

Corporation of Agriculture Processors Suriname (CAPS)

Title: Export oriented entrepreneurial Development in Communities.

Objective: Poverty Alleviation/ Job Creation.

Creating Sustainable livelihood in Communities through excess to market and excess to Finance.

Target Group: Women and Youth,

Target group specify: Women and Youth 17-55

Locations: Brokopondo, Para, Marowijne, Sarramacca, Coronie, Wageningen.

Part of Sipaliwini.

Duration of Project: 2019- 2022

Project Organization: Foundation for the Coordination of Agriculture Processors Suriname.

Abbreviation: C.A.P.S

Background information CAPS

The Foundation for Coordination of Agriculture Processors in Suriname (C.A.P.S.) is officially founded in February 2018 but already operates for 6 years in the rural area of Suriname to train and mentor small scale farmers with their farming activities and help them to set up real business and enable them to benefit more from their farming activities.

In this regard we conduct training from 2009 to 2015 in nearly all districts in the Republic Of Suriname in close collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Husbandry and Fisheries and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Suriname.

Vision: We are the leading advocacy organization for small scale agricultural farmers and processors by enable especially Women and youth access to innovative technology, finance and (export) markets.

Mission: By bringing innovation and technology into communities Caps contributes to a better distribution of income and the improvement of the living conditions of especially women and young people.

Introduction

From the perspective of the FAO report on *'Global Agriculture towards 2050,'* agriculture is one of the main tools to alleviate poverty.

Poverty reduction requires investments in a number of different areas. These include:

- 1) Investments in sectors strongly linked to agricultural productivity growth, such as rural infrastructure (roads, ports, power, storage and irrigation systems);
- 2) Investments in institutions and the broader enabling environment for farmers (research and extension services, land tenure systems, veterinary and food safety control systems, insurance and risk management); and
- 3) Non-agricultural investment to bring about positive impacts on human wellbeing, including targeted food safety nets, social programs and cash transfers to the most needy.

(fao.>Global agriculture towards 2050)

The main goal of CAPS as the fair trade movement is to guarantee that small-scale farmers and artisanal producers to have more direct access to the market for their products, in more just and equitable conditions. It seeks to foster responsible consumption through more sustainable commercialization channels that are based on solidarity, recognizing the work of producers and their organizations. In this way, fair trade aims to reduce inequalities through greater equity and equilibrium in trade relations within countries as well among countries in the global north and south.

This movement, which fosters solidarity-based production and consumption patterns, is an important ally for the United Nations 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), since it promotes more inclusive and sustainable development, according to a new document published jointly by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Fair Trade Small Producers and Workers (CLAC).

(ECLAC report 2017 on Sustainable development & Poverty Alleviation)

Components of the project.

1. Research and development of export potential within Communities.
2. Training and mentoring of target group (Women & Youth) for a minimum of 3 years.
3. Bringing new and innovative technology into communities
4. Development of production chain within communities.
5. Setting up food nutrition laboratory to reach international food and Nonfood standards.
6. Purchasing/ renovation of production units (incubators) within Communities.
7. Product development of selected export products.
8. Agro tourism value chains as integrated part of the total development.
9. Development of proper packaging and labelling for export products.
10. Work with international partners to reach Standards.
11. Export of product to regional and international markets.
12. Set up a farmers financial system (in 5 years>Credit Union for small scale farmers)

Current workinggroups

We are currently working with the following farmers and processors in different districts.

These farmers are mainly small scale.

District	Type of products/producers
Coronie – Nickerie, Galibi , boskamp	Artisanal fishermen and women fish processors
Coronie	Fruit ; Honey ; coconut oil
Wageningen	Pepper
Saramacca	Fruit, flowers, vegetables
Marowijne	Roots & tubers & plantain : Cassava , sweet potato ginger, Arrow; flowers; Acai
Commewijne	Fruits, vegetables
Sipaliwini	Non-timber products oils and other cosmetic products, roots & tubers & peanuts; High land rice: original rice species from Africa
Para	Tubers: cassava & ginger

SWOT ANALYSIS

<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traditional knowledge - Relatively large production - Passion for farming - Processing of niche products. - Willingness to learn and develop new & innovative production methods. - Organic production. - Family oriented businesses (sustainability because of transfer of knowledge. 	<p>Weaknesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No or very limited access to finance to expand their production or to produce more efficiently. - No innovation in production technology. - Weak organizational structure - Limited sales - Poorly developed infrastructure within production area - Weak or totally no administration - Limited knowledge of international export requirements
<p>Opportunities'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased demand in local sales' - Increased demand from export markets. - Access to improved production technologies - Centralized administrative support - Increase opportunities for financial products through credit union support - Centralized processing units. 	<p>Treats'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to finance - Climate change