

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

JANUARY 2015 - JUNE 2015

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

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

Project Number: GY-M1021 - Project Num.: ATN/ME-13229-GY

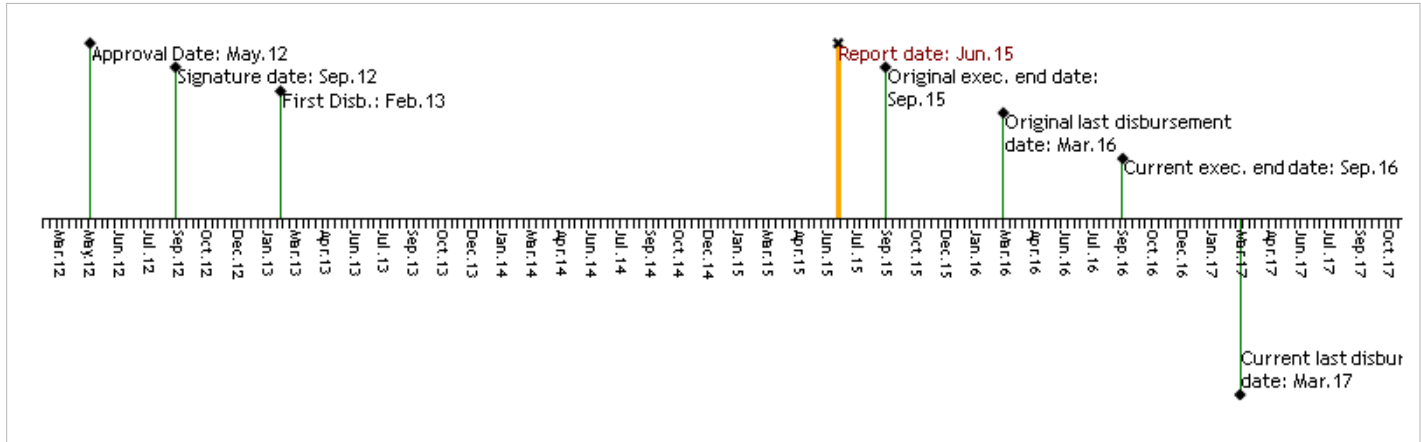
Purpose: To strengthen and create environmentally-sustainable businesses in the Rupununi.

Country Admin	Country Beneficiary	Group	Subgroup
GUYANA	GUYANA	ENV - Environment	TOUR - Sustainable Tourism

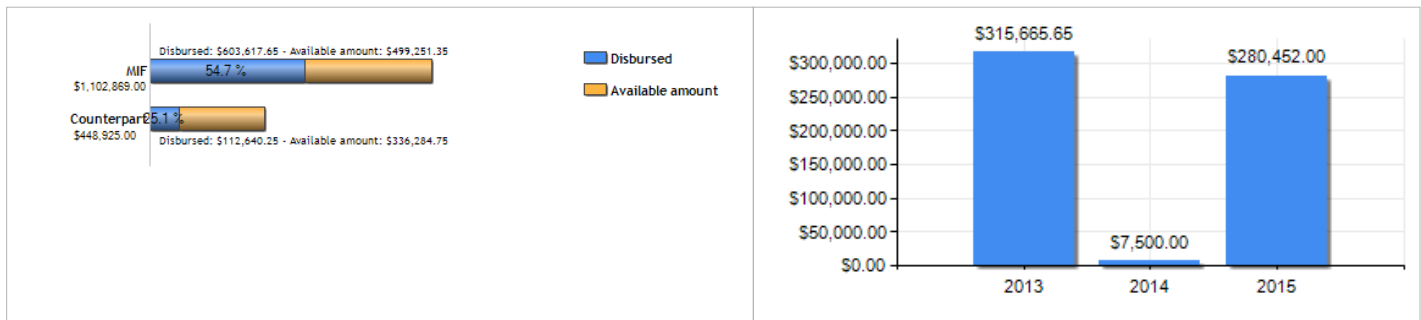
Executing Agency: Conservation International

Design Team Leader: GREG WATSON
Supervision Team Leader: VASHTIE DOOKIESINGH

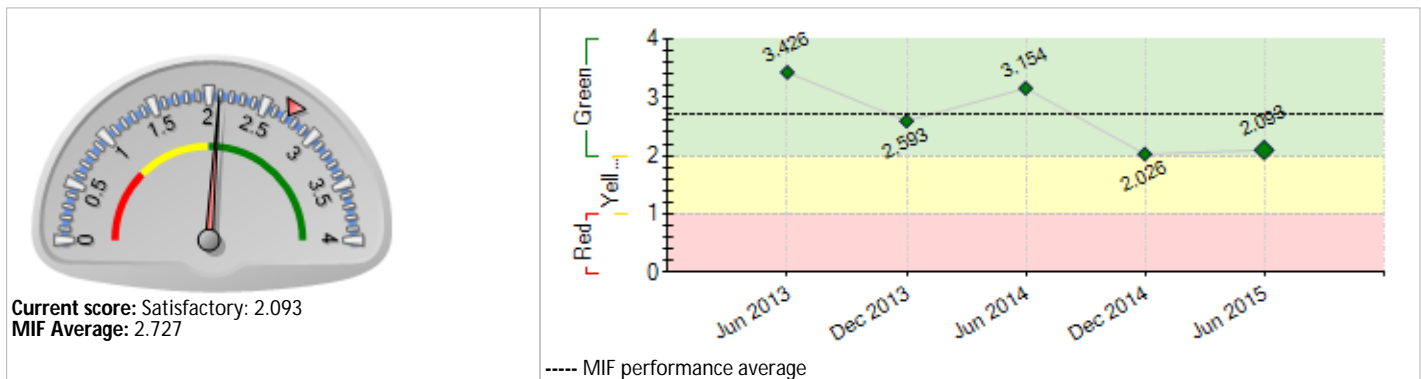
PROJECT CYCLE



FUNDS



PERFORMANCE SCORE

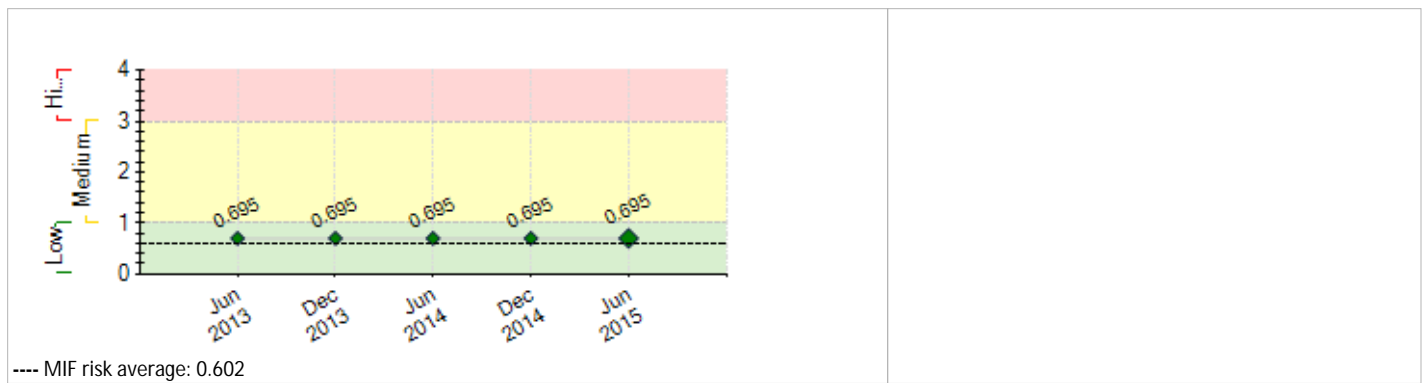


EXTERNAL RISKS

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Risk

Financial Management:
Procurement:
Technical Capacity:



SECTION 2: PERFORMANCE

Summary of project performance since inception

Component 1 (completed)

C-2

Tourism Syndicate operational in progress: coordinator hired, work plan developed and being implemented

2 Rupununi stakeholder business forums held (2013 and 2014) in partnership with the RCCI.

C-3

5 tourism enterprises selected under tourism implementation strategy

6 additional tourism enterprises being supported with capacity building in business development

SOFA Rupununi Report (completed)

Market readiness plans developed for 5 tourism MSMEs

11 agricultural projects being supported with capacity building in business development and management

12 shade houses being developed in collaboration with partners

C-4

9 loans approved

2 loans rejected

16 loans in basket of loans coming up

Revision of credit manual underway – to refine the social and environmental guidelines and criteria

C-5

Impact indicator matrix developed-completed

PSC provided guidance to project team for, the selection of targeted interventions and direct support in project initiative

C-6

Project fact-sheet

RIF fact-sheet and info-graphic

Christmas Fair fact-sheet

3 project videos

Delays

Delays in delivering the capacity building exercise in collaboration with partner institutions. Addressed by developing a proposal and supporting the implementation.

Actions

Setting up the Rupununi tourism syndicate

Implement targeted training

Publicize the RIF effectively and proactively throughout the Rupununi in conjunction with GBTI

Prepare bankable plans for consideration by GBTI

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

Summary of project performance in the last six months**Main**

Baseline assessments refined and in process of being published

Rupununi tourism syndicate coordinator hired and work-plan being implemented (stakeholder consensus for main areas of work reached)

3rd annual business forum further strengthened by involvement of Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Business

Rupununi agriculture strategy drafted

Agriculture and tourism CBEs receiving targeted training

6 loans approves and 16 loans in basket for approval

RIF credit manual revised. and monitoring system developed

Project monitoring matrix refined to include systemic, gender and youth dimensions

Delays

Delivering the capacity building exercise in collaboration with partner institutions. Addressed by developing a proposal and supporting the implementation.

Actions

Support local indigenous training institution to provide capacity building in targeted areas

Make fully functional the Rupununi tourism syndicate (registration, membership)

Further develop, refine and make sustainable the Rupununi Innovation Fund

Further institutionalize the stakeholder business forum

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
Purpose: 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:	C1.1 Economic baseline and tracking methodologies completed.					Feb 2014	Yes Aug 2014	Finished
	C1.2 Stakeholders analyzed and mapped.					Feb 2014	Yes Jan 2014	Finished
	C1.3 Analysis of Rupununi agricultural supply and demand.					Feb 2014	Yes Jun 2014	Finished
	C1.4 Selection and categorization of targeted communities, enterprises, and products.					Feb 2014	Yes Jul 2014	Finished
	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	Yes Sep 2014	Finished
Component 2: Facilitate a business, community, and government network for climate-responsive development in the Rupununi Weight: 9% Classification:	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:	C3.1 Business Plans developed for market-ready tourism community-based MSMEs	0				4 Jul 2014	4 Aug 2014	Finished
	C3.2 Rupununi community agriculture blueprint developed	0				1 Jul 2014	1 Aug 2014	Finished
	C3.3 Market readiness plans developed for other tourism MSMEs	0				5	1	Finished

		Sep 2012				Feb 2015	Jan 2015	
C3.14	Detailed business plans developed for agricultural community-based enterprises	0				2	1	Finished
C3.15	Market-ready MSMEs have implemented at least 50% of their business plans	0				Feb 2015	Jan 2015	
C3.16	Participating MSMEs received business management and product development training appropriate to their market readiness	0				Feb 2016		
						100		
						Feb 2016		

Component 4: Establishment and Implementation of the Rupununi Innovation Revolving Fund

Weight: 27%

Classification:

C4.11	At least 6 enterprises access finance from either the innovation fund of component 4 or commercial funds	0				6		
						Feb 2016		
C4.12	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:

C5.11	Environmental, social, and economic impact indicator matrix developed	0				1	1	Finished
						Aug 2013	May 2014	
C5.12	Environmental impact assessment completed (including biodiversity, ecosystem services, conservation).	0				1		
						Aug 2015		

Component 6: Knowledge Management

Weight: 5%

Classification:

C6.11	Case studies developed	0				6		
						Feb 2016		
C6.12	Project results disseminated in at least 2 national or international fora.	0				2		
						Feb 2016		

Milestones	Planned	Due Date	Achieved	Date of achievement	Status
M0 Conditions Prior	4	Mar 2013	4	Mar 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
M2 Establish tourism syndicate	1	Mar 2014	1	Mar 2014	Not accepted
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	1	Nov 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	0	Jun 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

Issue

[X] Lack of **cost recovery** mechanisms or **external financing sources** (government, donors and/or private sector) to continue the activities of the project once MIF resources are expended

Comments

Although financing for micro businesses has been secured through the Rupununi innovation fund in partnership with a local commercial bank it is unclear as to how CI Guyana will secure resources required to continue supporting the

[X] A **market** is not generated for the project's services and/or activities (low payment capacity or low demand for those services)

communities beyond the period of MIF investment
Sustainability of demand for agri products and tourism services from targeted communities in Guyana has not yet been proven

Actions related to sustainability which have been taken in the reporting period:

- Setting up of Rupununi syndicate
- Further institutionalization of stakeholder business forum
- Developing sustainability plan for RIF
- Developing targeted training curricula with indigenous training institution
- Refinement of monitoring database

SECTION 6: PRACTICAL LESSONS

1. In countries like Guyana with small populations it is difficult to secure local consultants for technical activities, organizations like CI Guyana are well placed to leverage staff base for technical backstopping but direct costs of same are not usually included in MIF budgets. It may be useful to assess feasibility of programming resources to finance Executing Agency staff participation in projects where there are limited external resources in country

Relative to
Design

Author
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