

WHY WE MUST SAY YES TO THE SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

Or de Question : A citizens' group, apolitical and non-violent - 22 associations from French Guiana, 120 national et international NGOs - CONTACT : ordequestion@gmail.com - WEB : ordequestion.org

1 – Agriculture, Horticulture, Agroforestry, Permaculture, Beekeeping...

French Guiana is exceptionally lucky to have a soil that is still relatively unpolluted by chemical inputs, which enable the development of a high-quality agriculture and beekeeping. Initiatives should be encouraged in agro-ecology, agroforestry, horticulture, traditional agriculture, permaculture and organic agriculture. These fields could provide French Guiana most of the food needed, a local and quality food, respectful of the environment while allowing an harmonious human development.

This requires a fair land distribution in French Guiana associated with an agrarian reform.

Farmers, horticulturists, agroforesters, permaculturists, agro-processors, agronomists...

2 – Sustainable Fishing

In French Guiana, the fishing sector is underdeveloped considering the important resource available. The marine or fluvial fishery resource is rich and deserves a better structured sector, more enhanced locally. Many countries and/or departments envy this resource and often come exploit it on our coasts. Control needs to be strengthened in this field.

Fishermen, processors, sellers, shipbuilding, boat repairers, trainers...

3 – Farming, Aquaculture and Educational Farms

By raising wild fauna animals (caimans, fish, insects, curassows, peccaries, iguanas...), we could enhance biodiversity, without affecting it, while supplying sectors like food and by-products (leathers, skins, feathers, jewelery...). This development can involve several trades including catering, tourism, craft...

Specialized breeders, innkeepers, restaurant managers, processors, artisans, sellers...

4 – Food and Gastronomy

Catering from local products can develop economic sectors, while enhancing local resources, by supplying cafeterias in schools and businesses. Dietetics associated with the use of local products can decrease the import, and thus the environmental and monetary costs while improving human health.

Producers, horticulturists, breeders, fishermen, wholesalers, dieticians, cooks...

5 - Non-Timber Forest Products

Many forest products (palm hearts, açai palm, turu palm, patawa, fruits, seeds, resins, plants fibers...) are undeveloped in French Guiana. Yet, some of them generate a lucrative international trade in Brazil, for example. The development of these forest resources, by organizing a circuit from harvest to processing, would create jobs while enhancing local resources.

Operators of non-timber forest products, collectors, gatherers, horticulturists, processors...

6 – Woodworking Trade

The use of wood, if it is made sustainably with a forest management plan, can provide economic opportunities (furniture for schools, administrations, stores...), while ensuring its renewal. A label makes it possible to certify the sustainable exploitation of the forest.

Forestry officers, prospectors, sawyers, logging truck driver, cabinetmakers, sculptors, craftsmen, carpenters...

7 – Drinking Water

By 2050, water demand is expected to increase by 55% globally. French Guiana is one of the first countries rich in drinking water. The development of bottled spring water could be one of the buoyant sectors in the years to come, if environmental pollution does not impact this precious resource.

8 - Renewable Energies

Water can also be a source of renewable energy, if it is operated by « run-of-river » dams. However, hydroelectric dams generate significant greenhouse gases (CO₂, methane, nitrous oxide...). It is necessary to subsidize photovoltaics, methaization, water current turbines, small wind turbines...

Construction workers, electricians, plumbers, engineers, sheet metal workers...

9 – Biomass

Wastes from logging and agriculture can be collected to produce biomass that generates energy in specific plants.

Collectors, transporters, hewers of wood, plates manufacturers...

10 – Education

The education of children needs to be rethought with concepts like empathy, non violence and mutual support and respect, replacing the competitiveness instilled at an early age. Regional languages and traditional knowledge must be developed to reinforce the identity and dignity of our multicultural society.

Educators, cultural mediators, teachers, professors...

11 - Environmental education

« We are protecting what we know! » : Environmental education is still an underdeveloped field.

To counteract the loss of our local knowledge, we need to create a "University of the Forest" based on the transfer of traditional knowledge, school gardens, discovery field trips, an aquarium, insectarium, reptilium, planetarium, museums of the Native Americans and the Busi Konde Sama Arts and Cultures, carnival arts...

Animators, managers, mediators, guides, book trades, web designers, scientific publishers...

12 - Teaching and Research

The knowledge and development of biodiversity are little taught at university. This theme could represent an even more attractive pole at an international level with immersion courses in the tropical forest. Hundreds of researchers and foreign students could come to train.

Professors, researchers, technicians, field animators, logisticians, reception facilities, guides...

13 – Biomimicry

Innovation process inspired by the shapes, materials, properties and functions of living beings (eg : velcro or scratch / ants paws). This is a new avenue of research that could lead to a sustainable and integrated development that must be launched in French Guiana.

Researchers, engineers, industrialists, technicians, designers...

14 - Cosmetics and perfumery

These are very lucrative fields, in which France excels globally. Here, these sectors stagnate despite several local initiatives. Our forest is rich in scents and original products, which could be enhanced with the extraction of essential oils, the making of perfumes, care creams, soaps, vegetable oils, etc.

Collectors, perfumers, distillers, farmers, processors, laboratory technicians, entrepreneurs, sellers...

15 - Herbalism, phytotherapy and pharmacology

The development and transformation of medicinal plants into herbal teas, macerates, oils, tinctures could provide natural, quality products, with a high added value. This approach would be positive for the local economy but also for the health of Guyanese and the international export.

Collectors, harvesters, farmers, processors, sellers, entrepreneurs...

16 – Health

In French Guiana, the access to care remains difficult and the practitioners are very insufficient for an effective health coverage. This sector must be encouraged. A collaboration between biomedicine and traditional medicines must also be developed, enabling the alliance between modernity and tradition, for the well-being of populations.

Doctors, nurses, paramedics, mobility aids, social workers, recognized traditional doctors...

17 - Traditional Arts and Crafts

The traditional craft is very productive, it already provides jobs for hundreds of craftsmen.

What about an « Art School » ? It could enhance the quality of artistic products, encouraging vocations in plastic arts.

Painters, basket makers, sculptors, jewelers, fashion designers, designers, visual artists, teachers...



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18 - Tourism, Ecotourism, Fair Tourism

Green and Fair Tourism are fields to develop, with the creation of infrastructures adapted to the Amazonian environment. We have many assets on the natural and cultural levels. Tourism can be developed at a human scale with homestay accommodations or luxury lodges, depending on people's expectations.

Carriers, tour guides, boatmen, restaurant owners, guest houses, lodges...

19 - Culture and Heritage

The Nature in French Guiana and the numerous cultural groups that live in it, are sources of inspiration for many artists working in the theater, dance, music, cinema, audiovisual and museology. Vocations must be stimulated from an early age, so that young Guianese can bring the Guianese culture and nature at the highest level in the world, through exhibitions, films, plays, dances etc.

Stage directors, filmmakers, documentarians, choreographers, dancers, musicians, writers, composers, actors, scenographers, museologists, audiovisual professions, teachers...

20 - Bioclimatic Habitat & Construction

The habitat in French Guiana must enhance local resources, such as wood, laterite and natural materials useful for the construction of bio-climatic housings. Wooden constructions, adapted to the climate, favoring a natural ventilation and associated with renewable energies (solar, wind...). Local Authorities and the State should apply bio-climatic standards to all buildings built on the territory, innovating new trades.

Architects, builders, carpenters, landscapers, interior designers...

21 - The three R's of Circular Economy!

Recycling, Reuse and Repair. The circular economy seeks to sort and recover secondary raw materials, which could avoid the development of the mining, much more destructive for the environment. What is collected (papers, plastics...) can be burned to make energy. Glass can be reused for the asphalt of the roads, and rags to make toilet paper. Used smartphones, more concentrated in gold than the Guianese subsoil, must be systematically recycled!

Sorters, collectors, recyclers, repairers...

22 - Social and Solidarity Economy

The capitalist economy has shown its limits in terms of human development and wealth distribution. This is why it is important to develop alternative economies whose purpose is not hoarding (the accumulation of money) but improving living conditions. Some experiences already exist and deserve to be strengthened in order to promote an endogenous, sustainable and fair development of French Guiana.

Animators, managers, sellers, craftsmen, logisticians, carriers...

23 - Environmental and Nature Police, Environmental Management

A rich and sensitive nature, a vast territory and a constantly growing human population for many more years to come. All this deserves men and women on the ground to prevent, monitor and enforce the laws. The illegal gold mining and tourist sites that are polluted and regularly strewn with garbage can not be accepted anymore...

Police officers, sworn guards, customs officers, water police...

24 - Opening up and Transports

The necessary opening up of the territory could be done with railways, less expensive and harmful for the environment than roads, but also with innovative air transports. The public transport will bring a reduction in energy expenses and a better daily life.

Engineers, technicians, workers, drivers, carriers, mechanics...

25 - Shared governance

Our vertical and hierarchical mode of governance has now run its course and does not correspond to the population's expectations. Other models are possible. It's time to take an active interest in it and involve the population in decisions in order to give more power to politics, to obtain the necessary markets for these achievements.

Coordinators, facilitators, delegates...

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OR DE QUESTION : A citizens' group against industrial mining projects in French Guiana - apolitical and non-violent

BIODIVERSITY & EMPLOYMENT

Faced with the industrialization of the mining sector, one of the most polluting industries in the world, we propose a set of **innovative solutions**, for a local, sustainable and alternative development which respects both human beings and the environment, with more than twenty trades and **thousands of jobs** !



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**AGRICULTURE
FISHING, FARMING
ART & CRAFT
GASTRONOMY,
WOODWORKING TRADE
ENERGY TRANSITION
ECO-TOURISM
BIOCLIMATIC HABITAT
EDUCATION, HEALTH, RESEARCH
TRANSPORT, RECYCLING, DRINKING WATER**

REACT !

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