

**PHE PROJECT ARCHIVE – LATIN AMERICA REGION**

Project_name and summary	Contact/Website	Lessons (pai_summary)/	Advice (pai_summary)
<p>Rede de Desenvolvimento Humano (REDEH) Northeast, Brazil</p> <p>Agentes da Cidadania das Águas: Promovendo a participação da mulher nas políticas de combate à desertificação (Water Citizenship Agents: promoting women's participation in policies against desertification) 2002-07-01 to 2002-12-01</p>	<p>Rua Álvaro Alvim 21/16 - 20031-010 - Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brasil</p> <p><a href="http://www.redeh.org.br">http://www.redeh.org.br</a></p>	<p>The primary RH activities involve hygiene and breast feeding education. Environmental activities consist of capacity building for social agents to multiply and mobilize around issues related to the region's geography and natural resources. This includes desertification awareness education (principles, concepts and methods for control), as well as water education (water as a finite resource, how to best use available resources and which water source to use for each respective activity).</p>	<p>Environmental education is crucial to the access and sustainable use of water in the draught region. The interaction of technical and empirical knowledge, combined with articulation within various levels of institutions is important. Advice to others who are interested in initiating an integrated project is to thoroughly assess community needs, work with the community and be creative.</p>
<p>Management Sciences for Health (MSH) Manicoré, Amazonas, Brazil</p> <p>Amazon Initiative for Health and Sustainable Development (AMISADE) 2002-05-01 - 2005-03-01</p>	<p>MSH do Brasil, Gethal Amazonas Av. Getulio Vargas 730 Centro 69280-000 Manicoré, AM Brazil Phone/Fax: (97)-385-1037 National Office: MSH Rua Timoteo de Costa 478 #802 22450-130 Rio de Janeiro, RJ Brazil</p> <p><a href="http://www.msh.org">http://www.msh.org</a></p>	<p>The reproductive health program consists of RH, FP, HIV/AIDS/STI training for both urban and rural community health workers. Such training is also provided for members of the women-focused handicraft cooperative. Community health workers are then able to implement appropriate activities for students and adolescents, such as peer-to-peer activities pertaining to adolescent RH, involving both urban and rural youth. The environmental initiatives involve the project-based sustainable use of non-timber forest products. Examples are seed-based handicrafts, recycled materials, and planting of specific natural resources to guarantee supply and diminish reliance on forest exploration. These initiatives are income generators as well. Future plans include a demonstration area to provide education regarding soil conservation, composting, organic gardens and methods to reduce reliance upon slash and burn agriculture. Also in the planning stage is an environmental education initiative for adolescents, which will be part of the peer-to-peer health education activities.</p>	<p>Be flexible and patient; community acceptance and participation is slow work. A project should secure funding prior to initiation and set small, realistic, manageable goals.</p>

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<p>Projeto Sa�de e Alegria (PSA)</p> <p>Brazilian Amazon (State of Para)</p> <p>Community and Reproductive Health in the Amazon</p> <p>2001-03-01 to 2005-09-01</p>	<p>Travessa Dom Amando, 697 Santar�m, PA BRAZIL CEP 68.005-420</p> <p>PHONES: (55.93) 523-1083 or 522-2161 FAX: (55.93) 522-5144 EMAIL: psa@saudeealegria.org.br</p>	<p>www.saudeealegria.org.br</p>	<p>The is to promote basic and preventive community and reproductive health, adapted to the local reality of Amazon Rainforest communities. And to improve quality of life and, at the same time, the process of integrated community sustainable development, so that it may serve as a model to improve the public policies for the Amazon. Reproductive health activities include family planning education as well as training to local health workers and midwives in women�s health, child health, oral health, hygiene and sanitation, etc. The project organizes Women Groups to contribute to community development, and Local Community Councils of Health to help manage local public health policy. Other services include regular immunizations for children and pregnant women. Rural producers and women's groups are trained in agro-forestry, forest management, and fire prevention. In conjunction with the training, the project helps implement agro-forest systems and communal forest reserves. The project provides for environmental health infrastructures (i.e. solar energy, health posts, water supply systems and treatment machinery, etc). Training is offered in labor education, household economics (micro-credit) and environmental home industry for income generation. Moreover, the project supports activities to improve the quality of native plant food production and activities to stimulate the use of natural medicines.</p>	<p>Combining technical knowledge with common knowledge is key to building appropriate methodologies for solutions that are sustainable by the communities.</p>
<p>FUNEDESIN (Foundation for Integrated Education and Development Amazon Region, Ecuador)</p> <p>FUNEDESIN Health and Education Project</p> <p>2002-09-01 to ??</p>	<p>douglas@funedesin.org</p>	<p>www.funedesin.org</p>	<p>The objective of FUNEDESIN's program is to ensure that the people of the region to have access to reproductive health methods and education. The project aims to empower women to decide the number of children they have, and to help young people understand the connection of family size and environmental degradation. The new educational program currently in development will work with schools (mainly high schools) in 23 communities. The students will be involved in practical programs that involve all aspects of the foundation�s work; eco-tourism, agriculture, conservation, health and education. In addition to the school programs, the project operates a clinic which has been in service for 7 years. However, family planning work in the clinic began only a little over a year ago.</p>	<p>For linguistic (Quichua) and cultural (indigenous) reasons, it is necessary to work within small groups. Moreover, projects must be well-planned and provide for their own sustainability. This is not the kind of project that one can operate for 3 years and then leave. workshops were best way to implement educational programs. In regards to sexual education, the team needs to be exclusively female. For environmental issues, the team can be composed of either men or women. It is important to have hands-on projects, as opposed to typical classroom instruction techniques, especially for young people.</p>

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<p>The Equilibrium Fund Suchitepequez Guatemala; Chinandega Nicaragua</p> <p>Maya Breadnut Project 2002-01-01 to ??</p>	<p>P.O. Box 2371 Crested Butte CO, USA 81224</p>	<p>www.the equilibriu mfund.or g</p>	<p>The project is run by and for women, so naturally the issues of nutrition, RH and FP arose in the early stages of the program. Pap smears, lab exams and female sterilization are available for interested female program participants. The integration of conservation and RH has been much slower in Guatemala than in Nicaragua, but there is progress. The economic valuation of the Maya Breadnut has led to regional protection of the tree species, and increased interest in reforestation and conservation of the trees. The women participants are very interested in our program as an income generator, and because they exercise all of the program decisions (and mistakes). In addition, the women are investing themselves in the program because of the link with family nutrition (Maya Breadnut is extremely nutritious). Information about the nutrition and processing methodology for Maya Breadnut has been produced and disseminated in participating communities, due to requests made by NGOs and other communities.</p>	<p>Focus on women in order to achieve long term results. It was challenging in the beginning, particularly in hiring women professionals (agronomists, natural resource managers, engineers, etc) in regions where female professionals are scarce, but the long-term impacts are incredible and long-lasting. Some of the women participating in the programs are now attending night school while their husbands watch the children. This is a direct result of the community becoming aware that women too can have earning power when they are educated and empowered.</p>
<p>Peruvian Amazon Conservation Peru Amazon</p> <p>Peruvian Amazon Conservation 1993-01-01 to ???</p>	<p>Dr. Eleanor Smithwick 404- 378-9800 pacmail@minds pring.com</p>	<p>www.am azoncon servation .com</p>	<p>The project aims to promote the conservation of surrounding rain forests, rivers, and bio-diversity through wise management of community-protected, extractive reserves. Conservation activities are aimed at sustainable agriculture and animal husbandry, including the support of home-based businesses to supplement income from subsistence fishing and farming (as economic alternatives to the commercial harvesting of rain forest trees). From the health perspective, the project teaches individuals and families in the community better practices in sanitation, first aid and nutrition, as well as education on the advantages of family planning. Depo-Provera is offered as a simple, secure, long-term, easily reversible, culturally acceptable method of family planning.</p>	

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<p>Project Concern International El Salvador</p> <p>Planificando Juntos, "Planning Together 2000-09-01 to 2003-01-01"</p>	<p>EGS Sal No. 18-281 PO Box 522877 Miami, Florida 33152 USA</p>	<p><a href="http://www.projectconcern.org">http://www.projectconcern.org</a></p>	<p>PCI provides information about the different available family planning methods. PCI also disseminates detailed information on a new natural family planning method known as the "Standard Days Method" to people who desire a natural method and are currently using none. A referral system was also established whereby PCI or a community volunteer would refer potential users of family planning methods to Ministry of Health clinics. To advance natural resource conservation, PCI has taught community members about the proper utilization of available water resources and the protection of micro watersheds and other water sources. PCI also introduced latrines and established maintenance practices and education on basic sanitation.</p>	<p>Support for family planning education is easier in communities where the organization already has well-established projects. Community trust in personnel and volunteers is key. The natural method of family planning has been well-accepted by communities, as it does not have religious opposition or secondary effects.</p>
<p>Conservation International Selva Lacandona, Chiapas, Mexico</p> <p>Población y Medio Ambiente (Population and Environment) Mesoamérica Programme 2001-01-01 to 2003-12-01</p>	<p><a href="mailto:isanchez@conservation.org">isanchez@conservation.org</a></p>	<p><a href="http://www.ci-mexico.org.mx">http://www.ci-mexico.org.mx</a></p>	<p>The Conversation International program has the stated aim of reducing threats to biodiversity and improving community welfare in the Selva Lacandona region. CI and its partners intend to give women the necessary tools to improve their own destinies through access to information about safe birthing, pre- and post- natal care, the value of breastfeeding and approaches to controlling their own fertility. To facilitate the actual provision of medical care, CI provides training for nurses, midwives, and local extension workers. More broadly speaking, CI aims to improve the sexual health of the community through talks, video screenings, and focus groups for young people. To preserve the local environment, CI has chosen to focus on agriculture intensification projects, such as growing cash crops like vanilla and honey, and livestock raising for food or cash. At the same time, organic farming methods and organic pesticides are being promoted as sustainable solutions.</p>	<p>The inclusion of community members in the planning of the project plays a major role in the eventual success of the program. In addition to this, an adequate monitoring system is an integral tool.</p>