



# Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

## Progress with the due diligence work in Guyana

Participants Committee Meeting (FCPF PC4)

Washington, DC - October 27-28, 2009

## Context - Background

- March-June: Guyana's R-Plan (R-PP), TAP review, and Bank comments
- June: R-PP cleared by PC with request for due diligence ahead of Preparation grant \$3.4m, and for processing Seed grant \$0.2m
- Preparation phase (est.2-3 years, flexible) – REDD systems in Guyana are still to be defined in a participatory manner
- Process is nation-wide & multi-sector, and aims to be inclusive
- Learning by doing (e.g., guidelines for FCPF operations and compliance with safeguards still in progress)

# Due Diligence

Due diligence, at this stage of FCPF in Guyana:

- To ensure that preparation phase follows requirements of operational policies including fiduciary, social, and environmental safeguards
- To identify other key issues relevant to REDD in Guyana (e.g., land), and assess whether there is a process in place to address these issues during the preparation phase
- Involves informing, listening and exchange of views with a range of stakeholders, field observations, desk reviews
- Bank team: social, land, legal, safeguards, fiduciary, forest, environment, indigenous people, communication

## Work Done So Far

- Two missions in July and October. Meetings with 16 communities in four different regions. Field trip by a multi-stakeholder team: GFC & Amerindian Affairs, UK, US, National Tshao Council, four Amerindian NGOs, WWF, CI, Iwokrama, and IIED monitors of LCDS. Press conference. Field team report posted on line.
- Meetings with government agencies, private sector/forest producers, political opposition, diaspora, advocacy groups
- Discussions and drafting of Guyana-specific Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) to identify strategic environmental, social, legal and policy issues in formulating REDD strategy and to prepare applicable safeguards instruments
- Updated draft R-PP posted on line, September 7, open for comments

## Some of the Key Issues Raised (1)

- Need for immediate dissemination of information, awareness on REDD, and community participation from the start – Seed grant
- Quality and time for full and meaningful consultations during the REDD preparation phase – remoteness, language, cost
- Community consent – proposed ‘opt-in/opt-out’ approach
- Continuation of traditional and subsistence user rights
- Land titling as one of the basis for implementing REDD – progress in titling Amerindian lands, however pending issues, e.g., case in court for eleven years
- Review adequacy of the legal framework – would be addressed as part of the SESA



## Some of the Key Issues Raised (2)

- Carbon rights, and sharing of REDD revenues – would be discussed and defined during preparation
- Alternative sustainable livelihoods in addressing restriction of access to natural resources
- Multi-sectoriality: R-PP to be endorsed by all concerned ministries/carried by entire Government
- Inclusiveness of REDD framework, participation of critical segments of society – there seems to be more openness and willingness to cooperate despite initial distrust
- Manage expectations, stay within FCPF mandate/scope of REDD

## Next Steps

- Seed Grant: will support technical studies by Forestry Commission, and information sharing by the National Toshao Council
- Complete draft ToR for the SESA, and seek feedback and inputs from key stakeholders
- Continue discussions on key issues relevant to REDD to ensure a process is in place to address them during preparation, with mid-phase indicators
- Finalize the revision of R-PP based on stakeholders' feedback, and ensure ownership and commitment by relevant agencies. Ensure adequate budget for SESA and Consultation Plan
- Complete agreed-upon fiduciary measures
- Bank Process: Prepare Assessment Note, and convene formal review (operational guidelines soon-to-come)