













# GUYANA'S REPORT

for the
Third International Conference on
Small Island Developing States

**Final Draft** 

Government of Guyana
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#### **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

ADF Amerindian Development Fund AOSIS Alliance of Small Island States BCH Biosafety Clearing House BPOA Barbados Plan of Action

CAP Conservancy Adaptation Project

CARICOM Caribbean Community

CCCCC Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre

CDC Civil Defence Commission

CDCC Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee

CDM Comprehensive Disaster Management
CDPs Community Development Plans
CFL Compact Fluorescence Lights
CI Conservation International

CIDA Canadian International Development Agency

COP Code of Practice

CRFM Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism

CSME Caribbean Single Market Economy

D&I Drainage and Irrigation

DFID United Kingdom Department for International Development

DRM Disaster Risk Management

EDWC East Demerara Water Conservancy

EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone

EITI Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative

ENSO El Niño Southern Oscillation EP Act Environmental Protection Act EPA Environmental Protection Agency

EU European Union

EU-FLEGT European Union's Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade

FAO Food and Agriculture Organisation

FTAs Free Trade Agreements

GATS General Agreement on Trade in Services

GDP Gross Domestic Product
GEA Guyana Energy Agency
GEF Global Environmental Fund

GENCAPD Guyana Environmental Capacity Development Mining Assistance Programme

GFC Guyana Forestry Commission

GGMC Guyana Geology and Mines Commission

GINA Government Information Agency
GIS Geographic Information System

GLDA Guyana Livestock Development Authority
GLSC Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission
GMRP Guyana Mangrove Restoration Project

GoG Government of Guyana

GPAS Guyana Protected Areas System
GSA Guyana School of Agriculture
GWI Guyana Water Incorporated
HIPC Heavily Indebted Poor Country

HWMAQ Hazardous Wastes/Materials and Air Quality Management Unit

IBSE Inquiry Based Science Education

ICT Information and Communication Technology

ICZM Integrated Coastal Zone Management IDB Inter-American Development Bank IFM Independent Forest Monitoring INC Initial National Communication IUU Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated

kW kilo Watt

LCD Low Carbon Development

LCDS Low Carbon Development Strategy

LED Light Emitting Diodes
M&E Monitoring and Evaluation

MCYS Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports MDG Millennium Development Goals

MEAs Multilateral Environmental Agreements

MOA Ministry of Agriculture

MOAA Ministry of Amerindian Affairs

MOFTIC Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Co-operation

MOH Ministry of Health

MONRE Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment

MOU Memorandum of Understanding

MRVS Monitoring Reporting and Verification System

MSE Micro and Small Enterprise

MSI Mauritius Strategy for Implementation
MSSC Multi Stakeholder Steering Committee

MW Mega Watt

NBF National Biosafety Framework

NBSAPs National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

NCS National Competitiveness Strategy NCSA National Capacity Self-Assessment NDCs Neighbourhood Democratic Councils

NDIA National Drainage and Irrigation Authority

NDS National Development Strategy
NEAP National Environmental Action Plan

NGHO New Global Human Order

NGOs Non-Governmental Organisations NHSS National Health Sector Strategy

NREAC Natural Resources and Environment Advisory Committee

NTFP Non-Forest Timber Products
OAS Organisation of American States

OCC Office of Climate Change

ODA Official Development Assistance

OLPF One Laptop per Family
OPM Office of the Prime Minister

PA Protected Area

PAHO/WHO Pan American Health Organisation/World Health Organisation

PAMS Protected Area Management System
PEA Public Education and Awareness
PRSP Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

PSPs Permanent Sampling Plots PUC Public Utilities Commission

RCM Regional Coordinating Mechanism

READ Rural Enterprise and Agricultural Development Project

REDD+ Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation

RMMS Routine Maintenance Management System

S&T Science and Technology
SD Sustainable Development

SEES School of Earth and Environmental Sciences

SEFPs State Forest Exploratory Permits

SFPs State Forest Permissions
SIDS Small Island Developing States
SLM Sustainable Land Management
SNC Second National Communication
SVEs Small and Vulnerable Economies

SWITT Single Windows for Trade Transactions

TSAs Timber Sales Agreements

TTPDB Trade Transactions Public - Private Dialogue Body

UAEP Unserved Areas Electrification Programme

UG University of Guyana

UN United Nations

UNCBD United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
UNCCD United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

UNCED United Nations Convention on Environment and Development

UNCSD United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development UNDESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

UNDP United Nations Development Programme
UNEP United Nations Environment Programme

UNFCCC United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

USAID United States Agency for International Development

VPA Voluntary Partnership Agreement

WCLs Wood Cutting Leases
WFS World Food Summit
WTO World Trade Organisation
WWF World Wildlife Fund

### 1 Background

Guyana is a tropical country, situated on the north-eastern coast of the continent of South America between 1 degree and 9 degrees north latitudes, and 56 degrees and 62 degrees west longitudes. It is bounded on the north by the Atlantic Ocean, on the east by Suriname, on the south and southwest by Brazil and on the west by Venezuela.<sup>1</sup>

Guyana is considered part of the Caribbean through its historic ties and is a member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). Though located on the mainland, it is classified as a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) due to its low-lying coast. The country has an area of 214,970 km<sup>2</sup> and a multi-ethnic population of approximately 765,000.

Four main natural geographic regions exist in the country: the Coastal Plain, the Hilly Sand and Clay Region, the Highland Region, and the Rupununi Savannahs. The Coastal Plain lies about 1.4 m below mean high tide level and is protected by natural and man-made sea defences. It is 430 km long and varies in width from 5 to 40 km. Most of the population resides on the coastal plain which consists of the most fertile lands in the country.<sup>2</sup>

Guyana is well endowed with natural resources including fertile agricultural lands, diverse mineral deposits, and an abundance of tropical rain forests. The agriculture sector (mainly sugar and rice), for which 95% is concentrated on the coast, is one of the most important sectors to the economy, both in terms of foreign exchange generation and the number of persons employed accounting for 35% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2004. Mining (gold, diamond and bauxite) and forestry also contribute significantly to the GDP which has continued to grow over the last decade.<sup>3</sup>

Guyana's climate has traditionally been uniform and characterised by high temperatures, humidity and heavy rainfall with temperatures along the coast of an average high of 32°C and a low of 24°C; humidity is around 70% year round and rainfall averaging 250 cm annually with two rainy seasons on the coast (May-June and December-January) and one in the southernmost region (April-September). The major weather system is the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone and the major climate system is the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)<sup>4</sup>

Within the last decade, Guyana has experienced unpredictable changes in weather patterns characterised by severe El Niño in 1997-8 and extreme levels of precipitation on the coast in 2005 and 2006 resulting in widespread flooding along the coast to the extent that several areas were declared disaster areas.<sup>5</sup>

预览已结束, 完整报告链接和二维码如下:

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