

ESSEQUIBO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

Date established	Wednesday, October 28, 1998
Date and type of registration	June 11, 2003 - Friendly Societies Act.
Primary contact person	Taj Ganpat, Office Manager
Address, telephone and email	60, Cotton Field, Essequibo Coast, Guyana Tel/Fax: (592) 771-5032 E-mail: essequibochambers@yahoo.com
Secondary contact person	Samuel Arjoon, President
Address, telephone and email	Cotton Field, Essequibo Coast Tel: (592) 771-4305 E-mail: samuelarjoon@yahoo.com
Number of active members	22
Number of paid staff	1-part time
Number of regular volunteers	46
Estimated annual budget	G\$ 1,430,000
Main sources of funding	Membership & Fund Raisers
Geographic scope of activity	Essequibo Coast – Region #2, Pomeroon/Supenaam

Mission:

The Essequibo Chamber of Commerce & Industry undertakes to promote consistent economic growth in the entire Essequibo region and to place special emphasis on the social and cultural development of the community while at the same time displaying extraordinary competence in every task undertaken.

Primary Goals:

- *Expand membership and financial resources by developing an appropriate menu of services*
- *Promote investment in Essequibo that diversifies the area's economic mix*
- *Advocate for improvement in the following economic and social fields: forest products, rice industry, other crop and livestock, new industries, ecotourism, sports, and culture*
- *Elicit greater responsiveness by government to local issues*

Main subject areas of activity or programmes

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| x Economic/income generation (1) | x Agriculture (2) |
| x Education/training (12) | x Human rights (10) |
| x Professional (8) | x Physical improvement of community (5) |
| x Environment (4) | x Social services/welfare (11) |
| x Advocacy (6) | x Consumer rights (13) |
| x Employment (3) | x Indigenous peoples issues (9) |
| x Poverty reduction (7) | |

Major Projects in last two years, including current projects

Project #1 Name/Goal	<u>A Partnership for Improved Sanitation</u>
Start date	June 16, 2003
End date	October 15, 2003
<u>Main activities</u>	
1. Creating awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advertisement – word advertisement and video clippings• Press releases• Live call in program• Erecting billboards• Distributing flyers and brochures• Village meetings
2. Petition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation in Amerindian villages• Signing of document
3. Practical Demonstration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distributing garbage bags to households• Distributing screen printed polo shirts• Cleaning affected areas
4. Village Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Award prizes for cleanest environment• Incentives to volunteers
Main source(s) of funding	The Carter Center
Project theme or sector	Improve sanitation of the community
Project partners	Citizens, Regional Democratic Council, Neighbourhood Democratic Councils, Anna Regina Town Council & Amerindian Villages
Geographic scope	Essequibo region
Results of Project:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased public awareness of maintaining a clean and healthy environment• Increased awareness of the possibility of recycling• Intensified efforts by Anna Regina Town Council to collect garbage• Recommendations for possible dump sites
Project #2 Name/Goal	<u>Strengthen human resources development through training and educational programs</u>
Start date	
End date	
<u>Main activities</u>	Members participated in seminar/training programmes and receive certificates.
Main source(s) of funding	ECCL, GEO
Project theme or sector	Environmental Impact Assessment, Export, IT
Project partners	GEO, University of Guyana, EPA

Geographic scope Essequibo Coast

Results of Project

- Institutional strengthening and capacity building
- Increase proficiency with IT

Major Projects planned for at least next two years

Project #1 Name/Goal **PHASE II: A Partnership for Improved Sanitation**

Start date Upon receipt of contract

End date

Main activities

1. Purchase of garbage receptacles
2. Identification of dump site
3. Education and awareness

Main source(s) of funding Donor agency

Project theme or sector Improve Sanitation of the Environment

Project partners Citizens, Regional Democratic Council, Neighbourhood Democratic Councils, Anna Regina Town Council & Amerindian Villages

Geographic scope Essequibo Coast

Results of Project Cleaner and healthier environment

Project #2 Name/Goal **Networking to Advance Advocacy**

Start date Upon completion of activities scheduled

End date

Main activities

1. Workshops
2. Training programs on advocacy
3. Exchange visits
4. Lobbying
5. Issuing petition/press releases
6. Advertisement
7. Trade Missions

Main source(s) of funding ECCI & Network partners

Project theme or sector

Project partners Non Governmental Organizations across Guyana

Geographic scope Guyana

Results of Project

Project #3 Name/Goal **Providing Private Sector development and Independence through effective Advocacy**

Start date

End date

Main activities

1. Lobbying
2. Advertisements
3. Seminars
4. Position papers
5. training programs
6. Trade Missions

Main source(s) of funding ECCI and other Private Sector Organizations

Project theme or sector

Project partners:

- Chambers of Commerce
- Private Sector Commission
- Association of Regional Chambers of Commerce of Guyana

Geographic scope Guyana

Results of Project Recognition of the importance of Chambers of Commerce in a capitalist driven economy

Networking

What other NGOs would you like to share information with or collaborate with in your activities?

1. Private Sector Commission
2. Guyana Manufacturers' Association
3. Guyana Gold & Diamond Miners Association
4. NGO Forum of Guyana