



# Low Carbon Development Strategy

Transforming Guyana's Economy While Combating Climate Change



## Amerindian Land Titling

### Introduction

On 9th November, 2009, Guyana and Norway signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in which Norway committed to provide Guyana up to US\$ 250 million by 2015 for its work on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus (REDD+). To date, Guyana has earned US\$ 150 million and is investing these payments in priority projects under the Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS). One of these projects is the Amerindian Land Titling (ALT) Project.

### The Amerindian Land Titling Project

The ALT Project aims to support Amerindians in securing their lands and natural resources. In order to do this, the project will facilitate and fast track the land titling process. This includes issuing titles and completing demarcations for Amerindian villages that submit requests. This also covers requests for extensions. It is expected that titling of communities will strengthen land tenure security and expand Amerindian land ownership. In this way, the ALT will enable Amerindians to better plan for the future development of their village.

The Government of Guyana (GoG) has prioritised the process of titling Amerindian lands. In the past, high costs were a significant barrier to the titling process. As a consequence, funds in the Guyana REDD+ Investment Fund (GRIF), earned under the Guyana-Norway Partnership, have been allocated for this purpose. The project is valued at US\$ 10.7 million.

### Status Update

In 2014, at an Initiation Workshop for stakeholders, GoG and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed an agreement which would allow the titling of 13 communities and demarcation of 33 villages to commence. This will add to the 97 communities and 77 villages that have been previously demarcated.

*"Our Amerindian forefathers, without a doubt, understood the strong nexus between taking care of our rivers and our forests and the long term wellbeing of their villages and their children and their grandchildren still to come"*

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