# 2<sup>nd</sup> PROGRESS REPORT for Project "Creating a Community Tourism Cooperative – Honduras" funded through the ECOCLUB.com Ecotourism Awards 2009

Submitted by ICADE Honduras November 26, 2009

### A. Project Title

Organization of the local community in the Cooperative of Buenos Aires

### B. Project Summary

For a long time the local community of Buenos Aires has handled tourism activities inside the Cusuco National Park in an disorganized way, now after the actual market situation they got together to develop this activity for the future.

## C. Project Schedule and Time Line \*\*

Activity	Date	Status
1)Workshop Organization Alternatives	18-19 August 2009	Completed
2)Workshop Cooperative Basics	27-29 August 2009	Completed
3)Workshop Planning Adm and Control	2-4 November 2009	Completed
4)Cooperative rules	1- 4 September 2009	Completed
5)Legal procedures	1 September till today	
6)Newspaper		Not completed
7)First General Meeting		Not completed

<sup>\*\*</sup> In the original document this activities were supposed to start in July but with the current political situation in the Country there has been a delay of time. We have worked modifying the schedule times and making alliances to finish this project in the time assigned.

#### D. Methodology

Before starting the workshops we did a tour of the ecolodge facilities and the National Park infrastructures (visitor center, administration office, public facilities, and trails) to check the status of them. We also organised, the previous night, a small meeting with people from the community to motivate them and talked about their old experiences handling tourism.

#### 1) Workshop Organization Alternatives

In the first workshop we explained the Buenos Aires people the different kind of organizations that exist nowadays to manage the tourism activity and other production activities. We compared them to the cooperative structure and realize about the benefits that this kind of organization will give to their community. As they talked with the final structure that they choose according to their and our experience was: Empresa de Servicios Multiples en Turismo(Multiple Services Company, inside the social business Honduran laws). This decision was made considering the number of minimum members for a General Meeting and the economic requirements as basic capital. (12 community members)

#### 2) Workshop Cooperative Basics

According to the Honduran law we gave them a Cooperative course, explaining them all the history about cooperatives in Honduras how they work and what is the organization and structure inside the social business structure. In this meeting they choose their representatives, the name of the business and they gave us all the basic documentation to start the legal procedure. (50 community members)

With the feedback of this workshop we created the Cooperative's General Rules and documents in order to apply for a legal entity for the cooperative, the name they chose was ETURJIL, Empresa Turistica Los Jilgueros.

### **3) Workshop** Planning, Administration and Control

At the same time they will be processing the Legal Entity and after they have elected their representatives, we conducted another workshop about how they will manage their cooperative in the future, and explain them key factors as planning, organization, management and control.

#### 4) Legal procedures:

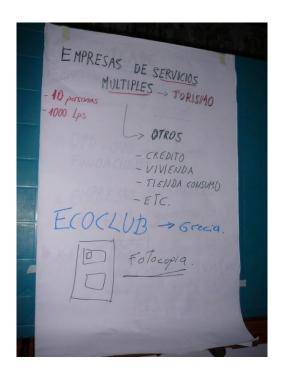
Letter of authorisation by the Cooperative to the lawyer
Validation of the Instrument of Incorporation
Legal Entity application with IHDECOOP
Processing and reception of the Legal Entity
Editing of documents in order to publish them in the national newspaper

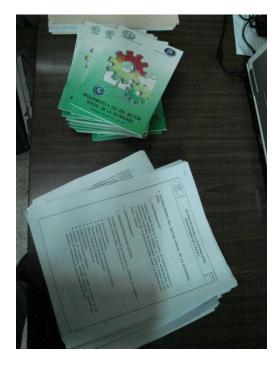
The legal procedures were really complicated, as in Honduras the political situation is uncertain, we had to deal with different requirements that were not foreseen (changing the documents, change of staff in the government offices). At the end we have finished all the legal procedures and they gave us a confirmation that we are in the process of creating a new enterprise-cooperative and we have to wait some extra weeks to have the legal entity for the cooperative. We haven't done the First General Meeting but we need the legal entity papers to do that and give this to the community. We will paid the newspaper publication and the First General Meeting because with the current political situation we expect that maybe in January we will have the legal entity to finish the process.

## E. Activities and events



First Workshop: Organization Alternatives





First Workshop: Organization Alternatives Documents and Info for the Community



Second Workshop: Cooperative Basics, amazing 50 people participation, record for the community





Second Workshop: Cooperative Basics





Third Workshop Planning, Administration and Control with the cooperative leaders



Third Workshop Planning, Administration and Control documents guide lines for the community

## Record of New Enterprise: Empresa de Turismo los Jilgueros Limitada (ETURJIL)

