

MRVS STEERING COMMITTEE (MRVS SC)
Summary of Meeting 16
February 13, 2014

The sixteenth meeting of the MRVS Steering Committee was held on February 13, 2014 in the Lower Conference Room of the Guyana Forestry Commission. During this meeting discussions centred on findings from the Year 3 forest area change assessment; plans for implementation of Year 4 of the MRVS and the upcoming plans for a review of the implementation of the MRVS roadmap.

Key points arising from discussions were as follows:

- a) The Year 3 MRVS Interim Measures Report is currently available on the GFC's website with comments from a range of stakeholders.
- b) Interpretations of deforestation and degradation drivers were made using 5m RapidEye imagery, which is an improvement from the Year 2 assessment which used a combination of 5m and 30m imagery to achieve national coverage.
- c) Forest change of forest to non-forest (excluding degradation) over the 12 months was estimated at 14,655 ha, equating to a total deforestation rate of 0.079%. The main deforestation drive was mining (inclusive of mining infrastructure) which accounts for 93% of the deforestation in this period.
- d) The Year 3 MRVS Interim Measures Report was subject to an accuracy assessment by Durham University as well as independent third party verification by Det Norske Veritas (DNV).
- e) A number of activities are planned for 2014, including work on implementation of Year 4 of the MRVS; continued stakeholder outreach planned for regions 1, 2, 7, 8, 9; implementation of demonstration activities, targeting a community, a mining area and a logging area; commencement of implementation of Guyana's Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP); submission of a Proposal on Guyana's Reference Level for REDD+ to the UNFCCC; and a number of other activities.
- f) Over the period March 24-25, 2014, a review of the MRVS Roadmap will be conducted through consultations with national and international partners and experts. The outcomes of the consultation should result in the way forward with Guyana's MRV System and lead to the development of MRVS Roadmap Phase 2.