

sectors and continue to deliver support for Amerindian socio-economic development.

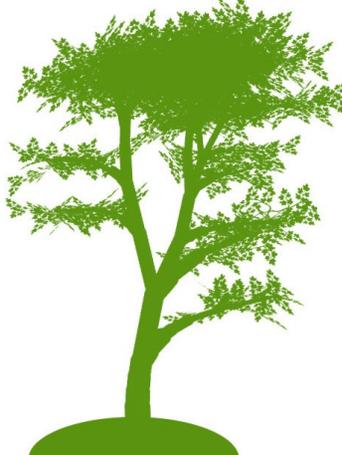
Implementing the LCDS in 2015

The payments from Norway will be used for important climate change and poverty alleviation investments that will improve the overall economy, while keeping carbon pollution low. The initial LCDS Projects are being implemented and new project areas are identified. Priority investments are detailed in the table below.

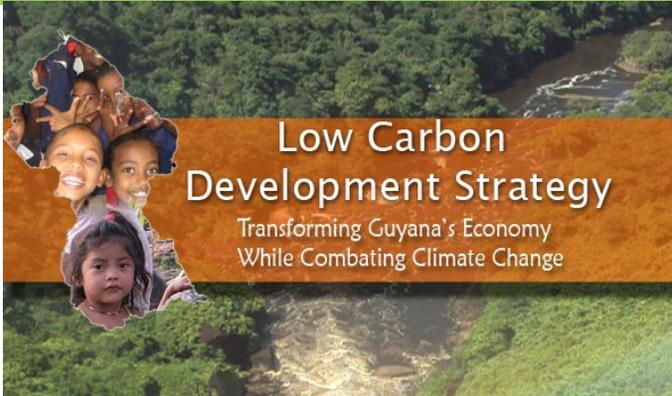
LCDS PROJECTS	DEVELOPMENT BENEFITS
Equity in Amaila Falls Hydropower	Clean, cheaper and reliable source of renewable energy to meet Guyana’s energy needs
Amerindian Land Titling	Facilitate and fast track the Amerindian land titling process
Institutional Strengthening	Building national institutional capacity to implement the LCDS
Amerindian Development Fund	Support to the socio-economic development of Amerindian communities and villages
Micro & Small Enterprise Development	Support businesses in low carbon sectors and build alternative livelihoods for vulnerable groups through access to finance and business skills
Climate Resilience Strategy & Action Plan	Seeks to establish a climate resilience framework for Guyana
Cunha Canal Rehabilitation Project	Provide drainage relief to the EDWC to reduce overtopping and flooding on the East Coast Dem
International Centre for Biodiversity Research	Development of a self-sustaining scientific research centre at UG
Implementing the LCDS Outreach Programme	Outreach and awareness activities conducted countrywide to involve all Guyanese in the LCDS

LCDS Key Facts

- ✓ 87% of Guyana’s territory is covered in forests.
- ✓ The LCDS was launched in 2009 to help to protect and maintain our forest and support national development
- ✓ Norway has agreed to pay Guyana up to USD 250M by 2015 depending on Guyana’s delivery of results
- ✓ Guyana has, to date, received USD 150M from Norway for forest carbon services
- ✓ The LCDS projects, being implemented, will create livelihood opportunities for all Guyanese while improving our ability to respond to climate change.



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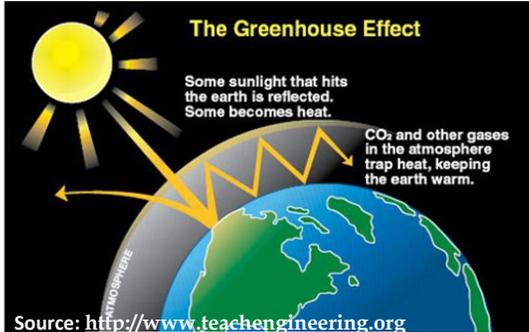


Introduction

On 8th June 2009 , Guyana’s Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS) was launched. The Strategy outlines Guyana’s vision to promote economic development, while at the same time addressing climate change. In March 2013, an Update to the LCDS was prepared and launched. It includes the progress of the LCDS and identifies new projects areas.

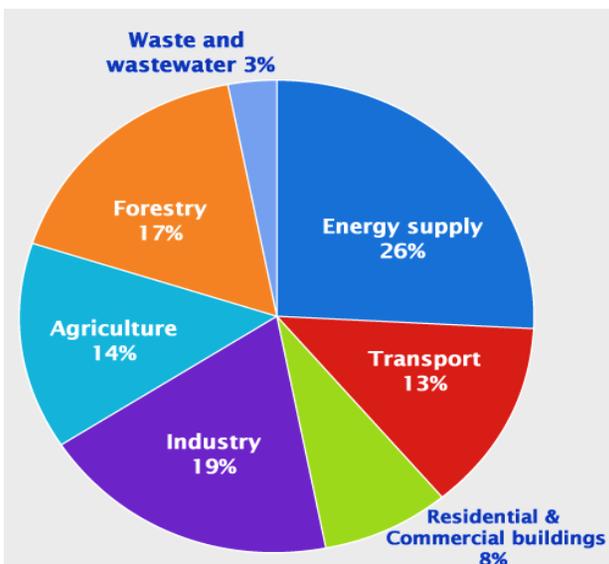
Climate Change and its Effects

There is compelling evidence that the earth’s surface has been warming rapidly over the last century more than ever before in its history. This is due to the high levels of carbon dioxide and other ‘greenhouse’ gases that have been emitted into the atmosphere from the use of fossil fuels in industry, transportation, homes, etc. These gases trap the solar rays in a process known as the “Greenhouse Effect”. The diagram below illustrates how the Greenhouse Effect works:



Source: <http://www.teachengineering.org>

Deforestation, also contributes to the release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Tropical deforestation contributes approximately 17% of total greenhouse gas emissions. The pie chart, below, shows how different sectors contribute to greenhouse gas emissions.



<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/ghgemissions/global.html>

If action is not taken now to stop this warming trend, the earth will become too warm for people, plants and animals to survive. Global warming would result in temperature increase and sea level rise, resulting in increased flooding, droughts, loss of crops, famine and diseases worldwide.

Climate Change Impacts for Guyana

Over the last century, Guyana's mean annual temperature increased by 1.0°C. Weather patterns have also changed and episodes of intense rainfall have become more frequent. By 2100, under the worst case scenario, temperatures can increase by up to 4°C and weather patterns become more intense. Sea levels are projected to rise about 40 — 60cm.

These impacts will affect key economic sectors like agriculture which requires stable and predictable weather patterns. Sea level rise could result in inundation of low-lying coastal regions on which agriculture is practiced. All sectors will be affected but among the most vulnerable, in addition to agriculture, are the health, housing, transport and water sectors. This will create socio-economic problems for Guyana.

The Relevance of the LCDS

Since one of the major contributors to global warming is tropical deforestation, addressing this issue has now become one of the global priorities for combating climate change. Guyana, like most low-lying coastal states, is vulnerable to the effects of climate change. However, with about 85% of the country covered in forest, we can play an important role in addressing climate change. At the same time Guyana is a developing country and forest resources are the principal natural asset that can be utilised to obtain revenue to promote sustainable development. The challenge is whether we can maintain our forests to help in the global fight against climate change and receive financial resources for doing so. The LCDS sets out the clear vision and strategy of how this can be achieved in the long-term. It focuses on how Guyana can forge a new economy in an environmentally sustainable way.

Securing Financing from our Forests

The LCDS has estimated the Economic Value to the Nation (EVN) of Guyana's forests, to be approximately USD 580 million per annum. This value is based on optimising the use of the forests for logging, mining and other activities.

LCDS and Use of the Forests

Under the LCDS, forest-related activities will not be required to stop. However, these sectors will be required to comply with the existing laws, regulations and guidelines. The LCDS will not affect Amerindian subsistence and traditional use of

the forests.

International Recognition of the LCDS

The LCDS has gained considerable support and recognition globally as model approach to addressing climate change while tackling the challenges of a developing country. The international community is becoming increasingly aware of the solutions forests offer within the context of sustainable development, poverty eradication and green growth. Mechanisms such as Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus (REDD+) help countries to use their forests to address climate change. Guyana's LCDS and its unique REDD+ model are providing working examples of how green growth strategies can be developed and implemented.

Guyana-Norway Partnership

On 9th November 2009, Guyana and Norway signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in which Norway committed to providing Guyana up to USD 250M by 2015 for avoided deforestation. To date, Guyana has received three payments from Norway totalling USD 150M.

Progress to-date on the LCDS

Guyana has made significant progress to-date in implementing the LCDS. In 2009, a series of priority investments were identified with the aim of increasing renewable energy generation, promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous peoples, and creating new and alternative low-carbon livelihood opportunities for all Guyanese (these projects are shown in the Table attached).

The second wave of LCDS projects will include interventions to improve climate resilience, intensify support for private sector led growth in high potential low carbon