

ACTIVITY REPORT

Activity: Hygiene workshop for the community of Tepu
Financed by: Organization of American States (OAS)
Focal group: Indigenous communities of southeastern Suriname from the village of Tepu
Execution: The Amazon Conservation Team (ACT), Virginia, USA; President: Mark Plotkin; ACT Suriname Program Manager: Gwendolyn Emanuels
Counterparts: the Trio indigenous communities
Date: April 22 – 23, 2005

OBJECTIVE

The main activities in this reporting period were hygiene workshops for clinic personnel and the general community. The objective was to make the community more hygiene-minded, especially with regard to their personal hygiene. The purpose of the workshop for clinic personnel was to discuss rules with regard to hygiene in the traditional medicine clinic.

COORDINATION

Activities were coordinated by the ACT Suriname Health Program Coordinator Melvin Uiterloo. Assistance was provided by Biodiversity Coordinator Angela Monorath and Field Assistant Skapie Wongsonadi.

PARTICIPANTS

The participants were the local clinic staff of Tepu (Cornelis, Tunu, Tiwimo, Alanta, Saskia, Rakapa, Alekawa, Seose, Nimpase, Jernij, Marcelle); students from the local school; and 120 members of the community of Tepu (see attendance list at end of document).

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Friday April 22nd, 2005

After departing the Zorg & Hoop airstrip, the team arrived in Tepu and was welcomed at the airfield by the local ACT staff. The team had an informal meeting with the Kapitein Pikumi and explained the purpose of the workshops and the importance for Tepu. The local clinic staff was asked for their assistance in preparation for the workshops in the afternoon.

In the evening, a workshop was held for the entire Tepu community covering the hygiene situation in the village; why hygiene is beneficial; how to be hygienic; the most prevalent sicknesses in the village and their causes; the path of contamination; and oral, hand, food and personal hygiene skills. Although the workshop was well received and enjoyed strong community participation, short notice prevented the workshop from reaching the entire community.

Saturday April 23rd, 2005

At 9:30h, a meeting was held with the clinic personnel where the team explained the use of the new clinic supplies (dustbin, shelf paper, shovel, broom, mop, hinges, and black pails). The personnel was also guided in rule changes regarding hygiene practices in and around the clinics such as: cleaning and disinfection of the examination room; disinfection of non-disposable tools used during the examination; rules to keep the clinic free of dust by cleaning daily; daily removal of garbage; fabrication and utilization of closed storage cases; keeping the clinic surroundings free of garbage and water; daily work schedules (preparation of medicine, administrative work or patient examination); thoroughly cleaning bottles in which medicine are stored before use and re-use; and using separate rooms for different clinic activities (preparation of

medicine, examination of patients etc). The clinic personnel were asked to serve as an example for the rest of the community with regard to the hygiene situation. In the effort to improve the situation in the clinic, the MZ head Ms. Petti was asked to repeat the workshop at a later date. The team discussed conducting patient recordkeeping in Trio instead of Dutch with clinic administrators. In order to prevent confusion, it was decided that the workers would not write Western illness names. Printed patient forms were also presented and distributed to clinic personnel.

FOLLOW UP:

1. Evaluation of the hygiene situation in the village and especially in the clinic.
2. Organizing a shaman's apprentice evening in which 10 different subjects will be covered.
3. Evaluation of daily activities, and reorganizing the clinic with a radio room.
4. Repeat of the workshop at a later point in the year with Biodiversity Coordinator A. Monorath.

List of community participants

Participant(s)	Participant(s)	Participant(s)
46. S. Tansen	48. S. Kappa - Bahara	91. M. P. -
47. S. Kappa - Bahara	49. S. Kappa - Bahara	92. S. Kappa - Bahara
48. S. Kappa - Bahara	50. S. Kappa - Bahara	93. S. Kappa - Bahara
49. S. Kappa - Bahara	51. S. Kappa - Bahara	94. S. Kappa - Bahara
50. S. Kappa - Bahara	52. S. Kappa - Bahara	95. S. Kappa - Bahara
51. S. Kappa - Bahara	53. S. Kappa - Bahara	96. S. Kappa - Bahara
52. S. Kappa - Bahara	54. S. Kappa - Bahara	97. S. Kappa - Bahara
53. S. Kappa - Bahara	55. S. Kappa - Bahara	98. S. Kappa - Bahara
54. S. Kappa - Bahara	56. S. Kappa - Bahara	99. S. Kappa - Bahara
55. S. Kappa - Bahara	57. S. Kappa - Bahara	100. S. Kappa - Bahara
56. S. Kappa - Bahara	58. S. Kappa - Bahara	101. S. Kappa - Bahara
57. S. Kappa - Bahara	59. S. Kappa - Bahara	102. S. Kappa - Bahara
58. S. Kappa - Bahara	60. S. Kappa - Bahara	103. S. Kappa - Bahara
59. S. Kappa - Bahara	61. S. Kappa - Bahara	104. S. Kappa - Bahara
60. S. Kappa - Bahara	62. S. Kappa - Bahara	105. S. Kappa - Bahara
61. S. Kappa - Bahara	63. S. Kappa - Bahara	106. S. Kappa - Bahara
62. S. Kappa - Bahara	64. S. Kappa - Bahara	107. S. Kappa - Bahara
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64. S. Kappa - Bahara	66. S. Kappa - Bahara	109. S. Kappa - Bahara
65. S. Kappa - Bahara	67. S. Kappa - Bahara	110. S. Kappa - Bahara
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