

TECHNICAL REPORTS
GENERATION OF SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE PROJECTS IN PRODUCTION CHAINS
IN GROUPS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN
CODE
04-P-07



INSTITUTO TECNÓLOGICO DE COSTA RICA
OFICINA DE EQUIDAD DE GÉNERO
FUNDATEC

THIRD PERIOD 3-MONTH
2009

Summary

This document is the third technical report of the project named GENERATION OF SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVE PROJETS IN PRODUCTION N CHAINS IN GROUPS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN. The period is from 20 December 2008 to 6 March 2009 and it is coordinated by the Gender Equity Program, Technological Information Center of Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica.

In this period, the most important results are:

- Completing the construction of the training center. The training center finally became a technology center with a communications antenna that will enable a wide range of options linked to the world.
- .Organizational strengthening of the women in the three groups. The three groups are more organized and working on the project.
- The training center will offer training to the entire community. This commitment was made to the community of Talamanca on the opening day (February 20, 2009).
- In 2009 the drawing up of a Tourist Guide Study Plan began with the CONARE Regionalization Fund. The objective of this fund is to create a permanent study plan in tourism.
- Talamanca is still a flood zone and its infrastructure conditions deteriorated (roads, water and electricity supply, housing and loss of crops). This makes this project absolutely fundamental.
- To finalize the proposal with the NGO, GRAD-FB BENIN. The final project will be submitted to Fundecooperación in April. This guarantees the second phase with funding from Fundecooperación through an [international](#) relationship.

2. Advancement in Complying with the Objectives

Table 1. Advancement of activities and compliance with the proposed parameters

| Objective | Activities | % Implementation | Outcomes | % Achievement | Process indicator | Comments |
|---|---|------------------|---|---------------|---|--|
| OE 1. Entrepreneur capacity of the indigenous women in sustainable productive projects | A.1.4. To plan and to execute the qualification program in occupational security and computer use | 80 | Teachers and materials for courses Computers set up with computer packages and networking Internet Connection | 70% | Electricity Internet reinstalled Configuration of the machines on a network | As of February 15, the laboratory has no electricity. This has delayed the installation of Internet and the beginning of the courses. The courses will be provided by the INA. It takes time for the assignment of the teacher and for them to have a title and to expand this throughout the community. It is expected that all this will be ended in April. |
| | A 1.5. To plan and to execute the qualification program technique (feasibility study). | 70 | They have been developed | 70 | A formal request is being prepared in order to be submitted to organizations | This process has been delayed because of flooding problems that have given priority to providing food It is expected to be formally submitted in April |
| OE 2. Establishing a space for human and technical permanent training | A 2.1. Construction of the Training Center | 100 | A building with two floors, one for the computer lab and the ground floor for classes and meetings | 85 | Installation of electricity and a septic tank Improving safety | With the project lacking resources they have not been able to hire workers to finish installing the septic tank |

| Objective | Activities | % Implementation | Outcomes | % Achievement | Process indicator | Comments |
|---|---|------------------|--|---------------|---|--|
| | A.2.2. Purchase of a computer equipment and a video bean | 100 | 14 computers and a video bean | 100 | Setting up computers | Move the computers at the end of March to Talamanca |
| | A.2.3. To make a pilot plan for human and technical training | 100 | Plans in computing, organic agriculture, small business, textiles and food | 100 | A course proposal was submitted to INA. They began formulating the Study Plan for tourist guides | It has been coordinating with the INA It is anticipated that it will start in April when the laboratory is completed. |
| OE.4 To create an alliance and transference of productive, commercial and educative strategies and relations with Costa Rica's enterprises, institutions and organizations | A 4.1 Elaboration of report about the project: strategic advances, results and alliances | 100 | Progress of the project | 100 | Developments were submitted and comments were answered | During the project an estimate was made of all supporting documents to the progress of the project |
| | A 4.5 Elaboration and presentation of the process and final report of the project to FUNDECOOPERACIÓN | 100 | Final project report | 100 | The final report was submitted on time | The final report submits the main lists and documents of the project |
| OE 5. To create an alliance and transference of productive, commercial and educative strategies and relations with Benin institutions and organizations | A 5.4 Communicating and reviewing proposals with Benin (FINAL) | 100 | There is a proposal describing the project and its budget | 90 | Budgets are being checked | In the month of March the final proposal is finished |
| | A 5.5 To submit final proposal to FUNDECOOPERACION | 100 | Final proposal for second stage | 90 | General review of the proposal | In the month of April the proposal will be submitted |

3. Obstacles and Corrective Measures

Table 2. Obstacles and corrective measures

| Obstacles | Corrective Measures | Result |
|--|--|--|
| Conflicts within a group of women. Internal problems caused the legal documents not to be updated | Registration of a new group with women who were involved in training during the year. | Three groups administering the Training Center with legal documents |
| Climatic/weather conditions forced the cancellation of training | Change programming skills | Incorporate into the 2009 Training Plan courses on natural hazards and first aid |
| Indigenous people who do not want the development of Talamanca | Discuss and explain the project to several community leaders | Increased community involvement in the project |
| Lack of skilled workers to complete construction | Assistance requested from the Instituto Tecnológico for technical staff to go to Talamanca to undertake the work | Quality work |

4. Unscheduled Activities

Table 3. Unscheduled Activities

| Objective | Activities | Products | Comments |
|---|---|--|--|
| Installation of a VSAT communication system | <p>Make the contacts with ICE</p> <p>Provide documentation</p> <p>Coordinate with the staff for the installation</p> <p>See Annex 7</p> | The installation of an antenna in the lab for Internet access | The donation of ICE is very valuable because it allows the Center to have a platform to communicate with the world. A vital tool to provide quality training and links with universities and INA |
| Courses in legal matters | <p>Coordinate with the women to organize a new organization</p> <p>Hiring a female lawyer for the training and handling process</p> | A new organization with women who have been receiving training | This was a decision made in consultation with Fundecooperación in order to assign the donation to three groups of women with legal documents updated. |
| Recovery of Talamanca family crops affected by floods | <p>Coordination with Universidad Nacional</p> <p>Schedule, List of Benefits</p> <p>Coordination with the groups</p> <p>Seed delivery for groups</p> | Strengthen clusters via productive projects | This is a new component of the project called "organic gardening", which aims to help feed families through the recovery of their crops |

5. Time Table and Execution Plan

| Objectives | Activities | December | January | February | March | April | | |
|---|------------|----------|---------|----------|-------|-------|--|--|
| OE 1. Entrepreneur capacity of the indigenous women in sustainable productive projects | A.1.4. | | | | | | | |
| | A 1.5 | | | | | | | |
| OE 2. Establishing a space for human and technical permanent training | A 2.1. | | | | | | | |
| | A 2.2. | | | | | | | |
| | A.2.3. | | | | | | | |
| OE.4 To create an alliance and transference of productive, commercial and educative strategies and relations with Costa Rica's | A 4.1 | | | | | | | |
| | A 4.5 | | | | | | | |
| OE 5.To create an alliance and transference of productive, commercial and educative strategies and relations with Bhutan's institutions and organizations | A 5,4 | | | | | | | |
| | A5.5 | | | | | | | |

Proposal Time Table Actual Execution

6. Sustainability

Institutional, financial and administrative resources

| Mechanism | Expected Result |
|---|---|
| CONARE Regionalization Fund | To create an academic option as a tour guide This option will establish a permanent presence at the Training Center and it will attract more aid or assistance directed towards trainers, materials and infrastructure |
| Women's groups to administer the center | Some services and courses will be chargeable. This will cover building maintenance |
| Relationship with Benin | The second phase of this project in conjunction with Benin, will allow for having an international presence in order to obtain cooperation from other organizations with the Training Center |

7. Impacts

| Mechanism | Change Expected |
|---|--|
| Economic | |
| To generate productive capacities in order to formulate proposals integrated with their environment and community | Productive activities that generate surpluses for investment, and not only for subsistence. The areas are tourism, organic agriculture and recycling. Business plan for each group with 15 members each. A total of 45 people benefiting directly and of nearly 200 indirectly. See Annex 2 Other groups followed this pattern and are shaping organizations in a cooperative way to achieve a surplus. A group comprised of 15 producers of bananas, cocoa and beans. |

| Mechanism | Change Expected |
|---|---|
| To generate income from the Training Center | The goal of the Center is to train and to benefit the whole community of Talamanca, a total of 6 thousand people. Some services will be charged with a symbolic fee for maintaining the Center. See Annex 1 |
| Environmental | |
| Information campaigns | Sensitize the community to prepare for disasters |
| Courses on solid waste recycling | Proper treatment of waste starting with each family |
| Courses on water purification: filters and septic tanks | Sanitation in each of the families to lower cancer diseases caused by contaminated water |
| Courses on environmental disasters | Preparing the community of Talamanca for future flooding, with first aid and prevention through community investment. |
| Social | |
| Open courses for the community on legal and technical issues. | Acquired knowledge in the community on rights and information obtained to seek help and to be prepared See Annex 4. |
| Support for the creation of more organizations | Community organized in key areas such as health, agriculture, community investment, recreation, security, disasters adolescence . |
| Mechanism | Expected Result |
| Gender equity | |
| Business plan of the three groups to initiate productive activities | Producing women and generating surpluses See Annex 7 |
| Integrate more women into the project by means of groups | Women with knowledge of their rights and opportunities for being educated and undertaking a productive activity. See Annex 2 |

| Mechanism | Change Expected |
|---|---|
| | |
| Integrate more women into the project through courses open to the community | Prepare women in different community and productive activities and techniques (computer, agriculture), administrative (small business) and environmental (water filters). See Annex 4 |

8. Observations and Recommendations

This project is being developed in an area very vulnerable to climatic conditions and high levels of poverty due to the low or lack of schooling, lack of specialized services in health and education and lack of funds for the work and investment. All these aspects make work very difficult.

Another major limitation is the slow learning of women. The understanding and initiative of women are very slow. It is a community with many basic needs that prevent women from assuming important leadership roles. There are many fears, insecurity (rape, violence against women) that prevent them from having the time and will to make major changes. The results with them have been slow, but there has been progress and a very important factor is the presence of young women and other community leaders aware of the need to move ahead.

These communities need more investment, not aid in food and clothes, but in project impact. This is an impactful project because it is a platform that will help all Talamanca in their key areas of life, community integration, organic farming, sustainable production, environment, health and safety.

9. Annexes

ANNEX 1. Minutes of the construction committee and after the opening, management committee.

ANNEX 2. Profile of participants.

ANNEX 3. List of participants in the project of "Organic Gardens"

ANNEX 4. List of participants for courses of the INA

ANNEX 5. Programs delivered

ANNEX 6. Registration documents of the new group

ANNEX 7. Productive projects

ANNEX 8. Budgetary modifications authorized

ANNEX 9. SWAT technique instruction installed in the Training Center

ANNEX 10. Counterpart

ANNEX 11. Photo

ANNEX 12. News

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