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Presenters

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Summary of the Overall Achievement by Readiness Sub-component

| Component | Sub-component | Overall Achievement |
|---|--|--|
| 1. Readiness Organization and Consultation | 1.a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements | Significant progress |
| | 1.b. Consultation, Participation, and Outreach | Progressing well, further development required |
| 2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation | 2.a. Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance | Significant progress |
| | 2.b. REDD+ Strategy Options | Progressing well, further development required |
| | 2.c. Implementation Framework | Progressing well, further development required |
| | 2.d. Social and Environmental Impacts | Further development required |
| 3. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Level (REL/RL) | | Significant progress |
| 4. Monitoring System for Forests and Safeguards | 4.a. National Forest Monitoring System | Significant progress |
| | 4.b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards | Significant progress |

CONTENT AND REFERENCE

1. Forest carbon partnership facility (FCPF) - Guyana's submission: REDD+ readiness package (r-package).
2. Guyana proposal for reference level for REDD
3. Guyana emission factor – report
4. Independent forest monitoring scoping report 2011
5. Independent forest monitoring assessment report 2013 – 2014
6. MRVS roadmap phase one (2009) and two (2014)
7. MRVS summary reports year 1 -5

INTRODUCTION

- According to the global assessment reports, the Guiana Shield has been identified as one of the largest remaining blocks of primary tropical forest on earth
- It has the potential to play an important role in mitigating climate change.
- The region has been reported to contain both the highest percentage of forest cover (over 90% is intact tropical forest) and the lowest human population density of any major tropical forested area.

INTRODUCTION

- Historical, deforestation in Guyana has been very low (0.02% to 0.079% yr⁻¹ over the past 22 years).
- This trend may change in the future as deforestation and degradation activities are increases to meet growing demands for agriculture, timber, minerals, and human settlements.
- The establishment of the Monitoring Reporting and Verification System was done. A road map for the development of a MRV system for REDD+ participation for Guyana was designed following a stakeholder participation session.

INTRODUCTION

Guyana's Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) was assessed and approved by Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in 2009. It was revised and updated in December 2012.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- The Government of Guyana remains committed to following the principles throughout implementation of the LCDS , R-PP.
- The LCDS and REDD+ processes will continue to promote transparency, accountability, availability of information and public participation activities should continue to include similar measures that encourage transparent communication of actions taken and allow feedback.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- Importantly, the coordination provided at the level of the Department Of Natural Resource and Environment has allowed REDD+ efforts to be integrated within the mandates of the natural resources management agencies.
- It has also allowed for the strengthened coordination of efforts amongst the agencies.
- The Operationalizing of the National REDD Working Group (NRWG) to continue stakeholder engagement activities to foster REDD+ readiness is needed

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- The Guyana Forestry Commission and REDD Secretariat have been directly involved in REDD+ activities.
- They are continuing to build capacities through interaction with technical experts.
- However area of development in this regards is to establish measures to continuously build and maintain technical capacity that are necessary to implement the remaining REDD+ readiness activities, whilst creating the required environment for REDD+ implementation to take place.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- The Government of Guyana has at present a number of operational mechanisms in place through which stakeholders can provide feedback and seek redress in relation to REDD+ implementation is including at a number of agencies.
- With the current arrangements in place, what is required to complete REDD+ Readiness is the development of a Grievance Redress Mechanism under REDD+, framework through which existing processes can be integrated, consolidated and strengthened.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- The GFC will work in collaboration with the Office of Climate Change and National Toshias Council and the four (4) national indigenous NGOs - to conduct stakeholder engagement across the country.
- However the development of a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and Plan that consolidated efforts completed and activities to be undertaken to address the components of REDD+ Readiness is need.
- Accompanying these activities is furthering capacity in Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and sharing of experiences by the North Runpunni Development District Board (NRDDB) with other communities on FPIC.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- In 2013, twelve workshop clusters were held throughout Guyana. These sessions have been documented, including preparation for the sessions, information dissemination prior to the sessions and stakeholder feedback garnered from the sessions.
- Several activities are outlined in the R-PP, including institutional arrangements, methods for engagement, target audiences, participation mechanisms, etc.
- The Processes of self-selection of stakeholders should also be encouraged and documented which the NRWG can oversee the consultation process

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- The nationwide LCDS consultations on the LCDS in 2009 - 2014 are ongoing plans and progress of the readiness activities should be made publicly available and accessible to the stakeholders in a language and format that can be easily understood.
- The outputs and technical developments of other readiness activities could be made accessible through similar relevant channels as they become available.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- Amongst other changes, the National Forest Policy now includes areas of forest monitoring and management, REDD+, LCDS.
- The National Forest Plan includes clear objectives and activities, for national planning, forest resource management, forest industry, research and information, education, and training and social development.
- Work in areas monitoring land use and land use changes to inform the development of Guyana's National Land Use Policy should continue .

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- During this preliminary work in the development of REDD+ strategy options, Four preliminary clusters of stakeholders groups with common backgrounds have been identified.
- These stakeholder groups were Government, NGOs and Academia, Indigenous groups and Civil Society Organisations.
- As part of the stakeholder engagement for the selection of REDD+ strategy options, there are methods applied to prioritize the options.
- One aspect to consider is that the estimation of impact of strategy options identified should made available to the stakeholders in the engagement process.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- The feasibility of the potential REDD+ activities were assessed considering criteria such as: emissions reduction potential, scalability and repeatability, social benefits generated, and multiple co-benefits. In addition, a trade-off and/or cost-benefit analysis were conducted to inform the design.
- Feasibility assessment should be Conducted on a range of options that may be identified.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- The GoG intends that REDD+ programmes and activities selected will be in line with existing legal and regulatory frameworks including the LCDS.
- Any potential overlaps with legislation are likely to be identified in the feasibility assessment stage.
- The development of further REDD+ specific programmes and activities, analyse the interactions with existing regulatory frameworks, should include a description of the status of the actual implementation of those laws and policies.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- The R-PP states that the development of a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) has been considered as part of the Guyana REDD+ Strategy.
- The main legislation that governs environmental management in Guyana, is the Environmental Protection Act (1996) and the accompanying Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Regulations and requirements.
- Various aspects of SESA framework should be developed utilising Guyana's ESIA framework.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- Reference Emission Levels (RELs) and Reference Levels (RLs) provide a benchmark against which future emissions and removals are measured.
- To assess progress towards on REDD+. RELs refer to the amount of gross forest emissions for a reference time period.
- Guyana's Proposal on RL that was submitted to the UNFCCC in December 2014, based on revision by technical experts of the UNFCCC should be reviewed.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- The aim is to quantify the uncertainty levels around the amount and rates of deforestation and degradation.
- In the last assessment (Year 3) high-resolution aerial photography and field visits were used to assess the accuracy of the wall-to-wall mapping.

A complete uncertainty assessment for main areas covered under the MRVS should be done.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- Integration of Community MRV Demonstration within National Framework- There were a number of areas that require synchronisation in order to bring the CMRV in synergy with the national MRVS; this is evident in forest type's classification, data collection and methods.
- The Integration of measurement approaches and inclusion of the community MRV data in the national MRVS is needed. Continued building of capacities for fulfil current and future needs of the MRVS.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- The GoG has undertaken a number of initiatives to explore the role of different ecosystem services, such as water and biodiversity, as well as PES Schemes.
- A number of studies have been undertaken with support from international partners.
- The MRV, through assessments of the inclusion of non-carbon benefits, will evaluate means by which environmental and social monitoring can be incorporated into the MRV System in accordance with the national legislation. Identification of non-carbon aspects and social and environmental safeguard issues of REDD+ preparations, as well as capacity gaps should be done.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- The GoG has encouraged stakeholder participation from the outset of the work to explore co-benefits and non-carbon schemes.
- This was achieved through training sessions and workshops relating to (Bynoe *et al.*, 2011a, b, Bynoe, 2013, GFC and Winrock International, 2014).
- Information sharing processes on impact on rural livelihoods, biodiversity conservation, provision of non-carbon ecosystem services, and key governance factors should be considered.

FURTHER WORK TO BE CONSIDERED

- Within the current institutional arrangements, ensure that the non-carbon aspects and safeguards are clearly delegated and that related activities are planned, considering the capacity needs.

THANK YOU

ANY QUESTIONS