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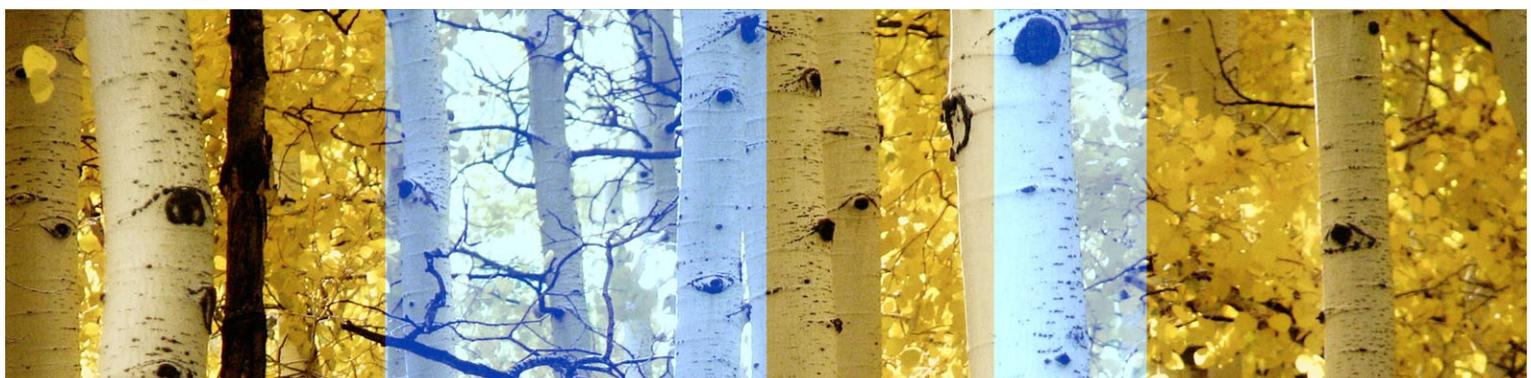
Norwegian Ministry of the Environment

## **Independent Assessment of Enabling Activities of the Guyana-Norway REDD+ Partnership**

Final Report

Helsinki, Finland  
November 29, 2013

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## ABBREVIATIONS

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## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ADF</b>	Amerindian Development Fund
<b>AKS</b>	IDB Fee-Based Advisory and Knowledge Services
<b>ALT</b>	Amerindian Land Titling project
<b>APA</b>	Amerindian Peoples Association
<b>C&amp;O</b>	Communications and Outreach
<b>CoC</b>	Chain of Custody
<b>CBD</b>	Convention on Biological Diversity
<b>CDP</b>	Community Development Plans
<b>CI</b>	Conservation International Guyana
<b>CIRSLUC</b>	Committee to Implement the Recommendations of the Special Land Use Committee
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organisation
<b>DLUPP</b>	Development of Land Use Planning Project
<b>EITI</b>	Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
<b>EPA</b>	Environmental Protection Agency
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EU FLEGT</b>	European Union Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade
<b>FAO ACP</b>	Food and Agricultural Organisation's African, Caribbean and Pacific Programme
<b>FAQ</b>	Frequently Asked Questions
<b>FCPF</b>	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
<b>FLML</b>	Forestry and Mining Land Management Committee
<b>FMD</b>	Forest Monitoring Department
<b>FPDMC</b>	Forest Products Development and Marketing Council
<b>FPIC</b>	Free Prior Informed Consent
<b>FRMD</b>	Forest Resource Management Department
<b>FSI</b>	Fiduciary Safeguard Intermediary
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GFC</b>	Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>GGB</b>	Guyana Gold Board
<b>GGDMA</b>	Guyana Gold and Diamond Mining Association
<b>GGMC</b>	Guyana Geology and Mines Commission
<b>GINA</b>	Government Information Agency
<b>GL&amp;SC</b>	Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission
<b>GoG</b>	Government of Guyana
<b>GOIP</b>	Guyana Organisation for Indigenous People
<b>GoN</b>	Government of Norway
<b>GRIF</b>	Guyana REDD Plus Investment Fund
<b>GSF</b>	Guiana Shield Facility
<b>GYD</b>	Guyanese Dollars
<b>HIC</b>	Hinterland Infrastructure Committee
<b>IDB</b>	Inter-American Development Bank
<b>IFL</b>	Intact Forest Landscapes
<b>IFM</b>	Independent Forest Monitoring
<b>JCN</b>	Joint Concept Note
<b>LCDS</b>	Low Carbon Development Strategy
<b>LPAC</b>	UNDP Local Project Appraisal Committee
<b>MARXAN</b>	Marine and Spatially Explicit Annealing
<b>MDB</b>	Multilateral Development Bank
<b>MNRE</b>	Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment
<b>MoA</b>	Ministry of Agriculture



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<b>MoAA</b>	Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
<b>MoE</b>	Ministry of Education
<b>MoF</b>	Ministry of Finance
<b>MoFA</b>	Minister of Foreign Affairs
<b>MoH</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>MoLA</b>	Ministry of Legal Affairs
<b>MoPW</b>	Ministry of Public Works
<b>MoU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>MRV</b>	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
<b>MSG</b>	Multi-Stakeholder group
<b>MSSC</b>	Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee
<b>NADF</b>	National Amerindian Development Foundation
<b>NAREI</b>	National Agriculture Research and Extension Institute
<b>NARI</b>	National Agricultural Research Institute
<b>NCS</b>	National Competitiveness Strategy
<b>NFP</b>	National Forest Plan 2011
<b>NFPS</b>	National Forest Policy Statement 2011
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>NLUPP</b>	Guyana's National Land Use Policy and Plan
<b>NTC</b>	National Toshaos Council
<b>NTWG</b>	National Technical Working Group (of EU FLEGT)
<b>OCC</b>	Office of Climate Change
<b>OECD</b>	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
<b>PAB</b>	Priority Areas for Biodiversity
<b>PAC</b>	Protected Areas Commission
<b>PC 3</b>	FCPF Third Participants' Committee Meeting
<b>PCN</b>	Project Concept Note
<b>PE</b>	Partner Entity
<b>PMO</b>	Project Management Office
<b>PoWPA</b>	Programme of Work on Protected Areas
<b>PSAs</b>	Public Service Announcements
<b>PSC</b>	Private Sector Commission
<b>PwC</b>	Price Waterhouse Coopers
<b>RDC</b>	Regional Democratic Council
<b>REDD Plus (+)</b>	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus
<b>RGDP</b>	REDD Plus Governance Development Plan
<b>R-PP</b>	Readiness Preparation Proposal
<b>SFM</b>	Sustainable Forest Management
<b>SFP</b>	State Forest Permit
<b>SLUC</b>	Special Land Use Committee
<b>TAAMOG</b>	The Amerindian Action Movement of Guyana
<b>TC</b>	IDB Technical Cooperation Document
<b>ToR</b>	Terms of Reference
<b>TSA</b>	Timber Sales Agreement Wood
<b>UG</b>	University of Guyana
<b>USD</b>	United States Dollars
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNEG</b>	United Nations Evaluation Group
<b>UNFAO</b>	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>VPA</b>	EU FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement
<b>WHMIS</b>	Workplace Hazardous Management Information System
<b>WTO</b>	World Trade Organisation



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The objective of the assignment is to independently assess and verify the *Progress Report on Enabling Activities*, prepared through a self-assessment process overseen by the Office of Climate Change, within the Government of Guyana (GoG) and prepared by Price Waterhouse Coopers UK. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of Guyana and Norway (MoU, 2009), declares that financial support from Norway for REDD+ results achieved by Guyana will be used in full to support activities and investments within the framework of Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS).

This report, together with measurable and independently verified results on the deforestation rate 2012, will be used to determine whether Guyana is eligible to receive a 4<sup>th</sup> results-based disbursement from the Government of Norway. Similarly, Norway is keen to provide the world with a relevant, replicable model for how REDD+ can align the development objectives of forest countries with climate change. The indicators to be assessed are part of an updated Joint Concept Note (2012) between the Governments of Guyana and Norway.

The overall approach of the independent verification is to apply best practices and guidance throughout the process to ensure an objective, independent, transparent and evidence-based process. The following references define the overall approach to the work:

- OECD DAC Network on Development Evaluation (2010) Quality Standards for Development Evaluation. DAC Guidelines and Reference Series.
- UNEG (2011) Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluation: towards UNEG Guidance. UNEG Handbook. Guidance Document.
- UN REDD (2012) Guidelines on stakeholder engagement in REDD+ Readiness with a Focus on the Participation of Indigenous Peoples and Other Forest Dependent Communities. April 20, 2012.

A self-assessment report and an evidence package were submitted to the independent verification team. The self assessment report was submitted 1 week prior (August 12, 2013) to the in-country mission which commenced on the August 19, and the evidence package was submitted upon the first day of the in-country mission. Further documentary evidence was provided to the verification team throughout the in-country mission and up until the 20<sup>th</sup> September. Over 400 documents in the form of emails, statements by politicians and government agencies, field reports, press releases, contracts, agreements, plans, workshop/meeting agendas, maps, terms of reference, stakeholder comments and responses, land titles, procurement plans and budgets, were received by the team.

At the time of the validation workshop August 30, 2013, out of 18 indicators, 6 indicators were met, 2 indicators were partially met, 3 indicators required further clarification of information and 5 indicators were not met.

The main reason why a number of the indicators were partially met or not met had a lot to do with the wording of the indicator and the lack primary documented evidence submitted. In addition, the Government of Guyana had several important documentations under review that were expecting to be officially endorsed or submitted, e.g. Draft national land use plan, Amerindian Land Titling Project presented to GRIF SC, within days of the validation workshop.

The independent verification team made the decision that since the stakeholder consultation and comments period was valid until September 20, the team would review new evidence submitted before the September 20, and upgrade the indicators if sufficient evidence was submitted.

A summary of the final results for each indicator is presented in the following table and compared against the self-assessment. 13 of the 16 indicators are met. 1 indicator is not met and 2 indicators are partially met.



**Table - Summary of the Final Results for Each Indicator**

Description of the Indicators	Self Assessment	Independent Verification Result
<b>1. Strategic Framework</b>		
Continued engagement between IDB and GFC for advancing the agreement on the FCPF	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Guyana will publish the LCDS Addendum with updated LCDS strategy, including learnings to date from the Norway-Guyana partnership and a plan of advancement on the FCPF	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
<b>2. Continuous Multi-stakeholder Engagement</b>		
Monthly meetings of the MSSC with comprehensive minutes made publically available immediately upon approval from the MSSC meeting	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Establishment of Communications and Outreach team within OCC, PMO or REDD+ Secretariat, in anticipation of the GRIF resources for its operations	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Present the Information and Consultation PCN to the GRIF Steering Committee	<b>Significant Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Regular updates of the GRIF and LCDS websites. Update with relevant information about progress of on-going processes	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
<b>3. Governance</b>		
Application for EITI Candidacy at the EITI Board Meeting May 2013	<b>Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Not Met</b>
Develop interim definition of legality of EU FLEGT VPA for Guyana by end of June 2013	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Outline in 2013 MNRE Program to manage degradation from extractive activities	<b>Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
<b>4. The Rights of Indigenous Peoples within REDD+</b>		
Indicator 4a: Present the Amerindian Land Titling project to the GRIF Steering Committee, after the normal GRIF public hearing period for new project notes is concluded	<b>Significant Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Indicator 4b: Opt-in concept note ready and pilot community for opt-in mechanism selected	<b>Significant Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>
Indicator 4c: Strategy and development of tailored information and consultations for hinterland communities addressed in the outreach program	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>
Indicator 4d: Initiating implementation of Community Development Plans through the Amerindian Development Fund	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>



<b>5. Integrated Land Use Planning and Management</b>		
Strategic Approach to land use planning publically communicated by March 2013	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</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>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Indicator 5c: Based on the evolving area use map, determine a roadmap by June 2013 to codify the formal status of varying degrees of protection for the areas identified as Intact Forest Landscapes and priority areas for biodiversity. This will gradually replace the Intact Forest Landscapes interim performance indicator.	<b>Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>



## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

The primary objective of the Norwegian Government's climate policy is to play a part in establishing a global, binding, long-term post-2012 regime that will ensure deep enough cuts in global greenhouse gas emissions. *To this end, the Government has launched Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative and pledged substantial funding towards efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.*

On November 9, 2009, Guyana and Norway signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) regarding cooperation on issues related to the fight against climate change, in particular those concerning reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD+), the protection of biodiversity, and enhancement of sustainable, low carbon development.

An accompanying Joint Concept Note (JCN) set out the framework for taking the Guyana-Norway co-operation forward. It set out how Norway would provide Guyana with financial support for REDD+ results, and formed the basis for the first payment from Norway to Guyana. An update of the Joint Concept Note was finalized in March 2011 and has guided the partnership until December 2012.

Since the first Joint Concept Note was published, considerable progress has been made in the Guyana-Norway cooperation.

Norwegian financial support is being channeled through a multi-contributor financial mechanism – the Guyana REDD+ Investment Fund (GRIF). The support is financing two sets of activities:

- ◆ The implementation of Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS)
- ◆ Guyana's efforts in building capacity to improve overall REDD+ and LCDS efforts.

The first payment to the GRIF was made in October 2010 and the second payment in March 2011 for results achieved between October 1, 2009 and September 30, 2010. The third contribution was announced in December 2012 for forestry results from January 1 to December 31, 2011 and for results on indicators of Enabling Activities from October 1, 2010 to December 21, 2012.

The most recent Joint Concept Note (2013) constitutes the overarching framework for taking the Guyana-Norway cooperation forward. Specifically, it addresses Paragraphs 2 (c), 3 and 4 of the MoU signed between Guyana and Norway on November 9, 2009. The Joint Concept Note (JCN) sets out how Norway is providing, and will continue to provide, financial support to Guyana, based on Guyana's delivery of results as measured, and independently verified or assessed, against two sets of indicators:

*REDD+ Performance Indicators:* A set of forest-based greenhouse gas emissions-related indicators, as described in more detail in section 3 of the Guyana-Norway JCN updated in 2012. Results against these indicators will be independently verified according to the established practice of the partnership. These indicators will gradually be substituted as the system for Monitoring, Reporting and Verifying (MRV) emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in Guyana is further developed. The MRV system is already established guided by the MRV roadmap, but will be further developed.

*Indicators of Enabling Activities:* Indicators are identified that can be independently assessed through publicly available information on progress regarding a set of policies and safeguards 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 on November 9, 2009, namely "that Guyana's



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LCDS Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee and other arrangements to ensure systematic and transparent multi-stakeholder consultations will continue and evolve, and enable the participation of all affected and interested stakeholders at all stages of the REDD+/LCDS process; protect the rights of indigenous peoples; ensure environmental integrity and protect biodiversity; ensure continual improvements in forest governance; and provide transparent, accountable oversight and governance of the financial support received”.

## **1.2 Contractual Arrangement**

Indufor and the Norwegian Ministry of the Environment signed the contract for the independent evaluation on July 9, 2013. In the original contract, the in-country mission by the independent verification team was to commence no later than August 15.

The original proposal by Indufor, was to commence the in-country mission on the August 4, 2013. However, at the request of the Government of Guyana, the in-country mission was shifted to a later date to commence on the August 19. This was to ensure that all stakeholder groups could be adequately informed in advance and familiarise themselves with the Government of Guyana’s self-assessment report on the enabling actions. The shift in date was also agreed with the consent of the Government of Norway.

To further accommodate the requests of the Government of Guyana to commence the independent verification at a later date, the Enabling Actions 1,3 and 5 were assessed in the first week of the in-country mission, and the Enabling Actions 2 and 4, which focus on stakeholder engagement, were assessed in the second week of the in-country mission.

## **1.3 Scope of the Independent Verification Assessment**

The scope of the independent verification assessment is defined by the most recent version of the Joint Concept Note (JCN) prepared in 2012.

The independent verification will verify the progress from December 21, 2012 – June 15, 2013.

Through 2012, the Government of Guyana continued to improve governance standards within the REDD+-related forest dependent sectors. These efforts to improve REDD+ -related governance, will continue in 2013 and onwards. The information necessary to assess Guyana’s completion of the actions below will be easily accessible in the public space. Based on the goals of the partnership, the following actions should have taken place between December 21, 2012 and June 15, 2013:

### Strategic framework

- ◆ Continued engagement between the IDB and the 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.
- ◆ Guyana will publish its LCDS Addendum which will highlight its updated REDD+ strategy, including learnings to date from the Guyana-Norway partnership and an outline plan for advancement on the FCPF programme.

### Continuous multi-stakeholder consultation process

- ◆ Monthly meetings of the MSSC, with comprehensive minutes of every meeting made publicly available immediately upon approval from the following MSSC meeting.
- ◆ Establishment of a Communications and Outreach team within the OCC, PMO or REDD+ secretariat, in anticipation of GRIF resources for its operations (see next point).
- ◆ With reference to the long term goals: Information and consultation project concept note presented to GRIF SC. The project will be addressing general information concerning Climate change and REDD+, LCDS and the Norway Guyana partnership,



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specific information on Amerindian land titling, the opt-in mechanism, FLEGT, EITI, IFM, GRIF projects and other relevant information. The project will recognize the need of tailored and non-internet based information to indigenous groups and others without stable internet access.

- ◆ Regular updates of the GRIF and LCDS webpages.

#### Governance

- ◆ Application for EITI Candidacy at EITI board meeting in May 2013.
- ◆ Develop an interim definition of legality for the EU FLEGT VPA for Guyana by end of June 2013.
- ◆ Outline in 2013 a GoG (MNRE) programme, with a 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 stake holders towards ensuring sectoral best practices are applied and sustained thereafter, where necessary

#### The rights of indigenous peoples and other local forest communities as regards REDD+

- ◆ Present the Amerindian Land Titling project to the GRIF steering committee, after the normal GRIF public hearing period for new project notes is concluded.
- ◆ Opt-in concept note ready and pilot community for opt-in mechanism selected.
- ◆ Strategy and development of tailored information and consultations for hinterland communities addressed in the outreach program.
- ◆ Initiating implementation of Community Development Plans through the Amerindian Development Fund.

#### Integrated land-use planning and management

- ◆ Strategic Approach to land use planning publicly communicated by March 2013.
- ◆ 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.)
- ◆ Based on the evolving area use map, determine a roadmap by June 2013 to codify the formal status of varying degrees of protection for the areas identified as Intact Forest Landscapes and priority areas for biodiversity. This will gradually replace the Intact Forest Landscapes interim performance indicator.

### **1.4 Objectives of the Independent Verification Assessment**

The objective of the assignment is to independently assess the *Progress Report on Enabling Activities*, prepared through a self-assessment process overseen by the Office of Climate Change, within the Government of Guyana (GoG) and prepared by Price Waterhouse Coopers UK. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of Guyana and Norway (MoU, 2009), declares that financial support from Norway for REDD+ results achieved by Guyana will be used in full to support activities and investments within the framework of Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS).

This report, together with measurable and independently verified results on the deforestation rate 2012, will be used to determine whether Guyana is eligible to receive a 4<sup>th</sup> results-based disbursement from the Government of Norway. Similarly, Norway is keen to provide the world with a relevant, replicable model for how REDD+ can align the development objectives of forest countries with climate change.



### 1.5 The Independent Verification Team

This Independent verification focuses on assessment of indicators of the REDD+ enabling activities, not REDD+ performance indicators. The assessment was carried out by Indufor, a Finnish consulting firm based in Helsinki, Finland. The independent verification team comprises of the persons in the following table.

**Table 1.1 Independent Verification Team**

Name	Role	Expertise
<b>Majella Clarke</b>	Team Leader, International Consultant	REDD+, safeguards, FPIC, socio-economic issues, monitoring and evaluation, development cooperation, political processes related to management of natural resources, Norwegian International Climate and Forest Initiative, gender, climate policies.
<b>Vernon Copeland</b>	International Consultant	Integrated land use planning and management, governance, land tenure, development cooperation, monitoring and evaluation, gender, FLEGT, REDD+, Monitoring and Evaluation, domestic policies in Guyana, especially in relation to land and forest policy and Guyana's low carbon development strategy.
<b>Sandra Jones</b>	National Consultant	Evaluation, public consultation processes, institutional strengthening, public sector reform, human resource development, socio-economic issues, organizational development, political processes related to natural resources, agriculture, mining.

Quality Assurance was done by Mr Tapani Oksanen of Indufor Oy.



## **2. SELF-ASSESSMENT REPORT AND EVIDENCE PACKAGE SUBMITTED FOR VERIFICATION**

### **2.1 Self-assessment Report**

The Draft Guyana-Norway REDD+ Enabling Activities Report – Annual Performance July 1, 2012 – June 15, 2013, herein referred to as “the self-assessment report”, was prepared by Price Waterhouse Coopers (PwC) UK, on behalf of the Government of Guyana, and was released in August 2013. The self-assessment report is also available on the low carbon development strategy website:

<http://www.lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/redd%20enabling%20activities%20report%20-%20august%202013.pdf>

Learning from previous years of verification, one of the aims of the self-assessment report is to facilitate the independent verification process of REDD+ enabling actions by linking the progress of an indicator with specific evidence. The report is compiled based on an evidence package submitted to PwC by the Government of Guyana (GoG).

The structure of the self-assessment report firstly lists the relevant indicators and enabling actions. The summary of progress is presented in a short paragraph and the self-assessment rating is given, ranging from the following:

1. Indicator met
2. Significant progress made
3. Progress made.

The self-assessment report did not include a self-assessment rating of indicator not met. Nor did it include a description of what distinguishes the self-assessment ratings of significant progress made from progress made.

An introduction to the indicator is given followed by the summary of progress in the reporting period (July 2012-June 2013). Footnotes on each page link the content of the self-assessment with the relevant document in the evidence package.

The self-assessment report also includes chapters on:

- ◆ Progress beyond the reporting period towards the Joint Concept Note (JCN) update indicators and proposed action plans;
- ◆ Financial Mechanism;
- ◆ Stakeholder Comments on progress during the reporting period, and,
- ◆ Conclusion.

### **2.2 Summary of Progress, Constraints and Challenges as Stated in the Self-assessment Report**

Chapter 1 of the self-assessment report states that: 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



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- ◆ 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.

Constraints and challenges were also identified in Chapter 2 of the self-assessment report and the following reasons were given within this context for not meeting indicators:

1. **Financing through the GRIF** – limitations in the current structure have made GRIF unwieldy, expensive and insufficiently effective
2. **Delays in Non-GRIF related partnerships** – as with the GRIF, other partnerships have significantly blunted the ability of the GoG to deliver under actions, e.g. FCPF. 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
3. **Communications and Outreach** – Distribution of 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.

### **2.3 General Impressions on the Self-Assessment Report from the Independent Verification Team**

The self-assessment report is a very useful basis for the verification linking important elements of LCDS and REDD+ progress with documentation. The self-assessment report is a grounding document for all parties to refer to, and it played a role in facilitating an efficient verification process.

In general, the key short-coming of the self-assessment report is that it fails to provide a critical analysis of the outputs against the indicators stated in the JCN. For example, in the summary of progress many achievements are celebrated, but many of these achievements are only partly related to a JCN indicator. This feature occurred throughout the verification process with enormous amounts of information and evidence compiled for indicators, but the required output for the indicator itself was sometimes overlooked. Despite this, the indicator was self-assessed as “indicator met”. For further examples, see Government Validation Workshop, in section 3.

With respect to the constraints and challenges listed in the self-assessment report, indeed there are some real challenges ahead for the GRIF, non-GRIF partnerships and communications and outreach. However, stronger coordination and communication between agencies and a much more thorough monitoring of performance against JCN indicators could overcome some of the challenges with respect to GRIF and non-GRIF partnerships.

The common challenge of communications and outreach reported throughout the self-assessment (and in stakeholder consultations) magnifies the significant need for a robust communications and outreach strategy, and indicator 4c addresses this need.



The self-assessment report does not include or address the impact on indicators of the following key challenges and constraints that came up during the in-country mission:

**Coordination** – roles and responsibilities should be set for each indicator/enabling activity. In some indicators, this has already been done, but in others it was lacking and caused confusion on who should prepare an output for an indicator. Some of this can be attributed to newly established agencies under the new Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and one can be optimistic that the situation will improve over time, but nonetheless should be considered for future JCN negotiations and verifications.

**Quality expectations within an enabling action** – What is a strategy? What is a roadmap? What is meant by tailored information? How should lessons learned be presented? What should an outline of a program address? These are all issues that came up where the verification team's impressions of progress and output would differ from the self-assessment report. The reality is that there is no guidance on what constitutes a strategy document or a roadmap, and therefore this aspect of verification is open to debate. Consequently, it causes challenges and constraints in meeting indicators and enabling actions.

**Disconnect between procurement and technical quality requirements of MDBs compared with local expectations** – this is perhaps the critical challenge and constraint that needs most attention and is directly related to the performance of the GRIF and non-GRIF partnerships to date. Procurement and MDB safeguards are complicated and do take time, but they are also necessary, and the reality is that no MDB is going to deviate from their procurement and safeguard processes to “speed things up”. In this respect, a number of divergences from the self-assessment report became apparent within consultations during the in-country mission. Future negotiations on the JCN enabling actions should include representatives from the relevant MDBs, and in-country technical assistance, if needed, should be readily available to the Office of Climate Change or relevant agency, to put things back on track for both the MDB and Government agency.

## 2.4 Evidence Package

An evidence package with a reference matrix in excel was provided to the verification team on the August 19, 2013 upon arrival in Georgetown. The reference matrix compiles all the information gathered during the self-assessment. It is extensive with over 400 documents for 18 enabling activities. The evidence package provided primary and secondary documented evidence, which was triangulated with stakeholder consultations to get the final verification result.

Additional evidence was submitted during the stakeholder consultation process that continued after the in-country mission until the September 20. Additional evidence submitted was incorporated into the evidence package and led to the upgrade of several enabling actions.

The evidence package includes documentation in the form of emails, statements by politicians and government agencies, field reports, contracts, agreements, plans, workshop/meeting agendas, maps, stakeholder comments and responses, land titles, procurement plans and budgets, to name just a few.

Most documents were well organised per indicator and enabling activity, though it was unclear how some documents were relevant. Nonetheless, the evidence package demonstrated considerable organisation and commitment from the Government of Guyana's part.



### 3. APPROACH

#### 3.1 Guidance Documents for Best Practice

The overall approach of the independent verification is to apply best practices and guidance throughout the process to ensure an objective, independent, transparent and evidence-based process. The following references define the overall approach to the work:

- ◆ OECD DAC Network on Development Evaluation (2010) Quality Standards for Development Evaluation. DAC Guidelines and Reference Series.
- ◆ UNEG (2011) Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluation: towards UNEG Guidance. UNEG Handbook. Guidance Document.
- ◆ UN REDD (2012) Guidelines on stakeholder engagement in REDD+ Readiness with a Focus on the Participation of Indigenous Peoples and Other Forest Dependent Communities. April 20, 2012.

These documents above were shared with all team members prior to the in-country mission.

The process for conducting the independent assessment will follow 3 main components:

1. Information Gathering
2. Stakeholder Consultation
3. Reporting and Quality Assurance

#### 3.2 Information Gathering and Document Review

As presented in section 2, a self-assessment report and an evidence package were submitted to the independent verification team. The self assessment report was submitted 1 week prior (August 12, 2013) to the in-country mission which commenced on the August 19, and the evidence package was submitted upon the first day of the in-country mission. Further documentary evidence was provided to the verification team throughout the in-country mission and up until the September 20. Over 400 documents in the form of emails, statements by politicians and government agencies, field reports, press releases, contracts, agreements, plans, workshop/meeting agendas, maps, terms of reference, stakeholder comments and responses, land titles, procurement plans and budgets, were received by the team as part of an initial evidence package from the self-assessment, and during the in-country mission.

The team categorised the documentation in the following manner:

1. **Primary documented evidence** – affects the result of whether an indicator is met.
2. **Secondary and supporting documented evidence** – supports the result, but does not determine, whether an indicator is met.
3. **Additional** – evidence that was not considered, because there was enough supporting and primary documentation
4. **Irrelevant** – evidence that was not considered, but was still part of the evidence package.

Primary evidence was reviewed with respect to quality and content, and an analysis of key documents is provided in section 4. The document review is important and the results feed into the findings and conclusions of the independent verification team.

Given the amount of documentation received, the reference matrix, in excel format, is annexed to this report and includes a document number corresponding to the self-assessment report, author, date of publication, name of document and file name and web link. The annex also shows which enabling activity the document is relevant.



### 3.3 Stakeholder Consultation

The stakeholder consultation process followed the *Guidance on stakeholder engagement in REDD+ readiness with a focus on the participation of indigenous peoples and other forest dependent communities*, (UN REDD, 2012) and used semi-structured interviews, group discussions and direct observation. In general, it included the following specific steps:

1. Define the desired outcomes of the consultation
2. Identify the stakeholders
3. Identify the issues to consult on
4. Define the terms of the consultation
5. Selection of the consultation and outreach methods
6. Ensure that the stakeholders have the capacity to engage fully and effectively in consultation
7. Conduct the consultations
8. Validation workshop at the end of the field mission (Government of Guyana only)

The stakeholder consultation process for the independent assessment of enabling activities started with the identification of stakeholders, the Office of Climate Change, Ministry of Amerindian Affairs, Guyana Forestry Commission and Multi Stakeholder Steering Committee played key roles in the identification process. The stakeholder consultation process included interviews with key informants and experts, focal group consultations, village consultations and feedback sessions.

Stakeholders involved in the consultation included representatives from the Government (Guyana and Norway), Indigenous NGOs, international NGOs, private sector, labor, forestry, mining, academia, NGOs, international technical advisors, international program representatives (e.g. EITI), civil society and communities.

The identification of stakeholders started with the Government of Guyana's, Office of Climate Change, which is the main coordination body for REDD+ in Guyana. Initial identification of potential stakeholders also commenced with the Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee (MSSC) and the Guyana REDD+ Investment Fund (GRIF) focal point. The MSSC members comprise of representatives from the Government, Indigenous NGOs, private sector, labor, forestry, mining and women's organisations, academia, NGOs and CSOs.

Stakeholders were initially identified per indicator, and once the self-assessment report went public, further identification of stakeholders ensued. The preliminary identification of stakeholders included those mainly working or acting at the central/national level of their institute, department or organisation that had a representation role that was linked to an indicator for independent assessment. To enlarge the list, the supplementary reading often noted workshops and meetings and identified and listed those who participated. These lists were also used in the early stages of stakeholder identification to broaden the stakeholder base beyond those in a representative role.

The office of climate change and in some cases the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs led a stakeholder preparation process. This was in the lead up to the stakeholder consultations during the field mission to ensure that all stakeholders were informed about the independent verification and the self-assessment report, via public announcement through multiple mediums (emails, projects, etc.).

Not all stakeholders were notified by the Office of Climate Change about the self-assessment report, and in such cases, the independent team outlined the relevant documentation and went through the report with the stakeholder first before starting the interview.



An email announcement of the independent verification was sent preceding the in-country mission to MSSC members, GRIF members and stakeholders identified early on working in representation roles. See also next section “Public Notice”.

The reality in evaluations and independent assessments, is that stakeholder identification continues beyond the identification that occurs before in-country missions, and therefore, open time allocations were factored into the in-country mission schedule and interview protocol to follow up on any new leads that were given by already identified stakeholders.

Amerindian and hinterland communities were identified and selected by the independent verification team, and the Office of Climate Change and Ministry of Amerindian Affairs facilitated visits to the communities of Santa Mission and Annai Central.

Community Consultations with indigenous peoples were carried out through their own existing processes, with a representative from the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs and the village representatives and Tashaos (village/community chief). Special emphasis was given to issues of land tenure, resource use rights and property rights because in many cases, these may not be clear, especially if customary rights on land areas are not codified.

The community consultations concluded with validation of main issues presented and discussed and a segment for further comments. The list of stakeholders and schedule are indicated in the Annex of this report.

### **3.4 Public Notice**

A public notice was given by the independent verification team, through the Office of Climate Change, on the Independent Verification of Enabling Activities before the in-country mission commenced. The public notice summarised the objectives of the independent verification according to the latest Joint Concept Note between the Governments of Guyana and Norway.

The public notice informed stakeholders of the in-country mission by the independent verification team between August 19-30.

The following mediums were identified to communicate the dates for the in-country mission and put stakeholders in touch with the independent verification team.

1. Email to stakeholders
2. Notification in 2 Guyana newspapers – Guyana Chronicle and Stabroek News
3. Announcement through Ministry of Amerindian Affairs to communities to be visited

The independent verification team worked closely with the Government of Guyana to ensure the most appropriate mediums of contacting stakeholders were used throughout the independent verification process.

Stakeholders were also encouraged to submit comments to the independent verification team during and after the in-country mission.

### **3.5 Validation Workshop for the Government of Guyana**

A feedback and validation session was arranged on the last day of the in-country mission by which the team reported the preliminary results from the in-country mission to the Government of Guyana and allow for further comments.

Several indicators required further evidence at the time, and it was agreed before the validation workshop that documentation would be submitted as it became available.

The table in Annex III summarises the initial results at the validation of results workshop, and shows how new submissions of evidence received by the September 20 upgraded the results for a number of indicators.



At the time of the validation workshop 30<sup>th</sup> August 2013, out of 18 indicators 6 indicators were met, 2 indicators were partially met, 3 indicators required further clarification of information and 5 indicators were not met.

The main reason why a number of the indicators were partially met or not met had a lot to do with the wording of the indicator and the primary evidence submitted. For example, the evidence package would consist of numerous accounts of communications and outreach at the field level, and stakeholders insisted that there was a communications and outreach team, but no terms of reference for the team or meeting minutes of the communications and outreach team were submitted before the validation workshop. This was the case for a number of indicators – the work and effort had clearly been done to produce an output that could lead to an indicator being met, but the wording of the indicator and the primary documentation required to meet an indicator was overlooked in some cases.

The feedback from the Government of Guyana was clear – that there had been a lot of progress on a number of indicators and they hoped the independent verification team could take these important milestones into account. In addition, the Government of Guyana had several important documentations under review that were expecting to be officially endorsed or submitted, e.g. Draft national land use plan, Amerindian Land Titling Project presented to GRIF SC, within days of the validation workshop.

The independent verification team made the decision that since the stakeholder consultation and comments period was valid until September 20, the team would review new evidence submitted before the September 20, and upgrade the indicators if sufficient evidence was submitted. The table in Annex 3 shows the indicator allocated during the in-country mission, and the target status of an indicator based on submission of new evidence before September 20. The table is updated for submissions received by the September 20, and which correlate to an upgrade in the result of an indicator.

### 3.6 Reporting and Quality Assurance

The reporting style that follows in section 4 requires some explanation as it deviates from conventional evaluation reporting styles. The aim of the reporting style used is to show a clear, systematic approach to the independent verification for each enabling indicator. The focus of the reporting style is to demonstrate an evidence-based approach to the independent verification with an emphasis of triangulating several different forms of evidence to come to conclusions.

**Triangulation** is essential for protecting results against invalidity and it involves the deliberate attempt to confirm, elaborate and disconfirm facts and interpretations through reference to the following:

- ◆ **Multiple data sources:** this includes primary and secondary documentary evidence, data collected from observations and key informants and stakeholders across an indicator
- ◆ **Multiple methods of data collection:** this includes document review, observations, and interviews across an indicator
- ◆ **Multiple Verifiers:** there are three verifiers that will participate in the in-country mission, one national, two international, and a quality assurance expert on the team. The team has two women and two men.

The outline of the independent verification results reporting is now described.



**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment** affects the result of whether an indicator is met. It is usually the key documentation required, such as a strategy, roadmap etc. in order to show that the indicator is met.

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review** supports the verification result, but does not determine, whether an indicator is met.

**Key Informants** are institutions/entities or stakeholder representative bodies that were interviewed. Most of the information given by key informants was used in the triangulation of documentary evidence. The key informants box also summarizes the most important stakeholders that can affect the outcome of an indicator.

**Stakeholder Comments** are summaries from discussions with stakeholders relevant to an indicator. It is in the stakeholder comments section one can see a number of views presented and how different stakeholders views diverge.

**Triangulation of Data** - through triangulation, the verifiers confirm the information from interviews, with direct observation, of events described by the interviewee, through interviews with other stakeholders, through documentary evidence of events, and through patterns of occurrence. This way, the descriptive validity of the consultation data can be assessed.

**Divergences** – in stakeholder comments or in evidence provided is noted in this section. Not all indicators had divergent information.

**Synergies** – in stakeholder comments and evidence provided is notes in this section.

**Independent Assessment Findings** – reflects on the evidence provided and triangulation of results and reviews the quality of evidence. It summarizes the main conclusions of the independent verification team.

Validation of results strengthens the accuracy of the data collected and the reasonableness of interpretations. Validation requires checking with informants about the accuracy of recorded data and the reasonableness of the interpretations to draw from them. There are some known validation techniques that were applied in the independent assessment:

1. Member checking – the review of data and interpretations by a gathering of persons representing relevant stakeholders. This was done in a validation workshop on the last day of the in-country mission with the Government of Guyana.
2. Comprehensive individual validation – individual validation of data and findings, which each informant, ensuring that there is an opportunity to review the data that they provided through the interview write up.

**Conclusion** - to further strengthen the accuracy and validity of results and conclusions, each verifier provides their conclusion and result on whether an indicator is met, partially met or not met. There is no specific order for the conclusions by individual verifiers, making results purposefully unattributable to an individual. In general though, the independent verification team were united on their position for most of the indicators. In cases where indicators have a different result, the majority of the team's result (2 out of 3) will be used to determine the final result also summarized and presented in the executive summary of this report.

**Final Result** indicates the verification team's final result on an enabling activity' indicator.

The final draft report and subsequent changes to the report has gone through an internal peer review process within Indufor, as required under Indufor's quality management system.



### 3.7 Indicator Assessment

Section 4 provides the basis of the independent verification of enabling actions and used the indicator template for each indicator developed and presented in the inception report. The following scoring system was used to assess and report the conclusions of the indicators.

**Indicator is met** – This indicates that all requirements or elements of the indicator are met. In previous independent verifications, the term is also used in cases where there was a delay in meeting the timelines established in the indicator, but where all material requirements were met by the end of the audit period. In the cases where material requirements were fully met, but timelines for document review or completion were delayed beyond the indicated dates or were not completed at the end of the audit period, the indicator is reported as met, but the delay in meeting the timeline is reported.

**Indicator is partially met** – This indicates that most material requirement or elements of the indicator are met, but at least one important requirement or performance element of the indicator is not met. The material requirement or elements that are not met are indicated in the text, and the reason for the conclusion of “partially met” is explained. A conclusion of “partially met” is not affected by findings that there were delays in the review or completion of documents beyond indicated dates or where timelines for document review or completion is not met by the end of the audit period. The delay in meeting the timeline is reported.

**Indicator is not met** – This indicates that most of the requirements or elements, including important elements of the indicator are not met. There may be individual requirements that are met, but overall, most of the indicator is not met.

### 3.8 Other

At the request of the Norwegian Government, one of the verifiers abstained from input on indicators 5a – strategic approach to land use planning and 5b – Map of area use. This was due to concerns of independence, and therefore only 2 verifier opinions and conclusions are presented for those indicators.



#### 4. INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OF ENABLING ACTIVITIES

##### 4.1 Enabling Action 1: Strategic Framework

**Indicator 1a: 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**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. Guyana's REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)
2. Guyana's R-PP Formulation Grant
3. Guyana's Country Progress sheets (2012,2013)
4. Documented communication between IDB and GFC in the form of letters, agreements, meeting memos or emails.
5. IDB mission Memo/aide memoirs
6. IDB project documents
7. Updated draft budget tables, ToRs and plan
8. Plan for Advancement of FCPF Program

**Key Informants:**

1. GFC Staff
2. IDB Staff Guyana Office
3. IDB focal for Guyana FCPF
4. Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
5. Office of Climate Change
6. Conservation International

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy
- Joint Concept Note
- Documentation on IDB's internal processes required for R-PP/Technical Cooperation document



**Stakeholder Comments:**

Guyana Forestry Commission: Guyana was one of the first countries to present its REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility's Participants Committee. A process that started in 2009. In November 2011, the Inter-American Development Bank became the delivery partner for Guyana's participation in FCPF under a scheme to test other potential delivery partners outside of the world bank. Between 2009 and 2012 the Guyana Forestry Commission has worked closely with the IDB to revise the draft R-PP in order to meet the IDB's approval process. The draft R-PP was originally developed using the World Bank template and based on this template, the participants committee approved Guyana's draft R-PP in 2009. Because the IDB is a different entity to the world bank, it required that Guyana's R-PP would be transferred to the Technical Cooperation (TC) document, so that Guyana's R-PP could enter into the IDB's project approval cycle. Since presenting the draft R-PP to the participants committee in 2009, Guyana's draft R-PP has gone through multiple consultation processes and revisions as required by the IDB and the most recent version of the R-PP was submitted in December 2012. There have been a number of delays and frustrations within the Government of Guyana with the pace and bureaucratic hurdles associated with the development of the R-PP. Currently there is no agreement or disbursement from the IDB to the Government of Guyana as of September 2013. In order to move the process along, a joint *Plan of Advancement for the FCPF Programme* was developed between the Guyana Forestry Commission and IDB based on the IDB project approval cycle. The GFC does not think that there is a lack of understanding of the Government of Guyana and IDB processes, and there are multiple IDB projects established in Guyana. Given the experience so far, there is an expectation of the GFC on the IDB to be more innovative regarding loan and grant procedures in the hope to move things forward.

IDB: The IDB have its own safeguards and procurement procedures which are consistent with the World Bank's operational policies, and there have been numerous conversations between the IDB and Government of Guyana regarding the procedures for the R-PP. There were several more missions than expected. The IDB expressed concern that even though the Guyana Forestry Commission were to lead the drafting of the R-PP, the IDB had concerns that there were issues within the R-PP that went beyond the mandate of the Guyana Forestry Commission. There were disagreements between the IDB and Government of Guyana on what level and who should lead the R-PP preparation process. For example, elements of the R-PP dealing with indigenous peoples went beyond the mandate of the Guyana Forestry Commission and would normally be dealt with under the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs (MoAA). The IDB perceived the risk that should something go wrong in the implementation, the Guyana Forestry Commission would not have the mandate to mediate or resolve the situation. The IDB was concerned that it was engaging with people without decision making power and noted that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) should be more engaged for leading the progress of the R-PP. IDB has high standards and the reason for the delays and additional missions was that the Government of Guyana and the IDB were not agreeing on some technical points. There has been no agreement to date between the IDB and Government of Guyana on technical quality of the R-PP document. There has been progress on the development of the joint Plan of Advancement of the FCPF Programme, which was developed between the Guyana Forestry Commission and the IDB based on the IDB project approval cycle.

Stakeholder: Did the IDB note the realities of stakeholders?



**Triangulation of Data:** A joint *Plan of Advancement of the FCPF Programme* was drafted up jointly between the IDB and the Guyana Forestry Commission based on the IDB's project approval cycle. The self-assessment report notes that the Plan of Advancement proposes August 4, 2013 for IDB board approval of the project documents, however this has not been done yet. Consultations with both the IDB and Guyana Forestry Commission note that there has been continued engagement on advancing the FCPF contingent on the IDB's internal processes throughout 2012 and 2013, and still continue. Consultations and documentation show that the IDB conducted a mission to Guyana in March 2013 to support the preparation of IDB documents. Following the mission, the Guyana Forestry Commission updated the relevant budget tables, prepared 23 Terms of reference and prepared a capacity need assessment and sustainability plan to support R-PP advancement. As of September 20, 2013, no agreement has been reached between the IDB and Government of Guyana on the R-PP, and no financial disbursement has been approved.

**Divergences:** The IDB noted that the Guyana Forestry Commission have not signed off on the IDB mission July 8-12<sup>th</sup>. The Guyana Forestry Commission believe that the July mission memoire was never meant to be signed off. The GFC also noted that they had not had IDB feedback on the February/March mission. There are divergences in opinion between the Government of Guyana and IDB on where the Government of Guyana currently is within the IDB's project approval cycle.

**Synergies:** All stakeholders agree that there has been an incredible effort to engage between the Government of Guyana and the IDB with the intention of advancing the FCPF program.

**Independent Assessment Findings:** Continuous engagement between the IDB and the Government of Guyana, in particular the Guyana Forestry Commission and Office of Climate Change is evident, and there is now a plan of advancement for the FCPF programme. The GFC have expectations on the IDB to be more innovative regarding grants/loans procedures and make sure the process is efficient. The reality is that no development bank will deviate from grant/loan procedures or safeguards.

<b>Conclusions:</b> (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
While there is a disconnect between the technical expectations and procurement processes between the IDB and Government of Guyana, there is clear evidence based on primary and secondary documentation and interviews that there has been continued engagement between the Guyana Forestry Commission and IDB with the intention of advancing an agreement on the FCPF based on the IDB's internal processes.	✓		
This indicator has been met but there seems to be confusion between GoG and IDB during the process that meant it has been handled inefficiently. The need for the development of a Technical Co-operation Document is straightforward but has taken far too long. Although there is evidence of considerable communication between both parties, there are too many points that demonstrate the need for improvements in this area. GoG and IDB have been partners for many years and such a problem seems difficult to understand. There may also be a need for more central co-ordination role by OCC between partners (government and non-government). This will be commented on later.	✓		



<p>Plan was submitted in 2008, with Guyana being first of three countries to submit a Plan. Initial consultation started with World Bank who piloted the “multi-delivery partner approach. USD 70,000 of USD 200,000 to go to Toshias Council (including non-indigenous stakeholders).</p> <p>IDB was to be the main delivery partner. Administration for funding had to be retrofitted according to IDB’s in-country system. This process is still to be completed. A Plan of Advancement is needed.</p> <p>‘Lessons Learnt’ were identified as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- IDB could have been more innovative with regards to the Loan/Grant arrangement for FCPF.</li><li>- REDD+ is new to IDB.</li></ul>			
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<p><b>Final Result: Indicator Met</b></p>			
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**Indicator 1b: Guyana will publish its LCDS Addendum which will highlight its updated REDD+ Strategy, including learning's to date from the Guyana-Norway partnership and an outline plan for advancement on the FCPF**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. LCDS Addendum with:
  - Updated REDD+ Strategy
  - Learning's to date from Norway-Guyana partnership
  - Outline plan for advancement on the FCPF

**Key Informants:**

1. GFC Staff
2. Norwegian Ministry of the Environment
3. IDB focal for Guyana FCPF
4. Ministry of Amerindian Affairs

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy
- Previous REDD+/LCDS strategy documents
- Joint Concept Note
- Results from Indicator 1a above
- Previous independent assessment reports
- Government of Guyana presentations at international meetings

**Stakeholder Comments:**

Office of Climate Change: Guyana published its updated low carbon development strategy in March 2013 and is publically available from Guyana's low carbon development strategy website ([www.lcnds.gov.gy](http://www.lcnds.gov.gy)). The president launched the low carbon development strategy and over 500 copies have been distributed through the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs as part of an information package delivered to all Amerindian villages.

Guyana Forestry Commission: The LCDS strategy was updated and launched in March 2013, it included an updated REDD+ strategy. The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility's (FCPF) R-PP process has had a positive impact, despite delays, as it has provided the basis for developing Guyana's national REDD+ strategy. The outline plan for advancement on the FCPF programme was developed jointly between the Guyana Forestry Commission and the IDB in June 2013, and is therefore a separate document to the updated LCDS addendum, which was published in March 2013.

Ministry of Amerindian Affairs: We led the distribution of hundreds of copies of the updated LCDS among Amerindian communities, and awareness raising events have followed in some areas in the country.

IDB: received an announcement that the updated low carbon development strategy was available online.

Norwegian Ministry of the Environment: Received notification that the LCDS addendum was published. As this is very much a learning by doing model, we did not have specific expectations, but believe that each of the processes contains learning aspects.

Other: NGOs and members of the MSSC mentioned that they were informed that the LCDS updated strategy was available online from the LCDS website.



**Indufor** ...forest intelligence

**Triangulation of Data:** Based on the document *Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy Update – Transforming Guyana's Economy while Combating Climate Change*, and consultations with a number of stakeholders, it is clear that the updated LCDS, also referred to as the LCDS addendum, was launched in March 2013, and the document is publically available from the LCDS website. In addition, there has been a clear effort from the Government of Guyana to disseminate low carbon development strategy materials to remote Amerindian communities. The updated LCDS addendum has progressed significantly compared with the initial LCDS 2009 document. This being said, the document released in March 2013, did not include a comprehensive analysis of learning's to date from the Norway-Guyana partnership, it rather gave a status update on the project's initiated by the Norway-Guyana Partnership, see chapter 4. The outline for the plan of advancement on the FCPF was drafted in June 2013, and therefore was not included in the original LCDS addendum. Despite this however, the FCPF plan of advancement is online and available from both the LCDS and Guyana Forestry Commission websites.

**Divergences:** In the outline Plan for the Advancement of the FCPF Programme, the plan proposes August 4<sup>th</sup> 2013 for the IDB approval of the project documents. Upon consultations with stakeholders, the approval of project documents was not brought before the IDB board.

**Synergies:** Stakeholders unanimously agree that the LCDS update was launched, published and made available in March 2013.

**Independent Assessment Findings:** There are multiple materials online showing lessons learned from Guyana's REDD+ work, and these were overlooked in chapter 4 of the LCDS update published in March 2013, however when this was brought to the attention of the Office of Climate Change, new evidence was submitted to the verification team that summarised lessons learnt from the Norway-Guyana REDD+ partnership. The learning's to date document is now available from the LCDS website, in addition to the outline Plan for Advancement of the FCPF programme. The national REDD+ strategy is expected to be further developed once the R-PP commences implementation. The current reference to the REDD+ model in chapter 4, is described as an interim process, because there is no agreement on an international REDD+ mechanism under the UNFCCC. The LCDS contains some very important and key elements and actions that could constitute part of a REDD+ strategy, especially: the Centre for Biodiversity, hinterland and Amerindian development, and a climate resilience strategy that includes mangroves.



Conclusions: (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
<p>The indicator is met, even though the inclusion requirements were not originally met in the LCDS addendum. One of the key limitations was that the R-PP process was delayed, and therefore the outline for the plan of advancement of the FCPF programme was not drafted until June 2013, after the publication of the LCDS Addendum. This verifier felt that Chapter 4 of the LCDS addendum was not really a presentation of learning's to date, rather a status update. When these shortcomings were pointed out to the Government of Guyana, new evidence submissions ensued, and the required documentation was quickly posted on the LCDS website with the LCDS Addendum. The new evidence was taken into account and the indicator has been met.</p>			
<p>The indicator is met, based on additional evidence submitted. It might be worthwhile to suggest that LCDS relates to the country as a whole, and not to a specific Government Administration, Parliamentary oversight should be explored as an option to facilitate a smoother transition of responsibility and authority, while at the same time providing opportunity for more open, and hopefully, balanced discussion of the Project.</p>			
<p>An LCDS addendum has been published including an updated LCDS strategy. However, there is very poor presentation of the learning's to date from the Norway-Guyana REDD+ partnership. Reference is made in the document to lessons but it would have been better to consolidate this in a specific section giving more details. A note summarising lessons learned has been received by the verification team subsequent to the field mission. This new note does give some interesting and valuable lessons but the basic point remains of why this was not done before and fully incorporated into the revised LCDS. The note has now been put on the LCDS website and so the indicator can be considered met</p>			

<h2>Final Result: Indicator Met</h2>			
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#### 4.2 Enabling Action 2: Continuous Multi-Stakeholder Consultation Process

**Indicator 2a: Monthly meetings of the MSSC, with comprehensive minutes of every meeting made publically available immediately upon approval from the following MSSC meeting**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. MSSC meeting minutes
2. [www.lcds.gov.gy](http://www.lcds.gov.gy) web link to MSSC
3. MSSC Minutes for Technical Briefing Sessions and Special Sessions

**Key Informants:**

1. MSSC Committee Members (Govt, Indigenous NGOs, Private Sector, Labor, Forestry, Mining, Academia, NGOs and Civil Society)
2. Office of Climate Change
3. Norwegian Ministry of the Environment

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- Indicator 2 d below

**Stakeholder Comments:**

MSSC Committee Members: Monthly meeting minutes of the MSSC are made publically available online under the MSSC tab. The quality of the meeting minutes is exceptionally high.

Office of Climate Change: We publish the meeting minutes after every meeting on the LCDS website and circulate to members through the email.

Norwegian Ministry of the Environment: The reporting is adequate and the MSSC meeting minutes can be accessed from the LCDS website. No notification given via email when the minutes are available.

Other: The selection and representation of MSSC members is political, and one stakeholder complained that she had been cut from the MSSC for no apparent reason and felt the decision was politically motivated. A stakeholder mentioned that the current list of MSSC stakeholders still needs to be updated because representation of organisations has changed. Another stakeholder mentioned that summaries would be good on the technical minutes.

**Triangulation of Data:** Stakeholders were unanimous – the monthly meeting minutes are made publically available shortly after MSSC meetings. The website has all meeting minutes, including technical sessions. The following website lists 56 minutes documents and cross validation with the web master confirmed that minutes are uploaded shortly after meetings.

[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)

**Divergences:** No divergent opinions on the uploading and availability of MSSC meeting minutes.

**Synergies:** Strong synergies, stakeholders were unanimous, MSSC meeting minutes are made publically available following the MSSC meeting.

**Independent Assessment Findings:** The meeting minutes are comprehensive and clear. All evidence supports that the Secretariat is one of the most efficient in Guyana.



<b>Conclusions:</b> (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
Strong evidence with documentation of publically available meeting minutes online and unanimous stakeholder opinion that the MSSC minutes are comprehensive and available shortly after every meeting.	✓		
Statutory meetings are held, minutes circulated electronically and 90% of the members attend all meetings.  With respect to the MSSC, there are some members names on the list who claim that they have not been notified of meetings. For example, the person listed as representing the Trade Union Council is no longer a member of that body, and no one else has been nominated to replace her.	✓		
This indicator has been met. All parties spoken to agree that a professional job has been done with regard to ensuring the public availability of high quality minutes and other information. A separate issue does arise concerning the composition of the MSSC but this will be mentioned later.	✓		

<b>Final Result: Indicator Met</b>	✓		
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**Indicator 2b: Establishment of a Communications and Outreach team within the OCC, PMO, or REDD+ Secretariat, in anticipation of GRIF resources for its operations, see Indicator 2c.**

<p><b>Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Terms of Reference for the Communications and Outreach team</li> <li>2. Meeting Minutes</li> <li>3. Emails between the Communications and Outreach team</li> </ol>	<p><b>Key Informants:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Communications and Outreach Team: Office of Climate Change, Guyana Forestry Commission, Project Management Office under the President’s Office, Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, Ministry of Amerindian Affairs.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Joint Concept Note</li> <li>▪ Indicator 2c below</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Information and Consultation Concept Note</li> <li>▪ 2013 Annual Operations Plan</li> <li>▪ LCDS Stakeholder Awareness Raising and Engagement Plan</li> <li>▪ Technical working group meeting No. 10 (11<sup>th</sup> January 2013)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stakeholder Comments:</b></p> <p>Communications and Outreach Team (OCC): The office of climate change chairs the communications and outreach team which held its first meeting in January 2013. The communications and outreach team is a spin off from the technical working group, and the meeting held on January 11, 2013 documents the establishment of the Communications and Outreach Team. There have been several meetings since its establishment, but members also communicate and share information through emails and this needs to be pointed out, because there is strong communication and information sharing within the team, even though there are different institutions and ministries interacting with each other.</p> <p>Communications and Outreach Team (GFC): The team had its first meeting in January 2013. There are many email exchanges between the team members. The team is chaired by the Office of Climate Change and there have been several formal meetings since January 2013. GGMC is not part of the team yet, they are expected to join once the project starts implementing activities.</p> <p>Communications and Outreach Team (MoAA): The communications and outreach team had its first meeting in January 2013. There is a good experience for sharing knowledge and inform participants how their represented institution is approaching communications and outreach. The team does not report to anyone specifically, instead they report to their own institutions. Meetings are ad-hoc. The team communicates a lot through email.</p>	



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**Triangulation of Data:** The communications and outreach team has documented its establishment with Terms of Reference, and there are meeting minutes that were submitted as part of the evidence package to demonstrate the team has met, and who has participated in the meetings. The minutes show that the team discuss matters that are consistent with the Terms of Reference. Consultations with team members verified that the Office of Climate Change chairs the meeting, which is backed up by emails sent between team members announcing meetings. Team members from GFC, OCC, PMO and MoAA are aware of the scope and mandate of the team and confirmed their participation.

**Divergences:** In the self-assessment report it states that Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC) was a member of the team. However it was later clarified that GGMC will join the team once the project is under implementation.

**Synergies:** The communications and outreach team is a spin off from the Technical Working Group and is coordinated by the OCC. It comprises of OCC, PMO, GFC and MoAA, and later on, the GGMC is expected to join.

**Independent Assessment Findings:** In the Technical Working Group Meeting held on January 11, 2013, the decision was made to establish a Communications and Outreach Team in accordance with the JCN requirements. The team comprises members representing the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC), Ministry of Amerindian Affairs (MoAA), the Project Management Office (PMO), the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, and the Office of Climate Change (OCC). This team is established primarily to develop a project concept on information, communication and outreach to be presented to the GRIF for support. Once the GRIF resources are made available the team will support the implementation of the project. The Communication and Outreach Team is expected to:

Review and provide guidance on the preparation of a Project Concept Note on information, communication and outreach to be presented to the GRIF; Oversee the implementation of a Project on information, communication and outreach (as supported by the GRIF); Coordinate information flows related to different parts of the LCDS implementation, climate change and REDD+, including LCDS progress, Independent Forest Monitoring (IFM), Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI), European Union Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (EU FLEGT), Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), Opt-In Mechanism and GRIF Projects such as ALT; Provide guidance and insight to tailored information specifically to the needs of indigenous groups, including non-internet based channels of communication such as face-to-face meetings, information packages and traditional media; and Infuse elements of the LCDS in the representative agencies outreach programmes. Some of the outreach work has already commenced, particularly with respect to the EU FLEGT process and LCDS progress.



Conclusions: (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
The documentation demonstrates that the team is formally established with a terms of reference, and has held meetings since January 2013. Members of the team confirm that the documentation is consistent with their experience in the team. The indicator is met.	✓		
Communications and Outreach Committee has a Terms of Reference and Minutes of subsequent Meetings. Reported that four Meetings had been held up to the time of Assessment.	✓		
The C&O team has been formally established with terms of reference. Whilst the meetings seem to be held on an ad hoc basis there is documentary evidence of meetings being held and discussions taking place via email. The indicator can be considered as met.	✓		

<b>Final Result: Indicator Met</b>	✓		
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**Indicator 2c: With reference to the long term goals: Information and consultation Project Concept Note (PCN) presented to GRIF SC. 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 the need of tailored and non-internet based information to indigenous groups and others without stable internet access.**

<p><b>Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information and consultation project concept note</li> <li>2. <i>Support for the Implementation of the LCDS Outreach and Awareness Activities in the Hinterland and Coastal Communities of Guyana</i>. February 2013</li> <li>3. <i>Implementing the LCDS Outreach Program: A Project proposal to the Government of Norway</i>. September 2013</li> <li>4. See Indicator 2b above</li> <li>5. GRIF SC memos or minutes</li> <li>6. Communications between GoG, IDB and GoN</li> <li>7. Institutional Strengthening in support of Guyana's LCDS (2012)</li> </ol>	<p><b>Key Informants:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Office of Climate Change and PMO</li> <li>2. IDB Guyana Office</li> <li>3. Ministry of Amerindian Affairs</li> <li>4. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment</li> <li>5. Guyana Forestry Commission</li> <li>6. Norwegian Ministry of the Environment</li> <li>7. Conservation International Guyana</li> <li>8. GRIF SC Members</li> <li>9. Stakeholders</li> </ol>
<p><b>Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Joint Concept Note</li> <li>▪ See 2b above</li> <li>▪ See 3a and 3b on EITI and FLEGT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See 4a, 4b, 4c and 4d on Amerindian land titling and opt-in mechanism</li> <li>▪ Low Carbon development Strategy</li> <li>▪ Email from OCC/PMO to IDB presenting PCN</li> </ul>



**Stakeholder Comments:**

Office of Climate Change: The Information and Consultation project proposal was completed in February 2013 and was based on meeting the requirements of the JCN. Shortly after the project concept note was drafted, it was submitted to the IDB in February in the hope to attain approval for financing. Due to the non-response from the IDB we were unable to advance the PCN titled 'Support for Implementation of LCDS Outreach and Awareness Activities in the Hinterland and Coastal Communities of Guyana' to develop into a project. This matter was discussed with the Government of Norway (GoN) and it was agreed for Guyana to explore alternative options, inclusive of delivering the project through Conservation International (CI). In order to deliver the project through CI we were guided by the GoN to revise the PCN (the same PCN we submitted to the IDB in February) in collaboration with CI using a format acceptable to the GoN. This format required additional sections such as "the arrangement between CI and OCC; Monitoring & Evaluation & Assessment of project risks" be added, among other changes. The PCN of Feb 2013, therefore, evolved into a revised document based on the guidance provided by the GoN and this was submitted by CI to Norway for their approval.

PMO: After experiencing challenges with the IDB's procurement process, the Government of Guyana decided that the IDB approval and procurement processes were too lengthy and that it would compromise the timeline for the document to be presented to the GRIF steering Committee by June 15, as stipulated in the JCN. Given this, the Government of Guyana decided to pursue alternative financing options and contacted Norway. According to the Government of Guyana, the Government of Norway responded that the consideration of the PCN would not take priority over the Amaila falls hydro power project, and the Government of Guyana decided to explore another approach that would meet the GRIF schedule. Since then, Conservation International Guyana was identified as a facilitating partner to channel financing for the project. In September, the document *Implementing the LCDS Outreach Programme: A Project Proposal to the Government of Norway* was presented to the Government of Norway, in lieu of the GRIF steering Committee.

IDB: Some observations – firstly, there is not enough coordination at MNRE for this project. Secondly, the IDB is not a signatory to the Joint Concept Note, and there still need to be internal discussions regarding that point. That being said, the IDB is willing to go to higher-level discussions with Government of Norway and Government of Guyana regarding the financing of the project. The fee for service mechanism is new for the IDB, but we have not heard any news back from the Government of Guyana if this is still on the table.

Conservation International Guyana: We were approached by the Government of Guyana to facilitate the implementation of the project with the role of administering the finance and providing technical advice, because there were anticipated delays from the IDB's involvement in this. Once the PCN is approved, we would expect implementation to commence by mid September. As an environmental NGO, we are a good choice of partner for this task because firstly, it is important to note the contrasting visions of a UN agency or development bank compared with an NGO. Our mission drives us to connect with the beneficiaries. Secondly, as an NGO the nature of the work requires a strong relationship with a broad range of stakeholders, and thirdly, as an NGO we are accustomed to managing small funds and projects efficiently, development banks have a completely different structure that supports large project implementation and financing.



MoAA: Have agreed on the finalization of the PCN. The document has gone through multiple iterations. Regarding the tailored outreach, any outreach approach needs to take into account that there are different conditions and challenges in different regions of Guyana. There are constraints on costs, and communication programmes tend to be expensive in Guyana. Tailored approaches should show different types of training and how to communicate in indigenous languages. Translations are important, and indigenous peoples prefer to use their native language. The technical officers are responsible for bringing together community leaders for consultation and they are charged with informing their communities, however the most effective method for communications and outreach in Guyana is face-to-face communication and consultation with remote communities. The only issue with this method is that it is resource intensive – it takes time and costs a lot.

Norwegian Ministry of the Environment: Norway received the project proposal on September 2, 2013 and sees the project proposal as an elaborated version of the PCN received April 30, 2013. Given that the GRIF SC is no longer the appropriate body for submission for this project, an equivalent body must ensure that civil society and indigenous group representatives are able to express their comments and concerns in a fair manner.

**Triangulation of Data:** The February PCN was designed to be presented to the GRIF SC, however due to reasons mentioned above, alternative implementing partners were sought. As a consequence, the PCN was elaborated and turned into a project proposal document to the Norwegian Government, which did not require GRIF SC approval. However stakeholders from both the Guyanese and Norwegian Government concur that the project proposal was received on September 2, 2013.

**Divergences:** The requirements for this indicator have changed and evolved over the course of 2013. The original PCN (February 2013) was later elaborated into the Project Proposal to Norway, and there were additional components and the budget request was much more than the PCN in February. In addition, the GRIF SC was no longer required to approve the document as the Government sought alternative financing arrangements beyond the IDB, and therefore, the Project proposal to Norway (September 2013) was sent to Norway for approval.

**Synergies:** Not many synergies between documentation, however stakeholders commented that the process and requirements for this indicator had changed due to the need to find alternative financing partners because the IDB's process were long and compromised the schedule.



**Independent Assessment Findings:** The PCN has gone through multiple iterations. In February 2013, the Office of Climate Change finalised the PCN titled *Support for the Implementation of the LCDS Outreach and Awareness Activities in the Hinterland and Coastal Communities of Guyana*. The document was drafted with the intention of accessing IDB finance, and was therefore designed around the IDB procurement process. A new document was drafted and finalised in September 2013 called *Implementing the LCDS Outreach Program: A Project proposal to the Government of Norway*. The PCN versions differ. The February PCN has 3 components: Component 1 – Sub-national consultants; Component 2 – Focused awareness and outreach sessions; Component 3 – other outreach and awareness sessions. Neither document components make specific reference to the Guyana-Norway partnership, FLEGT, EITI, IFM, and Amerindian Land Titling Project. The project concept notes are less technical and more general, though they make referenced citation of the Joint Concept Note requirements. The February PCN provides a list of communication and outreach tools and methods based on the LCDS Stakeholder Engagement and Awareness Plan 2013. Upon review of the LCDS stakeholder engagement and awareness plan, it is evident that there are multiple communication and outreach methods, but they are based on written forms of communication, or communication mediums that require access to electricity, such as TV, radio, Internet, DVDs etc., and these written and electric forms of communication came under scrutiny in consultations with indigenous peoples. In other words, the PCN, is arguably weak in recognising the tailored and non-internet approaches needed within the indigenous peoples communities. The September Project proposal has 4 components: Component 1 – Communications Planning and Implementation; Component 2 – Sub-national Outreach and Awareness; Component 3 – targeted outreach and awareness Sessions, and Capacity Building; Component 4 – Preparation and Production of Education Materials. The September Project proposal is stronger on tailored approaches for engaging indigenous peoples with limited electricity and internet access. The main difference between the February PCN and September Project proposal is the budget:

- ◆ February PCN submitted to IDB had a total budget of **GYD 72,665,100 or approximately USD 360,000**.
- ◆ September Project Proposal submitted to Norway had a total budget of **USD 1,036,650 + USD 115,340** for Conservation International

<b>Conclusions:</b> (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
New evidence was submitted in the form of a project proposal to Norway as the equivalent document and emailed to relevant peoples on 2 <sup>nd</sup> September. The indicator can be considered met.			



<p>The PCN has not been submitted to the GRIF Steering Committee. Indeed, it now seems unlikely that this will happen, or be necessary, as alternative implementation arrangements are being sort. A PCN was prepared in January 2013 and discussions held with IDB as to the exact process to be followed to develop the project with GoG requesting urgency and IDB stating that standard GRIF procedures should be followed.</p> <p>Given the decision by GoG that priority would not be given to the PCN over other important projects, an alternative implementing procedure has been explored and it seems highly likely that CI will now disburse GRIF funds for this project. Discussions have been held with the Government of Norway and a revised PN submitted to them in September 2013.</p> <p>If the exact wording of the indicator is followed then the indicator was not met at the time of the mission. However, as alternative mechanisms have been put in place any delay is limited. The indicator can be considered partially met.</p>		❖	
<p>This indicator is met, but just barely. The equivalent of the PCN document is the project proposal to Norway, and this was officially submitted on September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013. The GRIF SC was no longer the relevant body for submission of project documentation, and therefore members of both the Guyanese and Norwegian Governments were contacted to confirm that the documented had been submitted. There were some areas in the project proposal that could have ensured that the project aligned with the JCN. For example, the project should address general information concerning FLEGT, EITI etc., these specifications were not in the project proposal to Norway or the PCN. Upon reviewing evidence and stakeholder comments, it is this verifiers opinion that the project proposal will eventually be implemented as a result of the project proposal submission to Norway on September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013.</p>	✓		

Final Result: Indicator Met	✓		
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**Indicator 2d: Regular Updates of the GRIF and LCDS websites**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. [www.lcds.gov.gy](http://www.lcds.gov.gy) website
2. <http://www.guyanareddfund.org/> website
3. Documentation on GRIF and LCDS websites noting regularity of updates

**Key Informants:**

1. GRIF Representative and webmaster
2. Office of Climate Change
3. Norwegian Ministry of the Environment
4. Stakeholders

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- None

**Stakeholder Comments:**

Office of Climate Change webmaster: The LCDS website is updated regularly. The list of updates for both websites is correct.

UNDP: The websites are very useful.

Guyana Forestry Commission: We also have a website that has useful up to date information on it. LCDS website is used by many staff.

Ministry of Amerindian Affairs: The website is very useful for those that have access to Internet.

Norwegian Ministry of the Environment: Confirmed that they are regular users of both the GRIF and LCDS websites, and that they are updated regularly.

**Triangulation of Data:** The webmaster for the GRIF and LCDS reviewed the list of website updates and verified that the list of website updates was completed by himself. The list of website updates shows that the frequency of updates is between 1-4 times per month, and the information uploaded is listed and dated for both websites. The websites themselves are well designed. Stakeholders agree, particularly stakeholders from the Government, NGOs and donors, that the websites are a good source of up to date information. Stakeholders commented that the LCDS website was very useful for up to date information.

**Divergences:** No divergences in opinions or between documentation.

**Synergies:** Documentation and consultations provide strong evidence that the GRIF and LCDS websites are updated regularly.

**Independent Assessment Findings:** Documentation and consultations provide strong evidence that the GRIF and LCDS websites are updated regularly.



Conclusions: (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
Indicator is met. Documented list of website updates was submitted in the evidence package and the webmaster confirmed that the updates listed were uploaded by himself. The website updates were at least once a month, often up to 4 times a month for both websites. Stakeholders commented the websites were very useful.	✓		
The websites are reported as being well-managed. There was however a recommendation for reformatting so that notification could be sent via email.	✓		
This indicator has been met although there is a need to consider how some of the information is presented. There is clearly a need to provide summaries of some documents which are both lengthy and technical. More regard must be given to the target audience as most are not technical specialists. Questions of access to the internet also arise.	✓		

<b>Final Result: Indicator Met</b>	✓		
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### 4.3 Enabling Action 3: Governance

#### Indicator 3a: Application for EITI Candidacy at EITI Board Meeting May 2013

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. Application documentation for EITI candidacy
2. EITI board meeting minutes
3. Communication documentation
4. MoU signed between EITI and MNRE
5. Statement by MNRE September 17th 2013

**Key Informants:**

1. EITI focal point in Guyana(MNRE)
2. EITI representative
3. Office of Climate Change
4. Norwegian Ministry of the Environment
5. World Bank and IDB

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- MSSC meeting minutes
- GoG statement of intent to implement EITI
- GoG appointment of senior official to lead EITI
- Letter from MNRE to Ministry of Finance to support financial application for EITI from IDB
- Minutes from the phone conference in May 2013 attended by PwC, PMO, OCC, MNRE, and IDB Washington.

- Low Carbon Development Strategy
- Multi-stakeholder group documents to oversee EITI
- Multi-stakeholder group current work plan



**Stakeholder Comments:**

EITI focal point in Guyana: There have been delays with the EITI candidacy. Guyana did not want to use the same approach as other countries, and wanted to ensure that Guyana was not denied EITI candidacy. Guyana needed to determine its own level of transparency. The mining sector in Guyana is very different to most EITI countries. In Guyana, the mining sector is made up mainly of small and medium sized companies. The small scale operators do not keep track of records like large multinational companies, and this is a big challenge for Guyana. Given the challenges, a more realistic timeline for EITI candidacy would be achieved by mid 2015. We expect to conduct the scoping mission between December 2013 – March 2014. The application preparation is expected to go between June-December 2014. We understand that Norway wants to see progress on this, but they understand the situation. The delay for candidacy has run into challenges with financing of the scoping and feasibility study, of which stakeholder preparation and consultation is part of the study. The progress of EITI is available in MSSC minutes. It was agreed that the financing from the feasibility and scoping study would be through the IDB, however, the IDB reallocated finance and the funding became unavailable. The Government of Guyana made the decision to use its own financing to conduct the scoping and feasibility study. It is felt that the indicator was impossible to meet in the JCN timeline.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment: The EITI process started before the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment was established and was under the previous government administration. We have made progress in 2012 by allocating an EITI focal point and establishing the multi stakeholder group in February 2013. There have been some delays due to the financing of the scoping and feasibility study under the IDB. Since acknowledging the challenges, the Government of Guyana has decided to use its own financial resources for the scoping and feasibility study.

Private Sector Representation: We are a bit concerned about how the forest industry is treated within the EITI. The EITI application is over regulated. We have a different situation in Guyana, we do not have plantation businesses and we hear a lot of complaints from businesses and industry that it is difficult to compete with all the regulations and protocols. These processes have an adverse impact of penalising businesses and industry.

IDB: There have been discussions between the Government of Guyana and the IDB on the financing of the EITI candidacy application. We are still expecting to finance the EITI candidacy application, and have not been informed that the Government of Guyana has instead decided to use its own financial resources. The funds for the EITI application have not been reallocated, there is a special funding mechanism under IDB for EITI candidacy.

EITI representative: Fair to say that not much progress has been achieved since the MoU was signed May 15, 2012.

Office of Climate Change and PMO: The IDB had a short timeline for attaining the necessary finance, and the IDB informed the Government of Guyana of this in a phone conference in May 2013. The issue was that the funds had been reallocated to Caribbean countries and that there was a time difference between the financial needs. The Government of Guyana wanted technical assistance from IDB, not financial assistance.

Norwegian Ministry of the Environment: Has expressed concerns on the progress of this enabling indicator during the monthly dialogue with Guyana. It is our impression that work on this indicator has not been followed up in a sufficient manner.



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**Stakeholder Comments:**

Statement by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment: The Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment under the guidance of the Hon. Robert M. Persaud, MBA, MP, formally established the Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) for the Guyana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative in February 2013. The Minister in his deliberation in welcoming and thanking the members of the MSG for accepting this undertaking stated that this group will serve as the national committee for the EITI. One of the functions of the MSG will be to promote a high level of transparency in the extractive industries of Guyana. This will be achieved given the representatives on the group which includes personnel from the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, Private Sector Commission, Guyana Gold and Diamond Miners Association, Environmental Protection Agency, The Amerindian Action Movement of Guyana (TAAMOG), Ministry of Amerindian Affairs, Iwokrama International Centre, Guyana Women Miners Association, Ministry of Finance, Guyana Revenue Authority, Audit Office of Guyana, Ministry of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development, representative from the Bauxite Companies and Sand and Stones Companies as well as representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment. The MoNRE is the lead agency on the workings of the EITI, however, the drive and efficiency of the MSG will be from the membership of this national committee. The work of the MSG will be towards Guyana's preparation to apply for candidacy to the EITI which will be around mid-2015. A term of reference for a scoping/feasibility study on the readiness of Guyana for EITI has been finalized. The Government of Guyana through the respective office of the MoNRE and its responsible agencies will seek to work with the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank on the technical assistance of procurement for a consultant to undertake this study and the necessary evaluation of reports, thereafter. The advertisement for the consultancy to undertake the work of the scoping/feasibility study will be done both locally and internationally. The study will be fully financed by the Government of Guyana. The scoping study will involve all necessary levels representation of the extractive industries which will include the miners. The study is expected to be completed by the end of first quarter of 2014. Thereafter, the casted work plan for Guyana's tasks on the application of candidacy for the EITI will be finalized. The usefulness of the role of the EITI principles will allow for Guyana to develop a sustainable roadmap for our natural resources and the manner in which it will be managed. The GGDMA is supporting this initiative and will work with all stakeholders to organized, understand and comply with the given standards.



**Triangulation of Data:** A review of the minutes from the EITI board meeting May 2013 show that no submission of an application for EITI candidacy was made. In fact, there is no mention of Guyana's intention for EITI candidacy in the minutes or on the EITI website. Consultations with the Government of Guyana confirm that it has not submitted its application for EITI candidacy at the EITI board meeting in May 2013, and a more realistic timeline is mid 2015. The Government of Guyana felt that this was an impossible indicator to meet given the JCN timeline, however it should be noted that the process for EITI candidacy commenced in May 2010, so it is not a new idea within the Government. There are gaps in documentation and evidence on the financing of the scoping and feasibility study, particularly between October 2012, through which the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment submitted a letter to the Ministry of Finance requesting financing from the IDB. There is no documentation to show that the Ministry of Finance submitted the request for finance to the IDB and when such a submission as made. The next documented evidence comes from meeting minutes from a phone conference between PwC, IDB Washington, Office of Climate Change, PMO and MNRE. in May 2013, however statements by those that participated in the phone conference meeting are divergent and not represented in the minutes. There is no formal documentation to show that the Government of Guyana will finance the scoping and feasibility study, though numerous statements from the Government of Guyana staff note that this decision and allocation has already been made.

**Divergences:** Serious divergences on the issue of financing the EITI scoping and feasibility study exist. The divergences are between the IDB and the Government of Guyana. The IDB argue that the financing for the EITI application is available. The Government of Guyana argue that they were told by the IDB that financing marked for the EITI candidacy was reallocated. The IDB are still expecting to finance the study and have not been informed that the Government of Guyana will finance the scoping and feasibility study.

**Synergies:** Documentation and consultations between Government of Guyana and EITI show that the application for EITI candidacy was not presented at the EITI board meeting in May.

**Independent Assessment Findings:**

There are serious problems with evidence and submission of documentation on this indicator, and it can be called into question whether the Government of Guyana is serious about its EITI candidacy. There is some strong lobbying that is going on behind the scenes that would suggest opposition to progressing forward with the EITI candidacy. The issue has become quite political. A new approach with a reaffirmation of commitment to apply for EITI candidacy from the highest level of government should be considered.



Conclusions: (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
<p>There is clear evidence that the indicator is not met. Documentation and consultations are consistent that no application for EITI candidacy was presented at the EITI board meeting in May 2013.</p>			X
<p>This indicator has not been met. Strong political support has been expressed for EITI candidacy by senior politicians and a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between MNRE and EITI in May 2012. The final stage in the process for application is to conduct a fully costed work plan but this in turn relies on a scoping report by an independent body to provide details for the work plan. However, there has been delay due to reasons that are not altogether clear but relate to the funding for the study. There again seems, to the outsider, to be confusion between GoG and IDB as to the IDB procedures for accessing the funds for the study. No satisfactory explanation seems to be forthcoming from either party.</p>			X
<p>MNRE reported that they were currently in discussion with the WB and IDB to determine the level of applicability that would be given to technical assistance, since the IDB had a short time line for finance. They indicated that the application can be submitted by 2015. It was also indicated that progress was made with other initiatives besides the framework.</p>			X

<h2>Final Result: Indicator Not Met</h2>			X
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**Indicator 3b: Develop an interim definition of legality for the EU FLEGT VPA for Guyana by the end of June 2013.**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. Interim Definition of Legality
2. Guyana's Draft Scope of Agreement and Legality Definition
3. EU FLEGT Guyana Roadmap
4. Structure and Terms of Reference for the National Technical Working Group and Sub-Committees for EU FLEGT
5. Joint Roadmap for the VPA negotiations

**Key Informants:**

1. National Technical Working Group to Oversee the FLEGT process
2. FLEGT VPA focal point
3. Guyana Forestry Commission
4. Other Stakeholders (forest organisations, private sector, CSOs, Indigenous NGOs)

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- Guyana Forestry Commission EU FLEGT Updates and communications (online)
- Aide Memoire of the First negotiation session between Guyana and the EU on the FLEGT VPA

- EU FLEGT GoG EU Final Joint Statement

**Stakeholder Comments:**

National Technical Working Group Member: The national technical working group was developed to oversee the EU FLEGT VPA negotiations in Guyana. The GFC is the chair of the National Technical Working Group. As we go forward with this process, we must build on existing systems.

FLEGT VPA focal point: Guyana has a roadmap for the VPS negotiations, and this includes the preparation of the forest legality definition. The draft definition for legality was finalized in the second draft of the legality definition in June 2013. Next steps will include field testing of the legality definition in addition to stakeholder consultations in order to finalize the draft definition.

Guyana Forestry Commission: The terms "interim" and "draft" definition of legality refer to the same document. The legality assurance system for Guyana was conceived in 2007. Between 2009-2011 increasing awareness and consultations were held on the FLEGT VPA. The national technical working group developed the draft definition, and the scope currently focuses on timber products that are being exported to the EU and traceability of such products through the Chain of Custody (CoC).

Other Stakeholders: Awareness raising has been conducted at the community level of EU FLEGT VPA.



**Indufor** ...forest intelligence

**Triangulation of Data:** The interim definition of legality document, also referred to as the draft legality definition, is available on the GFC website and was provided in the evidence package by the Office of Climate Change. Stakeholders who were involved in the drafting of the interim definition also concur that this document is the current document used for the interim definition of legality. This is the second version of the draft definition. Stakeholders also concurred that the interim definition of legality was finalised by June 2013. Stakeholders mainly from GFC, mentioned that there were a number of achievements made throughout 2012-2013 in this respect. Firstly, the National Technical Working Group was established to oversee the EU FLEGT activities. This is documented in the Structure and Terms of Reference for the National Technical Working Group and Sub-Committees for EU FLEGT. Members of the National Technical Working Group validated the establishment of the group. Secondly, the Joint Roadmap for the VPA negotiations was developed for 2012-2015, and this included the drafting of a forest legality definition. Finally, the VPA Secretariat in Guyana was established within GFC.

**Divergences:** There were no divergences in evidence.

**Synergies:** The evidence is consistent.



#### **Independent Assessment Findings:**

An early criticism of REDD was that it was too focused on carbon accounting and did not pay sufficient attention to forest governance. The Guyana-Norway agreement avoids this criticism by incorporating various elements of governance including the EU-FLEGT Action Plan and the requirement for a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA). The FLEGT Action Plan requires a multi-stakeholder consultation process and extensive consultation has been carried out with civil society and in particular Amerindian groups and commercial forestry operators. The EU- FLEGT Action Plan aims to combat illegal logging and the trade in illegal timber and forest products. As such, it applies to products entering the EU market and in such a way that it does not contravene WTO agreements. In practice, however, the VPA's under FLEGT are not bound by the specific list of products given in the Action Plan (the list is a minimum that must be included) and neither does the VPA need to be solely focused on export to the EU. Experience in other countries shows that wider consideration of export products and destination markets can be successfully included. The EU- FLEGT Action Plan thus strengthens the Guyana-Norway agreement by tackling one of the key drivers of deforestation, illegal logging, and by enshrining consultation as a guiding principle.

Elements of a definition of legality and Guyana's compliance with this The EU-FLEGT Action Plan requires a definition of what constitutes legal timber so as to allow for the verification of timber products for export to the EU. As such it sets out the relevant laws and regulations in force in Guyana of relevance to this goal. In general the definition of legality (the standard) should:

1. Outline the legislative and regulatory requirements to be systematically fulfilled and verified to ensure legal compliance of timber products before a FLEGT license can be issued in a VPA partner country
2. Involve stakeholders in the legality definition so that there is a wide consensus supporting the defined requirements
3. Include the set of legal requirements responding to economic, environmental and social aspects of forest management and timber processing, and,
4. Include criteria and indicators with references to national law and include verifiers to be used for checking compliance

In general, the definition of legality meets the broad requirements necessary.

Areas where the legality definition could be strengthened: The definition follows closely the list of products as specified in the EU-FLEGT Action Plan (2003) as given in Annex 3 of Guyana's Legality Definition (version 1)\_050313\_GFC (MS Word version). Whilst this might reflect the bulk of the timber products exported from Guyana it is also quite restrictive and in the future may not reflect the reality of exports especially if there is a move to export value added products e.g. furniture.



**Independent Assessment Findings:**

The standard also only covers the forest products to be exported to the EU. It should be noted that other countries are also interested in adopting similar standards. The USA (through the Lacey Act) and Australia by the Illegal Logging Prohibition Bill (2011) are cases in point. Guyana might go further, as in the case of Indonesia, and ensure that all timber and forest products conform to the legality standard regardless of the export destination.

Further incorporation of FLEGT Action Plan elements in to the Norway-Guyana REDD+ agreement and future JCNs. The major parts of a Legality Assurance System are:

1. Legality Definition
2. Control of the supply chain
3. Verifying compliance
4. Issuance of FLEGT licenses
5. Independent Audit

Whilst all of these are important, more consideration should be given to items 3 and 5.

Verifying compliance that timber for export meets the legality definition and that the supply chain is controlled are incredibly important as is independent audit. Whilst mention is made of these items in the Road Map for Guyana EU-FLEGT VPA process for 2014/15 (Negotiating Meeting 5) perhaps this could be brought forward and incorporated into the next JCN with dates and indicators so that the process can be ensured.

<b>Conclusions:</b> (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
<p>EU FLEGT Programme included stakeholder meetings with Amerindians. A two-day National workshop resulted in the development of: (1) a road map, (2) Steering Committee. The Technical Working Group consists of 13 Groups, including: MOFA, MOLA, Indigenous People's Committee, Small Loggers. Representatives of Ghana and Suriname also participated. The first negotiations with the EU were held December, 2012. Minutes of Meetings are available. Work on the definition is incomplete. There is need for third party auditing. No one set of guidelines exist. The final definition is scheduled for completion by the first quarter of 2015. Activities still to be done:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Build on existing systems to draft legality definition</li> <li>2. Undertake an Impact Study</li> </ol>			



<p>This indicator has been met. The process towards an operational VPA between GoG and the EU is progressing well and substantiated by copious documentations and the interim definition of legality was submitted on time. A VPA can be a strong pillar of governance in the forest sector and complements REDD+. However, the VPA could be strengthened and a note has been written regarding this (see later).</p>			
<p>An interim definition of legality for the EU VPA FLEGT for Guyana was completed by June 2013. The indicator has been met.</p>			

<p><b>Final Result: Indicator Met</b></p>			
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**Indicator 3c (i): Outline in 2013 a GoG (MNRE) programme, with a particular focus on specific efforts to manage degradation from extractive activities where this needs to be done, including, for example: an enhanced miners' knowledge programme through a mining extension service initiative and enhanced dialogue with the sectors and relevant stakeholders towards ensuring best practices are applied and sustained thereafter, where necessary.**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. Outline of the Government of Guyana (MNRE) programme to manage degradation from extractive activities
2. Any documentation on a Mining extension service initiative
3. Any documentation on an enhanced miners environmental knowledge programme
4. Strategic Mining Regulation
5. GGMC's mining checklist
6. GGMC's compliance monitoring matrix
7. Emails with the Guyana Mining School and Training Center Inc.

**Key Informants:**

1. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
2. Guyana Geology and Mines Commission
3. Guyana Forest Commission
4. Guyana Gold Board
5. Protected Areas Commission
6. Guyana Land and Surveys Commission
7. Guyana Mining School and Training Center Inc.
8. UNDP
9. Stakeholders in extractive activities

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- MSSC meeting minutes
- Guyana's REDD+ Governance Development Plan
- Joint Concept Note
- Pamphlets from the Guyana Gold Board for raising awareness



**Stakeholder Comments:**

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment: We already have many activities in place that ensure best practices are being implemented and maintained, however, MNRE is a new entity and its draft strategic framework is quite recent. Nonetheless, the draft strategic framework identifies key challenges facing GGMC with respect to REDD+ and the mining sector. There is a low level of compliance with ex post restoration /reclamation regulations. The environmental bond system is ineffective because the bond value is too low. On the other hand, there has been concrete progress, and the Guyana Mining School and Training Centre Inc., is already giving its first classes in August 2013.

Guyana Geology and Mines Commission: The websites were proactive and updated; A Mining School has been established in Linden. Principal identified as John Applewhite; Mine Site Reclamation is being undertaken. However, the Reclamation Committee has not been meeting regularly; Joint management exercises have been held with the EPA. There is need for public consultations regarding 'Codes of practice'.

Guyana Forestry Commission: GFC monitors forest degradation through the MRVS, and that both GFC and GGMC sit on each other's Boards. Degradation from mining could potentially result in loss of biodiversity and habitat, pioneer species and contribute to soil erosion. While in forested areas, land clearance from large and medium scale operations are easily detected, the difficulty is with small-scaled operations in smaller areas. This usually contributes to degradation of less than one hectare. Although there will be fewer trees cleared per area than the large-scaled or medium-scaled operations, the small-scaled mining areas, cumulatively, could result in degraded areas similar to those of a larger scaled mining operation. This poses a threat to Guyana's degradation rates as small-scaled mining operations are currently not fully mapped.

GGDMA: Firstly, there is the misconception that mining is this problematic driver of deforestation in Guyana. In Guyana, the deforestation rate is very low. Its true that mining is the number one driver of deforestation in Guyana, but given the very low rate, this needs to be put in context – mining is not a problematic driver of deforestation and has many social and economic benefits. We have had consultations on degradation issue, and we are at the stage of implementation. There is a sense of consultation fatigue on a number of REDD+ areas. We have codes of practice.

Guyana Gold Board: We have a number of materials raising awareness of mercury use and mining. It is our policy that we do not facilitate trades of miners that use mercury in gold mining.

Guyana Mining School and Training Centre Inc.: I have recently being seconded from the GGMC to the position of Administrator/Coordinator of the Guyana Mining School and Training Centre Inc. I assumed this function on the 15th August 2013, the date which the school was launched to the public and the first suite of course were delivered. The first suite of courses were delivered by the College of North Atlantic of Canada, and commenced on the 15th of August until the 19th of August. Small class sizes of 15 participants were targeted.



Guyana Mining School and Training Centre Inc. (cont.) Participants were trained in the following areas:

- 1) Fall protection
- 2) Confined Space Requirement
- 3) Workplace Hazardous Management Information System (WHMIS)
- 4) Transportation and storage of Hazardous Materials

The Guyana Mining School and Training Centre Inc. is currently in the process of designing and executing short courses that will target small and medium scale operators of the mining industry. To this end the first one day course titled "Introductory Level Training of Prospectors for the mining industry" was designed and executed by myself on the 28th August 2013 at the International Convention Centre. This course focused on equipping miners and their agents (General Managers) to be able to relate and function with map products that are generated by the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission. Such map products include:

1) Regional Geo-chemical anomaly maps (mineralisation maps):- these maps are routinely prepared by the GGMC as part of their Regional Geo-chemical Exploration projects. Gold and 48 additional elements are analysed from samples taken from the stream at main positions that covers various catchment areas. In Guyana gold is primarily the focus for small and medium scale mining operations and as such these thematic maps showing the lateral distribution of gold, can be acquired by miners at a minimal cost from the Land Management Department of the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission. The training course "Introductory Level Training of Miners for the Extractive Industry" was designed to equip miners with critical skills sets to be able to relate and interpret these Mineralisation Map products. Participants were able to:

- a) read the coordinate of any sample position on these maps using the UTM system
- b) use a hand held GPS unit to mark the geographic coordinate on the ground
- c) enter new coordinates into the GPS
- d) use the go to function of the GPS to be able to find on the ground any entered geographic coordinate location.

2) Topographical Maps: is another map produced by the GGMC land Management department at map scales of 1: 50 000. These maps usually show the block numbers and the owner's name for each block. Again participants were able to:

- a) read the coordinate of any sample position on these maps using the UTM system
- b) use a hand held GPS unit to mark the geographic coordinate on the ground
- c) enter new coordinates into the GPS
- d) use the go to function of the GPS to be able to find on the ground any entered geographic coordinate location.



**Triangulation of Data:** The outline of a MNRE program with specific efforts to manage degradation from extractive activities was submitted to the verification team by the Office of Climate Change on behalf of the MNRE. Stakeholders consistently referred to a number of different activities that are already being implemented or planned in Guyana to address degradation from the mining sector. The self assessment report's summary of progress is quite extensive and correlates with most of the activities presented in the outline of a program for management degradation from extractive activities report. Some terminologies were divergent between stakeholders.

**Divergences:** The main divergence of opinion came from mining operators and representatives, which believe that mining is not a problematic driver of deforestation and degradation in Guyana. On the other hand, forest conservationists are very concerned with the lack of implementation of rules within the mining sector and argue that because of its uncontrollable nature of small operators in a large country, and often out of sight under the forest canopy cover, mining is a driver of environmental degradation. Some terminologies in the self-assessment report were divergent among stakeholders, for example, the self assessment report refers to the GFC Committee on Landscape Restoration and Replanting/Rehabilitation of Areas subjected to Mining. The correct terminology should be the Broad Based Committee.

**Synergies:** Mining is very important to the Guyanese economy contributing more than 10% to GDP.

**Independent Assessment Findings:** At the time of the in-country mission, consultations revealed that there is a lot of work already on the ground in terms of managing degradation from extractive activities. The following main activities were presented: Improving the reclamation of mined areas, addressing the price of reclamation bonds, Operational El Dorado in which GGMC officers shut down illegal or non-compliant mining sites, additional staff have been recruited to boost human resources – this will lead to an increase in field presence, codes of practices, the establishment of the Guyana Mining School and Training Centre Inc., and a technology component. Despite the multiple activities, most of which have already commenced, no outline of a program was presented at the time of the in-country mission, and it became apparent that the documentation required to meet the indicator – an outline of a program, had been overlooked. Given that considerable work had been done on this front, the verification team pointed this out, and the Government of Guyana submitted additional evidence of an outline of a program on the September 19, 2013.

The Outline of a MNRE Program to manage degradation from extractive activities was prepared by GGMC, and focuses specifically on the mining industry, and more specifically small scale operators. The GGMC has taken a comprehensive approach to addressing degradation, especially with the small scale operations. One initiative is through the Landscape and Restoration Committee working in collaboration with the GFC, and where a number of recommendations were made which include: Increased environmental bond for small scale operators; Establish synergies between miners and loggers, to maximize wastage of commercial trees; Develop project proposal with which to approach donors; Administratively 'close off' areas for restoration, with severe penalties to defaulters; Establish an oversight committee, to manage all the diverse tasks involved in this process; and Consider raising funds from private sector, illustrating restoration, replanting and rehabilitation is an investment opportunity.

The Guyana Mining School and Training Centre is particularly important and it is a very recent development, its training program has already started and it focused on small mining operators.



Conclusions: (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
This indicator is clear, MNRE needs to outline a programme to manage degradation from extractive industries. This had not been done at the time of the verification mission. There are clearly a number of initiatives in place and being implemented to manage degradation and steps taken to strengthen these where shortcomings have been found e.g. level of reclamation bonds. The Enabling Activities Report and evidence package more than demonstrate the initiatives already taken. Although an outline programme has been submitted to the team in September 2013 and goes some of the way towards meeting the needs this verifier can consider the indicator only partially met.		❖	
The indicator is met, but just barely. The Outline of the Program is not as comprehensive compared to what should be and it does not contain anything outside the status quo. The indicator is met because of the Guyana Mining School and Training Center Inc. does meet the minimum requirements of this indicator.	✓		
At the time of the in-country mission, consultations revealed that there is a lot of work already on the ground in terms of managing degradation from extractive activities. Despite the multiple activities, most of which have already commenced, no outline of a program was presented at the time of the in-country mission, and it became apparent that the documentation required to meet the indicator – an outline of a program, had been overlooked. Given that considerable work had been done on this front, the verification team pointed this out, and the Government of Guyana submitted additional evidence of an outline of a program on the 19 <sup>th</sup> of September 2013.	✓		

<b>Final Result: Indicator Met</b>	✓		
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**4.4 Enabling Action 4: The Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other Local Forestry Communities on REDD+**

**Indicator 4a: Present the Amerindian Land Titling project to the GRIF Steering Committee, after the normal GRIF public hearing period for new project notes is concluded**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. Amerindian Land Titling Project Documentation
2. Email to GRIF Steering Committee September 18<sup>th</sup> 2013
3. Stakeholder comments on the ALT project document
4. GRIF SC minutes
5. GRIF Secretariat approval

**Key Informants:**

1. GRIF Steering Committee members
2. Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
3. Amerindian stakeholder groups
4. UNDP
5. PMO

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- GRIF Steering Committee Minutes/Memos/communications

**Stakeholder Comments:**

UNDP: in August 2012, multiple stakeholders at UNDP’s Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) reviewed the Amerindian Land Titling ALT project document. The UNDP and Government of Guyana ensured that the ALT project complied with the laws, policies and safeguards of Guyana, and the international treaties and declarations that it is a signatory to. Many stakeholders made comments and these were incorporated into the final project proposal document. In addition the Government also wanted to make changes to the final document. 5 September 2012 was meant to see the final comments on the document by LPAC sent by UNDP (on behalf of LPAC), and the document was handed to MoAA and PMO. Between September 2012 and April 2013, the document was with the government, but little momentum was seen from external parties. In June 2013, the UNDP and Government of Guyana agreed to advance the document through to the GRIF SC.

PMO: The document has gone through many comment rounds, but we expect the final ALT project to be presented to the GRIF SC soon – by September 2013.

GRIF Steering Committee Member (Norway): The ALT project document was presented to the GRIF on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2013 together with UNDP and MoAA answers to observer comments.

Ministry of Amerindian Affairs: Bureaucracy is holding up the project. The problem with ALT representation of Amerindian issues needed to be clarified. The Amerindian development council represents villages at the grass roots level. There were other organisations making representation for themselves and this aspect needed further clarification. Its clear to say that the project document for the Amerindian Land Titling Project has gone through many iterations and comments over the past year.

Amerindian Community (Santa mission): We already have land title for our community.

Amerindian Community (Annai Central): We have received land titles already.



**Triangulation of Data:** Stakeholders agree that the ALT project documentation has gone through significant consultation and comment process. The ALT project document was submitted to the GRIF Secretariat in June 2013 for distribution to the GRIF Steering Committee. Based on consultations with a number of stakeholders, two comments were received from international NGOs and were being reviewed at the time of the in-country mission. An email officially submitting the ALT project documents from the Interim GRIF Secretariat to the GRIF Steering Committee was sent on the September 18. GRIF Steering Committee members from Norway and Guyana both confirm that they have received the documentation. Amerindian land titling is not a new process for Guyana. Three communities/villages have been issued titles on August 8, 2012, despite the delays of the ALT project within the consultation and approval process. Copies of the land title certificate for the three villages were included in the evidence package and a number of stakeholders recognised that these titles were issued.

**Divergences:** No divergences in the evidence.

**Synergies:** The ALT project documentation was delayed due to an extensive consultation and comment process. The ALT document was submitted to the GRIF Steering Committee on September 18.

**Independent Assessment Findings:** There have been extensive rounds of consultations for the Amerindian Land Titling project, and many stakeholders attributed delays to the consultation process. Documentation was posted on the GRIF website and stakeholders comments were received. Despite the delays in the ALT project approval process, the Government of Guyana used its own resources to proceed with the titling and on August 8<sup>th</sup> 2012, three communities/villages received titles from the Government – Rupanau, Riversview and Kato Extension.

At the time of the in-country mission, the ALT project had not been presented to the GRIF Steering Committee for approval as the documents were still being reviewed and the comment period was closing. However, on September 18, 2013, additional evidence was submitted by the Government of Guyana that presented the ALT project documents from the GRIF Interim Secretariat to the GRIF Steering Committee.



Conclusions: (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
<p>Considerable work has been done on this indicator but the deadline has not been met. The need for substantial consultation with the many stakeholders, and approval by UNDP, is time consuming and the project document was submitted to the GRIF Steering Committee in July 2013 for comments. At the time of the in-country mission, the revised document and response to public comments had not been submitted to the GRIF Steering committee. Documentation has now been provided by OCC showing that the PD was submitted at the beginning of September 2013. The indicator can be considered met albeit late.</p>			
<p>Based on additional evidence received before 20<sup>th</sup> September, the indicator can be considered met.</p>			
<p>The indicator has been met, and the email to the GRIF Steering Committee with the ALT project documentation and received by Norwegian and Guyanese representatives on the GRIF Steering Committee means that the indicator has been met. However even though the indicator does not specify a specific timeline for the submission of the documentation “after the normal GRIF public hearing for a new project note is concluded”, there was an expectation from a number of stakeholders that the ALT project document would have been submitted sooner.</p>			

<h2>Final Result: Indicator Met</h2>			
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**Indicator 4b: Opt-in concept note ready and pilot community for opt-in mechanism selected**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. DRAFT Opt-in options paper June 2013
2. Opt-in pilot community documentation
3. Minutes from National Toshiho Council executive body on selection of pilot villages
4. FPIC consultation documentation
5. Land title of pilot community
6. Operational Manual for the Opt In Mechanism

**Key Informants:**

1. National Toshiho Council
2. MSSC Members
3. Office of Climate Change
4. Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
5. Opt-in technical team (GFC, MoAA, GGMC and EPA)

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- DRAFT Opt-in concept paper for Amerindian Communities (2010)
- Low Carbon Development Strategy
- MSSC Minutes 45th session
- Email – MoAA comments on the opt-in mechanism
- EPAs comments to the Opt-in mechanism

**Stakeholder Comments:**

Office of Climate Change: The draft options paper was circulated by the office of climate change to the technical working group, which consisted of OCC, GFC, MoAA, EPA and GGMC.

Ministry of Amerindian Affairs: The opt-in concept note is in its 4<sup>th</sup> iteration. Once the document is finalized, it will go before the MSSC, and then onto the National Toshiho Council for final approval. There is a national level practice for stakeholder participation and consultation based on the Amerindian Act 2006.

Guyana Forestry Commission: Options are still being discussed with respect to the opt-in pilot community to be selected, currently looking at Annai (region 9) because they have the Community MRV project.

National Toshiho Council: There has been a lot of discussion on the opt-in concept note and it is currently in a draft form. It is difficult to put a timeline on when it will be in a final document. We have distributed the document to Toshiho requesting feedback. There has not been a decision on the community to be selected, and in general, communities would like more time to understand the opt-in concept and mechanism. Forest communities in regions 1,2,5 and 6 are being considered. In October, we have the national Toshiho council conference, and the approval of the opt.in concept note will be on the agenda. After this, a meeting with the MoAA by the end of 2013 will hopefully see a pilot community selected.



**Triangulation of Data:** According to the National Toshias Council head, the majority of Toshias have signed a resolution indicating that the Opt-in concept note is now ready for discussions by villages. Based on consultations with MoAA and OCC, a draft options paper for the opt-in mechanism was prepared with the expectation of moving the document forward to a final opt-in document.

**Divergences:** During the in-country mission, there were divergences on which region and communities were being considered for the pilot community for the opt-in mechanism. There were further divergences as to whether the opt-in concept note was “ready”.

**Synergies:** The pilot community for the opt-in mechanism has not been selected. There are a large number of stakeholders involved in this approval process and this has caused delays.

#### **Independent Assessment Findings:**

In 2009, the Office of Climate Change (OCC) convened a Technical Working Group with key Government entities, including the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC), the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs (MoAA), the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to take the initial steps towards the development of the Opt-In Mechanism. The result of that work was the preparation of a Concept Paper: on Developing a Framework for an Opt-In Mechanism by Amerindian communities. The Paper developed many of the central elements of the Mechanism such as its guiding principles, requirements for opting-in, and determination of scale of payments, that assisted to jumpstart discussions at the national and local levels. The Concept Paper was circulated to the Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee to the LCDS (MSSC) and the some members of the Committee submitted comments to the OCC and was subsequently shared with the National Toshias Council (NTC). The GoG awaited the outcomes of their review and awaited the guidance from the NTC before moving forward to fully develop the framework for the Mechanism. In August 2012, following extensive consultations within the NTC, the Council passed a Resolution at its sixth annual meeting, which indicated that the Paper conformed to the principles of FPIC and indicated that a Draft Opt-In Mechanism was ready for discussions at the village level. Since August 2012, the majority of Toshias signed the resolution to move the opt-in concept note forward.

According to the National Toshias Council head, the majority of Toshias have signed a resolution indicating that the Opt-in concept note is now ready for discussions by villages. Based on consultations with MoAA and OCC, a draft options paper for the opt-in mechanism was prepared with the expectation of moving the document forward to a final opt-in document.

According to new evidence submitted, 2 villages have been proposed for the opt-in mechanism from the national Toshias executive body. These are Warapoka, Region 1, and Muritaro Region 9.



Conclusions: (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
Villages have been selected in Regions 1 and 9. Every village has one year with respect to the Opt-In mechanism. October has been identified as the deadline.		❖	
This indicator has not been met. As mentioned earlier, all activities involving Amerindian communities must embody FPIC and sufficient consultation and iteration to ensure this has been met. Either the time taken to obtain consent/agreement from communities has been under-estimated (unlikely in a country with a strong tradition of community consultation) or insufficient resources are devoted to this particular exercise. Lessons must be learned to enable future programming to proceed as planned.  Subsequent to the in-country mission the pilot village has been selected at a meeting on September 10 <sup>th</sup> 2013. The indicator is partially met.		❖	
This indicator has been partially met The pilot community has not been selected but there is a list of several potential pilot communities. The opt-in concept note and opt-in options paper (June 2013) were still in draft status. There is evidence that the reason for delay was that the consultation process was included a large number of stakeholders and there were a number of comment received on the opt-in options paper. Given the progress cited by a number of Government and indigenous representative stakeholders that cannot be disregarded, the indicator is partially met.		❖	

<b>Final result: Indicator Partially Met</b>		❖	
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**Indicator 4c: Strategy and development of tailored information and consultations for hinterland communities addressed in the outreach program**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. Strategy and Development of Tailored Information and Consultations for Hinterland Communities Addressed in Outreach Program on Climate Change, LCDS, REDD+ and Related Areas (September 2013)
2. LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan (2013)
3. Development of “tailored information” with non-internet based methods – documented in-person meetings, information folders, traditional media
4. MSSC facilitator reports

**Key Informants:**

1. Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
2. GRIF Steering Committee
3. National Toshaos Council
4. MSSC facilitators
5. Communications and Outreach team
6. Amerindian Communities

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- GRIF steering Committee meeting minutes
- See documentation from enabling activity 2
- MSSC minutes of Technical session and 50, 54 and 55.



**Indufor** ...forest intelligence

**Stakeholder Comments:**

Ministry of Amerindian Affairs: The best methods for engagement with remote Amerindian communities is to firstly, train local people (translators) on the issue so that they can communicate, and secondly, translation of documents is very important. The translated document should be broken down into simple basic terms. The MoAA continuously distribute information on the LCDS and GRIF, and usually include the materials and dissemination of information in all visits to Amerindian communities.

Office of Climate Change/Communications and Outreach team: The LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan (2013) is the strategy document for outreach to hinterland communities.

Hinterland Communities: 29 community representatives and members from Rupertee, Awana, Rewa, Wanetta, Apoleri, Kwatang, Aranaputa, Fairview, Wowette and Surama, from Region 9, met in Annai Central for a stakeholder consultation. The most preferred methods of communication are face to face communication with experts in the local language. Developing songs about LCDS, and reenacting are also very good so that we remember what was taught. We do not have Internet access, newspapers, TV or radio, and this needs to be considered. A particular project delivered a DVD for awareness raising but the DVD was not formatted correctly and we could not use it.

National Toshias Council: The most effective communication method with local communities is face to face contact in the local language. I regularly take written materials produced by the OCC for distribution in the remote communities, but this type of communication does not appeal to everyone. One of our conferences was dedicated to the dissemination and the LCDS and Toshias were trained. But then there was an election, and many of the Toshias changed. In general, one of the key challenges is that there is an absence of people that can answer questions in consultations. Some communities feel that there are not enough consultations. Financing of the outreach and the access to remote communities are additional challenges.

PMO: There was a session for the LCDS that was training Toshias to support communication and outreach of the LCDS. However, following elections, many Toshias changed and there is now a need to repeat training sessions of Toshias.

Guyana Forestry Commission: We have been involved in extensive outreach activities, and we use a variety of methods from role playing to dissemination of written materials.

Other Stakeholders:



**Triangulation of Data:** The LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan (2013) was presented as a strategy document for communications and outreach. However upon review by the independent verification team, it was clear that the document was not a strategy, and that it did not contain tailored information and consultation methods consistent with what communities said that they needed. Consequently, a new document was submitted before 20<sup>th</sup> September 2013, *Strategy and Development of Tailored Information and Consultations for Hinterland Communities Addressed in Outreach Program on Climate Change, LCDS, REDD+ and Related Areas* (September 2013), and this document contained elements of a strategy but did not go into enough detail or regional needs. It does give a very good basis for indigenous peoples language, but it does not address the different needs apparent in the whole country. The strategy mentions that it builds upon the principles of Free, Prior Informed Consent, but there are many different interpretations of the concept, and these should be addressed in a strategy, but were not. It is evident from consultations and supporting documents that an incredible effort on communications and outreach has taken place, but also based on consultations with hinterland communities, more tailoring of methods is clearly needed.

**Divergences:** Divergences occurred between the independent verification team and the Government of Guyana on what is a strategy. The verification team argued that a strategy is a document, not a process.

**Synergies:** Guyana has a history of employing multiple tailored outreach methods to hinterland communities.

#### **Independent Assessment Findings:**

The LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan (2013) was presented as a strategy document for communications and outreach. However upon review by the independent verification team, it was clear that the document was not a strategy, and that it did not contain tailored information and consultation methods consistent with what communities said that they needed. The LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan put an emphasis on written and electric materials and media, and failed to take stock of the lesson learned from other outreach programs, for example, HIV AIDS was quite successful in tailoring information and consultation methods to remote communities. Furthermore, the document did not review the different communication and outreach needs and challenges within different regions. This revelation came as quite a shock to the Government of Guyana, which mentioned that the LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan was based on an IIED study, which examined outreach. Further discussions with the Government of Guyana on the issue revealed that there is a history of using non written/electronic forms of communication and outreach, and that these methods were overlooked. Further evidence was submitted in the form of documentation presenting tailored information needs. Subsequently, the Government of Guyana submitted additional evidence and presented its strategy in September 2013.



Conclusions: (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
<p>The importance of a strategy with tailored information and consultations is critical, and this communications and outreach was identified as a serious constraint for meeting indicators in the self-assessment report. Therefore this being said, a strategy is needed which really addresses these issues. A document called <i>Strategy and Development of Tailored Information and Consultations for Hinterland Communities Addressed in Outreach Program on Climate Change, LCDS, REDD+ and Related Areas</i> (September 2013) was submitted to the independent verification team before September 20. The document illustrates a very sincere attempt at a strategy, and there are elements of a strategy certainly within the document, but given the challenge and the importance of this task, a robust strategy is very necessary. The document does not go into enough detail to be considered a strategy document, and when compared with other government strategies – for example, the low carbon development strategy, national land use plan (strategic approach) it falls short on important issues such as the role of free prior informed consent and the linkage to tailored information needs.</p>		❖	
<p>Again, the detail of an indicator has not been respected. A strategy is clearly called for and had not been done at the time of the mission. Consultation has been carried out on an extensive scale, as evidenced by the reports documenting consultations submitted in September 2013, but the feeling is that this could have been better directed if there had been a clear strategy. The Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan does not meet this requirement. It is an outline at best but does not give sufficient detail and neither does it really address the central question of preparing tailored information. In a country with distinct regional differences, different levels of access, communities with more contact with GOG programmes and methods than others, a clear, strategic approach is called for. A document titled ‘Strategy and development of tailored information and consultations for hinterland communities addressed in outreach programme on climate change, LCDS, REDD+ and related areas’ was submitted in September 2013 but is still light on detail and does not address the subject in sufficient detail.</p>		❖	



**Indufor** ...forest intelligence

The Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan 2013 does not meet this requirement, a strategy is needed. New evidence was submitted before 20<sup>th</sup> September – a great deal of work and sincere effort to meet this indicator is demonstrated. However, the new strategy document is weak in terms of regional needs within Guyana, and a deeper explanation on native language translations and facilities in different part of the country is needed. For example, the facilities gap assessment is not necessarily correlated with language group. The Arawak are distributed throughout a number of regions, and some will have very different facilities to others. This is where the Strategy document falls short. Perhaps a technical expert is needed to facilitate the development of a solid strategy.



**Final Result: Indicator Partially Met**





**Indicator 4d: Initiating implementation of Community Development Plans through the Amerindian Development Fund**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. 27 Community development plans
2. Project concept note/initial plan
3. List of 23 of 27 villages with plans
4. Communications to villages
5. GRIF SC approval
6. Micro capital grant agreements (20 communities)

**Key Informants:**

1. Selected Amerindian Villages/ Communities/ Settlements
2. UNDP
3. Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
4. National Toshias Council
5. Office of Climate Change/PMO
6. Justice Institute

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- Low Carbon Development Strategy
- 2006 Amerindian Act
- Field mission reports prepared for the GRIF ADF

**Stakeholder Comments:**

UNDP: In February 2013, the UNDP and the MoAA selected 27 pilot communities for the first disbursement for community development plans. The communities were selected using a stratified random sampling technique. Most of these villages/communities selected have micro capital grant agreements as of August 2013. The UNDP has sent missions and field reports for the GRIF ADF have been prepared and submitted which document the on-the-ground situation in the communities and the plan, budget and timeline for implementation of the community development plans. Follow up missions will be conducted for the 4 of the 27 villages/communities that have not signed the micro capital agreement.

Ministry of Amerindian Affairs: 166 community development plans have been received by the MoAA. The plans had been prepared at the community level and went through a consultation process with community members to determine what type of projects would best suit and benefit the respective community. The community development plans were approved by consensus at the village/community level.

National Toshias Council: A number of community development plans are under implementation now, and financing from the ADF was disbursed recently (July/August 2013). Only 27 communities were selected in the first round, but there has been a lot of interest from other communities which have also developed community development plans for the program.

Office of Climate Change/PMO: We have recently disbursed the first tranche of finance for the community development plans through the ADF. For the first tranche, 27 pilot communities were selected, and of these 23 have micro capital grant agreements. As of mid-August 2013, 20 villages had received the disbursement for their community development plans.

Justice Institute: There is no legal basis for the Amerindian Development Fund – this will cause problems. There is already a fund with a legal basis set up for community development under the MoAA. Why was this not used? There are a number of legal and ethical concerns of this project.



Santa Mission (Region 3) Toshao Aubrey Samuels reported that Santa Mission had enlisted three projects, namely:

1. Tourism
2. Agriculture
3. Electricity (every house has solar power so this programme was dropped)

Tourism was selected as a project because of the location. A Guest House was under construction and was expected to be ready in September. As such, there was an identified need for trained Tour Guides, Cooks and Boat Operators. The community also had the capacity for activities such as bird watching and canoeing.

Toshao Samuels also commented on the following issues/concerns:

- ◆ Heavy migration due to education, employment
- ◆ While agriculture had the capacity to make the community self-sufficient, only cassava was cultivated for home use

No LCDS visits have been undertaken. This community is already titled.

Rupertee (Region 9)

We have received the finance for the community development project and we have started to work according to the plan. Rain has held things up, however we are working towards implementation. The project that was chosen for finance was cassava processing and cultivation and this is because food security is an issue. The project is expected to bring economic benefits to the community. The community has know-how on cassava cultivation.

Annai (Region 9)

The Meeting was held at Bena Hill, where some thirty-seven (37) persons, comprised of North Rupununi Tosaos, the CEO, Chairman, Counselors were in attendance. In outlining the community Development Plan, they reported that they had had meetings at the village level and that activities were geared towards providing food security, as well as income generation, in the villages. For example, Annai Central had decided on aqua-culture because fish was getting scarce in their community. Chicken and meat however was available. As such, a decision was made at the level of the Village Council for aquaculture and an internet service. Aquaculture was put forward. The project is scheduled to commence in October/November. President Grant finance will be among the funds used to build a restaurant in the community. Among the issues highlighted were the following:



- ◆ Essential foodstuff
- ◆ Source of income scarce: 1 Teacher, 1 Health worker only salaried jobs in the community
- ◆ Households provide for themselves and families
- ◆ Education system does not allow indigenous children to cope. They require a different education system
- ◆ Bena Hill Institute trying to teach young people
  - Natural Resources
  - Information Technology
  - Agriculture
  - Sculpture, but struggling to find funding
- ◆ There is an urgent need for financial and training resources to prepare Rangers, Tour Guides and Agriculturists
- ◆ If no jobs are found, Amerindians will have to turn to the forests, which they have used in a sustainable manner for generations
- ◆ There is a lack of understanding/consultation on the Amerindian Development Fund in terms of who is to be trained; who spends the money.

The Assessment Team was presented with a Training Manual on LCDS and an Eco System Booklet produced in the North Rupununi.

**Triangulation of Data:** Documentation presented in the evidence package included micro capital grant agreements for 23 of the 27 pilot communities, field reports prepared by the UNDP for the GRIF ADF based on regions, and community development plans. 2 regions were chosen for the site visit for consultation with communities and visual verification of the community development project financed by the ADF. All stakeholders were in agreement that the finance for the community development plan had been received (village/community). Non-beneficiaries of the community development plan pilot all commented that the ADF has released finance for 20 of the 27 pilot communities for the implementation of their community development plans. There is conclusive evidence that the implementation of community development plans through the Amerindian Development Fund has commenced.

**Divergences:** There were no divergences in the evidence.

**Synergies:** The documentation and stakeholder comments are consistent. Field missions verified with stakeholders that the project is under implementation and made observations in Santa Mission of the building of the eco lodge.



**Independent Assessment Findings:**

A lot of work and resources have been spent on preparing this project and moving it forward. The micro capital grant agreements follow a standard format in the form of a contract between the UNDP and the community, in partnership with the MoAA. The micro capital grant agreement is clear and contains information on the responsibilities of the community, duration, payment details and the requirement for keeping clear records, information and reports on the project. All micro capital grant agreements follow this basic format. The CDP implementation plan and budget are annexed to some of the community agreements.

Procurement plans have been developed with the technical assistance of the UNDP for communities. The procurement plans are prepared by region and distinguish the tranche disbursement from the UNDP procurement. The procurement plan also lists the agency of purchase. In general, the procurement plans are well presented and facilitate transparency of information.

Field mission reports were prepared by region through the UNDP and follow a standard format. The focus of the field mission reports is to conduct a business assessment of the community development plan for each community in a region. The business diagnostics look at infrastructure, costs, market access, productivity, training etc. and present assessment findings for each of the community development plans. It also includes actions required for implementation as well as the budget and timeline for implementation.

The community development plans are developed for each community and follow a standard format. The village profile is presented which looks at the amenities and infrastructure a village/community has access to. The consultation process is described and the feasibility of the project activities is presented applying solid financial, social, and technical analyses, and addresses the risk, environmental impact and sustainability of the project. The community development plans are well designed and support transparency.

Consultations with villagers revealed that they would like more information on the CDP project, for example, they would like to know how much money is in the ADF? how much is going to different communities? Is there a project summary of the GRIF ADF available? There was considerable interest from communities in region 9, which have a good knowledge of the LCDS, on the opt-in mechanism, and they also wanted to know when this pilot and program would commence.



Conclusions: (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
Not convinced that Santa Mission had good plan. However solid evidence is there to meet the indicator. There is doubt whether the project will be finished on time. There is a need for future follow up and monitoring on this indicator.	✓		
This is an area where good progress has been made. This must, in part at least, be due to the involvement of UNDP and the development of the Signed ADF Initiation Plan-PCN (August 2012). The clear framework, strategy and plan included in this document could have been used as a model (simplified) for the activities in 4c.	✓		
This indicator has been met. Field visits, consultations with stakeholders and documentation clearly indicates that implementation of Community Development Plans has commenced through the Amerindian Development Fund. This could be a very good example to write about for sharing lessons learnt.	✓		

<b>Final result: Indicator Met</b>	✓		
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#### 4.5 Enabling Action 5: Integrated Land Use Planning and Management

##### Indicator 5a: Strategic Approach to land use planning publically communicated by March 2013

###### Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:

1. National Land Use plan (June 2013)
2. Draft strategic plan for MNRE
3. National Land Use Framework press release March 2013
4. Approval of the draft national land use plan by the GL&SC Board of Directors

###### Key Informants:

1. Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission (GL&SC)
2. DLUPP project
3. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
4. Guyana Forestry Commission
5. Guyana Geology and Mines Commission
6. Conservation International Guyana

###### Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:

- Land Use Baseline Report (1996)
- GL&SC website
- Land Use Policy (2004, 2007, 2012)
- National Competitiveness Strategy (2006)
- Low Carbon Development Strategy

###### Stakeholder Comments:

Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission: The Government of Guyana see the strategic approach to land use planning as the national land use plan. The national land use plan is financed through the EU project Development of Land Use Planning Project (DLUPP). The national land use plan is non-prescriptive and its strategic elements list options for use. The national land use plan gives a current scenario of planning, which supports the ability to make decisions, and it is important to note that it is not a static process. The national land use plan is used to answer questions such as what can be developed? And support decision to optimise land use. The national land use policy if forthcoming and will support the national land use plan. In addition, regions 1,2, and 10 have regional level land use plans, which provide an additional layer of detail. There are regular interagency meetings between GL&SC and GFC. In addition, the GL&SC has a strategic plan 2013-2017, published in July 2013, and this also supports a strategic approach to land use planning. The national land use plan was a draft status until August 29, 2013, after the Board of Directors officially approved the plan. The GL&SC publically launched the draft national land use plan in March 2013 with the technical support from the DLUPP project. The DLUPP project is scheduled to conclude in October 2013. If the consultation and dissemination process of the national land use plan is not financed under the DLUPP project before concluding, the Government of Guyana will finance the consultation and dissemination of the national land use plan and supporting materials.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment: The Draft strategic Plan for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment identifies holistic and integrated land use planning as one of the key strategic objectives. This is applicable to MNRE's agencies – GFC, GL&SC, GGMA, EPA and PAC. The draft national land use plan provides the strategic approach to land use planning. The draft national land use plan was publically launched in March 2013.

DLUPP project: The draft national land use plan was launched in March 2013, and our technical advisors played a key role in presenting the draft national land use plan during the national press release and launching. The mechanism to take the draft national land use plan to the strategic level is up-in-the-air. Under debate within the Government of Guyana are mandates and control of land use planning decisions. The real question is – are other ministries obligated to use the draft national land use plan? Even though the draft national land use plan was approved by the GL&SC board of directors, the draft national land use plan needs approval by cabinet to be considered official and binding across all ministries in Guyana.



**Triangulation of Data:** Press releases and consultations confirm that the draft national land use plan was released in March 2013 and was presented on national TV and in newspapers. During the mission, multiple stakeholders confirmed that the draft national land use plan was in existence, and that this was considered the strategic approach to land use planning. Finally, during the government stakeholder validation workshop, it was clarified that the GL&SC Board of Directors had officially approved the draft national land use plan, which is no longer in a “draft” status, several days earlier, subsequently the verification team was given additional evidence and documentation of such approval from the GL&SC board of directors.

**Divergences:** The level of approval required to make the national land use plan official has divergences. Several government representatives said that the GL&SC Board of Directors approval was adequate for the “draft” status to be upgraded to official status. On the other hand, there were concerns from stakeholders that the plan needed the cabinet’s approval to be applied across all ministries. There are further concerns on the dissemination of materials that support the awareness raising of the national land use plan at the community and district levels. The government has plans to place copies of the national land use plan in Government field offices in all regions, university campus, national library and regional democratic council offices, but the financing for this is uncertain because the DLUPP project is expected to conclude its financing of activities in October 2013. The DLUPP materials have been designed to be user friendly, but dissemination plans financed by the EU have been cancelled due to the conclusion of the project.

**Synergies:** The draft national land use plan was publically launched in March 2013.

#### **Independent Assessment Findings:**

The EU-funded Development of Land Use Planning Project has prepared a National land Use Plan. The approach presented in the NLUP is clearly strategic rather than prescriptive with the emphasis on the presentation of options that can be taken by GOG and developed into specific development plans in-line with government policy. A valuable dataset has been prepared and agreed with other government agencies and the decision to retain a land use planning function within GL&SC shows clearly governments commitment to following up on the NLUP.

The DLUPP was not conceived of as a support programme to the LCDS or REDD+ as the LCDS is not mentioned in the project TOR’s. There has clearly been an attempt to meet the land use planning requirements of these other programmes after the start of DLUPP, which has lead to some shortcomings. There needs, for example, to be further development of the idea of multiple land use, which is becoming an important question. And there should also be a mechanism for determining changes in land use i.e. from forestry to agriculture or natural production forest to plantations (not just the change in use assigned to a specific lease).

At this point it should be noted that the Special Land Use Committee appears to operate in an ad hoc way as does the Committee to Implement the Recommendations of the Special Land Use Committee. Given that questions of land use, particularly those of land use conflict, are likely to increase with increased economic development, consideration should be given to formalising these committees to deal with such issues.

The JCN states that ‘by 2015 Guyana has a formal system in place for holistic area planning and management’. The work of DLUPP has put in place the opportunity to achieve this (review of legislation, roles and responsibilities of institutions, training of staff in LUP and related techniques) and if the JCN objective is to be met then more work must be done to achieve it. The closure of DLUPP in October 2103 puts the responsibility onto GOG to deliver this.



Conclusions: (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
The Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission 's National Land Use Plan is completed and approved. The indicator is met.	✓		
This indicator has been met. Initially a draft National Land Use Plan had been reviewed and there was no indication of the length of time it would take to adopt it as an official and final national land use plan. However following the in-country mission, the Government of Guyana submitted additional evidence and showed that the national land use plan had been official approved at the Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission board meeting and was no longer at a draft status.	✓		
<b>Final Result: Indicator Met</b>	✓		



**Indicator 5b: 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)**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. National Land Use plan (June 2013)
2. Area use map development plan
3. Documentation and mandate of appointed agency GL&SC
4. DLUPP project documents

**Key Informants:**

1. Guyana Land and Surveys Commission
2. Guyana Forestry Commission
3. Guyana Geology and Mines Commission
4. Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
5. DLUPP project

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- Joint Concept Note
- See Indicator 5a
- GL&SC Act (Cap 59:05)

**Stakeholder Comments:**

Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission: The responsible agency for the development of the map of area use is GL&SC, and we coordinate very closely with GFC and GGMC. The map of area use is in the national land use plan (see indicator 5a). The map of area use will be further developed as more information becomes available. The expected timeline for revising the map of area use is every 2 years. The planning documents are the DLUPP project documents, which indicate objectives, outputs and the timeline. Under the national land use plan, map 4-3 available lands identifies the following land use types: Protected areas, titles Amerindian lands, GFC forestry leases, GGMC prospecting leases, GGMC mining leases, Petroleum exploration leases, GL&SC leased land, available land (excluding prospecting leases) and available land including prospecting leases.

Ministry of Amerindian Affairs: We sit on the GL&SC Board of Directors. MoAA manages the application of Amerindian land titles. The demarcation of Amerindian land needs the approval of the village.

Guyana Forestry Commission: We sit on the GL&SC Board of Directors. We have provided data to the GL&SC for the map of area use. The GFC has the responsibility to update the forest concession layer as well as the reconnaissance layer for forestry.

Guyana Geology and Mines Commission: We sit on the GL&SC Board of Directors. We have provided data and maps with mining areas to GL&SC.

DLUPP Project: The DLUPP project's main output is the draft national land use plan, and within the plan is map 4-3 available lands, which is the map of area use. The DLUPP project is under the GL&SC and the project documents outline the plan and timeline of the project implementation.



**Triangulation of Data:** Multiple stakeholders confirm that GL&SC is the responsible agency for developing the national land use plan and map of area use. Press releases and the draft national land use plan with the map of area use (map 4-3), show that GL&SC has developed the map of area use. GFC and GGMC both confirmed that they provided data into the map of area use.

**Divergences:** See divergences for indicator 1a.

**Synergies:** Multiple stakeholders confirm that GL&SC is the responsible agency for developing the national land use plan and map of area use. The in-country mission observed that the DLUPP project was embedded inside the GL&SC.

**Independent Assessment Findings:** A map of area use has been prepared but there needs to be some consideration given to the JCN requirements of the need to show future, planned and reconnaissance areas for mining and forestry. Most mining is small-scale and leases allocated on request (or by lottery) rather than following a zoning (possibly based on a grid system as in Canada) of potential mining areas, which would give more control over where and when it takes place as well as making monitoring easier. The existing situation makes it difficult to show future areas of mining and has allowed widespread exploitation that might already make the requirement of the JCN impossible to achieve. A similar situation might apply to small scale forestry permits but planned large scale forestry concessions should be able to be shown.

<b>Conclusions:</b> (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
The responsible agency for the development of the map of area use is the Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission. The plan and timeline for the development of the map of area use is available within the EU financed DLUPP project documents. A map of area use was developed under the DLUPP project, therefore the indicator has been met.	✓		
Map of area use developed and completed under DLUPP as part of Guyana's National Land Use Plan.	✓		

<b>Final Result: Indicator Met</b>	✓		
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**Indicator 5c: Based on the evolving area use map, determine a roadmap by June 2013 to codify the formal status of varying degrees of protection for the areas identified as Intact Forest Landscapes and priority areas for biodiversity. This will gradually replace the Intact Forest Landscapes interim performance indicator.**

**Primary Documented Evidence for Assessment:**

1. Minutes of meeting presenting the roadmap 19<sup>th</sup> Sept 2013
2. Roadmap to codify the formal status (September 2013)
3. Briefing Note to Minister NRE
4. Outline of a process to develop roadmap (June 2013)
5. EPA position paper (2012)
6. PAC preliminary results from MARXAN model

**Key Informants:**

1. Guyana Forestry Commission
2. Guyana Protected Areas Commission
3. Office of Climate Change
4. Conservation International Guyana
5. Guyana Gold and Mining Commission
6. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

**Secondary and Supporting Documentation for Review:**

- EPA position paper - Criteria for Identifying Priority Biodiversity Areas in Guyana's Forests (2012)
- GL&SC Data for areas leased for agricultural purposes outside State forest estate
- Data for reconnaissance areas
- Joint Concept Note



**Stakeholder Comments:**

Guyana Forestry Commission: The Intact Forest Landscapes (IFL) is within the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) work and there is a working definition of IFL. Currently there is a need for a nationally appropriate definition for IFL. A cabinet paper has been drafted backed up by technical papers and it is expected that IFL will be included in the MRV for the next period. The GFC has continued to update the IFL layer based on the availability of additional land use data. There is a need to define Priority Areas for Biodiversity (PAB).

Guyana Protected Areas Commission (PAC): are a new agency, recently established in the last year under the new Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. PAC are preparing a framework process with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for codifying formal status of the varying degrees of protection for the areas identified as IFL and PABs. An EPA position paper *Criteria for Identifying Priority Biodiversity Areas in Guyana's Forests* (2012). In addition, the MARXAM model has been applied with the technical assistance from Conservation international Guyana, and was used to modelling species distribution and preliminary results have already been presented in a workshop.

At the moment we have an outline of a roadmap to codify formal status of varying degrees of formal protection status, but not a roadmap per se. This is because we are still defining IFLs and PABs. Furthermore, the focus of our work has been on the technical aspects – this is quite a technical project, and the human resources and capacity of PAC is still very limited. However, we believe that considerable progress has been made this year.

Office of Climate Change/PMO: The OCC has the responsibility for defining what constitutes a roadmap. The GIS Committee would be responsible for integrating the information.

Guyana Gold and Mining Commission: There is some data outstanding, which should contribute to the IFL area map from GGMC. Data of about 15,000 small claims is not available in digital format yet. These claims go back to 1935 and were delineated using the chain and compass method. Now the task is to digitalise this information using GPS coordinates. The digitalization process is long and about 60 claims get digitalized per month – in this case, manpower is the real issue and the whole digitalization process is a big challenge. We are currently training miners to use GPS.

Conservation International Guyana: We are working with PAC using the MARXAM model. We also participated in the MRV roadmap, and we would expect the roadmap to codify the formal status of protection areas would follow the same approach.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment: Its true that the outline of a roadmap is brief, and I do not believe that this reflects the progress made and technical achievements to date. I think we can still attempt to prepare a roadmap in line with the expectations of the verification team.

Government Stakeholder Validation Workshop: The independent verification team was asked if they would accept new evidence if a roadmap could be produced and submitted before September 20, 2013 (end of consultation process). The independent verification agreed to review any new evidence for this indicator submitted before the September 20 deadline.



**Triangulation of Data:** All stakeholders commented that there has been a significant amount of technical work done that support the development of a roadmap, and during the in-country mission, an outline of a roadmap was presented to the verification team. The outline was very brief and lacked most of the elements that would be expected in a conventional roadmap. Nonetheless, this demonstrated that some consideration has been given to developing a roadmap in Guyana. All stakeholders agreed that the process of codifying formal status of varying degrees of protection for IFLs and PABs was very technical, but the methodologies under review and under application (MARXAM) are robust. The Ministry of Natural resources and Environment, and the Protected Areas Commission agreed that the outline of the roadmap was very brief and did not reflect the progress and technical achievements to date. The Minister of Natural Resources and Environment made a request to the independent verification team and asked if a roadmap meeting the requirements submitted before the stakeholder consultation deadline September 20<sup>th</sup>, could be considered. The independent verification agreed to include additional evidence. On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the Office of Climate Change submitted additional evidence to the independent verification team. This new evidence package included minutes from a government meeting on the roadmap and the new roadmap to codify formal status of varying degrees of protection for IFLs and PABs, as required under enabling indicator 5 in the Joint Concept Note. The meeting on the roadmap occurred on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Divergences:** There is a minor confusion as to whether the roadmap (Sept 2013) is an outline of a roadmap or a roadmap itself, the terminology changes, nonetheless, the document contains the most important elements of a roadmap. Divergences in opinion between government stakeholders occurred on what constitutes a roadmap? Furthermore, there was a lack of clarification on the appointed agency that should lead this process. Because it involves several agencies under MNRE, it should be coordinated by MNRE.

**Synergies:** Consultations on the roadmap will need to take place, and these should be followed up. The MRV roadmap was often referred to as a good example of what a roadmap should look like. The MARXAM model is very robust and appropriate for the identification of PABs.

**Independent Assessment Findings:** The in-country mission demonstrated that this particular task is technical, and the human resources available to complete the task is limited. No agency was responsible for coordination and creating momentum behind developing the roadmap, though it became evident that the MNRE should be that coordinating body because the data and staff for the task are under several MNRE agencies: PAC, GFC, EPA and GGMC.

New evidence in the formal submission of a roadmap was reviewed. The new roadmap outlines the background, scope and objectives of the development of a roadmap to codify formal areas of protection. The consultation process and progress to date is outlined as well. The roadmap is presented in the form of 5 phases:

2013-2014 Phase I: Preparation and Analysis - Report on the results/findings of the analysis, detailing all preparations and steps taken to achieve the objectives.

2014-2015 Phase II: Identify Intact Forest Landscapes - List of top 10 priority areas, each with two options for protection.

2015-2016 Phase III: Prioritise Areas and Plan of Action - List of top 10 priority areas, each with two options for protection

2016-2017 Phase IV: Strengthen Agencies Capacities - Stakeholder analysis report for each area. List of objectives to strengthen stakeholder capabilities

2017-2018 Phase V: Legal Declaration of Areas - Formal declaration of the new protected areas. Draft management plans for each area.

The budget, detailed work plan, implementation and limitations are addressed in the final section of the roadmap.



Conclusions: (explain why indicator is/partial/not met)	Indicator is Met	Indicator is Partially Met	Indicator is Not Met
<p>A roadmap was submitted to the independent verification team on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Upon review of the roadmap, significant progress is evident and the roadmap using a 5phased approach is clear and consistent with the detailed work plan and implementation plan. While there are limitations with the roadmap process these are addressed in the document. The indicator is met, though the submission is after the June 15, 2013, there is adequate evidence to show that solid technical work and consideration had already taken place over the past year.</p>			
<p>Protected Areas Commission developed a roadmap. The final definition of the IFL is still being worked on. Data for reconnaissance areas is in progress. Data for 5,000 small claims is not yet in digital format. The location of claims started in 1935 using chain and compass. This is now done using digital coordinates. About 60 is being done per month.</p>			
<p>A roadmap is required and was not done by June 2013. Work has been carried out on the IFL definition and CI is assisting with the identification of PABs. At least part of the reason for this indicator not being met is that the Protected Areas Commission has only been recently established and has few staff or other resources.</p> <p>Following the departure of the mission, MNRE has submitted a document that meets the requirements of a road map as discussed between the team and GoG. It could though still be strengthened with a little more detail throughout. The indicator has been met.</p>			

Final Result: Indicator Met			
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**5. SUMMARY OF FINAL RESULTS**

Description of the Indicators	Self Assessment	Independent Verification Result 1	Independent Verification Result 2	Independent Verification Result 3	Final Result
<b>1. Strategic Framework</b>					
Continued engagement between IDB and GFC for advancing the agreement on the FCPF	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Guyana will publish the LCDS Addendum with updated LCDS strategy, including learnings to date from the Norway-Guyana partnership and a plan of advancement on the FCPF	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
<b>2. Continuous Multi-stakeholder Engagement</b>					
Monthly meetings of the MSSC with comprehensive minutes made publically available immediately upon approval from the MSSC meeting	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Establishment of Communications and Outreach team within OCC, PMO or REDD+ Secretariat, in anticipation of the GRIF resources for its operations	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Present the Information and Consultation PCN to the GRIF Steering Committee	<b>Significant Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Regular updates of the GRIF and LCDS websites. Update with relevant information about progress of on-going processes	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>



<b>3. Governance</b>					
Application for EITI Candidacy at the EITI Board Meeting May 2013	<b>Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Not Met</b>	<b>Indicator Not Met</b>	<b>Indicator Not Met</b>	<b>Indicator Not Met</b>
Develop interim definition of legality of EU FLEGT VPA for Guyana by end of June 2013	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Outline in 2013 MNRE Program to manage degradation from extractive activities	<b>Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
<b>4. The Rights of Indigenous Peoples within REDD+</b>					
Indicator 4a: Present the Amerindian Land Titling project to the GRIF Steering Committee, after the normal GRIF public hearing period for new project notes is concluded	<b>Significant Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Indicator 4b: Opt-in concept note ready and pilot community for opt-in mechanism selected	<b>Significant Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>
Indicator 4c: Strategy and development of tailored information and consultations for hinterland communities addressed in the outreach program	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>
Indicator 4d: Initiating implementation of Community Development Plans through the Amerindian Development Fund	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>



<b>5. Integrated Land Use Planning and Management</b>					
Strategic Approach to land use planning publically communicated by March 2013	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Indicator Met</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>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>
Indicator 5c: Based on the evolving area use map, determine a roadmap by June 2013 to codify the formal status of varying degrees of protection for the areas identified as Intact Forest Landscapes and priority areas for biodiversity. This will gradually replace the Intact Forest Landscapes interim performance indicator.	<b>Progress Made</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>



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## ANNEX 1 IN-COUNTRY MISSION SCHEDULE

Date	Program
<b>Monday August 19</b>	Office of Climate Change – Formalities, independent verification kick off meeting, presentation of the evidence package by the Government of Guyana and initial consultations with the Office of Climate Change, Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission, Guyana Forestry Commission, Ministry of Natural Resources and Project Management Office.
<b>Tuesday August 20</b>	9:00-11:00 – Guyana Forestry Commission 11:00-12:30 – Inter American Development Bank 13:30-16:00 – Office of Climate Change
<b>Wednesday August 21</b>	9:00 – 10:00 Guyana Geology and Mines Commission 10:00-11:00 Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment 11:30 Ministry of Amerindian Affairs 13:00-14:00 Guyana Gold and Diamond Mining Association 14:30-15:30 United Nations Development Program 16:00 – 16:30 National Toshias Council
<b>Thursday August 22</b>	9:00-10:00 Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission 10:00-10:30 Development of the Land Use Plan Project (DLUPP) 11:30-13:30 Ministry of Amerindian Affairs 14:00-15:00 Private Sector Commission 15:30-16:00 Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>Friday August 23</b>	9:00 – 10:00 Protected Areas Commission 13:00 – 14:00 Ministry of Amerindian Affairs 13:30-15:00 Conservation International
<b>Saturday August 24</b>	9:00-10:00 Wilderness Explorers
<b>Monday August 26</b>	Field Trip – Santa Mission
<b>Tuesday August 27</b>	Field Trip – Annai Central Consultations with several villages
<b>Wednesday August 28</b>	9:00-10:00 Ministry of Amerindian Affairs Representative Travel Back to Georgetown from Annai Central
<b>Thursday August 29</b>	9:00-12:00 Focal Group Discussion with Indigenous NGOs (TAAMOG, APA, GOIP, NADF) 14:00-15:00 Trade Union Congress
<b>Friday August 30</b>	9:00-9:30 Guyana Gold Board 9:30-10:30 Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment 11:00-15:00 Government Validation Workshop 16:00-17:00 Transparency International Guyana 17:00-18:00 Justice Institute
<b>Saturday August 31</b>	9:00-9:30 Former MSSC Member

In addition, email and phone communications continued after the in country mission up until the September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013.



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## ANNEX II LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTED

Name	Organisation/Representation
<b>Preeya Rampersuad</b>	Office of Climate Change, Office of the President
<b>Shyam Notka</b>	Office of Climate Change, Office of the President
<b>Kabil Mohabir</b>	Office of Climate Change, Office of the President
<b>Nicolas Oudkerk</b>	Project Management Office, Office of the President
<b>Pradeepa Bholanath</b>	Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>Wendel Alleyene</b>	Ministry of Natural Resources
<b>Bobby Grossai</b>	Ministry of Natural Resources
<b>Minister Pauline Sukhai</b>	Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
<b>Minister Robert Persaud</b>	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
<b>James Singh</b>	Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>Tasreef Khan</b>	Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>Edward Goberdhan</b>	Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>Kanny David</b>	Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>Keith Austin</b>	Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>Umma Mdaray</b>	Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>Rawle Lewis</b>	Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>Michelle Astwood</b>	Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>Cyril Leander</b>	Guyana Forestry Commission
<b>Doorga Persaud</b>	Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission
<b>Gavin Agard</b>	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
<b>Andrea Mahammed</b>	Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission
<b>Enrique Monzie</b>	Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission
<b>Naseem Nasir</b>	Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission
<b>Shamane Munro</b>	Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission
<b>Ashton Simon</b>	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment/National Amerindian Development Foundation
<b>Permanent Secretary</b>	Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
<b>Yvonne Pearson</b>	Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
<b>Derrick John</b>	National Toshias Council



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Name	Organisation/Representation
<b>Rickford Vieira</b>	Guyana Geology and Mines Commission
<b>Janice Bollens</b>	Guyana Geology and Mines Commission
<b>Damien Fernandes</b>	Protected Areas Commission
<b>Edward Shields</b>	Guyana Gold and Diamond Miners Association
<b>Ronald Webster</b>	Private Sector Commission
<b>Chisa Mikami</b>	United Nations Development Program
<b>Sohpie Makonnen</b>	Inter American Development Bank Guyana
<b>Jean La Rose</b>	Amerindian Peoples Association
<b>David Singh</b>	Conservation international Guyana
<b>Colin Klautky</b>	Guyana Organisation of Indigenous Peoples
<b>George Norton</b>	Guyana Organisation of Indigenous Peoples
<b>Pamela Mendonca</b>	The Amerindian Action Movement of Guyana
<b>Peter Persuad</b>	The Amerindian Action Movement of Guyana
<b>Rommel Simon</b>	National Amerindian Development Foundation
<b>Heidi Bade</b>	Government of Norway
<b>Anahita Yousefi</b>	Government of Norway
<b>Francisco Paris</b>	EITI
<b>Norris Witter</b>	Trade Union Congress
<b>Lincoln Lewis</b>	Trade Union Congress
<b>Rowling Khan</b>	Guyana Windfarms Inc.
<b>Shafeez Ali</b>	Guyana Windfarms Inc.
<b>Anand Goolsarran</b>	Transparency International Guyana
<b>Fred Collins</b>	Transparency International Guyana
<b>Dawn Mattai</b>	Transparency International Guyana
<b>Melinda Jenkins</b>	Justice Institute
<b>Aubery Samuels</b>	Toshao of Santa Mission
<b>Anon.</b>	Wilderness Explorers
<b>Mabel Captain</b>	Community Support Officer
<b>Gloria Duark</b>	Senior Counsellor, Rupertee
<b>Michael Allnick</b>	Senior Counsellor, Awana
<b>Peggy Oliver</b>	Village Counsellor, Rewa



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<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation/Representation</b>
<b>David Hayes</b>	Rewa Village toshao
<b>Niles Iqnack</b>	Rewa Village CSO
<b>Carlson Hayes</b>	Rewa Village CSO
<b>Rom Henry</b>	Counsellor Wanetta village
<b>Marcas Mozes</b>	Counsellor, Rupertee
<b>Cyril Vanlony</b>	Counsellor Rupertee
<b>Laureny Sapio</b>	Apoleri village CSO
<b>Jefferson Mark</b>	Kwatang village
<b>Lucy Marlow</b>	CSO
<b>Rodney Davis</b>	Aranaputa village vice chairman
<b>Kenneth Fordf</b>	Aranaputa
<b>Alysta Jacobs</b>	Aranaputa
<b>Albertrio Peters</b>	Toshaos, Fairview
<b>Mark George</b>	Annai
<b>Bryan Allurch</b>	CMRV
<b>Bertie Xavier</b>	Wowette
<b>Ynette Jacobs</b>	Admin Asisstant
<b>Emily Allneck</b>	Surama
<b>Sydney Allnick</b>	Region 9
<b>Ricky Moses</b>	Kwantang
<b>Huvbert George</b>	Apoteri
<b>Tvor Mauslow</b>	NRDDB
<b>Michael Williams</b>	Chairman, NRRDB
<b>Ocica Jones</b>	Aranaputa
<b>Raynoldson Francis</b>	Aranaputa
<b>Melissa King</b>	Aranaputa



**ANNEX III RESULTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT VALIDATION**

August 30, 2013

Indicator	Status at Validation Workshop	Target Status	Requirements to Achieve Target	Status Update
<b>1: Strategic Framework</b>				
1a - Continued engagement between IDB and GFC for advancing the agreement on the FCPF	Indicator Met	N/A	N/A	
1b - Guyana will publish the LCDS Addendum with updated LCDS strategy, including learnings to date from the Norway-Guyana partnership and a plan of advancement on the FCPF	Indicator Partially Met	Indicator Met	Lessons learned to date from Guyana/Norway partnership to be posted on LCDS website  Plan of advancement on FCPF posted to LCDS and GFC websites	Uploaded on the LCDS website on September 09, 2013 and documents submitted as attachment to email on September 10, 2013.
<b>2: Continuous Multi-stakeholder Consultation Process</b>				
2a - Monthly meetings of the MSSC with comprehensive minutes made publically available immediately upon approval from the MSSC meeting	Indicator Met	N/A	N/A	
2b - Establishment of Communications and Outreach team within OCC, PMO or REDD+ Secretariat, in anticipation of the GRIF resources for its operations	Further Information Expected	Indicator Met	Emails of meetings  Meeting minutes  ToR for Outreach Committee	
2c - Present the Information and Consultation PCN to the GRIF Steering Committee	Further Information Expected	Indicator Met	Documentation sent to Government of Norway and CI  Or Documentation sent to GRIF Steering Committee or equivalent organisation if different process being followed	Submitted as an attachment to email on September 06, 2013
2d - Regular updates of the GRIF and LCDS websites. Update with relevant information about progress of on-going processes	Indicator Met	N/A	N/A	



Indicator	Status at Validation Workshop	Target Status	Requirements to Achieve Target	Status Update
<b>3. Governance</b>				
3a - Application for EITI Candidacy at the EITI Board Meeting May 2013	<b>Indicator Not Met</b>	N/A (Evidence can be added with a note explaining circumstances but cannot change indicator)	Ambition statement showing Guyana's intention to submit EITI application over a longer time horizon  May 2013 JCN updates/Progress report to Norway stating IDB funding issue  Minutes showing that Guyana stated it will fund study or that IDB indicated it could not fund/reallocated funds	Submitted
3b - Develop interim definition of legality of EU FLEGT VPA for Guyana by end of June 2013	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	
3c - Outline in 2013 MNRE Program to manage degradation from extractive activities	<b>Further Information Expected</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	Outline of MNRE Program to manage degradation from extractive activities	Submitted
<b>4: The Rights of Indigenous Peoples for REDD+</b>				
4a - Present the Amerindian Land Titling Project to GRIF Steering Committee	<b>Indicator not Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	Email from GRIF Secretariat presenting ALT Project document to GRIF Steering Committee	Submitted
4b - Opt-in concept note ready and pilot community for opt-in mechanism selected	<b>Indicator not Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	Minutes of NTC Exec Meeting outlining proposed pilot communities	
4c - Strategy and development of tailored information and consultations for hinterland communities addressed in the outreach program (consultation reports and materials)	<b>Indicator not Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	Reports of 20 communities and e-copies of posters from the GFC to upgrade to partially met  GLSC & MNRE consultation Reports	Submitted
		<b>Indicator Met</b>	Above plus documented Strategy to include cost, logistics, culture, customs and language.	
4d - Initiating implementation of Community Development Plans through the Amerindian Development Fund	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	



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Indicator	Status at Validation Workshop	Target Status	Requirements to Achieve Target	Status Update
<b>5: Integrated Land Use Planning and Management</b>				
5a - Strategic Approach to Land Use Planning Publically Communicated by March 2013	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	<b>Indicator Met</b>	August 29, 2013 Board minutes of GLSC showing approval of the NLUP	Submitted as an attachment to email on September 06, 2013
5b - Establish a plan, timeline and responsible agency for the development of a map of area use	<b>Indicator Met</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	
5c - Determine road map by June 2013 to codify the formal status of varying degrees of protection for the areas identified as IFL and PAB	<b>Indicator Not Met</b>	<b>Indicator Partially Met</b>	Roadmap to be delivered with specific timeline, details of activities, roles and responsibilities, lead agency identified, expected costs	
		<b>Indicator Met</b>	Above plus consultations and workshops for dissemination of roadmap	



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