

**Indicator 1:** *Continue with the process to apply to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).*

Specific Actions

1. The inception report from the EITI Scoping Study will be published, and
2. Guyana will be listed as an “interested country” on the EITI Website

**Self-Assessment Score: [Indicator Met]**

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Government of Guyana and the EITI Secretariat in 2012. Since then, Guyana has made significant progress in the process towards EITI candidacy.

EITI website

The official website of the EITI International Secretariat is the catalyst for the global standards of open and accountable management of natural resources by various countries. Guyana has been listed as an “interested country” in the official EITI website, which is indicative of the country’s strong interest and commitment to taking the final steps for attaining EITI candidacy. Guyana’s country page (<https://eiti.org/guyana>) describes the country’s current status, reports all the advancements to date and will publish EITI reports.

Inception report

The Government of Guyana contracted Moore Stephens International to undertake a Scoping Study to determine Guyana’s readiness for application to the EITI. The objective of the assignment was to produce a study which will inform the Multi-Stakeholder Group’s deliberation regarding the scope and implications of implementing the EITI standards for Guyana’s extractive industries. An inception workshop was held in Guyana in October 2014 with Moore Stephens International and various stakeholders, including civil society. The workshop described the process and deliverables of the Scoping Study. [The inception report derived from the study was published by Moore Stephens International in April 2015].

Guyana hosts vast but still largely untapped stock of natural resources. The Government of Guyana has taken a firm position to develop and promote transparency and accountability in the natural resources sectors already during the early stages of development. EITI candidacy has been identified as an important milestone in achieving this goal and in promoting inclusive and sustainable development within the country. In this regard, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Robert Persaud and a delegation met with the Head of the EITI International Secretariat in Norway, in March 2015 to discuss Guyana’s progress. A follow up letter was also despatched to the Head of the International Secretariat restating Guyana’s commitment to pursuing EITI candidacy.

The Government of Guyana remains highly committed to becoming an EITI member country and has found the support from the Government of Norway invaluable during this process.

**Indicator 2:** *Advance Guyana's policy of enabling Amerindian communities to "opt in" to REDD+ payments.*

#### Specific Actions

3. By the end of November 2014, the Government of Guyana will publish the draft opt-in strategy, which will be submitted to the National Toshias Council and the MSSC for review.
4. The Government of Guyana will also request the NTC to select – by December 2014 - a pilot community from the candidate communities identified by the NTC in 2013.
5. Furthermore, the Government of Guyana is planning to hire a consultancy to assist with the further development of the opt-in strategy. The Terms of Reference for this consultancy will be submitted to the IDB by the end of November 2014 and subsequently be made publically available through an international competitive procurement process.

#### **Self-Assessment Score: Indicator Met**

During the reporting period, GoG maintained momentum on developing the opt-in mechanism. On October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013, the OCC convened a meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG) with a view to move the Options Paper for the Opt-In Mechanism forward<sup>1</sup>. Based on the recommendations of that meeting, the OCC continued its work to develop the Draft Opt-In Mechanism Strategy<sup>2</sup> with the aim of publishing the Strategy at the National Toshias Conference to be held in October 2014.

Accordingly, on October 24<sup>th</sup> 2014, the Office of Climate Change (OCC) shared the Draft Opt-In Mechanism Strategy<sup>3</sup> with the Chairman of the National Toshias Council (NTC) inviting the NTC to make comments on the Draft Strategy and to nominate a village in which the Mechanism would be piloted<sup>4</sup>. Further, 183 copies of the Draft Opt-In Mechanism Strategy were distributed to Toshias and Community Development Councillors (CDCs) at the National Toshias Conference during the period October 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014<sup>5</sup>. On October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the MSSC also received a copy of the Draft Strategy with an invitation to provide comments<sup>6</sup>. The Draft Opt-In Mechanism Strategy was subsequently published on the LCDS website<sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Minutes for the Technical Working Group for the Opt-In Mechanism\_171013\_OCC

<sup>2</sup> (i) Email Draft Opt-In Mechanism Strategy to the Opt-In TWG\_170714\_OCC, (ii) Email Notice of TWG Meeting\_100914\_OCC and (iii) Summary of TWG comments on the Draft Opt-In Mechanism Strategy\_160914\_OCC

<sup>3</sup> Draft Opt-In Mechanism Strategy October 2014\_1014\_OCC

<sup>4</sup> Letter to NTC\_241014\_OCC

<sup>5</sup> NTC Report 2014\_021114\_OCC

<sup>6</sup> Email Draft Opt-In Mechanism Strategy for MSSC\_241014\_OCC

<sup>7</sup> [http://lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/Draft\\_Opt-In\\_Mechanism\\_Strategy\\_October\\_2014\\_1014\\_OCC\\_1.pdf](http://lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/Draft_Opt-In_Mechanism_Strategy_October_2014_1014_OCC_1.pdf)

On December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the OCC was informed by the Chairman of the NTC that Muritaro was selected as the pilot village<sup>8</sup>. Moreover, comments were received from six members of the MSSC<sup>9</sup>. The GoG adheres with the principle of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), no timelines were placed on the NTC to review the Draft Strategy and return comments to GoG. Consequently, comments from the NTC on the Draft Strategy are still outstanding. In order to allow the process to proceed, the OCC proposed to directly engage the NTC during the implementation of the Pilot<sup>10</sup>.

In order to fast-track the process, the GoG decided to single source the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) as the consultancy to further develop the Draft Strategy based on their experience and capacity in implementing REDD+ in several countries including in implementing Guyana's demonstration Community Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (CMRV). These considerations were articulated in a letter to the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) requesting the Bank's no-objection to single sourcing the WWF as the consulting team for the Opt-In Mechanism<sup>11</sup>. The ToR for the Opt-In Mechanism Consultancy, the Summary of the WWF Team Members Qualifications including full CVs, and the WWF Forest and Climate Programme Publications since July 2013 were included as appendices to the letter<sup>12</sup>. The Bank's letter of no-objection to single source the WWF, including guidance for proceeding with the procurement process, was received on January 27, 2014<sup>13</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup> Letter from the NTC\_ Pilot Village\_151214\_NTC

<sup>9</sup> MSSC Stakeholder Comments on Draft Opt-In Strategy\_171114\_OCC

<sup>10</sup> ToR for Opt-In Pilot\_OCC

<sup>11</sup> Request for No-Objection to Single Source WWF for Opt-In Consultancy\_071115\_PMO

<sup>12</sup> Same as above

<sup>13</sup> IDB No-Objection to Single Source WWF\_270115\_IDB

### **Indicator 3: Improve REDD+ and LCDS-related Communications in Hinterland Communities**

#### Specific Actions:

1. Continued efforts have been extended over the past year to further enhance outreach and awareness on the LCDS. The Government of Guyana will provide a publically available overview of these activities, including, but not limited to outreach and awareness sessions to hinterland regions, and development and dissemination of information to Amerindian communities through various channels, such as Indigenous NGO's of the LCDS Multi Stakeholder Steering Committee.
2. The Government of Guyana, with the support of Conservation International, is about to start implementing an LCDS outreach project which will among other things focus on the tailored needs for information in the hinterland communities. The project is somewhat delayed, but the signed contract and Terms of Reference for the collaboration between the Government of Guyana and Conservation International are available on the GRIF web site. The Government of Guyana will by the end of November 2014 publish an outline and indicative timeline for the main deliverables of this project.

#### **Self-Assessment Score: Indicator Met**

In this reporting period, the LCDS continued to be subjected to an institutionalised, systematic and transparent process of multi-stakeholder education and awareness, enabling the participation of all potentially affected and interested stakeholders at all stages of the LCDS process. During the reporting period, the OCC conducted ten (10) high level national awareness sessions in Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9<sup>14,15</sup>. These sessions aimed to inform and update participants on climate change, low-carbon concepts and the LCDS. Of these 9 sessions, six (6) were done in the Hinterland regions. Notably, the OCC created a briefing paper on Outreach Activities for Hinterland Regions in 2014<sup>16</sup>, which is publicly available on the LCDS website.

In addition to these national awareness sessions, the nine (9) LCDS Facilitators, the Indigenous NGOs represented on the MSSC including the Chair for the National Toshaos Council (NTC), conducted detailed awareness sessions nationwide. For this reporting period, the Facilitators conducted fifty five (55) sessions in Regions 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, which are documented in Annex B. The reports from each session were submitted to the OCC and are provided within the Evidence Pack.

In an effort to include wide stakeholder groups, specific requests from various groups for the OCC to make presentations on climate change, the LCDS and its initiatives were accommodated. These included both international and local requests such as Guyana's Participation at the 1<sup>st</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> All reports of awareness sessions can be accessed via: <http://lcds.gov.gy/index.php/outreach/awareness>

<sup>15</sup> Annex A provides a summary of the Outreach Sessions

<sup>16</sup> [http://lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/Outreach\\_Activities\\_for\\_Hinterland\\_Regions\\_1214\\_OCC.pdf](http://lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/Outreach_Activities_for_Hinterland_Regions_1214_OCC.pdf)

International Conference on the Impacts of REDD+ for High Forest, Low Deforestation Countries held in Paramaribo, Suriname and a Meeting with Students from Anton de Kom University in Suriname<sup>17</sup>.

In keeping with information sharing, education and awareness sessions continued to take place during this reporting period for which the OCC engaged with all stakeholders, including Amerindian communities, using various education and awareness tools, messages and materials. These awareness sessions include national forums such as Guyana Exhibition (GuyExpo); Berbice Exhibitions (Berbice Expo) and the National Toshias Council (NTC). For these sessions, the materials<sup>18</sup> shared included the LCDS Newsletter; Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Booklet; Draft Opt-In Mechanism Strategy; LCDS Factsheet and Project Update Sheets for the Amerindian Land Titling (ALT), Amerindian Development Strategy (ADF), Micro and Small Enterprise (MSE) and Implementing Guyana's Outreach Programme. Significantly, 183 members of the NTC signed that they have received these documents<sup>19</sup>. The MSSC was constantly updated on the LCDS and its projects via a monthly GRIF Project Matrix<sup>20</sup>.

These overall efforts to consistently update and inform stakeholders are documented in the LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan 2014<sup>21</sup>. Thereafter implementation of the plan commenced, with the involvement of the MSSC, Ministries and agencies, including having these groups incorporate the LCDS into their awareness and outreach activities<sup>22</sup>.

In efforts to maintain the momentum of continuous engagements with all stakeholders, the OCC is collaborating with Conservation International (Guyana) on the 'Implementing Guyana's LCDS Outreach Programme', which is aimed at increasing understanding and awareness, on climate change and Guyana's LCDS nationally and internationally. The project agreement was signed on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014 by the OCC and CI-G. On January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015, these Parties subsequently signed an agreement to extend the timeline of the project to July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. A brief on the Implementing the Guyana's Outreach Programme including indicative timelines for the main deliverables was posted on the LCDS website<sup>23</sup>. Indicative timelines for the project are also reflected in the leaflet on Implementing the Guyana's Outreach Programme, which has been used in outreach sessions and can be accessed on the LCDS website<sup>24,25</sup>.

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<sup>17</sup> These reports are provided in the Evidence Pack

<sup>18</sup> Simplified materials and documents on climate change and the LCDS can be found via:

<http://lcds.gov.gy/index.php/media-centre/brochures>

<sup>19</sup> NTC Report 2014\_021114\_OCC

<sup>20</sup> GRIF Projects Update\_101114\_PMO

<sup>21</sup> LCDS Stakeholder Awareness and Engagement Plan 2014\_0114\_OCC

<sup>22</sup> An example of the work done with Ministries/Agencies is the report done by the GFC: "Overview of Guyana's MRVS, REDD+, LCDS, EU-FLEGT\_FINAL WORKSHOP REPORT\_GFC"

<sup>23</sup> [http://lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/Timeline\\_for\\_the\\_Main\\_Deliverables\\_LCDS\\_Outreach\\_Programme\\_0315\\_OCC.pdf](http://lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/Timeline_for_the_Main_Deliverables_LCDS_Outreach_Programme_0315_OCC.pdf)

<sup>24</sup> LCDS Outreach Programme\_\_1014\_OCC

<sup>25</sup> [http://lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/Implementing\\_the\\_Guyana\\_LCDS\\_Outreach\\_Programme.pdf](http://lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/Implementing_the_Guyana_LCDS_Outreach_Programme.pdf)

## Annex A

### OCC Outreach Sessions

There were 10 National Awareness and Outreach Sessions held in Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9.

These are shown in Table 1.

No.	Dates	Region	Places
1.	22 June 2013	1	Mabaruma
2.	23 June 2013	1	Moruca
3.	27 July 2013	1	Port Kaituma
4.	12 October 2013	5	Bush Lot
5.	13 October 2013	6	Port Mourant
6.	13 February 2014	3	Pouderyoen
7.	16 February 2014	2	Anna Regina
8.	6 August 2014	9	Annai
9.	7 August 2014	9	St Ignatius
10.	25 August 2014	8	Kato

*Table 1: OCC National Awareness and Outreach Sessions*

Other reports provided for awareness and education sessions done by the OCC are recorded in Table 2. These reports are provided within the Evidence Pack 5.

*Table 2: Nationwide OCC Awareness and Education Sessions*

#	Dates	Events
1.	10 April 2014	Notes on Meeting with LCDS Facilitators on Awareness Outreach Reports
2.	14 - 15 May 2014	Guyana's Participation at the 1 <sup>st</sup> International Conference on the Impacts Of REDD+ For High Forest, Low Deforestation Countries held in Paramaribo, Suriname
3.	23 July 2014	Meeting with Students from Anton de Kom University in Suriname
4.	7 October 2013	Guyana Exhibition (GuyExpo) 2013 Report
5.	30 October 2013	Berbice Expo 2013 Report
6.	15 October 2014	Guyana Exhibition (GuyExpo) 2014 Report

7.	31 August 2014	Berbice Expo 2014 Report
8.	30 October 2014	NTC Conference Report
9.	24 October 2014	Notes on Meeting with LCDS Facilitators on Awareness Outreach Reports

## Annex B

### LCDS Facilitators Outreach Sessions

In order to ensure that villages/communities are continuously updated on climate change, LCDS and related initiatives across Guyana; GoG has employed nine (9) LCDS Facilitators under the Institutional Strengthening Project since January 2013. These Facilitators are the Indigenous NGOs represented on the MSSC inclusive of the Chair for the National Toshias Council (NTC). Because of their esteemed position on Indigenous affairs, they have been contracted to conduct detailed awareness sessions nationwide. For this reporting period, the Facilitators conducted fifty five (55) sessions in Regions 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, which are documented in Table 3. The reports from each session submitted to the OCC and provided within the Evidence Pack.

*Table 3: Nationwide Awareness and Education Sessions done by LCDS Facilitators*

No.	Dates	Region	Location	Facilitator
1.	4 July 2013	7	Tasserene	Yvonne Pearson
2.	6 July 2013	7	Kangaruma	Yvonne Pearson
3.	24 July 2013	8	Karisparu	Yvonne Pearson
4.	26 July 2013	8	Tuseneng	Yvonne Pearson
5.	9 August 2013	1	Kariako	Yvonne Pearson
6.	19 August 2013	8	Cinty Backdam	Rommel Simon
7.	22 – 23 August 2013	1	Oronoque, Canal Bank and Sebai	Derrick John
8.	24 August 2013	1	Eclipse Falls	Derrick John
9.	25 September 2013	8	North Fork	Rommel Simon
10.	17 October 2013	8	Black Water	Rommel Simon
11.	27 October 2013	9	Annai [and other NRDDB member villages]	David James
12.	27 November 2013	7	Tiger Creek	Rommel Simon
13.	16 December 2013	7	14 Mile Bartica	Rommel Simon
14.	15 January 2014	9	Karasabai	Derrick John
15.	19 January 2014	10	Malali Rapids	Colin Klautky
16.	21 January 2014	8	Arangai	Rommel Simon
17.	18 February 2014	10	Tamaka	Rommel Simon
18.	16 February 2014	1	Port Kaituma/Citrus Grove	Ashton Simon
19.	2 March 2014	1	Kamwatta Community	Peter Persaud and Pamela

No.	Dates	Region	Location	Facilitator
			(Santa Rosa satellite village)	English
20.	3 March 2014	1	Cabrora Community (Santa Rosa satellite village)	Peter Persaud and Pamela English
21.	4 March 2014	1	Mora Community (Santa Rosa satellite village)	Peter Persaud and Pamela English
22.	5 March 2014	1	Karaburi Community (Santa Rosa satellite village)	Peter Persaud and Pamela English
23.	12 March 2014	9	Awarawaunau	Colin Klautky
24.	15 March 2014	8	Eping	Rommel Simon
25.	22 March 2014	8	Paramakatoi, Bamboo Creek, Mountain Foot	George Norton
26.	22 March 2014	7	Dogg Point	Colin Klautky
27.	27 March 2014	1	Baramita	Ashton Simon
28.	28 April 2014	2	Wakapau	Colin Klautky
29.	29 April 2014	6	Orealla/Siparuta Village	David James
30.	23 May 2014	2	Jawalla	Ashton Simon
31.	29 May 2014	9	Annai [and other NRDDDB member villages]	David James
32.	18 – 20 June 2014	1	Bamboo Landing, Barama Wini	Ashton Simon
33.	10 July 2014	5	Moraikobai	Derrick John
34.	25 July 2014	6	Orealla	Ashton Simon
35.	2 August 2014	9	Katoonarib	Yvonne Pearson
36.	5 August 2013	7	Batavia	Yvonne Pearson
37.	5 August 2013	9	Parabara	Yvonne Pearson
38.	10 August 2014	7 & 8	Kamarang, Kato	George Norton
39.	25 August 2014	8	Kato	Derrick John
40.	September 2014	7	Karrau	Ashton Simon
41.	28 September 2014	10	Yarira	Colin Klautky
42.	28 September 2014	10	Rivers View, Coshen	George Norton
43.	15 October 2014	5	Moraikobai	Derrick John
44.	18 October 2014	1	Pakera Community, Matthews Ridge	Peter Persaud and Pamela English
45.	23-25 October 2014	10	Rock Stone	Ashton Simon
46.	30 October 2014	4	Toshaos of NTC	Derrick John
47.	4 November 2014	2	Bethney	Yvonne Pearson
48.	7 November 2014	9	Parikwaranau	Peter Persaud and Pamela English
49.	8 November 2014	9	Quarrie	Peter Persaud and Pamela English
50.	8 November 2014	2	Capoey Village	Yvonne Pearson
51.	9 November 2014	9	Kumu	Peter Persaud and Pamela English
52.	10 November 2014	2	Mainstay /Whyaka	Yvonne Pearson
53.	28-30 November 2014	8	Kurukubaru and cluster	Ashton Simon
54.	2014	7	Isseneru	Ashton Simon
55.	2014	8	Kato and cluster	Ashton Simon



