SCPDA Newsletter
September 1, 2012

South Central People’s Development Association (SCPDA)

A Brief History of Who We Are

SCPDA was started in 1992 by a group of head teachers who saw the need to upgrade local teachers for the better delivery of teaching services within the South Central area. The organization was originally named the South Central Indigenous Peoples Association (SCIPA).

Observing that there was a substantial group of young women and men within the communities with few job opportunities, SCPDA then engaged in a series of skills training programmes starting with typing involving 21 women ages 18-25 at Dadanawa Ranch, and later ran a program in brick making.

By 1996 the organization changed their name to the South Central People’s Development Association (SCPDA) because it was felt that this better embraced the mixed population of the member communities.

The same year, SCPDA collaborated with the Building Community Capacity Programme (BCCP), funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), to promote hygiene and nutrition in the 10 communities of South Central Rupununi. SCPDA also further broadened its mandate to tackle issues of greater significance to the region - like malaria outreach and livestock development.

To promote a wider area of scope, the 10 original communities of South Central were joined by the 7 Deep South communities under the SCPDA mandate which forges an opportunity for collaboration between SCPDA and both the

Our Mission

SCPDA is dedicated to securing and sustainably managing Wapichan traditional lands in Guyana and improving the livelihoods of the people in these communities. This will be done by supporting income generating activities, taking under its mandate aspects of natural resource management, and focusing increasingly on issues and projects with potential implications for livelihood and food security of the area.
The Team

The following individuals are on SCPDA’s Board of Directors. Their constant support has been vital to our organization.

President: Sir Cedric Buckley (Sawariwau)
Vice President: Habert Wilson (Katoonarib)
Treasurer: Alan Fredericks (Shulinab)
Secretary: Sir James Eusebio (Potarinau)
Assistant Secretary Treasurer: Jillian Isaacs (Potarinau)

The staff of SCPDA have been instrumental in the creation, delivery, and facilitation of projects. Their hard work has contributed to the success of SCPDA projects.

Current staff members include:

Kid James, Project Coordinator (Aishalton)
Nicholas Fredericks, Field Coordinator (Shulinab)
Arnold Stephens, Field Coordinator (Karaudarnawa)
Joan Stephens, Finance Officer (Meriwau)

Management Plan Dissemination

From May to June 2012, SCPDA’s staff and facilitators visited 16 communities to disseminate the management plan ‘BAOKOPA’O WA DIITINPAN WADAUNINNAO ATI’O NII (THINKING TOGHETER FOR THOSE COMING BEHIND US)”. This document is an outline plan for the care of Wapichan territory in Guyana. In creating this document, consultations and meetings were held with communities to develop content - including land and resource maps.

SCPDA held a 2-day workshop in each community where facilitators went through the contents of the management plan document, in Wapishana and English, and answered any questions that community members had. Copies of the Management Plan were also distributed to Village Councils. To access the Management Plan, please visit your Village Council office and inquire within.

SCPDA would like to thank our facilitators for a job well done!

Facilitators:
Habert Wilson (Katoonarib)
Angelbert Johnny (Sawariwau)
Lorentino Herman (Rupunau)
Philip Brown (Aishalton)
Andrea Saba (Shiriri)
Antonia Barjoan (Aishalton)

Our Past Projects

What has SCPDA done for the South Central and South Rupununi communities? The following list describes projects that SCPDA has previously been involved in:

1. Improving nutrition and hygiene standards by establishing communal vegetable farms, and training 20 persons in hygiene, nutrition, and cookery. (April 2000-September 2001)
2. Reducing the incidence of malaria by establishing community spray teams, spraying homes, educating people about malaria, and giving free nets to households (February 2002-December 2002)
3. Training in improved brick-making to provide youths with skills to become self-employed (March 2003)
4. Feasibility studies in cash crop and livestock rearing, craft production, farms, fisheries, and more (2011)
South Central People’s Development Association

Main Office: Shulinab, South Central Rupununi
Sub-Office: Aishalton, South Rupununi
Region 9, Guyana
South America
Phone: 772-9290
E-mail: scpdagy@gmail.com

If you’d like more information on SCPDA, please feel free to email us at
scpdagy@gmail.com

or talk to our individual staff members in their respective villages.

Individual staff contacts:
Kid James - Project Coordinator
Aishalton
kidrodelo@gmail.com

Nicholas Fredericks - Field Coordinator
Shulinab
rupununi_spar@yahoo.com

What’s Next?

Since June, SCPDA’s staff has been working hard to develop the Strategic Plan for the next 10 years.

SCPDA’s potential programs and projects will focus on topics such as:

- Food Security & Livelihoods
- Education & Training
- Health & HIV/AIDS
- Cultural Development & Sports
- Natural Resources & the Environment
- Governance & Leadership

Once the Strategic Plan has been finalized, it will be shared with communities, NGOs, and other stakeholders.

If you would like more information, please contact any one of our staff members via email, phone, or our Facebook page.