



CARIBBEAN NATURAL RESOURCES INSTITUTE

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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.

Project Purpose

The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) is a non-governmental organisation working in all of the islands of the Caribbean to promote and facilitate the involvement of people in the management of natural resources so that people's livelihoods are improved and the natural resources are conserved.

For this project, 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.). We 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 you in making their ideas a reality.

Through creating and supporting these business opportunities the livelihoods and income of community members may be improved.

Project overview and coordination

With funding from the JB Fernandes Memorial Trust, CANARI has been asked to lead this process by identifying and supporting six community groups for this project. This will be done through a series of workshops that encourage dialogue that will assist groups in planning for their future by visioning and preparation of strategic plans. Small business and income earning ideas will be a part of the planning workshops. A feasibility assessment of potential small businesses will also be conducted to select the top choices.

Project Objective

Each selected community group will have the opportunity to discuss and plan for the future of their group/community through workshops by expert facilitators from CANARI. During these sessions, ideas for small businesses will be explored and developed for their income generating potential. These business ideas must be based on the sustainable use of natural resources in and around the selected community.

Project Results

At the end of this phase of this project, communities:

- will have jointly developed a vision and strategic plan for your community group;
- will have made a short list of ideas that may be further developed into business plans for the next phase of this project;
- will have built up connections with important agencies that can support your small business development ideas;
- will be ready for the next phase which will be networking with agencies that can assist you to develop detailed project ideas and business plans and steer you through planning and application procedures.

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