



OVERVIEW OF GUYANA'S REDD+ R-PACKAGE

Ministry of Natural Resources,
Co-operative Republic of Guyana.

Georgetown, 8 March 2021.



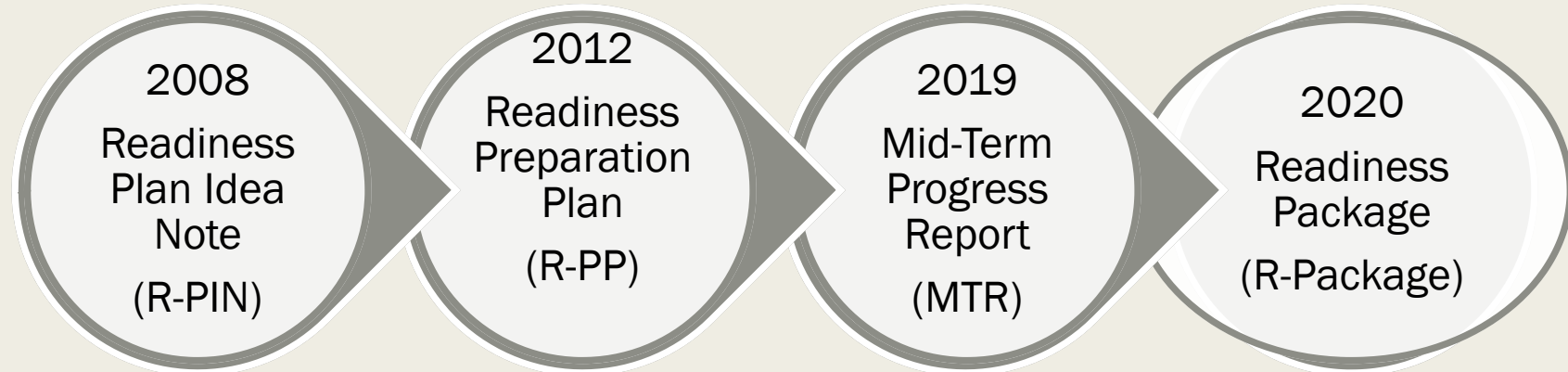
Outline of the presentation

- Evolution of the FCPF Readiness Fund activities
- Summary of progress by component
- REDD+ readiness assessment & R-Package
- Additional work required
- Lessons learned

Evolution of the FCPF Readiness Fund activities

IDB: Guyana FCPF Delivery Partner

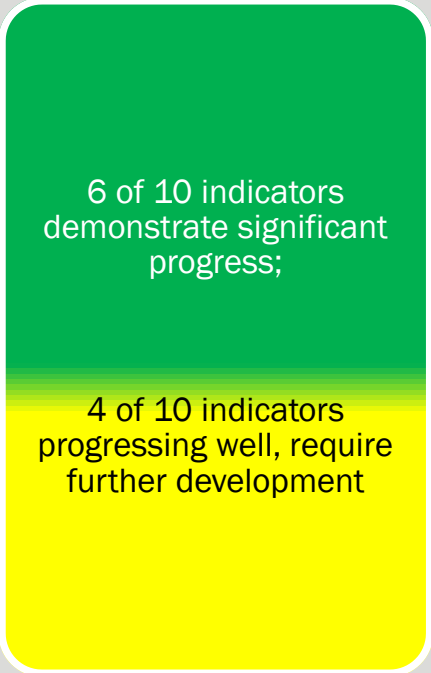
UNFCCC REDD+ Decisions and Documents		
Bali Action Plan	Copenhagen Accord Cancun Agreements Warsaw Framework for REDD+	REDD+ Web Platform https://redd.unfccc.int/fact-sheets/unfccc-documents-relevant-for-redd.html



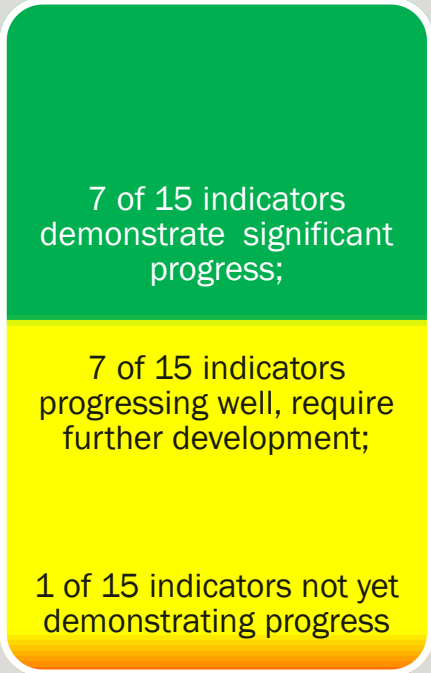
National Development Strategies and National Communications		
National Development Strategy 2001-2010	Low Carbon Development Strategy 2009-2015	Green State Development Strategy Vision 2040 2020-2040
INC (2002)	SNC (2012)	TNC (in preparation)

Summary of progress by component

Component 1:
Readiness
organisation and
consultation



Component 2:
REDD+ strategy
preparation



Component 3:
Reference emissions
level/Reference level

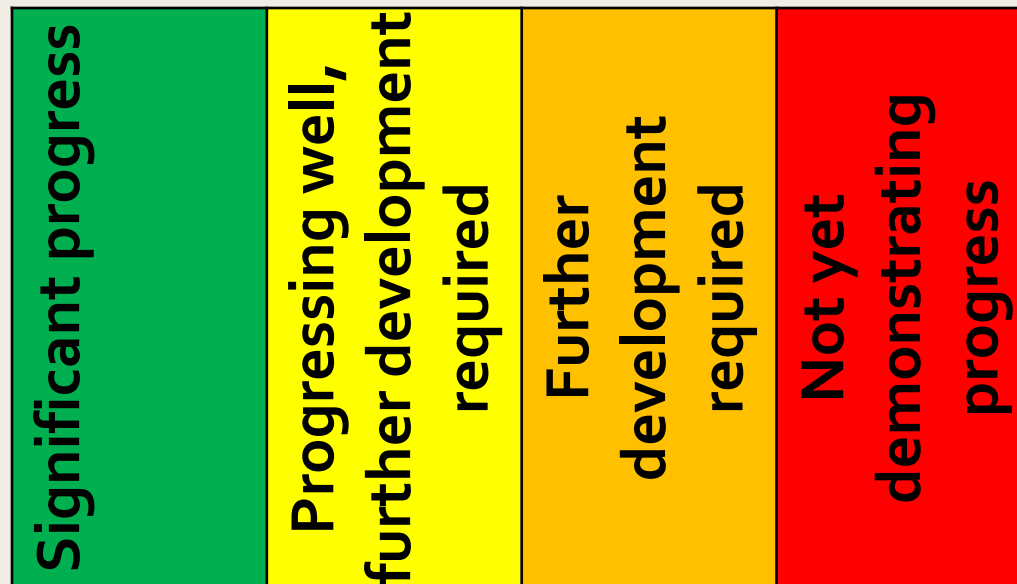


Component 4:
Monitoring systems
for forests and
safeguards



REDD+ Readiness assessment and R-Package differentiated

Readiness Assessment
- a visual synthesis & description



R-Package
- a summary of the process

- A report of the multi-stakeholder self-assessment process;
- The assessment results of the national multi-stakeholder assessment;
- References to key outputs of the readiness preparation process (i.e., the REDD+ Strategy,
- Reference Emission Levels/Reference Levels, etc.).

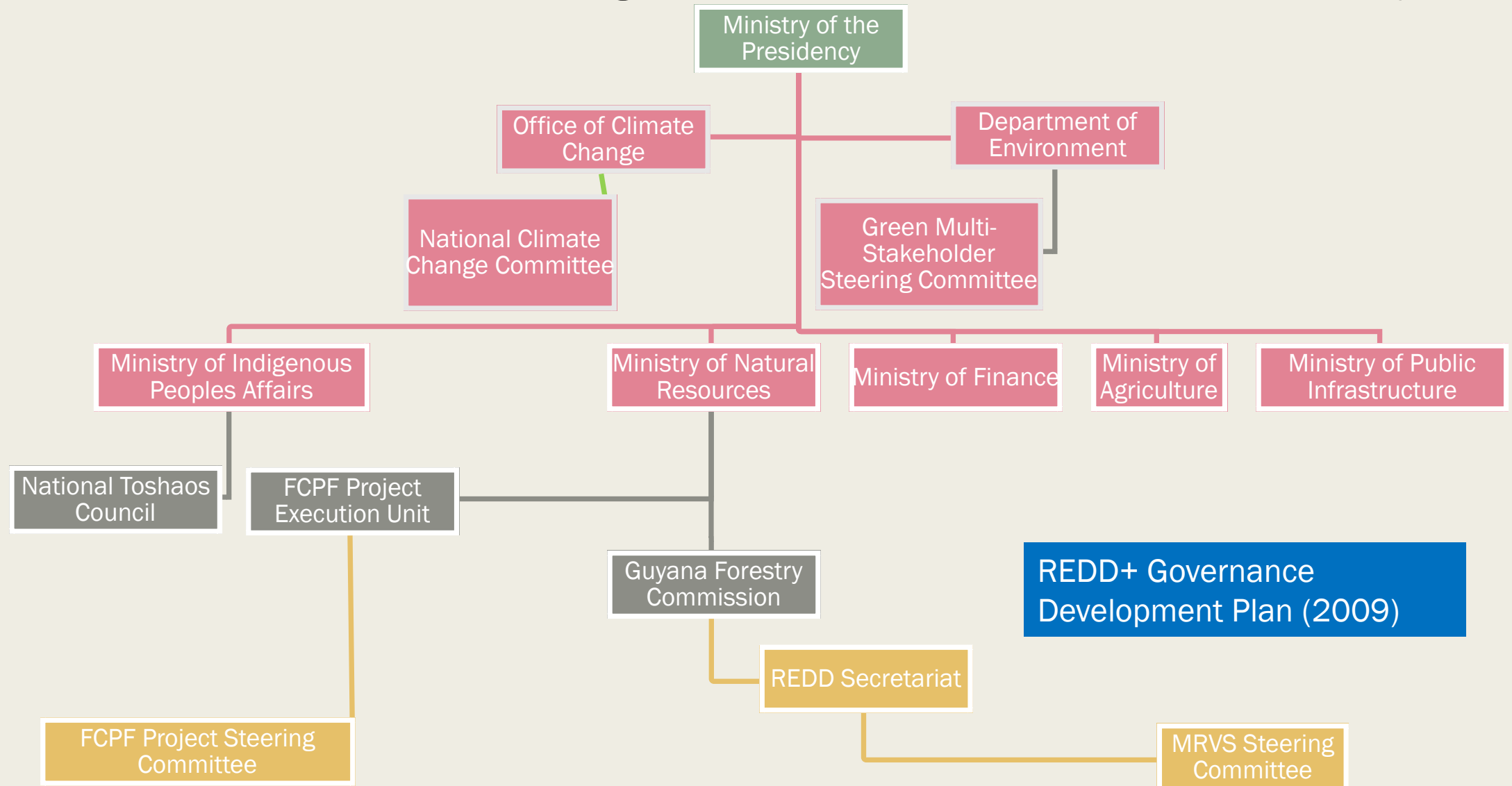
Component 1: Readiness organisation and consultation

Sub-component 1a: National REDD+ management arrangements

The REDD+ Governance Development Plan, first prepared in 2009, guided the development of the institutional capabilities to ensure successful execution of the LCDS and the R-PP.

Progress indicators	Assessment	Description
1. Accountability and transparency	Significant progress	Institutional arrangements support readiness activities.
2. Operating mandate and budget	Significant progress	Clearly defined mandates ; GRIF & national budget.
3. Multi-sector coordinating mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration	Progressing well, further development required	Office of Climate Change - coordinating role through the NCCC; draft national climate change policy. But. fragmented and sector driven approach.
4. Technical supervision capacity	Significant progress	Effective national REDD+ institutions and management.
5. Funds management capacity	Significant progress	GRIF architecture; centralised national budget & accounts.
6. Feedback and grievance mechanism	Progressing well, further development required	Grievance and redress mechanism (GRM) for REDD+ has been developed but not in implementation.

Institutional architecture and arrangements for REDD+ implementation in Guyana



Component 1: Readiness organisation and consultation

Sub-component 1b: Consultation, participation and outreach

Information sharing and accessibility of information as well as implementation of public disclosure of consultation outcomes are progressing well but require further development.

Progress indicators	Assessment	Description
7. Participation and engagement of key stakeholders	Significant progress	Key stakeholder groups identified and consulted using participatory approaches: communities, miners, foresters, NGOs, government agencies.
8. Consultation processes	Significant progress	LCDS MSSC; GSDS GMSSC; NTC FPIC guidelines; regional consultation workshops (2009-2019)
9. Information sharing and accessibility of information	Progressing well, further development required	Communications materials: mass & social media, banners, videos, radio. Insufficient involvement of IPs in design of REDD+ projects
10. Implementation and public disclosure of consultation outcomes	Progressing well, further development required	MRVS interim measures reports shared. Public disclosure of other REDD+ information progressing well but require further development.

Examples of Brochures on REDD+ for IPLCs

CALL FOR ACTION

The long-term success of REDD+ implementation depends on broad-based, local and participatory support. The Ministry of Natural Resources and its partners are promoting knowledge sharing and awareness.

All stakeholders interested in protecting and conserving the forests are invited to join this national initiative.

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REDD+ IN GUYANA?

The Ministry has put at your disposal new knowledge and communication tools at www.reddplusguyana.org. Feel free to use them to inform yourself and your community about REDD+ benefits.

Become informed about REDD+ workshops, seminars and training.

Promote REDD+ objectives and get involved in related activities.

Look for potential partners in stakeholders.

Visit our website and follow our social media accounts to find out more about REDD+

www.reddplusguyana.org
@reddguyana

REDD+ GUYANA FORESTS ARE MORE VALUABLE WHEN STANDING THAN WHEN CUT DOWN!

Support the implementation of REDD+ in Guyana to protect our forests and slow down the pace of climate change.

REDD+ GUYANA
www.reddplusguyana.org

THE IMPACT OF DEFORESTATION

Guyana is one of the greenest countries in the world with 87% of its territory covered in forests.

However, there are economic drivers behind deforestation, such as clearing land for subsistence farming or intensive mining and agriculture.

The loss of forests can negatively affect Guyana's climate and living conditions.

Worldwide, deforestation has become the second largest source of carbon emissions, one of the main drivers of climate change.

Forests are more valuable when standing than when cut down.

They provide essential goods such as food, energy, shelter, income, and employment, as well as the habitats for biodiversity.

ACTION IS NEEDED TO PROTECT GUYANA'S FORESTS.

REDD+ SLOWING DOWN THE PACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

REDD+ stands for "Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation" and includes the sustainable management and conservation of forests and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

REDD+ refers to national programmes aimed at creating financial value for the carbon stored in forests and helping mitigate the effects of climate change.

Thanks to this programme, countries have the opportunity to receive results-based payments for actions to conserve and restore forestlands.

REDD+ was developed under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

- REDD+ demonstrably contributes to greenhouse gas emission reduction.
- REDD+ maintains and/or enhances forest biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- REDD+ contributes to sustainable and equitable development by strengthening the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities.
- REDD+ respects and respects the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.
- REDD+ mobilises resources for action in priority forest areas in an equitable manner.

REDD+ IS IMPLEMENTED IN SEVERAL PHASES:

- Readiness:** Countries design national strategies and action plans (with relevant stakeholders, build capacity, work on policies and measures for REDD+ implementation and design demonstration activities).
- Implementation:** National strategies and action plans prepared are implemented and tested. This phase may include results-based demonstration activities, require additional capacity building and technology development.
- Results-based actions:** Results-based REDD+ actions are implemented at the national level and results are fully measured, reported and verified.

CREATING AN EMPOWERING ENVIRONMENT

The current Readiness Preparation Project provides an empowering environment that enables:

- Institutional arrangements:** Clarification of the role of the different institutions involved in the implementation of REDD+. The Guyana Forestry Commission in the Ministry of Natural Resources holds the responsibility of monitoring national implementation in Guyana.
- Legal framework:** Creation of a clear national legal framework to ensure permanent emission reductions and address the social and environmental risks.
- Financing mechanism:** Definition of financing mechanisms and tools related to the identification of an institutional arrangement and the legal framework transfer of international and private funds, optimising results-based payments to the beneficiaries, etc.

<https://reddplusguyana.org/>

Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation

Subcomponent 2a: Assessment of land use, land use change drivers, forest law, policy and governance

The proposed REDD+ Strategy is in line with the aim of Guyana's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of avoiding emissions in the amount of 48.7 MtCO₂e annually. The annual rate of deforestation remains below 0.1%. Major drivers are mineral mining, forestry and agriculture.

Progress indicators	Assessment	Description
11. Assessment and analysis	Significant progress	Analysis of historic land-use trends completed.
12. Prioritisation of direct and indirect drivers / barriers to forest carbon stock enhancement	Significant progress	Prioritised drivers of deforestation and forest degradation: mining (55%), forestry (36%), agriculture (6%), infrastructure, fire & settlements (3%) - emissions.
13. Links between drivers/barriers and REDD+ activities	Progressing well, further development required	Framework for national MRVS. Enhancement of forest carbon stocks under-developed although land reclamation work is ongoing.
14. Action plans to address natural resource rights, land tenure, governance	Progressing well, further development required	Wide range of policies, strategies and action plans. Without land use policy, land conflicts exist. Ad-hoc SLUC is a limited measure.
15. Implications for forest law and policy	Significant progress	Implications for forest law and policy recognised.

Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation

Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy options

Mining, forestry and agriculture could be influenced by well-designed government REDD+ strategies. For these reasons, the proposed Guyana REDD+ Strategy focuses on these three drivers.

Progress indicators	Assessment	Description
16. Selection and prioritisation of REDD+ strategy options	Significant progress	National land use planning and implementation was evaluated as the best of five REDD+ strategy options.
17. Feasibility assessment	Significant progress	REDD+ strategy options were assessed and prioritised for their social, environmental and political feasibility, risks and opportunities, and analysis of costs and benefits.
18. Implications of strategy options on existing sectoral policies	Significant progress	The potential impact of the proposed REDD+ strategy options on deforestation rates has been identified.

Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation

Subcomponent 2c: Implementation framework

The Government has proposed to build on existing institutions and their mandates to address potential challenges associated with REDD+ implementation.

Progress indicators	Assessment	Description
19: Adoption and implementation of legislation/regulations	Progressing well, further development required	Several statute laws and institutions support REDD+. However, there is no law or regulations specific to REDD+.
20: Guidelines for implementation	Progressing well, further development required	Steps taken to define how Cancun REDD+ safeguards will be implemented. But, implementation guidelines are not yet coherent.
21. Benefit sharing mechanism	Progressing well, further development required	A benefit sharing plan has been developed, but it is not yet in implementation.
22: National REDD+ registry and system monitoring REDD+ activities	Not yet demonstrating progress	Other than for the MRVS, there is no national geo-referenced REDD+ information system or registry and system monitoring REDD+ information activities

Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation

Sub-component 2d: Social and environmental impacts

Guyana has taken steps to define how the Cancun REDD+ safeguards will be implemented, and to ensure compliance with the safeguards throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities.

Progress indicators	Assessment	Description
23: Analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues	Progressing well, further development required	The SESA has allowed Guyana to identify and prioritise potential risks associated to the REDD+ Strategy Scenarios, but SIS is not yet in place and no SOI.
24: REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts	Significant progress	Development of REDD+ Strategy and the SESA in an inclusive, participatory and transparent manner, ensuring multiple opportunities for learning about and influencing the REDD+ strategy design for all affected or interested stakeholder groups
25: Environmental and Social Management Framework	Progressing well, further development required	The ESMF is in place but it not yet managing environmental and social risks/potential impacts related to REDD+ activities.

Component 3: Reference Emissions Levels/ Reference Level

Guyana has developed and submitted to the UNFCCC its National FRL for REDD+ in December 2014 and a revised RL in September 2015. Reference level of 0.242%, that results in emissions of 46,301,251 tCO₂.yr⁻¹

Progress indicators	Assessment	Description
26: Demonstration of methodology.	Significant progress	Guyana developed and submitted to the UNFCCC its National FRL in December 2014 and submitted a revised RL in September 2015
27: Use of historical data, and adjusted for national circumstances	Significant progress	The NFMS accounts for historical forest cover changes and emission factors, to inform the assessment of forest RELs.
28: Technical feasibility of the methodological approach and consistency with UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines	Significant progress	Guyana's RELs/RL are consistent with UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines. Guyana has applied good practice to all its data collection and analyses efforts.

Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards

Subcomponent: 4a. National Forest Monitoring System

Guyana has developed a world-class forest monitoring system that has been independently verified for accuracy by reputable institutions.

Consistently, Guyana has produced eight annual MRVS Interim Measures reports.

Progress indicators	Assessment	Description
29: Documentation of monitoring approach	Significant progress	Guyana began development of the NFMS in 2009 by establishing an internationally recognised MRVS and has steadily improved on it in the last 10 years
30: Demonstration of early system implementation	Significant progress	Guyana has developed a world class forest monitoring system that has been independently verified for accuracy by reputable institutions. Guyana has produced eight annual MRVS Interim Measures reports.
31: Institutional arrangements and capacities	Significant progress	Capacity building is integral to the successful implementation and sustainability of the MRVS.

Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards

Subcomponent 4b - Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards

Guyana's vision for REDD+ has adopted the principle of promoting biodiversity conservation and enhancement, taking into consideration REDD+ interventions will not lead to the conversion of natural forests.

Progress indicators	Assessment	Description
32: Identification of relevant non-carbon aspects, and social and environmental issues	Significant progress	Three studies undertaken to explore the role of different ecosystem services, such as water and biodiversity, as well as PES schemes
33: Monitoring, reporting and information sharing	Further development required	There is limited evidence of a transparent system for periodically sharing consistent information on non-carbon aspects and safeguards
34: Institutional arrangements and capacities	Further development required	While there is political will, legal provisions and a PES roadmap for the management of non-carbon aspects of forests, implementation is lacking.

Summary of additional work required

Institutional arrangements

Sustainable
NRWG

GRM
implementation

REDD+ Strategy

Land rights before
carbon rights

National REDD+
registry

Monitoring systems

Information
sharing on non-
carbon benefits

Governance &
safeguards for
non-C aspects

Stakeholder validation workshop (14 July 2020): key takeaway points

- Guyana is still in the readiness phase of REDD+.
- REDD+ implementation will require a look at sustainability elements, including sustainable financing for a more permanent national REDD+ working group/platform. Sustainable financing for continuing the work of the REDD Secretariat and the MRVS as we engage at the level of country ownership of the REDD+ processes.
- Recognising the role of Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in their role of mobilising sustainable financing.
- Promoting South-South cooperation with other FCPF participating countries such as Guatemala, Peru and Suriname where we can learn important lessons.
- Implementing the 'Whole of Government' approach to engage a large body of stakeholders on a large number of issues in order to achieve consensus.
- Need for more stakeholder engagement platforms especially for remote communities, to identify, locate, and access critical REDD+ data and information in the country.
- Ensuring continuity across political administrations – incoming administrations being able to continue the good work that would have been undertaken, prior.

Lessons learned

■ What worked:

- *a highly capable project team ensured that outputs were generated on time;*
- *hiring of competent consultants led to the production of high quality outputs*
- *engagement with stakeholders at national and regional levels increased the quality and relevance of the REDD+ outputs*

■ What didn't work:

- *The lack of permanence of the PSC, which functioned as the NRWG, may erode the gains made in REDD+ programme delivery*
 - *Key outputs such as the Grievance and Redress Mechanism and Opt-in Mechanism are still engaging Cabinet.*
- Whole of government approach is recommended.

Thank you.

Ministry of Natural Resources

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Georgetown, GUYANA.

<https://reddplusguyana.org/>



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