

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

JULY 2014 - DECEMBER 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

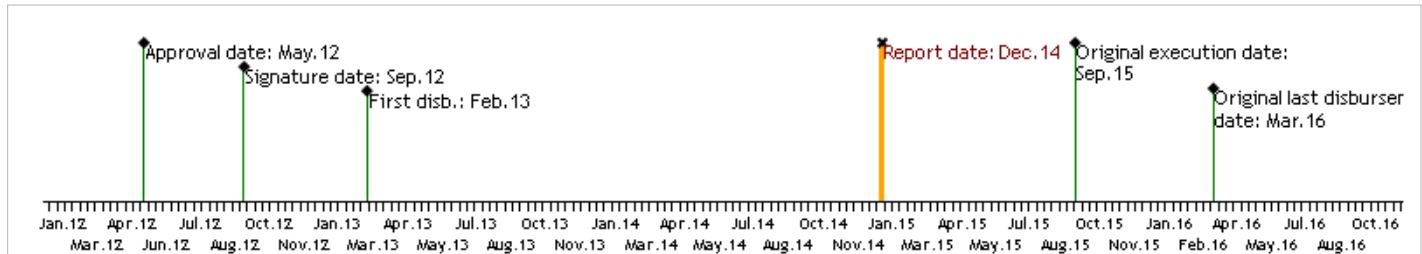
Result: To strengthen and create environmentally-sustainable businesses in the Rupununi.

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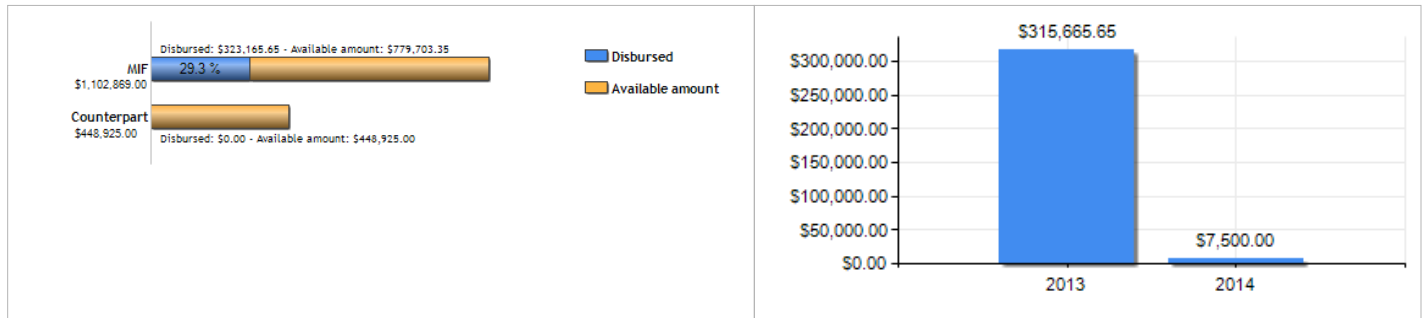
Executing agency: Conservation International

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

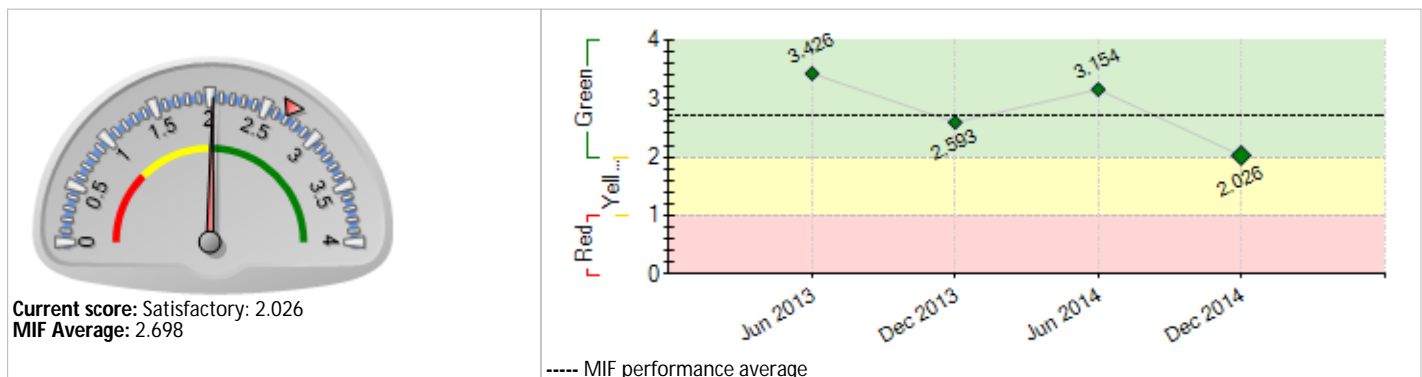
TIMELINE



FUNDS



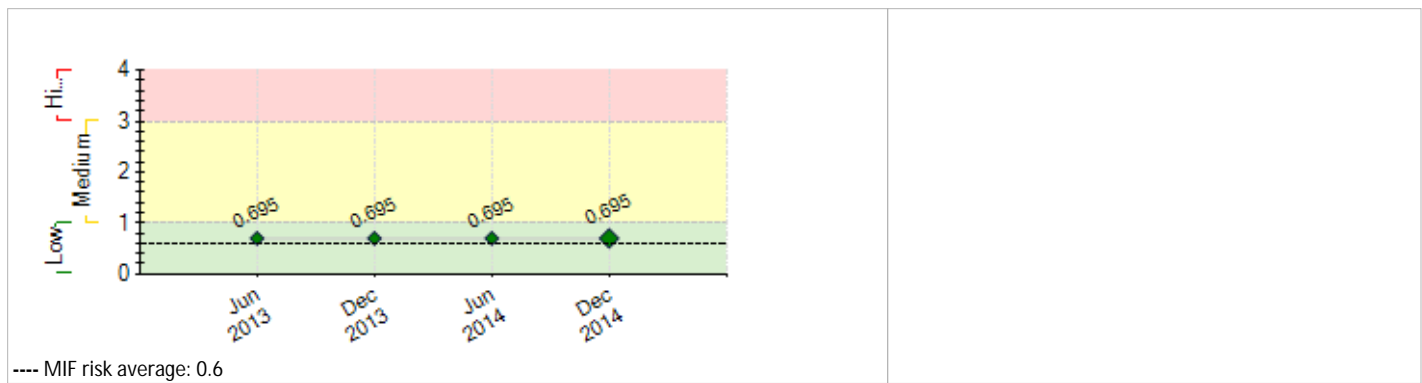
PERFORMANCE SCORE



EXTERNAL RISKS

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

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



SECTION 2: PERFORMANCE

Summary of project performance since inception

Baseline assessments completed

2 Rupununi stakeholder business forums held in 2013 and 2014 as part of the Rupununi Expo activities in partnership with RCCI and 2 Rupununi Christmas Fairs held

6 additional tourism enterprises being supported with capacity building/training in business development and management-

State of Food and Agriculture in the Rupununi Report (completed)

11 agricultural projects being supported with capacity building/training in business development and management, some to market ready status

Agreement between GOG and GBTI signed and gazetted, 3 loans approved

PSC participated in annual meeting and provided guidance to project team and direct support in project initiatives

Delays

Delays in setting up the tourism syndicate due to finding the appropriate model. This is being addressed by developing a broad TOR for setting up the syndicate and engaging a wide group of stakeholders

Risks

Political support for the project is not sustained: this is being addressed by engagement of local, regional and national political (governmental, opposition and non-governmental) stakeholders to ensure that there is broad-based support for the action

Results

From the evidence collected by the MTR evaluator the project has been very effective in the execution of activities and the delivery of outputs.

Actions

Setting up the Rupununi tourism syndicate

Implement targeted training for CBEs in collaboration with statutory civil society institutions

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

The Executing Agency has made good progress in engaging local beneficiaries and in establishing a framework for delivery of long term results. The efficacy of a

bank managed financing line in reaching very small enterprises in the interior needs to be closely monitored and evaluated.

Summary of project performance in the last six months

Baseline assessments completed and stakeholders analyzed and mapped

5 tourism enterprises selected under tourism implementation strategy

6 additional tourism enterprises being supported with capacity building/training in business development and management-

State of Food and Agriculture in the Rupununi Report (completed)

11 agricultural projects being supported with capacity building/training in business development and management, some to market ready status

12 shade houses being developed in collaboration with Partners of the Americas, IICA, SSOS and NAREI

Participating MSMEs have received business management and product development training appropriate to their market readiness

MOU with GBTI signed and agreement between GOG and GBTI signed and gazetted

2 loans approved

RIF fact-sheet developed

Rupununi Christmas Fair fact-sheet developed

2 project videos completed (tourism and balata craft)

Delays

Delays in setting up the tourism syndicate due to finding the appropriate model. This is being addressed by developing a broad TOR for setting up the syndicate and engaging a wide group of stakeholders

Actions

Setting up and operationalizing the Rupununi tourism syndicate

Implement targeted training for CBEs in collaboration with statutory civil society institutions

Publicize the RIF throughout the Rupununi in conjunction with GBTI

Prepare bankable tourism and agriculture projects for consideration by GBTI credit officers under the Rupununi Innovation Fund (RIF).

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

SECTION 3: INDICATORS AND MILESTONES

Indicators		Baseline	Intermediate 1	Intermediate 2	Intermediate 3	Planned	Achieved	Status
Result: To strengthen and create environmentally-sustainable	R.1 9 tourism businesses implement low-carbon, climate-resilient, or pro-conservation practices.	0				9	0	
						Aug 2016		

businesses in the Rupununi.	R.2	14 agricultural businesses have identified low-carbon, climate-resilient, or pro-conservation strategies and are moving towards their implementation.	0				14	0	
							Aug 2016		
	R.3	For 9 tourism providers, average earned revenue growth of 20%.	0				20	0	
							Aug 2016		
	R.4	For 9 tourism providers, earned revenue per guest increases by 10%.	0				10	0	
							Aug 2016		
	R.5	For 14 agricultural producers, average earned revenue growth of 15%.	0				15	0	
							Aug 2016		
	R.6	For 14 agricultural producers, number of purchase contracts increases by 50%.	0				50	0	
							Aug 2016		
	R.7	For 14 agricultural producers, unit value increases by 10%.	0				10	0	
							Aug 2016		
	R.8	15% of Rupununi's businesses implement low-carbon, climate-resilient, or pro-conservation practices.	0				15	0	
							Aug 2017		

Component 1: Baseline GHG, climate change, and economic assessment Weight: 12% Classification: Satisfactory	C1.I1	Economic baseline and tracking methodologies completed.					Feb 2014	Yes	Finished
	C1.I2	Stakeholders analyzed and mapped.					Feb 2014	Yes	Finished
	C1.I3	Analysis of Rupununi agricultural supply and demand.					Feb 2014	Yes	Finished
	C1.I4	Selection and categorization of targeted communities, enterprises, and products.					Feb 2014	Yes	Finished
	C1.I5	Options for mainstreaming climate change mitigation and adaptation action in the Rupununi community-based enterprises identified, described, and agreed upon by stakeholders.					Feb 2014	Yes	Finished

Component 2: Facilitate a business, community, and government network for climate-responsive development in the Rupununi Weight: 9% Classification: Satisfactory	C2.I1	A Rupununi Community Tourism Syndicate is operational.					Sep 2015		
	C2.I2	Community based organizations selling to formal private enterprises					Sep 2015		

Component 3: Selection and implementation of specific interventions Weight: 28% Classification: Satisfactory	C3.I1	Business Plans developed for market-ready tourism community-based MSMEs	0				4	4	Finished
							Jul 2014	Aug 2014	
	C3.I2	Rupununi community agriculture blueprint developed	0				1	1	Finished
							Jul 2014	Aug 2014	
	C3.I3	Market readiness plans developed for other tourism MSMEs	0				5		
			Sep 2012				Feb 2015		
	C3.I4	Detailed business plans developed for agricultural community-based enterprises	0				2		
							Feb 2015		
	C3.I5	Market-ready MSMEs have implemented at least 50% of their business plans	0				6		
							Feb 2016		
	C3.I6	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.I1	At least 6 enterprises access finance from either the innovation fund of component 4 or commercial funds	0				6		
							Feb 2016		
	C4.I2	Fund agreement established with local financial institution	0				1	1	Finished
							Aug 2015	Nov 2014	

Component 5: Securing Stakeholder Participation through Outreach, Monitoring and Evaluation of Results Weight: 19% Classification: Satisfactory	C5.I1	Environmental, social, and economic impact indicator matrix developed	0				1	1	Finished
							Aug 2013	May 2014	
	C5.I2	Environmental impact assessment completed (including biodiversity, ecosystem services, conservation).	0				1		
							Aug 2015		

Component 6: Knowledge Management Weight: 5% Classification: Satisfactory	C6.I1	Case studies developed	0				6		
							Feb 2016		
	C6.I2	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	1	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	1	Sep 2014	Achieved
M4 Develop administrative arrangements with a local financial institution for fund management and administration.	1	Dec 2014	0	Sep 2014	
M2 Establish tourism syndicate	1	Mar 2014	1	Mar 2014	Not accepted
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] Purchase difficulties

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:

MOU with GBTI signed and Agreement between GOG and GBTI signed
 State of Food and Agriculture in the Rupununi Report developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, UN-FAO, the Regional Democratic Council - 9.
 This report has catalyzed the need for a regional sustainable agricultural strategy that will have a focus on enterprise development, food and livelihood security and climate change adaptation and resilience - to be developed in 2015.

SECTION 6: PRACTICAL LESSONS

	Relative to Implementation	Author
1. Through the baseline studies that have been done of the situation in the region sector by sector in tourism, in agriculture, in emissions production and reduction, in adaptation to broader climate change, etc. – the region is getting a sense of itself in the new context of the LCDS. The region is demanding specific strategies and action plans that are effective across the communities of the Rupununi. This is happening in part because people are learning the lessons from the past where there were many uncoordinated initiatives and short term initiatives. That kind of approach is not going to be acceptable in the future. People in the community have been involved in learning and they now want to see change. They increasingly see their role also as changing in the global context and they are expecting to see changes in the local context in alignment with the global changes		International Guyana, Conservation