

## KEY CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVES

- i. National Climate Change Policy and Action Plan (conclusion in 2019);
- ii. National Climate Change Communications Strategy and Implementation Plan (conclusion 2019);
- iii. Third National Communications (TNC) to the UNFCCC (conclusion 2019);
- iv. First Biennial Update Report (BUR) to the UNFCCC (initial stages);
- v. National Adaptation Plan (NAP) (conclusion 2019)Health National Adaptation Plan (initial stages);
- vi. Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions for Greening of towns. (NAMA);
- vii. Transitioning to National Energy Security (TNES)
- viii. Japan Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (JCCCP).

Given the importance of effective climate change communication and information dissemination to enable climate change response, the nation strengthened education and awareness programmes to allow individuals to understand the problem, encourage dialogue and influence behavior change.

In 2017, the Office of Climate Change commenced the institutionalization of climate change awareness and education, through a School Outreach Programme in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary institutions across the country which has resulted in the sensitization of more than 5000 students. Additionally, social media platforms are being used to increase awareness and promote participation in climate actions.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY (GHG-I) SYSTEM

Guyana has prepared two National Communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and is currently preparing the Third National Communication (TNC) followed by the first Biennial Update Report (BUR).

The Government of Guyana (GoG) through the Office of Climate Change (OCC), Ministry of the Presidency (MotP) recognised the need to create a more permanent, robust, transparent and structured system to improve accuracy, accounting and efficiency to continuously compile National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (GHG-I). Guyana's national GHG-I system aims to produce high-quality inventories through a well-developed institutional mechanism (including the establishment of protocols and procedures for the compilation of such an inventory), cross-sector institutional arrangements, capacity building, and data management for effective monitoring, reporting and verification of GHGs.



### Office of Climate Change

**Ministry of the Presidency**  
Shiv Chanderpaul Drive  
Bourda  
Georgetown

**Phone:** 592-223-0975, 592-223-5231, 592-223-0917  
**Website:** <https://climatechange.gov.gy>  
**E-mail:** [info.occ@motp.gov.gy](mailto:info.occ@motp.gov.gy)  
**Facebook:** Office of Climate Change- Guyana  
**Instagram:** occguyana  
**Twitter:** occguyana



# WHAT IS GUYANA DOING?



# ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

## Snapshots

- **2019**  
The Green State Development Strategy (GSDS) Vision 2040 was launched.
- **2018**  
National Climate Change committee reinstated.
- **2017**  
Climate Change awareness Out-reaches launched and is continuous.
- **2016**  
Guyana signs the Paris Climate Change Agreement with over 195 other parties.



Guyana is particularly vulnerable to climate change due to high levels of exposure and sensitivity to climate risks and limited capacity to adapt. The majority (about 90%) of Guyana's 746,955 population (2012) lives along a narrow coastal strip, which ranges from a width of 16 to 64 kilometres inland and makes up approximately 10 percent of the nation's total land area.

The coast lies at 0.5 metre to 1 metre below sea level at mean high tide.

Based on these characteristics the Government of Guyana has placed climate change among its highest strategic priorities with demonstrative leadership and political will by the President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, H.E David Granger. Strategic direction and political will are key cornerstones for successful climate change governance. In 2015, H.E President Granger articulated his vision, for low-emission decarbonized economy, advancing our development through sustainable utilization of Guyana's natural patrimony, resource efficiency, economic diversification and social equity. This will be achieved through Guyana's Green State Development Strategy (GSDS).

## INCLUSIVE CLIMATE GOVERNANCE

In keeping with the country's strategic vision and the emerging priority of climate change within the national context, the Office of Climate Change (OCC) has the mandate to lead in the development and implementation of national policies, strategies and actions for climate change mainstreaming and coordinate efforts for climate change adaptation, mitigation and forest conservation across sectors and agencies at the national and regional levels.

The OCC is the Focal Point for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and is responsible for ensuring that the Government of Guyana (GoG) fulfills its obligations as a Party to the Convention and its Protocols. The OCC also plays a leading role in the engagement and dialogue with multilateral agencies on behalf of the GoG, to establish partnerships and facilitate access to technical and financial support for low carbon initiatives and climate change mitigation and adaptation, in furtherance of national development thrust.

The Minister of State (MOS) has responsibility for the climate change portfolio and the positioning of the Office of Climate Change (OCC) within the Ministry of the Presidency. The MOS ensures the agency has the highest political support and authority to engage with other ministries/departments and groups working in climate change across the whole of government.

### National Climate Change Committee (NCC)

This committee will facilitate and guide the planning process for integration of climate change adaptation, mitigation and resilience building across sectors, at the national and regional levels. It will also foster greater coordination, collaboration, and implementation of climate policies, strategies and plans. The NCCC serves as the consultative and advisory body in support of the Office of Climate Change's (OCC) mandate. Members of the NCCC constitute Focal Points from all government organizations, private sector, youth, women and civil society, to serve as the consultative and advisory body in support of the mandate of the national focal agency on climate change. (Office of Climate Change).

The NCCC is responsible for mainstreaming of climate change considerations into relevant policies, strategies and/or plans. The Committee will also provide guidance and support to the implementation of all levels of sectoral initiatives with respect to climate change.

### Stakeholder Engagements

The OCC values stakeholder engagement and consultation in policy debates, projects and design from the inception. The OCC also engages extensively with stakeholders through special purpose committees, working groups and other fora. Some of these include but are not limited to:

- Having a fixed term limit steering Committee to advance initiatives implemented by the government
- Engagement with Municipal representatives
- Public forum, including workshops and Community discussions
- Engaging with development partners to discuss government policies and strategies and mobilize support for government action.
- Engagement with umbrella organisations representing Private Sector, Civil Society, Youth Engagement with Indigenous Representatives and NGOs
- Partnerships with Youth Organisations, Ministry of Education, University of Guyana.

## Snapshots

- **2015**  
Intended National Determined contribution (INDC) submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as part of our commitment to climate action.
- **2009**  
Low Carbon Development Strategy launched.
- **2009**  
Bilateral agreement signed with Norway.
- **2009**  
The Office of Climate Change was formed.