Bhutan is a tiny and remote kingdom in the Himalayas. It’s a land-locked country in South Asia with powerful neighbours; China and India. It has a population of 750,000 and an area of 38,364 square km. (BBC, 2018)

Bhutan is well on track to implement the SDGs. It has made great progress when it comes to reducing income poverty. A reduction from 23.2% in 2007 to 8.2% in 2017, while overall poverty fell from 12.7% in 2012 to 5.8% in 2017. (SDG, 2018)

Although Bhutan has made great progress, it is still confronted with the following challenges. Promoting gender equality and empowering women and girls has been identified as major challenges. The country is currently drafting a National Gender Equity Policy. (SDG, 2018)

Tremendous progress has also been made in the education of young people in Bhutan with near 100% school enrolment. However, initiatives to improve the quality of education will be undertaken.

To ensure Bhutan continues to develop, the country is seeking the support of the international community to ensure the hard-earned development gains are not derailed by the perils of climate change and natural disasters.

The guiding philosophy of the nation is towards building a country based on happiness and considering human values between families and a respect for nature. Bhutan has a goal that all farming will be organic by 2020. (Strohm, 2015)

(277 words)
Reference Record

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