Connected to NDCs and SDGs, making progress in Guyana

Prepared by:
Marlon Bristol, PhD,
Head of Project Management Office,
Guyana REDD+ Investment Fund
A green, inclusive and prosperous Guyana that provides a good quality of life for all its citizens based on a sound education and social protection, low-carbon resilient development, green and decent jobs, economic opportunities, individual equality, justice, and political empowerment.”

The Green State Development Strategy

Guyana’s national development plan (2019-2039)

Development Objectives:

- Economic restructuring and diversification
- **Sustainable management of natural resources**
- **Transition to renewable and clean energy**
- Resilient infrastructure and green towns
- Healthy, educated and socially cohesive population
- Internationally competitive trade and investment

Green Economy/SDGs | Good Governance | Transparency | Equity
Process & timeline

- **2017**: GSDS Framework
- **2018**: Jan, April
- **June**: Coastal Consultations
- **July**: Drafting, Hinterland Consultations (WWF), Green Conversations (CI)
- **Aug**: GSDS submission
- **Sep**, **2019**: GSDS Implementation

Expert Group Consultations
Hinterland Consultations

August

- Mahdia
- Anna Regina
- Charity & KabaKaburi
- Moruca
- Mabaruma
- Matthews Ridge
- Port Kaituma
- Bartica
- Kamarang
- Kato
- Paramakatoi
- Lethem
- Annai
- Karasabai
- Aishalton
- Shulinab
- Linden
- Kwakwani
- Kimbia & Surrounding Villages
Vision of the ‘green state’

Economy

Keeping growth momentum

Traditional sectors
Sugar
Forestry
Fisheries

Value adding

Nurturing future sectors
- Business Process Outsourcing
- Eco Tourism
- Non-traditional e.g. fruits and vegetables, processing

Infrastructure expansion and development: roads, sea defences, airports
Financed by: revenues from oil & gas

adapted from Vivid Economics
Vision of the ‘green state’

**Education**
- Education for all
- Quality: teachers, students, facilities
- Competency and skills for a transformed economy
- Technology use: Integrating hubs, tools and methods
- Accessibility

**Health**
- Universal health
- Quality: personnel, facilities, treatment
- Accessibility
- Technology

**Jobs**
- Green businesses/industries: decent work, improved working

**Cohesiveness**
- Urban spaces: pollution free, secure, enjoyable
- Traditions: unifying and celebrated
- Communities: vibrant and happy
Vision of the ‘green state’

Environment

Manage land use, eliminate conflicts and impacts

- Mining and mineral extraction
- Logging (reduced impact logging)
- Traditional practices and forest management
- Private lands and forest management
- Agriculture: crops, livestock, fishing
- Water resource extraction
- Biodiversity and habitats
- Infrastructure development (road, energy networks)

Maintaining forest cover

- Preserving biodiversity
- Preserving healthy ecosystems
- Maintaining livelihoods, traditional practices and culture
Unconditional Commitments

- Improve Sustainable Forest Management; Compliance with Code of Practices
- Implement the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) under the EU- FLEGT
- Improve Value Added activities
- Strengthen Indigenous people support
- Monitoring for legality

Conditional Commitments

- Avoided Deforestation
- Implementing Policy Measure
- Stakeholder Participation
- Emissions Reduction Programme for Forests
- Concession Issuance
- Reduced Impact Logging (RIL)
- Monitoring Reporting and Verification System (MRVS)
- Build Capacity on Forest Governance
GSDS NDC NEXUS: FORESTRY SECTOR....

Unconditional Commitments

- **Unconditional Commitment 1** — SFM and CoP
  (Code of Practice and Forestry Regulations are now legal documents 2018)

- **Unconditional Commitment 2** — EU FLEGT
  (VPA completed to be signed with EU in November 2018, Licensing in sight)

- **Unconditional Commitment 3** — Improved Value Added
  (Ongoing: Training in sawmill best practice, methodology National Forest Inventory, Log Export policy, inter alia…)

- **Unconditional Commitment 4** — Strengthening Indigenous Peoples’ Support
  (Community CMRVs, GFC and FTCI provide capacity building, inter alia…)

- **Unconditional Commitment 5** — Legality
  (38 Forest Stations country wide, Chain of Custody, Log Tracking System, Independent Forest Monitoring, Third Party Verification under MRVS for illegal logging reporting, Code of Practice Implementation)

Conditional Commitments

- **Conditional Commitment 1** — Avoided Deforestation
  1. Implementing Policy Measure Code of practice implemented and monitored through 38 sites and impromptu mobile patrols and reduce impact logging & 2. Stakeholder Participation

- **Conditional Commitment 2** — Emissions Reductions Programme
  1. Land previously issued under the 4th parallel have now reverted to the GFC. This is now available as part of 2 M ha conservation area designated by HE; 2. Reduced Impact Logging practices for Timber Industries; 3. Monitoring Reporting and Verification System (MRVS); 4. Building Capacity on Forest Governance
Combined results of measures and actions in Guyana

Graph Showing Declining Trend in Deforestation Rate over the Last 5 Years

Source: Guyana Forestry Commission, 2017, Guyana REDD+ Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System (MRVS) Year 6 Interim Measures Report
• However…..

• Some critical policy measures have been advanced…for example: Guyana Energy Transition Road Map and Guyana’s Energy Policy on going drafts
  - removal of the interim cap of 100kW peak of installed capacity for independent power producers
  - energy efficiency actions by GoG currently installing solar power for ALL government buildings

• GRIF bilateral measure to support 100% transition to RE in a phased approach.
CENTRAL THEMES OF THE GSDS AND ITS RELATION WITH THE SDGS

GREEN & INCLUSIVE STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION
- Resource Extraction for sustainable development
- Green, inclusive, high value-adding industrial development
- Enabling business environment

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT NATURAL RESOURCES
- Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of forests, biodiversity, land quality, and fresh water resources
- Protection, restoration and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources

ENERGY – TRANSITION TOWARDS RENEWABLE ENERGY
- Achieving a transition to 100% renewable energy in the power sector
- Achieving affordable, reliable and clean energy services for all
- Ensuring security and quality of energy for business growth
- Increasing energy efficiency

RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT
- Coastal Resilience and sustainable infrastructure
- Inclusive and green urban settlements

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & WELLBEING
- Ensure healthy and socially secured people
- Empowering our Youth and Indigenous People
- Access to Good Quality of Education, Human Development and Green Skills

GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONAL FOUNDATIONS
- Transparency, Good Governance and rule of law
- Knowledge management, Information and Communications

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, TRADE AND INVESTMENT
The End…