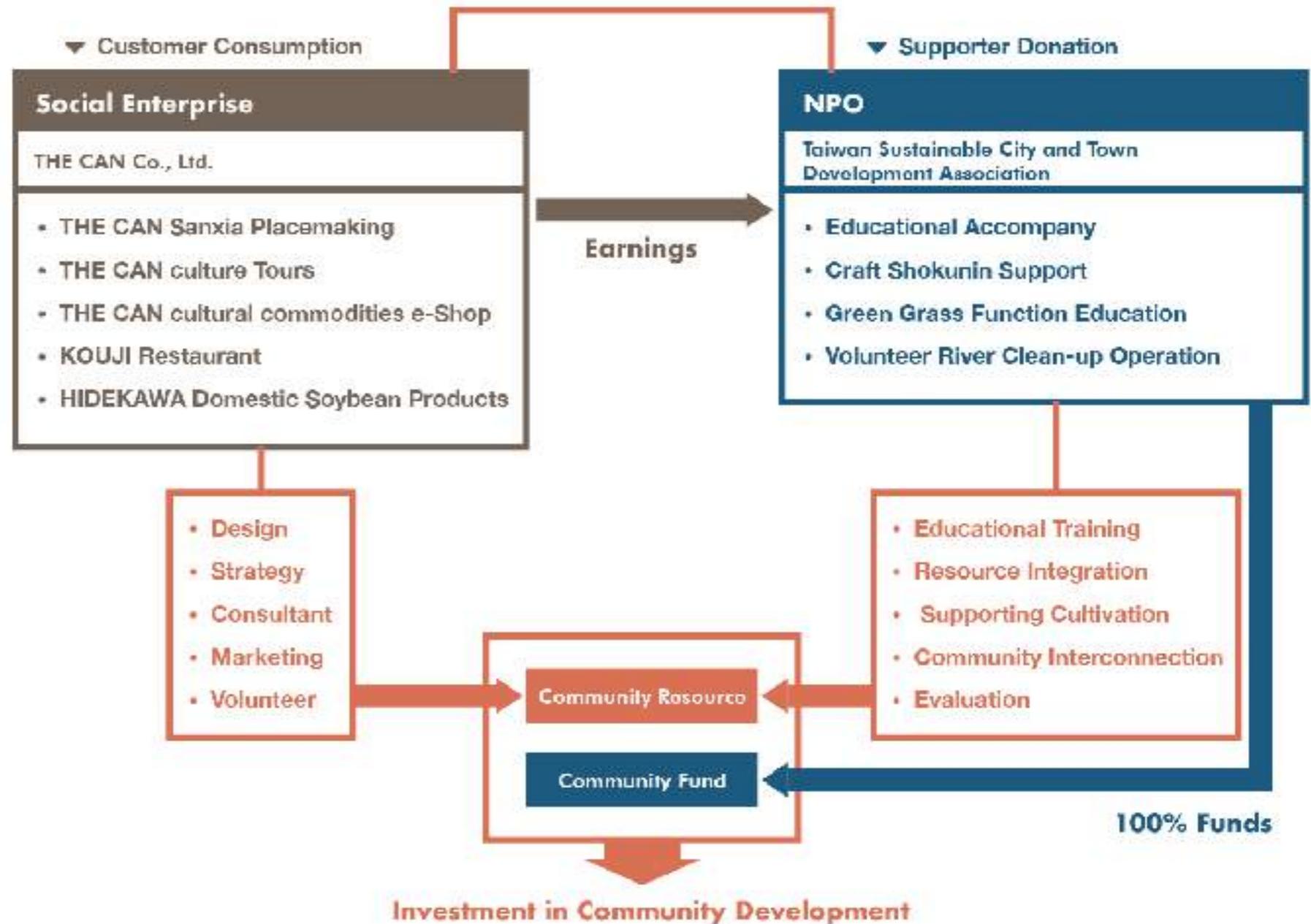
One person can walk faster, but a group of persons can walk farther.

CAN Culture, Art & Nature

CAN Culture, Art & Nature was founded in 2010. With local cultures and underprivileged accompanying as the core, CAN Culture, Art & Nature interconnects resources through space for artistic and cultural exhibitions and performances in old houses, cultural and creative commodities, THE CAN Magazine and local tourism, as well as engage in cultivating education taught by craft shokunins and accompanying the underprivileged in order to move the locality into regeneration by taking actions.

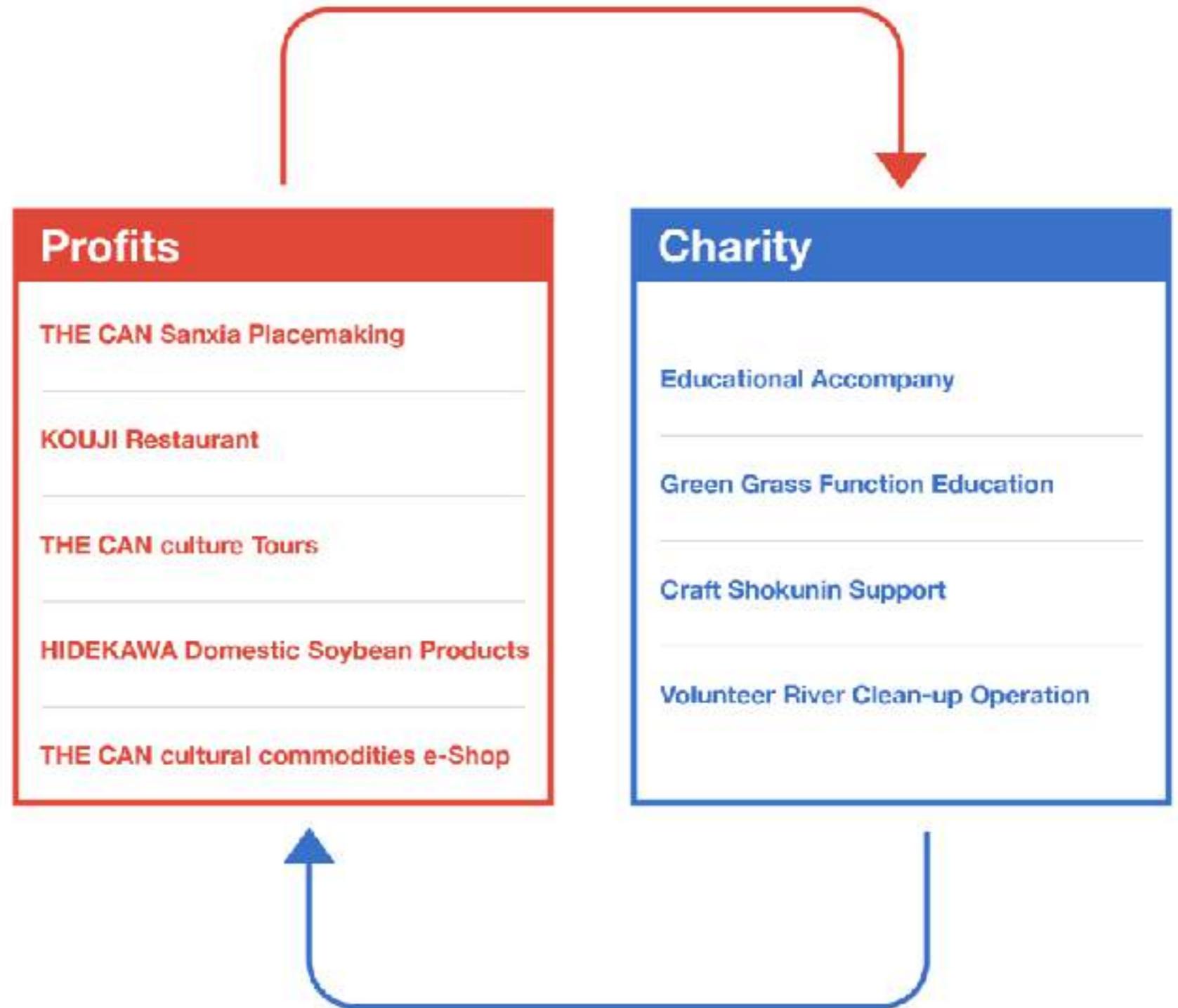
Taiwan Sustainable City and Town Caring Association.

Taiwan Sustainable City and Town Association was founded by CAN Culture, Art & Nature and community volunteers in 2015. The plan of education for disadvantaged students of CAN Culture, Art & Nature was brought into the Association for independent execution. CAN Culture, Art & Nature continue to support the sustainable community development of the Association through manpower, expertise and earnings.



Community Sharing Cycle

CAN Culture, Art & Nature has accumulated community resources bit by bit, and we will invest the labor and resources in community changing operations so that every support for THE CAN will become a drive for sustainable feedback.



KOUJI Restaurant



The starting point of CAN Culture, Art & Nature brings new energy to the old community.



Delicious Times in a Historical House

Located on Qingshui Street by Sanxia Old Street, KOUJI Restaurant is a centennial house beside Sanxia River. We found this vacant centennial house in 2010 and renovated it into an artistic and cultural dining space that offers DIY handicraft experience and cuisines. This is the starting point of CAN Culture, Art & Nature, which injects a new vitality into the old town of Sanxia with the strength of young people. This place has cuisines, crafts, art and culture, a little garden with shading trees, and warm hospitality.

Natural cuisines based on handmade tofu and fermented substances

KOUJI Restaurant uses HIDEKAWA's naturally handmade tofu, which is made of 100% non-GMO soybeans from Taiwan. A quality strain, kouji, from a Japanese miso store over 300 years old is integrated with koji, cultivated in the organic rice from Loushan, Hualien, with the combined ingredients ripened to make naturally fermented foods, such as miso, Shio Koji, mirin, amazake, sake and distillers' grains. These nutritious and delicious fermented substances are then used flexibly in each cuisine, creating simple and pure "natural cuisines".



CAN Fun



Let travelling become a way of social practice.

Sanxia has Qingshui Zushih Temple, which is the palace of oriental art, Baroque-style Old Street, and the Li Mei-Shu Memorial Gallery, and these all show its profound history, humanities and cultures. It even has energetic shokunins in indigo dyeing, metalworking, enamel, ironworks, etc. Follow us into Sanxia and feel the most sincere interaction between the people in the community.

Experiencing Activities

Indigo dyeing



Metalworking



Wood Carving



Leather



Customized Tour

Shokunin School

Walking into the daily life of locals is the best way to get to know the cultural characteristics of a colony. Traditional shokunins in the colony are connected to plan a route for in-depth cultural experiencing activities so that tourists can sense the local artistic and cultural aesthetics and the vitality of the colony throughout the tour.



The frontline of community management

The one-day tour proposal for employees enhances Enterprise CRS and employee's social care. Taking proactive actions by accompanying local high-risk children as well as establishing a city and township care and support system, thereby create dreams for the children.



Cultural & Creative Designs ∞ Placemaking

Design reignites the vitality of the community.
Explore Sanxia's cultural heritage, inject culture and creativity into the craft, space and products, as well as develop placemaking of Sanxia.

● Community Design



● Graphic Design



● Space Design



● Book Design



● Package Design



● Brand Design



Find the true intrinsic spirit and value of brands

The storefronts and designs of CAN Culture, Art & Nature are completed by the editing and designing partners within the team. The overall planning of the design service is based on community design, space, packaging, graphics, books and brands; therefore the design service gives value to local cultural brands.

HIDEKAWA Domestic Soybean Products



A life changing soy milk store

As we were searching for the freshest 100% Taiwan-cultivated, non-GMO and pesticide-free soybeans, we renovated an old hospital by Sanxia Old Street to make fresh additive-free soy milk every morning. The store is combined with occupational training for the parents and teens of the community to be built into a shop that not only offers quality food, but also changes the lives of the community members.

The sincerest soy milk in Taiwan

We saw an occupational development challenge for parents and teenagers reentering the job market in the community in 2015. It so happened we knew a few young bean farmers who came back home to start a new career. We found out that most soybean products were made of imported soybeans because Taiwan soybeans had less yield and high labor cost, and fresh non-GMO soybeans grown in the country accounted for only 0.01% in the market. In order to cope with the survival challenge of the community and the development of young farmers in Taiwan, we decided to start from the most important “soybean” products in the dietary culture of Taiwanese people. We built a quality food shop, i.e. “HIDEKAWA Soybean Products”, which used the freshest non-GMO soybeans of Taiwan, and changed the lives of parents and children through occupational development. Take a sip of the soy milk that is good for both the land and life!



HAKSIP Village



Old Hospital, New Life

New life is given to the old hospital by Sanxia Old Street -- Ailin Hospital, in which craft culture, quality food shop and occupational school are connected for travelers and children to “haksip (learn)” together and discover the unique value of life.

Shared Practice Base for Crafts and Quality Foods in Sanxia

Dr. Chong-Ming Chen returned to his hometown from National Taiwan University Hospital in 1947 and established the first surgical hospital in Sanxia, Ailin Hospital, which saved numerous inhabitants of Sanxia. In 2017, CAN Culture, Art & Nature and local people designed and renovated the old hospital to reproduce its memories and distinctive historical atmosphere. HAKSIP Village is a craft and quality food practice base in Sanxia operated by CAN Culture, Art & Nature. Its core spirit is “collective learning”. The name “HAKSIP” was inspired by the Taiwanese pronunciation of “learning”. Community resources are connected through HAKSIP Village for craft experts, quality food shops, community schools and enterprises to work with each other in building a community support system, developing community industries, and cultivating distinctive competence of teenagers.



Grass Book House Green Grass Occupational School



青草職能學苑

GRASS
Life Skills
Academy.

10+

Over 10 years



10x

10 schools



100+

Over 100 students



Accompaniment without withdrawal mechanism

A group of young adults returned to Sanxia to accompany children who need love and care, and to build a community support system to change the lives of the children in their hometown.

Return to hometown and see the needs of the children

Jun-Cheng Lin, who the children refer to as Big Brother Jun, the founder of CAN Culture, Art & Nature, returned to Sanxia in 2006 and found that there was a group of high-risk children with low learning achievements facing the dark alone in the community. They were like grasses growing in a corner of society, and people always neglected them because they were inconspicuous. However, grasses have tough and simple life, and they can bloom into beautiful flowers with the irrigation of dreams. So Big Brother Jun and his partners from the community initiated an accompaniment project, the “Loofah Team”, to accompany each child in going through the joys and difficulties in life, as well as irrigate them with love until they blossom into beautiful flowers.

The children waiting to be watered with love

Every year in Taiwan, there are over 43,000 children from high-risk families, 23,000 high school dropouts and 4,000 middle school dropouts facing scholastic deficiency and survival challenge alone due to inadequate family function. Some of them even leave the learning site early and continue to fall into a vicious cycle. There are many children around us who are living in a gray area, close to being reported or having learning disrupted, and they don't have support from their family or social resources.

Cultivation Action – Build a Community Support System

However, change is not difficult; the most important matter is to accompany the children and guide their learning in time, as soon as when they encounter family and learning difficulties. By doing so, changes may start to take place. From life to family and from schoolwork to employment, we are trying to build a community support system that can change the lives of children. We hope that such a support system can help more children from different communities in finding a sense of belonging and a second home in the future. After the children grow up, they will provide feedback to their community, and lead little brothers and sisters in passing down this love.

Events in 2018

2018

FEB.



HAKSIP Village: Establishment of Green Grass Function School

Seeing the need of children and society, we bravely stepped onto a thorny road, and accidentally started this educational operation that had no withdrawal mechanism but has been accompanying the children of the community for nearly a decade. In 2018, we renovated this old hospital building that has been standing for 70 years into a function school for changing the lives of children. We have invited masters in cultural crafts and with professional techniques to guide the children in finding their talents as well as finding their distinctive life proposals.



HIDEKAWA Domestic Soybean Products: Opening of HAKSIP Village Store

HIDEKAWA Domestic Soybean Products is a quality food shop established by CAN Culture, Art & Nature, a social enterprise. It provides parents and youths of the community with opportunities in operating management, technical training and employment. The revenues of the shop are given to Taiwan Sustainable City and Town Caring Association to become funds for community accompanying. HIDEKAWA entered HAKSIP Village in 2018 to become a life changing quality food shop in the community by offering products freshly made every morning and not adding antifoaming agents, preservatives and chemical additives.

July



Grass Book House: Fulfill the dream of traveling around the island

The teachers of Grass Book House have made "cycling around the island" a gift to children as their "coming-of-age ceremony". Regardless of age, we treat each child as an adult, accompany them in finding confidence and their own stage, and face challenges and the various discomfort brought by the challenges with them.

AUG.



Sanxia & Yingge Placemaking Exhibition

The Sanxia and Yingge colony formed at the river convergence further gave rise to the gathering of life craft shokunins, intertwining into the distinctive scenery of life in Sanxia and Yingge. The traditional life crafts that have profound historical foundations and are formed from accumulation of countless wisdom have gradually lost their stage as time passed by. Through the vision of over ten new generation creators, the exhibition is filled with the energy of creation for traditional cultures and creative designs to collide into a sensational feast of cross-field creations.

NOV.



Brand new official websites of CAN Culture, Art & Nature and Grass Book House

Starting in 2010, THE CAN has gradually developed diversified community culture, education and brand management plans. Many friends come to Sanxia to find that THE CAN runs a lot more than a space, a magazine or a product. You can get to know us more on the new official websites, and we hope that everybody can grow stronger together along the journey.



Social Influence

**Foundation establishing
of and support for craft cultures**

23

craft shokunins of Sanxia

Stakeholders

1. Craft masters in the Sanxia Area
2. Elementary and junior high school students

Resulting changes

1. Cultivation of craft cultures of Sanxia
2. Elevation of the brand value of shokunins of the community



Contract farming of domestic soybeans

11

Taiwanese soybean farmers

Total purchase amount of soybeans in 2018

\$1,255,550 (NTD)

Stakeholders

1. Taiwanese soybean farmer suppliers
2. Consumers of HIDEKAWA Soybean Products

Resulting changes

1. Creation of self-sufficient demand channels for Taiwan soya bean foods
2. Increment of the ratio of domestic miscellaneous grains ingested by consumers



Environment of inclusive employment

1 rehabilitated ex-offender

4 parents reentering the job market

5 dropouts and high-risk students

Stakeholders

1. Partners of the teams of CAN Culture, Art & Nature and HIDEKAWA

Resulting changes

1. Provision of employment opportunities for the disadvantaged in the community
2. Cultivation of expert skills and attitude of dropouts and high-risk students and assistance in connecting with the job market in the future



Accompanying the children and youths of Sanxia after school and function cultivation 2018

Number of children cared for in 2018

55

elementary and junior high school students

Stakeholders

1. Elementary and junior high school students from low income, single-parent and grandparenting families, family with foreign spouse, and children and youths with crime related problems and their families.

Resulting changes

1. Stabilization of learning emotions
2. Cultivation of skills and attitude for independent living and learning
3. Improvement of parent-child relationship



Organization Structure

Principle of employee employment

THE CAN Team has established foundation in Sanxia and recruited energetic and creative youths, who are returning to their hometown or moving to the countryside, from every corner of Taiwan to become a source of creative energy.

The stores in the community have become bases for parents and children facing survival challenges, such as reentering the career, dropouts, low learning achievements, ex-offender, etc., for the local industries to become the drive behind community changes.

Labor force structure Team welfare

Labor force structure

22 full-time employees

10 male employees

12 female employees

Team welfare

Rewards:

Holiday bonus for the three important Chinese holidays, leadership allowance, performance bonus, employee discount

Encouragements for new life:

Cash gift for marriage, childbirth subsidy, birthday leave, filial leave, parent-child accompanying leave

Others:

Company trip & internship, meal subsidy, gift of money made on the occasion of a funeral, physical examination



Future Prospects



The LOGO of THE CAN presents as a symbol of infinity, meaning that CAN Culture, Art & Nature have infinite possibilities and hope. Through small changes one after one, we will bring more positive energy to the society of this land.

We will continue to work hard to establish a steady social enterprise business model. Through the consumption and support of every friend and business partner, we will construct an endless “business” that can still be developed with every local cultural foundation and creative energy under the pressure of the challenges in craft cultures and educational accompanying faced by cities and towns in Taiwan.

In the future, we expect to start from Sanxia and head toward any city and town that need our cultivation operation to inject the locality with energy!

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