Renforesap
November 2019

Ecotourism activity in a protected natural area in French Guiana
1. Presenting Trésor Natural Regional Reserve

2. Linking ecotourism and conservation activities

3. Community-based tourism in Favard
Natural Regional Reserve Trésor (Roura)

2,464 hectares

Land property: Conservatoire du Littoral
Main authority: Collectivité Régionale de Trésor
Management team: Association Trésor

4,000 visitors per year

Diversity in habitats

Tropical rainforest

Savannahs

Swamp forest and Orapu river
Key dates of the Reserve: 21 years of conservation

1997: creation of the Volunteer Natural Reserve Trésor
1999: creation of Natural Reserve Association (management team)
2002: opening of the Reserve’s visitor center
2008-2012: first management plan
2010: change of statuts > Regional Natural Reserve
2015: land acquisition by Conservatoire du Littoral
2015-2019: second management plan
2020: renewal of the regional statuts of the Reserve
2020-2030: third management plan
An altitudinal gradient = rich biodiversity
68 known species of amphibians

132 in French Guiana
96 known species of reptiles

167 in French Guiana
340 known species of birds

713 in French Guiana
53 known species of non-flying mammals

90 in French Guiana
+1300 known species of plants

5200 in French Guiana
Main objective: maintain the state of conservation of the different habitats of the Reserve

More than 40 planned operations in order to...

...protect

...manage

...educate
Reserve’s means in 2019: the field team

Juliette
Director / curator
Since May 2018

Benoît
Ranger
Since 2010

Jean-François
Ranger
Since 2009

Sarah
Educational program officer
Since septembre 2019

Maxandre
Education volunteer

Brisane
Service provider

Annual budget of 150 000 €
The reserve’s objectives

✓ Contributing to the conservation of the natural heritage of the Kaw mountain

✓ Ensuring the Reserve’s local integration (educational programs, participative governance)

✓ Improve knowledge on natural heritage of the reserve (inventories on little knows taxa, and non-prospected areas)

✓ Identify ecosystem modification indicators to assess past and/or future impacts
A few of our actions in 2019

- Inventoring membracides (August 2019)
- Monitoring poison frog populations
- Inventoring spiders
- Monitoring grand fauna (October 2019)
- Inventoring spiders
Means available for receiving public

A reserve house

An educational pond accessible to people with reduced mobility
Means available for receiving public

A trail on carbon stock (1.2 km)

A botanical trail (1.7 km)
General public activities (free)

Guided visits with a ranger (once a month – 15 visitors)

Themed guided tours with specialists (8 visits in July and August)

Night guided tours (5 yearly)
School activities (free)

Various offer of activities

Specific educational programs

Various field work activities
A few numbers regarding audience attendance in the reserve

**Between 2015 an 2019**

- ✓ 20,000 people walked on the trails
- ✓ 18 activities with schools (450 kids)
- ✓ 2,200 people took part in various general public activities
- ✓ The team conducted 98 general public activities
The Kaw Mountain’s ecotourism points of interest

- Fourgassier waterfalls
- Reserve Trésor’s trails
- Cock of the rock trail
- Engraved rocks trail
Kaw-Roura National Natural Reserve

Natural Regional Parc, management of protected areas
A network of ecotourism providers (accommodation, catering)
Community Based Tourism in Favard Village
Favard Village

History
Palikour American indian tribe

Key Numbers
• 45 years old village
• 135 inhabitants
• 1986 : “Association Walyku

Location
Bordering the Oyack river « Zone de droit d’usage »
The Projet

Background
• 2013-2015
• Started from a common initiative of Favard’s inhabitants
• No employement in the village

Key actors/stakeholders
• Association Walyku
• Peupl’en Harmonie
• APROSEP

Budget and financial aids:
• LEADER Funds
• Collectivité Territoriale de Guyane

Project Phases:
1. Project engineering
2. Participants Learning and Training
3. Conception and creation of touristic tours
4. Communication and promotion of the new touristic offer
5. Marketing and marchandising (B2B and B2C)
Touristic offer

Based on the respect and appreciation of locals’ traditionnal lifestyle

- 6 full day tours
- 10 Half day tours

Activities:
- Visit of the village
- Chocolat making
- Açai juice making
- Indigenious traditionnal jewllerie
- Calabash engraving
- Palm leaf weaving
- Fishing
- Walks in the forest
People and work processes

Team dynamics

• Rotation system

• 1 tour provides at least 5 jobs: cleaner, cook, guide, dugout canoe driver
Limits

• No internet connection
• Difficult access to training

Cultural aspects:
• Vision of the future
• Entrepreneurship mindset
• Women empowerment
Results

Second semester 2015
• 270 Visitors
• 10 000€ : Revenue
• Customer satisfaction : 100%

Second semester 2018:
• 1 300 Visitors
• 35 000€ Revenue
• Customer satisfaction : 87%
Positive impact on the Community

• Creating a sense of achievement
• Creating employment
• Creating economic activity while preserving every-day activities (fishing, harvesting, cooking etc.)
• Reinforcing the feeling of belonging
• Making locals proud of their culture and identity
• Women employment
• Great exposure for selling arts and crafts
Points of attention and improvement

• Larger sized groups of tourists coming to the village
• Better access to the village leading to uncontrolled touristic flows
• Team turnover
• Quality service and customer satisfaction
Possible solutions

- Training/continuous training (team management, accounting and finance, logistics)
- Tourist Rules of Conduct