



# ***Guyana – Norway Partnership***

Draft

## **REDD+ Enabling Activities Report**

Annual Performance July 1<sup>st</sup> 2012 – June 15<sup>th</sup> 2013

*Prepared by the Government of Guyana*

*August 2013*

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**List of Abbreviations**

AKS	IDB Fee-Based Advisory and Knowledge Services
APA	Amerindian Peoples Association
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CDC	Civil Defence Commission
CDP	Community Development Plans
CIG	Conservation International Guyana
CIRSLUC	Committee to Implement the Recommendations of the Special Land Use Committee
DLUPP	Development of Land Use Planning Project
EITI	Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EU FLEGT	European Union Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade Action Plan
FAO ACP	Food and Agricultural Organisation’s African, Caribbean and Pacific Programme
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FLML	Forestry and Mining Land Management Committee
FMD	Forest Monitoring Department
FPDMC	Forest Products Development and Marketing Council
FRMD	Forest Resource Management Department
FSI	Fiduciary Safeguard Intermediary
GFC	Guyana Forestry Commission
GGB	Guyana Gold Board
GGMC	Guyana Geology and Mines Commission
GINA	Government Information Agency
GL&SC	Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission
GoG	Government of Guyana
GOIP	Guyana Organisation for Indigenous People
GoN	Government of Norway
GRIF	Guyana REDD Plus Investment Fund
GSF	Guiana Shield Facility
HIC	Hinterland Infrastructure Committee
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IFL	Intact Forest Landscapes
IFM	Independent Forest Monitoring
JCN	Joint Concept Note
LCDS	Low Carbon Development Strategy
LPAC	UNDP Local Project Appraisal Committee
MARXAN	Marine and Spatially Explicit Annealing
MNRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoAA	Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	Minister of Foreign Affairs
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoPW	Ministry of Public Works

MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRVS	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System
MSG	Multi-Stakeholder group
MSSC	Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee
NADF	National Amerindian Development Foundation
NAREI	National Agriculture Research and Extension Institute
NARI	National Agricultural Research Institute
NCS	National Competitiveness Strategy
NFP	National Forest Plan 2011
NFPS	National Forest Policy Statement 2011
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NLUP	Guyana's National Land Use Policy and Plan
NPC	National Parks Commission
NTC	National Toshaos Council
NTWG	National Technical Working Group (of EU FLEGT)
OCC	Office of Climate Change
PAB	Priority Areas for Biodiversity
PAC	Protected Areas Commission
PC 3	FCPF Third Participants' Committee Meeting
PCN	Project Concept Note
PE	Partner Entity
PMO	Project Management Office
PoWPA	Programme of Work on Protected Areas
PSAs	Public Service Announcements
RDC	Regional Democratic Council
REDD Plus (+)	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus
RGDP	REDD Plus Governance Development Plan
RPP	Readiness Preparation Proposal
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SFP	State Forest Permit
SLUC	Special Land Use Committee
TAAMOG	The Amerindian Action Movement of Guyana
TC	IDB Technical Cooperation Document
ToR	Terms of Reference
TSA	Timber Sales Agreement Wood
UG	University of Guyana
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VPA	EU FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreements

**Important notice**

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## 1. Executive Summary

### Introduction

In 2009, the Governments of Guyana (GoG) and Norway (GoN) established one of the world's most ambitious interim REDD+ agreements to support Guyana's ground-breaking Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS).

Over the past four years both Governments have continued to advance the partnership. Specifically, this involved working on the measures outlined on November 9<sup>th</sup> 2009 in (i) the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Governments of Guyana and Norway, and (ii) the supporting Joint Concept Note (JCN), which was updated in March 2011 and again in December 2012.

This fourth annual progress report on enabling activities documents Guyana's performance during 'Year 4' (the reporting period from July 1<sup>st</sup> 2012 to June 15<sup>th</sup> 2013). Enabling activities encompass the policies, safeguards and actions to ensure that REDD+ contributes to the achievement of the goals set out in the MoU. In accordance with the JCN, the enabling activities to be reported on are grouped under five indicators: (1) Strategic framework, (2) Continuous multi-stakeholder consultation process, (3) Governance, (4) The rights of indigenous people and other forest communities as regards REDD+ and (5) Integrated land-use planning and management. Under these indicators, Table 1 of the JCN sets out a total of 18 'Actions' that were targeted for completion by the end of the reporting period.

Progress was assessed through gathering and review of documentary evidence and through stakeholder interviews. The stakeholder interview process focused on the Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee (MSSC) members and Partner Entities (PEs). In total 49 individuals were interviewed (individually, or in groups).

### Summary of progress

Overall Guyana's performance against the requirements of the JCN has been strong. Guyana has fully implemented the majority of Actions which the JCN targeted for completion during this reporting period. Significant developments during this reporting period include,

- the publication of the first update of the LCDS in March 2013,
- statutory monthly meetings of the MSSC,
- the formation of an inter-agency communications team,
- the kick-off of formal Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPA) negotiations with the EU under the EU FLEGT and the drafting of an interim definition of legality,
- preparation of a Draft Costed Strategic Framework for the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MNRE) 2013-2018,
- the publication of a revised GIS Policy,
- submission of the Amerindian Land Titling project to the Guyana REDD + Investment Fund (GRIF) Steering Committee Observers,
- the drafting of an Opt-In Mechanism options paper, following extensive consultation,
- commencement of implementation of LCDS stakeholder awareness and engagement plan,
- the selection of 27 pilot communities for the Amerindian Development Fund and the disbursement of payments to 19 of these to support implementation of their community development plans, and
- the publication of a draft National Land Use Policy and Plan, inclusive of map of area use.

These successes were achieved despite delays in accessing funding through the GRIF mechanism that were beyond the control of the Government of Guyana. Where Actions have not been fully met, this can as in the case of the LCDS outreach and awareness project concept note be attributed to funding delays. This demonstrates the need for further investigation into the functioning of the GRIF mechanism and options for its improvement. In addition, further work will be required next year in cementing inter-agency collaborations over land-use planning and management, with a particular focus on the extractives sector.

### Action plans

GoG has proposed action plans for each of the Indicators, working with relevant ministries and agencies, and taking into account feedback from the stakeholder interviews. These Action plans serve to bring GoG's performance against the JCN firmly on track towards meeting goals set for the coming reporting periods.

**Conclusions**

In the fourth year of its partnership, Norway and Guyana continue to show their commitment to the vision of the MoU. With each year, the partnership contributes lessons learned on how REDD+ policies may be implemented. As the Governments move into the final years of their current partnership, there is a sense of invigoration to see the goals through. The GoG is working to achieve those goals through sustained commitment to the coordination of Government resources, communication with constituencies, and through innovative proposals to improve the financial mechanism.

## 2. Introduction

In 2009, the Governments of Guyana (GoG) and Norway (GoN) established one of the world's most ambitious interim REDD+ agreements to support Guyana's ground-breaking Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS).

Over the course of five years, the Guyana-Norway agreement aims to build a scalable, replicable model for addressing deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, and to facilitate "co-operation on issues related to the fight against climate change, the protection of biodiversity, and enhancement of sustainable and low carbon development."

Over the past four years both Governments have continued to advance the partnership. Specifically, this involved working on the measures outlined on November 9<sup>th</sup> 2009 in (i) the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Governments of Guyana and Norway<sup>1</sup>, and (ii) supporting Joint Concept Note (JCN) which was updated in March 2011 and again in December 2012<sup>2</sup>.

This fourth annual progress report on enabling activities documents Guyana's performance during 'Year 4' of the partnership – which is July 1<sup>st</sup> 2012 to June 15<sup>th</sup> 2013 (henceforth referred to as the 'reporting period'). Enabling activities encompass the policies, safeguards and actions to ensure that REDD+ contributes to the achievement of the goals set out in Paragraph 2 (c) of the MoU signed between Guyana and Norway. In accordance with the JCN, the enabling activities to be reported on are grouped under five indicators: (1) Strategic framework, (2) Continuous multi-Stakeholder consultation process, (3) Governance, (4) The rights of indigenous people and other forest communities as regards REDD+, and (5) Integrated land-use planning and management. Under these indicators, Table 1 of the JCN sets out a total of 18 'Actions' that were targeted for completion by the end of the reporting period.

The sixth enabling activities indicator, "monitoring, reporting and verification" is not covered by this report. Findings relevant to this will be presented when the REDD+ Performance Indicators are assessed later this year through a process undertaken by the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC).

The findings of this report are based on a review of documented evidence and interviews with key stakeholders. The stakeholders approached for comment were the members of the Multi-stakeholder Steering Committee (MSSC) as well as Partner Entities (PEs). This resulted in input being received from various Government ministries, and agencies, partner entities, industry bodies and other key stakeholders (e.g. indigenous peoples Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) / representatives, conservation organisations and academics). In total 49 individuals were interviewed (individually, or in groups). In total input was received from 18 of the 24 organisations that have membership on the MSSC. Interviewees' views remain confidential and anonymous, and have been aggregated to reflect the key common themes under each of the five indicators.

In addition, the draft version of this report is being placed online for a two week public comment period.

This report has been prepared by the Government of Guyana to reflect on its progress over the reporting period. In separate and additional processes an independent audit of Guyana's performance under the enabling activities will be conducted in mid-August 2013 by a third-party.

### 2.1. Structure of the report

The report is structured as follows:

- **Section 3 – 'Progress against actions during the reporting period'** documents GoG's self-assessment of performance against the 18 actions the JCN stipulated were to be achieved within the reporting period.
- **Section 4 – 'Progress beyond the reporting period towards JCN Update indicators and proposed Actions plans'** is a reflection on the progress towards longer term goals in 2014 and 2015 for each of the 5 Indicators and suggests Action plans for the short (up to six months), medium (up to a one year), and long term (up to 2015).
- **Section 5 – 'Financial Mechanism'** provides an update on the process to reform the Guyana REDD+ Investment Fund (GRIF).
- **Section 6 – 'Stakeholder comments on progress during the reporting period'** contains summaries of the themes raised by stakeholders and their recommendations.
- **Section 7 – 'Conclusion'** contains overarching conclusions.

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<sup>1</sup> The MoU can be found here: <http://www.lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/MOU.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> The 2012 JCN can be found here: <http://www.lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/Joint%20Concept%20Note%20%28JCN%29%202012.pdf>

## *2.2. Constraints and challenges*

A great deal has been achieved over the past year under the Guyana-Norway partnership, and lessons learned from previous years are being used to improve performance steadily. Nonetheless underlying constraints and challenges still exist which impact performance. These can be grouped into two broad groups as inherent challenges surrounding (1) financing with support from the GRIF and non-related GRIF Partners and (2) communications and outreach.

### **Financing through the GRIF**

The payments for forest climate services that Guyana receives under the Guyana/Norway Partnership, and which are channelled through the GRIF, are treated by partner entities (multilateral finance institutions) in essentially the same manner as project grant funds that flow through their institutions. As such, the institutions are limited in the mechanisms that they are enabled to use for intermediating the money between Norway and Guyana. Guyana and Norway have always intended that the use of funds is subject to all appropriate internal controls, approval processes and safeguards of the multilateral finance institutions (MFIs) selected as GRIF Partner Entities (PE). However, the limitations in the current structure have made GRIF unwieldy, expensive and insufficiently effective. Consequently, the development of project concept notes/project documents and the approval and release of funds can be prolonged. It is suggested that an independent review of the GRIF mechanism takes place, the results of which will feed into the GRIF reform process that is discussed in more detail in Section 5.

The implementation of LCDS activities has also been severely restricted by the budgetary cuts applied by the Parliamentary Opposition, which holds a one seat majority. In 2012, the Opposition reduced the budgetary allocation for GRIF projects to one single Guyana dollar. In April 2013, the Opposition once again cut the budget for GRIF projects, this time by 95% from G\$ 20 billion to G\$ 1 billion.

### **Delays in non-GRIF related partnerships**

In order to deliver the LCDS and some of the actions under the LCDS it is necessary for the GoG to partner with and receive funds from partners outside of the GRIF mechanisms for example the FCPF with which GoG has been working closely with IDB to advance. In some cases work has progressed relatively smoothly, such as with EU FLEGT. However, in others such as FCPF, the processes involved have caused delays that have significantly blunted the ability of GoG to deliver under the actions. To some extent this is due to the similar constraints that face the GRIF where lengthy internal controls procedures, approval processes and other such matters at the level of Multi-lateral Financial Institutions, slow down progress in advancing further. However GoG is also working closely with partners to explore ways to increase their flexibility and speed up procedures.

### **Communications and outreach**

The geographic dispersion of forest people communities is a key challenge for the implementation of several actions under the JCN. One of the principal challenges of working in Guyana is that vast forested areas separate coastal communities from forest communities, and in turn forest communities from one another. The geographic dispersion and restricted access to many hinterland communities/villages result in extensive logistical arrangements and high costs in chartering special land, riverine and air transportation. Infrastructure, in terms of transport and connectivity (phone and internet), is sparse. Overall this means that distributing up to date information on the LCDS, GRIF and other Government activities is challenging. This issue is compounded by delays to planned timelines of project implementation, which can lead to confusion and potentially disengagement of those in distant communities. It can also take considerable time to gather feedback from the village level. Therefore expectations regarding speedy implementation and thorough consultation/feedback processes need to continue to be carefully managed.

Whilst the high costs associated with outreach and consultation are budgeted for in outreach and project activities, the costs and time involved in hinterland travel will likely continue to be a challenge. As detailed later in this report, GoG is exploring the use of non-governmental organisations and strengthening the NTC as ways of cost effectively spreading messages and receiving feedback going forward.



### 3. Progress against actions during the reporting period

#### 3.1. Indicator 1 - Strategic Framework

##### **Action 1 – Engagement with Inter-American Development Bank on Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)**

<b>Action</b>
Continued engagement between IDB and GFC with the aim of advancing an agreement on the FCPF, contingent on the completion of IDB's internal processes of approval of Guyana's FCPF programme.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
There has been continued engagement between the IDB and the GFC on the advancement of the FCPF. During the reporting period the final version of Guyana's Readiness Preparation Proposal (RPP) was released. Activities have centred around discussions and agreements on the IDB's internal project documentation and approval process in order to advance Guyana's RPP and included a mission by the IDB to Guyana. An agreement on advancing the FCPF with IDB has been reached, but its progress remains contingent on IDB internal processes.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Indicator met

##### **Introduction**

In November 2011 the IDB was granted the World Bank's approval to perform the services of Delivery Partner for Guyana's participation in the FCPF. The GFC coordinated national technical REDD+ activities in Guyana and has established the REDD Secretariat to implement national REDD+ activities. The REDD Secretariat is a functional unit within the GFC.

The Draft of Guyana's RPP (previously called Readiness Plan (R-Plan)) was approved at the third Participants' Committee Meeting (PC 3) of the FCPF held in Montreux, Switzerland (June 2009). The first version of the RPP was published in May 2010. Between June 2009 and December 2012, Guyana revised the draft RPP to address comments and feedback through continuous stakeholder input as well as to update on the continuous progress made in the implementation of REDD+ activities. During this period the GFC/REDD Secretariat worked closely with the IDB to revise the Draft RPP in order to take on board the IDB's and national stakeholders' comments and inputs.

##### **Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

Guyana's progress under the FCPF is publically documented on the FCPF website<sup>3</sup>. Following a request from the FCPF, the GFC sent a letter in May 2013 giving an update on the status of Guyana's participation in the FCPF<sup>4</sup>. The latest update from May 2013 is available on the FCPF website<sup>5</sup>. The updates outline progress such as drafting of the ToRs, commencement of mapping the change assessment etc.

##### **Process of formally adopting the RPP with IDB**

In December 2012 the GoG released the final version of its RPP, which was published on GFC's website<sup>6</sup>.

As the IDB is the formally accepted delivery partner for the FCPF process, the IDB requires that the contents of the RPP be transferred into the Bank's project document format as the first step to formally enter into the IDB's Project Approval Cycle. Guyana is currently at the pre-analysis stage of formally moving through the IDB Project Approval Cycle. The Project Approval Cycle includes finalising and approving a Technical Cooperation Document (TC); preparation of Terms of References (ToRs) and finalising the RPP project document for submission to the IDB Board for approval.

The IDB conducted a mission to Guyana from February 26<sup>th</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup> 2013<sup>7</sup> in order to:

- inform the preparation of the IDB project documents;
- strengthen the Results Based Framework to support the project document;
- analyse the operation of transferring the RPP into the IDB format, and
- consolidate and approve a TC in consultation with local authorities especially the GFC.

<sup>3</sup>FCPF Guyana

<sup>4</sup>(Ref. 384) Letter to FCPF on Country status\_May 2013\_070513\_GFC

<sup>5</sup>FCPF - REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet Guyana

<sup>6</sup>(Ref. 2) RPP - FCPF\_Readiness\_Preparation\_Proposal\_Guyana\_December\_2012\_1212\_GFC

<sup>7</sup>(Ref. 3) FCPF - Report on IDB Mission on the FCPF (March 2013)\_010312\_OCC

During this mission, the GFC and IDB met with representatives from the following institutions: Office of Climate Change (OCC), Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC), Guyana Lands and Surveys commission (GL&SC), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ministry of Amerindian Affairs (MoAA), National Tshaos Council (NTC), Amerindian Peoples Association (APA), The Amerindian Action Movement of Guyana (TAAMOG), United National Development Programme (UNDP) and Conservation International Guyana (CIG).

Following the Mission, in March 2013 the GFC:

- updated the draft budget tables to include suggestions as discussed during the mission,
- prepared 23 ToRs for consultancy positions, agreements outlining support from the GFC to the NTC as well as indigenous NGOs, and staffing positions: eight ToRs for consultancies to execute the main components of the RPP<sup>8</sup>, two ToRs for the provision of FCPF support to the NTC, Guyana Organisation for Indigenous People (GOIP), TAAMOG, APA and National Amerindian Development Foundation (NADF)<sup>9</sup>, and 13 ToRs for positions within the REDD Secretariat<sup>10</sup> and sent these to the IDB for comments, and
- prepared a Capacity Needs Assessment & Sustainability Plan for the REDD Secretariat, March 2013<sup>11</sup> and sent it to the IDB.

#### Plan of Advancement of the FCPF Programme

The GFC and IDB have prepared a Plan for the Advancement of the FCPF Programme<sup>12</sup>, which was revised as a joint plan in June 2013. This plan proposes August 4<sup>th</sup> 2013 for IDB Board approval of the project documents. Furthermore, the plan outlines the next steps and the project approval cycle of the IDB, which specifically requires the preparation of the Technical Cooperation (TC) Document between the GFC and the IDB. The Plan notes that IDB's Project Approval Cycle takes approximately 85 days<sup>13</sup>. The IDB's project approval cycle is outlined below:

1. Draft final Technical Cooperation Document (TC) and final TOR's of consultants.
2. Revision of Environmental and Social Strategy (CESI), due diligence assessing the environmental and social aspects of the project.
3. Technical Cooperation Document (TC) will be sent to QRR (Quality and Risk Review). Quality and Risk Review (QRR) considers the project's quality and its associated risks—including the environmental and social risks—aimed to strengthen the project's design.
4. Procedures and results report is sent to GCM (Grant and Co-financing Management).
5. GCM sends documentation to VPS (Vice-presidency) revision process.
6. VPS sends document and annexes to translation to the Secretariat.
7. Secretariat sends to the Committee of the Whole – COW (Board).
8. COW sends documentation to GCM for registry approval.
9. GCM sends document to LEG -Legal Effectiveness.
10. LEG sends document to INE- Infrastructure and Environment Sector.
11. Contract preparation between the Executing Agency (GoG) and the IDB.
12. Disbursements could be effective once contract is signed.

#### **Summary of progress since the reporting period (June 15<sup>th</sup> 2013 onwards):**

IDB conducted a second mission (July 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> 2013) in order to discuss and draft the content and details of the TC document, with the help of IDB's legal department.

Following the mission, the GoG is awaiting a copy of the draft TC for review (which is being worked on by IDB's legal department) as well as comments on the draft documents submitted in March 2013.

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<sup>8</sup>(Ref. 156 – 158, 174-178 ) R-PP ToR\_GFC

<sup>9</sup>(Ref. 165 – 166) Terms of Reference regarding FCPF support to the indigenous and Amerindian NGOs – March 2013\_GFC

<sup>10</sup>(Ref. 159 – 173) Terms of Reference of REDD Secretariat – March 2013\_GFC

<sup>11</sup>(Ref. 155) Capacity Building Assessment of REDDSec\_for R-PP\_2013\_0313\_GFC

<sup>12</sup>(Ref. 345) Plan of Advancement on the FCPF\_fromIDB\_April 2013[1] - revised as Joint Plan\_June 2013\_13\_GFC

**Action 2 – Publishing the LCDS Addendum**

<b>Action</b>
Guyana will publish its LCDS Addendum which will highlight Guyana's updated REDD+ strategy, including learning's to date from the Guyana-Norway partnership and an outline plan for advancement on the FCPF programme.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
Guyana has published an update on the LCDS, which sets out a US\$ 135 million investment plan of priority low carbon investment up until 2015, including a US\$ 100 million investment in climate change adaptation. The LCDS Update also includes insights on how Guyana and Norway are developing a global model for REDD+, other learnings from the Guyana-Norway partnership and an outline plan for advancement on the FCPF programme.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Indicator met

**Introduction**

The LCDS Update<sup>14</sup> of March 2013 provides a progress update towards achieving the Strategy’s stated goals:

- Transforming the economy to deliver greater economic and social development by following a low carbon development path.
- Providing a model of how climate change can be addressed through low carbon development in developing countries, if the international community takes the necessary collective actions, especially relating to REDD+.

**Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

The LCDS Update was publicly launched by H.E. President Donald Ramotar on March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2013<sup>15</sup>. Over 500 copies of the printed LCDS Update have been distributed to all stakeholder groups as part of an informational package, including to all Amerindian Villages through the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs (MoAA), as well as to other stakeholder groups such as the private sector and non-Amerindian Communities. More copies continue to be distributed. The information packages also included an updated FAQ booklet<sup>16</sup>, which explains in simple language the key elements of the LCDS, and Issue 3 of the *Focus on the LCDS* Newsletter. Further details on the information packages distributed to indigenous communities are outlined in Action 14.

The Update elaborates on specific plans up to 2015. As well as focussing on the continuation of the initial LCDS priorities (including clean energy and Amerindian Development), the Update also and focuses on five additional priorities:

1. **Climate Resilience, Adaptation and Water Management:** A Climate Resilience Strategy will be developed in the first half of 2014, inclusive of measures to upgrade infrastructure to protect against flooding and expand natural protection such as mangroves, reproduction and distribution of climate resilient plant varieties, and restoring Guyana’s early warning systems. It is expected that most of the money from the next two years of expected payments under the Guyana-Norway partnership will be allocated towards these investments.
2. **Facilitation of Investment in High Potential Low Carbon Sectors:** Under the National Competitiveness Strategy (NCS) priority diversification opportunities have been identified, and efforts will focus on advancing priority low carbon sectors including: business process outsourcing, non-traditional agriculture, aquaculture, ecotourism, and fruits and vegetables.
3. **Hinterland and Amerindian Development:** Along with piloting the “Opt-In Mechanism” in a selected village, significant efforts will be made to advance understanding of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as well as Hinterland Distance Learning through ICT. Additionally, Hinterland Adaptation measures will also be a focus during this period. These include for e.g. the development, reproduction and distribution of plant varieties and crop management techniques that are suitable for the Hinterland communities.
4. **Centre for Biodiversity:** There are plans to advance the International Centre for Biodiversity Project during this period.
5. **Clean Transportation Programme:** Feasibility assessments and plans to examine low carbon transportation options for Guyana will be undertaken during this period. In particular, emphasis will be placed on benefits to the economy.

**Updated REDD+ strategy and a Plan for Advancement of the FCPF Programme**

Chapter 4 of the LCDS Update sets out key insights on how Guyana and Norway are developing a global model for REDD+ in Chapter 4. A detailed REDD+ strategy, consistent with the LCDS framework, is being taken forward under FCPF

<sup>14</sup>(Ref. 1) Low Carbon Development Strategy Update - March 2013\_010313\_OCC

<sup>15</sup>(Ref. 385) Guyana Times Article on LCDS Update Launch\_230313\_Guyana Times

<sup>16</sup>(Ref. 87) Frequently Asked Questions - April 2013\_0413\_OCC

Programme and is further elaborated in the RPP<sup>17</sup> (December 2012 version). A Plan for Advancement on the FCPF programme<sup>18</sup> was prepared jointly between the IDB and the GFC. For more details please see Action 1 (FCPF) - Plan of Advancement of the FCPF Programme.

Key Lessons from the Guyana-Norway partnership

Additionally, lessons learnt from the Guyana-Norway partnership are also referenced in Chapter 4 of the LCDS Update. In particular, the methods and experiences to implement national scale action for REDD+ may prove valuable for other forest countries and the international community. In defining the methodology for the sale of forest climate services Guyana's experience also provides useful lessons for how REDD+ can be designed.

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<sup>17</sup>(Ref. 2) RPP - FCPF\_Readiness\_Preparation\_Proposal\_Guyana\_December\_2012\_1212\_GFC

<sup>18</sup>(Ref. 345) Plan of Advancement on the FCPF\_fromIDB\_April 2013[1] - revised as Joint Plan\_June 2013\_13\_GFC

### 3.2. Indicator 2 - Continuous multi-stakeholder consultation process

#### **Action 3. Meetings of the Multistakeholder Steering Committee**

<b>Action</b>
Monthly meetings of the MSSC with comprehensive minutes of every meeting made publicly available immediately upon approval from the following MSSC meeting.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
The MSSC has continued to provide a forum for high level participatory dialogue between representatives of all stakeholders in the LCDS. The MSSC meets on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday every month and the Committee maintained this statutory meeting during the reporting period. Minutes of these meetings have been published online. In addition, detailed technical briefing sessions have been held to engender in-depth discussions on topical items on the agenda.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Indicator met

#### **Introduction**

The Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee (MSSC) is a forum for high-level, participatory dialogue. The role of the MSSC is to oversee the LCDS by debating and providing guidance on matters which influence and/or affect the LCDS. Historically the MSSC issued statements on matters affecting the LCDS, around subjects such as actions of Parliament or otherwise related to the LCDS. The MSSC is made up of 42 members<sup>19</sup>, representing a broad cross section of stakeholders in Guyana (17 Governmental and 25 non-governmental), inclusive of indigenous organisations. The Amerindian Peoples Association (APA) has been invited since 2009 to join the MSSC and provide input to the development of the LCDS process, however, after initial meetings they have chosen not to continue attending. The MSSC is chaired by the President, currently H.E. President Donald Ramotar. The Committee meets on the third Wednesday of every month and has quarterly Technical Briefing Sessions, which include presentations on relevant updates associated with the LCDS from various sector agencies.

#### **Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

Within the last 12 months, there have been several changes to the composition of the MSSC based on recommendations by Members. These broad-based additions to the MSSC comprise representation from academia (University of Guyana), representation of another environmental NGO (Iwokrama International Centre), and two additional representatives acting in their individual capacities based on their experiences working with community based livelihood and conservation programmes. Additionally, changes were made to existing representations on the MSSC due to the changes in representative at the institutional level.

<b>Organisation (Position)</b>	<b>Former Representative</b>	<b>New Representative</b>
World Wildlife Fund	Dr Patrick Williams	Mr Charles Hutchinson
Private Sector Commission (Chairman)	Mr Gerry Gouveia	Mr Ronald Webster
North Rupununi Development Board (Chairman)	Mr Sydney Allicock	Mr Michael Williams
National Toshias Council (Chairman)	Ms Yvonne Pearson	Mr Derrick John

Twelve statutory monthly meetings have been held since August 2012. Quarterly Technical Briefing Sessions provide detailed technical updates on LCDS projects and related matters; two have taken place since August 2012 (February 13<sup>th</sup> 2013<sup>20</sup>, May29<sup>th</sup> 2013<sup>21</sup>). Meetings have been well attended, with an average of 22 members attending. Minutes of these meetings are promptly published online<sup>22</sup>. A record has been kept of the actions originating from the meetings and their implementation progress<sup>23</sup>.

<sup>19</sup> [http://www.lcds.gov.gy/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=340&Itemid=166](http://www.lcds.gov.gy/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=340&Itemid=166)

<sup>20</sup> (Ref.33) Minutes Technical Briefing Session Quarter 1 2013\_130213\_OCC

<sup>21</sup> (Ref. 373) Minutes Technical Briefing Session Quarter 2 2013\_290513\_OCC

<sup>22</sup> Archive of all MSSC Minutes - Published online: [http://lcds.gov.gy/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=340&Itemid=166](http://lcds.gov.gy/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=340&Itemid=166)

<sup>23</sup> (Ref.375) MSSC Decisions and Status\_310513\_OCC

**Action 4. Establishment of a communications and outreach Team**

<b>Action</b>
Establishment of Communications and Outreach team within OCC, PMO or REDD+ Secretariat, in anticipation of GRIF resources for its operations.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
A communications and outreach team has been established and comprises the OCC, GFC, MoAA, PMO, and GGMC.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Indicator met

**Introduction**

The GoG has always strived to ensure that all relevant Ministries and Agencies are involved in outreach and communication activities on climate change, the LCDS, REDD+ and other related issues. During the nation-wide consultation activities following the launch of the LCDS in June – July 2009, the OCC coordinated a Team of GoG Ministries and Agencies comprising: Hon. Prime Minister, Sam Hinds; Hon. Minister Ashni Singh, Minister of Finance (MoF), and Hon. Minister Jennifer Webster, Minister within the MoF; Hon Minister Bheri Ramsarran, Minister within the Ministry of Health (MoH), Hon. Minister Robert Persaud, the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Hon. Minister Pauline Sukhai, Minister of MoAA; Hon. Minister Dr Jennifer Westford, Minister of Public Service; and Hon. Minister Carolyn Rodriguez, Minister of Foreign Affairs (MoFA). The Outreach Team during those consultation activities included representatives from the GFC and GGMC; and indigenous representatives including indigenous NGOs.

Subsequent to the conclusion of these activities, the OCC continued to coordinate, and participate whenever possible, in inter-agency outreach activities on LCDS issues. Moreover, the OCC continued to coordinate with MSSC members to conduct community-level outreach activities on the LCDS.

**Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

In January 2013, the Office of Climate Change (OCC) convened a meeting with representatives from the GFC, the REDD Secretariat, the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs (MoAA), the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MNRE) the Project Management Office (PMO), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC) to begin discussions on, inter alia, continuing the multi-stakeholder consultation process including through enhancing coordination of inter-agency outreach activities. The principal purpose of the meeting was the establishment of a Communications and Outreach Team which would comprise the OCC, MoAA, PMO, GFC and GGMC. The work of the Team would be coordinated by the OCC, and a team was identified to begin working on the “Information and Consultation Concept Note” identified in Indicator 5<sup>24</sup>.

The aim was to work incrementally towards the full operationalising of the work of the Team by December 2013 in anticipation of GRIF funding particularly regarding Action 5 to develop an information and consultation project concept note (as described in Table 1 of the JCN). As described below under Action5, GoG submitted the Project Concept Note to the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in February 2013, with the expectation that it would be expedited and presented to the GRIF Steering Committee by June 15 in accordance with the requirements of the JCN<sup>25</sup>. GoG was subsequently informed by the IDB that the PCN could not be expedited and would have to follow the GRIF process. This was also confirmed by GoN.

Despite this, the Team’s work continued and, under the leadership of the OCC, the Team collaborated as needed to implement the LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan<sup>26</sup>. As part of this, the OCC continues to work with the member agencies and Ministries to integrate the LCDS into their awareness and outreach activities. In addition the Team has reallocated funds in the Institutional Strengthening Project, specifically the component on OCC to provide support for LCDS awareness and outreach sessions in hinterland regions, specifically targeting Amerindian villages. As a consequence of this, in the Initial Report<sup>27</sup> on the Project, produced in October 2012, the OCC had scheduled 41 outreach/communication events with national stakeholders over a course of 24 months compared with the 56 events schedules for implementation in the 2013 Annual Operational Plan (February 2013<sup>28</sup>). The increased quantity of events is reflected in the budget lines for Outreach and Communications activities in both the Initial Report (Annex 1) and the Annual Operational Plan (Table 3.2).

<sup>24</sup>(Ref. 378) Technical Working Group Meeting No. 10 [1]\_110113\_OCC

<sup>25</sup>(Ref. 125) Subject: Concept Paper - LCDS Awareness and Outreach Programme\_220213\_PMO

<sup>26</sup>(Ref. 376) LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan 2013 - June 2013 Status Update\_0613\_OCC

<sup>27</sup>(Ref. 412) Initial Report - Institutional Strengthening - 5\_1012\_GoG

<sup>28</sup>(Ref. 413) AoP 2013 Draft 7\_280213\_GoG

**Action 5. Presentation of an information and consultation project concept note**

<b>Action</b>
Present ‘Information and consultation project concept note’ to GRIF Steering Committee. The project will be addressing general information concerning climate change and REDD+, LCDS and the Norway Guyana partnership, specific information on Amerindian Land Titling, the Opt-In Mechanism, FLEGT, EITI, IFM, GRIF projects and other relevant information. The project will recognise necessity of tailored and non-internet based information to indigenous groups and others without stable internet access.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
A Project Concept Note (PCN) titled ‘Support for the Implementation of LCDS Outreach and Awareness activities in the Hinterland and Coastal Communities of Guyana’ was completed by OCC in February 2013. The process of developing the PCN into a project through the IDB process was found to be too lengthy and it became necessary to seek alternative approaches. An alternative approach was explored with IDB that involved piloting a new fee-for-service mechanism, however Norway was not able to prioritise this. A third option of delivering the project through Conservation International Guyana is being explored with a view to starting the project in August 2013.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Significant progress made

**Introduction**

The Project Concept Note (PCN) for was prepared with the objectives of:

1. ensuring the rights of stakeholders including coastal communities, indigenous peoples and other local forest communities to participation, engagement and decision making in the LCDS planning and implementation process,
2. developing a systematic and transparent framework that enables the participation and feedback of stakeholders including coastal communities, indigenous peoples other local forest communities in the LCDS planning and implementation process, and
3. supporting the overall goals and objectives of Guyana’s LCDS.

**Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

The OCC completed a draft of the Project Concept Note (PCN) titled, ‘Support for the Implementation of LCDS Outreach and Awareness activities in the Hinterland and Coastal Communities of Guyana’ in February 2013<sup>29</sup>.

The PCN proposed four different components as follows:

- Component 1: National communications planning and implementation,
- Component 2: Sub-national outreach and awareness,
- Component 3: Targeted awareness and capacity building, and
- Component 4: Design and preparation of educational materials and tools.

Together, the four components provide a comprehensive package to meet the information needs of communities and villages in the hinterland and on the coast as well as the wider national stakeholder audience.

Components 1 and 4 were designed to provide support to outreach and awareness activities by building communications capacity to conduct these activities, and by ensuring that appropriate materials and tools are adequately available to maximise the effectiveness of each activity.

Components 2 and 3 were designed to address information needs of stakeholder groups in the ten administrative regions across the country. Component 2 was intended to facilitate conducting 14 outreach, education and awareness sessions in Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 by a high-level, eight-member Consultation Team.<sup>30</sup> These will replicate the successful model used in 2009 whereby multiple communities would share a ‘cluster’ session that would last for one

<sup>29</sup>(Ref. 65) Concept Paper for LCDS Awareness and Outreach Programme - Feb 2013\_0213\_OCC

<sup>30</sup>The Consultation Team will include the following persons/groups/sectors, inter-alia:

- High level Government Officials including Ministers and Advisers to the President
- Presenters for Technical Sessions
- Technical support team including: OCC, MoAA , GFC, GGMC
- Members of the MSSC
- Members of indigenous Groups
- Other invites including representatives from NGOs

or two days. Where necessary, information would be tailored to meet the needs and requests of each cluster, and open discussions, including a question and response segment would be encouraged. The outcomes of the sessions would be subject to a Feedback Mechanism<sup>31</sup> designed under the project. Bi-lingual translators will be used at the LCDS sessions where possible. All sessions will be recorded and media teams will be invited to participate.

Component 3 was intended to complement Component 2. A small technical team, of approximately 3 persons, would visit communities across the country, and in particular Amerindian villages, with the aim of increasing understanding of the LCDS, and related information, including of technical language, as necessary. The team would spend two to three days in each community and a total of 138 sessions were planned. Importantly, the activities planned under Component 3 addresses some of the comments raised by the MSSC on the need for awareness activities to encompass targeted sessions with communities to allow for community empowerment and buy-in to the LCDS.<sup>32</sup>

The PCN was sent to the IDB on February 22<sup>nd</sup>2013<sup>33</sup> to begin the process of project development. GoG followed up with email and with a telephone call with the IDB's Georgetown office, requesting the project be expedited due to the urgency of accessing financing in order to conduct awareness activities and also because of the June 15<sup>th</sup> deadline outlined in the JCN, by which the project should be forwarded to the GRIF Steering Committee. In the week of March 5<sup>th</sup> there was another telephone conversation between the GoG and IDB, during which the Bank wanted to clarify JCN requirements related to the project. In April, during a telephone conversation, the IDB's local office informed the GoG that the project could not be accelerated and that it would have to follow the normal GRIF process and that, therefore, the June 15<sup>th</sup> deadline could not be met.

Following these exchanges between the GoG and the IDB, at the end of April the PCN was emailed to the GoN with GoG's stated request that this project be considered as a potential pilot for the fee-for-service mechanism that the IDB has developed. On May 9<sup>th</sup>2013, the IDB informed the Governments of Norway and Guyana that the fee-for-service mechanism had been approved by the Board of the IDB, noting in the correspondence that, in the Bank's view, the mechanism was "an adequate instrument to address Norway's and Guyana's Fiduciary and Safeguards Intermediary (FSI) request". Further details on the fee-for-service mechanism are available in the 'Financial mechanism' section of this report.

On May 12<sup>th</sup>2013, the GoN responded to the request by the GoG, noting that consideration of the PCN would not take priority over some of the on-going work, particularly for the Amaila Falls Hydropower Project.

Since that time, the GoG and the GoN have taken steps to explore alternative approaches that would facilitate project implementation ahead of a GRIF schedule and have identified Conservation International Guyana (CIG) to serve as a conduit to channel GRIF funds for the execution of this project given their experience with facilitating the flow of funds for the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System (MRVS) in 2010<sup>34</sup>. Currently, the GoG and CIG are working together on moving the project forward with the aim of achieving project execution commencing August 2013.

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<sup>31</sup>A full description of the feedback mechanism is described in Appendix Two of the draft Plan. It involves a structured approach to documentation and analysis of comments, assessment by the MSSC/OCC and subsequent publication online.

<sup>32</sup>(Ref. 401) MSSC Feedback on Stakeholder Plan 2013\_160113\_OCC

<sup>33</sup>(Ref. 125) Subject: Concept Paper - LCDS Awareness and Outreach Programme\_220213\_PMO

<sup>34</sup>(Ref. 396) Letter to CI\_Outreach\_100713\_OCC



**Action 6. Regular updates to the LCDS and GRIF Websites**

<b>Action</b>
Regular updates of GRIF and LCDS websites. Update with relevant information about progress of on-going processes.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
Both the GRIF and LCDS websites have been kept up to date during the reporting period.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Indicator met

**Introduction**

The GRIF and LCDS websites serve as important tools for transparent communication on the LCDS, in terms of the on-going work, projects and discussions. The websites provide timely, transparent access to information, and better examples are unlikely to be found in other developing countries.

**Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

Both the LCDS and the GRIF websites have been kept up to date with relevant information about the progress of on-going processes throughout the reporting period (July 2012 - June 2013). The LCDS and GRIF websites have both published 26 documents that included new articles, progress updates, photos and presentations<sup>35,36</sup>.

The LCDS and the GRIF websites make the following information publically available:

Background Information

This information serves to educate all stakeholders on the basic elements of the processes and projects involved in both the LCDS and the GRIF.

- LCDS Website: Background on LCDS, the Norway-Guyana partnership (Reports, Memorandum of Understanding, Joint Concept Note), climate change and information on REDD+ and on continuous multi-stakeholder involvement including the MSSC, national and sub-national level consultations and awareness sessions.
- GRIF Website: Background on GRIF - GRIF fact sheet, GRIF background documents (Operational Manual, Administration Agreement), and background information on the GRIF projects

Updates

This information serves to update stakeholders on the progress on furthering the LCDS and GRIF processes.

- LCDS Website: (1) Regular status updates on various aspects of the LCDS such as the launch of the LCDS Update, MSSC minutes, the approval process for GRIF projects and finance, (2) News reports on outreach, GRIF projects and other LCDS related events, for example, parliamentary discussion.
- GRIF Website: Regular status updates on the progress of each of the GRIF projects.

Documentation

The documents published on the two websites serve to keep a detailed and manageable record of the processes underway for the LCDS and GRIF. In particular, this is important for keeping stakeholders up to date with consultation and outreach. Importantly, the discussions of the MSSC are well documented through the minutes which are posted on the LCDS website, along with any statements made by the MSSC<sup>37</sup>. These minutes and statements transparently show the inclusiveness of the discussions, as well as the way in which stakeholders are being represented by their members. With regard to the GRIF, the online documentation ensures the transparency of the process for the approval and release of project finance. The GRIF Trustees report<sup>38</sup> transparently shows how and when GRIF related funds have moved.

- LCDS website includes:
  - (a) News updates, including news on the LCDS projects on the front page.
  - (b) LCDS Information: providing a background to the LCDS including consultations and awareness sessions, the MSSC and Implementation of the LCDS. From this page, general LCDS documentation can be downloaded.

<sup>35</sup>(Ref. 317) LCDS Website Updates\_13\_OCC

<sup>36</sup>(Ref. 318)GRIF Website Updates\_13\_OCC

<sup>37</sup>Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee

<sup>38</sup>GRIF Trustee Reports

- (c) Norway partnership: includes documentation on the Guyana-Norway Partnership including the MoU, the JCN (2012), Annual Progress Reports for the Indicators under the JCN and their reports from the Independent Audits.
  - (d) MSSC: includes statements released by the Committee and Minutes from both statutory meetings and Technical Briefing Sessions.
  - (e) Other: the website also includes direct access to updates on negotiations, press releases and vacancies.
- The GRIF website includes:
    - (a) GRIF projects: each project has its own page which contains a summary status of the project, project facts and timelines and the current status of the project. There is also project documentation such as Environmental Social Impact Assessments (ESIA), Project Concept Notes (PCN), related decisions and approvals by partner entities.
    - (b) GRIF Steering Committee: An archive of meeting minutes and decisions issued.
    - (c) GRIF Trustee: An archive of reports.

### 3.3. Indicator 3 - Governance

#### **Action 7. Application for EITI candidacy**

<b>Action</b>
Application for EITI candidacy at EITI board meeting May 2013.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
Implementing the EITI is a complex undertaking which will bring Guyana in line with international best-practices in terms of financial transparency. Three of the four conditions necessary to apply for candidature have been met, which includes in convening a multi-stakeholder group. Work commenced on the final step; drafting a fully costed workplan for implementation. This is still to be completed as it depends on the completion of a scoping/feasibility report by a third party consultant to inform the details of the workplan. A ToR for this study has been drafted and financial resources were identified. It is important that a process as complex as this moves forwards with all stakeholders fully understanding the costs, benefits and timelines involved. For this reason candidacy application is not being rushed, as this would only lead to delays in the future.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Progress made

#### **Introduction**

The GoG, through the Offices of the Prime Minister and the President, started initial discussions with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) International Secretariat in 2010 on the prospect of Guyana adopting its principles and guidelines. In May 2010 Guyana signalled its intent and interest in continuing engagement with the EITI, particularly within the framework of the LCDS and its commitment toward implementation<sup>39</sup>.

In 2012 the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MNRE) assumed the responsibility of the EITI and the EITI International Secretariat was actively re-engaged. A second in-country visit by the Secretariat was arranged to develop a plan for Guyana. In May 2012 a MoU was signed between MNRE and the EITI International Secretariat to jointly pursue realization of the EITI principles and criteria and for EITI to provide support and facilitate contacts with partners as necessary.

A prospective EITI Candidate Country must complete a four step process requirement before filing an application with the EITI Board for candidacy, namely:

- The Government should issue an unambiguous public statement of intent to implement EITI.
- The Government is required to appoint an officer of senior managerial status to lead the implementation of EITI on its behalf.
- The Government is required to commit to working with civil society and businesses and establish a multi-stakeholder group to oversee the implementation of EITI.
- The multi-stakeholder group is required to maintain a current workplan, fully costed and aligned with the reporting and validation deadlines established by the EITI Board.

#### **Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

Three of the four requirements of candidacy have been completed, whilst the fully costed work plan has not yet been completed. A summary of progress against the four requirements is as follows:

1. Guyana’s Prime Minister, Samuel Hinds, expressed the Government’s commitment to implement the EITI standard publicly on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2010<sup>40</sup>. The commitment was re-affirmed by Guyana’s president, Donald Ramotar, on April 20<sup>th</sup> 2012, when he met with Jonas Moberg, EITI Head of Secretariat<sup>41</sup>.
2. Bobby Gossai (Senior Analyst/Advisor at MNRE) was appointed to lead the implementation of the EITI in the MoU signed with EITI on May 15<sup>th</sup> 2012.
3. A Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG), including civil society was established by the Government on February 19<sup>th</sup> 2013<sup>42</sup>. In December 2012 organisations were invited to identify representatives join the MSG and the Group met for the first time in February 2013. The MSG oversees the implementation of EITI under the guidance of the MNRE. Members of the EITI MSG have been identified<sup>43</sup> inclusive of two members of the Multi Stakeholder

<sup>39</sup>Guyana commits to implement the EITI

<sup>40</sup>Guyana commits to implement the EITI

<sup>41</sup>Guyana intensifying efforts to promote transparency in extractive sectors

<sup>42</sup>Multi-stakeholder group set up for Extractive Industries transparency initiative; <http://www.guyanatimesgy.com/?p=2116>

<sup>43</sup>(Ref.49) Members for the EITI MSG1\_MNRE

Steering Committee (MSSC)<sup>44</sup>. The MSG is expected to meet quarterly. The second meeting of the MSG was held in June 2013.

4. The work plan is in the drafting stage. Before the work plan can be completed and costed, the MNRE plans to complete a scoping/feasibility study. This study will inform MNRE and wider stakeholders of the implications of implementing the EITI in Guyana in terms of institutional/legal requirements as well as social, environmental and economic costs and benefit estimates. It will also propose a timeframe for implementation. The study will inform the fully costed workplan for Guyana to submit in its application for EITI candidacy. It is important to recognise the involvement of stakeholders which is critical to this process and the preparation of a workplan.

Progress on the scoping/feasibility study

In October 2012 the MNRE requested, through the Ministry of Finance, technical assistance from the Inter-Amerindian Development Bank (IDB) for the preparation of an EITI scoping study<sup>45</sup>. The Bank subsequently agreed to provide technical assistance towards the preparation of the scoping/feasibility study. Preliminary conversations were held with both the World Bank and the IDB with regards to their potential provision of support for the scoping/feasibility study<sup>46</sup>. However, the GoG was subsequently informed that the funding from the IDB was reallocated within the Bank. As a result, Guyana renewed its efforts to identify financial resources to support this study. The MNRE in discussions with the Ministry of Finance have decided that the study will be funded by GoG. Draft terms of reference (ToR) for the scoping study have been agreed by stakeholders within the GoG and the EITI multi-stakeholder group<sup>47</sup> and also reviewed by the EITI. The MSG has identified that in parallel to the scoping/feasibility study, stakeholder outreach and engagement will be required in order to build understanding in Guyana about the costs and benefits of the EITI process.

In addition, during the reporting period GoG participated in the EITI National Coordinators meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, October 21<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 2012.

**Action 8. Progress on an interim definition of legality under EU FLEGT**

<b>Action</b>
Develop interim definition of legality for EU FLEGT VPA for Guyana by end of June 2013.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
GoG have started formal VPA negotiations with the EU within the planned timeframe. An interim definition of legality has been drafted.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Indicator met.

**Introduction**

The European Union Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Action Plan (EU FLEGT) has been part of Guyana’s REDD+ Programme, as a REDD+ Enabling Activity (REDD+ Governance) since 2009. Through this process Guyana has sought to draw on synergies between the requirements of the EU FLEGT programme and on-going processes, at both the international and national levels.

Since 2009 GoG has conducted several formal and informal multi stakeholder consultations to determine the key topics that need to be discussed and the potential impacts of the EU FLEGT programme on Guyana. The main aspects of discussion on the Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPA) include:

- multiple land uses (e.g. agriculture, forestry, and mining),
- the impact on indigenous peoples and their titled lands in regard to commercial and subsistence activities,
- potential cost associated with meeting the requirements of the VPA as a country, and
- potential synergies with existing processes, among others.

Taking into consideration the results and views expressed by stakeholders<sup>48</sup>, GoG and EU, in June 2012, publicly communicated<sup>49</sup> their partnership under the EU FLEGT Action Plan and signalled the intent to commence the formal

<sup>44</sup>(Ref. 83) Letter - Recommendation for MSSC members on EITI MSG\_121212\_MNRE

<sup>45</sup>(Ref. 71) Letter to MoF for IDB\_170513\_MNRE

<sup>46</sup>(Ref. 68) DRAFT - Minutes 20130426 Guyana EITI\_100513\_PwC

<sup>47</sup>(Ref. 359) Draft Terms of Reference for EITI Scoping Study on Guyana\_0613\_MoNRE

<sup>48</sup>(Ref. 128) Guyana’s National Preparatory Workshop for EU FLEGT Negotiations Final Draft.2\_041013\_GFC; (Ref. 154) Technical Report - EU FLEGT\_040712\_FAO and GFC

<sup>49</sup>(Ref. 153) Joint statement VPA Guyana - Final June 28 2012\_270612\_GFC

process of entering into a VPA. Over the reporting period GoG and EU have been working together to review and further refine the interim definition of legality. The next steps identified by the parties are a programme of stakeholder consultations on this draft definition.

### **Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

GoG and EU commenced formal negotiations in the latter half of 2012 (and signed an Aide Memoire<sup>50</sup> on December 5<sup>th</sup> 2012), with the objective of concluding negotiations on a VPA by September 2015.

A number of steps have been taken leading up to and following the commencement of formal negotiations, including:

1. the formation of National Technical Working Group (NTWG)<sup>51</sup> and sub-committees, a multi stakeholder steering body to oversee EU FLEGT activities,
2. the development of a Guyana Roadmap for VPA Negotiations<sup>52</sup>, (which includes the drafting of a Forest Legality definition), and
3. the establishment of a VPA Secretariat in Guyana (within GFC).

#### 1) National Technical Working Group (NTWG)

As part of the management structure developed to oversee the VPA negotiations in Guyana, the NTWG and four sub-committees were established (September 2012 onwards). The members of the NTWG are representatives of large groups of stakeholders, and have been holding meetings on a regular basis. The GFC is the Chair of the NTWG at the negotiations. Additionally, specific stakeholder constituency meetings were held, and are planned to continue throughout the negotiation process. Between September 2012 and May 2013, eight meetings of the NTWG have been held, as well as seven meetings across the four sub committees of the NTWG, and 12 meetings of separate key stakeholder constituency groups<sup>53</sup> (including indigenous groups, NGOs, and private sector). One of the functions of the NTWG is to receive comments from their stakeholders and to table them at the level of the NTWG and its sub-committees. Work on assessing Guyana's forest legality and monitoring framework is already underway in Guyana, including in areas relating to the VPA negotiations.

#### 2) Guyana Roadmap for VPA Negotiations

The aim of the Roadmap is to guide the negotiations process in Guyana inclusive of negotiations on the Forest Legality definition. The process to prepare the Roadmap commenced in September 2012 and a final document was available in January 2013<sup>54</sup>. The roadmap was prepared through a multi-stakeholder approach and with expert assistance from Food and Agricultural Organisation's African, Caribbean and Pacific (FAO ACP) EU FLEGT Programme and Ghana. The Roadmap also considered contributions from stakeholder representatives (private sector, civil society, NGOs, Government and other groups<sup>55</sup>).

#### *Definition of Forest Legality*

- *Drafting the definition:*

The EU, GFC and representatives of the NTWG discussed the various aspects of the VPA during the First<sup>56</sup> and Second Joint Technical Meetings<sup>57</sup> on February 4<sup>th</sup> 2013, March 19<sup>th</sup> 2013 respectively. This included drafting the scope of the agreement and the definition of legality<sup>58</sup>. The draft Scope developed by the NTWG for the Guyana EU FLEGT VPA<sup>59</sup> currently focuses on (1) timber products that are being/ likely to be exported to the EU, and (2) traceability of such products through the chain of custody (CoC) in Guyana.

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<sup>50</sup>(Ref. 143) Aide Memoire of 1st Negotiation\_0113\_GFC

<sup>51</sup>(Ref. 144) EU FLEGT Administrative Modalities Outline - Final\_1112\_GFC

<sup>52</sup>(Ref. 139) Roadmap\_for\_Guyana\_EU\_FLEGT\_VPA\_Process\_Final\_January\_2013\_0113\_GFC

<sup>53</sup>(Ref. 148) Matrix of Meetings\_GFC

<sup>54</sup>(Ref. 139) Roadmap\_for\_Guyana\_EU\_FLEGT\_VPA\_Process\_Final\_January\_2013\_0113\_GFC

<sup>55</sup>(Ref. 128) Guyana's National Preparatory Workshop for EU FLEGT Negotiations Final Draft.2\_041013\_GFC

<sup>56</sup>(Ref. 181) Agenda Technical Meeting (VC) # 1\_040213\_GFC

<sup>57</sup>(Ref. 179) Agenda for Technical Meeting (VC) #2\_130313\_GFC

<sup>58</sup>(Ref. 138) VPA\_Objective\_and\_Structure second draft\_010213

<sup>59</sup>(Ref. 138) VPA\_Objective\_and\_Structure second draft\_010213

The NTWG and relevant sub-committees developed the first draft of the legality definition<sup>60</sup>, based on current systems and previous experiences. The second draft<sup>61</sup> of the Forest Legality definition, which incorporated the feedback received, has been open to comments from national stakeholders and the general public since June 2013 and will close December 31<sup>st</sup> 2013. This second draft of the definition forms the basis for Guyana's demonstration of Legal Origin of forest produce. Field testing of the legality definition, as well as, stakeholder consultation on this draft are required prior to its finalisation,

- *Stakeholder feedback and engagement on the draft definition:*

There has been considerable engagement with stakeholders on the development of the scope of the VPA and the definition of legality. The NTWG shared the first draft with key stakeholder groups in the forest sector and civil society (saw millers, exporters, logging associations etc.). This draft was made available in March 2013 for stakeholders and the general public to submit comments on the legality definition to the GFC by May 31<sup>st</sup> 2013. Comments received were reviewed by the NTWG and the relevant Sub Committee for inclusiveness and adjustment with the view of improving the definition and to make it practical as possible.

A workshop, held on March 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> 2013<sup>62</sup> and scheduled to coincide with International Day of Forests and the Tree, was coordinated jointly by the GFC and the indigenous NGOs (APA, GOIP, TAAMOG and NADF), along with the NTC and IPC. Approximately 130 Amerindian community and NGO representatives were in attendance. The main areas discussed were:

- The first draft of Forest Legality definition for the VPA,
- the scoping of impacts of the VPA on stakeholders and an Impacts Study<sup>63</sup> of the VPA, and finally
- the communication strategy to gather feedback and comments to inform the development of a Communications Strategy<sup>64</sup> for EU FLEGT.

The European Forest Institute provided additional feedback on the draft Forest Legality definition (Exploratory Mission - April/ May 2013). The European Forest Institute:

- helped to advance discussions on the definition of legality and Guyana's forest monitoring systems,
- saw the launch of a project on Executing Initial Aspects of the Guyana Roadmap for EU FLEGT VPA<sup>65</sup> through the development of a Communication Strategy and Scoping Impact of an EU FLEGT VPA for Guyana, and
- conducted a five day Assessment of Guyana's Legality Assurance System (which included a visit to the forest concessions in Berbice as well as an examination FMD and FRMD operations at the Guyana Forestry Commission Head Office).

The roadmap will form the basis of plans going forward with a view to agreeing to a VPA under the EU FLEGT Action Plan by March 2015.

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<sup>60</sup>(Ref. 387) Guyana's Legality Definition (Version 1)\_050313\_GFC

<sup>61</sup>(Ref. 304) Guyana's Legality Definition for EU- Guyana VPA 05-06-2013 version 2\_050613\_GFC

<sup>62</sup>(Ref. 129) NGO workshop Report\_080413\_GFC

<sup>63</sup>(Ref. 143) Terms\_of\_Reference\_Scoping\_of\_Impacts\_GFC

<sup>64</sup>(Ref. 142) Terms\_of\_Reference\_for\_Communication\_Strategy\_GFC

<sup>65</sup>(Ref. 20) EU FLEGT - Stabroek News - Pact signed for US\$65,000 forest law enforcement programme\_240413\_Stabroek News

**Action 9. Outlining a programme to address degradation from extractive activities**

<b>Action</b>
Outline in 2013 GoG (MNRE) programme with particular focus on specific efforts to manage degradation from extractive activities where this needs to be done, including, for example: an enhanced miners' environmental knowledge programme through a mining extension service initiative and enhanced dialogue with the sectors and relevant stakeholders towards ensuring sectoral best practices are applied and sustained thereafter, where necessary.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
MNRE's draft strategic framework (2013) analyses the challenges faced by the extractives sector and makes recommendations for addressing them. In addition, the recommendations of the Sustainable Land Use Committee (SLUC) seek to address issues related to the degradation of forests from mining (see Action 10). There are also a multitude of on-going efforts that aim to improve the overall environmental performance and sustainability of the mining sector.
<b>Self-Assessment: Progress made</b>

**Introduction**

The objective of this activity was to outline a programme of activities to manage degradation from extractive activities, to be implemented by MNRE across its agencies.

The MNRE was established in December 2011 to have oversight responsibilities for forestry, mining, wildlife, environmental management, protected areas and land management. The Ministry has responsibilities for the following agencies (i) GGMC, (ii) GFC, (iii) GL&SC, (iv) Guyana Gold Board (GGB), (v) EPA, (vi) Protected Areas Commission (PAC), and (vii) Wildlife Division. The GGMC is responsible, inter alia, for the regulation of activities in the mineral sector.

It is important to recognise that the development of the mining sector is essential for Guyana's economic growth and job creation. Mining is an important part of the Guyanese economy, contributing 10.6% to the nation's annual GDP in 2012<sup>66</sup>. Between 2007 and 2012 there was 14% growth of the total export value of mining<sup>67</sup>. Overall in 2012 gold and bauxite exports represented 50% and 10% respectively of total export revenues<sup>68</sup>. In 2011, it was estimated that 13,800 people are directly employed for the small and medium scale mining of gold and diamonds, and 19,000 indirectly employed in mining support industries. For bauxite an estimated 2,070 are directly employed<sup>69</sup>. It was shown that up to 15% of Guyanese citizens are economically dependent on small-scale mining<sup>70</sup>.

It is expected that mining will continue to be the key driver of growth in the economy, and that growth will be strong (although dependant on international commodity prices). Improved access to the hinterland and the opening of new mines will allow for the intensification of gold mining activities. An intention to pursue this sectoral expansion with foreign investor involvement has been expressed by the Government<sup>71</sup>.

As well as being a driver of growth, historically, mining has been the biggest driver of the extremely low levels of deforestation and degradation in Guyana. It was responsible for 94% of deforestation and 97% of degradation between October 2010 and December 2011<sup>72</sup>. Therefore, in order for Guyana to meet its REDD+ targets, mining activities must be developed in a way that maximises economic and social benefits whilst minimising deforestation degradation and other environmental impacts.

**Challenges**

MNRE's Draft Strategic Framework (2013) identified key challenges GGMC faces in managing mining related deforestation and degradation<sup>73</sup>:

<sup>66</sup> Guyana Bureau of Statistics

<sup>67</sup> Guyana Bureau of Statistics

<sup>68</sup> Guyana Bureau of Statistics; Bank of Guyana

<sup>69</sup> Guyana's Gold & Diamond Mining Sector (2005-2010)\_May 2011\_ GGMC

<sup>70</sup> Small Scale Mining - World Bank - 2010

<sup>71</sup> Budget 2012: Remaining on Course, United in Purpose, Prosperity for all, Budget Speech - Minister of Finance - Mar 2012

<sup>72</sup> Guyana REDD+ monitoring reporting & verification System (MRVS): Interim measures report (01 October 2010 – 31 December 2011) , V3. – GFC, Indufor Asia Pacific Ltd - 2012

<sup>73</sup> (Ref. 18) MoNRE Strategic Plan - Draft 1 Costed SP MONRE March 14 SEMIFINAL\_0313\_MNRE

- There is a low level of compliance with ex-post restoration/reclamation regulations. Among the causes cited for this is miners' limited knowledge on ecologically appropriate land restoration.
- The environmental bond system is ineffective, due to the bond value being lower than the perceived cost of reclamation.
- Mine officers are inadequately resourced and supported.
- There is a lack of cross-sectoral work and cooperation on the sharing of resources, and responsibilities, such as monitoring and evaluation.

Furthermore the Framework states that there appear to be few effective measures to limit negative environmental impacts of mining and quarrying to date.

### **Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

#### Outline of a programme to manage degradation from extractives

There are two main initiatives which between them have the foundations of an outline programme to reduce degradation from the mining sector. These are the implementation of the MNRE's draft Strategic Framework 2013 - 2018 and the mandates of the committees that are implementing the recommendations of the Sustainable Land use Committee (SLUC).

#### *Draft Strategic Framework*

As part of the new ministry's planning processes, MNRE hired Strategic Environmental Advice (SEA) to prepare a Strategic Framework for the Ministry for the period 2013-2018. The objectives of this report were to conduct a thorough review and analysis of the regulatory and institutional landscapes to help MNRE shape its strategy to address environmental and natural resource issues within the framework of Guyana's LCDS. As a result, the Ministry, with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)<sup>74</sup>, commenced a planning process for several sectors, inclusive of the preparation of an overall strategy for the Ministry.

In November 2012 the Ministry and UNDP facilitated a seminar with key national stakeholders on the sustainable management of the extractive sector in Guyana and to examine how this sector fits within the framework of the LCDS<sup>75</sup>. Discussions focused on understanding what conditions could lead to a resource curse situation for Guyana and how to improve environmental management and sustainability in the extractives sector. The results of this session formed the basis for the development of the Ministry's Strategic Framework Document and strategic plan.

A first draft of the document and outline of the framework was launched in March 2013<sup>76</sup>. The report considers the legal context within which MNRE is active and how it could best allocate resources in its activities and the activities of MNRE's agencies and their respective responsibilities. The Draft Strategic Framework was subsequently updated<sup>77</sup> incorporating comments from stakeholders. The final plan was presented to the MNRE on April 26<sup>th</sup> 2013 for consideration. The final plan is being reviewed internally by the MNRE and its supporting agencies towards adoption in August 2013. Implementation of the plan will take effect before the end of the third quarter of 2013.

The Strategic Framework makes the following recommendations to address the challenges identified:

- Individual solutions as well as systematic solutions should be applied to address mercury contamination. Individual solutions include measures to improve education and awareness among miners and measures to improve technical support to miners by the GGMC's Mines Technical Division. Systemic solutions suggested were to address mercury in law enforcement, demonstrations and group seminars.
- Improved interagency coordination among the GFC, GGMC and the EPA to improve enforcement of mining and forestry-related regulations to reduce land degradation.
- The SLUC should act to improve the coordination between sector agencies, by serving as a platform for improvements to Ex-post ecosystem reclamation / restoration.
- In collaboration with GFC, the GGMC should draw from lessons learned in the field in terms of enforcement on concessions. With the support of MNRE, this could take place through the transfer of knowledge on restoration

<sup>74</sup> Planning for various sectors... ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY, UNDP SIGN \$33M AGREEMENT

<sup>75</sup> ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY IN THE EXTRACTIVE SECTOR\_GUYANA\_TL

<sup>76</sup>(Ref. 18) MoNRE Strategic Plan - Draft 1 Costed SP MONRE March 14SEMIFINAL\_0313\_MNRE

<sup>77</sup>(Ref. 406) MoNRE Strategic Plan - Short Version of SF April 30 Final\_300413\_MNRE



techniques from the forest sector. Knowledge gained from this exchange should be considered for use in awareness raising and training.

- The reclamation bond system should be revised in order to enable for appropriate reclamation to take place.
- There is a need to strengthen and re-design support for mine officers to help ensure better enforcement of existing legislation.
- The GGMC Environment division could implement a policy of broad communication, exchange of information and coordinate consultation with the EPA.

These recommendations could comprise an outline for a programme for addressing degradation from the extractives industry.

#### *Special Land Use Committee (SLUC)*

The SLUC was established in 2009 to provide recommendations to Cabinet through a cross-sectoral approach to manage land use conflicts and issues, including aspects of land use as they related to degradation from extractive activities. The recommendations from this committee aimed at addressing key mining issues under broad themes including: (1) Enhanced Land Reclamation, (2) Improved Infrastructure in Mining Districts, (3) Sustainable Land Management in the mining and forestry sector (4) Strengthening of Land-Use Planning and Coordination and (5) Amendments to the Mining Act and Regulation among natural resource agencies. For more details of activities under the SLUC please refer to Action 10 below.

#### Other planned and on-going activities to manage degradation from extractives

In addition to the Draft Strategic Framework and the SLUC initiatives, there are a number of activities in various stages of planning and implementation that will contribute to reduced degradation from extractive activities. These activities overlap to varying degrees with the higher level initiatives; they can be divided into four categories (1) Improving reclamation of mined areas (2) Improving compliance (3) Providing technical assistance and raising awareness and (4) Improving technologies.

#### (1) Improving reclamation of mined areas

##### *GFC Committee on Landscape Restoration and Replanting/ Rehabilitation of areas subjected to mining*

This committee was established by MNRE to propose a workable solution to address the restoration, replanting and rehabilitation of areas subjected to mining. Members of the committee represent MNRE, GGDMA, GGMC, FPA, Forest Products Development and Marketing Council (FPDMC), University of Guyana (UG), EPA, National Agriculture Research and Extension Institute (NAREI) and the GFC. Further details about this committee can be found under Action 10.

The committee commissioned the compilation of studies related to restoration, replanting and rehabilitation (by UG, GGDMA, GGMC, NAREI) into a flow chart<sup>78</sup>, which depicts the time and resources that go into the various stages of the ideal restoration, replanting and rehabilitation process.

The committee visited three sites (St. Elizabeth, Block 27 and Noitgedacht) in Mahdia in February 2013, where replanting and rehabilitation has taken place to observe what practices have already been implemented in the field. A final report has been presented, which summarises key aspects of the previous pilot studies, as well as discussion issues around the invasiveness of the *Acacia mangium* species in plantations. Site maintenance and monitoring is conducted monthly by the GGMC field offices<sup>79</sup> and updates are provided to the committee. In addition the GGMC has prepared a number of materials to be used by operators to aid understanding on mine site reclamation and to present information on the three sites in Mahdia<sup>80</sup>.

The committee has made recommendations to carry out the following to further landscape restoration, replanting and rehabilitation:

1. Increase the environmental bond.
2. Establish synergies between miners and loggers, to minimize wastage of commercial trees.
3. Develop project proposal with which to approach donors.
4. Administratively 'close off' areas for restoration, with severe penalties to defaulters.

<sup>78</sup>(Ref. 254) Flow chart-Land ReclamationNov18-2012\_181112

<sup>79</sup>(Ref. 312) Mahdia Plant Nursery and School Farm\_13\_GGMC

<sup>80</sup>(Ref. 313) Mine Site Reclamation For Different After Uses\_GGMC

5. Establish an oversight committee, to manage all the diverse tasks involved in this process.
6. Consider raising funds from private sector, illustrating restoration, replanting and rehabilitation is an investment opportunity. A company could work under the guidance of the oversight committee, and implement the project on a national scale.

In addition, the GGMC established a Plant Nursery and School Farm<sup>81</sup> in the yard of the Mahdia Secondary School. The purpose of the nursery was to introduce students to the subject Agriculture Science, and to allow them to practice some of the techniques that they are being taught in the classroom. Work at the Nursery is on-going.

#### *Reclamation Bonds*

Large and medium scale mines must purchase an environmental bond, and small scale operators, holding mining claims must pay a reclamation fee. Reclamation is listed in the GGMC's mining checklist<sup>82</sup> since 2009, which describes the duties of miners under the regulations. If the miner fails to carry out reclamation (e.g. preserving top soil), he or she forgoes the bond, which is used by the authorities to carry out the land reclamation. Small scale operators holding claims operating dredges with 6 inches and over and moving significant amount of earth falls into category of medium scale operations and are required to pay the same bond as operators holding mining permits.

The GGMC carry out Environmental Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement against this checklist on a regular basis, reporting on performance via a matrix report<sup>83</sup>.

A GGMC study (received November 2012) set out to document the individual processes which comprises reclamation, determine unit cost estimates for each process and use the unit cost estimates for the individual reclamation processes, 'direct reclamation costs', 'indirect costs' to calculate total bond cost (Frenchman Reclamation Project: A Study of direct and indirect costs associated with mine reclamation<sup>84</sup>). Overall it was shown that the value of the bond is too low, making the following recommendations to address issues arising from the reclamation bond:

1. Explore the option of a revised blanket bond and/or a partial cost bond.
2. Encourage progressive backfilling of mined-out pits.
3. Define reclamation standards clearly.
4. Revise land use policies for post mining areas
5. Urgently implement the full cost bond or its derivative, a partial cost bond.

Moreover, during the period July 4<sup>th</sup> 2012 to June 13<sup>th</sup> 2013 266 reclamation bonds were recorded by the GGMC.

## **(2) Improving compliance**

### *Operation El Dorado*

Operation El Dorado was an executive exercise<sup>85</sup> undertaken by GGMC accompanied by the police force, along with environmental officers from the Environmental Division of GGMC. The team carried out unannounced mining operation inspections to shut down illegal and non-compliant mining sites and operations. This operation is funded by GGMC's budget. GGMC is currently investigating reports of illegal mining at Wakadanawa, Region 9.

Over the last 12 months two missions have been carried out in two areas in Mining District 3 (Puruni)<sup>86, 87</sup>, since this area is heavily impacted which has led to the issuance of four cease work orders (to equipment and mining locations). In addition three orders were issued to remove illegal structures in accordance with Mining Regulations 70. There is on-going monitoring by mining stations.

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<sup>81</sup>(Ref. 309) Establishing of Nursery Facilities and Demonstrative Models of Min Site Reclamation in the Six Mining Districts of Guyana\_210512\_GGMC

<sup>82</sup>(Ref. 306) Checklist for GGMC Determination of Forest Clearing by Mining for MRV-LCDS, Education and Awareness and Technical Assistance to Miners\_GGMC

<sup>83</sup>(Ref. 310) GGMC's Compliance Monitoring Matrix,Amailia Falls Hydro Power Project Area\_2013\_MNRE

<sup>84</sup>(Ref. 255) Frenchman Reclamation Project 2012\_2012\_GGMC

<sup>85</sup>(Ref. 124) Natural Resources Ministry remains resolute against illegal mining\_210513\_GINA

<sup>86</sup>(Ref. 311) Introduction Summary\_GGMC

<sup>87</sup>(Ref. 308) Draft Report on Special Assignment Conducted in Puruni Landing and its Environs\_GGMC

### *Mine Officers*

During the period 2010 to December 2012, 58 staff were recruited by the GGMC<sup>88</sup>. A further 23 new staff were hired at the GGMC from January 2013; these include 17 Assistant Mines Officer; three Rangers; one Environmental Officer; and two Surveyors. In addition, the Commission has trained 26<sup>89</sup> new officers in a number of areas, inclusive of environmental management. Their two week theoretical session ended with a written exam and field work. Candidates will be selected for posts within the GGMC's environmental and/or Mines Division having successfully completed the exercise.

This increase in field presence for the GGMC has been mandated by its Board of Directors. The Board suggested that the GGMC recruit field staff using a phased approach where fifty persons will be employed in each phase. Following this, the Mines Division of the GGMC conducted a critical needs assessment<sup>90</sup> in the first phase.

### *Codes of Practice*

GGMC disseminate (including via seminars<sup>91</sup>) and enforce 10 codes of practice, which are codified in law, but so far not always enforced fully. The codes include those relating to avoiding environmental degradation from mining. GGMC is currently revising the codes of practice<sup>92</sup>, e.g. on the use of mercury and wastewater management. The draft codes of practices have been reviewed. The drafts have also been shared with the mining community, so that they understand future compliance requirements by the GGMC and the Guyana Gold and Diamond Miners Association.

### *Environmental Compliance Enforcement Exercise*

As part of GGMC's Environmental division mandate, regular environmental monitoring of all mining activities within the six mining districts is carried out. The purpose is to regulate mining activities and provide technical assistance and guidance to ensure compliance within Strategic Mining Regulation. The exercise involves documenting, regulating and advising non-compliant small and medium scale operators.

There are 19 mining stations covering the six mining districts and Mine inspections are scheduled quarterly for six weeks at a time. During the reporting period four inspections were carried out, covering six mining districts. The mines and environmental divisions collaborate to execute these inspections. Reports from these missions are submitted to the GGMC upon completion<sup>93, 94</sup>.

## (3) Providing technical assistance, training and raising awareness

### *Guyana Mining School and Training Centre Inc.*

The Mining School was established and incorporated in 2012 to function under the supervision of the MNRE through the GGMC<sup>95</sup>. The School will offer miners short courses (between one and six months) once the draft curriculum has been approved. The draft curriculum has been developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders, including EPA and GGDMA and will be further developed through a project with support from the WWF<sup>96</sup>. The School will focus on geology, mining methods, exploration technology, surveying and computer applications for mining operations and mineral explorations.

### *Outreach activities*

There are a variety of outreach activities undertaken by the various agencies to address concerns of degradation from extractive activities. These are as follows:

- *Mining Information Toolkit for Guyana – GGDMA – November 2011*: Written with support of the GGMC this toolkit provides up to date information about social and environmental issues and regulations<sup>97</sup>.
- *Outreach visits – GGMC – Monthly*: GGMC carries out monthly outreach visits, often accompanied by other ministries or agencies and headed by the Minister of MNRE. Recent outreach visits took place in Bartica, Puruni and Itabalai. As part of the outreach the authorities discuss a range of issues, such as tailings management,

<sup>88</sup> (Ref. 336) Letter - GGMC recruitment details\_111212\_GGMC

<sup>89</sup> (Ref. 201; 324; 325) GGMC gets 26 new Mines Officers

<sup>90</sup> (Ref. 327) GGMC Training and Evaluation Report\_GGMC

<sup>91</sup> (Ref. 350) GGMC Presentation - Environmental Mngment - Sml and Med Scale Gold and Diamond Mining\_030212\_GGMC

<sup>92</sup> (Ref. 320; 321;322;323;328;329; 330; 331;332 ) GGMC Codes of Practice

<sup>93</sup> (Ref. 314) Mining District Number Four 4\_13\_GGMC

<sup>94</sup> (Ref. 307) Determination of Forest Clearing by mining for MRV LCDS\_240212\_GGMC

<sup>95</sup> <http://www.nre.gov.gy/Mining%20school%20to%20launch%20training%20programmes%20in%20January.%20December%2005%202012.html>

<sup>96</sup> (Ref. 123) MNRE gets \$12M support from WWF for environmental management\_130513\_Guyana Chronicle

<sup>97</sup> Mining Information Kit for Guyana, Canada, 2012

closed circuit mercury practices, health, safety, and sanitation. Since July 2013 there is a programme of outreach<sup>98</sup>, which includes the Minister of MNRE accompanying a high level team to all ten administrative regions.

- *Technical Advice to Miners Committee – GGMC*: GGMC regularly trains miners on all aspects of mining, including environmental management<sup>99</sup> and occupational, health and safety<sup>100</sup>, with the intention of helping miners to use of better practices, and facilitate the process of reclamation. The Committee comprises of representatives from the GGDMA and GGMC and provide information to miners to improve on their operations – minimise waste and improve production.

#### *Studies on degradation*

The Environmental Impact Exercise working group<sup>101</sup>, which began its work in 2012, is made up of members from the indigenous Peoples Commission, MoAA, GGMC, EPA and MNRE. The group are developing a pilot strategy for the collection of information to understand the cumulative impact of Artisanal and Small scale Mining (ASM).

#### *New entrants Seminar*

Miners entering into the industry can now take a course organised by the GGMC, which teaches them about mining best practice, inclusive of environmental management such as tailings management and reclamation<sup>102</sup>. In addition with support from WWF the Ministry through GGMC will continue to build capacity in environmental management and to train miners and new entrants<sup>103</sup>.

#### (4) Improving technologies and extractive activities

##### *Technology and machinery exchange*

The improvement of technology and mining practices are very important to (1) shift miners away from the use of mercury and (2) to improve the recovery efficiency of mining operations.

Two companies, MACORP and Caterpillar, are collaborating with the MNRE to provide technical assistance and human resources to the Guyana Mining School and Training Centre Inc. The companies have committed to train persons within the extractive sector to operate and maintain the machinery, among other training needs and knowledge exchanges<sup>104</sup>. In addition, the GGMC continuously provide guidance and advice to miners on best practices through demonstrations by the Mineral Processing Unit and a few operations have commenced the use of improved technology.

New technologies such as centrifuge systems can increase recovery rates in mines from 30% to 80% compared to traditional practices. This means that a mine need only be worked once, after which is can be closed and the forest restored. Inefficient traditional practices encourage sites to be reworked a number of times, thus not allowing the forest an opportunity to recover.

##### *Exploration*

Exploration of an area prior to commencing mining activities is not legally mandated for artisanal and small scale mining. Small scale miners will tend not to carry out exploration, but canvas areas on speculation, removing trees even though they may not end up carrying out mining activities in that particular location.

The GGMC are providing technical assistance to small scale miners to help them conduct exploration. Stakeholders suggested that the law on exploration should be amended to reflect the increasing scale of artisanal and small scale mining for gold.

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<sup>98</sup> (Ref. 235) Proposed Outreach Schedule for Natural Resources Sectors\_Guyana Geology and Mines Commission

<sup>99</sup> (Ref. 350) GGMC Presentation - Environmental Mngment - Sml and Med Scale Gold and Diamond Mining\_030212\_GGMC

<sup>100</sup> (Ref. 349) GGMC Presentation - Environmental Mngment - Sml and Med Scale Gold and Diamond Mining\_030212\_GGMC

<sup>102</sup> (Ref. 355) Best Practical Techniques Available for the Mining Sector

<sup>103</sup> (Ref. 123) MNRE gets \$12M support from WWF for environmental management\_130513\_Guyana Chronicle

<sup>104</sup> MACORP/Caterpillar company to support Mining School and Training Centre

**Action 10. Enforcement and implementation of activities outlined the Special Land Use Committee**

<b>Action</b>
Enforcement and implementation of activities outlined by Special Land Use Committee to continue. Communicated publicly.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
The Special Land Use Committee (SLUC) made a number of recommendations aimed at addressing key mining and forestry issues. In 2012, ‘The Committee to Implement the Recommendations of the Special Land Use Committee’ (CIRSLUC) was established, and grouped the SLUC’s recommendations to create five projects. Progress in implementing the recommendations has been mixed across the sub-committees and groups responsible for implementation. An effort to publish the progress of the committees was not made because progress is still in the early stages, with the exception of the works under the Hinterland Infrastructure Committee and GIS Policy.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Progress made

**Introduction**

The SLUC was established by former President Jagdeo in 2009 with the aim of providing appropriate and realistic recommendations through a cross-sectoral approach to manage land use conflicts and issues, such as environmental degradation from extractive activities and forestry. The committee was chaired by the Minister of Transport and Hydraulics and comprised of the heads of the agencies now under MNRE (GGMC, GFC), and included representatives from GGDMA, and Office of the President. The committee met on 12 occasions for discussions over an eight week period towards the development of an appropriate approach of both mining and forestry sectors for notification to optimally use minerals and forest products. This committee formulated 16 recommendations/principles to be taken forward. The SLUC was reconstituted in October 2010 and used the 16 recommendations as the basis for its work. This re-constituted committee prepared a report<sup>105</sup> examining how to advance the 16 recommendations and identified these as primary areas of focus, as well as noting matters that were unresolved. This report was subsequently shared with key stakeholders for their input and suggested options for implementation<sup>106</sup> and a matrix was prepared with the recommendations for implementation<sup>107</sup>.

In 2012, ‘The Committee to Implement the Recommendations of the Special Land Use Committee’ (CIRSLUC) was established, and is chaired by MNRE<sup>108</sup>. CIRSLUC, which is comprised of GGMC Board, GGMC, GGDMA, GL&SC, EPA, GFC and MNRE, met four times (latest meeting December 2012<sup>109</sup>) since its inception meeting in March 2012<sup>110</sup> and now meet as needs arise.

CIRSLUC took recommendations made by SLUC and grouped these into five projects. These projects include (1) Strengthening Land-Use Planning and Coordination among natural resource agencies (2) Sustainable Land Management in the mining and forestry sector (3) Enhanced Land Reclamation, (4) Improved Infrastructure in Mining Districts, and (5) Amendments to Mining Act and Regulations<sup>111</sup>. The responsibility for addressing the issues/recommendations under the area of (1) Strengthening Land-Use Planning and Coordination was allocated to the GIS Committee. Three sub-committees have been established by CIRSLUC to address issues/recommendations under (2) Sustainable Land Management, (3) Enhanced Land Reclamation, and (4) Improved Infrastructure in Mining Districts respectively. The area of (5) Amendments to the Mining Act and Regulations is being addressed directly at the policy and institutional level by GGMC. Please see Table 1. for details.

<sup>105</sup>(Ref. 240) Report of the Special Land Use Committee\_MNRE

<sup>106</sup>(Ref. 243) Special land use committee letter\_010312\_MNRE

<sup>107</sup>(Ref. 239) Recommendations for implementation by the SLUC.revised\_MNRE

<sup>108</sup>(Ref. 244) Minutes of first meeting with Committee responsible for implementing the SLUC recommendations\_120312\_MNRE

<sup>109</sup>(Ref. 245) Minutes of Fourth meeting\_111212\_MNRE

<sup>110</sup>(Ref. 244) Minutes of first meeting with Committee responsible for implementing the SLUC recommendations\_120312\_MNRE

<sup>111</sup>(Ref. 241) SLUC summary\_MNRE

**Table 1. CIRSLUC Projects and implementing actors**

CIRSLUC Project	Actor(s) responsible for project implementation
(1) Strengthening Land-Use Planning & Coordination among natural resource agencies	GIS Committee
(2) Sustainable Land Management in the mining and forestry sector	Forestry, Mining and Land Management Committee
(3) Enhanced Land Reclamation	Committee for Rehabilitation/ Restoration of Degraded Land
(4) Improved Infrastructure in Mining Districts	Hinterland Infrastructure Committee (HIC)
(5) Amendments to Mining Act and Regulations	GGMC

The SLUC existed prior to the establishment of the MNRE. After the establishment of the MNRE the CIRSLUC prioritised the recommendations and focused on implementing them from a technical perspective. After making substantial progress the possibility of including other stakeholder groups such as the NTC may become possible.

### Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)

Progress has been made in implementing the recommendations from the SLUC in all the areas, although the speed of implementation has, in most cases, fallen behind the original time lines set. The original timelines were ambitious and were defined without a detailed understanding of the complexities (such as cross sectoral collaboration and prioritization at the institutional level as well as availability of data) involved in implementing many of the recommendations. An effort to publish the progress of the committees was not made because progress is still in the early stages, with the exception of the works under the Hinterland Infrastructure Committee<sup>112</sup> and GIS Policy. The draft GIS Policy has benefited from review by key GIS stakeholders and was subsequently revised. Moreover, it is important to understand that the work of the other committees, especially the Forestry Mining and Land Management Committee, depends heavily on the outputs/results of the GIS committee.

A summary of the progress made on each of the projects identified is provided below:

#### 1. Strengthening land-use planning & coordination among natural resource agencies

##### *Project details - planned outcome, and date of achievement*

The purpose of this project is to achieve the effective use of spatial data for decision making among agencies. The MNRE GIS Committee (established April 2012<sup>113,114</sup>) was tasked with carrying out actions towards the end goal of establishing of an integrated online database platform (Geonode) which will allow users from the different natural resources agencies to access updated geographic information for decision making.

Actions planned under this project:

- Conduct a gap analysis of geographic information within the agencies.
- Engage international donors for technical and financial assistance.
- Review and update the 2000 Geographic Information Policy. Circulate to natural resources agencies, Ministries, NGO's and other GIS related stakeholders.
- Organize an inception meeting to discuss the updated GIS.
- Integration of GFC, GGMC, GL&SC and EPA Geographic Information System (GIS).
- Meet with GIS technicians from the respective agencies.
- Design a mechanism for data sharing.
- Prepare a written document outlining standard operating procedures for data sharing. Confirm a date for routine submission of data.
- Decide which agency has the technical and staff requirements to manage the data.

<sup>112</sup> Promised hinterland road works delivered - July 2013 - GINA

<sup>113</sup> (Ref. 258) GIS committee ToR\_MNRE

<sup>114</sup> (Ref. 265) First GIS committee minutes\_180412\_MNRE

*Committee(s) responsible - Member agencies of committees (Chair)*

The GIS Committee is made up of EPA, GFC, GGMC, GL&SC and MNRE. It has met four times<sup>115</sup> between July 2012 and April 2013 (, 08/12, 01/13, 02/13, 04/13).

*Actions in reporting Period (July 2012 – June 2013)*

The Ministry's GIS committee has commenced several activities towards the achievement of the final product, which include:

- *GIS Policy Update:* The Geographic Information Policy of 2000 had expired and required review. The GIS Committee undertook the responsibility of updating the policy, with the aim of formulating a clear national policy to consolidate the relatively rapid development of local systems<sup>116, 117</sup>. It was important to minimize the risk of duplication, ensuring compatibility of current and future implementations and to take into consideration the Continuously Operating Reference Station (CORS) systems which are planned to be used in Guyana. The CORS system will serve to modernize Guyana's GPS positioning capabilities, thereby making GPS units more accurate. The draft policy was presented to the Minister of MNRE<sup>118</sup> for feedback and approval in August 2012 and subsequently an updated draft<sup>119</sup> was posted on the MNRE's website.
- The updated Geographic Information Policy was circulated on October 29<sup>th</sup> 2012, and an inception meeting<sup>120</sup> was held on November 21<sup>st</sup> 2012. Comments were received from key participants who were from natural resources agencies, Ministries, NGOs and other GIS related stakeholders.
- *Completion of a gap analysis of geographic information within the agencies:* The MNRE has not directly undertaken a gap analysis of geographic information within the agencies. However this is being undertaken in August 2013 in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Works (MoPW). The MoPW through a project is conducting a national gap analysis and the committee will use the results of this study to inform its work.
- *Mechanism for sharing spatial data between agencies:* A mechanism is being implemented by the GFC, who have been designated to manage the data sharing among agencies, on the strength of its technical and staff. The system of information sharing managed by the GFC is through the MRVS technical steering committee. Through this committee information from the various agencies are collected and used by the GFC to inform and update the base layer and maps.
- *Geonode:* The GIS Committee engaged the World Bank regarding the possibility of implementing "Geonode" as the platform for creating an enterprise database. World Bank representatives also participated in the inception meeting to discuss the design of a mechanism for data sharing.
- *ToR for Technical Officer - GIS:* The committee issued a ToR for a Technical Officer - GIS to build a GIS platform, from which land use maps of Guyana could be managed<sup>121, 122</sup>. However the committee received no responses to this ToR. The revised ToR<sup>123</sup> has been issued looking for the skills and competencies needed for the position rather than the tasks that are expected to be conducted by the successful applicant. The name of the position was also changed to "Data Management Officer". It is important to note that this officer is critical to the work of the GIS committee and the establishment of the data sharing platform.

## 2. Sustainable land management in the mining and forestry sector

*Project details - Planned Outcome, and date of achievement*

This project aims to achieve effective coordination of resource utilization in areas of multiple-use, particularly forestry and mining. In April 2012 the Forestry and Mining Land Management (FMLM) Committee was established<sup>124</sup>. The functions of this committee are to:

- Identify current laws, regulations and procedures for resource utilization in each sector.
- Determine where potential overlaps or conflicts exist.
- Create a framework for resolving conflicts due to multiple land use in forestry and mining.

<sup>115</sup> (Ref. 266-271) Minutes of meetings of GIS Technical Committee in the reporting Period - 2012/2013\_MNRE

<sup>116</sup> (Ref. 263) National Policy on Geographic Information\_180812\_MNRE

<sup>117</sup> (Ref. 264) Presentation to Minister, MNRE\_180812\_MNRE

<sup>118</sup> (Ref. 264) Presentation to Minister, MNRE\_180812\_MNRE

<sup>119</sup> (Ref. 263) National Policy on Geographic Information\_180812\_MNRE

<sup>120</sup> (Ref. 424) Registration Form filled\_211112\_MNRE

<sup>121</sup> (Ref 260-261) Terms Of Reference - Technical Officer GIS -April2013\_MNRE

<sup>122</sup> (Ref. 237) MNE Vacancy\_2013\_MNRE

<sup>123</sup> (Ref. 260) Technical Officer GIS modified\_MNRE

<sup>124</sup> (Ref. 249) First Minutes\_190412\_MNRE

*Committee(s) responsible - Member agencies of committees*

This committee is made up of FPA, GFC, GGDMA, GGMC and MNRE, and during the reporting period, with the exception of the first formal meeting<sup>125</sup>, held informal discussions to plan its approach.

The work of FMLM depends on the progress and work of the GIS committee, specifically, the development a data sharing platform to prepare maps of area use in the various sectors in order to overlay these to identify conflicting or overlapping land uses.

### 3. Enhanced land reclamation

*Project details - planned outcome, and date of achievement*

The objective of this project is to conduct more extensive and effective reclamation of mined out lands. In order to achieve this, a Committee on Landscape Restoration and Replanting/ Rehabilitation of areas subjected to mining<sup>126</sup> was established by the MNRE in 2012, and oversees a further four subcommittees with the following functions:

- Identification of potential sites and floral species for rehabilitation/restoration.
- Determination of potential sources of funding for project implementation.
- Identification of appropriate entities that could be responsible for coordinating the implementation of clearly defined component(s) of the project.
- Formal submission of a complete project document within three months of the date of the first meeting, to the Minister, MNRE.

The Committee established sub-committees to assist in meeting its deliverables<sup>127</sup>:

- Sub-committee A: Identification of potential sites for rehabilitation/ restoration and associated soil types, climate, topography.
- Sub-committee B: List of species that can be used for rehabilitation / restoration by soil type, identification of sources, and determination of costs and time frames for local organizations.
- Sub-committee C: Determine the time period for planning, planting methodology, and what skills, training, monitoring and costs are involved.
- Sub-committee D: Identify sources of financing which can be accessed for implementation, and identify who can be tasked with preparing the relevant project proposals as per donor template?

*Committee(s) responsible - Member agencies of committees (Chair)*

The 'Committee for Landscape Restoration and Replanting/Rehabilitation of areas subjected to mining' is made up of EPA, FPA, FPDMC, GFC, GGDMA, GGMC, NAREI, MNRE and UG, and meets as necessary<sup>128</sup>. The committee has held four meetings<sup>129</sup> (starting August 24<sup>th</sup> 2012 until May 2013) and four sub-committee meetings between August 2012 and May 2013; attendance was generally good, with an average of 90% of members in attendance.

*Actions in reporting Period (July 2012 – June 2013)*

A report of the committee's findings was submitted to the GFC in December 2012<sup>130</sup>. The report detailed the steps and costs associated with rehabilitation of degraded lands, and included the GGMC's preliminary figures on backfilling and grading of degraded land.

For more details of the committee's activities please see Action 9 (Subsection: Other planned and on-going activities to manage degradation from extractives, (1) Improving reclamation of mined areas).

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<sup>125</sup> (Ref. 249) First Minutes\_190412\_MNRE

<sup>126</sup> (Ref. 257) Reclamation of Degraded Lands in Guyana - August, 2012\_0812\_GFC

<sup>127</sup> (Ref. 257) Reclamation of Degraded Lands in Guyana - August, 2012\_0812\_GFC

<sup>128</sup> (Ref. 256) LandRRRC Minutes of meeting held on August 24 2012\_240812\_GFC

<sup>129</sup> (Ref. 256) LandRRRCMinutes of meeting held on August 24 2012\_240812\_GFC

<sup>130</sup> (Ref. 255) Frenchman Reclamation Project 2012\_2012\_GGMC



#### 4. Improved infrastructure in mining districts

##### *Project details - planned outcome, and date of achievement*

The HIC<sup>131</sup> was established in 2012 and aims to provide a forum for the relevant agencies to meet and develop strategies to strengthen land-use planning and coordination among agencies in relation to upgrading and effectively managing roads and related infrastructure within the hinterland. Additionally, the committee is responsible for aligning the policy direction for infrastructural development in the forestry and mining sector with a strategic vision for hinterland development.

Infrastructure within the context of the Hinterland Infrastructure Committee (HIC) includes roads, bridges, landings and airstrips associated with the forestry and mining sectors. Prior to the establishment of the HIC, works on infrastructure was conducted by multiple agencies within hinterland regions and could lead to a possible duplication of activities and an uncoordinated approach to many projects.

As requests from local hinterland communities for infrastructural assistance arise, resources such as heavy machinery are coordinated among the Special Projects Unit (SPU) of the HIC to carry out the procurement as well as the necessary work. The committee works closely with Local Government and other Regional Officials to upgrade Hinterland roads.

##### *Committee(s) responsible - Member agencies of committees (Chair)*

The HIC is made up of GFC, GGDMA, GGMC, MoPW and MNRE. This committee has met four times between July 2012 and June 2013 (01/13, 02/13, 03/13, 05/13)<sup>132,133,134</sup>.

To date the committee has successfully coordinated the rehabilitation of roads within 12 miles before Itaballi to Puruni Landing in August 2012, Itaballi Landing to 12 miles before Itaballi<sup>135</sup> and Mahdia Internal Roads, etc. Emergency works were also conducted on several other roads<sup>136</sup> and bridges which had been significantly damaged by heavy rains and floods (the Takatu Bridge in June 2012, Whanna Bridge in March 2012, and Black water in March 2012<sup>137</sup>).

The SPU have a proposed programme of fourteen infrastructure projects in the hinterlands<sup>138</sup>. The committee has conducted reconnaissance for, costed, and scheduled in the proposed projects for the SPU. The committee is currently compiling a list of priority roads for rehabilitation in 2013, while continuing to upgrade and manage mining roads and related infrastructure.

#### 5. Amendments to Mining Act and Regulations

##### *Project details - Planned Outcome, and date of achievement*

The GGMC and GGDMA have been allocated the responsibility of updating Mining legislation to make it more effective. Their actions to achieve this include: a review of the Mining Act and its regulations, the determination of gaps and areas for amendment in the legislation, and finally to draft amendments/additions to the Mining Act and regulations (e.g., regulations on administration and management of the mining industry). The GGMC has taken up the review at the institutional level and will be addressed through policy decisions with the MNRE.

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<sup>131</sup> (Ref. 272) Terms of Reference for HIC\_MNRE

<sup>132</sup> (Ref. 302) Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the HIC\_180612\_MNRE

<sup>133</sup> (Ref. 282) Second Meeting of the for 2013\_190213\_MNRE

<sup>134</sup> (Ref. 236) Third Meeting of the Hinterland Infrastructure Committee for 2013\_190313\_MNRE

<sup>135</sup> (Ref. 287) REPORT ON SITE INSPECTION 6 MARCH 2012\_060312\_MNRE

<sup>136</sup> (Ref. 301; 293) Itaballi to Pappysou Road Inspection Report\_270612\_GGMC; Mahdia and Puruni Road Inspection Reports\_070813\_MNRE

<sup>137</sup> (Ref. 281) Bacchus and Blackwater Bridge\_050312\_Mary Rogers

<sup>138</sup> (Ref. 236) Third Meeting of the Hinterland Infrastructure Committee for 2013\_190313\_MNRE

### 3.4. Indicator 4 - The rights of indigenous people and other forest communities as regards REDD+

#### **Action 11. Development of Amerindian Land Titling (ALT) project**

<b>Action</b>
Present Amerindian Land Titling project to GRIF Steering Committee, after the normal GRIF public hearing period for new project notes is concluded.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
Following extensive rounds of consultation the ALT project document was submitted to the GRIF Secretariat on June 21 <sup>st</sup> 2013 for distribution to the GRIF Steering Committee Observers. Two comments were received and are currently being reviewed. These comments, along with the ALT project document will be sent by the GRIF Secretariat in August 2013 to the GRIF Steering Committee for approval.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Significant progress made

#### **Introduction**

The objective of the Amerindian Land Titling (ALT) project is to facilitate and fast track the process of issuing land titles to Amerindian villages and communities. The issuance of land titles and, more specifically, the demarcation of land, has historically been constrained by high costs. The Government intends to allocate substantial funding from the GRIF through the ALT project to remove this barrier. The project seeks to (a) have land titles issued and demarcation process completed for all Amerindian villages that submit requests, including those that request extensions, (b) strengthen existing mechanisms to deal with unresolved land issues, and (c) improve the communication and outreach efforts of the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs (MoAA).

The project will enable Amerindians to secure their lands and natural resources with a view towards sustainable social and economic development. It is expected that titling of communities will strengthen land tenure and security and expand the asset base of Amerindians, enabling improved long term planning for their future development. It is also expected to enhance the opportunities for villages to 'Opt-in' to the national REDD+ model, should they wish to do so.

In December 2010, the project document was posted to the GRIF website for public comment. Over 100 comments were received, collated and reviewed by the UNDP, MoAA and the Project Management Office (PMO). Since then the project document has been reviewed by multiple stakeholders and has been scrutinised by both the UNDP and the GoG to ensure that the objectives and language of the project document are in keeping with the laws of Guyana and the social, environmental and fiduciary safeguards of the UNDP.

#### **Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012 – June 2013)**

##### Development of the ALT project

On August 15<sup>th</sup> 2012<sup>139</sup>, the ALT project document was reviewed by multiple stakeholders at UNDP's Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC). Following this the UNDP and GoG conducted due diligence checks on the ALT project document to ensure that it complies with Guyana's sovereign laws, International Treaties that Guyana have signed related to indigenous Peoples rights, UNDP guidelines and the principle of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).

On the June 15<sup>th</sup> 2013, following UNDP's last proposal on the language to be used in the ALT project document, the GoG, through correspondence to the UNDP<sup>140</sup>, accepted the final changes proposed by the UNDP. When accepting the proposal, GoG outlined its understanding of what was described by some of the specific language proposed by UNDP. That is, GoG's understanding of what UNDP's conceptual framework would mean, explicitly but also implicitly, within the context of Guyana's sovereign laws.

##### **Summary of progress since the reporting period (June 15<sup>th</sup> 2013 onwards)**

The UNDP, on June 17<sup>th</sup> 2013, responded to the GoG indicating their agreement with the Government's position<sup>141</sup>, the language in the project document, and UNDP's desire for the project document to be advanced through the GRIF Steering Committee.

<sup>139</sup>(Ref. 78) 17 - List of Invitees by UNDP to LPAC\_220812\_UNDP; (Ref. 79) 17 - PAC Meeting Minutes-ALT\_22 Aug 2012\_220812\_UNDP; (Ref. 57) ALT comments and UNDP responses\_05 Sep 2012; (Ref.58) ALT\_5 Sept 2012\_after PAC comments

<sup>140</sup> (Ref. 190) Letter to Khadija Musa - ALT Language\_150613\_Min. Pauline Sukhai

<sup>141</sup>(Ref. 189) Email from Khadija Musa - ALT language agreement\_170613\_Khadija Musa

The ALT project document<sup>142</sup> was submitted to the GRIF Secretariat on June 21<sup>st</sup> 2013 for distribution to the GRIF Steering Committee Observers<sup>143</sup>. On July 1<sup>st</sup> 2013 the GRIF Secretariat shared the ALT project document with the GRIF Steering Committee Observers and declared the 20 day review and comment period open<sup>144</sup>. Two comments were received and are currently being reviewed. These comments, along with the ALT project document will be sent by the GRIF Secretariat in August 2013 to the GRIF Steering Committee for approval. .

Continued titling in parallel to the development of the project

Whilst the ALT project moved through the approval process, GoG continued to utilise national resources to proceed with the titling process. On August 8<sup>th</sup> 2012 three communities/villages received titles from the Government: Rupanau<sup>145</sup>, Riversview<sup>146</sup> and Kato extension<sup>147</sup>.

Titles were also to be issued to five communities in August of 2012. However, these were delayed because of concerns raised by the GGMC and miners on competing concessions in the area.

There are also six titled villages that are engaged in land-related Court proceedings. These villages, though titled, have not provided approval for demarcation which is a prerequisite for surveying to take place. The Government is awaiting the rulings of the Court on these matters.

**Action 12. Development of Opt-In concept note**

<b>Action</b>
Opt-In concept note ready and pilot community for Opt-In Mechanism selected.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
At the August 2012, meeting of the National Toshias’ Council the majority of Toshias signed a resolution indicating that the Concept Note for Opt-In Mechanism was subject to examination and discussions by villages and conformed to FPIC and the Toshias gave their support for the further advancement of the Opt-In Mechanism process. Subsequently, the OCC, as Chair of Technical Team, lead the preparation of a Draft Options Paper for the Opt-In Mechanism an intermediary step towards drafting the full Opt-In strategy document. The draft options paper is currently with the Opt-In Technical Working Group for review. There’re a large number of stakeholders involved in the review of the document, inclusive of the NTC.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Significant progress made

**Introduction**

It is a priority of GoG to guarantee the rights bestowed by the Constitution of Guyana to indigenous peoples and other Guyanese to participation, engagement and decision making in all matters affecting their constituents’ well-being. These rights are being respected and protected throughout the implementation Guyana’s LCDS and REDD+ processes and this will continue in the Opt-In process especially as Guyana is proposing a national scale Opt-In process. The principles of FPIC underpin the Opt-In process and as such no deadline is set for its completion.

In 2009, the Office of Climate Change (OCC) convened a Technical Working Group with key Government, including the GFC, the MoAA, the GGMC and the EPA, to take the initial steps towards the development of the Opt-In Mechanism. The result of that work was the preparation of an Opt-In Mechanism Concept Note: on developing a Framework for an Opt-In Mechanism by Amerindian communities in March 2010. The Concept Note developed many of the central elements of the Mechanism such as its guiding principles, requirements for opting-in, and determination of scale of payments and, as a consequence jumpstarted discussions at national and local levels.

In 2011, the Concept Note was approved by the MSC with a recommendation that it should be presented to the National Toshias Council (NTC) for review. In November 2011, the MoAA presented the Concept Note to the NTC Executive Committee for distribution and review within their respective community clusters. In March 2012, the Executive Committee asked for further information including, timelines for a fully functioning GRIF. In the GoG’s REDD+

<sup>142</sup>(Ref. 404) ALT Project Document June 2013\_150613\_GoG-UNDP

<sup>143</sup>(Ref. 403) Email - Submission of ALT Project Document to GRIF Secretariat\_210613\_Kapil Mohabir

<sup>144</sup>(Ref. 405) Email - Announcement\_ Amerindian Land Titling Project\_ Project Document Available Public Comment\_010713\_GRIF Secretariat

<sup>145</sup>(Ref. 353) Rupanau Grant Title copy\_080812\_GoG

<sup>146</sup>(Ref. 408) Riversview Amerindian Village Grant Title copy\_080812\_GoG

<sup>147</sup>(Ref. 354) Kato Extension Title\_080812\_GoG

Enabling Actions Self-Assessment and Action Plan (December 2012), a key next step of the having the Concept Paper reviewed at the Annual Conference of the NTC scheduled for August 2012.

### Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)

At the August 2012, meeting of the National Toshaos' Council the majority of Toshaos signed a resolution indicating that the Concept Note for Opt-In Mechanism was subject to examination and discussions by villages and conformed to FPIC<sup>148</sup> and the Toshaos gave their support for the further advancement of the Opt-In Mechanism process. This progress on the Mechanism at the NTC was discussed during the 45<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MSSC<sup>149</sup>.

This Action by the NTC has allowed the Opt-In process to move to the next phase. In October 2012, at a meeting between the OCC and NTC Executive on the Opt-In Mechanism<sup>150</sup>, it was agreed that the OCC should work closely with the NTC and other technical agencies to develop a full Opt-In Strategy document. It was further agreed that following this development, the Mechanism should be tested in a village setting.

In January 2013, the OCC convened meetings of the Opt-In Technical Team with representatives from the GFC<sup>151</sup> and MoAA<sup>152</sup> to discuss how best to transition the Concept Note to an implementable 'Opt-In Strategy' given that some gaps of Opt-In Concept Paper highlighted by these agencies. As a consequence, the OCC, as Chair of Technical Team, lead in the preparation of a Draft Options Paper for the Opt-In Mechanism<sup>153</sup> based on the comments made by the Team with the aim of presenting the NTC with a clearer and more detailed presentation of the Mechanism. The Draft Options Paper presents activities and options for implementing recommendations, based on the Mechanism's three phases as outlined in the Concept Paper (Phase 1: Initiating the process – willingness to Opt-In; Phase 2: Establishing the agreement to Opt-In; and Phase 3: Operationalising the agreement).

The Draft Options Paper was circulated by the OCC to the Technical Working Group (namely to the GFC<sup>154</sup>, GGMC<sup>155</sup>, EPA<sup>156</sup> and the MoAA<sup>157</sup>) on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013 with a request for comments on the Paper by June 26<sup>th</sup>. At the end of June 2013, the OCC had received comments from the EPA<sup>158</sup> and GGMC<sup>159</sup> and on July 19<sup>th</sup> 2013 from the MoAA<sup>160</sup>. The OCC is still awaiting feedback from the GFC. The comments received on the Draft Options Paper will be consolidated into a Draft Opt-In Mechanism Strategy, and will be presented to the MSSC and NTC for review and feedback. The feedback received from the MSSC and NTC will be further incorporated into Draft Opt-In Strategy and following that, the NTC and the GoG will jointly identify a pilot community to test the Strategy.

GoG is aiming to pilot the Mechanism in a village, and will be guided by the recommendations from the NTC and MSSC. Given the number of stakeholders involved, particularly in the NTC, the review process should allocate sufficient time to allow for FPIC to take place.

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<sup>148</sup>(Ref. 62) Opt-In Resolution by National Toshaos\_06-10 August 2012

<sup>149</sup>(Ref. 4) Minutes 45 Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee (MSSC) (15 Aug 2012)\_150812\_OCC

<sup>151</sup>(Ref. 362) Meeting with GFC on the Opt-In Mechanism and Outreach Sessions – OCC – JAN 2013

<sup>152</sup>(Ref. 361) Meeting with Ministry of Amerindian Affairs\_290113\_OCC

<sup>153</sup>(Ref. 340) Opt-In Mechanism - Draft for Discussion (June 5 2013)\_revised\_070613\_OCC

<sup>154</sup>(Ref. 391) Letter\_Technical Working Group\_GFC\_Opt in June 15 20133\_140613\_OCC

<sup>155</sup>(Ref. 390) Letter\_Technical Working Group\_GGMC\_Opt in June 15 20133\_140613\_OCC

<sup>156</sup>(Ref. 392) Letter\_Technical Working Group\_EPA\_Opt in June 15 20133\_140613\_OCC

<sup>157</sup>(Ref. 337) Cover Letters for Review of the Options Paper for the Opt-In Mechanism – OCC – JUN 2013

<sup>158</sup>(Ref 343 - Ref 344) Comments and Letter from the EPA on the Options Paper for the Opt-In Mechanism- June 2013\_EPA

<sup>159</sup>(Ref. 341) Response from GGMC on Opt In Mechanism\_030713\_GGMC

<sup>160</sup>(Ref. 407) Email - MoAA comments to Opt In Mechanism Document\_190713\_MoAA

**Action 13. Implementation of Amerindian outreach programme**

<b>Action</b>
Implementation starting by June 2013 of part of the outreach programme under the multi-stakeholder indicator which is tailored and targeted towards needs of Amerindian communities.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
Implementation of the elements of the LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan for 2013 which are targeted towards Amerindian communities has commenced. However, it is acknowledged that implementation has been at a slower pace than originally planned due to the on-going delay in funding for the “Information and Consultations Project” under the GRIF (See Action 5 above for more details on this delay). In addition, the OCC has worked with other agencies to deliver tailored outreach to Amerindians on a number of issues under the LCDS including EU FLEGT and MRV.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Indicator met.

**Introduction**

Participation of indigenous Peoples in the LCDS and beyond remains high on the GoG’s agenda and, as outlined in the Conceptual Process Framework (2009) the right to participation is enshrined in Guyana’s Constitution.

**Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan for 2013

Implementation of the LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan for 2013 has commenced, although at a slower pace than originally planned due to the on-going delay in funding for the “Information and Consultations Project” under the GRIF (See Action 5 above for more details on this delay). The progress being made as of June 2013 is presented below and has been detailed under Action 14<sup>161</sup>.

Coordinated outreach beyond the LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan

In addition to the activities specified in the plan, information on the LCDS and its projects is also disseminated in coordination with other agencies. Three examples of Amerindian community outreach activities by GFC are described below.

*Incorporating LCDS information into GFC’s RPP and MRVS outreach activities*

In the first week of April 2013 the OCC briefed GFC and its consultants on the LCDS update and GRIF projects<sup>162</sup>. The GFC in turn incorporated this information into awareness and outreach activities, which they were conducting on MRVS and the readiness preparation proposal (RPP) with funding from the Guiana Shield Facility (GSF)<sup>163</sup> and the IDB. The outreach activities were conducted from April to June 2013 and covered 90 villages and communities, civil society and NGOs, Amerindian organisations, private sector and Government entities<sup>164</sup>.

*GFC’s Forestry and LCDS outreach activities*

During September to December 2012, GFC conducted nineteen, two day cluster workshops<sup>165</sup>. A total of 124 communities/associations and 50 various other regional stakeholders, so a total of 564 individuals, attended these workshops. The workshops covered the following areas:

- National Forest Policy Statement 2011 (NFPS),
- National Forest Plan 2011 (NFP),
- GFC’s Guidelines including Licensing, Reporting, Permitting, Log Tracking and Tagging,
- Code of Practice for Timber Harvesting and Sustainable Forest Management (SFM),
- REDD+ Strategy and LCDS, and
- Updates on the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility.

<sup>161</sup> (Ref. 376) LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan 2013 - June 2013 Status Update\_0613\_OCC

<sup>162</sup> (Ref. 36) Meeting GFC Planned Outreach Activities - Apr 5 2013\_050413\_Kandila Ramotar

<sup>163</sup> (Ref. 113) Slides for GFC Outreach Team (April 2013)\_0413\_OCC

<sup>164</sup> (Ref. 112) Final Workshop Report\_0213\_Michelle Kalamandeen & Patricia Fredericks

<sup>165</sup> (Ref. 112) Final Workshop Report\_0213\_Michelle Kalamandeen & Patricia Fredericks

Feedback gathered from the workshops reflected that participants welcomed the explanation and discussions on LCDS and REDD+, and recommended such simple explanations be used in the wider community<sup>166</sup>. Participants indicated that they would like more detailed information on the LCDS, the Opt-In Mechanism, and on how participants in the timber industry can participate in / benefit from LCDS and REDD+. They also made a number of specific recommendations, including wider distribution of solar panels and payments to forest concessions/associations for their role in sustainable forest management.

#### *GFC's EU FLEGT indigenous Peoples' focused workshop*

In March 2013, the GFC held a two day workshop dedicated to Guyana's engagements with the European Union Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (EU FLEGT) initiative<sup>167</sup>. The workshop was attended by over 100 individuals from communities. The objectives of the workshop were as follows:

- To present and obtain feedback and input on the Draft Legality definition with special focus on the section addressing indigenous Communities.
- To present and obtain feedback on the ToR for the Communication Strategy in relation to indigenous Communities.
- To present and obtain feedback on the ToR for the Impact Study in relation to indigenous Communities.
- To share information with a wide cross section of indigenous Peoples on the FLEGT program to foster better understanding
- To provide an avenue where the concerns of indigenous Communities could be dealt with in a very transparent and direct manner.

The following recommendations emerged from the workshop:

- Documentation and dissemination of information on EU FLEGT VPA should be tailored accordingly to ensure clarity and further to ensure that effective communication transpires throughout the VPA process. Further, existing mechanisms, such as Community Development Councils within villages, should be employed in the dissemination of information to Amerindian Villages.
- Suitably qualified local representatives should be incorporated in the consultation team tasked with designing the communication strategy and scoping of impacts for the EU FLEGT VPA in Guyana.
- The VPA needs to recognise the customary practices of indigenous people as it relates to the passing on of traditional values and trade to children at an early age. This concept should be reflected in the Legality Definition for the EU FLEGT VPA.
- Further consultations on EU FLEGT VPA should be conducted at the village level. This will result in informed contribution/feedback on EU FLEGT and stakeholders' 'buy-in' to the process. Adequate time for workshops, seminars, etc. must be given; both in terms of prior notice and the amount of time spent in meaningful engagement with stakeholders.

#### Outreach for Natural Resource Sectors

Starting in June 2013, the GGMC is spearheading a series of outreach activities to be conducted in all 10 administrative regions. This will be executed by high-level representatives from key natural resource agencies included under the MNRE, namely: the Environment Protection Agency (EPA), the GFC, the GGMC, the Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission (GL&SC). These sessions will largely focus on how natural resources are used, and where conflicts can arise particularly with regards to land uses. These activities are on-going and scheduled to conclude on July 31<sup>st</sup> 2013<sup>168</sup>. The first session was held on June 27<sup>th</sup> 2013 in Baramita in Region 1<sup>169</sup>.

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<sup>166</sup> (Ref. 112) Final Workshop Report\_0213\_Michelle Kalamandeen & Patricia Fredericks

<sup>167</sup> (Ref.129) NGO workshop Report\_080413\_GFC

<sup>168</sup> (Ref. 235) Proposed Outreach Schedule for Natural Resources Sectors\_Guyana Geology and Mines Commission

<sup>169</sup> (Ref. 388) Natural Resources Ministry supports Baramita residents' objection to issuance of more prospecting licences in titled areas\_280613\_GINA

**Action 14. Development of Hinterland outreach programme**

<b>Action</b>
Strategy and development of tailored information and consultations for hinterland communities addressed in outreach programme.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
A strategy for tailored information and consultations with hinterland communities was documented in the ‘Support for the Implementation of LCDS Outreach and Awareness activities in the Hinterland and Coastal Communities of Guyana’ PCN. The LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan for 2013 includes measures targeted at hinterland communities including an LCDS lecture series, education and awareness sessions in the hinterlands, education and awareness sessions at the NTC and distribution of educational and awareness material on the LCDS.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Indicator met

**Introduction**

The long term success of Guyana’s LCDS is ultimately dependent on broad-based, inclusive domestic support within Guyana. An integral component towards engendering this support is ensuring that information is tailored towards the needs of stakeholders particularly for hinterland communities. In the years following the launch of the LCDS, the OCC has led in the preparation of Annual Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan which has consistently included specific methods and tools for engaging hinterland stakeholders.

**Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

From GoG’s perspective, progress on this Action is significantly linked to under Action 5 which was expected to commence implementation by the end of June 2013. Despite delays in Action 5, GoG has made significant efforts to tailor existing efforts to meet the specific needs of Hinterland Communities including through the LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan for 2013<sup>170</sup>, and outreach activities planned under the Institutional Strengthening Project.

The LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan for 2013 outlines different approaches for outreach activities that target specific stakeholders including those on the coast and those in the hinterlands and specifies methods, materials and tools to be used. The MSSC has been involved in the review of the annual Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan<sup>171</sup>, and its implementation with MSSC members and facilitators participating in outreach and awareness activities. This is elaborated within the presentation in the first Technical Briefing Session,<sup>172</sup> and during statutory meetings 50, 54 and 55<sup>173</sup>. Activities identified for hinterland communities have four main components and the status of the implementation of these components was provided in an Updated Plan in June 2013.

An LCDS lecture series

Discussions are underway with the Ministry of Education around scheduling lecture series within schools.

Education and awareness sessions in the hinterland

Awareness sessions in the hinterland are being done through three principal avenues: (a) sessions conducted by the MSSC facilitators in their constituencies, (b) sessions conducted in collaboration with the GFC, MoAA, and GGMC (MNRE), and (c) outreach activities conducted by the OCC in Regions 1, 7, 8 and 9 under the Institutional Strengthening Project started with two sessions on June 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> 2013 in Mabaruma and Morcuia in Region 1.

*MSSC Facilitators Reports*

During the first Technical Briefing Session of the MSSC, the OCC shared its expectation that MSSC facilitators would continue their outreach work within their constituencies in 2013<sup>174</sup> with a view to engaging them on general discussions on the LCDS and further more specific discussions on issues affecting them. Further, in February 2013 the OCC provided Facilitators with a simplified version<sup>175</sup> of the existing reporting format in an effort to encourage them to more actively provide reports, including feedback, on the outcomes of their awareness activities. Since that time, the OCC has received

<sup>170</sup> (Ref. 376) LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan 2013 - June 2013 Status Update\_0613\_OCC

<sup>171</sup> (Ref. 401) MSSC Feedback on Stakeholder Plan 2013\_160113\_OCC

<sup>172</sup> (Ref. 32) LCDS Updates MSSC Forum (Feb 2013) (Final)\_130213\_OCC

<sup>173</sup> (Ref. 33; 9; 372; 386) MSSC Meeting and Technical Briefing Minutes

<sup>174</sup> (Ref. 32) LCDS Updates MSSC Forum (Feb 2013) (Final)\_130213\_OCC

<sup>175</sup> (Ref. 397) Facilitators Report Format [FINAL]\_13\_OCC

reports for 14 awareness sessions from six MSSC facilitators for sessions conducted in Amerindian communities.<sup>176</sup> In addition, the Chairman of the NTC, who is a MSSC member and facilitator, conducted an awareness session in June 2013 with the NTC and submitted a Report of this session to the OCC. One of the principal recommendations from that session was that the NTC be updated of progress on LCDS projects on a monthly basis<sup>177</sup>.

#### *Agency-led Outreach Activities*

Principally through the work of the OCC-led Outreach Team, the OCC has coordinated with Ministries and Agencies to incorporate considerations to the LCDS in their activities. Further details on their implementation are provided below.

#### *OCC Outreach Activities*

In May 2013 the OCC secured the necessary approval from IDB under the GRIF Institutional Strengthening Project to commence its first phase of outreach activities in four Regions – 1, 7, 8, and 9. Activities started with two sessions on June 22-23 2013 with sessions in Mabaruma and Moruca in Region 1. The Outreach Team for those exercises included high-level representation from the OCC and MoAA, along with MSSC facilitators who presented before the session opened up for discussions with participants.<sup>178</sup> The next session will be held in Port Kaituma on July 27, 2013,<sup>179</sup> which will conclude all outreach activities in Region 1.

#### Education and awareness activities at National Toshias Council (NTC) sessions

OCC will present an update on the LCDS, including on LCDS projects, at the seventh annual Conference of the NTC. As with previous NTC meetings, a session will be dedicated to the LCDS.

#### Distribution of educational and awareness material on the LCDS

There was significant collaboration among GoG agencies, and with MSSC Facilitators to enable distribution of educational materials to indigenous communities across the country. Through collaboration with the OCC and the MoAA, over 300 packages were distributed during period April 2013 – May 2013. Further, informational packages were also distributed on the OCC's behalf by the GFC Outreach Team under the GSF project, and by MSSC Facilitators. The packages were sent directly to Toshias, with a personalised letter from Mr Shyam Nokta updating each Toshias on the progress made in the LCDS process<sup>180</sup>, with the expectation that they would share the information with community members. The OCC aims to distribute these packages whenever updates are available and the process is on-going. The packages usually include leaflets, DVDs, FAQ booklets, newsletters and promotional items but are expanded based on any requests communities may have. For example, GFC's reports from GFC's outreach sessions last year indicated that communities would like copies of the JCN, and as a consequence, the revised JCN (2012) was included in packages sent to communities.

Further plans for tailoring educational materials to suit the needs of indigenous communities would require the development of new materials and it was the GoG's aim for this to be included in the Component 4 of the PCN outlined in Action 5 above. As a consequence of this delay, the GoG is using funds from the Institutional Strengthening Project to produce simplified educational materials such as posters, and a DVD FAQ with responses by high-level GoG personnel to frequently asked questions.

The production of the Video FAQ commenced following a direct request from the NTC Executive<sup>181</sup>, and in January 2013 the OCC commenced work in developing the Script for the DVD FAQ which provided a background to climate change and the LCDS, questions, and proposed GoG representatives from the OCC, PMO and GFC to provide responses<sup>182</sup>. This Script was sent to the Government Information Agency (GINA) in February<sup>183</sup> and the OCC worked collaboratively with GINA to produce a draft of the DVD FAQ. The OCC received the second draft of the DVD FAQ<sup>184</sup> in May 2013 and had some additional comments before the DVD could be finalised. OCC is currently working with GINA to finalise the DVD after they experienced some technical difficulties with the production.

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<sup>176</sup>(Ref. 23 – 30; 346; 348) MSSC Facilitator Reports\_April/May 2013

<sup>177</sup>(Ref. 347) Facilitator Report Derrick John 2013

<sup>178</sup>(Ref. 381 – 382) Programme for Outreach Sessions in Moruca and Mabaruma

<sup>179</sup>(Ref. 383) Programme for Outreach Session in Port Kaituma

<sup>180</sup>(Ref.21) Sample Cover Letter to Toshias containing information packages

<sup>181</sup>(Ref. 389) Notes on the Presentation to the NTC

<sup>182</sup>(Ref. 398) Frequently Asked Questions DVD - OCC – Feb 2013

<sup>183</sup>(Ref. 402) Letter to GINA re DVD FAQ edit – OCC – Feb 2013

<sup>184</sup>(Ref. 395) FAQ DVD second draft – OCC – May 2013



**Action 15. Implementation of Community Development Plans (CDPs)**

<b>Action</b>
Initiating implementation of Community Development Plans through Amerindian Development Fund.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
Phase I of the ADF has begun, seeing (1) the selection of 27 pilot communities, and (2) with 85% (23) of these having signed Micro Capital Grant Agreements by the end of the reporting period. As of July 26 <sup>th</sup> 2013, Tranche 1 funds were disbursed to 19 communities/villages, totalling US\$320,818 <sup>185</sup> .
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Indicator met

**Introduction**

The Amerindian Development Fund (ADF) aims to support the socio-economic development of approximately 180 Amerindian communities and villages. This is to be achieved through the enhancement of their livelihoods by supporting the implementation of their Community Development Plans (CDPs), and associated capacity building through the provision of technical experience and guidance.

The communities/ villages were asked to prepare and present their individual CDPs to the MoAA for consideration. MoAA so far has received 166 CDPs. These plans had been prepared at a community level and went through full consultation with community members to determine what type of projects would best suit and benefit their respective community/village. All CDPs were approved by consensus or majority vote at village meetings.

Projects broadly fell into the following seven sectors: agriculture (including processing), village infrastructure, tourism, manufacturing (crafts etc.), village business enterprise (village shop, guest house, tourism resort, etc.), mining (artisanal) and transportation.

The ADF will take place in two phases: (1) Phase I (August 2012 – May 2013): the Pilot of the project involves the implementation of the CDPs in 27 ‘pilot’ communities/villages, (2) Phase 2 (January 2014 – December 2015): will involve (i) validation and funding of the remaining 153 CDPs, and (ii) capacity building within communities/villages to implement CDPs. Phase I is projected to take longer than the anticipated 9 month period due to the severe flooding in some communities and the need for intensive training and capacity building within others.

Leading up to the reporting period, the UNDP, along with multiple stakeholders, reviewed the project document (UNDP Local Project Appraisal Committee - March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012<sup>186</sup>). GRIF Steering Committee approval of the project was received on June 5<sup>th</sup> 2012<sup>187</sup>.

**Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

The Project Concept Note/Initiation Plan<sup>188</sup> for the ADF project was signed between the GoG and the UNDP on August 9<sup>th</sup> 2012. As part of UNDP’s due diligence for the project, a capacity assessment of MoAA was conducted (September – October 2012) by a UNDP hired consultant. In order to facilitate project implementation and the design of the scalable and transparent disbursement mechanism the UNDP posted advertisements for four essential project staff (October 2012)<sup>189</sup>: (i) Community Development Facilitator/Analyst, (ii) Project Manager, (iii) Project Management Associate, and (iv) Community Economic Development Expert.

**Pilot Village Selection: February 2013**

The UNDP, in collaboration with MoAA, selected the initial 27 communities/ villages<sup>190</sup> through a stratified random sampling technique. Selected communities/ villages represent 15% of the estimated total of 180.

**Project launch and Inception workshop: March 2013**

The 27 selected communities were subsequently notified (March 4<sup>th</sup> 2013) via written communication<sup>191</sup> to the respective Tosaos, inviting village representatives to attend the project launch and inception workshop.

<sup>185</sup>(Ref. 193) Letter to Minister Pauline Sukhai - Disbursement of Grants for CDP Implementation\_200613\_UNDP; (Ref. 198) Disbursement Schedule\_Regions 1,7,8,9\_UNDP

<sup>186</sup>(Ref. 84) List of Attendees-GRIF ADF LPAC\_22 03 2012 (1); (Ref. 85) Minutes of LPAC Meeting- GRIF ADF Project\_22 03 2012\_260312\_UNDP

<sup>187</sup>(Ref. 14) Amerindian Development Fund PCN - Record of Decision\_060612\_GRIF Secretariat

<sup>188</sup>(Ref. 86) Signed ADF Initiation Plan-PCN\_090812\_UNDP

<sup>189</sup>(Ref. 191) ADF update on project recruitment\_121212\_UNDP

<sup>190</sup>(Ref. 192) List of 27 pilot communities\_final\_UNDP; (Refs. 202 – 228) CDPs of all Initial 27 communities/villages

<sup>191</sup>(Ref. 422) Inception Workshop Invite Letter\_040313\_UNDP-MoAA

The Inception workshop<sup>192</sup> (Georgetown - March 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> 2013) was attended by 111 community members, with representatives from all 27 Pilot communities. The objectives were:

1. To engage the representatives of each community as well as consult with the relevant national stakeholders on the community projects,
2. To identify and build on key linkages as well as synergies between community projects and institutions, and
3. To examine each project in detail, as well as to understand the needs and support required to successfully implement each project.

UNDP and MoAA Village Missions: April – June 2013

The MoAA and UNDP conducted missions to all Regions (April 17<sup>th</sup> – July 8<sup>th</sup> 2013) visiting the 27 pilot communities/villages.

Date of Mission (2013)	Region(s)	Communities with signed agreements
April 17 <sup>th</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup>	Region 1 <sup>193</sup>	(1) Barabina <sup>194</sup> , (2) Four Miles <sup>195</sup> , (3) Baramita <sup>196</sup> , (4) Kamwatta <sup>197</sup> , (5) Manawarin <sup>198</sup> , (6) Waikrebi <sup>199</sup> , (7) Three Brothers <sup>200</sup>
May 15 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Region 9 <sup>201</sup>	(1) Annai Central <sup>202</sup> , (2) Bashaizon <sup>203</sup> , (3) Massara <sup>204</sup> , (4) Parikwaranau <sup>205</sup> , (5) Rupertee <sup>206</sup> , (6) YurongParu <sup>207</sup>
May 31 <sup>st</sup> - June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Region 8 <sup>208</sup>	(1) Kurukabaru <sup>209</sup> , (2) Itabac <sup>210</sup>
June 3 <sup>rd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup>	Region 7 <sup>211</sup>	(1) Paruima <sup>212</sup> , (2) Karrau <sup>213</sup>
June 17 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup>	Regions 2,4,10 <sup>214</sup>	(1) Bethany <sup>215</sup> , (2) Sand Hills/Hittia <sup>216</sup>
June 25 <sup>th</sup> - 26 <sup>th</sup>	Regions 5, 6 <sup>217</sup>	(1) Moraikobai <sup>218</sup> , (2) Siparuta <sup>219</sup>
July 4 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	Regions 3, 4 <sup>220</sup>	(1) Santa Mission <sup>221</sup> , (2) St. Cuthbert's Mission <sup>222</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 of 10</b>	<b>23 of 27</b>

<sup>192</sup>(Ref. 17) ADF - Inception Workshop Report\_final\_040413\_Community Development Facilitator (CDF), Project Management Unit of UNDP (PMU)

<sup>193</sup>(Ref. 16) ADF - Field Mission Report\_Region 1\_Final\_030512\_Ronald Cumberbatch et al.

<sup>194</sup>(Ref. 89) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Barabina\_110513\_UNDP

<sup>195</sup>(Ref. 90) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Four Miles\_110513\_UNDP

<sup>196</sup>(Ref. 88) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Baramita\_110513\_UNDP

<sup>197</sup>(Ref. 91) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Kamwatta\_100513\_UNDP

<sup>198</sup>(Ref. 92) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Manawarin\_100513\_UNDP

<sup>199</sup>(Ref. 94) ADF - Micro Finance Grant Agreement - Waikrebi\_100513\_UNDP

<sup>200</sup>(Ref. 93) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Three Brothers\_110513\_UNDP

<sup>201</sup>(Ref. 188) ADF Field Mission Report\_Region 9\_Final\_290513\_Ronald Cumberbatch et al

<sup>202</sup>(Ref. 130) Annai Central Micro Capital Grant Agreement\_030613\_UNDP

<sup>203</sup>(Ref. 132) Bashaizon Micro-Finance Grant Agreement\_200513\_UNDP

<sup>204</sup>(Ref. 131) Massara Micro Capital Grant Agreement\_160513\_UNDP

<sup>205</sup>(Ref. 133) Parikwaranau Grant Agreement\_190513\_UNDP

<sup>206</sup>(Ref. 134) Rupertee Micro Capital Grant Agreement\_030613\_UNDP

<sup>207</sup>(Ref. 135) YurongParu - Micro Capital Grant Agreement\_030613\_UNDP

<sup>208</sup>(Ref. 187) ADF Field Mission Report\_Region 8\_Final\_070613\_Ronald Cumberbatch et al

<sup>209</sup>(Ref. 184) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Kurukabaru\_010613\_UNDP

<sup>210</sup>(Ref. 182) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Itabac\_31052013\_UNDP

<sup>211</sup>(Ref. 186) ADF Field Mission Report\_Region 7\_Final\_110613\_Ronald Cumberbatch et al

<sup>212</sup>(Ref. 185) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Paruima\_030613\_UNDP

<sup>213</sup>(Ref. 183) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Karrau\_050613\_UNDP

<sup>214</sup>(Ref. 399) ADF Field Mission Report\_Region 2, 4 & 10\_Final\_210613\_Ronald Cumberbatch et al

<sup>215</sup>(Ref. 414) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Bethany\_190613\_UNDP

<sup>216</sup>(Ref. 416) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Sand Hills Hittia\_180613\_UNDP

<sup>217</sup>(Ref. 400) ADF Field Mission Report\_Region 5 & 6\_Final\_270613\_Ronald Cumberbatch et al

<sup>218</sup>(Ref. 415) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Moraikobai\_260613\_UNDP

<sup>219</sup>(Ref. 418) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Siparuta\_250613\_UNDP

<sup>220</sup>(Ref. 425) ADF - Field Mission Report\_Region 3\_Final\_100713\_Ronald Cumberbatch et al

<sup>221</sup>(Ref. 417) Micro Capital Grant Agreement - Santa Mission (1)\_040713\_UNDP

<sup>222</sup>(Ref. 419) ADF - Micro Capital Grant Agreement - St. Cuthbert's Mission\_170613\_UNDP

The objectives of the missions were (1) capacity building, (2) providing technical assistance and (3) signing micro capital grant agreements between the communities/villages, MoAA and UNDP for the funding of their CDPs. Specific activities included work on:

- the technical aspects of implementing each CDP, outlining each community's technical assistance and training needs,
- the management and implementation arrangements for each CDP, looking at the experience and arrangements each community had in record keeping and financial management,
- adjusting the budgets to within the allowable allocation (US\$25,000) while taking into consideration the required inputs,
- reviewing the general and specific provisions of each grant agreement,
- examining and assessing the technical feasibility and suitability of each site proposed, and
- examining the business and economic feasibility of each CDP.

Overall 23 of 27 communities (85%) have signed Micro Capital Grant Agreements. Of the remaining communities, four communities need to be visited to receive community consensus on priorities to be funded and assess the feasibility of projects. The remaining four communities do not have signed agreements for reasons such as: change in community priority, an appropriate and accessible area for proposed project not being identified by the community, determination in consultation with the community that the proposed project is not economically feasible and practical within the available budget. Follow-up missions are planned for Region 1 (Hobodeia), Region 8 (Karisparu and Monkey Mountain) and Region 9 (Rupanau) in August 2013. These follow-up missions will seek to conduct further assessments and feasibility studies of CDPs and provide technical guidance on business proposals, implementation and sustainability of CDPs. Technical assistance and monitoring and evaluation will be on-going exercises for all communities/villages.

As of July 26<sup>th</sup> 2013, 21 of 27 communities have bank accounts, where the Tranche 1 of funds has been disbursed to 19 communities/villages, totalling US\$320,818<sup>223</sup>. Of the six remaining communities to receive bank accounts, four are in the process of revisiting their community priorities, and two are working with MoAA and national banks to arrange accounts to meet community and bank requirements.

The UNDP is assisting some communities/villages with the procurement of project related supplies<sup>224</sup>. The level of procurement assistance provided is based on an assessment of each community/village, requests by the community/village, expertise, as well as geographic and other circumstances.

Given the geography and other idiosyncrasies of each village, the disbursement mechanism and the monitoring and reporting frameworks are tailored specifically to each community.

#### Technical support to villages through collaborations

Throughout the process of CDP evaluations and field visits, the UNDP has been working closely with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), who have been providing technical support through e.g. the provision of key experts for field missions. The UNDP has been drafting technical field assistance manuals with assistance from Government agencies (principally, MoA and NARI) and NGOs (e.g. Bee Keepers Association of Guyana).

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<sup>223</sup>(Ref. 193) Letter to Minister Pauline Sukhai - Disbursement of Grants for CDP Implementation\_200613\_UNDP; (Ref. 198) Disbursement Schedule\_Regions 1,7,8,9\_UNDP

<sup>224</sup>(Refs. 194 – 197) Procurement Plans for Regions 1-9\_UNDP

### 3.5. Indicator 5 - Integrated land-use planning and management

#### **Action 16. Strategic approach to Land use planning publically communicated**

<b>Action</b>
Strategic Approach to land use planning publicly communicated by March 2013.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
Strategic Land Use planning is being publically communicated, including through television. However, public communication on Guyana's National Land-Use Plan could not be fully achieved by March 2013. The Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission anticipates full implementation of this Action would be completed in 2013.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Indicator met

#### **Introduction**

Strategic land use planning has been approached at two levels: (1) at a high level through the Draft Strategic Plan for the MNRE, and (2) at a sectoral level within the Draft National Land Use Plan (NLUP) of the GL&SC.

(1) In the Draft Strategic Plan, “holistic and integrated land use planning” is identified as one of MNRE’s strategic objectives and is applicable to the sectoral agencies in MNRE’s purview (i.e. GFC, GGCM, GL&SC, EPA, and PAC). In this way, the Strategic Plan is expected to guide the effective coordination of resource use across agencies and multiple land uses.

(2) Under the Development of Land Use Planning Project (DLUPP), implemented by the GL&SC with support from the EU, a Draft NLUP has been prepared. The primary objective of NLUP is to provide a strategic framework to guide the development process by presenting spatial elements to economic development planning and providing options for planning development activities at the national and regional levels. Stakeholder views expressed during regional consultations towards the preparation of the NLUP have been incorporated and have also influenced the developmental options presented. These consultations which took place on land use planning were carried out with agencies/institutions and community stakeholders. The institutional consultations were undertaken mainly in Georgetown to introduce the aims of the Project (DLUPP). This was followed by a longer consultation to gather information, discuss issues and obtain any available data. The majority of institutional consultations were undertaken between February and September 2011, including a country-wide field trip (September 2011).

Community stakeholder consultations were undertaken in each Region of the country between February and May 2012. The DLUPP liaised closely with the Ministry of Local Government and its Regional Democratic Councils (RDC) through the Regional Executive Officer (REO) to introduce the concept of a NLUP and to outline what the stakeholder consultation would aim to achieve. The aim of the regional stakeholder consultation was to gain an insight as to what the regional land use and planning issues were so that these could then guide the strategic level of the national land use plan. Alongside the GFC, GGCM and GL&SC, stakeholders invited to participate in the regional consultations varied, but included:

- representatives of National Democratic Councils (or Community Development Councils as in Region 10),
- water user associations,
- co-ops,
- land users (e.g. rice, cash crop, livestock farmers, aquaculture operators),
- Toshias and other Amerindian representatives, and
- other relevant municipal representatives.

#### **Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

##### (1) Draft Strategic Plan

In July 2012, the MNRE publicly announced its intention to prepare a five-year Strategic Plan, with support from the UNDP<sup>225</sup>. In March 2013, the MNRE presented the first draft Strategic Plan<sup>226</sup> to a broad based stakeholder group (including, but not limited to, representatives from indigenous NGOs, GoG agencies, the private sector, civil society). The

<sup>225</sup>(Ref. 415) Planning for various sectors... ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY, UNDP SIGN \$33M AGREEMENT\_250713\_Guyana Chronicle; (Ref. 411) Email - MoAA comments to Opt In Mechanism Document\_190713\_MoAA

<sup>226</sup>(Ref. 410) Minister Persaud calls for smart use of natural resources – at consultation on strategic plan’s first draft\_190313\_GINA

Strategic Plan was further published on the MNRE’s website for public comments in written form as well as through the submission of a Stakeholder Feedback Form. The comments received were used by the MNRE to prepare an updated draft Strategic Plan<sup>227</sup> which is publicly available (MNRE’s website).

(2) National Land Use Plan

Under the DLUPP, the GL&SC developed a National Land Use Plan<sup>228</sup> (NLUP) while consulting with stakeholders, such as, Amerindian communities and members of the Public. The NLUP was presented to the MNRE Minister (on March 15<sup>th</sup> 2013<sup>229</sup>). The presentation was witnessed by representatives from relevant GoG agencies including the GL&SC, OCC, EPA, GFC, and the GGMC and NGO’s such as CIG and World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

The NLUP has been publicly communicated on various television channels throughout the country as part of the “El Dorado Shines”<sup>230</sup> television programme<sup>231</sup> and on the GL&SC’s website<sup>232</sup>. Screening of an interview and the preparation of a special feature were done in June and replayed multiple times. The special feature focused on the plan and maps, in particular the map of area use to show the development options of the National Land Use Plan.

Further regional outreach and consultations on the NLUP were conducted by the GL&SC during the period March 2012 to March 2013 and public notices of these meetings were available in the newspapers. A Draft Report of these outreach sessions was sent to MNRE for review (April 2013), to consider and implement its recommendations. A presentation explaining the land-use planning process was uploaded and made available to the public through the MNRE website<sup>233</sup>.

In the NLUP it was noted that the JCN timeline of publicly communicating the NLUP by March 2013 could not be fully achieved. However, public communication of the Plan could be completed in 2013, following its formal approval by the GLSC Board of Directors. A significant step in meeting this timeline is the public review process of NLUP, which will be financially supported by the EU under the DLUPP and is scheduled to conclude in August 2013<sup>234</sup>. During this review, members of the public will be able to access electronic copies of the NLUP from the GL&SC website, as well as in newspaper articles and a brochure summarising the NLUP (incl. maps) would be provided to members of the public while printed copies of the plan would be provided to Agencies for review at the following locations:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GL&amp;SC Offices in Administrative Regions 1- 10, (excl. 8),</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campuses of the UG, and</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All field offices of the GFC and GGMC,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the National Library<sup>235</sup></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Regional Democratic Council (RDC) Offices,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parliament</li> </ul>

<sup>227</sup>(Ref. 406) MoNRE Strategic Plan - Short Version of SF April 30 Final\_300413\_MNRE

<sup>228</sup>(Ref. 360) National Land Use Plan GoG June 2013 with cover pages\_0613\_MNRE

<sup>230</sup> El Dorado Shines is a weekly half hour televised series produced by ONG Production for the MNRE. This program aims to highlight the challenges faced by the extractive sector, solutions to address those challenges, and plans to increase efficiency and productivity.

<sup>231</sup> El Dorado Shines is broadcasted on TVG; TARZIE BARTICA; RCA ESSEQUIBO; NTN 69; HGPTV 67; HBTV 9; MTV 65; NCN 11.

<sup>232</sup> www.lands.gov.gy

<sup>233</sup>(Ref. 70) Guyana National Land Use Plan ppt\_0313\_Guyana Lands and Survey Commission

<sup>234</sup>(Ref. 357) Quotations and Funding of the Printing of the National Land Use\_150712\_Andrea Mahammad

<sup>235</sup>(Ref. 356) Consultation Ad\_13\_GL&SC

**Action 17. Development of map of area use**

<b>Action</b>
Establish a plan, timeline and responsible agency for the development of a map of area use (including, but not limited to: existing and planned concession and reconnaissance areas for forestry and mining, titled lands for Amerindian communities, areas planned and concessioned for industrial agriculture etc.)
<b>Summary of progress</b>
GL&SC, is the responsible agency, to develop a map of area of use and have completed this under the DLUPP during the preparation of Guyana’s National Land Use Plan (NLUP), which includes map of all land-uses, inclusive of planned concessions.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Indicator met

**Introduction**

The GL&SC is the responsible agency to guide the process of preparing a national land use plan and to advise the Government on land use policy, inclusive of a map of area use and is outlined in accordance with the Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission Act (Cap 59:05)<sup>236</sup>.

**Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

GL&SC is the responsible agency to lead in the preparation of a map of area use, and to liaise with other agencies, like the GFC and GGMC, as necessary in the development of this map.

Under the Development of Land Use Planning Project (DLUPP), supported by the EU, the GL&SC has prepared a Draft NLUP. The primary objective of NLUP is to provide a strategic framework to guide the development process by presenting spatial elements (map) to economic development planning and providing options for development planners at the national and regional levels. The NLUP is not a prescriptive document and does not make decisions on land uses but provides a map of area use which includes existing and planned concessions, reconnaissance areas for forestry and mining and titled lands for Amerindian Communities.

The first draft of the NLUP<sup>237</sup> was presented to the MNRE Minister on March 15<sup>th</sup> 2013<sup>238</sup> and includes maps previously produced by GoG and new maps prepared under the DLUPP. NLUP is now publicly available and Map 4-3 of the NLUP is titled “Available Lands” and identifies the following land use types<sup>239</sup>:

- a) Protected Areas,
- b) Petroleum Exploration Leases (Onshore),
- c) Titled Amerindian Lands,
- d) GL&SC Leased Land,
- e) GFC Forestry Leases,
- f) Available Land (excluding Prospecting Leases), and
- g) GGMC Prospecting Leases,
- h) Available Land (including Prospecting Leases).
- i) GGMC Mining Leases,

Further the NLUP shows maps of area uses called ‘project areas’, inclusive of planned concessions, according to cadastral surveys and these are publicly available on the GL&SC’s website. Project areas mapped include: prospective leases for mostly agriculture and residential use.

GL&SC collected data from GFC and GGMC to map areas used. In particular, the GFC has the responsibility to update the forest concession layer, as well as the reconnaissance layer for forestry. The NLUP, inclusive of map of area use have been revised based on targeted stakeholder feedback as described under Action 16 and have been publicly available on the GL&SC’s website<sup>240</sup>.

The NLUP is expected to be finalised following a period of public review after which it will be presented to the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment for approval. The GL&SC is expected to conduct revision and updates to the plan

<sup>236</sup>Functions of the GL&SC include: “establish and maintain liaison between all agencies involved in the registration and storage of records relating to public land in any tenure including the registration of deeds and title to land” (Section 4, Subsection 1, Paragraph M), and to formulate policy on geographic and land information and set standards in relation to digital data, establish the framework for a national network of geographic information systems and develop and maintain a parcel-based land information systems” (Section 4, Subsection 1, Paragraph N).

<sup>237</sup>(Ref. 360) National Land Use Plan GoG June 2013 with cover pages\_0613\_MNRE

<sup>238</sup>(Ref. 409) MoNRE Strategic Plan - Short Version of SF April 30 Final\_300413\_MNRE

<sup>239</sup>(Ref. 360) National Land Use Plan GoG June 2013 with cover pages\_0613\_MNRE

<sup>240</sup><http://www.lands.gov.gy/National%20Land%20Use%20Plan%20GoG%20June%202013%20with%20cover%20pages.pdf>

every two years, inclusive of updates to the map of area use. These updates will capture additional information on planned concessions and reconnaissance areas as more information becomes available.

**Action 18. Determining a roadmap to codify formal status of varying degrees of practice for IFLs and PABs**

<b>Action</b>
Based on the evolving area use map, determine roadmap by June 2013 to codify the formal status of varying degrees of protection for the areas identified as Intact Forest Landscapes (IFL) and priority areas for biodiversity (PAB). This will gradually replace the Intact Forest Landscapes interim performance indicator.
<b>Summary of progress</b>
Agencies have collaborated to develop a process for the determination of a roadmap for the codification of formal protection status for Intact Forest Landscapes and Priority Areas for Biodiversity. The area map is in the process of being updated with data being made available from various Government agencies and ministries.
<b>Self-Assessment:</b> Progress made

**Introduction**

Intact Forest Landscapes (IFL) is a key interim REDD+ performance indicator stipulated in the 2012 JCN to assess degradation. This indicator is tied to the wider system of integrated land-use planning and management which aim to have a formal holistic area planning and management system, as well as publicly available map of area use in place by September 2015. The IFL base Layer (map layer) was required to be established at the start of the MRVS work in 2010. This layer serves as a benchmark of forested land, from which to monitor future deforestation rates. The IFL Base Layer was set at 7.6 million hectares in 2010. Importantly, the IFL layer could only include data that were digitally available at the time and that met the criteria for IFL, and hence it was known this figure would need revising as more data became available. The GFC has continued to update the IFL layer based on the availability of additional land use data.

**Working Definition of Intact Forest Landscapes (IFL)**

*IFL is considered as an area (min. 500km<sup>2</sup> and 10 km width) that contains forest and non-forest ecosystems, which is minimally influenced by human economic activity. It excludes areas (with a margin of error less than 1km) containing:*

- settlements
- agriculture,
- timber production areas, and
- transport infrastructure (for inhabitants or industry).

*The data sets used in Guyana to determine exclusion areas are agricultural leases, settlements, rivers, large and medium scale mining concessions, mining dredge point locations, non-forest areas at 1990, infrastructure, Timber Sales Agreements (TSAs), Wood Cutting Leases (WCLs) and State Forest Permits (SFP). Any change in the IFL area is counted as deforestation with full loss of carbon.*

During the Year 1 reporting, the initial area for IFL was reported at 7.6 million ha. With the addition of a few outstanding datasets, the IFL benchmark was subsequently revised to 5.593 million ha, a difference of 2 million ha, with the deforestation reported in the area being 63.6 ha. The activity which makes up the 63.6 ha found within the initial IFL area is unpaved trails of under 15m in width and prospecting areas. It is proposed that by 2015 maps of area uses will be publicly available and priority areas codified for protection and these are expected to move us away from using IFL as an interim performance indicator.

The basis for codifying formal status of varying degrees of protection for the areas identified as Intact Forest Landscape and priority areas for biodiversity are (a) an EPA position paper<sup>241</sup> (January 2012), and (b) the preliminary results of a model developed by the Protected Areas Commission (PAC) to identify important biodiversity areas, which uses the MARXAN Methodology.

**Summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013)**

This activity involved a two-pronged approach of (1) codifying formal status of varying degrees of protection for the areas identified as IFL and priority areas for biodiversity, and (2) updating the IFL layer and area map through acquiring data.

<sup>241</sup>(Ref. 394) Criteria for Identifying Priority Biodiversity Areas in Guyana's Forests \_Jan 2012\_0112\_EPA

(1) Codification of formal protection status:

A Briefing Note proposing various approaches to be considered in moving this action forward was presented to the Minister of MNRE for policy guidance at the end of May 2013. OCC, PAC and the GFC further discussed the requirements to codify areas identified as IFL and PAB and the preparation of a roadmap.

Following this, PAC and EPA prepared an outline of a process<sup>242</sup> to develop a roadmap to codify priority areas for biodiversity (June 10<sup>th</sup> 2013), building on the EPA position paper and the preliminary results of the PAC MARXAN model. Consultations with various stakeholders and at varying intensities will be required at different stages of the proposed process, which is as follows:

1. Finalize definition of IFL and Priority Areas for Biodiversity (PAB).
2. Gather available data sets pertaining to IFL and PAB.
3. Identify robust methodologies to use available data to generate a spatial overview (map) of IFL and PAB areas.
4. Develop a proposal with practical options for management/protection categories in each area.
5. Identify and use various policy/legislative tools to formally designate areas of management responsibility to relevant Agencies /Ministries.
6. Develop and implement management plans/regimes linking actions to the national MRVS.

(2) Updating the IFL and area map

GFC continued to receive updated data from the agencies during this reporting period. The OCC, GFC, GL&SC, GGMC, PAC and EPA discussed the provision of the additional data<sup>243</sup> (April 26<sup>th</sup> 2013). It was agreed that the agencies will make the relevant datasets available to the GFC in the agreed file format (by May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013, and additional data by June 26<sup>th</sup> 2013). Below is a table which gives an update on the progress on data collection, with the GFC verifying the accuracy and consistency of the additional data. Once all data are collected, the IFL layer will be revised to exclude human induced activities.

Agency	Update on data (as of July 25 <sup>th</sup> 2013)
GL&SC	<b>Received:</b> Data for areas leased for agricultural purposes (as a block area not including an outline of the individual lease areas) outside of the State Forest Estate.
GGMC	<b>Received:</b> Data for reconnaissance areas. <b>Outstanding:</b> Data for 15,000 small claims (not yet available in digital format).

<sup>242</sup>(Ref. 393) Process for developing roadmap to codify priority areas for biodiversity\_100613\_EPA

<sup>243</sup>(Ref. 66) Discussion on Intact Forest Landscapes\_April 26 2013\_260413\_OCC



## **4. Actions beyond the reporting period towards JCN indicators and suggested actions**

### **4.1. Indicator 1 - Strategic Framework**

The strategic framework indicator aims to develop, in a consistent manner, all aspects of Guyana's plans to implement REDD-plus, through an internationally recognized framework and to continue evolve over time. This involves Guyana developing its REDD+ programme under the FCPF, and integrating activities with the LCDS. It notes that contributions to Guyana's LCDS from Norway and other contributions, including FCPF, will be administered in a transparent manner. The strategic framework indicator also involves information concerning all expenditures, both planned and implemented, to be publicly available on the relevant website of the GoG, and through national systems of public disclosure, including to the National Assembly. In addition, under the strategic framework indicator, progress is expected under improved financial intermediation which is also commonly known as GRIF reform. It is the intention that Guyana's experiences can be used to inform the development a new UNFCCC agreement on REDD+.

With regard to the FCPF, the JCN targets the completion of the R-Package, and its review by the FCPF's Participants committee by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2014. Work has already commenced on the preparation of some elements of Guyana's "R-Package" outside of the support from FCPF.

The GRIF website contains publically available information related to expenditure under the REDD-plus programme in the form of quarterly reports from the Trustee (the World Bank)<sup>244</sup>. In addition, information on expenditures are presented at the time of budget preparation and presented in the National Assembly by the Minister of Finance related to current projects under the LCDS.

The extensive communication between the GoN, GoG, IDB and the World Bank on potential GRIF Reform has set the stage for the IDB to potentially provide a fee for services mechanism under a Financial and Safeguards Intermediary (FSI) role. The IDB's Advisory and Knowledge Services (AKS) mechanism recently approved by the IDB Board is envisioned as the most suitable model to be utilised as a fee for service policy through the IDB. The GoN and GoG have to assess the applicability of this mechanism to the partnership requirements and potentially conduct a pilot project. However, the main focus of the IDB at the moment is on the Amaila transfer process. This process along with its framework and instruments will assist in the design of the GRIF reform mechanisms.

### **Strategic Framework Proposed Action Plan**

#### **Short term**

1. FCPF Technical Cooperation Agreement finalised and ready for tabling to IDB Board.
2. Operationalisation of FSI:
  - Review the IDB's Advisory and Knowledge Services (AKS) model as a fee for services mechanism, and determine whether it is suitable for use under the FSI.
  - Consider developing an MoU to outline the FSI pilot and operationalize this through the expected fee for services policy.
  - Attain IDB approval for FSI pilot.

#### **Medium Term**

1. Signing of Technical Cooperation Agreement between GoG and IDB for to commence work under FCPF.
2. Prepare and submit the R-Package to FCPF PC in fall meeting of 2014.
3. Conduct an in-depth independent assessment on the functioning of the GRIF
4. Operationalisation of FSI:
  - Identification and development of a project under the FSI pilot
5. Explore the potential of an IDB trust fund to channel GRIF resources

#### **Long Term**

1. Commence the execution of readiness activities outlined in the R-PP with funds from the FCPF.
2. Operationalisation of the FSI.
3. Review of the FSI performance.
4. In order to transition the interim financial mechanisms into national systems GoG proposes to conduct a study on applicable mechanisms to achieve this. The steps towards this are:

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<sup>244</sup>GRIF Trustee Reports

- Develop ToR for Study
- Hire consultant to conduct a study,
- Develop the proposal, and
- Review proposal with GoN and GoG stakeholders.
- Determine next steps based on response of both Governments

#### *4.2. Indicator 2 - Continuous multi-stakeholder consultation process*

The indicator on continuous multi-stakeholder consultation process aims towards the development of an institutionalised, systematic, transparent process of multi-stakeholder consultation that enables the participation of all potentially affected and interested stakeholders at all stages of the REDD+/LCDS process. Particular attention is being given to the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities. Since the first JCN between the GoG and the GoN, in 2009, there has been significant progress on the consultation process for the LCDS. The outcomes of these sessions have informed the revisions to the LCDS, specifically, the December 2009 and March 2010 versions of the Strategy.

Stakeholder outreach and consultation activities on the LCDS, over the last four years, have matured from a consultative process to help stakeholders gain a more in-depth understanding of issues surrounding the LCDS to more detailed technical two-way discussions on the various projects and programmes. The need to keep raising the baseline understanding (particularly of those who are difficult to reach) should not be underestimated going forward. However, there needs to be a recognition that as projects and programmes move into implementation (e.g. ADF, Opt-In, FLEGT, LCDS sector strategies), more knowledge and lessons learned will be created and require sharing amongst the population. This will require consideration of appropriate knowledge management systems within and between practices to ensure that successes and failures are documented, learnt from and disseminated.

The Communications and Outreach Team will guide the process of enhancing information, outreach and consultations routines and flows regarding different parts of LCDS, including but not limited to LCDS, IFM, EITI, FLEGT, FCPF, the Opt-In Mechanism and GRIF projects. Routines and flows will take into consideration the needs and limited connection of Amerindian communities (e.g. by disseminating information through more traditional means). Further plans on moving the Opt-In Mechanism forward are outlined in Indicator 3.

During the reporting period steps have been taken to strengthen the capacity of the MSSC and NTC as knowledge sharing agents. MSSC members representing Amerindian and indigenous peoples, including those from the NTC, have appointed representatives of their organisations to act as facilitators for the MSSC. This involves the standardised reporting from facilitators on the outreach and consultation awareness activities which they have been undertaking in their communities, and sharing with the MSSC recommendations resulting from those interactions with the MSSC.

In order to manage the suite of stakeholder engagement and awareness activities at a strategic level, from 2013 the OCC has prepared and implemented an annual Stakeholder Awareness and Education Plan. This year's plan includes work on outreach activities currently being funded under the Institutional Strengthening Project. From 2014, it is expected that implementation of the plan will be linked to the PCN for Information and Consultations, which is being developed by GoG and CIG (as outlined under Action 5).

#### **Continuous Multistakeholder Consultation Process Proposed Action Plan**

##### **Short term**

1. Continue execution of outreach activities under the institutional strengthening project.
2. Finalise discussions with Conservation International on delivery of the, 'Support for the Implementation of LCDS Outreach and Awareness activities in the Hinterland and Coastal Communities of Guyana' project to allow it to commence in August 2013.
3. Finalise and release FAQ DVD.
4. Fully operationalize the Communications and Outreach Team, subject to resources being made available from the GRIF.
5. Continue execution of outreach activities under the Institutional Strengthening Project.
6. Development of materials for stakeholder engagement exercises in these areas – REDD+, EU FLEGT, IFM & FCPF.

#### **Medium Term**

1. Continue to build the capacity of the NTC in areas of climate change, LCDS, REDD and EU FLEGT.
2. Prepare an Annual Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan for 2014, taking into account feedback from this reporting period and the MSSC.
3. Explore ways of using NGOs more effectively as agents of communication.
4. Develop and implement a plan for stakeholder engagement on information flow on MRVS and related technical areas on REDD+ including FLEGT, IFM and FCPF across various sectors and stakeholder groups.

#### **Long Term**

1. An increased focus on knowledge management to document and share lessons learnt both nationally and internationally.
2. Continue stakeholder engagement on MRVS and related technical areas on REDD+ including FLEGT, IFM and FCPF utilising materials developed in areas identified as well as new and emerging areas related to REDD+.

### **4.3. Indicator 3 - Governance**

The governance indicator aims to progressively strengthen the accountability and enforcement system to ensure transparent, rules-based, inclusive forest governance under the Norway-Guyana relationships Governance reform however is by its nature a process that must be undertaken methodically and strategically, and cannot always progress as rapidly as may be hoped for due to the many interconnected changes that are required.

Over the reporting period, efforts were focused on continuously updating the REDD+ Governance Development Plan (RGDP), specifically sections 1-14 as well as moving Guyana into independent, international systems that will support Guyana's efforts on good governance such as EITI and EU FLEGT and continued Independent Forest Management. As it relates to implementation of the RGDP, in particular, the review of the 1997 National Forest Policy Statement and Forest Plan were completed in 2011 and subsequently made available on the GFC's website. In addition, implementation of activities, Sections 2-4 of the RGDP – review of the national forest plan; revised national forest policy statement and revise national forest plan, respectively, have commenced.

Progress on EU FLEGT has been strong. The aim of the JCN is to agree to a VPA under the EU FLEGT Action Plan, by March 2015 and ratification by Guyana by September 2015. The progress to date means that Guyana is on track to achieve these aims (as described in Guyana's EU FLEGT Roadmap). Whilst there has been progress on EITI, a considered methodical approach is being taken to the candidacy process. It is important that all stakeholders enter the process with full vision of the costs and benefits of implementation. The feasibility/scoping study which is to be tendered for shortly will provide a basis for this and will allow for a fully costed workplan to be developed. This workplan is the final requirement that Guyana needs to meet in order to apply for candidature. With regard to the timelines following candidature application, once the EITI Board admits an EITI Candidate, it also establishes deadlines for publishing the first EITI Report and undertaking Validation. Guyana's first EITI Report would need to be published within 18 months from the date that it was admitted as an EITI Candidate. Guyana would then be required to commence Validation within two and a half years of becoming an EITI Candidate. This means that within the period of the partnership (until 2015) preparation of the first EITI report could be well underway.

Independent Forest Monitoring (IFM) is being implemented in order to transparently monitor progress forest conservation. The first IFM field audit was conducted in 2012 and the first review by the GFC commenced subsequently and was completed by May 2013. The final audit report is expected to be prepared in 2013 in keeping with the agreed schedule and will be published on the GFC website. Plans for the second IFM assessment are expected to be finalised in 2013.

Efforts to improve coordinated governance of land-use, and in particular mining activities have progressed under a number of committees that are implementing the recommendations of the Special Land Use Committee (SLUC). In addition the MNRE, through its draft strategic plan, is analysing the options of, and planning for more coordinated approaches to land-use planning and management. Implementation of initiatives has begun (such as those related to land reclamation and enforcement), however a coordinated programme for mining sector governance improvements that is tied to LCDS objectives has yet to emerge. Going forward, greater inter-agency coordination will be required – something that MNRE is designed to achieve. In addition, the impact of mining sector activities need to be better understood in relation to the objectives of the LCDS. With this understanding, a vision of sustainable extractives sector development can be created and programmes designed to facilitate its achievement.

Guyana is committed to its reporting requirement to the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) and has commenced the process earlier in 2013 to prepare the 5<sup>th</sup> national report to the CBD.

### **Governance Proposed Action Plan**

#### **Short term**

##### *RGDP*

1. Develop new revenue structure with draft implementation structure under the REDD+ Governance Development Plan.
2. Include stakeholder feedback in Code of Practice for Processing.
3. Finalise Code of Practice for NTFPs based on comments received from stakeholder consultations.
4. Revise and update current Code of Practice for Harvesting Operations to integrate lessons learnt from implementation of Second edition of COP and to update key areas.
5. Conduct training and capacity building in at least 20 forest based communities in area of sustainable forest management.
6. Continuous capacity building in key technical areas of REDD+, MRVS (forest carbon stock assessment and forest area change assessment) as well as newer areas of REDD+, such as EU FLEGT in order to strengthen forest law enforcement and institutional capacity of GFC and the REDD Secretariat.
7. Identify key areas to ensure that SFM is practiced in the SFE.
8. Consolidate information available on stocking of small concessions.

##### *EU FLEGT*

1. Continue to work on draft definition of legality for the VPA.

##### *EITI*

1. Finalise ToR for the scoping/feasibility study.
2. Procure consultant to conduct a scoping study.
3. Regularly convene MSG.
4. Develop plan for stakeholder engagement/ awareness raising beyond MSG.
5. Develop fully costed work plan on back of scoping study.

##### *IFM*

1. Complete Year 1 Audit Report for IFM.

##### *SLUC/ Extractives*

1. Recruit data management officer and build capacity in GEONODE to establish the data sharing platform.
2. Conduct national consultation on GIS Policy and share comments received from the inception meeting to obtain greater feedback on the draft Policy by Sept 2013.
3. Formalise permanent members for the Forestry Mining and Land Management Committee and prepare ToR.
4. Finalise the curriculum for the Mining School.

##### *CBD*

1. Prepare and submit 5<sup>th</sup> National Report to the CBD.
2. Complete NBSAP and submit to CBD.

#### **Medium Term**

##### *RGDP*

1. Seek further stakeholder input to analyse the revenue structure under the RGDP.
2. Develop Capacity Building Plan and checklist to accompany Code of Practice for Processing Operations.
3. Identify Areas under Code of Practice for NTFPs for immediate implementation and integrated within GFC's forest management system.
4. Conduct stakeholder engagement on third edition of COP for Harvesting Operations, outlining key requirements of the code.
5. Undertake continuous engagement with at least 30 forest based communities in areas of forest management and decision making.

6. Further develop Guyana's REDD+ and forest law enforcement systems to implement a Monitoring Framework and make progress towards EU FLEGT.
7. 30 GFC forest stations fully operational and monitoring of forest operations in keeping with COP requirements and implement a programme of continuous training of GFC's staff in areas of SFM practices.
8. Update database on stocking of small concessions and evaluate assessments of stocking.

*EU FLEGT*

1. Conduct pilot testing and stakeholder consultations on draft definition of legality for the VPA.
2. Synergies established between independent forest monitoring under current IFM framework and independent monitoring which will take place under EU FLEGT.

*EITI*

1. Apply for EITI candidacy.
2. Determine EITI implementation plan based on draft costed workplan.

*IFM*

1. Finalise Year 2 Audit and Audit Report for IFM.

*SLUC/ Extractives*

1. Cabinet review and approval of the updated GIS Policy.
2. Continue to implement the recommendations as outlined by SLUC and periodically provide updates on progress
3. Continue training and capacity building for new entrants and existing small and medium scale operators by May 2014.

**Long Term**

*RGDP*

1. Integrate revenue structure within forest regulations.
2. Commence implementation of the code of Practice for Processing Operations in a pilot process using a phased approach.
3. Implement codes for NTFPs and Harvesting Operations in a phased manner and monitor implementation and update periodically.
4. Undertake continuous engagement with forest based communities to build capacity and foster community based forestry initiatives.
5. Fully operationalize the national MRVS for Guyana and finalise EU FLEGT VPA towards strengthened forest law enforcement.
6. Continue to implement programme of monitoring at the level of the forest station and training with GFC staff.
7. Analyse modalities of integrating results within the allocation of small concessions for future renewal.

*EU FLEGT*

1. Finalising of VPA inclusive of definition of legality.

*EITI*

1. Seek funding and technical support for EITI implementation.

*IFM*

1. Establish synergies between independent forest monitoring under current IFM framework and independent monitoring which will take place under EU FLEGT.

*SLUC/ Extractives*

1. Develop a national action plan to strengthen environmental responsibility and address degradation and update the code of practices on mining by June 2014.

#### **4.4. Indicator 4 - The rights of indigenous people and other forest communities as regards REDD+**

The indicator on the rights of indigenous people and other forest communities as regards REDD+ has its basis in the Constitution of Guyana. The Constitution guarantees the rights of indigenous peoples and other Guyanese to participation, engagement, decision making in all matters affecting their well-being. These rights are being respected and protected throughout Guyana's REDD+ and LCDS efforts and will continue to be prioritised in activities including (i) titling and demarcation of Amerindian lands, (ii) piloting the Opt-In Mechanism, (iii) full implementation of community CDPs, and (iv) inclusion in communication and outreach activities as detailed in the follow-up actions listed below. The GoG continues to use its own limited resources outside of the GRIF to advance titling requests by Amerindian communities/villages. When the ALT project is approved the injection of funds from the GRIF is expected to accelerate the titling process. The ALT project was designed as a three year project and therefore will extend beyond 2015.

The Opt-In Mechanism has taken time to progress through broad and in-depth rounds of stakeholder consultation. As described in Action 12 in Section 3, plans are in place to develop the draft options paper into the Opt-In Mechanism Strategy and based on guidance from the NTC to begin piloting with support by GRIF funds. Important lessons from the initiation phase are being documented and will help to inform the development of the full project document for the remaining communities. The full project document will be developed concurrently with the execution of the initiation phase to avoid any undue delays in funding the remaining communities/villages.

The details of plans going forward for communication and outreach activities (including those elements targeted at indigenous peoples are described under indicator 2 (multi-stakeholder consultation process) above.

#### **The rights of indigenous people and other forest communities as regards REDD+ Proposed Action Plan**

##### **Short Term**

###### *Opt-In Mechanism*

1. Finalise the Opt-In strategy document within GoG's Technical Working Group.
2. Share with strategy document with the MSSC for review and comments.
3. Share with the NTC for review and comments.
4. Revise and finalise Strategy.

###### *Communications and Outreach*

1. Complete the PCN for Information and Consultations under Action 5 and start implementation of project.

###### *Amerindian Land Titling*

1. GRIF Secretariat to forward project documentation to GRIF Steering Committee for approval.
2. Project initialisation/set up.

###### *Amerindian Development Fund*

1. Document and review lessons learned from Initiation Phase.
2. Develop full project document for Phase II.

##### **Medium Term**

###### *Opt-In Mechanism*

1. MSSC and NTC select a pilot community to test the Opt-In Mechanism Amerindian Land Titling.

###### *Amerindian Land Titling*

1. Commencement of titling and demarcation activities under ALT project.

###### *Amerindian Development Fund*

1. Commencement of funding and implementation of remaining 153 CDPs under Phase II of the ADF.

##### **Long Term**

###### *Opt-In Mechanism*

1. Full implementation of the Opt-In Mechanism.

*Amerindian Land Titling*

1. Continuation of titling and demarcation for communities/villages.

*Amerindian Development Fund*

1. Continuation of CDP funding and implementation.

**4.5. Indicator 5 - Integrated land-use planning and management**

The indicator on integrated land-use planning and management aims to formalise a system for area planning and management by 2015. Several aspects of REDD+ relates to the development of a system for environmentally sustainable and planning and management and whilst there have been efforts to address these areas, in the short term, it has been recognised as necessary to have a system in the longer term for holistic planning.

At the level of the GL&SC a National Land Use Plan has been prepared which includes map of area use. This provides the basis towards achieving this indicator, although policy guidance is required in relation to the planned areas and priority developments.

**Integrated land-use planning and management Proposed Action Plan**

**Short term**

*Formal system in place for holistic area planning and management*

*Map of area use*

1. Update GIS layer to include forest concession information, and available information on mining concessions, agriculture leases and protected areas.

*Integrated Land Use Planning*

1. Continue public awareness on the NLUP.
2. Present final document to the Minister of MNRE for the Government's consideration and approval.

*Intact Forest Landscape*

1. Revise the IFL layer based on the available data.

**Medium Term**

*Formal system in place for holistic area planning and management.*

*Map of area use*

1. *Continuously update GIS layer of allocated forest concessions, and also including additional information on mining, agriculture and protected areas.*

*Intact Forest Landscape*

1. Finalise definition of priority areas for biodiversity
2. Prepare a roadmap to codify formal status of protection for areas identified as IFL and priority areas for biodiversity

**Long Term**

1. Formal system in place for holistic area planning and management

*Map of area use*

1. Continuously update GIS layer of allocated forest concessions, and also including additional information on mining, agriculture and protected areas.

## 5. Financial mechanism

### Background

The GRIF is a multi-contributor trust fund for the financing of activities identified under the GoG's LCDS. Pending the creation of an international REDD+ mechanism, the GRIF represents an effort to create an innovative climate finance mechanism which balances national sovereignty over investment priorities while ensuring that REDD+ funds adhere to the highest internationally recognized standards for financial, environmental and social safeguards. The GRIF was established in October 2010, with the World Bank as Trustee, following an agreement signed between Guyana and Norway in November 2009, in which Norway agreed to provide Guyana up to US\$250 million by 2015 in performance-based payments for avoided deforestation in support of Guyana's LCDS.

The Governments of Guyana and Norway, in the 2011 revision of the JCN, agreed to “work with the Trustee [the World Bank] and Partner Entities (PEs) of the GRIF to identify how the GRIF mechanism can function in a way that is fit for the purpose of channelling results-based international support to the implementation of Guyana’s low carbon development strategy in an effective, efficient and equitable manner.”

Specifically, GRIF reform is intended to:

- streamline the funding of projects,
- reduce administrative burdens,
- employ a fee-for-service mechanism that may expedite project development, especially for small and medium sized projects that are below a certain safeguard level, and
- generally provide a mechanism that better fits the purpose of payment for climate services vs. the existing mechanism

In April of 2012, both Governments, along with the Trustee, began to examine the possibility of modifying the current GRIF structure to allow PEs to leverage all financial instruments currently at their disposal (with some exceptions based on specific Norwegian rules, regulations and policies for grants). In addition, with the help of the IDB, the group began exploring a potential fee-for-service mechanism (Financial and Safeguard Intermediary (FSI)). A fee-for-service mechanism would offer the ability to select the most appropriate products from the development institution (here the IDB) to govern the project. It is expected to be more efficient than the current mechanism. It can only be utilized for low safeguard projects.

In September 2012, the GoN sent a communication<sup>245</sup> to the Trustee proposing:

1. To “allow for the PE to leverage all financing instruments at their disposal.”
2. “Changes [that] would ensure that the GoG can utilize GRIF funds as equity in the Amaila Falls hydropower project that is to be financed as part of an IDB sponsored project.”
3. “The World Bank to consider the appropriate changes in the Administration Agreement to include a more flexible timing schedule for contributions and the feasibility of including the GoG as a signatory to the Administration Agreement.”
4. Seek permission to allow “the IDB to pilot the FSI instrument outside of the current GRIF structure, as a supplementary financial vehicle for the partnership.”

In October 2012, the Governments of Norway and Guyana wrote the IDB to “request the IDB to consider piloting a new Fiduciary Safeguard Intermediary (FSI) role to channel results-based funding as part of the Guyana Norway REDD+ Partnership<sup>246</sup>.” On March 6th 2013 Guyana and Norway emailed the IDB proposing an agenda for meetings on FSI, GRIF reform and a potential Amaila equity transfer<sup>247</sup>. In addition, Norway met with the World Bank in early March 2013 to discuss and provide an update on GRIF reform.

In a meeting in Washington DC in early March 2013, the IDB informed Norway and Guyana that it had developed a generic fee-for-service mechanism to provide fee-for-service functionality. The IDB shared the proposal for this mechanism--Fee-Based Advisory and Knowledge Services (AKS).IDB notified Guyana and Norway on May 9<sup>th</sup> that the AKS

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<sup>245</sup>(Ref. 234) GRIF Reform - Letter - Request to the WB\_190912\_Pharo Per Fredrik Ilsaas

<sup>246</sup>(Ref. 233) GRIF Reform - Email - Request for IDB to consider new IDB role as Fiduciary and Safeguard Intermediary\_231013\_Pharo Per Fredrik Ilsaas

<sup>247</sup>(Ref. 231) GRIF Reform - Email - Guyana-Norway Partnership IDB collaboration\_060313\_Kapil Mohabir



mechanism had been approved by the IDB Board<sup>248</sup>. Guyana is prepared to pursue a pilot project under the AKS mechanism.

***Potential IDB role in larger GRIF reform***

The IDB stated that if the organization were to play a role in administering GRIF funds outside of the fee-for-service mechanism, it would likely be in the form of an IDB Trust Fund. As a result, there would be the corresponding requirements, including, for example only IDB projects could be funded through the account. The Governments of Norway and Guyana may explore this possibility. Next steps will likely include a formal request from Norway and Guyana to understand the rules that would apply to a potential GRIF Trust Fund Account at the IDB.

The teams across organizations--the IDB, Norway and Guyana--that would work on the implementation of GRIF reform are currently focused on the GRIF Amaila transfer. The Amaila transfer process may also inform the GRIF reform process. As a result, once the Amaila transfer process is finalized or near final, it is expected that the work towards larger GRIF reform will continue.

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<sup>248</sup>(Ref. 232) GRIF Reform - Email - IDB's Fee for Service policy & FSI initiative\_090513\_Vellutini Roberto

## **6. Stakeholder comments on progress during reporting period**

As part of this self-assessment, stakeholders were interviewed to supplement the documented evidence of progress. The stakeholders approached for comment were the members of the MSSC, PEs and additional selected entities. Comments were gathered through an interview process and follow up emails whereby interviewees were asked to provide their general perspective on the Guyana-Norway relationship and areas of progress, and specifically comment on the performance under the 18 Actions over the reporting period. The responses have been grouped into broad thematic areas and are presented below. Recommendations given by stakeholders have been considered in the development of action plans in section 4 above and were also fundamental in gathering a full picture of progress made which has been reported in Section 3 of this report.

The period of online public comment will allow a broader range of stakeholders to input in advance of the third party audit. It should be noted, that these comment gathering activities are not included in the planned awareness, outreach and consultation activities which involved in the implementation of the LCDS and GRIF projects.

### **6.1. Indicator 1 - Strategic Framework**

The cornerstones of Guyana's strategic framework to low carbon development and REDD+ are the LCDS and Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF).

Stakeholders were generally positive about the LCDS Update released this year. They were supportive of the initiatives being taken forward and noted that these initiatives were included in the LCDS based on stakeholder consultations in other initiatives like the National Competitiveness Strategy (NCS). Finally, it was noted that consultations with villages would be difficult because there has been limited progress on the existing GRIF projects.

Stakeholders were positive about engaging in the FCPF process, though they have found that progress has been slow. One stakeholder noted the importance of inter-agency coordination on FCPF issues and highlighted the significant role the GFC plays in this regard. Given the time and effort that has been invested in the FCPF process, there were calls from stakeholders for money to hit the ground. It is hoped that with the imminent completion of the Technical Cooperation Document, money can start to flow to complement activities that GFC have already commenced independently of FCPF funding. Stakeholders shared their interest in better understanding and seeing how REDD+ benefits are being felt in the forestry and mining sectors.

### **6.2. Indicator 2 - Continuous multi-stakeholder consultation process**

Stakeholders were broadly supportive of the Government's efforts and achievements (despite funding delays and the inherent difficulties of spreading a complex message across a diverse and disparate population). Stakeholders also raised recommendations for improvements, which can be taken on board in future planning cycles.

#### **MSSC**

Stakeholders were pleased with the regularity of meetings and valued them as a platform for sharing information on the LCDS and GRIF to a broad range of stakeholders. In particular, stakeholders thought technical briefing sessions, which supplement statutory meetings, provide a useful forum for more detailed presentations and discussions. The MSSC meetings were described as a productive, professional and, free from political interference.

#### *The role of MSSC in Guyana's Political Process*

A number of stakeholders recommended that in order to complement the technical discussion on the LCDS, a space for political discussions on the LCDS is required. There were varied suggestions regarding how to implement this recommendation. These ranged from including political party members on the MSSC to creating a space for political discussion outside of the MSSC before matters are subject to a parliamentary vote. There were some strong opinions about the need to preserve the MSSC as a space free from party politics.

#### **Outreach Team**

Stakeholders did not comment specifically on the Outreach team and its effectiveness, although all members of the agencies were pleased to be coordinating on LCDS communications and outreach. Moreover, one stakeholder noted that the recently concluded outreach activities by the GFC under the Guiana Shield Initiative did a very good job of integrating the LCDS and that coordination between the OCC and the GFC was evident and commendable.

### **Wider consultation and awareness raising**

The challenges of conducting consultation in the hinterland, such as the remoteness of some villages, the costs of reaching them and the number of local languages that communities use (including some that have no written form) have been well recognised.

During the reporting period information flows to the hinterlands had decreased compared to 2009-2010 due to the increasing understanding amongst indigenous people on these issues. Stakeholders called for improvements to outreach and awareness in terms of:

- More in depth awareness/outreach sessions to deepen understanding
- The use of simplified written material, pictures and local language translations (acknowledging that it will not be possible to translate everything)
- Smaller cluster groups for outreach (although still covering all the same villages and communities), with longer workshops (three days)
- Greater speed at which information reaches hinterland communities
- Use of a train the trainer approach
- Wider use of partners (e.g. NGOs) in delivering outreach activities and conducting consultation
- Explaining the linkages between LCDS, FLEGT and REDD+
- Including basic information on land rights in outreach activities
- A consistent message from all GoG agencies
- Greater regularity of outreach and consultation in the hinterlands and with indigenous peoples.

The role of indigenous NGOs and representatives was highlighted as being of great importance in raising awareness on the LCDS and getting input from hinterland communities. However, there have been cases of confusion being caused within communities as they receive conflicting information from some indigenous NGO groups on the LCDS and land rights. The National Tshao's Council (NTC) was seen to be fulfilling an important role, but was stretched due to the volume of information it had to relay with limited resources.

There were mixed responses from stakeholders regarding the desired balance of focus of outreach activities between coastal and hinterland communities. Some stakeholders commented that coastal communities have not been mainstreamed / fully engaged in LCDS outreach and communication in the way that hinterland communities have. Others however felt that coastal communities received information through other channels include through wide ranging media channels including TV, radio, internet and newspapers. LCDS and GRIF Webpages

The websites have been noted by stakeholders as a valuable source of information and data, both for the purposes of awareness, as well as analysis.

### *6.3. Indicator 3 - Governance*

#### **Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)**

No substantive comments were received about the EITI process. This is likely due the early phase of the initiative.

#### **EU FLEGT**

Overall stakeholders were positive about the EU FLEGT process, the progress being made by the GFC and the levels of outreach/consultation. Stakeholders from indigenous communities generally are pleased with the level of engagement. Specific concerns have been raised by one indigenous NGO group which the GFC have responded to in writing<sup>249</sup>. Forestry stakeholders commented that Guyana's existing forest product legality measures have provided a strong foundation from which people can understand matters of legality and traceability. More detailed stakeholder views can be found in the reports written up following the stakeholder outreach events (see Action 8 of this report for more details).

#### **The management of emissions from degradation in the mining sector**

##### **General**

Stakeholders challenged the institutional approach currently implemented to address degradation from mining. One stakeholder observed that although they agreed that GoG was making progress, the process was potentially limited by

<sup>249</sup>(Ref. 305) Response to APA - Concern about EU FLEGT VPA negotiations\_140513\_GFC

the political and economic influence exerted by mining interests. It was indicated that despite its activities to date, MNRE was struggling to make progress on the ground. Overall compliance with environmental rules and regulations in the mining sector is perceived as being low, with one stakeholder commenting that without sufficient investment in human and social capital the sector's activities may be considered unsustainable.

In addition to this, one stakeholder felt that GGMC was not sufficiently incentivised to prioritise forest resource management to address environmental degradation. It was suggested that there was a need for institutional reform, specifically to create greater incentives for the sustainable management of the sector. There was a recommendation to use infrastructure and manpower created for mining activities to plan development of other low carbon activities e.g. hydroponics, tourism, crops and back office assistance.

#### **Reclamation initiatives**

Stakeholders reaffirmed that in their view it is cheaper for the miner to forgo the reclamation bond, than to carry out reclamation and there is a need to increase the value of the bond. Therefore, reclamation has fallen to the authorities. Stakeholders also commented that there is a lack of awareness and technical understanding of reclamation amongst miners.

Stakeholder opinions are divided on the matter of the acacia plantations, which would aid in the reestablishment of canopy cover and thereby lead to natural regeneration. Opponents cited the introduction of alien species as the source of their concern. There also seemed to be mixed understandings amongst stakeholders as to whether the objective of acacia plantations was to aid natural regeneration or to establish a permanent (rotation) plantation for generating wood products.

#### **Enforcement and man power**

Stakeholders conceded that enforcement of environmental regulation on mining faced significant challenges in terms of the vastness of the area to be monitored, and the relatively limited resources i.e. funding and man power. One stakeholder deemed the punitive measures available to mine officers (cease work orders) to be insufficient to prevent leakage of environmentally damaging extractive practices and recommended that there is greater focus in bringing about attitudinal change including through increased miner education. Certain stakeholders felt that law enforcement without a corresponding programme to focus on capacity building and behavioural change was not going to be effective.

#### **Outreach activities**

On the whole stakeholders held the view that outreach on environmental matters related to extractives were not as effective as it could be, with one stakeholder suggesting that highly visible outreach campaigns, such as billboard advertisements, may be a more effective means of reaching out to miners.

#### **Technology and machinery exchange**

Stakeholders were supportive of the idea that enhancing recovery rates from mining operations, through the adoption of new technologies, could reduce degradation by allowing work to be conducted at one site multiple times. However, counter arguments were shared. Improved recovery could increase the size of the industry and allow individual miners to cover more area in a shorter time.

#### **Special Land-Use Committee**

Few stakeholders outside of the agencies involved were familiar with the functions or progress of the SLUC or CIRSLUC.

#### *6.4. Indicator 4 - The rights of indigenous people and other forest communities as regards REDD+*

Comments raised related to outreach or consultation for indigenous peoples and forest communities are reported above in the section on continuous multi-stakeholder consultation process.

##### **Amerindian Land Titling Project**

Stakeholders were generally in favour of the ALT project and what it is trying to achieve. Frustrations were expressed at what was perceived to be slow progress on getting the project funded. This reliance on GRIF funds was making compliance with legislation difficult.

Specific, isolated, examples of issues with current land titling processes were raised by stakeholders. These examples included cases where titles had been revoked following mining objections, cases where the full extent of land applied for was not able to be claimed and cases of lost documentation. However, broadly stakeholders expressed contentment with the efforts being made, which stand to be intensified when the ALT project is approved.

##### **Opt-In**

Stakeholders commented positively that the Opt-In Mechanism includes provision for Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC). Stakeholders recommended that funding is needed to take the Concept Note village to village in order to raise awareness and understanding. For example, there were reports that some villages were not sure if they could continue slash and burn agriculture despite the fact that the Concept Paper, which was passed by an NTC resolution in 2012, made it clear that this practice would be allowed to continue. In addition, it was reported that some villages had not had advanced notice of the Opt-In Concept Note. Some concerns were raised that villages may feel pressured to Opt-In without fully understanding the consequences of doing so (or not doing so).

##### **Amerindian Development Fund**

Generally stakeholders felt that significant progress was being made on the Amerindian Development Fund (ADF) as well as the implementation of CDPs. There seems to be a broad understanding that the GoG would like to sustain the mechanism as a means of providing long term funding to indigenous and Amerindian communities. Indigenous groups were pleased by offers from Government agencies to provide technical support. Overall stakeholders are aware that this is a pilot phase, from which lessons can be drawn, and improved upon in Phase II. However there were concerns that if the pilots were not successful this could impact Phase II implementation. Stakeholders found the development and implementation of the CDPs to be slow and that this slowness was related significantly to the safeguard requirements by the PE.

Concerns were raised about the economic and environmental sustainability and feasibility of some CDPs. This was coupled with calls for greater provisioning of technical support to communities during planning and implementation. In relation to this it was recommended that greater clarity be provided to communities/ villages as to how they would be able to amend their CDPs to reflect changes in social, economic and environmental circumstances of the communities. Mixed messages had been received by communities about their ability to change their plans.

Some stakeholders felt that the allocation of \$5m for every CDP did not reflect the varying costs the communities will face implementing different projects in different locations.

Overall recommendations focused on increasing support of communities through (1) gathering lessons learned e.g. from other NGOs or IGOs, (2) having a greater role for private sector engagement, and (3) the importance of on-going, consistent and up-to-date awareness raising.

#### *6.5. Indicator 5 - Integrated land-use planning and management*

Stakeholders were generally encouraged that GoG is undergoing a national land use planning process and felt that it was very much needed. However a number of stakeholders during their interviews seemed unaware of this process and the information available of how to provide comments. One stakeholder highlighted that land-use planning is not a one off event, but needs to be periodically reassessed and suggested fixed length land use planning cycles.

It was also suggested that principled approaches to making decisions and platforms where institutions can agree on the best way to meet these between themselves are a necessary components of land use planning in Guyana and the CISLUC is a good example of this. The importance of doing sound economic analysis of opportunity cost analysis as a component of the decision making process on allocation was also stressed.

Few stakeholders commented on the creation of area maps, but the points made above in relation to land use planning apply. It was noted that greater capacity would be needed within Government to improve mapping.

There was not a lot of awareness of this process amongst stakeholder regarding the use of the intact forest landscape definition or codifying protected area status. Stakeholders commented that the current system of protected areas does not fully encompass the diversity of Guyana's ecosystems this is an issue the new process of codifying protected areas aims to resolve.

## **7. Conclusion**

In the fourth year of its partnership, Norway and Guyana continue to show their commitment to the vision of the MoU. With each year, the Partnership contributes lessons learned on how REDD+ policies may be implemented. As the Governments move into the final years of their current partnership, there is a sense of invigoration to see the goals through. The GoG is working to achieve those goals through sustained commitment to the coordination of Government resources, communication with constituencies, and through innovative discussions to improve the financial mechanism.

### **Building on cross-agency coordination**

The founding of the MNRE in 2011 was a significant change to the way in which resource management was approached in Guyana. Together with the OCC, PMO and MNRE are providing Government agencies strong drive and direction. This has been achieved through a range of activities, notably,

- the publication of the LCDS Update,
- the presentation of a comprehensive National Land Use Policy and Plan and
- the Strategic Framework for MNRE, which included an assessment of Guyana's issues in natural resource management and thereby a reaffirmation of respective Government agency responsibilities.

There are still challenges that MNRE are addressing, in order for the flows of information and general coordinating routines to be firmly cemented in the institutional conventions of Guyana. Over the coming year, as the plans and agency strategies mentioned above will be taken forward and implemented.

### **Benefits flowing to communities**

This year has seen more than US\$320,000 of GRIF funds being disbursed into 19 Amerindian community bank accounts through the Amerindian Development Fund. This is an important time for Amerindian development which will see the collaboration between Government, national and local, with partner entities to strive towards delivering benefits of the LCDS to indigenous communities. The continued development of both the ALT project and the Opt-In Mechanism has been important in the advancement of engagement with indigenous peoples on the LCDS and REDD+ processes.

### **New levels of awareness**

Over the last four years, the developments under the LCDS have been communicated through a wide variety of media, both traditional (e.g. village awareness sessions, printed media), modern (e.g. television and LCDS and GRIF websites), as well as through the Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee. The last year has seen the continuation of these efforts as well as increased cross-agency collaborations through the newly formed communication and outreach team despite delays in funding for outreach activities. There have been continued efforts under the GFC, the GGMC, and the OCC to engage communities with the issues that affect their development.

The MSSC has also had a productive year, seeing the addition of several new members to enrich discussions, and the introduction of technical briefing sessions for more in-depth discussions.

### **Extractives: the next chapter**

Over the last 12 months several initiatives have continued to advance affecting the extractives industry. Initiatives have got under way to increase capacity in the mining sector, improve rules and regulations and enforce existing rules.

### **GRIF reform**

After the fourth year of operation of the GRIF, Guyana have worked to advance discussions of how best the GRIF mechanism can function, both to deliver confidence in fiduciary compliance, as well as appropriate speed for implementation. As the partnership enters its fifth year, Guyana will continue to share and discuss its lessons learnt, towards improving development benefits for all Guyanese, but also to inform the wider climate finance community.

In conclusion, what started as a vision has developed into a working reality that is transforming the social, environmental and economic landscape of Guyana. In the reporting period, Guyana has continued in taking strides to: strengthen its regulatory and operational frameworks for resource management, including land use planning; ensuring the participation of all relevant stakeholders through new and continued outreach and communication strategies; deliver meaningful and needed benefits to the citizens of Guyana, including Amerindians and hinterland residents; and reaffirm

its principles, goals, and plans of action towards a low carbon climate resilient economy as outlined in the recently published LCDS update.

The Governments of Guyana and Norway set out to provide the world with a working, replicable model for REDD+ and with each year that passes this model continues to grow and to provide useful lessons and experiences on implementing REDD+.