



GUYANA

LAND OF MANY WATERS

Degree of IWRM
implementation

The enabling environment for support of IWRM implementation

Existing legislative, regulatory, institutional framework.

A national consolidated water policy and associated vision for IWRM

Draft policy and roadmap exist.

Water resources management shared among national agencies.

Mandate elaborated in respective laws, national policy documents, and strategic agendas.

In the absence of a national policy each agency interprets and implements the obligations under their respective mandate and guiding legislation, resulting in overlapping responsibilities.

The institutional responsibility

The responsibility for water, sanitation and sewerage services is that the Guyana Water Incorporated (GWI). Others include: Ministry of Housing and Water, Municipalities, Local Democratic Organs (LDOs) Ministry of Agriculture, the Hydrometeorological Department (Hydromet)- hydrology infrastructure and monitoring, National Drainage and Irrigation Authority (NDIA) - irrigation water.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) -regulating pollution

A National Water Council (NWC) was established under the Water and Sewerage Act (2002) advise the Minister of Housing and Water and to address critical issues and manage Guyana's water resource, and formulate a National Water Policy and implementation of IWRM. Non-functional.

Transboundary cooperation	Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) promotes of sustainable development of the Amazon Basin, with water resources as a focus.
Technical capacity	<p>GWI, Hydromet, NDIA has a strong core group of trained water professionals, engineers, and technical staff.</p> <p>Other Agencies have limited adequately trained staff related to water resources management.</p>
monitoring and assessment	<p>Not systematic and coordinated. Lack of a consolidated national monitoring plan. The Hydromet, GWI, GGMC, and the EPA conduct surface and ground water monitoring and assessments but inconsistent and not coordinated.</p> <p>No national system for data and information sharing. Quality of data, storage, management, vary, and accessibility and use for decision-making is not clear.</p> <p>GWI improved water quality capabilities in terms of laboratory and staff capacity and expanded water quality monitoring stations.</p>

Water resource allocation	Supply-on-request. Registration of groundwater wells and licensing of use. EDWC Act provides water for irrigation to farmers upon request. There are no formal rules of water allocation within Amerindian Communities.
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Infrastructure to ensure supply efficiency	Improved tremendously through annual capital infrastructure programme - installation of transmission mains, water treatment plants, storage tanks, and wells Upgrading and rehabilitation of drainage and irrigation infrastructure.
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Financing	The Ministry of Finance provides annual budgetary allocation/subventions for water and sanitation related public expenditures through several budget Ministries and Agencies.
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Some also raise financing through taxes, tariffs, and Donor funding.

Government investment for water and sanitation was estimated to increase to US \$30 million or 0.2% of GDP by 2021. 2015 to 2019, approximately GY\$ 15.8 billion

In 2018-2019 approximately 2 million USD earmarked for projects related to IWRM and funded by a mix of IDB, EU, WB, GoG and bilateral financing.

Some US\$831,000 has been budgeted for mapping and modelling of ground and surface waters

US\$193,000 has been budgeted for review and finalization of IWRM Policy and Action Plan.

Successes and Lessons learnt

- Good legal framework and political will
- Core of professionals qualified in water resources management
- National Water Council established with oversight management and implementation of IWRM (needs implementation)
- Adequate and predicable financial support
- Integrated planning, close coordination, strong collaboration, and effective communication across key natural resources sector agencies, and related partners (like the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs, NGOs, academic institutions) are recognized as pivotal to the goals of sustainable development;
- Integrated and collaborative approaches to education and awareness for behavioural change public programmes.
- Need for strong data systems are required to understand the issues in the sector and effectively plan its programmes in a strategic and cost-effective manner.
- Need for affordable and sustained financing to undertake and maintain the large-sunk-cost investments like wastewater treatment plants, sanitary landfills and hinterland water network expansions and upgrading.
- Cost recovery fees need to be examined and approached with caution.

Challenges and Gaps

- Draft IWRM policy not approved
- No national consolidated IWRM Plan. No up-to-date legislative framework to treat specifically with IWRM
- Limited enforcement of existing laws pertaining to water pollution
- National Water Council not functional
- Limited capacity for leading implementation of IWRM, because of lack of personnel, in general, but especially with the required knowledge level across all relevant Agencies.
- Overlapping mandates, Lack of coordination of effort and resources for IWRM
- Stakeholder participation need strengthening
- lack of appropriate system for monitoring, data collection, storage, analysis for decision-making
- No proper quantitative and qualitative data on water resources
- Monitoring and assessment of water quality is uncoordinated. Need cooperation between agencies to develop national programme and maximize on resources.
- Central system of input and sharing of data and information is required.
- Revenues raised are limited to support operational cost and recurrent costs.

Recommandations

- Review and approve the draft IWRM policy and Operationalization of the National Water Council.
- Review and harmonize laws, developing specific regulations and strengthening enforcement.
- Need for effective monitoring - A technologically appropriate system for effective monitoring, data collection, storage, and analysis. This should also include geographic information system.
- Attention be given developing a stronger awareness of issues and plans at all levels and among key stakeholders.
- Consideration should be given to the managing for protection of important watersheds, supported by the development and enforcement of appropriate regulations
- Capacity building and institutional strengthening (human resources, equipment among a few. Gap analysis of human resources across agencies and implement appropriate training programme)
- Improved financing opportunities to facilitate work in IWRM in Guyana.
- Gender considerations to be given priority in IWRM policy and plans

UNECLAC Recommended interventions

- Technical assistance in review and harmonization of water related legislation to facilitate IWRM.
- Improved access to financing opportunities to facilitate work in IWRM in Guyana.
- Strengthening monitoring and data collection, management, and analysis for decision-making through appropriate technology, human resource capacity, including reporting mechanisms.