

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

JANUARY 2014 - JUNE 2014

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT NAME: Downscaling Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy to SMEs

Project Number: GY-M1021 - Operation Number: ATN/ME-13229-GY

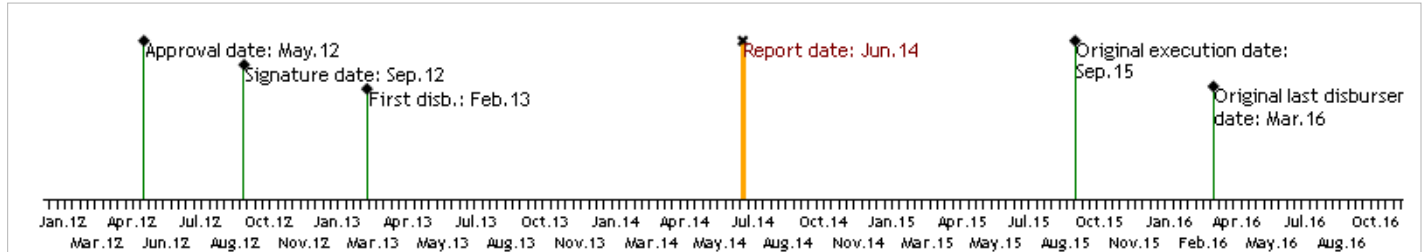
Result: To strengthen and create environmentally-sustainable businesses in the Rupununi.

Country Administrator GUYANA	Beneficiary Country GUYANA	Group ENV - Environment	Subgroup TOUR - Sustainable Tourism
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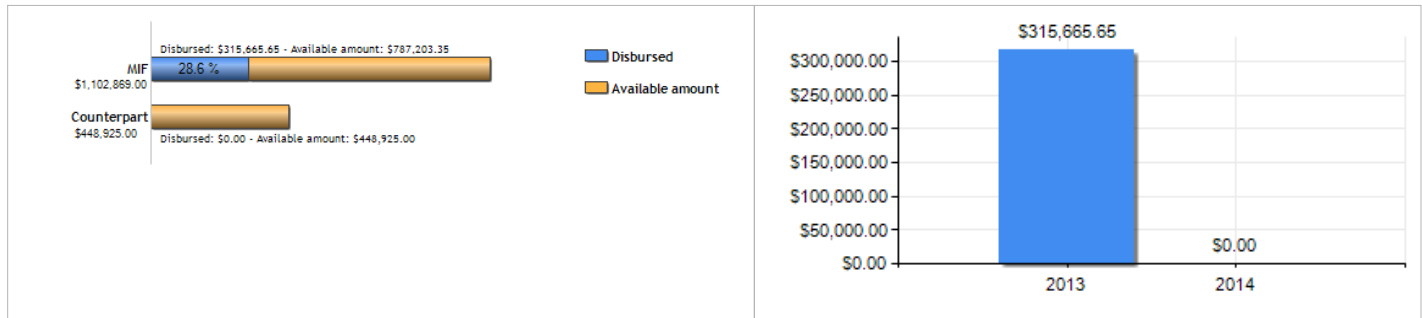
Executing Agency: Conservation International

Design Team Leader: Watson, Gregory
Supervision Team Leader: Dookiesingh, Vashlie

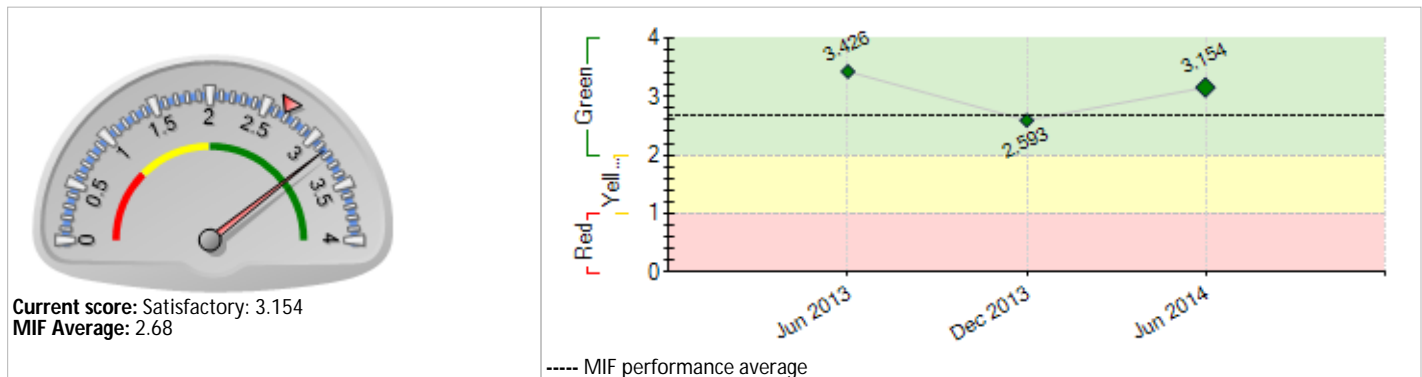
TIMELINE



FUNDS



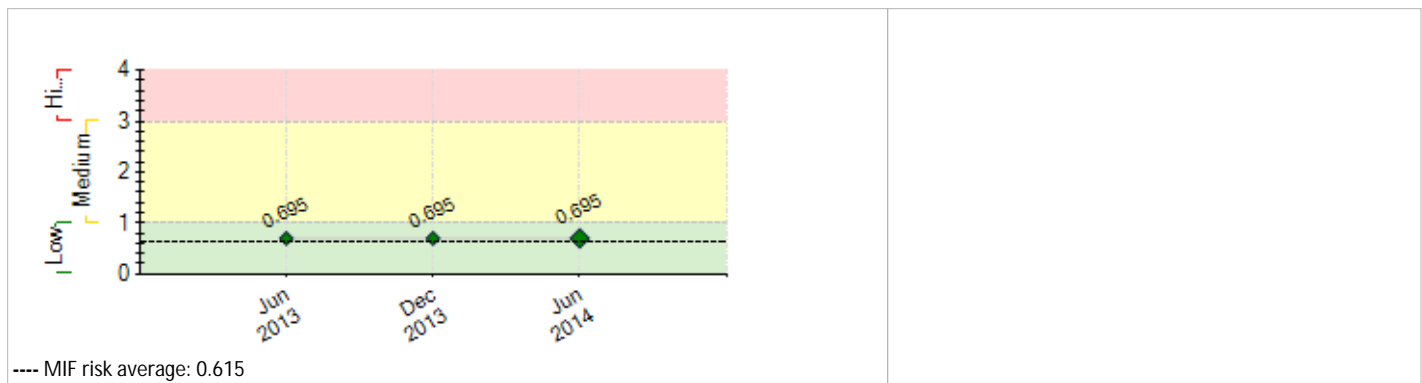
PERFORMANCE SCORE



EXTERNAL RISKS

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Risk
Financial Management: Low
Procurement: Low
Technical Capacity: Low



SECTION 2: PERFORMANCE

Summary of project performance since inception

Main results since inception

Community, business stakeholder forum established in partnership with the Rupununi Chamber of Commerce as an integral part of the annual Rupununi Expo (milestone 2).

Project Steering Committee participated in annual meetings and provided guidance to project team for the establishment of the M&E framework & the selection of targeted interventions

Development of community enterprise database and map including information on sector size, level and source of investments and markets

Risks

Political support for the project is not sustained: engagement of local, regional and national governmental, opposition and NGO actors

Actions (to end of project)

Setting up operationalizing and refining the tourism syndicate
Developing training curricula and implementing training programmes
Testing and refining the RIF

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Partially Agree with the Executing Agency comments
The Executing Agency has focused on frontloading the procurement of key consultancies during the first year of operations. There have been many delays due to a series of difficulties the Executing Agency experienced in applying the IDB's procurement policies as a result most of the substantive technical work of the project is still in the early stages of implementation. The Executing Agency needs to focus on accelerating the implementation of technical activities in the targeted communities.

Summary of project performance in the last six months

Summary of project performance (6 months)

Draft economic, ecosystems, climate vulnerability, market assessments and monitoring and evaluation framework completed.

9 community-based tourism and 12 community-based agriculture enterprises identified and assessed for needs and opportunities.

3 LCDS responsive business plans completed for community based enterprises and 1 plan financed by the Rupununi Innovation Fund - RIF

RIF developed and launched in collaboration with the Guyana Bank for Trade & Industry and the Government of Guyana.

Drafting of the State of Food and Agriculture study to assess the performance of the agri sector and to analyze the current status of food security and vulnerability

Delays

Delays in setting up the tourism syndicate due to finding the appropriate model. This is being address by developing a broad TOR for setting up the syndicate and engaging a wide group of stakeholders/actors
Finalization of the baseline assessments and M&E framework has led to delays in final selection of intervention points and implementation of targeted interventions

Critical Actions (6 months)

Finalization of State of Food and Agri Study, including community agri blue print (milestone 3)
Finalization of the baseline assessments and M&E framework
Operationalizing, testing and refining the Rupununi Innovation Fund
Implementing targeted training for CBEs in collaboration with statutory civil society institutions

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Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

During the semester Jan - June some progress was made in the development of business plans and establishment of funding mechanism for development of the targeted community based businesses

SECTION 3: INDICATORS AND MILESTONES

Indicators		Baseline	Intermediate 1	Intermediate 2	Intermediate 3	Planned	Achieved	Status
Result: To strengthen and create environmentally-sustainable businesses in the Rupununi.	R.1 9 tourism businesses implement low-carbon, climate-resilient, or pro-conservation practices.	0				9 Aug 2016	0	
	R.2 14 agricultural businesses have identified low-carbon, climate-resilient, or pro-conservation strategies and are moving towards their implementation.	0				14 Aug 2016	0	
	R.3 For 9 tourism providers, average earned revenue growth of 20%.	0				20 Aug 2016	0	
	R.4 For 9 tourism providers, earned revenue per guest increases by 10%.	0				10 Aug 2016	0	
	R.5 For 14 agricultural producers, average earned revenue growth of 15%.	0				15 Aug 2016	0	
	R.6 For 14 agricultural producers, number of purchase contracts increases by 50%.	0				50 Aug 2016	0	
	R.7 For 14 agricultural producers, unit value increases by 10%.	0				10 Aug 2016	0	
	R.8 15% of Rupununi's businesses implement low-carbon, climate-resilient, or pro-conservation practices.	0				15 Aug 2017	0	
Component 1: Baseline GHG, climate change, and economic assessment Weight: 12% Classification: Unsatisfactory	C1.1 Economic baseline and tracking methodologies completed.							Delayed
	C1.2 Stakeholders analyzed and mapped.					Feb 2014	Yes Jan 2014	Finished
	C1.3 Analysis of Rupununi agricultural supply and demand.					Feb 2014		Delayed
	C1.4 Selection and categorization of targeted communities, enterprises, and products.					Feb 2014		Delayed
	C1.5 Options for mainstreaming climate change mitigation and adaptation action in the Rupununi community-based enterprises identified, described, and agreed upon by stakeholders.					Feb 2014		Delayed
Component 2: Facilitate a business, community, and government network for climate-responsive development in the Rupununi Weight: 9% Classification: Satisfactory	C2.1 A Rupununi Community Tourism Syndicate is operational.					Sep 2015		
	C2.2 Community based organizations selling to formal private enterprises					Sep 2015		
Component 3: Selection and implementation of specific interventions Weight: 28% Classification: Satisfactory	C3.1 Business Plans developed for market-ready tourism community-based MSMEs	0				4 Jul 2014		
	C3.2 Rupununi community agriculture blueprint developed	0				1 Jul 2014		
	C3.3 Market readiness plans developed for other tourism MSMEs	0				5 Feb 2015		
		Sep 2012						
	C3.4 Detailed business plans developed for agricultural community-based enterprises	0				2 Feb 2015		
	C3.5 Market-ready MSMEs have implemented at least 50% of their business plans	0				6 Feb 2016		
	C3.6 Participating MSMEs received business management and product development training appropriate to their market readiness	0				100 Feb 2016		
Component 4: Establishment and Implementation of the Rupununi Innovation Revolving Fund Weight: 27% Classification: Satisfactory	C4.1 At least 6 enterprises access finance from either the innovation fund of component 4 or commercial funds	0				6 Feb 2016		
	C4.2 Fund agreement established with local financial institution	0				1 Aug 2015		
Component 5: Securing Stakeholder Participation through Outreach, Monitoring and Evaluation of Results Weight: 19% Classification: Satisfactory	C5.1 Environmental, social, and economic impact indicator matrix developed	0				1 Aug 2013		Delayed
	C5.2 Environmental impact assessment completed (including biodiversity, ecosystem services, conservation).	0				1 Aug 2015		
Component 6: Knowledge Management Weight: 5% Classification: Satisfactory	C6.1 Case studies developed	0				6 Feb 2016		
	C6.2 Project results disseminated in at least 2 national or international fora.	0				2 Feb 2016		

Milestones**Planned****Due Date****Achieved****Date achieved****Status**

M0	Conditions Prior	4	Mar 2013	4	Feb 2013	Achieved
M1	Establishment of community tourism syndicate for purposing packaging, marketing, booking and branding of community tourism operations.	1	Nov 2013	1	Nov 2013	Achieved
M3	[*] Develop agricultural blueprint	1	Sep 2014			
M4	Develop administrative arrangements with a local financial institution for fund management and administration.	1	Dec 2014			
M2	Establish tourism syndicate	1	Mar 2014	1	Mar 2014	Achieved
M5	Design sustainability plan including information for the Rupununi business forum, Rupununi tourism syndicate, the innovation fund and the training curricula.	1	Dec 2015			

[*] Indicate that the milestone has been reformulated

CRITICAL ISSUES THAT HAVE AFFECTED PERFORMANCE

- [X] Executing agency institutional capacity
- [X] Borrower/executing agency commitments
- [X] Purchase difficulties
- [X] Delays in fulfilling the contract terms

SECTION 4: RISKS**MOST IMPORTANT RISKS AFFECTING FUTURE PERFORMANCE**

	Level	Mitigation action	Responsible
1. Environmental disasters and/or degradation from factors external to the project (e.g. mining concessions) infringe upon intended business models.	High	Encourage the adherence to strict mining guidelines and enforcement of the applicable laws.	Project Guest
2. External or international market factors and global climate change discussions may negatively affect the targeted economic sectors.	Medium	Support the promotion of Guyana's LCDS at global climate change discussions.	Project Guest
3. International tourism decreases	Medium	A tourism product will be developed that is attractive to the local market.	Project Guest
4. Political support for the project may not be sustained.	Medium	Promote the project within the Rupununi communities to achieve local ownership.	Project Guest
5. Guyana is not able to appeal to niche tourism markets, such as birders and sportfishers.	Medium	This will be mitigated by the development of business plans that will target such markets.	Project Guest

PROJECT RISK LEVEL: Low TOTAL NUMBER OF RISKS: 18 IN EFFECT RISKS: 18 NOT IN EFFECT RISKS: 0 MITIGATED RISKS: 0

SECTION 5: SUSTAINABILITY

Likelihood of project sustainability after project completion: P - Probable

CRITICAL ISSUES THAT MAY AFFECT PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

[None reported in this period]

Actions related to sustainability which will be or have been implemented:

- Development and setting up of the Rupununi Innovation Fund in partnership with the GBTI and the Government of Guyana.
- Set up and operationalization of the community business stakeholder forum in collaboration with the Rupununi Chamber of Commerce and now part of the annual Rupununi Expo event
- Development of business planning templates for tourism enterprises
- Development of a contextualized approach and methodology for baseline assessments and monitoring frameworks for local economic development and micro, small and medium scale enterprise development projects

SECTION 6: PRACTICAL LESSONS

1. It became apparent during implementation that the executing agency had little experience in formal selection, contracting and management of external consultants. As a result the Team Leader and Country Office had to expend a great deal of time in procurement review and key consultancies have been delayed. In assessing capacity for procurement going forward the MIF team needs to look at actual experience and quality of procurement documentation as part of institutional assessment so that these gaps can be addressed. CI Guyana was unable to document selection and contracting of consultants in accordance with the IDB's defined procurement processes and required additional training and coaching in the first year of operations which was not factored into the project implementation timeframes	Relative to Design	Author DOOKIESINGH, VASHTIE [MIF]
2. Engaging Youth to pursue careers that will connect them with their homeland	Sustainability	International Guyana, Conservation
Building strong extra-mural training, and extension services within region		

Scaling out and scaling up lessons learnt

Reviewing policies that promote high-carbon actions e.g. intensively dependent fossil-fuel activities, and conversely enabling policies that promote low-carbon investments