

# Costa Rica Program

**DRAFT**

## Ngäbe (Guaymí) Program & HQ support <sup>1</sup>

### Final Report for 2000



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## Introduction

The Amazon Conservation Team supports the Guaymí people (or Ngäbe-Buglé as they prefer to call themselves) of Costa Rica in association with the Costa Rican NGO, Fundación TUVA. To this end ACT provides a proportion of the salary of two staff and the running costs of the ACT Costa Rica Program office, which operates within the structure of TUVA. Project costs are met both through ACT international fund-raising efforts and TUVA sourced national donors.

The Costa Rica office addresses primarily the needs of the Ngäbe Program but also supports a number of HQ-led activities, initiatives and fund-raising efforts.

The present report outlines Costa Rica Program activities carried out in 2000 and presents the proposed plan of action for 2001. The bulk of the report refers to the Ngäbe program but mention is also made of the other program activities carried out in support of other country programs or HQ such as coordination of the consultancy report for the Rockefeller Foundation on Biodiversity, Biotechnology and Indigenous peoples, forestry training of an Ingano youth and the support of Native Lands mapping of Central American natural resources and Indigenous Peoples.

## The Ngäbe or Guaymí people

There are eight indigenous groups in Costa Rica which are now settled in 22 reservations or territories, the groups are: the Cabécar, Bribri, Brunca or Boruca, Térraba, Huetar, Guatuso or Maleku, Chorotega and Ngäbe. The reservations cover an area of approximately 325,470 hectares or 6.3 percent of Costa Rica and are inhabited by some 40,000 people or about 1% of the national population.

The Ngäbe themselves number some 150,000, principally in Panama although around 4,300 are located in southern Costa Rica, close to the border. The Costa Rican Ngäbe are amongst the poorest people in the country, and until recently there were almost no development initiatives taking place in their territories. In part this is a consequence of their legal status: the Ngäbe were not accepted as equal-rights Costarican citizens by Congress until 1993.

### Distribution of the Ngäbe-Buglé in Costa Rica

The Ngäbes of southern Costa Rica are found mainly in the four reservations or territories of Coto Brus, Abrojos Montezuma, Conte Burica, and Guaymí de Osa and in the prospective reserve at Altos de San Antonio (see Map 1).



**Map 1:** Location of indigenous reservations in south-western Costa Rica, in red the three reservations participating in TUVa/ACT's project (adapted from Chapin 1993).

The 23,600 Ha of Ngäbe reservations maintain around 70% forest cover consisting of a rich variety of habitats encompassing 3 of the 5 elevational zones found in Costa Rica, that is the tropical, premontane and lower montane and three of the four humidity provinces; rain, wet and moist. Examples are the tropical very wet forests of the Osa Reservation and the lower montane moist forests of Coto Brus .

However, the Ngäbe face a variety of major challenges including the occupation of up to 25% of the reservations area by non-indigenous settlers, poor access to health services and limited options for the production of food and cash. The abysmal indicators for all these problems are at odds with the generally good quality of life experienced by the majority of Costa Ricans.

## **Brief overview of the TUVA-ACT Ngäbe Program**

The TUVA-ACT Ngäbe Program in Costa Rica broadly focuses on protecting biodiversity by assisting the Ngäbe in reversing the loss of their culture, recovering traditional political institutions and traditional medicine, supporting the defense of territory and appropriate management practices, and improving production systems, health care and education. As with all of our programs, a central aspect is the building of organizational capacity and leadership of the Ngäbe

Thus the Ngäbe Program has four components: Health, Culture, Natural Resources and Institutional support. The Ngäbe project moved towards a more integrated approach in the year 2000, incorporating other components beyond the recovery of traditional health practices that had been the focus in 1999 and beyond the sustainable production aspects that were the focus in 1998. Special attention was paid to the role of women in these processes.

In order for the Ngäbe to be able to implement an essentially internal and sustainable process of self-determination along the lines of Colombia's Plan de Vida, first local communities need to build the appropriate capacity in terms of trained individuals and local institutions. Thus, in addition to the three components common to all ACT programs, Nature, Culture and Health there is a need for an overarching Institutional component.

Another feature of the Costa Rica Program is the emphasis placed on attempting to locate a wide variety of sources of funding and coordinate efforts with other NGOs and institutions working in the field. In 2000 this strategy was successful and more than half of project funds were raised from locally contacted donors (UNDP, IUCN, GEF/BUN, as well as TUVA core funds) and many of the successful actions were coordinated with other institutions (Ombudsman's Office, UNDP, IUCN, Department of Forensic Medicine, Ministry of Environment, National Electricity Institute and various community groups).

In the following section the results achieved in 2000 are examined under the broad headings of each of the 4 components.

## **Program achievements**

### **Institutional component**

The broad objectives identified for the year 2000 were:

- Identify appropriate institutional linkages for the program in each reserve as well as at a national level and establish mechanisms for collaboration.
- Build local capacity with an emphasis on fledgling youth action group "Jirondai"
- Support appropriate local institutions in initial participatory diagnostic and planning activities and elaboration of first round "Plan de Vida", possibly on a reserve by reserve basis

- Initiate a concerted effort to work with women and women's groups as a potentially more organized and less divisive sector of Ngäbe society.
- To clarify the legal situation and consolidate the physical integrity of the Ngäbe territories (reserves) as a way to ensure sustainable management of biodiversity
- To promote a successful articulation of the Ngäbe reserves with national institutions such as the National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC-ACOSA), Ministry of Health, Police etc.

### **Results of institutional component**

This component is in many ways the most crucial of the four in that without solid foundations the other components will not be able to develop in a sustainable way.

The objectives have been met with a considerable degree of success and important new avenues and opportunities have been explored as they emerged over the year. Important linkages have been consolidated with most of the community institutions operating in the reserves and powerful alliances have been forged with national institutions.

Capacity has been built in the youth group and through courses and in-house training with other community members and institutions. The youth group has proven extremely valuable for coordination on the ground as well as implementing two projects in their own right. One of the more outstanding members is now on the full-time staff.

Several meetings and planning workshops have been held with women's groups where participatory techniques have proven successful and an initial overview of the particular circumstances experienced by Ngäbe women has been obtained. The anthropologist is currently formulating optimum work strategies for the coming year.

As anticipated, organization at the community level has proven to be very poor due to many years of neglect and marginalization. In this regard the promotion of an autochthonous "plan de vida" in any of the reservations has been deemed to be premature and has been delayed until conditions have been addressed, in part through future component activities.

The greatest success may well prove to be the development of institutional linkages between the Ngäbe and national institutions. The emphasis has been on facilitating channels of discussion between the Ngäbe and the institutions and establishing mechanisms for permanent exchange.

The case of medical/legal procedures surrounding deaths in the reservations is worth highlighting. Until this year the institutions involved in establishing cause of death (medical services, police and judiciary) have routinely worked in such a manner as to guarantee that all corpses are sent to the capital for a medical autopsy. This often unnecessary procedure results in up to 7 day delays for the bereaved and is widely considered by the Ngäbe as a cultural aggression. After intensive efforts this year TUVa-ACT have been able to galvanize the various institutions into reexamining work practices and taking into account cultural differences. Great improvements in this area are already being reported and furthermore the channels of communication established are now being used to negotiate improved health services for the living.

The results in summary include:

- Formal relations established with three of the four Ngäbe community associations

- Autopsies: organized and supported strategic move to ensure indigenous rights over their dead. Culminated in large meeting of regional judges, doctors, hospital directors, and delegates from the 5 reservations. Followed up by training workshop for medical, legal and other national authorities carried out by department of Forensic Medicine, Ombudsman's Office and ACT/TUVA. First positive results have been apparent.
- National meeting of Ombudsman's Office and National Institutions acclaims the model provided by the autopsy process.
- Support the formation and consolidation of the Indigenous Reserve Community Association - Alto Laguna
- Scoping study carried out by Ngäbe on legal needs of Coto Brus Reservation [+IUCN funds]
- Participation of up to 40 Ngäbes in 4 workshops on legal and administrative issues [+IUCN funds]
- Scoping visit to Panamanian Ngäbe projects and the new Comarca Ngöbe-Bugle
- Support and monthly meetings of youth group Jirondai for capacity building (training in computer skills, digital photography, oral history recording)
- Compilation of compendium of relevant legislation for Ngäbe in Costa Rica with emphasis on human rights and intellectual property rights [+IUCN funds]
- Draft agreements and contracts for the securing of Ngäbe intellectual property rights
- Participation in national level meetings on conservation and local populations in the south of Costa Rica
- A variety of coordination and logistical support activities for the community associations, legal advice, fax/phone/radio, communication with National Institutions, rapid appraisals.
- Institutional linking with other relevant partner organizations (UNDP, UICN, Ministry of Environment (Gender, Indigenous Program, Area offices), Ombudsmans Office, Department of Indigenous Education, DINADECO, Mesoamerican Biological Corridor

### **Territory and production component**

The broad objectives established for 2000 were:

#### *Legal support*

- Creation of a legal fund and commission legal advice
- Written report of historical and current legal situation, defining strategies to be pursued in cases such as forestry law and in appropriate language for use by the Ngäbe themselves.
- Produce educational materials regarding the rights and obligations of indigenous peoples as part of the Costa Rican Nation.

#### *Production and management initiatives*

- Support youth group in the recovery of traditional Ngäbe artisanship
- Develop strategy for possible marketing of artisanship.

- Production of environmental education/traditional resource management materials
- Workshops to promote production alternatives such as fallen timber extraction
- Introduce solar energy systems as incentives to conservation of forest resources
- Build local capacity for the installation and maintenance of solar systems

### **Results of territory and production component**

The legal fund and network of advisors (some paid and some *ad honorem*) was created and fully used by all the program components. A series of reports and written advice (see bibliography) were produced and serves as the basis for work on the autopsy issue, intellectual property rights and also ongoing work on Ngäbe territorial recovery and resource management.

The production of legal materials for the Ngäbe has started with scoping studies and the first workshop at the Coto Brus reservation. In this series of workshops improved capacity building methods will be developed and a publication produced based on the results.

The youth group Jirändai has implemented a traditional handicrafts recovery effort based on the shamans apprentices principle, this has operated in 3 reservations for most of the year. Stemming from workshops held with women artisans a proposal for a marketing study and strategy development has been developed and is being implemented in early 2001.

A training course was held for sustainable fallen timber exploitation which was attended by participants from 3 Ngäbe reservations and one from the Ingano-Colombia Program. Pressure was maintained on the authorities to clarify the timber resource management situation in indigenous reservations.

An innovative scheme has been initiated in the Osa reservation whereby all the inhabitants who have long requested solar panels but been unable to afford monthly rent to the National Electricity Company have had them installed, payments being guaranteed by a community fund (using GEF funds) set up in exchange for forest set-aside.

The cultural recovery and documentation process operating under the Culture and education component is paying special attention to traditional resource management practices.

The results in summary include:

- Planning meetings with women's and men's productive groups
- Forest management training course for Ngäbe and Inganos
- Nine months of classes in traditional crafts in 3 reservation
- Piloting curriculum development of traditional plants at two schools including creation of two school herb gardens [IUCN]
- Crafts marketing proposal submitted
- Initiation of solar power for nature swap program at Alto Laguna [GEF]

### **Health and traditional medicine component**

The broad objectives established for 2000 were:

- Support the council of traditional healers

- Continue traditional healers apprentice program
- Promote the recovery of traditional plant knowledge
- Primary health promotion

### **Results of health and traditional medicine component**

The council of traditional healers has been supported in terms of the logistics of regular meetings and has gained wide respect for its handling of the autopsy and health issues. The council has been inviting a series of advisers to attend meetings and these have proven extremely helpful in operationalising council decisions. Membership of the council has expanded to cover one more territory.

The traditional healers and apprentice program has continued with increased confidence and has been expanded to the two remaining territories, thus all five territories are involved. Medicinal plant gardens have been maintained at three of the reservations and two schools have planted medicinal plant gardens under the educational component. These gardens are already being used by teachers and pupils.

The healers from all the reservations and the youth group have collaborated in finalizing a book on 130 of the medicinal plants used by 7 healers. This book is finished but the Council has decided to limit distribution due to intellectual property and potential benefit-sharing issues.

Plans to support community health initiatives have been implemented at a slower pace than originally envisaged in order to be sure of local communities desires in this sense and to create the appropriate links to national institutions. These links appear to be in place for the Coto Brus reservation and work should commence in early 2001.

The results in summary include:

- Five meetings of the Council of Healers
- Expansion of council and healer/teachers to two remaining reservations
- Plant book finished (in Ngäbere) covering all 5 reservations (70% of 130 plants appear to be shared by all healers) [IUCN, UNDP]
- Apprentices being taught one week per month in all reservations (Alto Laguna has temporarily dropped out) [UNDP]
- Healers plant gardens consolidated in 3 reservations [UNDP]
- Exchange visit to Panama of Healer and apprentices
- Development of appropriate relations with National Health Authorities and preparation of proposal for the Ngäbe Community Health Project.
- Support and coordination for the installation of latrines in Alto Laguna (Min. Health)

### **Education and culture**

The broad objectives established for 2000 were:

- Promote the exchange of students and healers with Ngäbe in Panama
- Celebrate a general (fourth) meeting

- Establish a pilot project in reserve schools involving teaching of traditional culture and planting traditional plant gardens
- Produce educational and cultural recovery materials (primary-health care, self-care with plants, traditional resource management, oral history, gender-directed)
- Design a strategy for the production of school materials in Ngäbere

### **Results of education and culture component**

Headed up by the program's new anthropologist, Marta Villegas, and with support from IUCN it has been possible to initiate sound cultural recovery processes with enthusiastic youth from all the reservations.

Here the focus is on building solid capacity for investigations into their own culture and also the capacity for analysis of the present Ngäbe situation as part of a historical process. This reevaluating and revaluing of traditional practices is not only important for the management of biodiversity but also forms the fundamental basis of a future "plan de vida".

Processes of investigation and recording are being carried out by the youth group and other interested participants and the materials produced will be used in the reservation schools owing to collaboration with the department of indigenous education. It is worth mentioning however that the program emphasizes that the process of producing these materials is at least as important as the potential products in terms of the capacity built and the awareness generated.

Efforts are ongoing to locate and purchase published and unpublished materials relating to the Ngäbe in order to lay the foundation of a cultural library to be passed on in the near future. Contact has been made with the most prominent experts in this area in Panama and USA.

Pilot plant gardens have been set up in two schools and the indigenous teachers are being supported by local healer to give basic classes on traditional plants.

A fourth general meeting of the Ngäbe was held, the largest so far with the specific themes of culture, language and medicinal plants. The venue served as a discussion forum on a number of topics and helped provide guidance to the program as well.

The results in summary include:

- Initial round of training and interviews for the compilation of the Ngäbe history and culture books
- Meetings with indigenous teachers of 22 Ngäbe schools to support traditional curriculum development
- Meetings and training workshops on Ngäbere spelling and grammar
- Established library of material relevant to Ngäbe culture
- Crafts and plants training (see above)
- Preparation of reports and documents in Ngäbere and Spanish on most activities for use in the reservations

## ACT HQ support

A number of activities were coordinated from the Costa Rica office in support of ACT HQ and a number of meetings attended. In summary:

- Development of concept paper and proposals on indigenous management of coastal areas - Seri, Kuna, Miskito etc.
- Preparation of ACT draft strategic plan
- Rockefeller bibliography and report
- Coordination of marine component of Native Lands' map of indigenous peoples and Central America
- Representation of ACT at World Conservation Congress, Amman, Jordan
- Representation of ACT at Fish for the Future? Community management of marine biodiversity in the Pacific, Suva, Fiji

## Analysis of Costa Rica Program achievements

The situation of the Costa Rica program in the light of achievements for 2000 are analysed below in the form of a Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats matrix or SWOT analysis.

### SWOT

<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasingly good partnership between TUVa- ACT and Ngäbe</li> <li>• Improving and increasing National institutional relations</li> <li>• Local fund-raising capacity may be increased?</li> <li>• Most major contacts necessary for project development have been identified</li> <li>• TUVa is stable at present</li> <li>• ACT "core" funding allows some stability for the pursuit of other grants and more flexibility in responding to rapid changes in circumstances or project direction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fundraising for Costa Rica is very difficult</li> <li>• Limited personnel</li> <li>• So far limited funds have been raised for financial year 2001</li> <li>• Still no clear national strategy for Indians in Costa Rica</li> <li>• Poor Ngäbe institutional capacity and no clear contact points or project leaders</li> <li>• Erratic funding from all sources (Nicholson, IUCN, ACT) causes cash flow problems and insecurity</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ngäbe have shown signs of increasing organization</li> <li>• National strategy being developed may present opportunities</li> <li>• Y2000 work provides an excellent basis for moving ahead with other components of health and conservation</li> <li>• Linking up with Panamanian projects</li> <li>• Legal projects may lead to better basis for sustainable management and indigenous government</li> <li>• Emergence of key Ngäbes for future projects (capacity built or identified)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding is not secured owing to competition from larger NGOs or Government (INBIO, Ministry of Economic Development)</li> <li>• Funding from ACT is not maintained or increased</li> <li>• Internal conflicts within Ngäbe remove TUVa's neutral or favoured status</li> <li>• Falling foul of National indigenous or white politics</li> <li>• TUVa destabilizes with loss of staff, facilities etc.</li> <li>• Project failures</li> </ul>

## **Overall analysis**

### **Achievements:**

The Ngäbe Program is doing extremely well in attaining most of the main objectives set out for 2000. Concrete products are now available along with nationally recognized advances in the legal and participatory process fields. Some objectives have had to be modified based on the better understanding gained in the process of fieldwork, for example the difficulties in community organization. Nevertheless, vital foundations have been laid.

### **Funding:**

For the financial year 2000 the program has succeeded in achieving project and private donations exceeding the ACT pledge for the same period. However almost all funds are earmarked for specific activities and as usual there is dearth of funds for operating costs and Personnel.

### **Personnel:**

Available personnel comprises approximately 6 months of Program Director's time and one field assistant (funding shared between ACT and UICN) besides two Ngäbe field coordinators. TUVA staff that provide partial program support are the administrator and the driver/secretary. The greatly improved work load achieved this year is a direct result of the recruitment of the field assistant.

## **The future of the Costa Rica Program**

The experiences of the past year have enabled a much better appreciation of the priorities of the Ngäbe themselves and the areas where we are best placed to have the greatest impact. While there is a strong demand for support in the recovery of traditional medicine and Ngäbe culture it we feel that while maintaining support for these activities the emphasis should be on making them sustainable and autonomous in the medium term.

The capacity of the Ngäbe to sustainably manage their natural resources is greatly hindered by their lack of effective control over their own territories, lands that are in the hands of immigrants or non-indigenous farmers appear to be suffering greater rates of deforestation. We propose commencing to address this topic in 2001 via specific actions and legal support/training in two reservations and the gaining of a general overview and database for all the reservations.

Health is one of the most apparent problems in the Ngäbe territories and this area will be closely addressed this year via the facilitation of negotiations between the Ngäbe associations, Council of Healers and Medical Authorities. If external support is consolidated and the participants deem it desirable we would also envisage capacity building activities for indigenous health promoters.

On the institutional level we will build on the contacts and good reputation gained in 2000 to facilitate improved dialogue between institutions and the Ngäbe and we will strengthen and widen our alliances with institutions such as the Ombudsman's Office, Inter-American Institute for Human Rights and the International Labour Organization.

On an operational level we will try to increase the links to the Panamanian Ngäbe involving relevant expertise in exchanges wherever possible and continue our efforts to better involve women's groups as appropriate

As always funding is the gravest preoccupation given the difficulty on obtaining international support for Costa Rica and the potential for a local funding drought in 2001 (owing to a dearth of successful proposals) will place more reliance on the ACT contribution.

Some restructuring will be required in the short term regarding the Health and Legal components and one extra full-time staff member will be required in the short term and some part-time or consultants will be needed for the legal work.

### Action plan

The following summarizes the action plan for 2001 and the next three years.

Component/activity	2001	2002	2003
<u>Institutional support and capacity-building</u>			
• Increase training at all levels (youth, institutions etc.)	x	x	x
• Enhance exchange with Panama on community health, sustainable production, cultural recovery	x	x	x
• Support possible federation of Ngäbe associations	x	x	
• Ngäbe Federation Operational support (if appropriate)			x
• Create legal advice panel and fund	x		
• Foster and continue exchanges with Panama and Colombia	x	x	x
• Promote effective participation/planning arrangements (culturally appropriate)	x	x	x
<u>Culture and education</u>			
• Capacity-building in cultural recovery methods	x		
• Expand schools project (culture and plants – curriculum development, education materials)	x	x	
• Ongoing activities (artisan apprentices, crafts, plants and schools)	x		
• Consolidate Ngäbe Cultural Library materials	x		
• Ngäbe cultural library and center operational		x	
<u>Health and traditional medicine</u>			
• Development of working arrangement between reservations and Ministry of Health for one territory	x		
• National seminar/s on indigenous peoples and health services	x		
• Health promoter training	x	x	
• Health leaflets production and first community health surveys designed	x	x	
• Expand health program to other territories		x	x
• Move toward making Council of Healers and Apprentices more autonomous	x		
• Council of Healers and Apprentices autonomous		x	
<u>Natural resources and territory</u>			
• Legal training workshops and book	x		
• Territorial recovery program	x	x	x
• Support access to environmental easement schemes in two reservations	x	x	
• Expand solar power for forest scheme to one other reservation	x		
• Support participatory resource planning processes in two reservations	x	x	
• Initiate sustainable production program	x		
• Expand and disseminate sustainable production experiences		x	x
• Crafts marketing and production study	x		
• Implement crafts marketing and production strategy		x	

## **Other Program activities**

The main activities to be coordinated in 2001 from the Costa Rica office that are not directly related to the Ngäbe program are the support of the marine and coastal component of the native Lands project “Update of “Coexistence of indigenous peoples and the environment in Central America” and the possible support of a major international indigenous meeting on Biopiracy and Benefit Sharing to be held in Costa Rica.

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- Derechos indígenas sobre el uso de recursos forestales.
- Derechos indígenas sobre el uso de la vida silvestre.
- Derechos indígenas sobre el uso de recursos del subsuelo: minería e hidrocarburos.
- Derechos indígenas dentro del proceso penal.
- Organización administrativa de y sobre los pueblos indígenas.
- Tenencia de la tierra y derechos indígenas.

Vásquez Arias, Alejandro. 2000. Trabajo de investigación, proyecto de ley 12.032 Ley de Desarrollo Autónomo de los Pueblo Indígenas. Estudio para Universidad de La Salle, Facultad de Derecho (prof. P. Madrigal) solicitado por Fundación TUVA.

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del Valle Carazo. Luis. 2000. Criterios para considerar la indicación de la autopsia medicolegal. Director de la Medicatura Forense OIJ. Presentado en la reunion convocado por Defensoria de los Habitantes y TUVA en San Vito, Noviembre 2000.

Govan, Hugh. 2000. Flujo de información del Pueblo Ngäbe-Bugle de Costa Rica – puntos de control de la propiedad intelectual.

UICN, Dennis Vásquez, et al. Contrato machote para empleados de TUVA en el programa Guaymí.

TUVA/ACT. 2000. Protocolo para el trabajo de campo en los territorios Ngäbes. Versión 1.0. Diciembre 2000.

### **Agreements and MoUs signed**

Acuerdo de Cooperación: BUN-CA y TUVA “Fortalecimiento de la Capacidad en Energía Renovable para América Central” [Solar for nature project]

Convenio: Consejo de Médicos Tradicionales Guaymies de Costa Rica & TUVA.

Convenio: Comité de Apoyo – Jirändai & TUVA (Fundación Tierras Unidas Vecinales por el Ambiente

Convenio: Escuela de Progreso & TUVA

Convenio: Escuela de Alto Conte & TUVA

Convenio: IUCN - TUVA

### **Proposals**

UNDP – Solar for forest

UNDP – Handicrafts marketing study

CRUSA – Handicrafts marketing study

CRUSA – Integration of Guaymí Reservation into Osa Biological Corridor (with 5 partners)

Tourism for Development – water supply for Conte Reservation

Oak – Health proposal

Oak – Central America Mapping proposal

Packard – Seri

Traditions for Tomorrow – letter of interest

### **Proposals in preparation**

Rockefeller – Biopiracy meeting (with RAFI etc.)

Caritas – Guaymí transmigration study (with ACUN Panamá)

Donor to be identified – Guaymí health proposal

## **ACT Program Support -Costa Rica Office**

### **Reports**

Govan, Hugh. Informe 1 – Mapa de Indígenas y Recursos Naturales en Centroamérica. Uso, manejo y territorios tradicionales marinos de los pueblos indígenas de Centroamérica. Native Lands / ACT.

Govan, Hugh. Informe 2 – Mapa de Indígenas y Recursos Naturales en Centroamérica. Habitats marino-costeros de Centroamérica. Native Lands / ACT.

Govan, Hugh. Informe 3 – Indígenas y Recursos Naturales en Centroamérica. Manatíes en Centroamérica. Native Lands / ACT.

Govan, Hugh. Informe 4 – Indígenas y Recursos Naturales en Centroamérica. Tortugas en Centroamérica. Native Lands / ACT.

Govan, Hugh. 2000. ACT: general principles and strategy. Draft Discussion Paper. March 2000.

Govan, Hugh. 2000. Reinforcing and sharing experiences in indigenous coastal resource co-management in Mesoamerica – Concept Paper. ACT

Govan, Hugh, Bruce Hoffman and Ester Sztein. Draft. Biodiversity, Biotechnology, And Indigenous People: A Position Paper. with Liliana Madrigal, Mark Plotkin, Vasco van Roosmalen, and Germán Zuluaga. ACT.

Govan, Hugh. 2000. ACT Progress Report September 2000

**Conferences and meetings attended**

IUCN World Conservation Congress, Amman, Jordan

Fish for the Future? Community management of marine biodiversity in the Pacific, Suva, Fiji.

Oak Foundation Strategic Planning for marine conservation in Mesoamerica

ACT board meeting, Washington DC, September.