

SDGs within A Green State Development Strategy

- case of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana

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COOPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA

Background - selected highlights

- ▶ National Development Strategy up to 2010 and Low Carbon Development Strategy from 2009 complemented by a National Competitiveness Strategy
- ▶ National Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy 2011 onwards - pilots health and education
- ▶ We drafted a report on final progress made with the MDGs in 2016 - finalisation of the report is awaiting updated CENSUS info to ensure data points were accurate and the final published report is expected later this year
- ▶ In general we made good progress on MDGs and with Cabinet endorsement presented the 2011 Progress Report with some met and the one least likely to met being MDG 5 - Improve Maternal Health; and Goal 8 which collectively was not met at a global level - high school student reps invited to present their thoughts on each goal
- ▶ In that case we pursued a MDG Acceleration Framework which helped to focus both Govt and development partners on the required actions. While there were some challenges in the pace of acceleration the document has provided a comprehensive set of actions with costs to guide actions and discussions
- ▶ **MDG High Level Committee** oversaw the content of the draft MDG report and actions towards the achievement of MDGs were incorporated in successive budgets over the period

Home of MDGs - champion

- ▶ Ministry of Finance (which contains both Budget and Public Sector Investment Arms of Govt)
- ▶ Office of the Budget
 - ▶ Fiscal and Monetary Division (8)
 - ▶ Debt Management Division (7)
 - ▶ Public Enterprise Division (2)
 - ▶ Expenditure Planning and Management Unit (1)
 - ▶ Economic Policy and Analysis Unit (3)
 - ▶ Monitoring and Evaluation Division (2)
- ▶ MDG Progress Report 2011 and 2016/17 was coordinated with support by M&E and EPAU under guidance of Director and Ministry of Finance chaired the High Level Committee

Nationalising the SDGs

- ▶ Development of a Green State Development Strategy Framework 2017 -2030consultations conducted and document is being finalised for 20th February (with support from UNEP)
- ▶ Full national consultations in all 10 regions will be run from July to October 2017 based on the document
- ▶ Ministries, Departments and Regions will again be incorporating SDGs in Budget Plans which are submitted to the Ministry of Finance in August each year. This was done in 2017 and will be done more comprehensively in 2018
- ▶ Completion of Strategic Plans with focus on specific areas of SDGS e.g Women's Development
- ▶ Conclusion of Green State Development Strategy 2017 to 2030 document is slated for November 2017



Image 1

Extract from draft Green State Development Strategy showing how SDGs link to central themes of Strategy

In parallel to the national consultations on GSDS...

- ▶ the High Level MDG Steering Committee (PSs and Senior Technical Officers) is anticipated to be re-established as the statutory High Level SDG Steering Committee comprising representation from related sectors and led by Ministry of Finance and meeting on a quarterly basis
- ▶ Work on final MDG/SDG progress report is slated for conclusion in H2 2017 as important baseline for going forward on SDGs
- ▶ In Budget 2018 we expect to see prioritisation and timelines for implementation of actions to achieve SDGs given limited financial resources (recognising the interlinkages)

In parallel to the national consultations on GSDS...

Incorporation into existing country systems: some tools

- ▶ Clinical sessions on incorporating **THEORY OF CHANGE** approach to address sector priorities (including SDGs) like improving maternal health, mathematics scores at Grade 6, textbook distribution, drugs and medical supplies procurement and distribution, to name a few
- ▶ Developing Performance Measurement Frameworks to accompany the Theories of Change to assess the implementation of TOC
- ▶ Development and costing of sectoral strategic plans - by their nature good strategic plans cross silos
- ▶ Guyana first country to sign on to UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework. One of the priorities is to align results with national performance indicators and goals including SDGs - the focus of Results Working Groups which will begin to meet in March

Some Challenges

- ▶ Size of Cooperative Republic of Guyana 83,000 sq miles; Jamaica is 4,243 sq miles, Belize is 8,867 sq miles and Suriname is 64,000 sq miles. Thus in CRG marginal cost of service delivery is very high in hinterland and remote communities; major gaps in physical infrastructure very costly to address
- ▶ The coast of Guyana is below sea level where the majority of our population is concentrated and makes productive activity and livelihoods particularly vulnerable to climate change - mitigation is costly
- ▶ Financing of MAF for Goal 5 still has not been met
- ▶ Financing and fiscal space limited. Also global agenda though recognising multidimensional nature of poverty is still using a single dimension per capita indicator to determine income ranking of countries
- ▶ Human Resources capacity limitations - small populations, relatively lean bureaucracies
- ▶ Institutional structures
- ▶ Six ethnicities with differing cultural practices - eg indigenous communities
- ▶ DATA DATA DATA - need to collect it and use it to drive interventions

Expected Output and Outcomes

- ▶ Outputs would see policies, targeted strategies, programmes and projects being focused on results that lead to achieving SDGs
 - ▶ [reminder: pretty documents alone do not create jobs, attract investments, improve results of our children at Grade 6 to ensure they are equipped as life long learners to drive our collective futures, to name a few]
 - ▶ Outcomes would be the achievements of SDGs being measured by performance indicators to assess the achievement of targets en route to 2030 and better quality of life for our people.
- ▶ Thank You