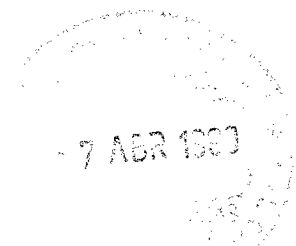




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PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN BELIZE



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Introduction

The fight against poverty in Belize must have at the centre two key intentions: sustained economic growth and an equitable distribution of the benefits of such growth. Sustained economic growth depends crucially on the ability to diversify the economy given the imminent end to preferential agreements. This diversification effort must ensure that measures are introduced to enhance the competitiveness of the existing key sectors. High on the agenda will be the need to improve the physical and technological agricultural infrastructure, create more secure tenure for small farmers and the urgent adoption of sustainable natural resource utilization processes. Additionally, incentives for the growth of emerging sectors such as tourism need to be provided.

Several Caribbean countries have made a commitment to make serious efforts towards eradicating poverty and to embark on such a difficult task with a Plan of Action to guide the process. Belize is one of the countries that has engaged in a participatory process, whereby all segments of society has had the opportunity to make their inputs into the formulation of such a Plan. Meetings were held to plan the proceedings, stakeholders in the various sectors have made their contributions and District Consultation Workshops were

held all over the country. Several institutions and agencies have worked to assist in the process, which culminated in a widely attended National Consultation meeting end June/early July 1998. This National Consultation produced a Draft National Plan of Action for the Eradication of Poverty in Belize.

The Plan of Action is geared towards substantial changes in order to increase equity in the spread of benefits and greater efficiency in addressing the needs of the disadvantaged areas and groups in Belizean society. The Plan identifies **issues** of poverty grouped under 14 specific **subject** areas. As a basis for action it examines the **current situation**, recommends **goals** and relevant **strategies** and tentatively proposes institutions and organizations responsible for **action**.

The first subject area is Enhanced Social Protection and Reduced Vulnerability. Acknowledgment of the vulnerability of certain groups in Belizean society and the need to provide enhanced social protection is necessary. In this subject area the Plan includes issues that are specific to, for example, the plight of poor farmers and youth. Measures will do little, however, if an emphasis is not placed on the improvement of the lives of the majority of Belizeans. In that regard special attention should be paid to the next subject area of **Productive Employment and Sustained**

Livelihoods. Employment has been regarded in both its quality and remunerative values. Key areas of concern are the following:

- High levels of unemployment amongst certain key groups (e.g. women, youth);
- Preponderance of low paying jobs, which encourages withdrawal from the labour force and the growth of informal economic activities. Additionally, families with working members who continue to be economically vulnerable due to falling wages;
- The quality of the labour force, both in terms of skill levels and relevance;
- The labour market, institutions and the need for relevant skills.

Subsequently the Plan addresses issues of **Health and Education**. The relationship between health and education levels and poverty is critical. As households become more impoverished, the ability to sustain certain minimum levels of nutrition is jeopardized and provision of health and education is reduced. The improved health and education status of the population is an important

precondition for sustained economic growth. Policy interventions need to marry public resource constraints with the need for relevant and fair distribution of social services.

The subject of **Population** includes issues of migration (national and international), brain-drain, adolescent sexuality and unwanted pregnancy, poor single female-headed households and reproductive health facilities, such as Family Planning. **Environmental Realities** discusses issues of land-based degradation, land use, forest and watershed management, and eco-tourism versus conservation. The needs for integrated approaches to policy and project

implementation is covered under the subject heading **Integrated Social and Economic Strategies**. This section addresses the need to enhance coordination between social programmes and macroeconomic policies.

Under the heading **Institutional Mechanisms** Government involvement is called for in social development programmes which help build up the human capacities of the population and are not limited to the provision of welfare benefits. In this effort, the needs of the community must be more clearly heard. Involvement of the critical channels for such community concerns such as the NGOs, the business groups,

organized labour and community based organizations is therefore essential. In this sense, while the Government should provide a coordinating role, the structures of **governance** - the last subject of the Plan - and of service delivery, need to incorporate this focus on greater participation and responsiveness to local conditions. Decentralization, collaboration and community involvement are the principles which should guide new efforts of poverty eradication.

July 1998
UN ECLAC Port of Spain

Glossary of Acronyms

AA	Alcoholics Anonymous	FD	Forestry Department
AIDS	Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome	FPA	Family Planning Association
ATM	Automatic Teller Machine	GOB	Government of Belize
BDF	Belize Defence Force	HDI	Human Development Index
BNSE	Belize National Selection Examination	HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
BTB	Belize Tourist Board	H.P	Housing and Planning
BTC	Belize Teachers College	MED	Ministry of Economic Development
BTIA	Belize Tourism Industry Association	MOE	Ministry of Education
BYDC	Belize Youth Development Centre	MOH	Ministry of Health
CARDI	Caribbean Agriculture Research and Development Institute	NDACC	National Drug Abuse Control Council
CARE	Cooperative For American Relief to Everywhere	NDFB	National Development Foundation of Belize
CARICOM	Caribbean Community Secretariat	NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
CBI	Caribbean Basin Initiative	NHDAC	National Human Development Advisory Committee
CET	Centre for Employment Training	PTA	Parent Teachers Association
CHW	Community Health Worker	PVO	Private Volunteer Organization
CSO	Central Statistical Office	SIF	Social Investment Fund
CXC	Caribbean Examination Council	SS	Social Security
CYDP	Conscious Youth Development Project	STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
CZMP	Coastal Zone Management Project	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
DFC	Development Finance Corporation	VAT	Value Added Tax
DOE	Department of Environment	WASA	Water and Sewerage Authority

A. ENHANCED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND REDUCED VULNERABILITY

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. Youth	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not enough support services (career and guidance counselling) 2. Poor quality and limited education 3. Increasing use of illegal drugs 4. Lack of appropriate skills 5. Unwillingness to seek employment 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More support services 2. Improved quality of education 3. Greater vocational training opportunities at the secondary level 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide educational skills and technical and vocational training 		Ministry of Education
2. Poor women	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poor education and skills levels 2. Unemployment; labour force participation rate of women was half that of men in 1997 3. Affected by declining health services, and inadequate maternal nutrition 4. High infant mortality rates; poor access to basic medical facilities 5. High fertility rates; few basic amenities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved quality and access to education and health 2. Improved nutrition 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide educational skills and technical and vocational training 2. Provide nutrition education and health programmes 		
3. Young women	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early initiation of sexual activity : A survey of 1,166 women aged 15-24 representing all ethnic groups and districts showed the average age of first sexual activity was 16.8 years among 80% of the women who were sexually active 2. Early age of pregnancy; births to teenage mothers rose from 15% to 19% between 1992 and 1994 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greater control by young women over the reproductive cycle 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make sex education programmes more relevant to the needs of women 2. Educate parents on the relevant information on reproductive health 		Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Communities

A. Enhanced Social Protection and Reduced Vulnerability

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
4. Children in poor families	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poor levels of nutrition 2. Sexual abuse, particularly of girls; STD clinic reports indicate that at least one child every 6 weeks (normally female) is seen who has contracted an STD 3. Working children; families with a large number of children sometimes put very young children to work with a consequent negative effect on health and education levels 4. Orphans abandoned by parents 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved nutrition 2. Provide protection to young girls from sexual molestation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance Feeding Programmes and Transportation for schools 		Ministry of Education
5. Poor small farmers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limited access to credit 2. Unstable land tenure and limited avenues for ownership 3. High cost of agricultural inputs 4. Inadequate marketing arrangements for agricultural products 5. Limited extension services 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved credit and market access 2. Better provision of information on products and markets 3. Better quality products to meet export standards 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Utilize extension services to provide information on production and marketing and to promote diversification 2. Increase the available credit schemes for small farmers and small business operators (male and female) 		Ministry of Agriculture
6. Disabled persons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Negative public attitude affects employment and social choices 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change public perceptions of the disabled 			
7. The Older Person	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elderly head of household 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Providing stipend for elderly - criteria after 65 might vary 		

A. Enhanced Social Protection and Reduced Vulnerability

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
8. Other vulnerable groups	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drug users (male) 2. Those who do not want to work 3. Unemployed single parent 4. Unskilled workers 5. Unemployed heads of families, especially single females 6. Large families 7. The underemployed 8. Seasonal workers 9. Those persons with less than primary education 10. Those who lack access to basic social services and infrastructure, e.g. immigrants and internally displaced persons 11. A culture of dependency 12. Alcoholics, drug addicts, those infected with HIV/AIDS and their families 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide more educational opportunities for young people, especially those who drop out of primary school 2. Increase benefits both in cash and in kind 3. Policies and programmes to ensure participation by marginalised groups 4. Appropriate investment climate 5. Social Security Safety Net 6. Change in attitudes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - about work habits - about people with AIDS - about older persons and the disabled 7. Rehabilitation and counselling centers 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Design projects/programmes with the involvement of clients including youths at risk, women/heads of households and unskilled men 2. Attract industry that is labour intensive (semi-skilled and unskilled) 3. Establish craft industry and enhance artisan skills 4. Skills training at local level 5. Relevant education at local level for parents, teachers, leaders and social workers and politicians 6. Cultural and environmental education 7. Enhance feeding programmes and transportation for schools 8. Nutrition, education, health programmes 9. Provide educational skills and technical and vocational training 10. Leadership training skills and opportunities 11. Public education at the local level about such critical issues such as AIDS 12. Launch a National Productivity drive 		<p>GOB NGOs Private sector Church Civil society CSO NHDAC and Ministry of Human Resources Community leaders (Village Council) GOB NGOs Donor agencies</p>
9. Water and sanitation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A quarter of rural families lack access to safe water and about 5% were without access to adequate sanitation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve rural water and sanitation supply 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue the development of rural village water and sanitation programmes which make use of community involvement in both the planning and the management of the projects. 		<p>WASA</p>
10. Family	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Family breakdown as a network 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Family Units 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate causes of family break-down 		<p>FPA Ministry of Human Resources</p>

B. PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. Unemployment/ Lack of income	<p>1. High in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rural (Toledo (13.0%) and Cayo (12.8%) and Belize City (15.6 %) - Punta Gorda/Dangriga - Women (14-19 ; 45.7%) - Youth (14-19; 29%) - Mayas <p>2. Lack of jobs and appropriate job skills; untrained and unskilled workforce</p> <p>3. Limited local market for goods and services due to small population and preference for foreign goods</p> <p>4. Unpaid worker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - subsistence farming, back-yard gardening, domestic work at home, child care <p>5. Negative social attitudes to work</p> <p>6. Jobs available in citrus and banana industries but Belizeans unwilling to work in those industries. This encourages immigrant workers</p>	<p>1. Provide options for generation of income</p> <p>2. Address unemployment in urban areas particularly among young people</p> <p>3. Improve social attitudes to work</p> <p>4. A strong apprenticeship programme</p> <p>5. Job availability stripped from traditional male/female division of labour</p> <p>6. Target a reduction of the unemployment rate by 90%</p>	<p>1. Target major export-oriented industries</p> <p>2. Better investment strategies, e.g. encouraging foreign investment; local/foreign partnership; local/joint ventures, as effort to improve the investment climate</p> <p>3. Transform attitudes and empowerment</p> <p>4. Create value added jobs</p> <p>5. Encourage self-employment</p> <p>6. Provide government- guaranteed credit for the poor</p> <p>7. Increase skills training, especially for small business activities and for adult education</p> <p>8. Counselling</p> <p>9. Develop programmes for the youth in particular</p> <p>10. Organize farmers in groups (cooperatives)</p>	By the year 2010	<p>Ministry of Labour and Employment</p> <p>Economic Development Committees</p> <p>Technical assistance</p> <p>Families, NGOs, churches</p> <p>Other social development institutions</p> <p>Skills training institutions</p> <p>Financial institution</p> <p>People-oriented</p> <p>Private enterprise, e.g. popular commercial banks, NGOs, church organizations</p>

B. Productive Employment and Sustainable Livelihoods

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
2. Employment and income in tourism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Foreigners control tourism sector- locals only benefit at a small scale 2. Inequity of income earnings e.g. San Pedro vs. Toledo 3. Inadequate facilities in Southern region 4. Belizeans are not adequately trained for work in tourism 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greater participation by Belizeans in ownership 2. Improve the tourism infrastructure, product and marketing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Institute programmes to encourage access to credit for nationals interested in small to medium size hotels and guest houses 2. Create a National Policy for Tourism which includes the ideas of the critical stakeholders 3. Organize group for small enterprises involved in the industry 4. Develop hospitality training programmes 5. Produce high quality promotion brochures 		BTB, BTIA Ministry of Tourism Ministry of Natural Resources Commercial banks
3. Employment and income in the private sector	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the major industries (sugar, citrus) most of the employment is seasonal 2. Reduction of training budgets 3. Insufficient monitoring of labour conditions e.g., textile industry, restaurants, shops, etc. 4. Workers paid at minimum wage 5. Poor safety and sanitary conditions 6. Employees over-worked and under-paid (sometimes performing two job functions without commensurate compensation) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Diversification into other crops and by products 2. Effect training in technical skills in formal education e.g. CET, BTC 3. Institutional strength of labour market 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hire on basis of the most qualified 2. Provide skills training and increase training budgets to create specializations 3. Strength capacity of the labour department to monitor employment conditions 		GOB NGOs Trade unions Social security Private sector
4. Sustainable livelihood: Natural resources	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inefficient use of National Resources 2. Land - in hands of private/non-resident owners 3. Inefficient use of prime real estate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - agriculture - fisheries - tourism 4. Lack of technology transfer especially in agriculture, food processing, marine industry, clothing/textile 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Balanced economy 2. Transfer of technology 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Utilize Natural Resources 2. Make available technical support and information through workshops, booklets and pamphlets 1. Twin foreign/local enterprises 		Ministry of Agriculture, Estate Developers, GOB

B. Productive Employment and Sustainable Livelihoods

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
5. Sustainable livelihood: Forestry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deforestation and non-sustainable use of forest resources 2. Illegal logging 3. Emphasis on the export of logs 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reforestation 2. Encourage high-value added activity 3. Reduce illegal activity 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education awareness programme on the sustainable use of the forests 2. Monitor regularly the state of the forest resource 3. Strengthen the forest patrol and surveillance capacity 4. Develop wood working skills 		B.D.F, Forest officers, Community, youth groups
6. Sustainable livelihoods: Small farmers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Low income level 2. High production cost/transport 3. Small domestic market 4. Limited credit access 5. Poor provision of extension services 6. Unequal distribution of agricultural land as ownership not in hands of main food producers, i.e. small and medium farmers 7. Most farmers operate on marginal lands hence the low productivity 8. Only some farmers engage in agricultural activity as a business 9. Use of inappropriate technology 10. Poor infrastructure 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Efficient production 2. Higher incomes to farmers 3. High meat and agricultural product quality 4. Land reform 5. Better infrastructure 6. Better management practices in the sector especially on financial aspects of agricultural production 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expand sources and amounts for micro-credit 2. Allocate resources for extension and technical assistance and for research and development; possibly channeled through NGOs 3. Strengthen cooperatives and credit unions 4. Use improved processing technology 5. Develop a National Policy for agriculture which includes land reform, diversification and infrastructural development 		Ministries of Economic Development, Works, Agriculture, DFC, NGOs, Cooperative department, CARDI, Private sector
7. Sustainable livelihood: Small farmers (small crop)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eleven thousand (11,000) small crop farmers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - insecure land tenure - no irrigation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regularize land situation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Break seasonal cycle of vegetable production 2. Feasibility study for irrigation 		

B. Productive Employment and Sustainable Livelihoods

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION		RECOMMENDED ACTION		
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
8. Citrus farmers	<p>1. <u>Citrus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 million boxes produced - Export to protected market under CBI/ Lome - Greater exports to CARICOM - 2 processing plants - Presently employs 30 workers/100 acres with 55,000 acres under production <p>2. <u>Constraints</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yields low due to old orchards and tristeza disease 2. Improper disposal of waste; environmental degradation 3. Possible loss of protected market conditions 4. Little control over external market conditions/prices 5. Employment opportunities in the sector not taken by locals; use of immigrant labour 6. Great fluctuation in prices affect wage levels (prices currently low) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greater productive capacity of the industry 2. Expand into high value added production of citrus by-products 3. Explore new regional markets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GOB and industry officials should lobby for a gradual reduction of phase out process 2. Make the production processes more efficient 3. Increase the productivity of labour 4. Establish and utilize quality standards 5. Continue to replant and monitor old groves 6. Develop a disposal and/or recycling process 7. Continue provision of extension and research services to farmers 		GOB, Ministry of Natural Resources, Agriculture
9. Marketing arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No facility to sell to (public markets) e.g. Progresso Village, Cotton Tree Village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greater market outlets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Re-introduce the Marketing Board System whereby agricultural produce can be bought and distributed 2. Develop a market network which will encourage the sale of local produce vs. importation e.g Mare Sharp 3. Develop agro-processing entities 		Ministry of Agriculture

B. Productive Employment and Sustainable Livelihoods

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natl., regnl., intl., NGO)
10. Productivity	1. Productivity levels are low both nationally and at individual levels	1. High productivity levels	1. Devise and utilize appropriate technology 2. Exchange of knowledge amongst farmers and agriculture officials 3. Provide incentives for innovations and research which benefit production, harvesting and marketing process		GOB, private sector
11. Low and declining wages	1. The average monthly income for the employed population in 1997 was \$580 per month, which was 5% less than in 1996. Average male earnings was \$590 while average female earnings was \$550; a fall of 4% and 8% respectively from a year earlier. 2. Job creation in the primary and tertiary sector was primarily in low paying jobs	1. Higher wages 2. Close the gender wage imbalance	1. Initiate a drive to increase worker productivity 2. Initiate legislature to discourage wage discrimination		GOB, private sector
12. Consumption patterns	1. Under-utilized local products (consumption across the border) 2. Re-import of local products after higher value added activity performed abroad	1. Re-focus on domestic food security 2. Local production should utilize local primary goods	1. Information, research and training needed for critical stakeholders 2. Collation and exchange of knowledge and expertise with other CARICOM countries		GOB, private sector
13. Inflation	1. Reduction of buying power	1. Equitable distribution of V.A.T.	1. Fight inflationary pressures		Central Bank, GOB
14. Per capita income	1. Very low in Toledo and Cayo 2. Insufficient use of NGOs in income-generating activities	1. Income-generation	1. Design income earning projects 2. Foster small business and other income earning avenues	Soon	NGOs, private and public sector

B. Productive Employment and Sustainable Livelihoods

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
15. Preferential prices	1. Removal of preferential prices will have a negative effect on employment and as a consequence on income and levels of poverty	1. Become more competitive in the world market	1. Provide information on better farming practices and techniques, quality standards and market opportunities 2. Collaborate with CARICOM to negotiate retention of Preferential Rights in Lome	Yearly	Public and private sector
16. Employment reference and job training	1. Limited job placement centers 2. Limited technical training centers, e.g. CETS	1. Increase the capacity of the labour department to provide job placement services in each district 2. Establishment of three Regional Training Centers	1. Encourage employers, firms, factories to engage in technical training programmes		Department of Labour Private sector and Department of Labour
17. Data	1. Manpower needs survey not readily available	1. Regular, reliable and comparable labour force related statistics	1. Conduct and publish biannual surveys		Labour, CSO
18. Economic growth	1. Focus is too much on export-oriented and traditional crops 2. A reduction of government expenditure and investment projects, the enactment of the value added tax and the appreciation of the Belizian dollar relative to the Guatemalan quetzal and the Mexican peso have contributed to a sustained period of economic downturn	1. Economic diversification	1. Provide incentives for development of the tourism sector and for downstream agricultural industry 2. Market research; promotion and development of marketing		GOB Private sector
19. Budget Allocation by the Government of Belize	1. Inappropriate distribution of government expenditure to different sectors	1. Rationalization of government allocations and transfers	1. Allocate and control funds based on the GOB macro-plan and sectoral needs		Annually (budget cycle)

B. Productive Employment and Sustainable Livelihoods

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	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
20. Poor quality of macro economic and social sector information	1. Secondary and inappropriate research techniques used resulting in a distorted picture of the overall situation. Consequently the ranking of Belize on the HDI has improved. As a result, funding from multilateral and bilateral donors is decreasing. USAID, CARE and other donors have left or plan to leave Belize	1. More appropriate objective and empirical research and analysis	1. Utilize consistent and verifiable indicators on, e.g. inflation, trade and other development paradigms		NHDAC, CSO, MED; Checked by a qualified and reputable research institution
21. Illegal economic activity	1. Illegal lottery 2. Smuggling 3. Illegal gambling	1. Curb the activity in these illegal sectors	1. Launch an education and awareness campaign to inform the public of the potential problems with participation in such activities		GOB Customs Immigration Health Police
22. Trade imbalances	1. The negative trade balance peaked at \$287m in 1993 on account of a high food import bill and limited export growth	1. Expand export base and control food bill	1. Invest in a diversification of the productive sector, focusing on export orientation 2. Implement measures to reorient food consumption patterns (buy-local campaign)		

C. HEALTH

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. HIV/AIDS as related to poverty and Belize economy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Belize HIV/AIDS rate is the highest in Central America; acute situation in Stann Creek and Belize Districts 2. Prevalent in 17-30 age group 3. Spread of AIDS in prison 4. Reluctance to change behaviour patterns 5. Rejection and stigmatization by society 6. Poor people do not have proper access to care and medication 7. Absence of reliable data on the incidence and effects on the economy but indications are that the disease is spreading fast 8. Burden and distress to families 9. Terminal diseases affect national productivity 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduction 2. Prevention 3. Care 4. Entire population 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public Education awareness (ongoing) to change attitudes and sexual behaviour, also in schools 2. Health workers "shock up" workshop 3. Provide health care for HIV/AIDS victims 4. Support families 5. Low cost condoms for the poor 6. Make frequent and compulsory testing in army and police, fire services and other working communities at risk 7. Prevention through information and outreach 		<p>M.O.H. AIDS Task Force MOE, NGOs Private sector Churches Volunteers</p> <p>M.O.H</p>
2. Public Health Care	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poor human relations of staff 2. Insufficient prenatal care in Districts 3. Inadequacy in rural areas 4. Lack of medicines and facilities 5. Misuse of resources 6. Poor people are deprived of priority attention when needed 7. Political patronage 8. Not enough access to Public Health Centres especially in rural areas 9. The non-poor are referred to hospitals through private facilities; the poor will not easily be referred to hospitals through the public patient facilities 10. Not enough doctors 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quality care for all 2. Optimal health programs and access for all 3. Proper management of resources for all 4. Equal opportunities for all 5. Supply health posts/community health workers with basic medication 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve human relations standards of staff 2. Seminars and workshops on major health issues 3. Train more medical practitioners (doctors, nurses, C.H.W.) 		<p>M.O.H.</p> <p>M.O.H. S.S NGOs</p>

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION		RECOMMENDATION/ACTION		
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natl., regnl., intl., NGO)
3. Nutrition	1. Inadequate maternal nutrition and poor nutritional levels of elderly	1. Children/babies 2. Older Persons	1. Improve nutrition practices 2. Add nutritionists and dieticians to hospitals in Districts		Ministry of Health Basic Needs Trust Fund, NGOs
4. Expenditure	1. Capital vs. Recurrent expenditure 2. Major imbalance between recurrent (priority for the poor) and capital expenditure, in favour of capital spending		1. Budget should focus more on need for trained staff, equipment and medication than on infrastructure; shift to staff development and improved operations		
5. Sexual Reproduction	1. Not enough access to gender sensitive family planning. Male participation is low 2. Cost of services for the poor are too high	1. Sexual education including family planning should start at primary schools 2. Establish male clinics 3. Social Security to contribute to cost	1. Investigation on sexual education in schools and identify level at which to start 2. Investigate need for attention to males in separate male clinics		Min of Health Social Security NGOs Community Health promoters
6. Services provided by NGOs PVOs	1. Inability of M.O.H. to supervise and monitor provision of services by others 2. No formal institutional mechanism in place to assess external P.V.O. requests 3. <u>Constraints</u> - Lack of human resources - Lack of clear norms and procedures 4. <u>Opportunities</u> - Reform process - Planning Unit	1. Adequate monitoring and supervision 2. Scrutinize PVO requests in context of national needs and priority areas 3. Manifest of Rules, Norms and Procedures 4. Increase and improve services provided	1. Develop clear protocols and guidelines 2. Decentralize and empower health management 3. Define national needs and priority areas 4. Include PVO supervisor into local level official's task 5. Set up reporting mechanism		MOH MOH In consultation with PVO MOH

D. EDUCATION

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION		RECOMMENDED ACTION		
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. Curriculum	1. Relevant subjects are absent (e.g. Agriculture, Home Economics)	1. Education which prepares students for the Belize labour market	1. Include subjects relevant for the Belize economy into the school curriculum to make graduates employable 2. Increase sport in curriculum.		Ministry of Education
2. School drop-outs	1. Teenage pregnancy 2. Primary school drop-out level is high	1. Teenage mothers complete education 2. Less primary school drop-outs	1. Stimulate teenage mothers to return to school and put education programmes in place for all primary school drop-outs 2. Investigate causes of primary school drop-outs 3. Adult education		Ministry of Education NGOs
3. Inequality in Education	1. Distribution of schools according to levels of quality does not serve rural areas adequately 2. Distribution of qualified teachers favours urban school population mainly 3. New tuition fees policy favours prestige school students 4. Insufficient Pre-Schools and Secondary schools in rural areas (especially Toledo) 5. Some schools have greater access to resources than others 6. Students in rural areas spend less number of hours in school, classes start later and teachers need time off to collect salaries	1. Equality in education for the entire country in all aspects including quality of teachers, tuition fee policies, resources, total school hours, etc.	1. Consolidate schools 2. Consolidate equal distribution of trained teachers in the country 3. Balance benefits of policy among all types of schools 4. Facilitate attendance of secondary schools for rural qualified students, through more frequent use of shift system and evening classes 5. All schools should demand equal access to information on how and where to access resources 6. Deposit Teachers salaries in specified bank accounts such as to facilitate use of the A.T.M		Ministry of Education Ministry of Education Ministry of Education Ministry of Education GOB Management Board Ministry of Education
4. Management of the education system	1. Centralized management	1. Decentralized management	1. Delegate functions of decision-making 2. Encourage more participation of parents, including the lesser educated		

D. Education

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
5. Access	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fifteen per cent(15%): no access to primary school 50% +: no access to secondary school 2. Drug addiction/parents 3. Lack of financial resources especially Toledo District 4. Inadequate classrooms and facilities 5. Low education levels of low income parents 6. Child labour vs education 7. Ineffective free education policy 8. BNSE 9. Very limited space at the Primary and Secondary Schools 10. Limited transportation available to accommodate scattered locations 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One hundred per cent (100%) access to both primary and secondary school 2. Adequate and affordable school transport 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drug Councils mandate to include community based programmes, coordinated with schools, PTAs, etc. on District Level and expand drug awareness and rehabilitation programmes 2. Intensify programmes for poverty reduction and eradication 3. Improve scheduling of buses to reach more locations (especially Toledo and Stamm Creek) 	10 years (2008)	Ministry of Education Government GOB Ministry of Education Religious sector PTA Private enterprise
6. Sexual molestation in primary and secondary levels (rural schools)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No recourse against sexual molestation in schools, in practice 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educate public and teachers on existing and new laws regulating child abuse and sexual molestation 2. Enforcement of school regulations and criminal law 		

D. Education

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION		RECOMMENDED ACTION		
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
7. Quality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unreliable quality of teaching 2. Even though there is a set of recommended text books, schools still use different text books 3. Lack of supervision and control mechanisms 4. Overcrowded class rooms 5. Language barriers (English vs. Spanish) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adequate quality of teaching 2. Standard use text books 3. Quality education 4. Supervised education 5. Removal of language barriers 6. Put in place school performance indicators, e.g. every child must sit and pass three CXC subjects which must include Math and English 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Base the evaluation of teachers also on performance of student 2. Parent participation in evaluation 3. Teachers should be encouraged to specialize 4. Investigation and action via Management of the Education System 5. Improve supervision at schools at all levels 6. Encourage appointment of teachers from the area and train others in a second language, where necessary 		<p>Min. of Education Parents (PTA)</p> <p>GOB Ministry of Education Religious Sectors</p>
8. Parent responsibility	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students go to school hungry, are left unsupervised, or removed from school to work 2. Not enough involvement in PTAs 3. Parents do not assist students in school work at home 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Properly fed children 2. No working students 3. Student counselling 4. Full involvement in PTA 5. Parent assistance with school work 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Re-introduce school feeding programme in identified schools 2. Re-introduce the Truant System and more community action 3. Encourage parent counselling 4. Encourage parents to participate in PTA 5. Encourage Parent assistance 		<p>Parents and Communities GOB support</p>

D. Education

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION		RECOMMENDED ACTION		
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
9. Males in school	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of male teachers 2. Drop-outs 3. Low attendance during cane crop seasons 4. Escalation of gang violence outside of Belize <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dangriga - Orange Walk - Cayo 5. Involvement in drug use and drug trafficking at early ages 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employment of more Truant Officers 2. Incentive to males to stay in the teaching professional 3. Establish Peer Education big brother programmes 4. Identify positive male models in community - train to work with other males 5. Recruit Truant Officers and train volunteers nationally 6. Establish CYDP programmes in relevant District in relation to cultural difference 6. Extended outreach programmes based on collaboration between AAO and National Drug Abuse Centre for rehab counselling and drug education strategies for students and teachers 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commitment from Ministry of Education and Ministry of Finance 2. Involvement of the Ministry of Social Services 		Min of Education Min of Finance Min of Social Services GOB/District Board CYPD AAO/NDACC Ministry of Education

E. ENVIRONMENTAL REALITIES

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. Land use	1. Unsustainable land use patterns: - Migrants in highly fragile environments squatting on hills, ignorant of land problems - Poor quality of rented/leased land - Farmers are still following traditional agricultural production practices that impact upon the environment e.g. slash and burn	1. Regularise living conditions of migrants 2. Alternatives for landless farmers	1. Assess living conditions of migrants and find priority solutions which avoid unsustainable land use 2. Encourage other income generating activities e.g. honey production and promotion in large scale organic farming		Ministry of Agriculture Ministry of Industry Cooperatives Communities
2. Soil erosion	1. Soil is being removed creating large water ponds and breeding grounds for pests e.g. Lord's Bank 2. Small farmers attempt to increase landholdings by clearing lands near to river banks, causing serious land erosion and depletion of soil standards	1. Soil conservation	1. Control/monitor the location/removal of soil from developing communities 2. GOB to acquire unused private lands and allocate to landless or deficient farmers 3. GOB to enforce 66 feet riverside law		Ministry of Natural Resources Ministry of Natural Resources with community support
3. Sanitation	1. Inadequate and unsanitary garbage disposal practices, affecting life forms	1. Better sanitation levels in communities	1. Provide education on the disposal of garbage and health related improvements; identify garbage sites		Ministry of Natural Resources Agricultural Dept., Communities
4. Illegal use of natural resources	1. Neighboring countries misusing marine, forestry and agricultural resources	1. Greater border surveillance	1. Improve/increase sea and land border patrols by creating sub-stations at key locations in Belize to monitor both legal and illegal activities		Citizens Cooperatives Law Enforcers

E. Environmental Realities

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natl., regnl., intl., NGO)
5. Marine resources	<p>1. Waterways/lagoons, are overexploited (lobster, conchard, grouper) resulting in the depletion of the fisheries resources due to unsustainable farming practices</p> <p>2. With 80% of Belize's population living on the coastal zone, threats to bio-diversity in the coastal zone result from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urbanization and tourism development are destroying the mangrove eco-system - Sea grass bed and reef system degradation from land based pollution - Solid waste and sewer waste improperly managed, adversely affecting the marine and coastal areas - Non adherence to environmental planning requirements 	<p>1. Awareness of the sensitivity of the marine environment</p> <p>2. Better management of marine resources</p>	<p>1. Conduct studies to monitor the population of important species</p> <p>2. Public awareness on the linkages between activities on the main land and impact on the marine coastal zone</p> <p>3. The Environmental Protection Agency should enforce existing environmental laws</p>		<p>GOB and communities</p> <p>F.D.</p> <p>H.P</p> <p>D.O.E</p> <p>C.Z.M.P.</p>
6. Environmental impact of tourism	<p>1. Mass eco-tourism is beginning to have some damaging effects on the principal forest attractions</p>	<p>1. Awareness of the fragility of the balance in the natural environment; both for tourists and Belizians</p>	<p>1. Educate, raise awareness and include in promotions the need to be more sensitive to the environment</p>		<p>Ministry of Natural Resources</p> <p>Tourism officials</p> <p>NGOs</p> <p>Communities</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture</p>

F. MANAGEMENT/FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. District level representation	1. Used to gather power: - Personal - Community-based - Organizational or group-base 2. Inappropriate selection of representatives	1. Appropriate means of selection to be applied at consultation and implementation levels of local level governance	1. Reform of local level governance structure with inputs from the communities		NHDAC
2. Youth leadership	1. Few leaders and lack of youth programmes	1. Greater youth participation in governance	1. Encourage cultural leaders, youth programmes		NGOs Cooperatives Civil societies
3. Absence/inadequate sanitation	1. Low levels of sanitation in communities		1. Improved sanitation levels (latrines, garbage disposal drainage, beautification) through use of education and prevention programmes		
4. Inadequate communication between district and central government level	1. Lack of commitment on behalf of Ministry personnel 2. Political interference 3. Lack of commitment to community development	1. Decentralization and autonomy in the District	1. Empowerment of communities and their leadership		NGOs Cooperatives Civil societies Donor agencies
5. Programmes	1. Programmes for the poor are ineffective and inefficient, bearing minimal improvements in their lives	1. Better programmes for the poor	1. Increase budget allocation to meet needs of the poor and prepare adequate social development programmes 2. Incorporate adequate evaluation mechanisms in the programmes 3. Create/improve strong alliances between Government and Private Sector to benefit the poor		Social development institutions

G. INTEGRATED SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STRATEGIES

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. Social consequences of conservation efforts	1. In creating national parks, little consideration is given to the effects on the lives of the nearby communities e.g land for farming, hunting, fishing, etc.	1. Integrate local concerns in forestry conservation initiatives	1. Involve the communities in planning and management 2. Provide comparative alternatives to communities affected and dependent on the affected natural resources		Ministry of Human Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources, NGOs, Communities, Ministry of Agriculture
2. Environmental impact of tourism	1. Mass eco-tourism is beginning to have some damaging effects on the principal forest attractions	1. Raise awareness of the fragility of the balance in the natural environment; both for tourists and Belizians	1. Educate and include in promotions, the need to be more sensitive to the environment.		Ministry of Natural Resources, Tourism officials, NGOs, Communities, Ministry of Agriculture

H. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION		RECOMMENDED ACTION		
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. Poor coordination amongst groups involved in social sector activities	1. Duplication of efforts and services which result in high administrative costs 2. Lack of coordination amongst the donor agencies with available funding	1. Develop mechanisms of coordination and collaboration among the various actors involved in funding and implementing the activities in the social sector 2. Establish monitoring mechanisms for programmes, projects, spending etc.	1. Identify ministry responsible for NGOs 2. Involve relevant pressure groups in a coordinating project activity body 3. Streamline project initiatives to ensure that the majority of the funding goes to poor		GOB, Donor agencies
2. NGOs' administrative and financial capacity	1. High administrative costs 2. Critical dependence on donors funds 3. Not meeting the stated project goals/objectives	1. Reallocation of funds from administrative to operational programmes/projects 2. Changes to reduce dependency on external aids	1. Develop mechanisms of coordination and collaboration among the various actors involved in funding and implementing the activities in the social sector 2. More private sector support for public sector/NGOs initiatives		NHDAC Private sector, NGO's
3. Responsiveness of poverty intervention to local needs	1. Partnership is weak between NHDAC and communities 2. Villages have little autonomy	1. Develop effective partnerships between NHDAC and recipient communities 2. Develop a legal framework for communities to operate	1. Communities should be empowered to govern themselves		NHDAC Community
4. Goal of GOB for poverty	1. No national development plan/strategy	1. Need to develop a national strategy for poverty reduction leading to eradication			NHDAC Donor Agencies
5. NHDAC	1. Presently mandated to be an advisory committee	1. Ensure that programme implementation include issues at the community level	1. Create District level advisory committees		MED/NHDAC
6. Other social services	1. Some of the basic services are not included in the reports of District Consultations, but are crucial		1. Address issues of following services: - Safe water - Sanitation - Communication - Roads - Solid waste		GOB Local authorities

H. Institutional Mechanisms

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION		RECOMMENDED ACTION		
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
7. Efficiency and delivery	1. Weak institutions with poor management and skills				Government, NGOs, Private Sector
8. Data	1. Data monitoring practices 2. Weak institutions for data monitoring		1. Investigate and improve where possible 2. Strengthen relevant institutions		G.O.B. Donors
9. Social services at community level	1. Quality and availability need improvement 2. Infrastructure is usually under-utilized	1. Improve quality and accessibility of services			GOB NGOs Civil Society

**I. MEASUREMENT AND MONITORING INSTRUMENTS AND
MECHANISMS FOR EFFECTIVE POVERTY ERADICATION**

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. Effectiveness of poverty programmes (GOB, NGOs, Churches, Community) <u>Government</u>					GOB NOGS Community
1. Vocational training	1. Coverage is not broad enough and focuses on "traditional areas"	1. National coverage which incorporate non-traditional areas			
2. Free education	2. Covers only tuition while other educational costs are beyond the scope of most families	2. Policy needs to respond to local needs and should include areas other than tuition			GOB Church
3. Social assistance	3. Relatively small financial support to supplement needs of individuals	3. Self-sufficiency in meeting personal needs			GOB Community Private Sector
4. S.I.F.	4. It is not "demand driven" and is relatively slow in response to community requests	4. The expected beneficiaries need to be empowered to be able to make demands			GOB S.I.F. Board Community NGOs
	5. Bugged down by bureaucracy	5. Reduction in the present bureaucracy process			
	6. Church assistance usually target their members	6. Indiscriminate coverage	1. Recommend churches to equally distribute assistance to church and non-church members.		Funders Donors Church Community NGOs GOB

**I. Measurement and Monitoring Instruments and
Mechanisms for Effective Poverty Eradication**

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION		RECOMMENDATION/ACTION		
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. Effectiveness of poverty programmes Cont'd	<p>6. Training is provided but no post-training follow-up nor project implementation</p> <p>7. Lack of funding to implement project</p> <p>8. Training is provided as per demand areas but not in <u>all</u> necessary areas</p> <p>9. Too much dependency on outside consultants and therefore some projects developed not based on country needs</p> <p>10. Too much dependency on grant funding</p> <p>11. Programmes not reaching to the very poor</p> <p>12. Not enough consultation, monitoring and evaluation of projects and a lack of detailed accountability</p> <p align="center"><u>Opportunities</u></p> <p><u>Community:</u> Ethnic Groups</p> <p>1. Some initiatives taking place e.g. cocoa project in Toledo District</p>	<p>7. Organizations need more networking and share resources</p> <p>8. Need continuous rapport between communities and NGOs/GOB/etc.</p> <p>9. More input in proposal research and preparation by NGOs/communities</p> <p>10. Conduct better needs assessment and more networking</p> <p>11. Local counterparts needed and skill-sharing</p> <p>12. More community involvement</p> <p>13. More education to reduce dependency and become stakeholders</p> <p>14. More assessment of the communities and better resource allocation</p> <p>15. Monitoring (reporting etc.) accountability, and evaluation</p>			
		<p>1. To maintain indigenous culture</p> <p>2. To increase income generation</p>	<p>1. Community mobilization</p> <p>2. Co-operative funding</p>		Community Leaders

I. Measurement and Monitoring Instruments and Mechanisms for Effective Poverty Eradication

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION		RECOMMENDATION/ACTION		
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. Effectiveness of poverty programmes Cont'd	2. PTAs 3. Women in business (Cornmill in Patchakan) 4. Handicraft in Toledo District <u>NGOs: (Help)</u> 1. Infrastructure Development 2. Agricultural projects in Cotton Tree 3. Micro-Credit 4. Technical assistance <u>Churches:</u> 1. Welfare programmes 2. School feeding programmes 3. Educational programmes <u>GOB:</u> 1. SIF 2. Human Resources	3. Fund raising 4. To improve educational facilities 1. To improve income generation and to improve quality of life for farmers 2. To improve knowledge skills 1. Improve quality of life of the needy 1. Break poverty cycle in Belize	Consultations with communities 1. Access to resources for dissemination 1. Implementation of community projects		NGOs Churches GOB
2. Views on successes of poverty progress. Why are they unsuccessful	1. No systematic evaluation in place	1. Systematic Measurement and Evaluation system			GOB NGOs International Agencies Community

I. Measurement and Monitoring Instruments and Mechanisms for Effective Poverty Eradication

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
2. Views on successes of poverty progress. Why are they unsuccessful Cont'd	2. Undue emphasis is placed on physical completion of infrastructure 3. Weak coordination among agencies 4. Not well focused 5. Success based on agendas of funding agencies and/or political directorate 6. Capacity-building programmes tend to be by-passed in terms of being 'successful' 7. Under-reporting of results	2. Combine emphasis on physical and non-physical aspects in evaluation 3. Strengthen coordination 4. Redefine goal/objectives 5. Success should measure impact on community and levels of poverty 6. Better documentation			
3. Views of successes in poverty-focused action	<u>Toledo Cacao project</u> 1. Land and development funds 2. Credit unions 3. Fishing cooperatives	1. Create sustainable environment for the poor	1. Financial strategies: - Encourage savings - Low interest loans - Manage monies - Financial counselling 2. New technology 3. Introduce other commercial species		
4. Areas for successful poverty-focused action	1. School buildings 2. BYDC 3. CYDP 4. Teachers training 5. Text books 6. Book awards 7. Macal Cooperatives 8. School Feeding Programmes	1. Improved environment 2. Increase access for all 3. Income generation for the youth 4. Qualified teachers 5. Adequate teaching materials and tools 6. Better status of nutrition	1. Create better facilities and improve logistics 2. Skills training 3. Distant learning 4. Upgrade standard of teachers 5. Distribute books to low income children 6. Access resources from donors and from community		Ministry of Education

I. Measurement and Monitoring Instruments and Mechanisms for Effective Poverty Eradication

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION		RECOMMENDATION/ACTION		
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
5. Suggestions to address poverty <u>seriously</u> by GOB, NGOs etc.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Many workshops 2. A great deal of "profiling" by some agencies 3. Nice speeches but limited follow-up action 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Great need to be more action-oriented in programmes 2. Improved allocation of resources to programmes 3. District and community needs should be clearly incorporated in National Strategy 4. National commitment to the strategy 5. <u>Political</u> commitment to strategy 6. Implementation of strategy should be community-led 7. Development of a national vision and development plan 8. There must be a commitment of financial resources/budget to the implementation process 9. People need to be empowered to implement national strategy 			GOB NGOs Community International agencies

I. Measurement and Monitoring Instruments and Mechanisms for Effective Poverty Eradication

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
6. How best to address poverty seriously	1. Poverty is not being addressed in a serious and effective way at present	1. Effective management of NGOs' resources 2. A realistic 5-year Action Plan which includes amounts allocated for specific actions and timeframe for completion 3. Priority action for basic needs 4. Assessment and targeting based on field work 5. Availability of adequate information from various organizations so that people can access services 6. Create cottage industries and additional income generating opportunities, especially for the Older Persons and for persons with disabilities	1. Strengthen NGOs capacity to manage and allocate resources to the poor indiscriminately 2. Investigate all needs and set priorities especially for basic needs 3. Undertake field-work to optimally inform action to be taken by community workers 4. Prepare sound information; database available to everyone with regard to donors, government, others, areas of assistance available, resources and services provided 5. Study the needs and possibilities of Older Persons and Disabled Persons to help themselves 6. Target most needy 7. Disseminate information on access to assistance 8. Coordinate assistance of organizations 9. New resources to sustain successful projects 10. Share success stories 11. Involve the business sectors 12. Effective community consultation on poverty reduction		NGOs Donor agencies GOB GOB NGO, PVO Private sector Churches Development agencies Bilateral and multilateral donors GOB NGOs GOB NGOs

**I. Measurement and Monitoring Instruments and
Mechanisms for Effective Poverty Eradication**

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION		RECOMMENDATION/ACTION		
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
7. Data	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data monitoring practices 2. Weak institutions for data monitoring 3. Unavailability of comprehensive data 4. Lack of data management system 5. Diverse measuring techniques used by agencies or individuals practising measurement of poverty. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Universal systems and measuring tools 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Careful consideration of concepts of poverty and related measuring techniques 		Agencies and institutions interested in measuring poverty
8. Realistic target/time-frame for poverty alleviation/elimination	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No targets/time-frame presently to alleviate or eliminate poverty 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ten years for alleviation of root causes 2. Twenty years for elimination 			NHDAC Civil society
9. Social needs requiring poverty intervention programmes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inadequate health care 2. Educational gaps e.g. youth drop-outs, adult education 3. Lack of access to land and production credit 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide adequate health/education facilities for poor communities 2. Access to land/credit 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide credit and technical assistance 		GOB DFC SIF NDFB Donors NGOs

J. GOVERNANCE

ISSUE	BASIS FOR ACTION	RECOMMENDED ACTION			
	Current situation, Constraints/Opportunities	Goals/Targets	Strategies/Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility (natnl., regnl., intl., NGO)
1. Adequacy: quality, efficacy, participation, technical inputs, patronage 2. Local level administration	1. Weak policies or lack of policies 2. Politization of Village Council 3. Polarization of community 4. Inadequate conduct of country's affairs 5. Poor technical and professional quality and efficiency 1. Concern about lack of autonomy at local level 2. Poor leadership and community participation 3. Lack of consultation	1. Political structures 2. Political Administration 1. Increase local leadership capacity 2. Create more effective local level governance structures 3. Community consultation and participation in the decision-making process	1. Improve conduct of country management. 1. Educate community on the need for involvement and on the new Village Council Bill 2. Exercise leadership training 3. Create Village Council Association		NGOs and GOB

