

TRIP REPORT

GEPAM Project Final Seminar

Santo Andre, SP Brazil
August 10th – 13th, 2004

Alison Macnaughton
World Fisheries Trust

“International Seminar: Community Based Watershed Management – The experience of Santo André.”
CBWM/GEPAM Project, Santo André, SP, Brazil.

Trip dates: 10-13 August, 2004

Location: Santo André, São Paulo, Brazil

Participant: Alison Macnaughton, representative of World Fisheries Trust, Canada.

Purpose of Trip:



Together with a partner from UFSCar and 3 representatives of FPAMG, I attended the final seminar of the CBWM/GEPAM (Community Based Watershed Management/ Gerenciamento Participativo de Areas Mananciais) project, a CIDA sponsored bilateral technology transfer initiative that was bringing to a close 6 years of project activities. The purpose of the trip was to promote positive exchange of ideas re: technology transfer projects, evaluation and lessons learned processes, alternative economic and organizational structures.

Trip Itinerary:

August 10: Travel from MG to Santo André, SP
August 11: Day 1 of Seminar
August 12: Day 2 of Seminar
August 13: Day 3 of Seminar: Field visits to Pilot Communities
August 14: Return to Três Marias, MG



Notable Experiences:

The aspects of the project which I found most interesting to our group of participants are as follows:

1. The possibility to experience another reality, to see another Brazil-Canada bilateral accord project that is in its fourth year, and to learn from its participants about the range of changes in practices, in points of view, in relationships, in situations, and in the structures of the municipal government and the



communities themselves that have come about over the course of the project and the implementation of the Pilot Projects.

2. The opportunity to speak with participants (city staff, community members, visiting Canadians) in the CBWM project about the challenges faced and overcome in terms of capacity building, conflict management, administrative changes, etc.



3. The opportunity to critically examine and evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of various strategic tools used by participants in the project for participatory planning processes, reflection about lessons learned, program and activity evaluations and more.

Lessons Learned:

The CBWM seminar and the opportunity to visit pilot communities of the project and speak with a range of project participants contributed to important learning by all members of our group, especially in stimulating our discussions and thoughts with regard to our own possibilities for developing reflection systems, evaluation and monitoring strategies for our next steps in the PPA project.



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