

ACTIVITY REPORT

Activity: Hygiene workshop in Apetina
Financed by: OAS (Organization of American States)
Focal group: Indigenous communities of Southeastern Suriname, from the village of Apetina
Execution: The Amazon Conservation Team (ACT), Virginia, USA; President: Mark Plotkin; ACT Suriname Program Manager: Gwendolyn Emanuels
Counterparts: the Trio indigenous communities
Date: April 28-30, 2005

OBJECTIVE

The main activities in this reporting period were the hygiene workshops and project evaluation.

COORDINATION

Activities were coordinated by the Suriname Health Program Coordinator Melvin Uiterloo.

PARTICIPANTS

Participants were the local staff of Apetina (7); and the remainder of the community of Apetina (200).

ACTIVITY REPORT

Thursday April 28th, 2005

- 11:00 Departure Zorg & Hoop airstrip.
- 12:30 Arrival at Apetina. Welcome at the airfield by the local staff.
- 14:00-16:30 Installation of the freezer and solar panel by Rudi Liems.
- 16:30-17:00 Meeting with the Granman; introduction together with Rudi Liems by Samoe. The Granman was informed of planned activities. In this meeting, the Granman highlighted the pijai (spiritual healer) issue. He was informed that healing with spiritual powers is not the method used in the clinics, rather emphasis is placed on the medicinal value of plants from the rainforest. The Granman asked that the healer Okoi pay a visit the village, and advised conducting the workshop in the church instead of the krutu-oso.
- 19:30-20:30 Meeting with Samoe, Jakalika (treasurer Kuluwajak) and Marius to discuss fuel usage and dispensation.

Friday April 29th, 2005

- 9:00 - 11:00 Meeting with the clinic personnel to inform them about planned activities and ask for their assistance where needed. A presentation of staff was followed by a discussion and assessment of clinic activities for the month of April. The Granman requested that the shamans of Kwamalasamutu be brought to teach medicine preparation. The Coordinator recommended that the clinic staff collect traditional Wayana medicinal information from the elders in their own community. Finally, another local shaman (Tamisoen) was introduced by the Granman.
- 14:30- 17:30 Group walk with Tamisoen and the rest of the staff.
- 20:15-22:00 General hygiene workshop for the community of Apetina. Highlighted issues were:

- The hygiene situation in the village
- The reasons for being hygienic
- How to improve hygiene
- Sickesses observed most often in the village and their cause
- The path of contamination
- Oral hygiene skills
- Hand hygiene skills
- Food hygiene
 - Food safety in terms of use of:
 - Water
 - Clean kitchen
 - Safe storage
- Personal hygiene
- Hair washing
- Bathing

Saturday April 30th, 2005

11:15 Departure from Apetina

CHALLENGES

In the meeting of Tuesday, April 12, the staff of Apetina was asked to observe a set of policies:

1. Cleaning and disinfection of the examination room
2. Disinfection of non-disposable tools used during the examination
3. Keeping the clinic free of dust by cleaning daily
4. Daily removal of garbage
5. Fabrication and usage of closed storage cases
6. Keeping the clinic surroundings free of garbage and water
7. Daily work schedule (preparation of medicine, administrative work or patient examination)
8. Thoroughly cleaning the bottles in which medicine are stored before use and re-use
9. Separate rooms for different clinic activities (preparation of medicine, examination of patients etc.)

FOLLOW UP:

1. Evaluation of the hygiene situation in the village and especially in the clinic.
2. Evaluation of the shaman's apprentice program.
3. Evaluation of the health situation in the village.
4. Organizing a shamans & apprentices evening in which 10 different subjects will be covered.
5. Evaluation of daily activities.
6. Clarifying to the Wayana that the clinics are to be operated as they see fit.