

Report of Multi-Stakeholder Forums held in Region One

This report has two parts:

- **Part One** (pages 1- 8) comprises a summary of the 6 conversations held at the community level between March 11th 2006 and April 1st 2006, in Region 1.
- **Part Two** (pages 9-15) is a summary of the outcomes of the Regional Conference held on May 16th 2006 for Region 1 as well as the points raised at the community level.

The information in this report is based on the information discussed at the community and regional conversations. The information has not been verified through any research or follow up enquiries.

PART ONE

SUMMARY OF LOCAL COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Total Number of Consultations Held: 6
 Total Number of Participants: 315
 Average attendance: 52.5

Summary Table of participation:

Area	Venue	Date	Attendance
Santa Rosa	Santa Rosa Secondary School	11 th March, 2006	135
Mabaruma	North West Secondary School	12 ^h March, 2006	30
Port Kaituma	Port Kaituma Secondary School	30 ^h March, 2006	59
Arakaka	Arakaka Primary School	31 st March, 2006	30
Matthews Ridge	Matthews Ridge Primary School	1 st April, 2006	25
Waramuri	Waramuri Primary School	1 st April, 2006	36

1. What does Region One celebrate as positives in Guyana:

Everyone celebrates the freedom of expression in Guyana, although Amerindians are disappointed because of critical comments about them. Furthermore, people celebrate the opportunity to consult with a cross-section of the community. They are happy about the interest people are showing in the development of their surroundings. Participants have a sense of hopefulness for a better Guyana – the country people love also for its beauty and natural resources.

2. What are Region One's Elements of a Vision for Guyana:

People hope for a better **racial bonding**, **equal opportunities**, further **empowerment of the youth** and more **respect** between the generations. A country with better **policing**, **judicial system** and an enhanced **educational system** is also very much part of this vision. Lastly, people are longing for more **efficiency** in the **infrastructure** and a richer **investment in local production**.

3. Key issues raised by residents/participants:

See Summary Table of Issues on page 4

Amerindians in Region One express strong sentiments regarding their situation. In particular, they are worried about how specific Amerindian issues are not incorporated into a **new legislation**. They are concerned that **information** regarding their rights and social programmes may fail to reach the population. However, few issues seem to unite all the inhabitants of the region. Participants are concerned about **poor infrastructure** and a **weak education system**. Opportunities for the **youth** are a great concern, especially as a tool to keep them away from the consumption of alcohol and the development of anti-social behaviour. People want to see **jobs** as the cure for social and economic difficulties. Further development of the **tourism** industry is an area people look to in particular. In addition, participants expressed the dream of more **agricultural production plants** and improved **marketing**.

Participants of the conversations identify several issues which **may lead to violent conflict**. These are:

- i) Limited job opportunities and access to jobs created by foreign companies in particular,
- ii) Amerindian sentiments of being marginalized,
- iii) Juvenile delinquency,
- iv) Lack of proper treatment of domestic violence, and
- v) Alleged corruption in land allocation.

4. Residents'/Participants' feelings about and expectations from the conversations:

Expectations towards the conversations were not high among all participants. Some participants (e.g. those who left early) still think this was just another 'talk shop'. However, most

participants are now eagerly looking forward for the results, and perhaps, anticipating other conversations. Overall, there was a widespread satisfaction with the coordination of the conversations.

5. Process Issues:

Attendance in most of the communities was moderate. No forum had poor attendance

Summary Table of Issues

Present local conflicts/ Areas of tension	No. of Communities	Names of Communities which raised issue	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
INFRASTRUCTURE			
Lack of proper transportation in the communities	5	Mabaruma, Santa Rosa, Waramuri, Arakaka, Port Kaituma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start community boat services. Re-introduce the ferry plying the Georgetown – Port Kaituma route
Inadequate health care facilities and acute shortage of health personnel and drugs	4	Santa Rosa Port Kaituma, Matthew Ridge, Arakaka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for an X-ray machine and proper laboratory test. Government must at least arrange frequent visits by health personnel
Deplorable state of roads and bridges	4	Waramuri, Arakaka, Port Kaituma, Mabaruma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Villages can supply some of the labour and maintenance. The Waramuri landing needs to be fixed, as well as the bridge linking Waramuri with Para. A new bridge at Mabaruma blocks the river way
Limited electricity and telecommunication services	4	Mabaruma, Waramuri, Matthews Ridge, Arakaka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GT&T needs to expand services. GPL needs to provide service. Government needs to consider establishing Hydro power
Storage and supply of water inadequate	4	Mabaruma Matthews Ridge Arakaka Port Kaituma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wells need to be dug. Proper and fair distribution needs to be attained
Poor execution of projects	2	Mabaruma, Waramuri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work that is being done should be done by experts. Planning needs to be improved
Need for a Post Office	1	Matthews Ridge	
SOCIAL INCLUSION/COHESION			

Present local conflicts/ Areas of tension	No. of Communities	Names of Communities which raised issue	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
Call for government assistance in creating unity in the communities	2	Mabaruma, Santa Rosa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More community consultations. ERC should establish offices in the communities
Government neglect of Amerindian areas	1	Santa Rosa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of Indigenous People's Commission
Discrimination against women	1	Santa Rosa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment of female ranks in the Police Force
<i>SOCIAL ISSUES</i>			
Need for social workers	1	Santa Rosa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counselling centres need to be established
School age prostitution and sexual abuse of children	3	Mabaruma, Waramuri, Port Kaituma	
Negative influences of out of school youths on students	4	Mabaruma, Matthew Ridge, Arakaka, Port Kaituma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing skills training centre for school dropouts. Re-introduction of National Service
Insufficient facilities for youths	4	Mabaruma, Matthew Ridge Arakaka, Port Kaituma	
HIV/AIDS	3	Matthew Ridge Arakaka, Port Kaituma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education programmes must be introduced, together with centres to treat and counsel HIV positive individuals
<i>ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES</i>			
Allegations of a corrupt land allocation	2	Mabaruma, Port Kaituma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further strengthening of regularization is needed
Limited job opportunities	4	Mabaruma, Santa Rosa, Waramuri, Arakaka	
Amerindian sentiments of being	1	Santa Rosa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More organizations must inform the Amerindians about their rights.

Present local conflicts/ Areas of tension	No. of Communities	Names of Communities which raised issue	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
marginalized and exploited			Recommendations from Section 25 of the National Development Strategy must be incorporated into legislation
Pensioners are not receiving their NIS benefits	2	Santa Rosa, Waramuri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payments must be made in as many communities as possible
Unfair pricing in the village shops	1	Santa Rosa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pricing mechanisms for commodities have to be implemented
Outsourcing of communal projects		Waramuri	
MORALS/VALUES	2		
The lack of discipline, particularly among adolescents		Mabaruma, Matthew Ridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect for elders by the young and vice-versa. Corporeal punishment to be re-introduced in schools
LAW AND ORDER			
Limited police presence and investigations	4	Mabaruma, Matthews Ridge, Arakaka, Port Kaituma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More patrol vehicles are needed. So are better living quarters for police officers. Police outposts must be better equipped.
Purchasing and consumption of alcoholic beverages, especially by youths	2	Mabaruma, Waramuri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocate probation and welfare officers Better monitoring of shop owners
Insufficient police supervision on domestic violence	1	Mabaruma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The courts should deal more with domestic violence
Criminal violence by youths	1	Mabaruma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More efficient police supervision is needed
Illegal entries into Guyana	1	Mabaruma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of an international port of entry in Mabaruma
Trafficking of persons	1	Matthews Ridge	
Presence of illicit drugs	3	Port Kaituma, Waramuri, Santa Rosa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education for the youth on the effects and abuse of alcohol and illicit substances
ENVIRONMENT			
Potential water crisis in the dry seasons	1	Santa Rosa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of water tanks

Present local conflicts/ Areas of tension	No. of Communities	Names of Communities which raised issue	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
Exploitation of resources	2	Santa Rosa, Port Kaituma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities should be given copies of contracts with foreign companies
Poorly maintained trenches	1	Mabaruma	
Acoushi ants are destroying farms	1	Waramuri	
<i>ECONOMY/MARKETS</i>			
Need for secondary production	1	Mabaruma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food processing plants (e.g. a canning factory) would be welcome. Incentives for locals who are interested in other processing of the farmers' produce must be established
Little emphasis on tourism	2	Mabaruma, Santa Rosa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of tourist sites
Better marketing and trade of local produce	2	Mabaruma, Santa Rosa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the Guyana Market Corporation, farmers should partner with agro-business companies in the region
Enhancement of agricultural facilities	3	Mabaruma, Santa Rosa, Port Kaituma	
Limited use of port	1	Port Kaituma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New wharf must be built
Residents not being employed by foreign companies	2	Arakaka, Port Kaituma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislation should be introduced stating that a workforce must consist 40% of locals. Foreign companies must be more rigidly monitored
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">
<i>EDUCATION</i>			
Need for further construction of school buildings and other facilities	4	Mabaruma, Waramuri, Matthew Ridge Santa Rosa	
Computer literacy not sufficiently addressed	3	Mabaruma, Waramuri, Matthew Ridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of computer literacy programmes. Computer rooms need to be set up in schools
The long distances some children have to travel to school without transportation	3	Santa Rosa Matthew Ridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government should consider providing the transportation. Walking 16 miles to and from school should not be acceptable

Present local conflicts/ Areas of tension	No. of Communities	Names of Communities which raised issue	Concrete commitments and ideas towards overcoming challenges
		Arakaka	
Shortage of qualified teachers in schools	4	Santa Rosa, Matthew Ridge, Arakaka, Port Kaituma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers' wages need to improve. Scholarships should be offered for those interested in teaching
Enhancing the educational system	3	Mabaruma Waramuri Matthews Ridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing a technical department in secondary schools for students who are academically challenged so they can do practical work instead. Implementation of Behaviour Change Communication programmes and education awareness programmes aimed at Amerindians. Teaching aids must be provided in all schools
Inactive sex education	1	Waramuri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents need to play more active role in this education
High illiteracy rates	2	Matthew Ridge Arakaka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of public libraries could encourage reading
<i>PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</i>			
Inefficient administration at RDC level	1	Mabaruma	
Insufficient oversight of operations	1	Mabaruma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NDC needs its own budget
Insufficient honesty and transparency in all communal issues	3	Mabaruma, Santa Rosa Port Kaituma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More community consultations, assistance to be sought from other relevant bodies, cooperative networking with relevant officials
Favouritism	1	Waramuri	
Need for a proper system of birth registration	1	Arakaka	

PART TWO

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL CONFERENCE REGION 1

DATE: May 16th 2006

VENUE: Port Kaituma Secondary School

FACILITATORS: Chrishna Persaud, Karen Vansluytman-Corbin, Arlene Dinally, Andrea Prescott and June Davson

ATTENDANCE: 78

1. Key issues repeated from the local community conversations

- Social issues related to sexual abuse of children: Participants agreed with everything that was raised in the local Multi Stakeholder Forums (MSFs).
- Economy and market issues related to agriculture and tourism
- Education issues related to insufficient technology, shortage of qualified teachers, and poor educational facilities
- Amerindian issues: there was much more in depth an alysis at the regional level

2. Issues from local community conversations not taken forward

- Participants in the regional conversation did not elaborate on issues relating to infrastructure, which featured heavily in the local community consultations. There were no specific references to electricity, roads, water and transport.
- In the area of health there was no mention of HIV/AIDS at the regional level.
- Environmental and public administration issues also suffered the same fate.
- Crime also was not discussed.

3. Other and new issues

- The Government Bond is currently under-utilised
- There is a need for training in professions relevant to the region, e.g. geology and forestry. Not a single miner or forester can be found after 10 years of Barama in the region.
- There is a need for collaboration between churches and the business persons in the community. Business persons must also be targeted for educational programmes
- Honesty and transparency and accountability should be established. Further a body should be established to advise on accountability.
- Foreign companies are given preferential treatment such as permission from Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission to use land that belongs to locals.

- There is a need for continuous training for parents in the areas of cooking, caring and parenting skills
- There was a query as to why Kaituma was not listed as an Amerindian Community

4. Participants' reaction to the Regional Conference:

1. Participants desired to find out more about the Ethnic Relations Commission functions and programme.
2. Participants indicated that after the notes of the conversation were evaluated they expected that the findings would be brought back to each community, so that they could be kept abreast of what developments were taking place.
3. Other participants indicated a sense of inadequateness. Participants expressed the view that development would not necessarily enhance ethnic relations. They felt that since all the consultations focused on development issues the need to train people on how to treat each other required a special focus.

5. Process Issues:

- Transportation for facilitators did not arrive on time. Facilitators were in fact ready to be at the venue an hour in advance.
- Although the facilitators were well-prepared, capturing the information on the flipcharts took place too late, as the flip charts did not arrive on time.
- The forum commenced with religious prayers and a cultural presentation. The Deputy Chairperson of the Regional Development Council delivered opening remarks. This was followed by remarks from the Ethnic Relations Commission Chairman, who encouraged participants to use this process as the beginning of a national reconciliation and reminded them that the policing of this community is to be done by the citizens of their community.
- Facilitators then explained the objectives of the exercise, the ground rules and agenda. They also and explained how the summary regional reports compiled.
- In keeping with the original objectives of the MSF process, facilitators explained that the conversation sought to:
 - i. To create a safe space for Guyanese to agree on strategies for overcoming ethnic and other differences; and
 - ii. To focus on how best Guyanese can contribute to the development of their community and country.

- Three participants presented the summary report (Part 1 of this report) by reading major sections of the report.
- Facilitators encouraged participants to break up in smaller groups around topics of their choice. These themes for the small group discussions were
 - The Amerindian Bill;
 - Infrastructure
 - Economy, Markets and Agriculture
 - Social Issues and Health
 - Education
- With respect to the separation into groups,
 - i. It was clear that there was need for much more information on the issue of the Amerindian Bill. They therefore spoke about the issues affecting them at length, rather than focusing solely on the action plan.
 - ii. The group that was assigned Infrastructure and health was not able to highlight positive steps that they as a community could take. It appeared that the group leader did not have sufficient support from the participants.

5. Summary Table of Action to be taken on issues

KEY ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
Amerindian Bill					
The changes in the new Amerindian Bill do not correspond with the old 1951 bill. Amerindians have little or less rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attempt to get copies of the Amerindian Bill Obtain someone to explain the contents of the bill to the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations from Section 25 of the National Development Strategy must be incorporated into legislation 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bill needs to be amended Amerindian Bill to be introduced in schools Amerindian Rights should be respected and reflected in the Act, not polished to suit the Minister but the people 	
Amerindian's right to land titles should be looked at in the interest of Amerindians whether you live in an Amerindian community or not	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further strengthening of regularization is needed 	
Amerindians have lived for years on lands, but because of their inability to pay for same, coastlanders come into their communities and take away the lands that they have lived on and developed Amerindians need to be consulted and have a say before works are done in their communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form groups in the communities 				
Amerindians should be given contracts for works to be done in their communities; they have the skills and capabilities and jobs will be created		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find work/employment for the unemployed 			
Equal education for Amerindians		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amerindians on Canal Bank 	Ministry of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of Behaviour 	

KEY ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
Need for better technology and better educational opportunities		need assistance in finding ways for them to be educated in various areas and to change their life style (moral education, craft, proper child car, family values	Amerindian Affairs, NGOs, Social Workers, Counselling centres, churches	Change Communication programmes and education awareness programmes aimed at Amerindians	
Domestic violence against Amerindian women and child labour Trafficking of persons		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help, guidance and counselling for Amerindian children and women who are sexually and physically abused 	Ministry Labour, Human Services and Social Security		
Amerindian sentiments of being marginalized and exploited	Get regional level assistance for their goals and objectives and then move forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More organizations must inform the Amerindians about their rights. 			
Physical Abuse of Amerindians by Police – especially when they are drunk		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single parents and the less fortunate to benefit from public assistance after meeting requirements 			
Assistance to single parents and the less fortunate					
Amerindians in their traditional wear are being used in advertisements, however, they are not paid and receive no benefits					
Lack of respect for Amerindians at the hospital		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance to hospital staff to help them improve interaction and care and show of respect to residents 	Ministry of Health		
Indigenous People's Commission				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of Indigenous People's Commission 	
Infrastructure					

KEY ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
Is there anything we can do about infrastructure?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organise a group that can raise funds in the community Focus on a communication project as the main project 	Funding	RDC, NDC, NGOs and funding agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roads, bridges, electricity and water supply 	
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start community boat services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-introduce the ferry plying the Georgetown – Port Kaituma route 			
Roads and Bridges and inaccessible lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Villages can supply some of the labour and maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Waramuri landing needs to be fixed, as well as the bridge linking Waramuri with Para. Land with access roads 			
Electricity and Telecommunications		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider establishing Hydro power 	Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand Electricity services. Provide Telecommunication service. 	GT&T GPL
Storage and supply of water Potential water crisis in the dry seasons		Provision of water tanks		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wells need to be dug. Proper and fair distribution needs to be attained 	
Post Office				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Post Office 	
Execution of projects				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work that is being done should be done by experts. Planning needs to be improved 	
Environment					
Exploitation of resources		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities should be given copies of contracts with foreign companies 			
Poorly maintained trenches					
Acoushi ants are destroying farms					

KEY ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
Economy/ Markets					
Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourism resorts at Matthews Ridge and Port Kaituma, Jones Town - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation and rehabilitation of the sites for tourist resorts Rehabilitation of site at Matthews Ridge 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertising – locally and internationally Funding Rehabilitation of Port Kaituma wharf 	Tourism Agencies and Industries
Need for secondary production		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incentives for locals who are interested in processing of the farmers' produce must be established 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food processing plants (e.g. a canning factory) would be welcome 	
Better marketing and trade of local produce		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the Guyana Market Corporation, farmers should partner with agro-business companies in the region 			
Enhancement of agricultural facilities					
Port Kaituma imports 30,000 pounds of chicken per month from outside of the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rearing of livestock – swine and poultry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breeding stock ABB/ Cold storage Feed, drugs, building materials, water tanks and pumps 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding Markets – local and CARICOM; poultry rearing for the local market because Target local market for poultry rearing 	Donor agencies
Limited use of port				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New wharf must be built 	
Residents not being employed by foreign companies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foreign companies must be more rigidly monitored 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislation should be introduced stating that a workforce must consist 40% of locals Pricing mechanisms for commodities have to be implemented 	
Occupational hazards		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and Health Rules, and 			

KEY ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
		Labour Laws must be vigorously enforced			
Social Issues					
Alcoholism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adhere to the laws Patrol night clubs Monitor student activities Seminars to educate youths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building for skills training Establishment of a rehabilitation centre Counselling Assistance in professional training Additional subject in the school's curriculum 	RDC		
Sexual Abuse/Drug Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist Probation Officer Assist the Police Educate parents Parents can get together to curb situation Network the women's groups Help to establish functioning recreational facilities Parents, police and teachers need to get involved 			Enforce laws	
Need for social workers				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counselling centres need to be established 	
School age prostitution		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing skills training centre for school dropouts. 			
Negative influences of out of school youths on students				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-introduction of National Service 	
Insufficient facilities for youths					
HIV/AIDS		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education programmes must be 			

KEY ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/- Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
		introduced, together with centres to treat and counsel HIV positive individuals			
Health					
Financial situation that faces the communities:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most people cannot travel to Georgetown to seek medical attention Frequent visits by health personnel – whenever there are emergencies patients are asked to pay their own air fare 			
Health facilities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X-ray Machine and proper laboratory testing services 			
Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Change the negative outlook we have for helping ourselves” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take serious actions against the business people of Port Kaituma who dump waste (garbage, dead animals/carcasses) that affect the residents on Canal Bank causing illnesses e.g. diarrhoea 	Environmental Officer		
Education					
Parental involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents and teachers need to interact to help educate and develop parents as it relates to social issues (including sex education), not only academic issues 				
The region has mines, environment and forestry, but the children are not trained to how to use these resource		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use education to develop resources in the region. 	RDC		
Adult education	Residents can initiate their own Adult Education Programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality teachers and better education facilities 	Ministry of Education		

KEY ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a Resource Skills Centre 			
Equal access and sharing				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make secondary school training available in the region Ensure that the region keeps focusing on the education programme Pay special attention to the regional budget in Region 1 Ensure that at the national level, all resources are shared equally 	Ministry of Education
Need for further construction of school buildings and other facilities					
Computer literacy not sufficiently addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of computer literacy programmes. Computer rooms need to be set up in schools 			
The long distances some children have to travel to school without transportation				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider providing the transportation. Walking 16 miles to and from school should not be acceptable 	Government
Shortage of qualified teachers in schools				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers' wages need to improve. Scholarships should be offered for those interested in teaching 	
Enhancing the educational system				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing a technical department in secondary schools for students who are academically challenged so they can do practical work 	

KEY ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED	WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES	WHAT RESIDENTS NEED HELP WITH		WHAT RESIDENTS NEED OTHERS TO DO FOR THEM	
		Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
				instead.	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching aids must be provided in all schools 	
High illiteracy rates				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of public libraries could encourage reading 	
Social Cohesion					
Lack of unity in communities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More community consultations. Establish offices in the communities 	ERC		
Discrimination against women				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment of female ranks in the Police Force 	
Access to opportunities					
Limited job opportunities					
Pensioners are not receiving their NIS benefits				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Payments must be made in as many communities as possible 	
Outsourcing of communal projects					
Morals and Values					
The lack of discipline, particularly among adolescents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect for elders by the young and vice-versa. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporeal punishment to be re-introduced in schools 	
Law and Order					
Limited police presence and investigations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More patrol vehicles are needed; so are better living quarters for police officers. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police outposts must be better equipped 	
Purchasing and consumption of alcoholic beverages, especially		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better monitoring of shop owners 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate probation and welfare officers 	

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		Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist	Issue	Person/ Agency to Assist
by youths					
Insufficient police supervision on domestic violence		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The courts should deal more with domestic violence 			
Criminal violence by youths		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More efficient police supervision is needed 			
Illegal entries into Guyana				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of an international port of entry in Mabaruma 	
Trafficking of persons					
Presence of illicit drugs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education for the youth on the effects and abuse of alcohol and illicit substances 			
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION					
Inefficient administration at RDC level					
Insufficient oversight of operations				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NDC needs its own budget 	
Insufficient honesty and transparency in all communal issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperative networking with relevant officials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More community consultations, assistance to be sought from other relevant bodies 			
Favouritism					
Need for a proper system of birth registration					