

MRVS STEERING COMMITTEE (MRVS SC)
Summary of Meeting 25
August 10, 2017

The 25th meeting of the MRVS Steering Committee was held on August 10, 2017 in the Lower Conference Room of the Guyana Forestry Commission. Key areas of discussion during this meeting included an overview of MRVS Phase 2 & developments in finalizing Phase 2, as well as a summary of agency engagements with the GFC on use of the MRVS Remote Sensing data.

The key points arising from the meeting are summarised below:

- **Phase 2 of the MRVS:** Support to Years 6-9 of the MRVS was reviewed and approved by NORAD, allowing for the continued operation and development of the MRVS over the period 2015 to 2020. The GFC's delivery partner in the process remains Conservation International, Guyana.
- A total of four (4) annual assessments of forest area change will be required. The first assessment will cover the period 2015-2016 (24 months), the second 2017, the third 2018 and the final assessment for 2019.
- Accompanying the mapping of forest change is the continued work on measurement and monitoring of forest carbon. Guided by the recommendations of the Long Term Monitoring Plan for the Forest Carbon Monitoring System, a key activity is the restratification of the current High, Medium & Low Potential for Change areas.
- National outreach and promoting South-South collaboration was another activity that would be included under the project. The Committee members were updated that the GFC will be looking to engage with members in capacity building efforts where they would be invited to participate in regional and interactive sessions dealing with MRVS related areas.
- It was pointed out that publication in academic journals would also be resourced by the project. In this, the GFC is looking to have work related to Guyana's MRVS that has been peer reviewed, published in internationally recognised journals.
- Over the past few months, the GFC has been engaging and providing support to various agencies on projects that would require remote sensing or MRV data. This is part of the approach of using the MRVS for practical applications. It is the intention for the MRVS to be used to inform wider natural resources management and policy applications.
- Members were updated that all administrative datasets (mining, Amerindian land titles, and agriculture lease areas) will be collected from various agencies over the coming quarter to inform the year 6 MRVS work.