



## Forest Peoples Programme

Rights, forests and climate briefing series – November 2009

# Guyana: indigenous peoples, forests and climate initiatives

The government of Guyana has been successful in international debates and negotiations on climate change in drawing attention to the future of the country's forests. On the ground, however, there is confusion in many communities over Guyana's high-profile draft plan for low carbon development and the more targeted proposals for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD). Consultations on low carbon growth have been

rushed and specific consultations on REDD are yet to take place at the community level. Some indigenous leaders feel pressured to support the government's plans without guarantees for recognition of their rights to land, forest and carbon and improved governance. This briefing summarises some key emerging lessons for use by policy makers, governments, donors and campaigners working on forest and climate programmes in Guyana and in other countries.

### Emerging lessons (late 2009)

1. Measures to clarify and address land tenure must be frontloaded in readiness planning.
2. Failure to address land rights risks violation of Guyana's commitments under international treaties (commitments enshrined in the national Constitution).
3. Transparent and inclusive bodies with a mandate to inform REDD design and implementation are needed to address tenure issues.
4. Mutually agreed benefit-sharing mechanisms and measures to protect the livelihood rights of indigenous peoples must form a core part of readiness.
5. REDD consultations need to be tailored to community needs and must outline both potential positive and negative impacts.
6. Consultations on readiness need to be seen as only the first step in a valid FPIC (free, prior and informed consent) process.
7. Vague information risks violating the FPIC principle.
8. FPIC requires robust implementation mechanisms and independent verification.
9. There needs to be much more open debate on the pros and cons of carbon trading.
10. Readiness must involve assessments of existing legal frameworks and their suitability for REDD schemes, including options for legal and policy reforms.
11. Commitments to apply standards like UNDRIP (UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples) must be backed up by practical implementation measures.
12. REDD plans must recognise and protect the multiple values of forests, not just carbon values.
13. REDD and avoided deforestation readiness plans must be based on early and robust analysis of the direct and underlying causes of deforestation.
14. Stronger mechanisms are needed to ensure that concerns and recommendations of rights holders and forestry experts are incorporated early on in national REDD planning and are also fully addressed in the due diligence of international donors and multilateral development Banks.



## Background

Guyana is a high forest cover and low deforestation country in South America with an annual deforestation rate of just 0.1 to 0.3 %. Forests cover up to 18.5 million ha (85% of the country's land area).<sup>1</sup> A significant part of the forest area has been and remains traditionally occupied and used by Guyana's indigenous peoples under customary tenure systems. These forest lands continue to be the subject of unresolved territorial claims (Box 2).

Traditional ownership is very relevant because under international law indigenous peoples' territorial rights are not dependent on domestic law or grants of title by the State but, instead, have an autonomous existence that is grounded in indigenous peoples' customary tenure systems and norms.<sup>2</sup> States have corresponding obligations to regularise and secure these traditional ownership rights.



Amerindian peoples depend on forest to maintain their livelihoods and way of life, including the traditional use of forest land for rotational farming

# Guyana's forest and climate plans

Over the last few years the government of Guyana, and in particular the Office of the President, have become high-profile proponents of 'low carbon development', including policies known as Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) and Avoided Deforestation (AD).<sup>3</sup>

## Forest carbon for sale

Under existing plans, future financing for REDD would flow from the carbon market, while interim funding from bilateral and multilateral donors agencies will be used to kick start REDD. The central idea of Guyana's REDD proposal is that unless the country is paid to protect forests, then the country will have no choice but to convert forest land to develop transport, mining, energy, timber and agricultural resources. A study by the consulting firm, McKinsey, predicts that 'rational' economic choices would result in the destruction of all forests outside protected lands in Guyana within 25 years.<sup>4</sup> McKinsey proposes that between \$430 million and \$2.3 billion annually would be needed to pay Guyana not to destroy its forests.<sup>5</sup> Critics have challenged the figures, saying that they are based on seriously flawed land use and economic assumptions. They have accused Guyana of blackmailing the international community by essentially threatening to deforest unless REDD payments are forthcoming.<sup>6</sup>

## International finance

Multilateral and bilateral donors, including the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Norway's Climate and Forest Initiative and the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) have all already provided or pledged financial support for the REDD and low carbon development in Guyana (Box 1). Donor agencies as well as private investors are at the same time providing funds for piloting schemes for Payment for Environmental Services (PES).<sup>7</sup>

## Enter the World Bank

The government of Guyana presented a concept note (R-PIN) for a national scheme for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) to the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in February 2008.

In 2009, the World Bank launched its Country Assistance Strategy (CAS) for Guyana, which identifies REDD as a central pillar in Bank priority support from 2009–2012.<sup>10</sup> The Bank's willingness to support environmental projects in Guyana is noteworthy as it had previously withdrawn from such projects due to weaknesses in national frameworks for protection of the land rights of indigenous peoples (e.g. Guyana Protected Areas System Project).

Acronyms	
CAS	Country Assistance Strategy
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FPIC	Free, prior and informed consent
IIRSA	Initiative for the Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America
LCDS	Low Carbon Development Strategy
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation
R-PIN	Readiness Preparation Idea Note
R-Plan	Readiness Plan
R-PP	Readiness Preparation Proposal
TAP	Technical Advisory Panel
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

## Box 1 International funds for REDD

2008	DFID funds for McKinsey REDD study and low carbon growth planning in the Office of the President
June 2008	Guyana becomes participant in World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
February 2009	Norway announces willingness to support Guyana's forest and climate plans <sup>8</sup>
June 09	Norway sponsors outreach activities for President's draft Low Carbon Development Strategy. IIED (International Institute for Environment and Development) hired as independent monitor
September 2009	IDB makes Technical Cooperation agreement on REDD and LCDS <sup>9</sup>
November 2009	Norway's Climate and Forest Initiative (N-CFI) signs bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), including performance-based REDD payments criteria – with last-minute public inputs in Guyana.

## Rights issues and concerns

Forestry experts, including the Bank's own Technical Advisory Panel (TAP), raised concerns about weaknesses in the R-PIN, including lack of prior consultation, plans to target traditional farming as a key driver of deforestation,<sup>11</sup> and a failure to address issues relating to unresolved indigenous land rights, governance, benefit sharing, free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) and customary rights.<sup>12</sup> Despite these problems, the FCPF approved the R-PIN in June 2008.

### Rights disregarded

In March 2009, the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC) presented a draft REDD Readiness Plan (R-Plan) to the FCPF. This proposal was criticised on the same grounds as the earlier R-PIN. Remaining problems included the failure to adequately address territorial rights of indigenous peoples (Box 2) and the ongoing lack of meaningful consultation with Amerindian communities in violation of World Bank safeguard policies.<sup>13</sup>

### Targeting Amerindians

Concerns over REDD plans to move Amerindians out of forests were heightened in February 2009, when the President publicly and controversially stated that one major goal of a national REDD strategy would be to make Amerindian peoples 'less dependent on' traditional crops and forest lands and resources.<sup>14</sup>

### Readiness proposals criticised

In light of these criticisms, the R-Plan was partially revised and re-submitted to the FCPF in June 2009, yet changes did not address many fundamental weaknesses. Despite remaining problems, the R-Plan was given the green light with some suggestions for improvement made by the Bank's FCPF governing body (see below).

### Weak and confused consultations

Other than rapid 'sensitisation' meetings held by the GFC in a few villages in early 2009, general information on the government's REDD plans only reached indigenous communities indirectly in June 2009 with the launch of public outreach meetings on the draft Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS) launched in June 2009 (Box 7). During meetings on the LCDS, some Amerindian community members and leaders have complained that the information has not been provided in an appropriate form and have called on the government to tailor LCDS and related information to community needs.

In several cases, communities have apparently been confused by the difference between LCDS and REDD (for example, confusing World Bank visits on REDD with LCDS meetings). Worries also relate to the 'independent' monitors in REDD and LCDS meetings who have been actively engaged in discussions and even encouraging 'support' of government proposals, instead of observing in a neutral manner.



Guyana's forests support very high biological diversity

## Contradictions

Critics ask how Guyana's plans to protect forests can work when miners and loggers have been given assurances that their activities will not be affected and the public has been told that development of oil and gas reserves may form part of national development.<sup>19</sup>

Infrastructure plans under low carbon development and IIRSA (Initiative for the Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America) likewise threaten to open up Guyana's forests, while REDD is supposed to protect them (Boxes 5 and 6). At the same time, low carbon growth plans for hydro dams like Turtruba could result in clear cutting and flooding of hundreds of square miles of old growth forests, including traditionally owned indigenous lands.

## Unresolved tenure and livelihood issues

Some Amerindian leaders stress that many communities still lack land title and existing titles are inadequate. They are calling on the government to address territorial claims, including through revision of the 2006 Amerindian Act, as a core part of getting 'ready' for international REDD schemes (Box 3).<sup>16</sup>

A common demand is that land claims and title issues are dealt with up-front as part of readiness activities. Amerindians have also strongly asserted their rights to farm and carry out other customary practices on their traditional forest lands.<sup>18</sup>

## Unanswered concerns

Some indigenous leaders highlight that effective measures and commitments must be in place to deal with the land issue and other matters as part of readiness, including robust mechanisms to uphold the right to free, prior and informed consent.

Other problems include vagueness about potential livelihood impacts and unclear proposals on Alternative Economic Opportunities (AEO). At this stage, scrutiny of the vague REDD readiness plans suggests that REDD may result in more government (GFC) interference in and control over community land use decisions and the management of Amerindian lands (titled and untitled).

For their part, forestry experts and donor governments note that revised REDD plans must:

- recognise outstanding unresolved indigenous land tenure issues
- include clear policy measures to tackle the direct drivers of forest loss
- address the underlying causes of deforestation
- explain how local people will be involved in benefit sharing
- consider the role of communities in contributing to REDD and address rural livelihoods
- include proposals on how indigenous and local communities can be 'active players' in REDD

## Box 2 Amerindian tenure and territorial claims

- Many land claims have been outstanding for over 40 years after independence
- claims are detailed in the 1969 Amerindian Lands Commission Report<sup>15</sup>
- at least several dozen communities still lack title and several hundreds of homesteads and families lack secure tenure rights over their houses, farmlands and forest resource areas
- secure tenure for Amerindians is not only about the possession of (effective) title, it is also about the adequacy of land titles and how they were/are determined
- land and territorial rights claims seek recognition based on traditional use and occupation, which corresponds to traditional tenure systems
- superimposition of so-called 'State forest' logging and mining concessions affects a large proportion of untitled customary lands
- government reluctance to recognise claims has left some indigenous peoples with no choice but to take legal action (Upper Mazaruni case)
- existing rules for land titling and land title extensions are arbitrary, unfair and lacking transparency because there are no enumerated rights that could constrain the Minister's discretion and form the basis for an appeal to the courts
- land claims and applications for title have been dismissed, drastically reduced or amended by the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs on the grounds that, in the Ministry's view, they were 'too big'
- reliable and up-to-date information on land tenure and territorial claims in Guyana is not available.

- make sure the GFC and REDD secretariat have sufficient expertise to deal with cross-sectoral issues, including social, economic and indigenous matters outside the forest sector<sup>20</sup>
- review the land titling process (especially for Amerindian communities) and address issues arising
- clarify and develop policies concerning land tenure and resource access
- develop a plan for inclusive consultations with stakeholders (*sic*), including indigenous and local communities
- develop safeguards to prevent adverse impacts, and strategies to ensure the rights and enhance the livelihoods of forest-dependent indigenous peoples and other forest dwellers.<sup>21</sup>

**Box 3 Some problems with the Amerindian Act (2006) (as highlighted by the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination)<sup>17</sup>**

- Holds on to the legal fiction that the state owns all untitled lands in Guyana
- allows arbitrary, unfair and non-transparent processes for land demarcation
- fails to tie demarcation and titling rules to traditional land tenure systems and specific, enumerated rights
- places discriminatory requirements on indigenous communities wishing to apply for land title e.g. excludes settlements of fewer than 150 people and/or less than 25 years' duration
- does not allow villages to freely associate and hold joint collective title (though one historical exception is noted)
- does not recognise property rights in rivers and other bodies of waters within Amerindian titles
- allows mining and logging concessions to be issued over untitled traditional lands without prior consultation or consent
- permits the State to acquire traditional lands for protected areas without free, prior and informed consent.

**Remaining gaps in September 2009 REDD Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)**

- Narrow and defective treatment of land tenure issues and territorial claims
- does not address problems in Amerindian Act
- disregard FCPF TAP and Participants Committee recommendations on tenure
- lacks any discussion of carbon rights and risks associated with carbon trading
- ambiguous commitments to the UNDRIP, which require clarification as well as concrete implementation mechanisms
- does not take up several constructive Amerindian proposals made in 2009
- weak consultation and participation plans
- narrow mitigation approach
- no clear criteria for defining 'deforestation'
- weak analysis of the indirect drivers of deforestation<sup>22</sup>
- weak proposals to tackle direct drivers of forest loss, including mining
- mixed messages on rotational farming and potential REDD impacts on indigenous livelihoods and way of life<sup>23</sup>
- weak treatment of WB safeguards and applicable international obligations.<sup>24</sup>



Mining is a direct driver of forest loss in Guyana.



Experience shows that effective community training on REDD, rights and carbon finance (pictured) requires several sessions in the native language to explain key concepts.



Indigenous peoples and the public in Guyana first heard about the President's forest and carbon trading plans by chance through press reports in late 2007

### Some key findings

- Readiness plans so far lack clear mechanisms to clarify and resolve tenure issues
- key concerns raised by indigenous peoples about REDD have not yet been answered nor addressed, including problems with existing laws and policies
- consultations have been weak and have in some cases led to confused information on nation-wide low carbon plans and REDD
- weaknesses in Guyana's REDD plans submitted to the World Bank remain outstanding
- information on the benefit-sharing aspects of REDD remain sketchy.



A significant proportion of so-called state forests are on the customary lands of indigenous peoples and remain the subject of unresolved land claims

## Guyana fact sheet

<b>Box 4 Guyana – some vital statistics</b>	
<b>Total area</b>	21.497 million ha
<b>Total Population (2002)</b>	771,000
<b>Exports</b>	Gold, bauxite, diamonds rice, rum, molasses, sugar, shrimps, timber (logs)
<b>Amerindian population</b>	85,000 in 2009 <sup>26</sup>
<b>Indigenous Peoples</b>	Arawak, Akawaio, Arekuna, Carib, Makushi, Patamona, Wapichan, Warau, and Wai Wai occupying traditional lands and territories in Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9
<b>Ecosystems</b>	Forests (20 distinct types), seasonally flooded lowland savannahs, upland grasslands, wetlands, scrublands, mountains, coastal dunes and mangrove swamps <sup>27</sup>
<b>Biodiversity</b>	Biological diversity includes 800 bird species, of which 104 are endemic in the Guiana shield region; 225 mammal species; and 6,500 species of plants, around 10% of which are endemic to Guyana <sup>28</sup>

### Box 5 Extractive industry expansion

- StrataGold Corporation (amalgamated with Victoria Gold corporation) is to do exploratory mining work in Region 1 on lands owned and used by Amerindian communities
- medium and large-scale mining is planned in the Potaro<sup>30</sup> and Cuyuni River basins<sup>31</sup>
- new licences for gold mining have been signed with Shoreham's Marudi Mountain Gold Project<sup>32</sup>
- new mining permits issued in 2008/09 affect forests on untitled traditional Amerindian lands e.g., Kwitaro and Kuyuwini catchments (Region 9)
- sales of large concessions to foreign logging companies continue<sup>33</sup>
- Community Forestry Operations (CFOs) remain relatively recent and are limited in scope (timber-centric).<sup>34</sup>

### Population and land use

Today Guyana has a multi-ethnic population of Indo-Guyanese (43%), Afro-Guyanese (30%), mixed race (17%), Amerindians (9%) and other groups, including Chinese (1%). More than 90% of the population lives in the coastal region on just 5% of the land area.

The interior of Guyana is largely populated by Amerindians living in dispersed settlements. Extensive systems of indigenous land use and forest management include farming grounds used for rotational agriculture as well as near and distant hunting, fishing and gathering grounds. Forests provide craft and construction materials, bush foods, medicines, fibres, dyes, fish poison and vital spiritual resources such as spirit charms and sacred ceremonial sites.<sup>25</sup> Amerindians engage in a mixed subsistence economy and small-scale market-based activities, including cash cropping. Lack of paid employment is driving young Amerindians to seek jobs in Brazil or Venezuela or to find work in mining and logging camps.

### Commerce and industry

Since colonial times, the commercial economy in Guyana has been based on plantation agriculture on the coastal lowlands and mining and timber extraction in the interior. Gold, bauxite, rice, sugar, rum and raw logs still constitute the main exports today (Box 4).

Macro-economic structural adjustment policies pushed by the IMF and World Bank in the 1980s and 1990s promoted export-led growth based on natural resource extraction and foreign direct investment, which has resulted in widespread appropriation of Amerindian traditional lands for mining and logging interests (see below).<sup>29</sup>

### Logging and mining

A large proportion of State Forests have already been allocated to timber concessions and one-fifth of the concession area is now under lease to timber companies. Half of all timber exports and extraction is carried out by the controversial Malaysian Barama Company (Samling) that has been condemned for logging illegally on Amerindian lands, flouting national regulations on sustainable harvesting and tax evasion.<sup>35</sup> Logging in Guyana has degraded forests through over-harvesting of valuable commercial species like greenheart (*Chlorocardium rodiei*).<sup>36</sup> Destructive logging and mining practices are documented to cause forest loss and damage. Both activities have resulted in denial of access to traditional farming grounds and economic displacement of Amerindian communities. Impacts include damage to farm lands, burial grounds, potable water, hunting and fishing resources and increased incidence of malaria and STDs.<sup>37</sup>

Increased jobs and growth in the mining sector are still being created at the expense of severe long-term ecological and social damage and inadequate environmental protection, while violations of Amerindian rights continue.<sup>42</sup>

### **Megaprojects and infrastructure**

National development plans in Guyana propose to expand infrastructure for roads and dams under the Initiative for the Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America (IIRSA).<sup>43</sup> These plans threaten to open up forests and savannah areas to further extractive development and colonisation (Box 6).

### **Low carbon development plans**

Despite concerns over REDD compensation figures, the government moved ahead with a draft Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS) based on the McKinsey study.<sup>44</sup> This proposed strategy not only deals with REDD, but also includes plans to construct large-scale hydro dams and 'develop' non-forest lands in Guyana (Boxes 6 and 7).

Following a rapid period of public consultation (deemed inadequate by some who report that meetings have at times been more like a promotional tour), the LCDS is to be presented to the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) to be held in Copenhagen in December 2009. The government has advised that the document will not be finalised or adopted until after the COP and will 'most likely be subject to further consultations and refinement'.<sup>45</sup>

Meanwhile, in November 2009, there are few signs that legitimate questions and concerns raised in the LCDS meetings by community members have been addressed in a meaningful way by the Office of Climate Change (OCC). Critics point out that much of the LCDS is not low carbon development and may actually generate emissions e.g., land drainage for agriculture and possible development of rice and soy farming on savannah lands in the Rupununi by foreign agribusinessmen.<sup>47</sup>

### **Positive elements and opportunities**

Recent government commitments to protect traditional farming and use the UNDRIP in REDD design are positive steps, providing there are mechanisms to put UNDRIP into practice. Government recognition of the need to involve Amerindians in REDD design is also positive.

Some Amerindian organisations point out that respecting indigenous peoples' rights in REDD can help resolve long-standing land rights issues.<sup>48</sup> A rights-based approach could also open up a whole range of opportunities for a new approach to local benefits and forest protection based on rewards for local traditional knowledge and indigenous land management. Some leaders are now calling on the government and agencies to learn early lessons flowing from the REDD pilot and to take action to put in place the building blocks for sustainable and equitable avoided deforestation policies.<sup>49</sup>

### **Box 6 Dams and roads under IIRSA/LCDS**

- In 2007-9, controversial plans for dams on the Upper and/or Middle Mazaruni have been revived<sup>38</sup>
- hydro dams are under consideration for Devil's Hole (62 MW); Turtruba (800 MW); Tumatumari (34 MW) and the Amaila falls on the Potaro River<sup>39</sup>
- dams will be associated with access roads and power transmission lines to Georgetown and possibly also to Brazil and Venezuela
- IIRSA supports a paved Bonfin-Lethem-Linden-Georgetown road and construction of a deep-sea port in Linden/Georgetown
- a Guyana-Venezuela highway is also planned under IIRSA
- major road development is planned under the National Development Strategy (2001-10)<sup>40</sup>
- draft low carbon development plans in 2009 propose to invest 'US\$100 million in roads and related infrastructure' to open up savannah lands for 'high-end' agriculture.<sup>41</sup>

### **Box 7 Elements in draft Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS)<sup>46</sup>**

- Government-run programmes for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD)
- later export of REDD 'forest offset credits' by the government and 'private investors'
- 'sustainable forestry', wood processing and export
- investments in infrastructure, including large hydroelectric dams
- foreign investment in 'high-end agriculture and aquaculture' on non-forest land, including:
  - large-scale foreign investment in tropical fruit and vegetable farming on 115,000 ha of 'intermediate savannah lands'
  - fish and shrimp farming on 55,000 ha of coastal lands
  - drainage and agricultural development of 142,000 ha in the Canje river basin
- cultivation and export of bioethanol to the 'clean energy market'
- business development, including ecotourism
- adaptation to climate change, including flood protection schemes on the coast
- provision of economic opportunities for indigenous peoples, including creation of an Amerindian Development Fund (receiving REDD payments)
- improved social services.

## Endnotes

- 1 Official estimates of tropical forest cover vary from 18.5 million ha to 16 million ha. On various estimates of national forest cover issued by the Guyana Forestry Commission in its REDD plans, see Bulkan, J (2009) 'Area components of the forest carbon budget' *Stabroek News*, August 7, 2009.
- 2 See for instance *Sawhoyamaya Indigenous Community v. Paraguay*, Judgment of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights of 29 March 2006, Series C No. 146, para. 248; *Saramaka People v. Suriname*, Judgment of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights of 28 November 2007. Series C No. 172. And Inter-Am. Com. HRTs, Report No. 40/04, *Maya Indigenous Communities of the Toledo District*, Case 12.053 (Belize), 12 October 2004, at para. 117 (observing that 'the jurisprudence of the system has acknowledged that the property rights of indigenous peoples are not defined exclusively by entitlements within a State's formal legal regime, but also include that indigenous communal property that arises from and is grounded in indigenous custom and tradition').
- 3 Howden, D (2007) 'A ground-breaking step in the battle against climate change' *The Independent* November 24, pp. 2–3
- 4 Government of Guyana (2008) *Creating incentives to avoid deforestation: saving the world's forests today* Office of the President, Republic of Guyana, December 2008 at page 14.
- 5 *Ibid.* at page 10.
- 6 Lang, C (2009) 'Guyana's President launches avoided threatened deforestation scheme' *REDD-Monitor February 2009* <http://www.redd-monitor.org/2009/02/02/guyanas-president-jagdeo-launches-avoided-threatened-deforestation-scheme/>
- 7 [http://www.undp.org/gy/pdf/00052491\\_undp\\_version.pdf](http://www.undp.org/gy/pdf/00052491_undp_version.pdf) In March 2008, Canopy Capital entered into a commercial agreement with the Iwokrama Centre to pilot payments for environmental services in an effort to protect the rainforest and fund the protected area. This initiative has been criticised for lacking transparency and failing to uphold FPIC – see Griffiths, T and Martone, F (2009) *Seeing 'REDD'? Forests, climate change mitigation and the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities* FPP, Moreton-in-Marsh at page 18.
- 8 Government of Norway (2009) *Joint Statement on climate and forest issues* <http://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/smk/Whats-new/News/2009/norway-and-guyana-cooperate-to-reduce-gr/joint-statement-on-climate-and-forest-is.html?id=544715>
- 9 IDB (2009) *Guyana: Supporting Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy GY-T1068 – Plan of Operations* IDB document, July 2009.
- 10 World Bank (2009) *Country Assistance Strategy for Guyana for the period FY2009-2012* Caribbean Country Management Unit, Latin America and Caribbean Region, 15 April 2009.
- 11 Dooley, K, Griffiths, T, Leake, H and Ozinga, S (2008) *Cutting Corners: World Bank forest and carbon fund fails forests and peoples* FPP and FERN briefing, Moreton-in-Marsh
- 12 [http://www.forestpeoples.org/documents/forest\\_issues/fcpf\\_briefing\\_oct09\\_eng.pdf](http://www.forestpeoples.org/documents/forest_issues/fcpf_briefing_oct09_eng.pdf)
- 13 Griffiths, T and MacKay, F (2009) *Problems with the Guyana Readiness Plan (R-Plan) submitted to the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)* Forest Peoples Programme briefing, April 2009.
- 14 'Indigenous communities need to diversify their economies – Jagdeo' *Kaieteur News*, 10 February 2009.
- 15 *APA comments on Guyana Forestry Commission's draft September 2009 R-PP.*
- 16 APA (2009) *Indigenous peoples' rights, REDD and the draft Low Carbon Development Strategy (Guyana)* A summary report of a workshop held in the Regency Suites, Georgetown, 24–26 June 2009.
- 17 CERD (2006) *Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination – GUYANA* Sixty-eighth session 20 February – 10 March 2006, CERD/C/GUY/CO/14, 4 April 2006 [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/c7d1cd668afb4a0ec125714c00311bbb/\\$FILE/G0641177.pdf](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/c7d1cd668afb4a0ec125714c00311bbb/$FILE/G0641177.pdf)
- 18 APA (2009) *Indigenous peoples' rights, REDD and the draft Low Carbon Development Strategy (Guyana)* A summary report of a workshop held in the Regency Suites, Georgetown, 24–26 June 2009.
- 19 <http://www.lcds.gov.gy/lcds-speech-by-president-bharrat-jagdeo.html>;  
<http://www.lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/lcdlaunch.pdf> See also Government of Guyana (2009) – *Frequently Asked Questions – A Low carbon Development Strategy: transforming Guyana's economy while combating climate change* Office of the President, Republic of Guyana, June 2009 (Draft for consultation) at FAQ 5 and 6.
- 20 FCPF (2009) *Guyana R-Plan: Synthesis review by FCPF Technical Advisory Panel (TAP)*, 8 June 2009.
- 21 FCPF (2009) *PC Discussions of Guyana's Readiness Preparation Proposal: Summary Report* FCPF Participants Committee, Third Meeting (June 16–18, 2009, Montreux).
- 22 A brief analysis of direct drivers has been done in late October 2009 - see [http://www.forestry.gov.gy/Downloads/Assessment\\_of\\_the\\_Current\\_Drivers\\_Affecting\\_Forest\\_Carbon\\_Stock.ppt](http://www.forestry.gov.gy/Downloads/Assessment_of_the_Current_Drivers_Affecting_Forest_Carbon_Stock.ppt)
- 23 Despite assurances that subsistence farming will not be affected (September 2009 draft R-PP), other official documents, including information presented to the National Toshias Council advise that 'shifting cultivation may have to stop' under REDD-LCDS – see <http://www.lcds.gov.gy/images/stories/Documents/Toshoa%20meeting-1.pdf>
- 24 *APA comments on September 2009 draft REDD Readiness Preparation Proposal*, October 2009. See also [http://www.rightsandresources.org/documents/files/doc\\_1163.pdf](http://www.rightsandresources.org/documents/files/doc_1163.pdf)

- 25 van Andel, T (2000) Non-timber forest products of the North-west District of Guyana Part II. Tropenbos Guyana Series 8A and 8B Tropenbos Guyana Programme, Georgetown at page 3. See also David, B, Isaacs, P, Johnny A, Johnson L, Pugsley M, Ramacindo C, Winter G and Winter Y (2006) *Wa Wiizi, Wa kaduzu – Our Territory, Our Custom: customary use of biological resources and associated traditional practices within Wapichan territory in Guyana* South Central and South District Tshaos Councils, Georgetown and Montevideo at pages 30–33.
- 26 Based on annual growth rate of 3.5% from 2002 census of 68,675 – see [http://www.statisticsguyana.gov.gy/pubs/Chapter2\\_Population\\_Composition.pdf](http://www.statisticsguyana.gov.gy/pubs/Chapter2_Population_Composition.pdf)
- 27 Steege, H ter (2001) *National Vegetation Map of Guyana* Guyana Forestry Commission Forest Resources Information Unit, Georgetown and University of Utrecht. <http://www.forestry.gov.gy/vegmap.htm>
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