

## **MRVS STEERING COMMITTEE (MRVS SC)**

### **Summary of Meeting 14**

**August 12, 2013**

The fourteenth meeting of the MRVS Steering Committee was held on August 12, 2013 in the Lower Conference Room of the Guyana Forestry Commission. During this meeting there were updates provided on progress of Forest Area Change Assessment for 2012 (Year 3), the Forest Carbon Monitoring System for Phase 2 (Medium Potential for Change Areas), progress to date of work on other areas of REDD+ (reference levels, co-benefits & outreach activities) and update on the progress of implementation of the Community MRV project. The key points arising from the meeting were as follows:

- a) In conducting the Year 3 forest area change assessment, Guyana has acquired wall to wall 5m high resolution RapidEye imagery for the entire country
- b) With the purchase of the RapidEye imagery, 5 user licences were acquired, providing access for the GFC, GGMC, EPA, MNRE and GL&SC.
- c) Work has commenced on a number of areas of the FCMS in 2013, including data collection for Phase II of the FCMS (medium potential for change areas); reducing the uncertainties relating to the Carbon emissions from degradation caused by legal timber harvesting and re-stratification of the potential for change map was conducted which resulted in changes to areas allotted per strata.
- d) Over the period April- June 2013 the GFC hosted a total of 12 outreach sessions, which targeted a total of 90 communities and 38 regional groups, were held in Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9 & 10 with each sessions being over a two days period. Sessions focused on the LCDS and REDD+, the Monitoring Reporting & Verification System and Guyana's engagement in EU FLEGT. The stakeholders targeted included local communities, indigenous, forest dependent and mining communities, local and international NGOs, private sector and civil society; as well as women and youth groups.
- e) Work on the exploration of co-benefits for REDD+ under the MRVS is currently being executed, with the focus on water.
- f) Work has commenced on the development of Proposal for Reference level for REDD+ for Guyana for which options for the national reference levels will be considered, based on relevant scenarios and are in keeping with Guyana's national circumstances, as well as in conformance with UNFCCC guidance.