Project Proposal Summary Sheet

Project Title: Digital inclusion for sustainable rural development in the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Source of Proposal: State Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Contact: Helga Hissa -Sustainable Development Superintendence / State Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock of Rio de Janeiro- microbacias@agricultura.rj.gov.br

Brief Description

The State Secretariat of Agriculture, through Rio Rural, propose a digital inclusion project, including Internet infrastructure expansion into twelve (12) existing communities in micro-watersheds located in four municipalities in the Serrana and Northwest regions of the State of Rio de Janeiro, vulnerable to environmental risks, development of an information and monitoring system of good agricultural practices and environmental risk mitigation, in a web-based platform.

Beneficiary Country

Brazil

Project Objective(s)

General Objective:

Promote digital inclusion of 12 communities in rural areas at environmental risk in the Serrana and Northwest regions of the State of Rio de Janeiro, through training and deployment of an Agricultural Information and Environmental Monitoring System in order to contribute to information access, promotion of sustainable rural development and risk management.

Specific Objectives:

- Promote access of residents and farmers to equipment and information technologies in pilot rural areas;
- Promote capacity building of key local stakeholders for the use of Internet as a tool to support sustainable rural development;
- Promote training of residents in micro-watersheds for the use of the on-line agricultural information system and participatory environmental monitoring, in order to prevent situations of environmental risk and adoption of good practices.

Expected Results

From the installation of 30 antennas (initial estimate) for distribution of broadband signal, 36 training courses on information and communication technologies and its use on productive activities in 12 rural communities, in four municipalities of the Serrana and Northwest regions of the State of Rio de Janeiro, it is expected that:

- The beneficiary communities have greater access to the Internet, thus ensuring their human right to information and social inclusion;
- From the digital inclusion process, access and share of information, rural communities and farmers have greater empowerment for decision making;
- Stimulate flow and exchanging knowledge and skills in rural communities, among themselves and with the technical staff, for the adoption of good agricultural and environmental practices and prevention of environmental risk;
- Make local marketing processes more dynamic, through promoting access to new tools and strengthening virtual networks.

Estimated Start Date

Jan 2013

Estimated Duration

24 months

Estimated Budget

USD 2,000,000

Main Activities

- Workshops on social mobilization for participatory planning in rural communities;
- Installation of equipment and physical works for project infrastructure;
- Development and Implementation of the Information System for Agricultural and Environmental Monitoring;
- Training courses on information and communication technologies for the rural populations;
- Training courses for the use of informatics applied to agricultural activities and local management.