



the small world foundation

DARRELL POSEY GRANT FOR SAN MARTIN DE AMACAYACU!

We already mentioned a surprise in the 53rd Small World Foundation newsletter email. With great pride we announce that José Gregorio Vásquez from San Martin de Amacayacu won the *"Darrell Posey Fellowship for Ethnoecology and Traditional Resource Rights"*!!

This prestigious prize is granted every two years by the American Society of Ethnobiology (www.ethnobiology.net), an organisation interested in studies and projects concerning the role of indigenous peoples in nature management and conservation.

José Gegerio Vásquez will dedicate his prize to the project *"Control of natural resource use in the ancestral territory of San Martin de Amacayacu"*. The prize is two times 5.000 USD; for 2014 and 2015. However, the project is not only about control of natural resource use in the ancestral territory, but also aims to create clear rules for this use. These rules are also the aim of the Amacayacu National Park's Special Management Plan (Régimen Especial de Manejo - Newsletter 29), but unfortunately this process has achieved few results so far.

With the persistence and diplomacy of José Gregorio Vásquez we hope to change this soon!!



FEW FISH AGAIN!

The last budget of the INCODER (www.incoder.gov.co) fish pond project has been spent! The project was quite an operation if you consider that it was approved in 2009 and should have taken a year to carry out... Truly all thinkable reasons from the Colombian and Amazon reality contributed: Unexpectedly enormous amounts of rain and floodings (and thus delays in pond construction), too slow administration systems and too frequent staff changes at the INCODER and the only insurance company in Leticia (really, the project was insured – but what for...??), bureaucratic horror concerning bank accounts, and so on.

With the last budget came the last new fish (*Piaractus brachipomus* this time). Luckily, the 11 families involved are still motivated and everyone has joined a fish pond management course to be held by a SENA instructor in the community for 360 hours, spread out over the coming months. Therefore, we agree that the fish pond project has definitely been a success!





KINDERGARDEN GETTING AHEAD

As planned, we started building the new kindergarden in San Martin de Amacayacu by the end of January. Two able carpenters from a nearby community and four helping hands from San Martin got things done fast. First the several big corner posts of durable timber and many short round posts of the same timber (these last ones create the foundation). Then they put narrow square beams over these short posts, over which went the floor planks. To keep working during the frequent rains, they quickly assured a frame for the roof. A speedy trip to Leticia to buy the aluminum roof panels and put these on a boat to San Martin, hammering nails for a day and this was done too! Next to the playroom (9x10 metre) is the restaurant (6x8 metre). The big openings in the wall have been filled with cute small squares. There will be a closed storeroom in the playroom. Bordering the kitchen will be the toilets and the wooden cooking block filled with clay for the fire. On purpose, they won't construct this cooking block under the new roof, because the smoke will make the aluminum roof rust.

Miriam, kindergarden teacher, is currently talking with the Colombian Institute for Family Welfare (Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar - ICBF) about the contribution of this institute to the kindergarden. We have in mind: Lots of colourful paint to make the timber last longer and a gas stove to make cooking easier. In some other communities, the ICBF even delivers the refilled gas bottles – we like! We are very curious to know the result of the talks...



Would you like to support the Tikuna indigenous community of San Martin together with the Small World Foundation, and stay in touch about the local developments in this remote corner of Colombia?

Please transfer 15 euro yearly (or more!) to the following bank account in the Netherlands:

Account name: Stichting SMALL WORLD FOUNDATION

Account number: 13 27 26 203

SWIFT/BIC Code: RABONL2U

IBAN code: NL28 RABO 0132 7262 03

Or check out the online contribution module on: www.smallworldfoundation.org/?page_id=68

Please DON'T FORGET TO INFORM US ABOUT YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS!!

(heike_van_gils@hotmail.com)

The contributions will be spent exclusively on the development and realization of local initiatives in San Martin de Amacayacu in the Colombian Amazon. No wages are being paid to anyone. The expenses will be mentioned as much as possible in the newsletters. For alternative contributions, please contact Heike van Gils at: heike_van_gils@hotmail.com.

For more information about this initiative, please check the website:

www.smallworldfoundation.org.