



## Country ID: Guyana's Summary.

Third REDD+ Steering Committee Meeting  
June 2, 2014

# Background

- Total Surface: 21.1 million hectares
- Population: Approx. 795,369
- Forest extent / % Forest cover: 18.5 million hectares (85.5%)
- Is Guyana an UN REDD Country? Yes
- Receiving money via FCPF? Just approved for implementation of FCPF through the IDB.
- State of R-PP (Readiness Preparation Proposal): R-PP Published. Latest version was released December 2012 and it is available here: [http://www.forestry.gov.gy/Downloads/FCPF\\_Readiness\\_Preparation\\_Proposal\\_Guyana\\_December\\_2012.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.gy/Downloads/FCPF_Readiness_Preparation_Proposal_Guyana_December_2012.pdf)
- Position on REDD+: Pro

# Deforestation Rate:

Period	Years	Forest Area ('000 ha)	Change ('000 ha)	Change (%)
Initial Forest area 1990		18 473.39		
Benchmark (Sept 2009)	19.75	18 398.48	74.92	0.41%
Year 1 (Sept 2010)	1	18 388 .19	10.28	0.06%
Year 2 (Oct 2012 - Dec 2011)	1.25	18 378. 30	9.88	0.05%
Year 3 (Jan 2012 to Dec 2012)	1	18 487.88	14.65	0.079%



## Forestry sector:

- Production volumes of 295,000m<sup>3</sup> of Logs, 15,000m<sup>3</sup> of Roundwood, 76,000m<sup>3</sup> of Sawnwood and 28,000m<sup>3</sup> of Plywood were recorded in 2011. Other products included, Fuel Wood, Splitwood, Wattles, Manicole Palm and Mangrove Bark were also produced in the year (Forest Sector Information Report 2011) .
  - Between 1992 and 2011, the contribution of the forest sector (as a primary product) to GDP has varied between 2.3 percent to 4.9 percent and in 2007 it was recorded at 3.86 percent. Employment related to the forestry sector is estimated at over 20,000. <http://www.forestry.gov.gy/publications.html>
  - This data does not include family based forest use and as such should not be used as indicative of the full importance of forests to rural communities. **(Source Guyana's R-PP, Dec 2012)**
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# Drivers of Deforestation:

Change Period	Change Period (Years)	Annualised Rate of Change by Driver					Annual Rate of Change (ha)
		Forestry	Agriculture	Mining	Infrastructure	Fire	
		Annual area (ha)					
1990-2000	10	609	203	1 084	59	171	2 127
2001-2005	5	1 684	570	4 288	261	47	6 850
2006-2009	4.8	1 007	378	2 658	41		4 084
2009-10	1	294	513	9 384	64	32	10 287
2010-11	1.25	186	41	7 340	298	46	7 912
2012	1	240	440	13 664	127	184	14 655

Source: MRVS Interim Measures Report, 2013

Mining remains the largest contributor to deforestation. The area of deforestation also includes roads used to access mining sites and areas of degradation that have been converted to deforestation.



# Mining in Guyana: Initiatives to Monitor and Minimize Impacts

- The gold mining sector has been playing an increasingly important role in the national development of Guyana, with production reaching unprecedented levels in 2012. Growth of the industry has resulted in significant job creation and stimulated economic activity in remote communities and across the country.
  - Mining industry is one of the principal contributors for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Guyana. The mining and quarrying industry recorded 14.8% growth in 2012 over 2011.
  - Mining is an important part of the Guyanese economy, contributing 10.6% to the nation's annual GDP in 2012. Between 2007 and 2012 there was 14% growth of the total export value of mining (Guyana Bureau of Statistics 2013).
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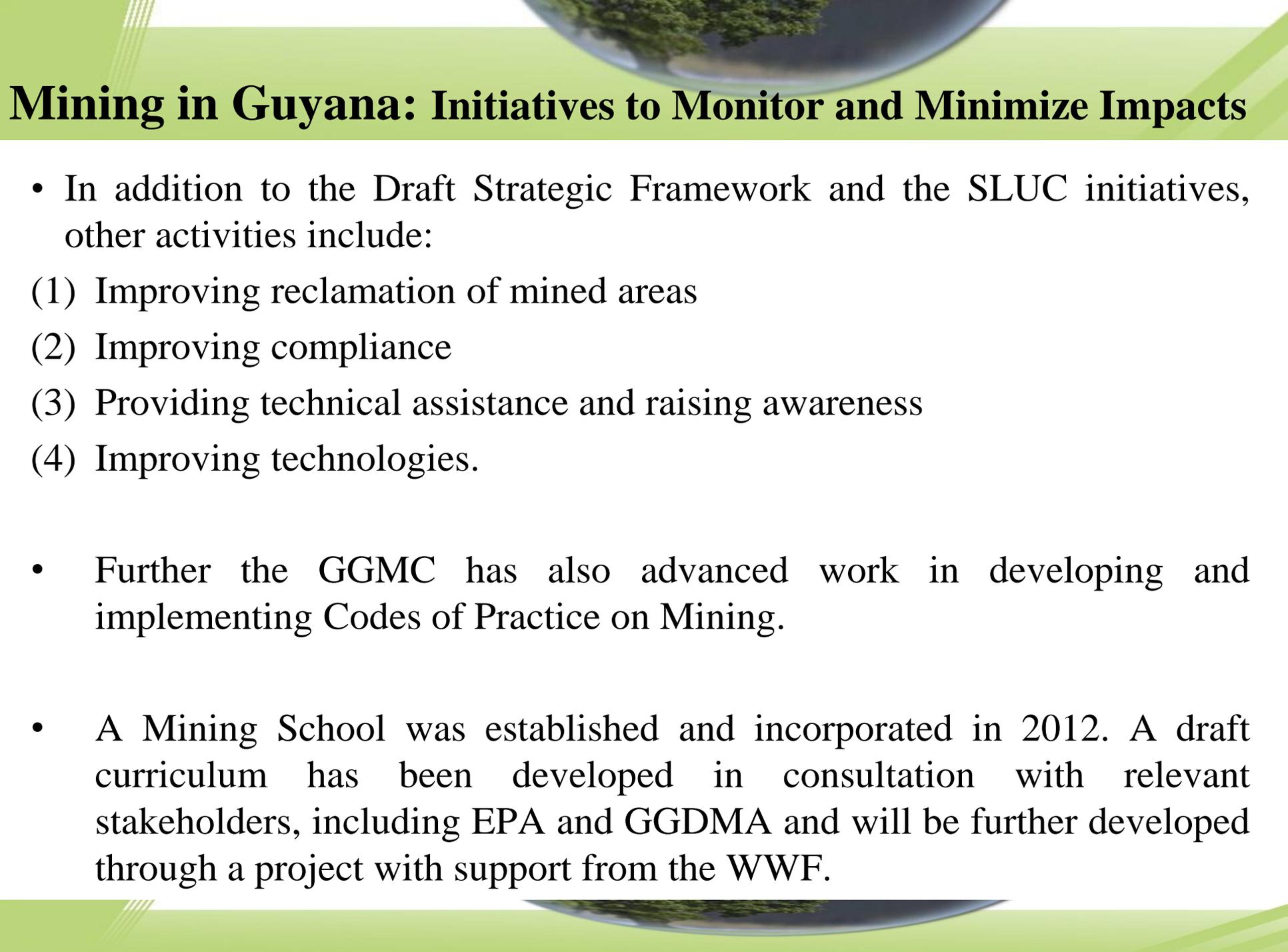
# Mining in Guyana: Initiatives to Monitor and Minimize Impacts

- Accompanying projected developments in the sector is a programme of work to improve the REDD+ model.
- There are two main initiatives which between them have the foundations of an outline programme to reduce degradation from the mining sector:
  - i. Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment of Guyana (MNRE's) Draft Strategic Framework 2013 – 2018; and
  - ii. The mandates of the committees that are implementing the recommendations of the Sustainable Land use Committee (SLUC).
- MNRE collaborated with Strategic Environmental Advice (SEA) to prepare a Strategic Framework Document and Strategic Plan for the period 2013-2018 to address environmental and natural resource issues within the framework of Guyana's LCDS.



# Mining in Guyana: Initiatives to Monitor and Minimize Impacts

- The SLUC was established in 2009 to provide recommendations to Cabinet through 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
    - (5) Amendments to the Mining Act and Regulation among natural resource agencies.
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# Mining in Guyana: Initiatives to Monitor and Minimize Impacts

- In addition to the Draft Strategic Framework and the SLUC initiatives, other activities include:
  - (1) Improving reclamation of mined areas
  - (2) Improving compliance
  - (3) Providing technical assistance and raising awareness
  - (4) Improving technologies.
- Further the GGMC has also advanced work in developing and implementing Codes of Practice on Mining.
- A Mining School was established and incorporated in 2012. A 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.



## Activity Data:

- Jan 2009 - WWF Guianas and Conservation International funded GFC to pilot a plan for carbon stock data to help develop an REDD+ monitoring, reporting and verification system (MRVS).
  - SarVision and ALOS PALSAR - 2009 - land cover mapping and stratification data for biomass strata.
  - Pöyry Management Consulting Ltd. was hired to assess the forest area change. They accomplished this by having four different time stamps ranging from 1990 to 2010. Yearly deforestation rates were calculated and earlier work was build upon.
  - In 2010 Winrock International was hired to assess and monitor forest carbon stock. This work established regional classifications of ecosystems and the ecology of the country allowing for the development of better carbon stock measurements bettering the country's capacity.
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# Classification: Forest Classification

2012 Land Classes	Eligibility Status	Non Forest	Forest	Total
		(Area '000 ha)		
State Forest Area	Included	332	12 274	12 606
Titled Amerindian lands ( <i>incl newly titled lands</i> )	Excluded	722	2 559	3 281
State Lands	Included	1 533	2 567	4 100
Protected Areas*	Included	41	1 100	1 141
<b>Total Area (ha)</b>		<b>2 628</b>	<b>18 500</b>	<b>21 128</b>

Source: MRVS Interim Measures Report, 2013



# MRV Institutional Arrangements:

- The focal institution for climate change is the Office of Climate Change within Office of the President.
  - Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC) (and a REDD+ secretariat) is the body responsible for management of the State Forest Estate and implementation of technical aspects of REDD+.
  - The MRVS Steering Committee has an overall oversight and coordinating function for the development and implementation of the MRVS and comprises representation of the: Office of Climate Change, Guyana Forestry Commission, Guyana Lands & Surveys Commission, Guyana Geology & Mines Commission, Ministry of Amerindian Affairs, Environmental Protection Agency, University of Guyana, Forest Producers Association, Guyana Gold & Diamond Miners Association and the National Toshias Council.
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