

MRVS Steering Committee (MRVS SC)
Summary of Meeting 9
August 9, 2011

The ninth meeting of the MRVS Steering Committee was held on August 9, 2011 in the Lower Conference Room of the Guyana Forestry Commission. The key points of discussion arising from the meeting were as follows:

1. Through support from KfW, in a Conservation International Project, the GFC will be receiving support to contract the services of an Ecosystem Services and Carbon Modelling Specialist to conduct Assessment of forest degradation, monitoring requirements for ecosystem services and exploring methods for establishing reference levels. The TOR for this project has been advertised both locally and internationally, with a deadline of August 11, 2011 for submission of proposals.
2. The TOR for conducting of the Year 2 Forest Area Assessment (FAA) has also been advertised both locally and internationally. This assessment will cover the period for the period October 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011. The deadline for submission of proposals is August 29, 2011.
3. As in the Year 1 FAA, an evaluation team will be convened, comprising representation from the MRVS SC that will evaluate all proposals submitted, based on developed evaluation criteria. The results of this evaluation will then be tabled at the MSSC.
4. In detailing the progress of the work on Forest Carbon Stock Assessment, it was discussed that the Draft Sampling Design and Implementation Plan for Guyana's REDD+ Forest Carbon Monitoring System (FCMS) were reviewed and comments were sent to Winrock International for clarifications as well as incorporation into the document. Work is ongoing to finalize this document, along with efforts ongoing to complete the preliminary biomass data collection to finalise the implementation plan for REDD+ FCMS.
5. With regards to the Demonstration Activities under MRVS and REDD+ Strategies, the community aspect will be started through a collaborative effort including partners such as NRDDDB, Iwokrama and the Global Canopy Program (GCP), with funding from NORAD, and will be conducted in Annai in Region 9. The activity will be used to measure and monitor deforestation and forest degradation and to identify the drivers of deforestation affecting them. Based on these drivers, appropriate strategies will be discussed to address them and pilot strategies tested. The GFC, NRDDDB, GCP & Iwokrama are currently in the process of finalizing the way forward on this.