

MRVS STEERING COMMITTEE (MRVS SC)

Summary of Meeting 13

January 17, 2013

The thirteenth meeting of the MRVS Steering Committee was held on January 17, 2013 in the Lower Conference Room of the Guyana Forestry Commission. During this meeting there were updates provided on the outcomes of the Year 2 Forest Area Assessment; the progress to date on the Forest Carbon Monitoring System as well as next steps in the development of Guyana's Monitoring Reporting & Verification System (MRVS). The key points arising from the meeting were as follows:

- a) During Meeting 12 of the MRVS SC, held on Sept 20, 2012, an update was provided by members of the CMRV Project Team, with the agreement that a number of progress reports would be submitted to the GFC; the GFC is hopeful of receiving these shortly. The GFC promised to follow up with the CMV Team to receive these reports and would forward these reports to the members of the MRVS SC.
- b) The Year 2 Assessment captures the change that took place in a 15 month period - 01 October, 2010 to 31 December, 2011. In large part, it was conducted using high resolution (5 m) RapidEye imagery, and is a significant development over Year 1, as it offers resolution at 5 m as compared to 30 m primarily used in Year 1.
- c) For the fifteen months Year 2 period (2010 to 2011) deforestation has remained relatively constant at 9 889 ha/yr. This is equivalent to a deforestation rate of 0.054%/yr for the period, which is very similar, and actually a marginal percentage lower, to the Year 1 rate (12 months) of 0.056%/yr.
- d) The Year 3 Assessment will be conducted using RapidEye, and for this reporting period, coverage will be obtained for the entire country at 5m resolution. Multiple licences have been acquired. It was pointed out that the acquisition of these licences was based on the recommendations of the MRVS SC.
- e) Guyana's Forest Carbon Monitoring System (FCMS) is a country specific measurement and monitoring system of emission and removal factors that can be used to convert field data into robust estimates of forest Carbon emissions and removals from Guyana's forest land use sector.
- f) With respect to the implementation of the MRVS Roadmap, it was intended for this to be a three year process to have the MRVS operational, with the process now entering the third year.
- g) It was pointed out that as of the end of 2012, a revised JCN was available. It was noted that this document is available on the LCDS website and has been revised to reflect the progress made in the MRVS. It also has a new list of compliance measures.
- h) Top priority areas in the continuation of work on the MRVS include Advancing work on Reference Levels; Development of definitions for Degradation, in order to be able to further map, measure and quantify its effects; and Reforestation; as well as completion of data requirements by the end of January 2013.