

Communication on Progress – Amazon Caribbean Guyana LTD

Amazon Caribbean Guyana LTD celebrates its 20th Anniversary this year. In 1987, Pierre Saint-Arroman and Xavier Richard, established the first food processing plant in the rain forest of Guyana, since, the company has gained partnership of Amerindian communities, provided decent income to a thousand families, obtained the first organic certification for hearts of palm and pineapple, to market proudly processed products all around the world.

In 2000, the CEO signed the Global Compact draft by the UN Secretary General providing the frame of his vision of responsible business.

Our mission is to generate economical value from the natural food resources growing in Guyana, in partnership with the Amerindian communities.

Our vision is that the Amerindian (Indigenous) people will become key players in the global economy as their land and heritage will supply natural food and medicine for the future generation.

Our goals are to maintain the sustainability of the natural resources, increase the level of income, health and education of the communities and supply the international market with high quality certified safe organic food products.

Our means are the training of employees and farmers to secure for the following decades the international organic certification (with Ecocert International), to obtain in 2007 the IFS certification, up keep the first aid certifications, to continue our support to remote schools and teachers, facilitate health prevention (AIDS/HIV & malaria,..) support facilitated by the Guyana Red Cross.

Our Rewards

- Organic certification since 1998
- “*Savor of the Year*” Award in 2003
- “*The World Business Awards in support of the Millennium Development Goals*” in 2004.

Our commitments

Following our active participation to *The Millennium Development Goals and The Private Sector, The Caribbean Experience in July 2005*, we made the commitments to promote and embrace 5 out of the 12 proposed MDGs’ projects:

1. Continue to contribute to the eradication of poverty by improving the net income of our employees and local suppliers
2. Reinforce the local development by increasing the number of partnerships with communities

3. Environmentally Sustainable Business Practices by investing in training to maintain or gain organic certification, innovative engineering to reduce fuel consumption and emissions
4. Improving Education Systems by increasing our support to schools and teachers of the communities
5. HIV and AIDS awareness by promoting workshops in the communities

What has been accomplished so far

- Increase the income of the employees, above the average national inflation
- Involve additional communities in the heart of palm and pineapple agro-processing activity and insure sustainable training to secure the international organic certification
- Build sports facilities, refurbish the Club and promote social activities in Drum Hill, Barima River, Region 1, in order for the youth of the communities to enjoy their free time and avoid idling, drinking habits, and other unproductive habits
- Renovate the sewing room and promote more training
- Significantly decrease the fuel consumption of the factories and compounds, investing fuel efficient equipment, better flow recycling systems, using locally processed palm oil carburant, rising awareness among the employees and suppliers
- Participate to the construction of a bigger school in Black Water (Region 1), and guaranty the teacher's salary
- Set up the First Aid training with the Guyana Red Cross in the 3 output locations
- Facilitate 5 Health prevention workshops
- Continue to build up dialogues with NGO's and Amerindians Associations and Government of Guyana
- Keep the 20 year old "zero bribe" steady policy