

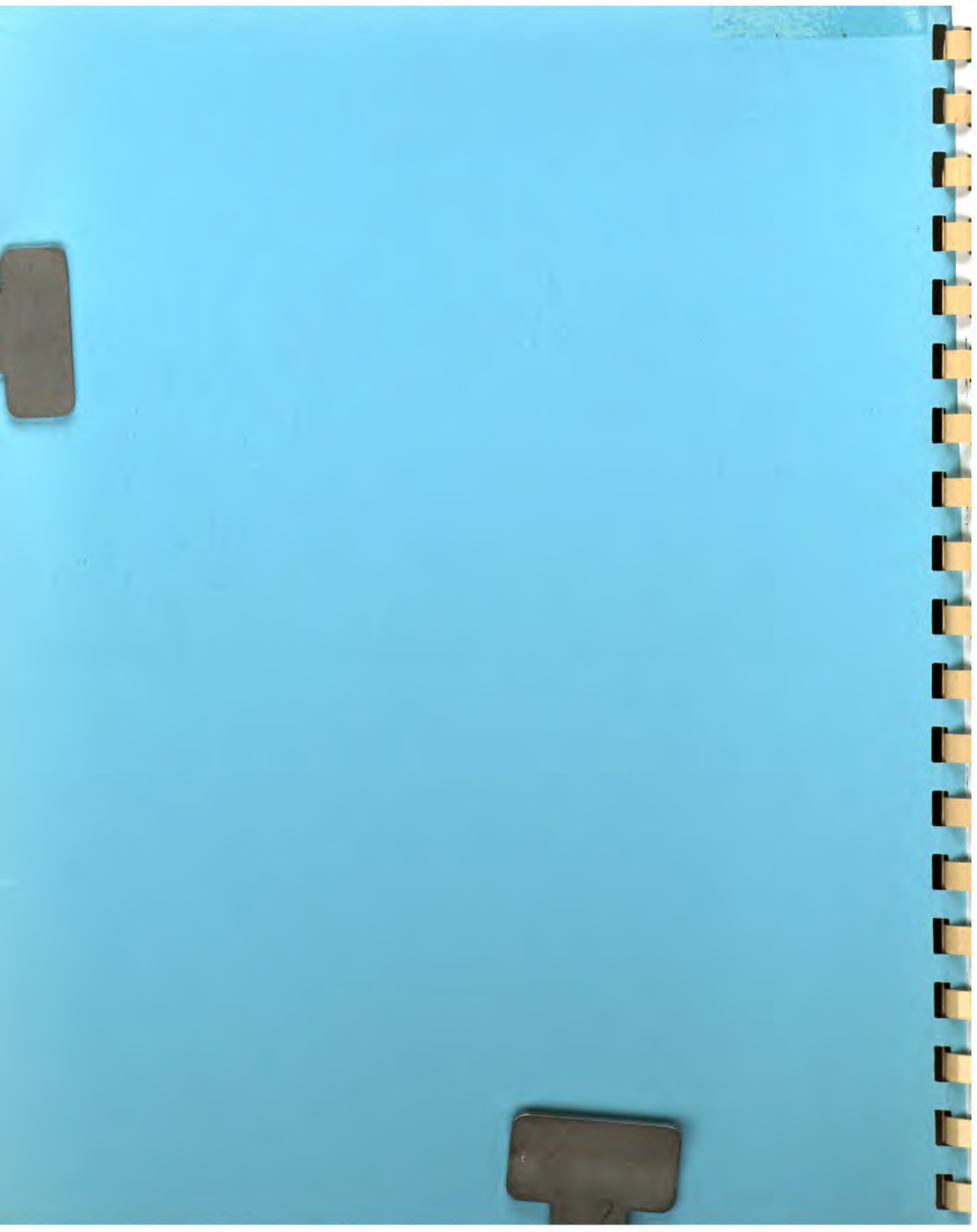
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WORKSHOP FOR PLANNING AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE RUPUNUNI REGION 9



WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

February 12-14, 1999
Lethem



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PREFACE

This Workshop was executed as a first step towards developing a Strategic Plan for Region 9.

The information generated during the workshop, and that emanating from a series of follow-up meetings, resulted in a second document titled: Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Development in Region 9: First Draft.

The Regional Democratic Council of Region 9 will take the lead in finalising the Strategic Plan, guided by the information included in this document.

1. ORGANISATION OF WORKSHOP

On January 7, 1999, the Regional Democratic Council of Region 9 informed the Ministry of Agriculture of its plans to hold a conference for the Touchau, one Councillor and one farmer from each community of the Region. A specific request was made to MOA/IICA/CIDA for technical and financial support "*to continue training our leaders and farmers to minimize the negative effects of weather related disasters and to help our people achieve greater self-sufficiency and economic security.*"

The Team was asked to focus on: (a) identification of priority crops with development potential, giving particular attention to cassava, peanuts and cashew; (b) selection of planting materials; (c) methods of enhancing production and marketing (particularly market research), and (d) other topics to facilitate the development process.

MOA/IICA responded with a draft programme that was discussed with RDC authorities and modified in accordance with their priorities. The final programme, as implemented, is included in Annex 1.

The Regional authorities, with support from numerous public and private sector persons and agencies, successfully organized and funded the event during February 13-14, 1999. Some 101 participants from five Sub-Districts and 38 communities attended the Workshop. These included 21 Touchaus, 31 Village Councillors and 6 Regional Councillors. Most of the remaining 43 persons were farmers. The list of participants by Sub-District is presented in Annex 2.

Considering the large turn out, with representatives from nearly all the communities of the Region, and the difficulty and high cost for bringing so many people together, it was decided that the Workshop should have multiple objectives, defined as follows:

1. Identify, describe and discuss experiences in Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development (SARD) developed in other parts of Guyana, that may be relevant in the Rupununi.
2. Provide information to participants on basic agricultural practices and new initiatives.
3. Review priority constraints (weaknesses), comparative advantages (strengths) and opportunities (project ideas) for agricultural and rural development, by Sub-District.
4. Outline a strategic plan of action for Region 9.
5. Establish an organisational structure to guide the development process.

To achieve these objectives the Workshop was divided into the following four sessions:

- A. Transfer of practical experiences from other parts of Guyana;
- B. Identification of priority problems and project ideas by Sub-District;
- C. Recommendations for the way forward; and
- D. Technical presentations.

Each one of these Sessions had clearly identified *desired products* that were all achieved to a high degree through the following actions:

- In a group exercise, *strategic planning* was defined as a dynamic and participatory process in which all the key players prepare a map to guide actions and the use of available resources to achieve the desired goals of the intended beneficiaries;
- Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development (SARD) was presented as a dynamic model which facilitates the integration of the key players (public sector, private sector and communities) with priority actions which impact the social, economic and environmental areas (the integration was demonstrated in some light theatre);
- Lessons learned from six case studies were presented and discussed, cases included: control of the acoushi ants and production and marketing of cassava (2 cases), coffee, cashew and peanuts;
- Work Groups, by Sub-District and Crops, were used to promote exchange of ideas and experiences;
- Plenary sessions stimulated open discussion and decision making on important topics;
- Technical presentations were made on: safe use of chemicals; drip irrigation; services available from Beacon Foundation, and monitoring and control of Foot and Mouth Disease;
- A three-hour, hands-on, training session on the use and maintenance of Acoushi ant swing fog machine and mist blowers was provided to ten farmers, two from each Sub-District.

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) was asked, and accepted, the responsibility for writing up the proceedings of the Valentines Day (February 13-14) Workshop. A deadline of two weeks was set for the completion of the first draft. Presentation of the draft report is to be made to the RDC authorities at Lethem by February 28, 1999.

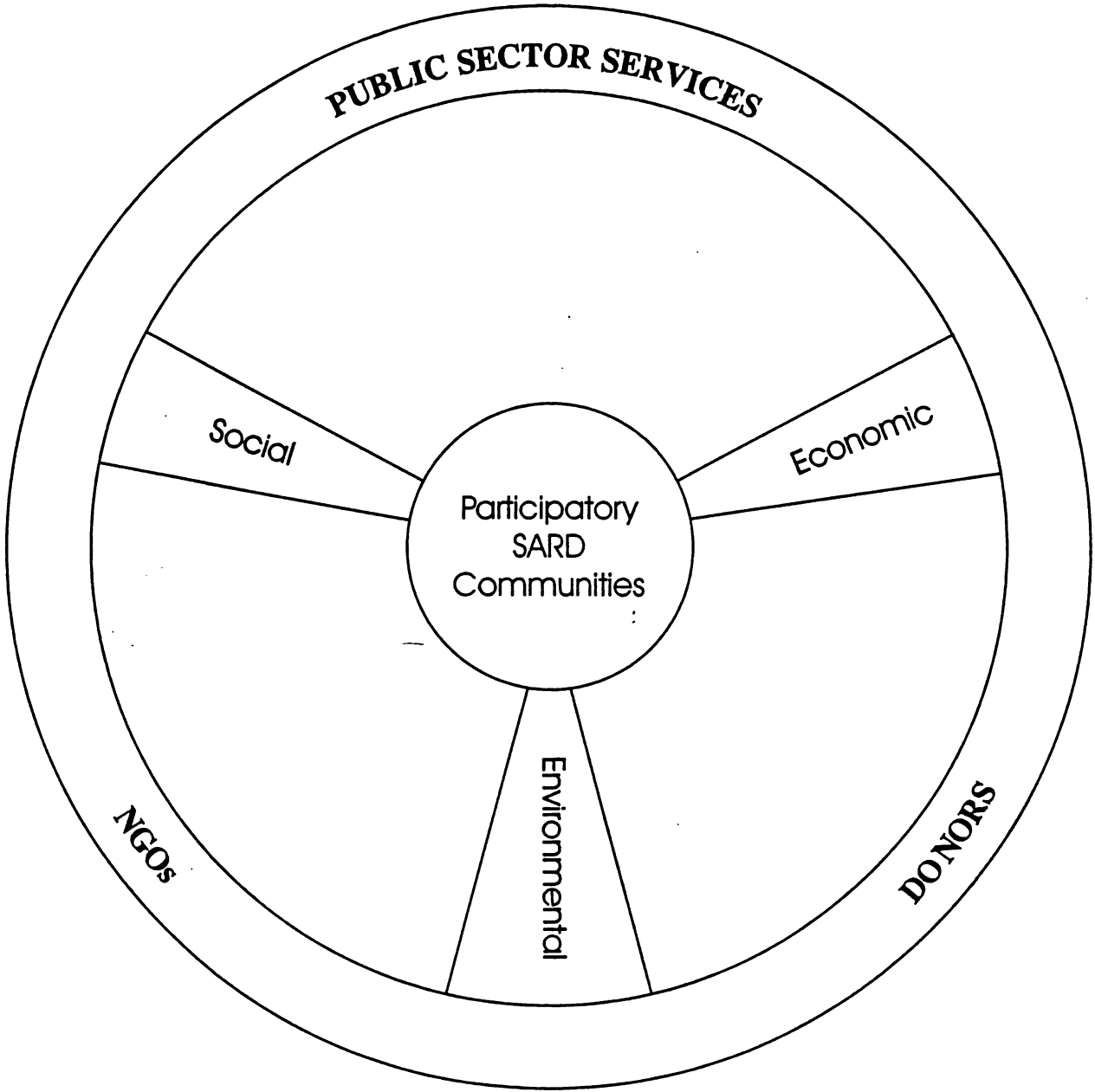
2. WORKSHOP RESULTS

2.1 Agreement on a Model for Strategic Planning

Based on experiences in previous workshops in the Rupununi and elsewhere in Guyana, and ideas from community leaders, a simple model for strategic planning for sustainable agricultural and rural development (Figure 1) was proposed and accepted by the participants. The basic precepts of this model are that:

- a) Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development (SARD) requires a joint effort involving the public sector, the rural communities and NGOs/donors. This idea was likened to a three-legged stool common in most indigenous communities. If one of the legs breaks, all falls down!
- b) SARD also requires actions that educate and strengthen target communities human resources (*social*) while simultaneously improving *economic* opportunities and preserving natural resources and the *environment*. This precept can also be likened to a three-legged stool since too little attention to any of the three (social, economic or environment) will preclude sustainable development. If one of these legs is missing, sustainable development cannot take place.

Name of Community: _____



Strategic Planning Exercise for Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development in Hinterland Communities

- c) The process must be participatory, involving all the key players.
- d) The process must be transparent, implying good coordination and clear communication.
- e) Finally, the process must cover the medium to long term since SARD is a process which must evolve.

SARD is defined as a process that is:

- **Sustainable:** this means lasting, continuous, can be maintained, implies re-growth and reproduction.
- **Agricultural:** this involves cultivation of soil; producing crops and livestock, and preparation and distribution of products for human use, including production, processing and marketing.
- **Rural:** includes small communities, natural resources (farm lands, forests, rivers, mountains, hinterland and wildlife) and the people who reside there.
- **Development:** requires being able to meet the needs of one's family and community for: health, education, food, shelter, information and other basic services while improving the quality of one's life.

Strategic Planning was defined as:

An on-going and dynamic process that produces a Map, guide or document, showing how to go from our present to a more desirable situation, over a certain period of time, while optimizing the use of available resources.

2.2 Lessons Learned from Experiences with Other Projects

The following case studies were presented (see copies of handouts in Annex 3) and discussed:

- coffee production and processing at Wakapoa, Region 2;
- controlling Acoushi ant at Wakapoa, Region 2;
- cassava production and processing at St. Deny's, Tapakuma, Region 2;
- cassava production and processing at Surama, Region 9;
- cashew production, processing and marketing, the Brazil model;
- peanut production, processing and marketing, Region 9;
- community technology transfer agents in Regions 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7.

These cases were selected because they relate to SARD and each provides valuable lessons that can be easily transferred. Some of the lessons learned from these diverse experiences relevant to agricultural development in the Rupununi are presented in Table 1:

Table 1: Summary of lessons learned from on-going experiences and projects in Guyana

Economic Sustainability	Social Sustainability	Environmental Sustainability	Participatory Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in initial stages of planning it is necessary to identify market opportunities for products having a comparative advantage; - projects must have an interdisciplinary Management Committee to provide the entrepreneurial skills required for good management; - use of local skills will reduce project costs - since the utilization of land for farming is one of the primary income generating activities in Amerindian communities, integrated farming systems will help to maximize economic returns and provide a broader raw material base for adding value; - the introduction of appropriate technology can have a significant positive impact on the level of production; - whenever possible, new technologies should build on experiences of traditional technology; - the development of agro-processing opportunities is a key factor in sustainable production activities on the farm; - adding value to primary products increases market potential and creates a greater demand for raw materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - members of the community must play a leading role in the decision making process; - there must be effective Team Work between Management Committee and community; - a pool of persons must be formed with appropriate management and organizational skills; - human resource development through training must be a continuous process; - the development of traditional skills has important economic implications; - local cultural practices must be understood and integrated into the development process; - integrated farming systems are key components of food security at the community level; - adding value through processing creates job opportunities, extends product shelf-life and improves nutrition of community members; - the development of planning skills is crucial to SARD at the community level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - every project should begin with an environmental impact study conducted with active participation of local players; - community leaders must be aware of natural resource potential and limitations; - appropriate training must be provided to community leaders when needed; - local research on appropriate technologies related to the preservation and reproduction of natural resources should be an ongoing process, e.g. composting, IPM, organic farming, drip irrigation; - priority should be given to projects which have positive or zero negative impact on the environment; - the development or destruction of natural resources has important economic implications; - attention must be given to the disposal of waste to ensure no damage is done to the environment; - long range planning must give high priority to the sustainable use of natural resources and wild life; - local communities must be involved in the policing of their natural resources and protecting their wildlife. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - communities are always the best judge of their opportunities and needs; - NGOs, donors and public sector institutions must be prepared to listen to and work with communities in helping them to realize their goals; - Public sector, donors and NGOs cannot develop communities, they can only facilitate the process; - Agricultural and rural development is an on-going process that requires a joint effort over a long period of time; - no one can produce development working alone; - management decision making that affects the community should not be seen as the responsibility of a single individual; - regular meetings and effective communication and coordination enables the Management Committee to play an important role in the decision making process which normally improves the quality of the decisions made.

Following the presentation of the case studies and experiences, a plenary session generated the following comments and recommendations relevant to SARD and a Strategic Plan for Region 9.

Comments by participants:

- 1) There is no greater burden than good potential. (Guyana and the Rupununi are often referred to as having great potential but the problems are so many that systematic actions for development seldom get off the ground).
- 2) There is always a lot of talk about doing things but when we try to get things started all sorts of problems arise; there is no facilitating body to make things move.
- 3) There seems to be no development plan for utilizing the hydropower station at Moco Moco.
- 4) Each of us has an important part to play in the development of the Rupununi.
- 5) Some people are not using Acoushi ant bait even though it is available, we should find out why.
- 6) Assistance should focus on developing farmers and rural populations (occasional gifts to communities should not be confused with development).
- 7) Prices of commodities and farm inputs vary from location to location; this is mainly due to different transportation costs.
- 8) Communities should be sensitized to the fact that in the future they will have to pay part or all of the costs for improvements in their communities. In the 21st Century there will be no free rides.
- 9) Dissemination of relevant information to facilitate the development process is an important component of any strategic plan.
- 10) Support agencies will help if communities are organised and helping themselves.

Recommendations made by participants:

- 1) Projects and activities should create employment opportunities in rural communities.
- 2) Projects and activities should consider and guarantee environmental security.
- 3) Actions must consider the indigenous culture and the desires of the local population.
- 4) There is a need for facilitators to work with the communities to develop local potential.
- 5) Development projects should give high priority to local processing of available raw material.
- 6) Value adding and processing should be a vital focus of attention.
- 7) Improving technical support services (particularly agriculture) in the rural areas should be given priority attention.
- 8) Rural people and farmers must be made aware that the Agricultural Extension Service has a cost to the public sector. Ways must be found to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of this service. Community leaders should have a role in the monitoring and evaluation of the services offered.
- 9) We should work hand-in-hand with all support agencies - public, private and international.

- 10) We must start actions and build upon our experiences as we go. We cannot afford to wait until everything is perfect before we begin.
- 11) Extension officers should practice farmer empowerment. This might entail having community volunteer extension assistants or Community Technology Transfer Agents (CTTAs).
- 12) Appropriate systems and methods should be put in place for resolving specific constraints. The communities must play a leading role in the identification and description of their problems and in communicating their needs to those who can assist in resolving them.
- 13) Rural people/farmers must monitor the extension service to ensure that it responds to their needs.
- 14) There must be frank and transparent communication in identifying needs, projects and strategies.
- 15) Sustainable development will not result from sporadic free gifts of tools, equipment or livestock. Communities must play an active role in diagnosing their problems and formulating and implementing solutions using a comprehensive systems approach.

2.3 Problems, Strengths and Opportunities for Development in the Rupununi

Work Groups were formed for each of the five Sub-Districts. Each Group reviewed the priority problems constraining their agricultural and rural development and identified their respective strengths, available resources, opportunities and priority crops for development. Table 2 presents a summary of the findings for each Work Group.

In a follow-up plenary session to these Work Groups, the priority needs and opportunities were discussed, summarised and inserted onto the model for strategic planning (Figure 1), resulting in Figure 2.

Table 2: Problems, strengths and opportunities for development in the Rupununi by Sub-District

Sub-District	Problems/Weaknesses	Strengths/Resources	Opportunities/Needs
North	<p><u>Peanuts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poor quality seeds ▪ Inadequate system for distributing planting materials ▪ No small-scale machinery/implements – tiller ▪ Input costs are too high ▪ No value added to peanuts ▪ Poor condition of road to coast 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Human resources: tractor operator, agriculturist, administrator, carpenter, trainers 2. Natural resources: land, sheep, cows, peanuts, peas, cassava, fruits, greens, vegetables, ground provisions, medicinal plants, timber, soil for clay, bricks 3. Equipment:- tractor with plough & chipper, swing fog machine, mist blower, chain saw 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safe use of pesticides ▪ Research institute focusing on peanuts and cashew ▪ Security of natural resources ▪ Must have frank and <u>transparent communication</u> in identifying needs, projects, strategies ▪ <u>Peanut Programme</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - better varieties - credit fund (NGOs) - small equipment - low cost inputs - market opportunities - adding value
South Pakaraimas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poor marketing ▪ Poor road condition ▪ Poor transportation ▪ No machinery & ploughing implements ▪ No trained person to use and maintain swing fog machine ▪ No pesticide ▪ Inadequate planting material ▪ Poor storage facilities for planting materials between harvesting and planting time 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ownership of land 2. Existence of progressive farmers group 3. Technical assistance available through CBR 4. Potential to grow cashew & coffee, cultivation of peanuts, cassava, paddy, rice, onions, bananas 5. Have a swing fog machine 6. Have skilled machine operator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training in use of swing fog & other equipment ▪ Create employment opportunities ▪ Investment in cottage industries ▪ Develop managerial skills- ▪ Food security, self-sufficiency
Central	<p><u>Cashew:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unorganized production ▪ Poor transportation ▪ Low level technology ▪ Poor quality seeds ▪ Low market supply <p><u>Peanuts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No value added to product ▪ Poor quality planting material ▪ Low technology ▪ Poor road connection with Georgetown 	<p><u>Cashew:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We have wild trees available in community 2. We have means and know how of making carts to be drawn by animals (Axles are needed) 3. Conditions for cashew production are suitable (soil, water). <p><u>Peanuts:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All the villages plant peanuts 2. Good climatic conditions 3. We have skills and labour force to make carts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish Processing Plant and other methods to increase employment ▪ Improve technology for processing peanuts: - shelling in bags, cakes, peanut butter, etc. ▪ Introduction of improved peanut seeds & sharing among villages ▪ Expansion and improvement of transportation system ▪ Selection of cashew clones ▪ Collection of information on cashews in Rupununi ▪ Research of farmer organizations and their activities

Sub-District	Problems/Weaknesses	Strengths/Resources	Opportunities/Needs
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Form and strengthen farmers organizations ▪ Expand production & employment by improving skills & technology of peanut production ▪ Establish organized cashew plantations ▪ Effective transfer of peanuts and other production technology to farmers ▪ Skill development
South Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poor management ▪ Poor communication ▪ Few trained persons to operate swing fog machine ▪ Infrequent visits by Agricultural Field Officer ▪ Poor transportation and poor roads 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sub-district has a tractor 2. The region has trucks 3. We can grow the crops e.g. peanuts, corn, paddy, provisions, cassava, blackeye 4. One fogging machine (three persons trained in use) 5. Organization (SCIPA) 6. Ranches 7. Infrastructure (corrals, fences) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need bridge for Sand Creek ▪ Agricultural extension services must be improved ▪ Need to improve supply of farm inputs ▪ Improve management skills ▪ Accessing advice from technical personnel ▪ Forming sub-district farmers organization
Deep South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of transportation ▪ Tractor poorly managed ▪ Lack of info on market requirements ▪ Poor planning ▪ Poor condition of road ▪ High pest damage ▪ High cost of pesticides ▪ No pest management programme ▪ Poor knowledge of pest identification & pesticide use ▪ Shortage of water for irrigation ▪ Poor quality of agricultural services 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sub-region has a tractor 2. Region has trucks 3. We can grow crops 4. Have some ideas of markets 5. Have tools & equipment (plough, chain saw, cutlasses, carts) 6. Have materials for road construction (gravel & timber) 7. Have skilled human resources 8. Have swing fog machine, mist blower 9. Have local poisons for pests 10. Have resource personnel 11. Have knowledge of pest control 12. Have creeks, wells, lakes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve farm to market roads ▪ Carry out market research & other types on priority products ▪ Get technical advice on production ▪ Processing of nuts and fruits to create jobs ▪ Improve management skills ▪ Improve communication with marketing, technical, administration personnel and other communities ▪ Form production and marketing groups ▪ Get financial assistance to expand production \$\$\$ ▪ Access information on products, markets for cash crops

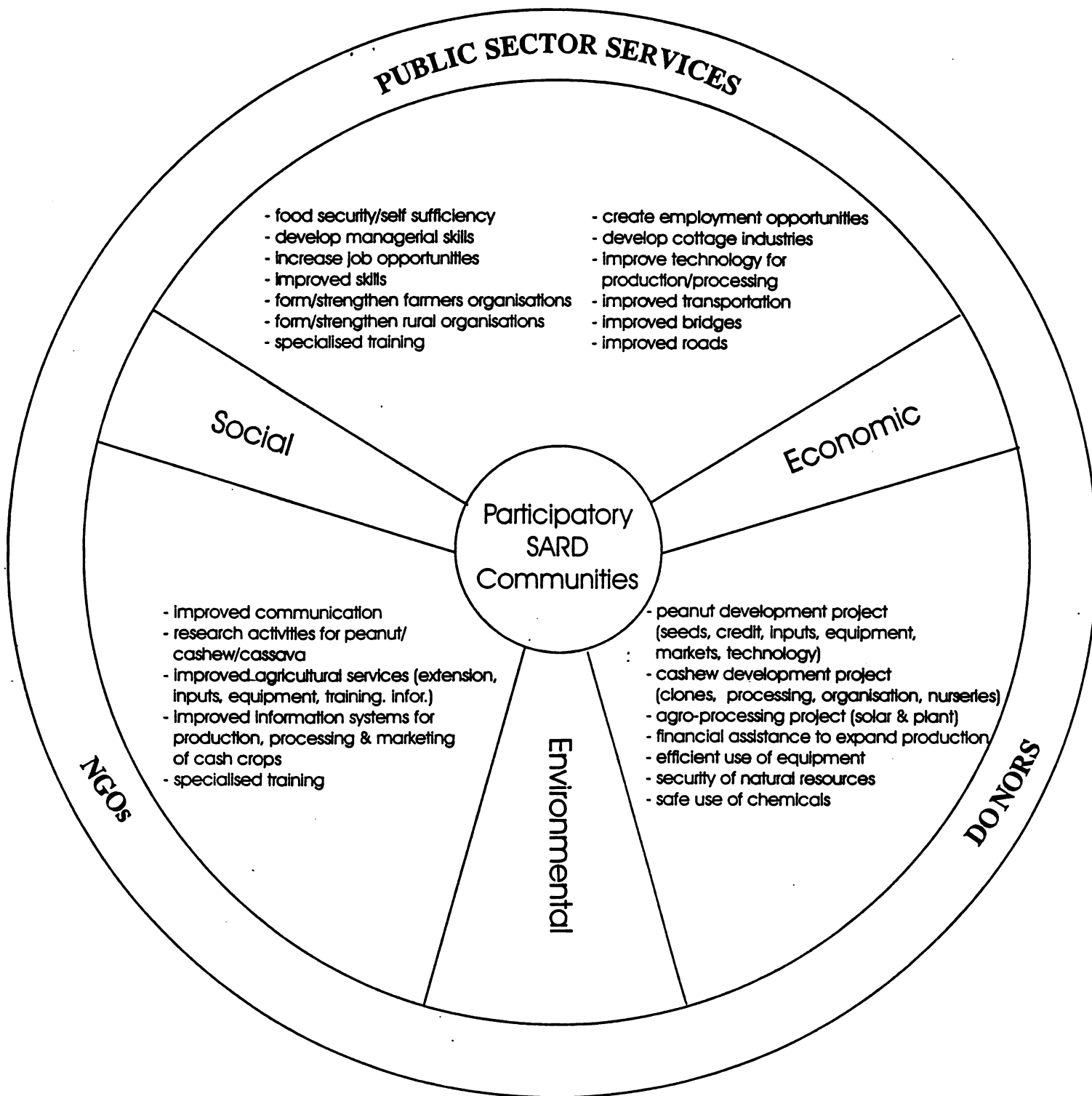


Figure 2: Priority needs and opportunities identified by workshop participants for Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development in Region 9

The Sub-District Work Groups also identified the priority crops for development for each Sub-District. These priorities are summarised in Table 3.

Table 3: Crops and support services identified for priority action, by Sub-District

Sub-District	Priority Crops/Livestock	Priority Support Services
North	Peanuts	Research on priority crops and livestock
South Pakaraimas	Cassava (long-term) Peanuts (short-term) Fish culture	Improved agricultural services (extension, inputs, equipment, information, etc.)
Central	Cashew (long-term) Peanuts (short-term)	Same as above
South Central	Peanuts (short-term) Cashew (long-term)	Same as above
Deep South	Peanuts (short-term) Cashew (long-term) Mangoes	Improved information and communication systems

2.4 Project priorities as identified by Workshop participants

The Work Groups initially identified the following three priority crop project ideas:

- (01) *peanuts,*
- (02) *cassava, and*
- (03) *cashew.*

They also identified the following two areas for improving support services:

- (04) *research on priority crops and*
- (05) *improved agricultural services.*

During a follow-up discussion session, participants recommended the following additional project ideas:

- (06) *food security, including garden vegetables, cassava, roots, pulses, grains and fruits;*
- (07) *livestock, including cattle, small livestock and bees;*
- (08) *fish culture, particularly in the South Pakaraimas;*
- (09) *crafts, including traditional and new ones such as animal hide processing/tanning; and*
- (10) *agro-processing, including solar drying of fruits and vegetables and resuscitation of the fruit and nut plant in Lethem.*

In writing up these proceedings and analyzing the available information, it became apparent that the following areas should also be considered for project development:

- (11) *strengthening of rural/farmers organisations;*
- (12) *improving information and communication systems;*
- (13) *wildlife ranching and management; and*
- (14) *community ranger programme.*

These fourteen agricultural and/or rural development project ideas are presented on the inside circle of Figure 3. All of them impact upon the social, economic and environmental dimensions of SARD.

A number of non-agricultural sector projects, e.g. health and education, have also been identified on the outside circle of Figure 3 with the sole purpose of demonstrating that SARD requires many types of projects and services. Although these projects will not be included in the Strategic Plan for Agricultural Development in the Rupununi, decision makers should be aware that these projects must necessarily be formulated/implemented under complementary programmes, for sustainable development to take place. Most of these areas are already receiving some attention from GoG but there is a need to formulate project documents and strategies for each type of service.

These project ideas have been further developed in Table 4 where some indication is given as to the possible short and long term actions, potential support agencies and duration.

2.5 Groups, Institutions and Organisations Active in Region 9

One of the plenary sessions was used to identify the groups, agencies and organisations that are presently active in the Rupununi as well as those that would like to initiate activities there. These entities are identified in Table 5 where they are grouped by type. It should be noted that each of these groups or organisations control some amount of human, physical or financial resources and all are presently engaged in some sort of developmental activity, although their real impact upon development is probably not known. It should also be mentioned that each organisation has its own particular objectives and most do not coordinate or communicate well with the other organisations in the Region. Consequently, while there exists tremendous potential for developmental impact in the Region, the real impact is much less due to the fact that these 30 plus organisations are uncoordinated and often moving in totally different directions.

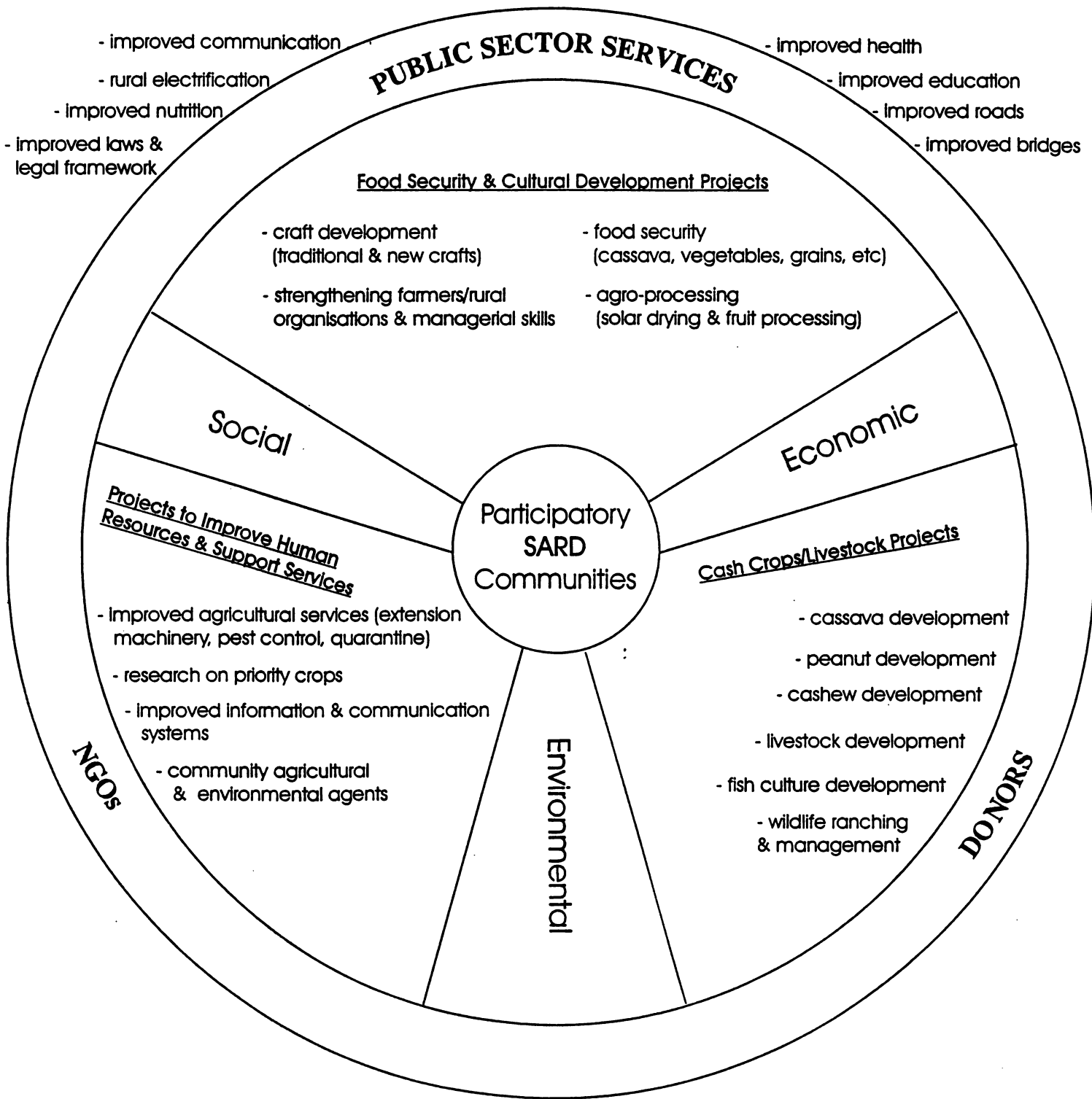


Figure 3: Project ideas for Sustainable Development in Region 9

Table 4: Priority projects, actions and support institutions identified by workshop participants

Name of Project	Types of Short-Term Actions	Types of Long-Term Actions	Potential Support Organisations	Duration of Project (years)
Food Security Projects:				
a. Village cassava plots	-establish germplasm collection	-research on types for humans/animals	MOA, IICA, CIAT, EMBRAPA	2 years to put on permanent basis
b. School gardens	-develop drip irrigation prototypes	-establish in all schools	BEACON, MOA, ROTARY	2 years to put on permanent basis
c. Home gardens	-trial plots using drip irrigation	-ongoing technical assistance/supplies	ROTARY, MOA	2 years to put on permanent basis
Cash Crops and Livestock Projects:				
a. Peanut development	-seeds; -sheller; -market; -training; -transport	-seed bank; -credit; -processing; -inputs	IPED, IICA, MOA, BEACON, BHC	5 years
b. Cashew development	-nurseries; -clones; -processing; -market	-research; -training -plantations	EMBRAPA, NARI, MOA, PRIVATE	10 years
c. Cassava development	-germplasm; -processing	-research -development	MOA, EMBRAPA, CIAT, CIDA, BF	5 years
d. Livestock development	-cattle/s.l./bees; -pilotpro/quarantine	-build on experiences	MOA, CARDI, IICA, FAO, Private	10 years
e. Fishculture	-transfer exp.; -training	-permanent programs with T.A.	Fisheries, CIDA, Private	5 years
f. Solar drying of selected produce	-expand technology; -training; -market	-institutionalize services	BHC, Organic Tropical, IAST	5 years
g. Lethem Fruit & Nut Plant	-rehabilitate plant; -train; -market	-expand operations; -add new services	RDC, IAST, IICA, SIMBIOSIS	3 years
h. Craft development	-diagnosis; -train; -test market	-build upon experiences	CI, CVSO, GVC, ZOOS USA	5 years
Wildlife ranching	-diagnosis of potential	-pilot projects; -marketing	Iwokrama; CI; Zoos	10 years

Name of Project	Types of Short-Term Actions	Types of Long-Term Actions	Potential Support Organisations	Duration of Project (years)
Human Resource Development:				
a. Strengthening rural organisations	-inventory; -evaluation; -training	-institutionalised training	IICA, GVC,	10 years
b. Managerial entrepreneurial & technical skills	-identification of local needs; -formulation of projects; -applied training programs	-develop training programs that respond to local needs; -transfer experiences to other communities;	IICA, GVC, IPED, BEACON	10 years
Improving Support Services:				
a. Agricultural support services	-diagnose needs; -coordinate actions	-institutionalize services	MOA, CARDI, IICA, FAO	3 years to institutionalize
b. Research on priority crops	-establish basic infra & human resources	-formulate/execute ongoing program	NARI, MOA, UG	2 years to institutionalize
c. Improving information & communication	-radio network; -develop newsletter	-improved farm to market roads	MAA; Min. Infra	2 years 1 st phase and ongoing 2 nd phase
d. Community rangers	-select & train; -develop guidelines	-institutionalize	DF; Iwokrama	2 years to institutionalize

Table 5: Groups, organisations, institutions and agencies presently supporting or willing to support development activities in the Region 9

Community Groups	Regional Groups	National Institutions	NGOs	Private Sector	Bilateral & International
ORGANISATIONS PRESENTLY ACTIVE IN THE RUPUNUNI					
-Village Council; -Women's groups; -Farmers' organisations; -Church groups;	- RDC; - Sub-district groups; - NRDDDB; - SCIPA; - Region 9 Amerindian Touchau Council	- MOA; - MAA - Min. Ed.; - Min. Health; - SIMAP; - EPA; - Police; - Defence Force; - Fisheries	- Beacon Foundation; - CBR; - Rotary Club; - Red Cross; - RLPA; - CI; - GVC;	- Farfan & Mendes; - Amazon Chemicals; - Caribbean Chemicals; - Eddie's Shop (Eddy Singh); - LIDCO	- UNDP; - UNICEF; - IICA; - CIDA; - IWOKRAMA
ORGANISATIONS NOT IN THE RUPUNUNI BUT WILLING TO PROVIDE SUPPORT					
		- NARI; - NDDP; - NGMC; - REPAHA; - IAST	- IPED -	-	- CARDI; - CIAT; - EMBRAPA; - CESO; - BHC; - FAVACA

2.6 Formation of Interim Agricultural Development Steering Committee, Region 9

On the second day of the workshop, a proposal was put forward for the establishment of a region-wide Agricultural Development Committee. However, after some discussion, it was agreed that for such a committee to be truly representative and effective, it must emerge from the bottom up, i.e. producer or community organizations feeding into sub-district-organizations whose members in turn comprise the Regional Committee.

As a result, the gathering agreed to the formation of a steering committee named from among participants of the workshop. This steering committee comprises a central coordinator assisted by subcommittees of at least three members from each of the five sub-districts. Each sub-district named a coordinator from among its nominees.

The role of the steering committee is to monitor on-going Agricultural Development in the region, to sensitize local and subdistrict groups as to the benefits of being organized, i.e. to take full advantage of available support services and other benefits and prepare them for the formation of groups at the community, subregional and regional levels.

Representatives:

The following persons were nominated to serve on the Region 9 Interim Agricultural Development Steering Committee (IADSC): -

<u>Interim Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>
Central Coordinator	Vincent Henry	Shulinab
Assistant Coordinator	Harold D'Aguiar	Lethem

Subdistrict Representatives:

Deep South

PERSONS	COMMUNITY
Tony James*	Aishalton
Ignatius Rufuio	Shea
Reginald Williams	Achewib

Central

PERSONS	COMMUNITY
Ernesto Farias*	St. Ignatius
Clifton Lorendo	Yupukari
Andrew Demetro	Nappi
Andrew Anderson	Moca Moca
Emeline Baretto	St. Ignatius

North

PERSONS	COMMUNITY
Eugene Isaacs	Toka
Randolph Gilbert*	Aranaputa
Madonna Allicock	Surama

South Central

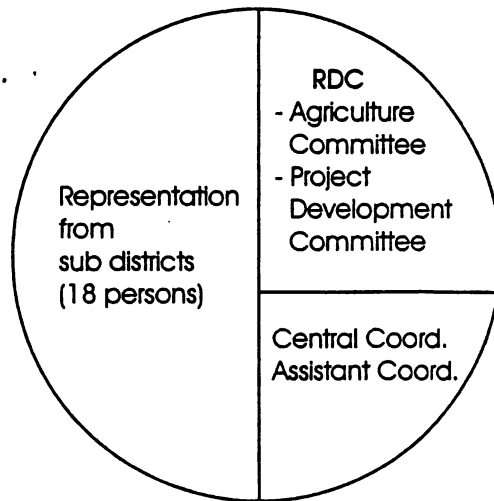
PERSONS	COMMUNITY
Richard Wilson*	Rupanau
Joseph La Rose	Shulinab
Ewart Wilson	Katoonarib

South Pakaraimas

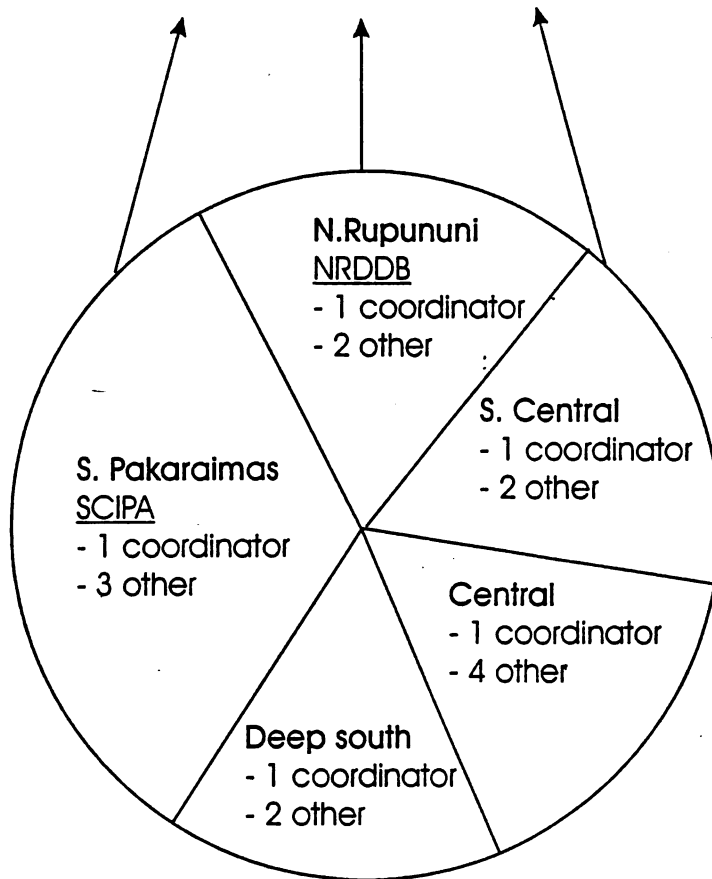
PERSONS	COMMUNITY
Genevieve Murray	Karasabai
Jeffrey Albert	Tiger Pond
William Pereira	Tiperu
Patrick Atkinson*	Karasabai

*Coordinators

Regional Level



Sub district Level



Proposed Structure of Region 9 Interim Agricultural Development Steering Committee (IADSC)

2.7 Technical Presentations

During the second day of the Workshop, technical presentations were made on: safe use of chemicals; operation and maintenance of swing fog machine and mist blowers; technical support available from Beacon's Foundation; the household drip irrigation project; and controlling Foot and Mouth Disease on the border with Brazil. Some of the highlights from these presentations are summarized below:

a) Safe use of chemicals:

- users of chemicals must READ the labels to minimize risks of exposure and to ensure the
- product produces the desired results;
- some chemicals can be mixed with oil and gas but others cannot; the label informs us;
- chemicals must be used as indicated, otherwise they will not work effectively;
- chemicals must be stored safely, and not in the household or around food or children;
- chemicals used in equipment can be dangerous to the health of the operator and other people in the area;
- the user should be protected by eye goggles, chemical respirator/masks, hat, coat, gloves and boots.

b) Operation and maintenance of swing fog machine and mist blowers:

- ten persons (2 from each Sub-District) received 3 hours of training in the use of swing fog and mist blower;
- equipment operators were told of the importance of understanding the machines and how they work;
- they were told to become familiar with the users manual and that instructions should be followed to avoid injury to the user and the equipment;
- precautions regarding the use of chemicals were given;
- each trainee was given opportunity to operate each piece of equipment;
- training in basic maintenance of each machine was given;
- **call Andrew Mendes!!**

c) Potential support from the Beacon Foundation:

- promotion of food security through self-sufficiency; agricultural school garden projects will receive priority attention;
- training and technical assistance in business management and entrepreneurship is available upon request;
- a donor has agreed to provide a truck to an Amerindian organisation for marketing of agricultural produce as soon as the organisation has the capability to operate and maintain the vehicle;
- assistance in developing productive projects is available upon request;
- Beacon will take the lead in the establishment of a regional rural development newsletter to facilitate communication between communities and to transfer information throughout Region 9;

- the participants identified the following priority topics for the Newsletter: appropriate farming technologies; management skills/bookkeeping; gender equity concerns; health issues; development news; agricultural research; history of the Rupununi; sports; ethnobotany (biology/medicinal plants); environmental issues; children's issues; products available in the Region; tourism sites; educational issues; sources of resources, and a letter writing corner.

d) Training in household drip irrigation system:

- a presentation was made on the one week drip irrigation training course to be held at St Ignatius during February 15-22, 1999;
- Demerara Rotary Club will facilitate the training and will sell the drip system at cost to users;
- the system costs G\$1,200 for the tubes, connections and 100 feet of drip line (the bucket is not included in this price);
- the system will irrigate two rows of vegetables 50 feet in length (100 feet total);
- this system is sufficient to provide vegetables to one household;
- a larger, one-quarter acre system is available and will be introduced at St. Ignatius and Shulinab;
- a brochure is available on the system;
- drip systems can be purchased at the retail outlet of Mr. Romero Abraham, Lethem and others to be identified.

e) Controlling Foot and Mouth Disease on Brazilian border:

- the MOA provided information to the participants regarding the danger of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) crossing the border into Guyana from Brazil;
- Guyana is presently free of FMD but needs certification from international organisation (OIE) to export beef.
- it is imperative for the future of the livestock industry that FMD be controlled at the border and not allowed into Guyana;
- this will require effective quarantine control along the border;
- since the MOA does not have sufficient resources, farmers will be asked to collaborate in monitoring the movement of animals across the border (be eyes and ears of the MOA);
- MOA will talk with farmers on how to secure the border;
- when Guyana is declared free of FMD, exports will begin and market opportunities will improve;
- the region needs a livestock census to improve planning of livestock development;
- some people are transporting animals illegally to the coast, this needs to be controlled;
- it is legal to buy and butcher livestock in the Rupununi and transport it to the coast in ice coolers;
- there is presently no system in place for the organised marketing of Amerindian livestock, this must be corrected.

Annex 1
PROGRAMME
WORKSHOP FOR PLANNING AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
IN THE RUPUNUNI

Date: February 13-14, 1999

Venue: Amerindian Guest House, Lethem

Organisers: Regional Democratic Council, Region 9/MOA/IICA

Support Agencies: MOA, IICA, CIDA, Farfan & Mendes

Participants: Touchau, one Councillor and one Farmer from each Community, Region 9

Source of Funding:

- Regional Democratic Council: costs of participants
- IICA/CIDA/MOA: costs of IICA/MOA technical support

Objectives:

- 1) Identify, describe and discuss Guyana experiences relevant to Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development (SARD) in the Rupununi.
- 2) Provide information to participants on basic agricultural practices and new initiatives.
- 3) Review priority constraints (weaknesses), comparative advantages (strengths) and opportunities (project ideas) for agricultural and rural development, by Sub-District.
- 4) Outline a strategic plan of action for Region 9.
- 5) Establish an organisational structure to guide the development process.

Saturday, February 13, 1999

Session 1: Transfer of Practical Experiences

- 08:00 hrs: Opening and Welcome, Regional Chairman
- 08:30 hrs: Introduction to Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (diagram to be distributed and completed through group discussion) Jerry La Gra, IICA
- 09:00 hrs: Coffee production and processing at Wakapoa, Region 2, Cromwell Crawford, IICA
- 09:30 hrs: Experiences with controlling Acoushi Ant at Wakapoa, Region 2, and its application to the Rupununi (samples of ant bait to be distributed and sold), Maurice Bennett, IICA
- 10:00 hrs: Tea break
- 10:30 hrs: Cassava production and processing at St. Deny's/Tapakuma, Region 2, Charles Carmichael, IICA
- 11:00 hrs: Cassava production and processing at Surama, Region 9, Woman from Surama
- 11:30 hrs: Cashew production, processing and marketing, Jerry La Gra, IICA
- 12:00 hrs: Peanut production, processing and marketing, Harold D'Aguiar, Farmer, Entrepreneur
- 12:30 hrs: General discussion of experiences and comments
- 13:00 hrs: Lunch

Desired products from Session 1: (a) general understanding of SARD and a graphic presentation completed as a group exercise, (b) sharing of multiple experiences from other regions of Guyana that use a SARD approach to development, (c) experiences in the Rupununi identified.

Session 2: Identification of Priority Problems and Project Ideas by Sub-District

- 14:30 hrs: Work groups by Sub-Districts to prioritise problems and comparative advantages and to identify project ideas
- 16:00 hrs: Group discussion to select priority projects for follow-up formulation for each Sub-District, Vincent Henry

Desired products from Session 2: (a) A list of the problems and comparative advantages for each Sub-District; (b) A list of five priority project ideas for the Rupununi.

Session 3: The Way Forward

17:30 hrs: Discussion on the type of organisation required to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate the strategic plan and selection of members, V. Henry.

Desired products from Session 3: (a) Organizational structure formed to guide the strategic plan and the project development process.

Sunday, February 14, 1999:

08:00 hrs: Plenary session to identify priority projects

Session 4: Technical Presentations

09:30 hrs: Safe use of chemicals, John Woolford, MOA

11:00 hrs: The Drip Irrigation Project, Rotary Club of Demerara

11:30 hrs: The Role of Beacon Foundation in the Development Process in Region 9, Beacon Foundation Representative

13:00 hrs: Lunch

14:00-17:00 hrs: **Group A:** Training session on the use of mist blower and acoushi ant swing fog machine, for 10 farmers (2 from each Sub-District), A. Mendes, Farfan & Mendes

14:30 hrs: **Group B:** Monitoring and Controlling Foot-and-Mouth Disease on the Brazil/Guyana Border, Dr. Lennox Applewhaite/Dr. Winston Lawrence

15:30 hrs: Workgroups to formulate project profiles

18:00 hrs: Closing of Workshop

Desired products from Session 4: (a) Farmers aware of the need to handle chemicals safely, (b) Farmers capable of operating mist blowers and swing foggers, (c) Farmers informed of new Rotary, Beacon and MOA Activities and (d) At least five project profiles formulated.

Resource Persons:

- Maucir Barretto, Chairman, Regional Democratic Council
- Vincent Henry, Vice-Chairman, Regional Democratic Council
- John Woolford, MOA Hinterland Project Coordinator
- Cromwell Crawford, IICA Rural Development Specialist
- Charles Carmichael, IICA Agricultural Economist
- Maurice Bennett, IICA Educator and Rural Development Specialist
- Jerry La Gra, IICA Rural Development and Marketing Specialist
- Madonna Allicock, Surama Cassava Processors
- Sydney Allicock, Surama
- Peter De Groot, Rotary Club of Demerara
- Clement Lye, Beacon Foundation
- Lennox Applewhaite, Chief Crops & Livestock Officer
- Carvin Haywood, Extension Officer, Region 10
- Harold D'Aguiar, Peanut Farmer, Entrepreneur

Annex 2

WORKSHOP FOR PLANNING AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
IN REGION 9
February 13-14, 1999

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NUMBER	NAME	VILLAGE	DESIGNATION
Deep South Rupununi Sub District			
1	Nobert Leonard	Karadarnau	Farmer
2	Eric Isaac	Karadarnau	Councillor
3	Hugh Thomas	Karadarnau	Touchau
4	Loris Sutherland	Karadarnau	Councillor
5	Luke Wilson	Achawib	Councillor
6	Reginol Wilson	Achawib	Farmer
7	Frederick Johnson	Achawib	Councillor
8	Innocent Simon	Aishalton	Councillor
9	Edward Laud	Aishalton	Farmer
10	Donlee Simon	Aishalton	Farmer
11	Toney James	Aishalton	Touchau
12	Vibert George	Maruranau	Councillor
13	Martin Pablo	Maruranau	Touchau
14	Daniel Pablo	Maruranau	Farmer
15	Mike Shook	Maruranau	Farmer
16	Averil Winter	Awarewaunau	D. Touchau
17	Ignatius Rufino	Shea	Councillor
18	Ivor Mc Birney	Shea	Councillor
South Central Rupununi Sub District			
19	Eugene Bernard	Baitoon	Councillor
20	Sonny Kintino	Baitoon	Regional Councillor
21	Joseph La Rose	Shulinab	Farmer
22	Margaret Peter	Shulinab	Farmer
23	Willie Clement	Shulinab	Touchau
24	Eric Lewis	Shulinab	Teacher
25	Vincent Henry	Shulinab	RDC Vice Chairman
26	Davis Johnson	Sawariwau	Farmer
27	Godfrey Williams	Sawariwau	Councillor
28	Jerome Maroues	Sawariwau	Touchau
29	Herbert Gonsalves	Rupunau	Farmer
30	Richard Wilson	Rupunau	Touchau (ag)
31	Hebert Wilson	Katoonarib	Touchau
32	Henson Mack	Katoonarib	Councillor
33	Pauline Singh	Katoonarib	Villager

NUMBER	NAME	VILLAGE	DESIGNATION
34	Vitalis Bernard	Potarinau	Villager
35	Paul Stanislaus	Potarinau	Touchau
36	Rocky Mario	Sand Creek	Councillor
37	Stanislaus David	Sand Creek	Farmer
38	Eugene Andrew	Sand Creek	Touchau
39	Dorothy Faria	Sand Creek	Regional Councillor
40	Benedict James	Sand Creek	Regional Councillor
41	Olaf Antoine	Potarinau	Councillor
Central Rupununi Sub District			
42	Wilson Ernest	Yupukari	Councillor
43	Maureen Laurindo	Yupukari	Farmer
44	Donald Barabas	Yupukari	Farmer
45	Clifton Laurindo	Yupukari	Touchau
46	William Alfred	Capy-bara	Farmer
47	Desmond Michael	Katoka	Councillor
48	Stepha Frederick	Nappi	C.H.W.
49	Andrew De Metro	Nappi	Touchau
50	Alexander Leonard	Haiwa	Councillor
51	Mary Evans	Haiwa	Councillor
52	Fidel Raymond	Quarrie	Councillor
53	Ernesto Farias	St. Ignatius	Touchau
54	Andrew Anderson	Moca-Moca	Touchau
55	Lena Ramsarran	Moca-Moca	Farmer
56	Paul Francis	Moca-Moca	Farmer
57	Greville Parks	Kumu	Councillor
58	Harold D'Aguiar	Lethem	Farmer
59	Brian Vincent	Kaicumbay	Councillor
60	Ian Melville	St. Ignatius	Farmer
61	Emeline Barretto	St. Ignatius	Women's Group Rep.
62	Maucir Barretto	St. Ignatius	RDC Chairman
North Rupununi Sub District			
63	Alphonso Forde	Aranaputa	Vice Chairman - CDC
64	Noel Stephens	Aranaputa	Farmer
65	W. St. Valle	Aranaputa	Regional Councillor
66	Randolph Gilbert	Aranaputa	Farmer
67	Elsa Benjamin	Aranaputa	Farmer
68	Madanna Allicock	Surama	Housewife/Farmer
69	Bertrand Allicock	Surama	Councillor
70	Sidney Allicock	Surama	Regional Councillor
71	Gerald Benjamin	Annai	Councillor
72	Mark George	Annai	Touchau
73	Ivor Daniels	Annai	Councillor
74	Steve Andries	Rupertee	Farmer
75	Baldwin Joseph	Rupertee	D. Captain

NUMBER	NAME	VILLAGE	DESIGNATION
76	Richard Dariels	Kwatamang	Councillor
77	Clifford Joseph	Wowetta	Farmer
78	Winston Edwards	Rewa	CDC Chairman
79	Nathaniel Edward	Rewa	Councillor
80	Matthew Alvin	Rewa	Farmer
81	Baldwin Thomas	Apoteri	Villager
82	Lawerensen Seipio	Apoteri	Villager
83	Lawrence Jefferys	Massara	Touchau
84	Ernest Merriman	Massara	Farmer
85	Cecelia Merriman	Massara	Housewife/Farmer
86	Silas Thomas	Crash-water	Farmer
87	Harry James	Crash-water	Farmer
88	Eugene Isaac	Toka	Chief of Chiefs
89	William Andries	Toka	Touchau
South Parakarimas Sub District			
90	John Simon	Karasabai	Touchau
91	Alvin Edwards	Karasabai	Councillor
92	Andrew Albert	Karasabai	Councillor
93	Genevieve Murray	Karasabai	Councillor
94	Elmo Edwards	Karasabai	DDO
95	Charles Man-Son-Hing	Tiger Pond	Touchau
96	Jeffrey Albert	Tiger Pond	Councillor
97	James Pablo	Tiger Pond	Councillor
98	Matthew Charlie	Tiger Pond	Regional Councillor
99	Geoffrey Cyprian	Yurang Peru	Touchau
100	Odelio Joe	Yurang Peru	Councillor
101	John Alfred	Yurang Peru	Farmer

Resource Persons:

01. Maucir Barretto, Chairman, Regional Democratic Council
02. Vincent Henry, Vice Chairman, Regional Democratic Council
03. John Woolford, MoA Hinterland Project Coordinator
04. Cromwell Crawford, IICA Rural Development Specialist
05. Charles Carmichael, IICA Agricultural Economist
06. Maurice Bennett, IICA Educator and Rural Development Specialist
07. Jerry La Gra, IICA Rural Development and Marketing Specialist
08. Madonna Allicock, Surama Cassava Processors
09. Patrick De Groot, Rotary Club of Demerara
10. Clairmont Lye, President, Beacon Foundation
11. Lennox Applewhaite, Chief Crops & Livestock Officer
12. Dorothy Faria, Sand Creek Regional Councillor

Summary of Attendance

Deep South

No.	VILLAGE	PARTICIPANTS
1.	Karadarnau	4
2.	Achawib	3
3.	Aishalton	4
4.	Maruranau	4
5.	Awarewaunau	1
6.	Shea	2
Total		18

South Central

No.	VILLAGE	PARTICIPANTS
1.	Baitoon	2
2.	Shulinab	5
3.	Sawariwau	3
4.	Rupunau	2
5.	Katoonarib	3
6.	Potarinau	3
7.	Sand Creek	5
Total		23

Central

No.	VILLAGE	PARTICIPANTS
1.	Yupukari	4
2.	Capybara	1
3.	Katoka	1
4.	Nappi	2
5.	Haiwa	2
6.	Quarrie	1
7.	St. Ignatius	3
8.	Moca Moca	4
9.	Kumu	1
10.	Lethem	1
11.	Kaicumbay	1
Total		21

North

No.	VILLAGE	PARTICIPANTS
1.	Aranaputa	5
2.	Surama	3
3.	Annai	3
4.	Rupertee	2
5.	Kwatamang	1
6.	Woweta	1
7.	Rewa	3
8.	Aroteri	2
9.	Massara	3
10.	Crash-water	2
11.	Toka	2
Total		27

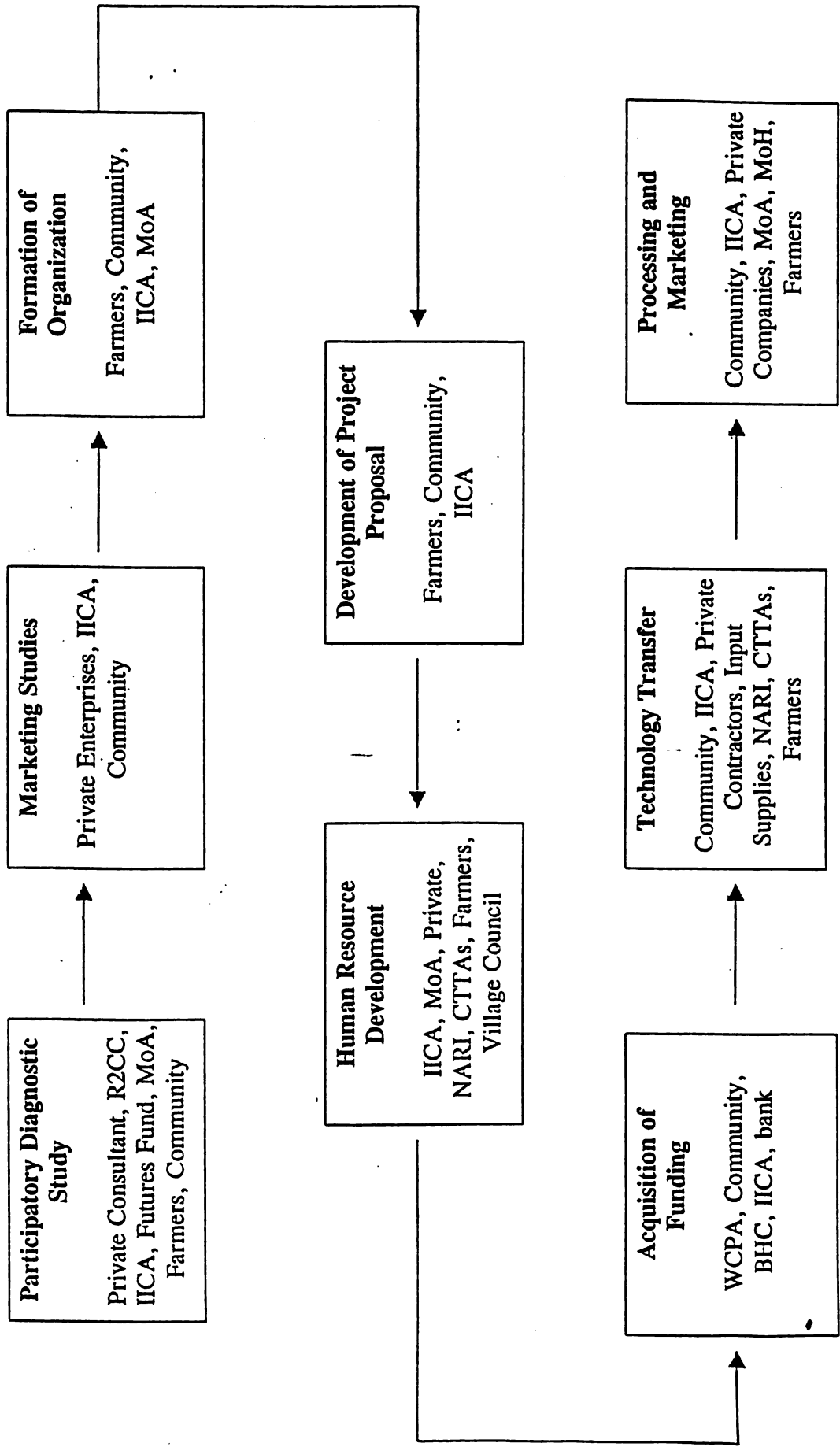
South Pakaraimas

No.	VILLAGE	PARTICIPANTS
1.	Karasabai	5
2.	Tiger Pond	4
3.	Yurang Peru	3
Total		12

SUMMARY

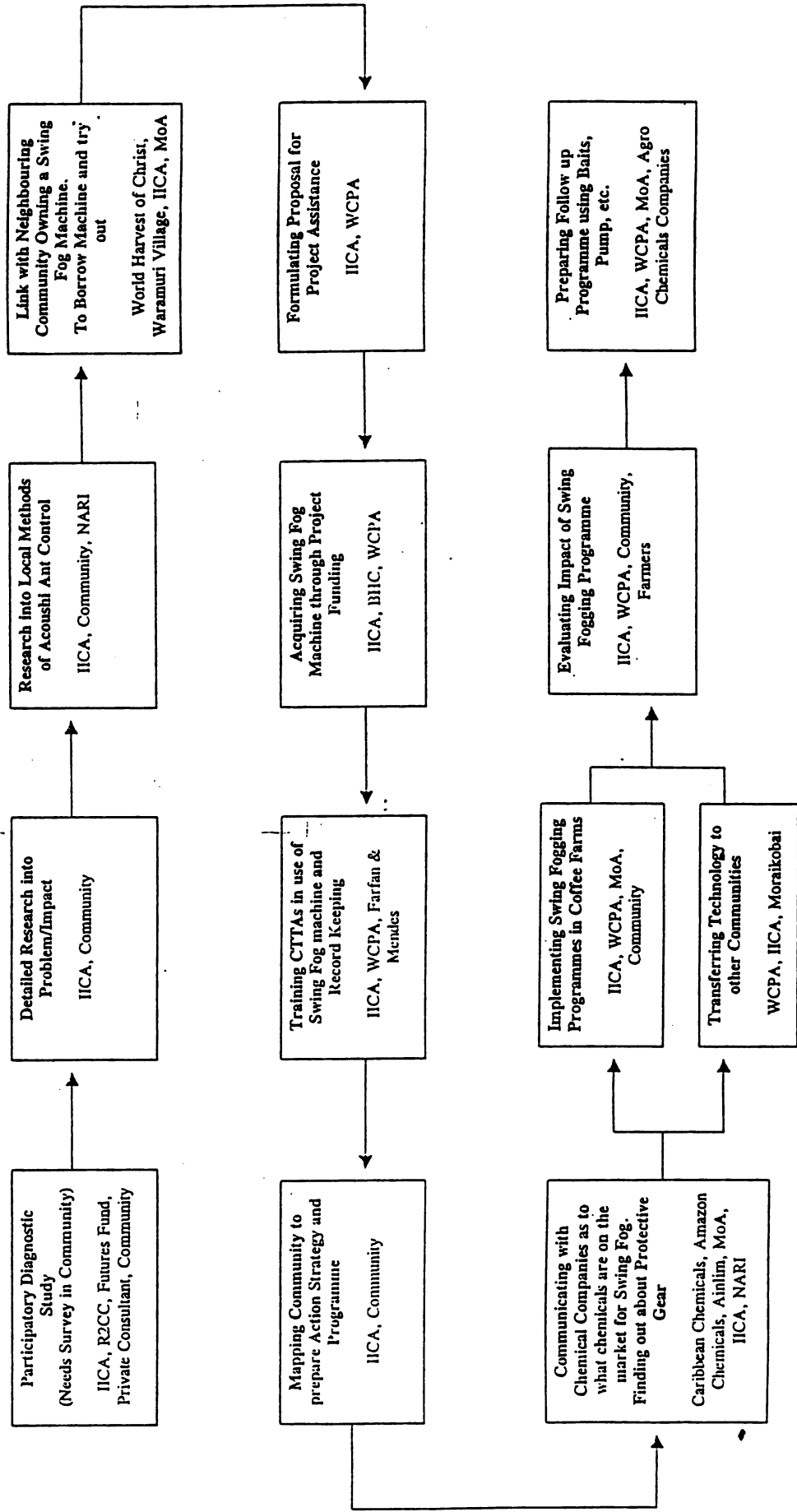
No. of Communities Represented	38
Persons Present	101
Touchaus	21
Village Councillors	31
Regional Councillors	6
Farmers Representatives	30
Teacher	1
Villagers	4
RDC Officials	2
CHW/DDO	2
Women's Group Rep	1
CDC Chairman/VC	2
Chief of Chiefs	1

FLOW DIAGRAM - WAKAPOA COFFEE REHABILITATION PROJECT

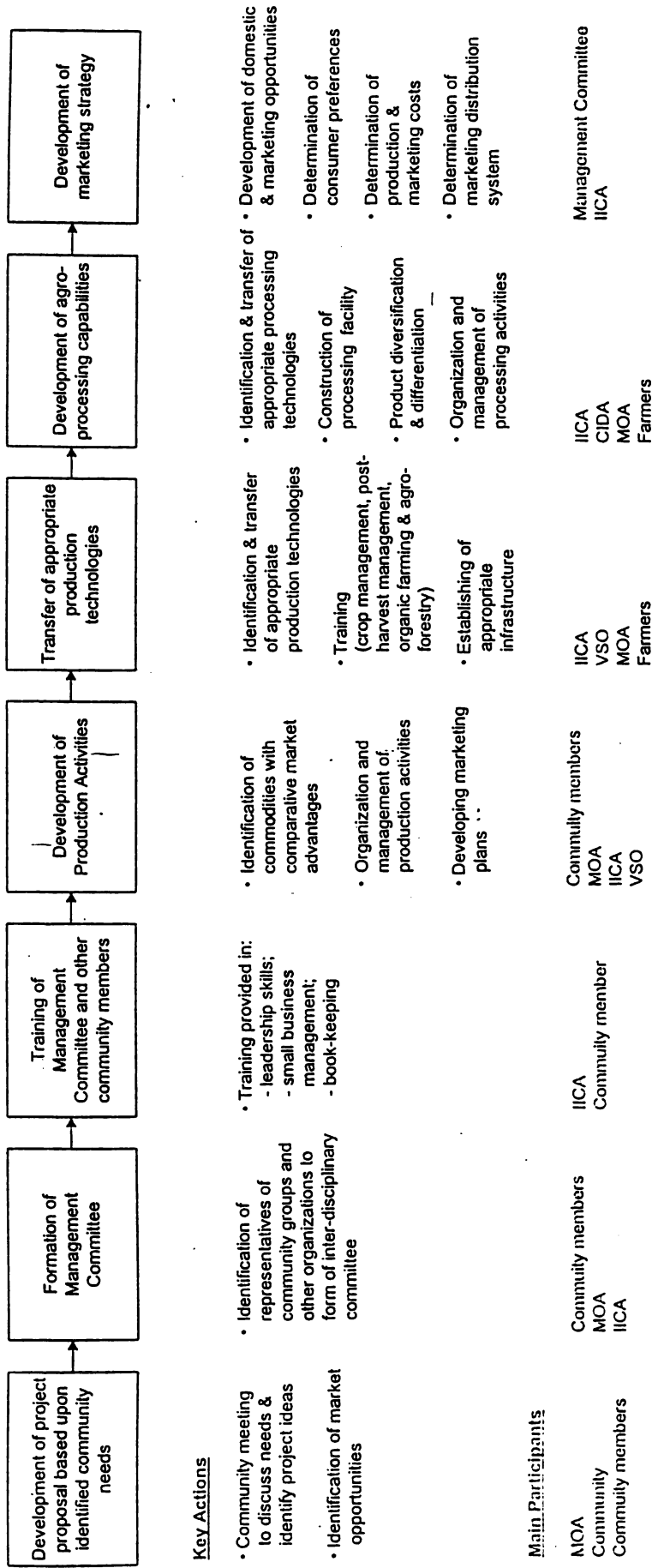




FLOW DIAGRAM - ACOUSHI ANT CONTROL PROGRAMME IN WAKAPOA



Key stages in the development of the Tapakuma Cassava Production and Processing Project



**HISTORY OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TAPAKUMA AGRICULTURAL AND PROCESSING PROJECT- (Cassava, Fruit, Vegetables
Legumes, and others)**

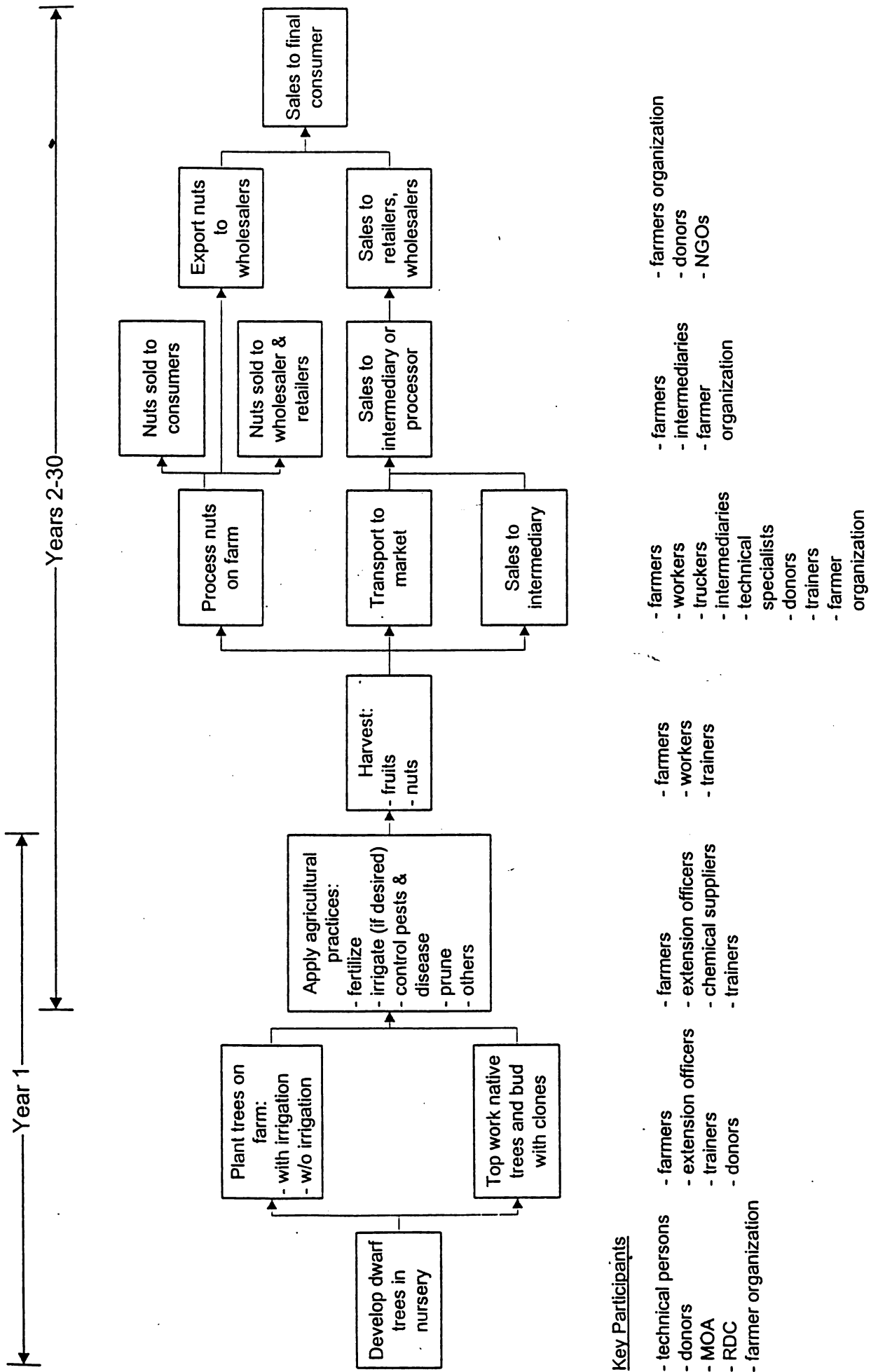
Key Stages in the Development of the Project	Elements of Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD)					Lessons Learned
	Description of main Characteristics of Stage	Participants	Economic Factors	Social Factors	Environmental Factors	
1. Development of project proposal based upon identified community needs	The main problem to be resolved by the project was the need for the creation of income generating and marketing opportunities for residents of the community.	Community members, Ministry of Agriculture and French Government and IICA.	A key element is the identification of market opportunities and comparative production advantages.	The members of the community must play a leading role in the decision making process.	Priority should be given to project ideas that will not have a negative impact on the environment.	The participation of Community members, Public sector agencies and Donor agencies is a key element in the SARD model. The active involvement of these participants should not only be during the initial stages of the project, but systems should be put in place to ensure their long-term involvement.
2. Formation of a Management Committee	This Committee was made-up of representatives from most of the key groups and institutions within the community (school, church, village council, womens' group, etc.).	Community members, Ministry of Agriculture IICA	The Management Committee, as much as possible, should be interdisciplinary in order to provide the entrepreneurial skills required for the adequate management of the Project.	Attention must be given to the formation of an effective team that can work together to represent the best interest of the community.	The Management Committee must be aware of environmental issues.	The making of key management decisions should not be seen as the responsibility of a single individual. Regular meetings and proper planning enables the Management Committee to play a major role in all major decisions related to the affairs of the projects.
3. Training of Management Committee and other community members	Members were trained in management and technical areas including: leadership skills; management and administration of small businesses; and book-keeping.	Community members, and IICA	Training cost can be minimized by utilizing relevant skills available in the community.	The development of a pool of persons with appropriate management/organizational skills is a decisive factor in ensuring the sustainability of the project.	Community leaders must be aware of environmental potential and limitations. Training is usually required.	Training should be done on a continuous basis over several years to ensure that new members of the Committee are provided with the skills required for the proper managing of the project.

Elements of Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD)					Lessons Learned	
Key Stages in the Development of the Project	Description of main Characteristics of Stage	Participants	Economic Factors	Social Factors		Environmental Factors
4. Development of a 52 acre communal farm, cassava processing unit, and the purchase farm machinery and equipment.	Bitter cassava, peanuts, beans and pineapples are among the major crops cultivated on the communal farm. Bitter cassava is processed into cassareep and cassava bread.	Community members, Ministry of Agriculture and IICA	The development of natural resources and traditional skills is an important economic component of SARD. The utilization of land for farming is one of the primary income generating activities in Amerindian communities.	The development of traditional skills and local cultural practices is an important socio-economic component of SARD	It is extremely important to utilize the natural resources in a sustainable manner and to train leaders and all members of the community in the use of appropriate technologies for each respective enterprise (e.g. organic farming)	<p>In managing/utilizing communal assets the following factors should be emphasised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the use/operation of the asset should be sustainable; - the community should feel ownership of the asset; - voluntary labour should be used on a regular basis for the maintenance of community assets; - the use/benefits of the assets should not be skewed towards one section of the community; - the rules/ procedure governing the use/operation of assets should not be seen as being enforced by the individual selected as the supervisor; - all management members should be responsible for enforcing management decisions. - the system used in the implementation of farm activities, of paying community members wages for work done, may lead workers to seeing the farm simple as a source of income.

Elements of Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD)						
Key Stages in the Development of the Project	Description of main Characteristics of Stage	Participants	Economic Factors	Social Factors	Environmental Factors	Lessons Learned
5. Transfer of appropriate agricultural production technology	The agroforestry system introduced on approximately 4 acres of land on the Tapakuma community farm, is one that combines trees and crops - agroforestry.	Community members, MoA, IICA	Integrated farming systems will maximize economic returns and provide a broader raw material base for processing.	Integrated farming systems contribute towards greater food security in the communities.	A number of objectives are expected to be achieved by the agroforestry activities at Tapakuma including: - Enhanced sustainable agricultural production; - Soil improvement through improvement in the organic matter content and nitrogen fixation; - Stimulation of crop diversity and the use of appropriate crop rotation systems on the farm.	The introduction of appropriate technology can have a significant positive impact on the level of production. New technologies should, however, build on the experiences of traditional technology.
6. The development of agroprocessing opportunities	The construction of a new processing facility; - The improvement of processing technology through the introduction of appropriate equipment and processing methods; - The training of workers and selected community members in relevant areas of home economics and hygiene; - The development of a comprehensive marketing strategy.	Community members, MoA, IICA, CIDA	The development of Agro-processing opportunities was a key factor in the development of sustainable production activities on the farm. Adding value to primary products increases market potential and creates a greater demand for raw material.	Adding value through processing, helps to create new jobs in rural communities, extends product shelf-life and contributes to the improvement of the nutritional status of the community.	Attention must be given to the disposal of waste to ensure no damage is done to the environment.	While the development of primary production activities is of major significance in rural communities, opportunities should also be sought to add value to products through small-scale processing, micro-enterprise development. This would result in the enhancement of income generation possibilities and the creation of additional employment opportunities.

Key Stages in the Development of the Project	Description of main Characteristics of Stage	Elements of Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD)				Lessons Learned
		Participants	Economic Factors	Social Factors	Environmental Factors	
7. The development of a Community Development Plan	A workshop and follow-up sessions were held with the community to assist them in the preparation of a five year development plan. The Plan addresses problems in a number of areas including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health and sanitation; - Education and training; - Infrastructure; and - Economic activities. 	Community members, MoA, IICA, CIDA	The identification and development of other resources of economic importance to the community such as timber, eco-tourism, and key areas of education and training, was a significant achievement of the Planning sessions.	The development of planning skills is crucial to sustainable development at the community level	Long range planning must give high priority to the sustainable use of natural resources and wild life. (Study was done assessing the environmental and socio-economic impact of logging on the Community)	While developing opportunities for specific commodities in which the community has a comparative advantage it is seen as a sound basis for developing sustainable projects, rural development projects invariably require an integrated approach. Even in the context of limited financial resources, efforts should be made to provide the training and human resources capacity development, to enable community members to address all their developmental needs.

Flow Diagram Cashew Industry - Brazil



PEANUT MARKET IN GEORGETOWN

1. Name of Buyer: Mr. Sekeram, Sococo Inc., Georgetown, Tel. 070-1179
2. The present consumption of Sococo Inc. is 1½ tons/month of shelled nuts (110 lbs/day) for processing into peanut butter.
3. Prices presently offered are:
 - Unshelled G\$60/lb in Rupununi x bag of 100 lbs = \$6,000
 - Shelled G\$75/lb in Rupununi x bag of 100 lbs = \$7,500However, Mr. Sekeram did say that prices are negotiable.
4. Mr. Sekeram informs that the shells represent 10-15% of the weight of the peanut. If this is true, then a bag of 100 lbs would have 85 lbs of nuts and 15 lbs of shells. If the 85 lbs of unshelled nuts were hulled and sold for the shelled price of \$75/lb, the seller would receive G\$6,375 (85 lbs x \$75/lb). The additional benefit of \$375 (\$6,375 less unshelled price of \$6,000) is probably too little to pay for the shelling costs. Therefore, it would be necessary to negotiate a higher price for shelled nuts.
5. There are some advantages to shelling the nuts in the Rupununi; these are:
 - Hulls could be composted and given back to soil for fertiliser;
 - Volume would be less so transport costs would be lower;
 - Price paid for nuts is higher because value is added to product in rural areas, which creates job opportunities.Nevertheless, it will be important to introduce some mechanical form of hulling to minimise labour costs.
6. Mr. Sekeram is looking for export market via Sterling Products. If successful, his demand for nuts could increase substantially.
7. Mr. Sekeram said that peanuts could be placed in bag and beaten to remove the shells manually. This is very labour-intensive but might be done over the short term. For the longer term, one should consider mechanical shelling, of which there are two options presented in annex.
8. IPED is considering importing equipment such as peanut shellers from India which could then be sold on credit to groups of organised farmers.
9. IPED is interested in joint actions with other NGOs and donors working in the Rupununi.

