



SOMONCA, INC.

Ecological Society

SOSUA-MONTELLANO-CABARETE

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PROFILE STUDY OF THE RIVER CLEAN SOSUA

As a national pilot scheme for all rivers.

PREPARED BY

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General Secretary of SOMONCA

ABSTRACT

Title: Profile of Study of River Cleanup Sosua.

Description: This project is designed to create and develop a plan to clean up the Sosua River to protect valuable natural resources

OBJECTIVES

- **First: Run a program of environmental education through various workshops and activities to deal with schools, churches, social clubs, cultural groups, traders, businessmen, official institutions, and so on to educate them about the difficult situation prevailing in the environment around the City of Sosua. This includes cleaning up the river with a Sosua-wide social and educational plan that includes cleaning and reforestation, that will also protect the river from further pollution,**
- **Second: Two tanks with bio-materials from various plants, such as coral dust, sand, coal and coconut as well as biochemical fluids, all locally made. The tank size is 45 x 16 mtrs. The front of the tank consists of a wall with holes to avoid danger on the way to the beach and trap plastic and other rubbish. This wall with holes goes through a daily cleaning process.**
- **Third: From the bridge of Sosua down to the mouth of Rio Sosua on the board, all sides would be dredged transferring of garbage and other contaminants to the dump, "La Union." We also propose covering the trash and planting trees (the trees eat organic waste, produce oxygen and eliminate odors) that result in benefit to the community of La Union "and preventing noxious odors at the airport" Gregorio Luperón "**
- **Fourth: To declare the entire national park Sosua Rio and down the eco-tourist park with a tourist and educational attraction, which might include trips across the river in boats.**

GOALS

- After cleaning up the river in the first part Sosua, Sosua from the bridge down to the beach board, pour into the river a couple hundred thousand fish of different species, protected by concrete barriers with Barillas and block; reforest the river with trees such as Bamboo, Pomo and other species of trees.
- A great support for this project would be the Municipal Nursery which could supply all the trees and ornamental plants we needed.
- Unite twenty communities, a thousand adults, four thousand children and student volunteers from the protection of the environment by cleaning the river, beaches and the seabed.
- Conduct lectures, courses, workshops and seminars promoting reforestation and environmental and river basins in the Municipality of Sosua.
- Produce and distribute posters and local information about the importance of water quality, sanitation, the River, reforestation, environmental conservation, beautification and education plan.
- Generate revenues in excess of two million pesos from the sale of fish, donations and contributions of ecotourism park visitors.

The Sosua River (1970) was one of the most beautiful rivers in the Dominican Republic. At that time, the water quality was above the national mineral and quality. (Photo)

Since that date, the population has increased beyond what the river can sustain, and the river is extremely polluted, because all residents have their blackwater and grey water pipes dumping directly to the river. The worst part is the bottom of the mouth of the sea with the name of the board.

It turns out that at this time the Rio Sosua is one of the most polluted rivers in the Dominican Republic and the beach at the mouth of the River Sosua seems a complete dump. The seabed contains garbage cans, pampers, plastic, bottles and much more polluting waste.

The corals are dying, and this is disastrous for fish reproduction. The penalty is that in some years past, it was declared a national park. Our intentions as embodied within SOMONCA Ecological Society and the City of Sosua are to eliminate pollution of the river and beach of Sosua.

Next we will present solutions to this major problem of pollution and we expect their contribution not only in material and money, but also in council and technical collaboration.

JUSTIFICATION

Borough Council of Sosua, proposed in the beginning of his administration to promote a program aimed at the protection and conservation of natural resources, within a municipal strategic plan to ensure a healthy environment, environmental beautification and reforestation of the river basins, especially the river Sosua and the catalina River, which feeds water source intakes serving this precious liquid to residents and visitors who frequent this important tourist region in the north.

This proposal municipal nursery is an important component of this plan and is aimed at the mass production of plants of different species to promote the recovery of native and endemic plants in the area, some endangered, then plant them in strategic places such as the upper, middle and lower rivers of the municipality, in the roadside, in parks, streets, avenues and green areas, and provide plants at subsidized prices to residents who care about beautifying their front yards, and that Sosua can look like a beautiful tropical garden. That is, restore the ecological balance in the area.

This area is dominated by subtropical rainforest, with a rainfall regime of around 1,600 mm average annually. We propose to launch a massive plan for planting of ornamental plants, forest and fruit, which favorably influence the creation of an environment conducive to nesting birds of different species of native, endemic and other migratory species, which would become a tourist attraction for nature lovers who frequent this important tourist area.

The property and importance in the coming years in this part of Sosua (beaches) that are the most beautiful beaches and attractive for ecotourism. The port area little and Rio Mar Beach including private owners as CARLITO BERMUDEZ provides an excellent opportunity for local investors who are concerned about the environment and could create some five hundreds new jobs.

The most important element for any economic development in this part of the island is cleaning up the river Sosua. The town of Sosua and the Ecological Society can play a great part in development of this wonderful place with all its natural beauty to solve the immense problems we have there. The Lord President of the Dominican Republic began to work on the development of new housing to dislodge the plank and above, so that all people who pollute the river with all waste and sewage leave the place known as El Tablon. And that with your support in less than two years the Ecological Society and the city of Sosua were able to complete this major project

EDUCATION

Education plays a leading role in implementing this project, since our main concern is that it contributes to raise awareness of the population about the natural environment that surrounds them.

Through a series of educational activities we intend to involve people in the communities of the municipalities of Sosua, Montellano, Cabarete in the Province of Puerto Plata that will gain the most benefit.

Through an education company of clubs, community associations, schools, the importance of reforestation to improve the quality of life in the Borough will be promoted.

Schools will be presented Special Education program for the conservation and protection of Natural Resources; building awareness for parents and their children and all residents in the municipality, to learn to love and protect rivers and trees. This is the first link in the food chain, producing oxygen, regulators of the winds, protectors of the land as guarantees of infiltration and percolation of rainwater.

This will be accomplished through conducting lectures, courses, workshops, days of planting, among others.

This is essential for the development of the project; the media are a vital part of the process to guide, educate, raise awareness and promote environmental management in communities.

In summary the education we seek to:

- 1 – Gain the support of the entire community in this project with full force.
- 2 - Raise awareness of the importance of this project for the environment.
- 3 – Develop a national promotional campaign to increase the project.
- 4 - Sensitize the community about the benefits they can derive from this project and thus encourage them to protect the environment themselves.

BENEFICIARIES

The towns of Sosua and Cabarete Sabaneta de Yásica, Hotels, Florists, Farmers, and institutions such as the Rotary Club, Lions Club, and the Ecological Society SOMONCA.

Economic viability.

The Economy.

The prospect is that this project generates finances in less than 3 years sufficient for self-management; that is the vision that we face in these the new times. Therefore it is necessary for the project from the beginning to develop a viable economic infrastructure.

On the economic front we have two alternatives:

- **Ecotourism:** The projection of international tourism, seeking support from the government sector, establishing various camps, with horseback riding, visiting local monuments.
- **Local and National Tourism:** Becoming a magnet for Dominicans (as), a beach with protection 24 hours a day, with the ecological attraction of horseback riding, play area for children and opportunities to practice sport fishing.

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FEASIBILITY SOCIO - CULTURAL

The project will be coordinated by the City through a technical and operational team headed by a foreman and an Executive Director. For the implementation of the City Council support of other entities related to the education sector, research and natural resources, prior to its implementation must have the approval of provincial and municipal authorities of the province and municipalities Since Plata Sosua, Montellano and Cabarete.

It will be overseen by the City Council 2006-2010.

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TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY

The executive council of the City Council will be headed by its trustee directly responsible for the project for which appointed an Executive Director of the same. Beside the project with President 2006-2010, which has a chief technical officer and will have its own Administrative Financial through the constitution of the council.

EVALUATION

There will be a biannual assessment of the project, which will review the execution. Activities may be rescheduled, but not alter their goals or fail to meet the goals.

The final evaluation will take place at the end of year 3 of the project and the document containing the same shall be distributed to all Board members and institutions, businesses and workforces. At the same time will be determined after the project finished. The Board of Directors in full you must sign the final document, but its legality will depend on your attorney for certification purposes.

PROJECT LOCATION

The Municipality of Sosua which belongs to the province of Puerto Plata, located in the northern Dominican Republic. Bounded on the north by the Atlantic Ocean, the South by the Northern Range to the east with the municipalities of Gaspar Hernandez and Jamao north and west by the Municipality of Montellano. The river is located specifically in the area called The Board.

In summary the education we seek to:

- 1 - The support of the entire community in this project with full force.**
- 2 - Raise awareness of the importance of this project on the environment.**
- 3 - Promote the campaign nationally to grow the project.**
- 4 - Sensitize the community about the benefits they can derive from this project and thus teach them to protect the environment themselves.**

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The financial resources of the project will be managed by the Municipal Council of Sosua through a special account overseen by the Project Steering Council, whom the Financial Department of the City Council will submit a biannual report on revenues and expenditures of the project.

Expenditures will be made by check signed by the President and Vice-President at the request of SOMONCA Technical Director of the Project Steering Council resolution thereof.

In summary the education we seek to:

- 1 - The support of the entire community in this project with full force.**
- 2 - Raise awareness of the importance of this project on the environment.**
- 3 - Promotion campaign nationally to multiply the project.**
- 4 - Sensitize the community about the benefits they can derive from this project and thus protect the environment themselves.**

INVESTMENT

The project will be divided into four phases:

I - EDUCATION: (see 'Education Program '): a reforestation with about 150.000 trees (see plan reforestation), cleaning of the river (rubbish on the banks) over a length of 15 km (see front page)

RD \$ 5, 360.000 .- / U.S. \$ 148,889 .- @ 36.00

II - GARBAGE: Grid, to protect the garbage: garbage so it cannot come into the sea, it is removed and cleaned daily.

Two - Bio-filter-tanks, composed of several layers of fine materials such as coral dust, fine sand and coconut's hair. The bins have a size of 45 br ex 16m long, the river must first through these bins before they are discharged into the sea, by filtering will significantly improve the quality and no further damage to the beach, the coral and the quality of seawater.

RD \$ 11,500,000 .- / U.S. \$ 319,445 .- @ 36.00

III - 7 KM POLLUTED SLUDGE: Sosuarivier from the dredging and dumping on the local landfill. This very harmful garbage will then be planted with trees, the trees so the organic produce oxygen and absorb pollution, making the tedious and unpleasant odors to the Int airport and the village of "La Union" is expelled, it is also very bad Health for CO2 and Methane Gases Dioxin, facilitation of asthma and bronchitis, even cancer!

Cost \$ 12,200,000 .- / U.S. \$ 338,889 .- @ 36.00

IV- ECO-TOURIST PARK: This is a pilot program, with many educational information. All different types of trees, plants and flowers, get their scientific and local names, this for the students and tourists who like to know what grows and thrives. Fish farming and restaurants to maintain the sustainability and park on the beach side kiosks provided to the various self-made souvenirs to sell to the tourists, it provides jobs and money to pay the whole

RD \$ 9,217,750 .- / U.S. \$ 256,049 .- @ 36.00

Total investment - US \$ 1,063,269.00

CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Leonel Fernandez Reina – President of the Dominican Republic

Dr. Jaime David Fernandez Mirabal – National Environment Secretary

Dr. Francisco Javier García – National Tourism Secretary

Bernabe Mañon Sub - Secretary of Environment

Lic. Francis Vargas – Senator Puerto Plata

Lic. Vladimir Cespedes Mayor of Sosua

Mr. Herman Strauss President Development Association of Sosua

Mr. Evaristo Martínez President SOMONCA, INC.

**Mr. Garry Kooy Director Department of Forestry and
Environmental Project of the City of Sosua
Vice-President SOMONCA Inc**

Mr. Jose Luis Díaz Rodríguez General Secretary of SOMONCA

Mr. Edgar A. Castillo (C.P.A.) Enc. Finance SOMONCA, INC.