

**Improving livelihoods in rural communities in Trinidad and Tobago by
developing small business ideas based on the sustainable use of
natural resources**



Speyside High School
Speyside
Tobago

14th – 15th September, 2010

1 Introduction

The Speyside workshop is part of a project called ***“Improving livelihoods in rural communities in Trinidad and Tobago by developing small business ideas based on the sustainable use of natural resources”*** funded by the **JB Fernandes Memorial Trust**. The purpose of the project is to improve people’s quality of life in six rural communities in Trinidad and Tobago through facilitating and supporting the development of small and micro-enterprises based on the sustainable use of natural resources. For this project, the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) will identify and work with six communities in Trinidad and Tobago who are interested in developing small businesses based on the sustainable use of natural resources (e.g. forests, fisheries, etc.). CANARI will assist communities in identifying their income generating project ideas, and help them work through the next steps, linking them up with agencies that can assist them in making their ideas a reality.

2 Workshop goal/ objectives

The goal of the workshop was to conduct a preliminary assessment with the community on the potential for developing small businesses to improve community livelihoods based on the sustainable use of natural resources. The workshop objectives were to:

- a) identify natural resources with potential to be sustainably used for small businesses;
- b) identify existing and potential community small businesses based on sustainable use of natural resources;
- c) identify key issues for management of natural resources; and
- d) identify other relevant initiatives.



Figure 1 Participants working on a map of the natural resources of Speyside

3 Methods

The workshop was highly interactive and participants were given an opportunity to share experiences with each other over two afternoons. The participants created maps of the natural resources of Speyside, used role playing to analyse their community and held group discussions to brainstorm ideas on the potential for natural resource based small businesses in the community (see Appendix 1 for the agenda).

4 Participants

There were 25 persons attending the workshop over the two afternoons (see Appendix 2 for the list of participants). Some were owners of their own businesses (e.g. caterers, craftsman) while others represented community organisations such as the Speyside Eco Marine Park Rangers (SEMPR) and the village council.

5 Selection of Speyside

Each community was chosen based on criteria that were developed by a committee. Speyside community ranked the criteria. This is shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Speyside community's ranking of the selection criteria

	Criteria	Rank given by community	Participants' comments
1	Rural community	HIGH	
2	Geographic spread	HIGH	
3	Potential for small enterprise development demonstrated by internal capacity (both at the community and individual level)	HIGH	
4	Some existing capacity within the community, including ability (time, skills) to be involved in strategic visioning and planning process	50% MEDIUM; 50% LOW	The community is too busy for projects.
5	Access to natural resources that can be sustainably used to develop a small business	HIGH	Most of the money from the use of natural resources does not stay in the community
6	Interest in developing a small business around natural resource use	MEDIUM	There is no understanding of the link between tourism and natural resources.
7	External factors, existing relationships, experience and linkages which may favour and facilitate enterprise development through the wise use of natural resources	MEDIUM	

	Criteria	Rank given by community	Participants' comments
8	Prior experience of partners working with the community	HIGH	
9	Potential to establish linkages with other projects and support initiatives of CANARI or other organisations	HIGH	
10	Existing infrastructure which facilitates access to community by car and also communication access by at least telephone	HIGH	
11	Partner(s) existing in the community willing and capable to assist with mobilisation and community engagement	MEDIUM	
12	High degree of collective commitment to community development	50% MEDIUM; 50% LOW	There is no commitment in the community. Most people want to know "what is in it for me"
13	Ethnic diversity among communities	LOW	
14	Livelihood vulnerability	HIGH	
15	Marginalisation from other assistance	MEDIUM	
16	Ability to replicate and adapt approaches in other communities	HIGH	



Figure 2 Participant acting as a reporter as part of the SWOT analysis

6 Findings

6.1 Key natural resources and their uses

The participants determined that the important natural resources in Speyside are:

Natural resources	Current Use	Past use (if different from current)	Potential use (if new)
Fish in the sea	Fishing (line, pots, spear)		
Coral reefs	Diving/ snorkelling		
Marine environment (Batteaux Bay)	Divers and snorkelers on sailboats		
Birds	Bird watching		
Forest (trails)	Hiking and tour guiding		
Wild animals in the forest	Hunting for use at home and for sale		
Turtles	Spear fishing		
Bamboo	Construction; music; temporary structures; guns		Jewellery; crafts
Wetland birds	Bird watching		
Fruit trees	Home use		Jams; jellies; juices; wines; chow

Natural resources	Current Use	Past use (if different from current)	Potential use (if new)
Crayfish	Bait	Food	Food/ delicacy
Small river fish	Bait		
Coconut trees	Dried coconuts used for cooking; husk used to smoke fish; brooms; coconut water; shell and leaves for crafts and jewellery; oil		
Wood from forest (not the forest reserve)	Smoke food; outside fire; dirt oven		
Lobster and conch	Food		

6.2 Existing and potential community businesses

The participants were able to identify several existing small businesses in the community using natural resources but did not determine many other new potential businesses. The existing community businesses were:

- dive establishments;
- fishing;
- bird watching; and
- tour guiding.

The additional potential natural resource based businesses identified were:

- jewellery making from the trees (bamboo, palms, etc.);
- craft/ art from the wood; and
- making preserves from fruits for sale.

6.3 Key issues in the management of the natural resource

One key issue in the management of the natural resource identified by the participants was that there is conflict among the users of the resources, for example between the divers and the fishers and between those hunting turtles and game and those involved in ecotourism.

6.4 Other relevant issues

In a discussion on the criteria used to select Speyside, the participants determined that there was low capacity of people in the community to give additional time to community activities. This was borne out by the number of community meetings that were taking



Figure 3 Participant ranking "ISSUES" as part of the SWOT analysis

place during the time of the meeting and the number of persons in the Fernandes workshop who attended several meetings simultaneously. One participant expressed the opinion that there may not be enough time in the community to handle a project such as this one at present.

One critical issue identified was that there was no collaboration or communication among members of the community. This can prevent the community from joining together to form small businesses.

6.5 Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) of Speyside

The participants performed a SWOT analysis of the community as a group in an effort to identify the challenges and opportunities within the community. Strengths and weaknesses are internal to the community, while opportunity and threats were external factors influencing the community.

Strengths:

- Good roads and utilities
- Youth an asset
- Vision for leading and managing
- Sports, food and funerals unite the community
- Quality service offered in Speyside
- Low crime (brother's keeper)
- Existing small businesses in the community
- Capacity to manage businesses
- Capacity to expand existing businesses
- Attractive for investors
- Cultural talents
- Good natural resources
- Hard- working

Weaknesses

- Locals do not support local businesses
- Community members do not always know the opportunities available for assistance
- The community lacks motivation
- There is a small number of persons in the area (small population)
- Lack of capital to start businesses
- Lack of contacts and social networks
- No unity among the members
- Low political voice/ self- servers are partisan
- Natural resources not used fully utilised
- Marketing of products lacking
- Perceptions that a protected area in Speyside would hurt livelihoods

Opportunities

- Ready outside support/ linkages
- Wildlife farming
- Access to funding agencies
- Protected area can protect resources
- New markets

Threats

- Speyside not being marketed
- Competition with businesses owned by “outsiders” (i.e. people not from or living in Speyside)
- Bush fires
- Few high speed internet connections
- Coral bleaching
- Speyside people not involved enough in deciding about protected areas

6.6 Recommendations for next steps in the process

The participants made few recommendations

- The participants suggested that CANARI appoint persons from within Speyside to help mobilise the community. This would help to get more people involved in the process and target others with skills that may prove useful in the process. At the end of the workshop, four ‘mobilisers’ were identified as point persons for the next workshops. These are shown in bold in Appendix 1.
- The participants asked that CANARI invite persons with successful small businesses based on the use of natural resources to the community to share their experiences to motivate the community to become involved in small businesses.

7 Overall results

During the evaluation at the end of the workshop, the participants told organisers that the meeting met their expectations. Most commented that they started to think of ideas for small businesses while others were happy that they participated in the initial workshop.

The objectives were met and developed a good basic foundation for the next stages of the project:

- The participants were able to identify most of the natural resources in their community, existing small businesses using these, and a few additional businesses that could use natural resources.
- Key issues for management of natural resources were identified, including conflict among resource users, challenges with mobilising community collective activities, capacity gaps in the community, limited markets and connection with markets, threats to the natural resources, and the perception that declaring a protected area in Speyside would threaten livelihoods.
- The Speyside Eco Marine Park Rangers (SEMPR) is a group established for the conservation of the marine park and was identified as another relevant initiative in the community. SEMPR is currently implementing a radio drama project and CANARI and other partners need to be sensitive to the limited capacity of the group to implement multiple concurrent projects. There are many other vibrant groups in the community that can be also engaged.



Figure 4 Evaluation technique used at the end of the workshop to ask participants how they felt

There were also some challenges with the community's capacity to participate. Despite what participants confirmed was very successful mobilisation, very few of the participants were able to fully participate on both days and this made the continuity of the meeting difficult. This may have affected the participants' ability to effectively participate in the discussions and analysis. The participants however, promised to share the information with those who were unable to attend all the meetings. The organisers will have to find other innovative ways to engage the community for the next steps in the project.

Members of the community volunteering to assist with future mobilisation showed that the community was willing to take ownership of the project.

Appendix 1



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Improving livelihoods in rural communities in Trinidad and Tobago by developing small business ideas based on the sustainable use of natural resources

Speyside

AGENDA

Tuesday 14th September 2010

5:00pm-5:30pm	Registration and Refreshments
5:30pm-6:30pm	Welcome and introductions
6:30pm-8:00pm	Identification of natural resources and existing/potential enterprises within the community based on the use of these
8:00pm-8:15pm	Thanks and close

Wednesday 15th September 2010

5:00pm-5:30pm	Refreshments
5:30pm-6:30pm	Identification of natural resources and existing/potential enterprises within the community based on the use of these (cont'd)
6:30pm-7:30pm	Analysing strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats
7:30pm-8:00pm	Next steps in the project and evaluation
8:00pm-8:30pm	Thanks and workshop close

Appendix 2

List of participants

	Name	Organisation	Tel#	Mobile #	Email address
1.	Rupert McKenna	Smokey's Smoked Fish SEMPR Speyside Village Council	660 6156	762 2202	rupert.mckenna43@gmail.com
2.	Dain Kent	Speyside	660 4010	767 5345	dbandyman@hotmail.com
3.	Keith Gibson	University of Calgary, Canada		396 2472	kwgibson@ucalgary.ca
4.	Carol Fraser Davidson		660 4030	791 0200	carolfraserdavidson@yahoo.com carolcfd@hotmail.com
5.	Meshell Trotman George		660 6192	477 5621	
6.	Peter Trotman	Speyside Eco – Marine Rangers	660 5151	320 0885	
7.	Karen Cooper Johnson		635 0885	745 7116	karencj16@hotmail.com
8.	Rollicks "Pastor" Johnson	Speyside Pentecostal Church Caterer		497 5272	rollicksj@hotmail.com
9.	Shurn Melville		660 6185	797 2166	pas-mello@hotmail.com
10.	Jephthah Davis	Speyside Village Council	660 4083	358 8991	
11.	Farley Augustine	Speyside Eco Marine Park Ranger Speyside High School	660 5532	743 6706	farley-augustine@hotmail.com
12.	Margaret Sampson	UNESCO Speyside High School		308 7156	ladydivinity28@hotmail.com

	Name	Organisation	Tel#	Mobile #	Email address
13.	Clement McPherson	Speyside Village Council	660 5911	756 2379	
14.	Keydell Kerr	Speyside High School		496 3243	kendell_14@live.com
15.	Javel Moses	Speyside High School		305 5728 712 4679	
16.	William Peters		660 4083	348 4375	goodest1@homtail.com
17.	Migelle Gray			720 2094	migelle6@gmail.com
18.	Pastra Denoon	Speyside Youth Group		746 9039	p.denoon@yahoo.com
19.	Earl Davidson			798 9932	
20.	Aisha Anderson	Speyside High School Environment Club	660 5361	722 3214	aisha.anderson@hotmail.com
21.	Jason Springer	Speyside		759 2631	pundastunda@hotmail.com
22.	McKeil McKenna	Resident		319 4371	metar4@gmail.com
23.	Anthony Cordner	Fundamental		354 6238	
24.	Jose Andrews	Craftsman		383 0960	
25.	Catherine Cordner	Resident			

**Improving livelihoods in rural communities in Trinidad and Tobago by
developing small business ideas based on the sustainable use of
natural resources**



Speyside Community Centre
Speyside
Tobago

Saturday May 14, 2011

1 Introduction

The workshop is part of a project called “***Improving livelihoods in rural communities in Trinidad and Tobago by developing small business ideas based on the sustainable use of natural resources***” funded by the **JB Fernandes Memorial Trust**. The purpose of the project is to improve people’s quality of life in six rural communities in Trinidad and Tobago through facilitating and supporting the development of small and micro-enterprises based on the sustainable use of natural resources.



Figure 1: Community members during introduction and recap session

For this project, the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) identified six communities in Trinidad and Tobago who are interested in developing small businesses based on the sustainable use of natural resources (e.g. forests, fisheries, etc.). CANARI assisted these communities in identifying their income generating project ideas, and helped them to work through the next steps. Through creating and supporting these business opportunities the livelihoods and incomes of community members may be improved.

The project is targeting the communities of Blanchisseuse, Brasso Seco, Heights of Aripo, Lopinot, Plum Mitan and Speyside.

2 Workshop objectives

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- a) develop a vision for enhanced quality of life in the community;
- b) identify a comprehensive list of potential sustainable natural resource-based businesses;
- c) apply feasibility criteria to choosing most feasible micro-enterprises that can be done by an individual, existing CBO, or collective group; and
- d) to validate what was the existing capacity of the community in being able to develop micro-enterprises.

3 Participants

Fourteen persons attended the workshop. The participants represented a variety of groups within the community, including the Speyside Village Council and the Speyside Eco-Marine Park Rangers (SEMPR). See Appendix 1 for the list of participants and organisations.



Figure 2: Visioning session drawing group

4 Methods

The workshop was highly interactive and participants were given an opportunity to share experiences and ideas with each other. The participants designed and dramatised their vision for the community. They also used interactive exercises and group discussions to identify the most feasible businesses for the community, and the capacity needs to develop these businesses. See Appendix 2 for the workshop agenda.

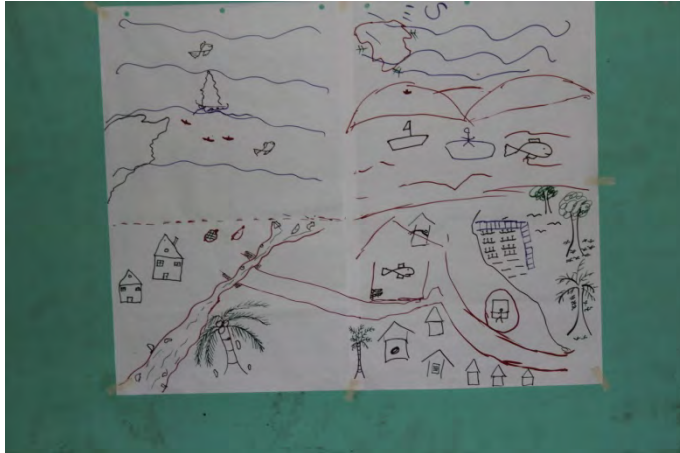


Figure 3: Drawing group's vision



Figure 4: Drama group preparing their vision

“Speyside doesn’t benefit from the richness of Speyside... it comes in and goes right back out” Rupert ‘Smokey’ McKenna.

Participants identified the community not being in control of its own resources as a serious challenge faced by the village.

5 Findings

5.1 Visioning

Participants were divided into two groups - one using drawing and the other drama -to express what they want to see in Speyside and how they want to help Speyside based on the sustainable use of natural resources. The participants discussed their individual ideas for Speyside and after assessing and debating each group created a single image for the future of Speyside.

The following list shows the elements common to both groups.

- Many different locally owned businesses
- Using tourism opportunities to create a market for other businesses
- Exporting goods out of Speyside
- Protection of the natural resources (sustainable use)
- Development that does not destroy the environment
- Togetherness/unity to encourage development
- Non partisan political supports this type of development in Speyside and provides legislation, policies, resources for action and enabling infrastructure and capacity building
- Welcoming and friendly
- A happy, safe, peaceful community
- Local control of management and use of resources

5.2 Communicating the Vision

Participants' discussion on communicating the common vision was heavily focused on developing a more united community. When discussing how to effectively communicate the shared vision for the future of Speyside, the conversation focused on the unity aspect. The participants believed that the vision can be communicated through various community activities, such as sports and cultural events. Participants felt that the Village Council should take the lead in facilitating these community activities, in order to bring together the various community groups. Through unity and the strengthening of community bonds, the villagers can be exposed to and input in the vision.



Figure 5: Traditional dance in the Drama group's vision

5.3 Identifying potential businesses

The participants compiled a list of the potential businesses based on the resources available in Speyside. The list was quite extensive so the businesses were grouped where possible (see Table 1).

- Speyside market: agricultural produce, local processed foods, craft.
- Organic farming
- Craft making
- Craft shop
- Information centre (local businesses pay to advertise)
- Dive centre (trained local divers)
- Fruit products: jams, fresh juice, wine for local use and export
- Tours: bird watching, forest, island, reef, turtle nesting
- Food court: serving traditional food
- Local guest houses (Bed & Breakfast)
- Breadfruit and cassava processing for sale and export: chips, flour, farine, etc.
- Fishing
- Fish processing for local and export (corning, salting, smoking, etc.)

5.4 Feasibility of businesses

The above list of potential businesses was ranked by the participants, using a table and scoring each business based on



Figure 6: Drama group's vision



Figure 7: Group discussing the feasibility criteria

several important criteria provided by CANARI. See Appendix 3.

During the feasibility assessment the participants analysed all the potential businesses by asking several important questions relating to seven categories. Participants scored the availability of healthy natural resources to be used for all businesses very highly. The participants were confident in their ability to extract their resources sustainably, except in fishing. They identified that more assistance and training was needed in sustainable fishing practices.

The participants ranked access to other resources highly for most businesses. They expressed concern about the access to financing for fishing, fish processing and the food court that require large initial investments. Participants indicated that the infrastructure of the area could support all businesses.

In the market category all businesses scored highly. Participants indicated that competition for most businesses would be relatively low, except for the tour business which has very high competition. However, Speyside is renowned for its diving and other tourist attractions which would give the village an advantage. Participants were also very confident in their ability to access existing markets for all businesses save the dive centre, because it is a difficult market to get into and requires certification and strict safety protocols. Processed fruit would also be difficult to market because most locals can make their own preserves at home.



Figure 8: Prioritised list of potential businesses

Existing business skills were identified as lacking within the community, particularly in service oriented businesses, such as the Speyside market and tour guiding. The participants were also extremely confident and willing to get involved in all the businesses except the craft shop. The participants present had neither the skills for craft, nor expressed a desire to get involved in a craft business. They noted that others in the village may be interested. The business was identified as something that would complement the other potential tourist activities.

In the 'contribution to wider community' category participants were confident that all businesses will positively impact the village, and as such the wider village will support the businesses. Participants believed that they would have access to external support for all businesses with few outside conflicts. They were also able to identify models to follow and or take lessons from for all businesses except for organic farming.

The Speyside participants believed that the ranking system may have hidden the potential of some of the businesses. For example, processing fruits was ranked relatively low, however the participants believed that it was practical because of the low start up costs, an abundance of the fruits and local knowledge of how to process the fruits. The business however scored low in the access to other

resources and market categories.

After ranking the businesses participants identified linkages between many of the businesses, most of which could be linked to the Speyside market, the information centre or the food court. These were identified as related and critical elements of developing small business opportunities in Speyside. Participants emphasised the importance of having an integrated approach to small business development in Speyside.

Participants also felt that they could create a Speyside brand. This idea had originally emerged from the drawing group's discussion of their vision.

The table below is the ranked list of potential businesses and some key points which came up during participants' discussions.

Table 1: Prioritised list of potential businesses

Ranking	Potential Business	Key Issues
55	Craft making	
55	Organic farming	Hard to market because its expensive
55	Speyside market	
54	Information centre	Will benefit all businesses
53	Breadfruit and cassava processing	People prefer all natural products
53	Fishing	New fishermen can increase production
53	Food court	
52	Tours	
51	Local guest house	
51	Dive centre	Hard to break into the market; it is expensive
50	Fruit products	Score does not reflect feasibility; low start up costs
49	Fish processing	Scored low in because of high start up cost and need for lots of space
46	Craft shop	People not interested; customer service weak

The chart below shows linkages among the various businesses which participants and facilitators identified after completing the ranking.

Linkages identified among the potential businesses in Speyside

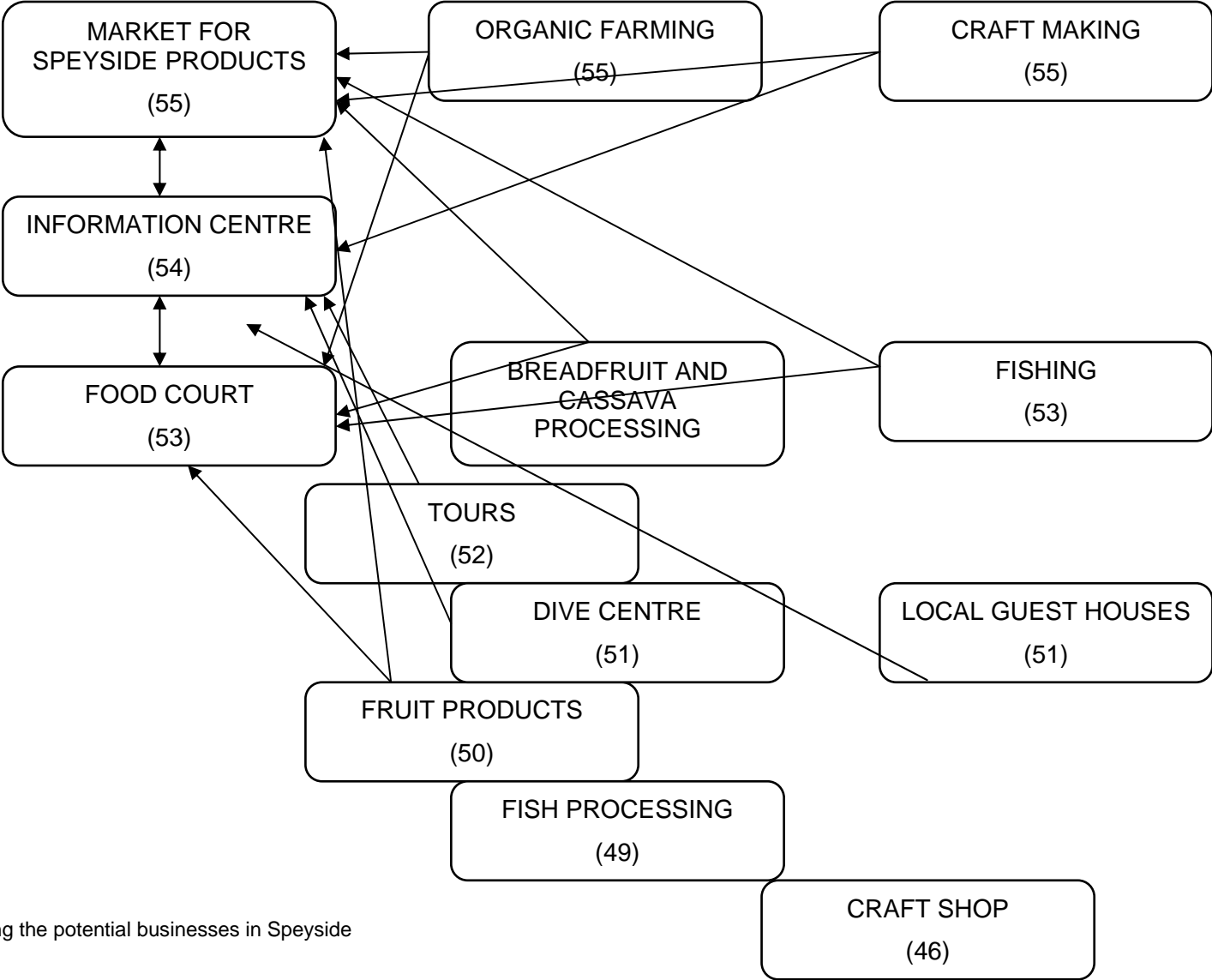


Figure 9: Linkages among the potential businesses in Speyside



Figure 10: Participants writing up the findings of the feasibility assessment

5.5 Capacity needs

Participants compiled a list of specific needs to be addressed in order for them to move forward with the businesses chosen after the ranking process.

- Training in business skills (financial management, organisational skills and customer service)
- Technical training (tour guiding, safety, first aid)
- More external support is needed, especially with start up costs

5.6 Evaluation

An evaluation line was used so that participants could rank (from zero or none to 100 or complete) where they started at the beginning of the workshop and where they finished in terms of the objectives of the workshop.

The participants were satisfied with the workshop and described the process as enlightening. Their main concern was that any development in Speyside must benefit the community. Participants expressed a marked improvement in their ability to prioritise and choose a small business to develop. The majority of participants came to the workshop eager to get involved in small business development and by the end all of the participants' excitement and enthusiasm had increased. Similarly, most participants had an idea of what skills were required to start up small businesses and what skills and knowledge were still needed.

The workshop achieved all its objectives. The participants developed a vision for the improvement of Speyside through discussion and debate. They created a list of potential natural resource based businesses and critically assessed these businesses by asking several important questions. Finally the participants identified their current capacity to develop small businesses and identified critical areas to develop further. After the workshop, the participants were excited about the development potential of the community. This was compounded by their invitation to present their business ideas at the Community Expo one week after. There was also a change in the attitude of the participants with regards to their ability to move forward with their business ideas. This was a clear sign that their confidence in the ideas increased as they asked themselves the crucial questions about whether or not their businesses were sound.

6 Conclusion and next steps

At the end of the day the participants realised through the various exercises that most of their potential business ideas can be grouped into the creation a Speyside brand. The branding of Speyside not only achieves the goals of this project, in that it can dramatically improve the livelihoods of the entire community of Speyside, it also achieves the vision which the participants share of a united Speyside community, which is in command and control of their own natural resources.

The workshop prepared the participants for the Community Expo where five participants were selected to represent Speyside. and present the most feasible business ideas which came out of the workshop and network with funding and technical support agencies that can further facilitate and support the business development in the community.

Participants also expressed their desire to be more in control of the management of Speyside's resources as a community. CANARI can assist the community in developing a proposal to plan local involvement in decisions about how Speyside marine area will be managed.



Figure 11: Participants on the evaluation line

Appendix 1

Sustainable rural livelihoods workshop 2
 Speyside, Tobago
 Participant list
 May 14 2011

Name	Organisation	Phone	Email
Jace Bishop	Speyside Eco-Marine Park Rangers (SEMPR)	678-3284	jace.bishop@hotmail.com
Giselle Alexander	SEMPR	301-4913	
Keith Gibson	SEMPR (mentor)	396-2472	kwgibson@ucalgary.ca
Anthony Cordner	Fundamentals	354-6233	
Sheena Alexander	SEMPR, EDASC (??)	333-9857	sheenalexander@yahoo.com
Meshell T. George	SEMPR, EDASC, Speyside Village Council (SVC)	477-5621	
Doreen Perez	Speyside Village Council, EDASC	660-6106	
Rollicks Johnson	Speyside Penticostal	497-5272	rollicksj@hotmail.com
Rupert McKenna	SEMPR, SVC, Shore line fish T	660-6156, 762-2202	rupert.mckenna43@gmail.com
Roslyn Philip		683-4056, 766-0093	rose_phil67@hotmail.com
Brenda Gray	Caterer	660-5201	
Javel Moses		721-4679, 305-5728	sparkler123@hotmail.com
Shurn Melville	business owner	660-6185	pas-mello@hotmail.com
Keydell Kerr	UNESCO, Environmental Club, Speyside Steel Orchestra, Speyside High School	496-3243	keydell_14@live.com

Appendix 2



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Improving livelihoods in rural communities in Trinidad and Tobago by developing small business ideas based on the sustainable use of natural resources

Speyside

May 14, 2011

Agenda

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Welcome, introductions, overview of first workshop |
| 10:30 – 11:30 | Visioning – introduction, small group |
| 11:30 – 11:45 | Break |
| 11:45 – 12:45 | Small group report, development of common vision |
| 12:45 – 1:15 | Develop comprehensive list of potential sustainable natural resource-based businesses |
| 1:15 – 2:00 | Lunch (group businesses and participants) |
| 2:00 – 2:45 | Introduce feasibility criteria to choose most feasible micro-enterprises
Apply to one business |
| 2:45 – 3:45 | Small group work to apply feasibility criteria |
| 3:45 – 4:30 | Small groups present
Select most feasible for development in the short-term |
| 4:30 – 5:00 | Summary of capacity needs of community
Wrap-up and next steps for Community Expo |



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Appendix 3

Feasibility Criteria

Potential businesses	Natural Resources			Access to other resources			Market				Capacity				Contribution to the community			External support		Mod	Tot
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(b)		
Craft making	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	0	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	2	3	55
Organic farming	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	55
Speyside market	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	55
Information centre	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	0	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	54
Bread fruit and cassava processing	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	1	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	53
Fishing	3	3	1	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	53
Fish Processing	3	3	3	1	1	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	53
Tours	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	0	3	3	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	52
Local guest houses	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	2	3	51
Dive centre	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	1	3	2	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	51
Processed fruit	2	3	3	2	2	1	3	1	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	50



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Food Court	3	3	3	2	0	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	1	3	2	2	3	2	3	49
Craft shop	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	0	3	0	0	3	3	3	3	0	3	46



Improving livelihoods in rural communities in Trinidad and Tobago by developing small business ideas based on the sustainable use of natural resources

Feasibility criteria for potential businesses

(Highlighted are most important that can exclude a business)

1. Natural resources:

- a. Is there legal (formal or informal) access to these resources?
- b. Are the resources “healthy” enough to be sustainably used?
- c. Is there a sustainable method of extraction that can be applied?

2. Access to other resources (physical, financial, material):

- a. Do individuals, groups, or CBOs have access to finance?
- b. Do individuals, groups, or CBOs have the physical (e.g. space, a building) and material (e.g. tools) resources needed?
- c. Is there appropriate infrastructure (e.g. roads for transportation, internet services, telephone, access to banking, electricity, water)?

3. Market:

- a. Is there evidence of an existing market for the products or services?
- b. Is there access to this market?
- c. What is the competition?
- d. Can a market be created?

4. Capacity of community:

- a. Do individuals, groups, or CBOs have existing business skills (e.g. financial management, marketing, people management and communication)?
- b. Are there existing successful small businesses in the community that can contribute to / link with this business?
- c. Do individuals, groups, or CBOs have existing skills, knowledge, and/or experience in this particular business?
- d. Are those individuals, groups, or CBOs willing / “ready” / confident to get involved in this business?

5. Contribution to the community:

- a. What would be the contribution to the wider community?
- b. Is there likely to be wider support from within the community?
- c. Is there likely to be conflict and opposition from within the community?

6. External support:

- a. Are there existing and/or potential avenues of support (from external agencies, other CBOs, other)?
- b. Is there likely to be conflict and opposition from outside the community?

7. Models:

- a. Are there existing relevant models from other communities with respect to this particular business?

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developing small business ideas based on the sustainable use of natural
resources**

Final visit – Speyside

Thursday 02nd June, 2011

Objectives

1. To get feedback from the community on the whole project – workshops and Community Expo
 - a. Results – benefits
 - b. Lessons
2. To identify specific and concrete actions for next steps by the community
3. To identify any specific future support needed from CANARI

Agenda

1. Review the project – objectives, what was done
2. Ask evaluation probing questions:
 - a. What do you think was the most important thing that the project achieved?
 - b. How did the project impact on you personally?
 - c. What do you think could have been done differently / better?
3. Help the community to develop a workplan for their next steps: what is the task, who will be responsible / lead, who will help, when will this be done
4. Ask them what support they need from CANARI, if any, in taking their ideas forward (will be different for different communities).
5. Closure – note that we will submit reports to them on their workshops, the Community Expo, and the whole project

Attending

Participants

Jace Bishop

Shurn Melville

Rollicks Johnson

Meshell Trotman-George

Anthony Corder

Facilitator

Keisha Sandy

Results

1. Evaluation probing questions:
 - a. Most important thing the project achieved:
 - Persons in the community worked together for one goal.
 - Meeting the organisations and other groups at the Community Expo in Trinidad. The Community Expo was eye-opening
 - Project motivated the community to try new businesses with some of the natural resources that are wasting in community (e.g. many of the fruits and vegetables)
 - b. Impacts on individuals:
 - Participant learned about development of businesses
 - Understood that the businesses can help Speyside to develop
 - Learned about organisations that can assist with the development of other individual businesses
 - Motivated some entrepreneurs to put structure in existing natural resource-based small businesses.
 - c. Recommendations for improvement:
 - The participants thought that CANARI executed a good project and there was nothing that could be improved.

2. Further support needed from CANARI in taking their ideas forward:
 - Mentor or “big brother” to the groups in Speyside. This includes providing advice and direction on further development of the businesses
 - Support for the training efforts
 - Assistance when preparing to interact with the organisations that can provide assistance. The participants found that the brief preparation session before presenting at the Community Expo helped them to express their points clearly.

3. Community work plan for their next steps:

What is the task?	Who responsible/ lead?	Who will help?	When?	Agency providing assistance
Acquire the craft market from the Tobago House of Assembly to be used for fruit and vegetable processing (e.g. jams, jellies, breadfruit chips, etc.)				
Write plan/ proposal to use the craft market	Jace Bishop, Anthony Cordner, Rollicks Johnson, Shurn Melville	Speyside Eco Marine Park Rangers (SEMPR)	July 20, 2011	Rollicks Johnson to seek assistance from the Speyside High School Business Dep't
Present the plan to the Tobago House of Assembly	Jace Bishop, Anthony Cordner, Rollicks Johnson, Shurn Melville	SEMPR	August 15, 2011	
Training in fruit and vegetable processing	Jace Bishop	Rollicks Johnson	December 31, 2011	Marketing Department (THA) to be approached for the training
Training in business management	Anthony Cordner	Jace Bishop, CANARI (??)	November 30, 2011	Community Development Fund will be approached for funding
Training in public speaking	Meshell Trotman-George	SEMPR, Barry Lovelace, Dave Elliot	December 31, 2011	Meshell Trotman to ask Media and Training Services Ltd.
Training in tour guiding	Jace Bishop	SEMPR, Anthony Cordner	June 30, 2011	Jace Bishop to ask William Trim, Environment Tobago and the Tourism Dep't

What is the task?	Who responsible/ lead?	Who will help?	When?	Agency providing assistance
				for training to be certified as tour guides
Approach the Community Development Fund (CDF) for financial assistance for the training and equipment needs for the various businesses	Anthony Cordner	Jace Bishop, Shurn Melville	July 31, 2011	

Conclusion

The participants thought that Speyside may not have the passion to initiate the businesses but may only do so when they can see something happening. One participant questioned if Speyside was interested in doing any type of business on its own at this time.

CANARI will continue to support the Speyside community as it seeks to develop natural resource-based businesses including mentoring the community and providing training in areas such as proposal design. CANARI will also seek to facilitate continued development of partnerships with other organisations that can provide assistance to the community.