



Low Carbon Development Strategy

Transforming Guyana's Economy While Combating Climate Change



Implementing the Guyana LCDS Outreach Programme

Introduction

Since 2009, when the Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS) was first launched, the importance of multi-stakeholder involvement in all stages of LCDS implementation was promoted. In fact, the Government of Guyana (GoG) recognised that the long term success of the LCDS depended on broad-based support at the national level. From June to August 2009, there was an intense nationwide consultation and awareness programme to provide information and seek inputs from stakeholders.

To date, the Office of Climate Change (OCC) has continued to engage with all stakeholders, including Amerindian communities in particular, using various means to share information on key issues related to climate change, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus (REDD+) and the status of LCDS implementation so that they are involved in all the stages of the process. The process of the awareness sessions and engagements lends itself to open discussions and opportunities for Amerindian villages and other communities to provide feedback on relevant matters regarding any issues they face relating to the LCDS and its initiatives.

Additionally, information packages, including factsheets specifically designed for Amerindian communities, have been distributed to Amerindian villages/communities. Also, there are nine (9) LCDS Facilitators who are from local prominent Indige-

nous Non-Governmental Organisations (I-NGOs) and who visit villages and communities regularly to ensure that villagers are updated on the LCDS.

New Developments

The OCC is collaborating with Conservation International (Guyana) on a project called 'Implementing Guyana's LCDS Outreach Programme'. This project is aimed at increasing understanding and awareness, on climate change and Guyana's LCDS, both nationally and internationally.

Under this project, analysis of the current state of the LCDS public awareness, stakeholders' engagement and communication initiatives will be completed for both local and international audiences. Further, a Communications Strategy and Plan will be prepared by mid-2015. Additional and updated information and awareness materials about climate change, low-carbon concepts and the LCDS will be prepared and shared with relevant stakeholders throughout the life of the project which ends July 2015.

Importantly this project there will be several national outreach sessions done for all Regions in Guyana. These national outreach sessions will start in first quarter of 2015. In addition, there will be targeted outreach, awareness and capacity building sessions on climate change, inclusive of low-carbon concepts and actions, and the LCDS conducted with key stakeholders, which will also start in the first quarter of 2015.

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