Guyana

UN Annual Results Report 2025



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Building Our Future Together



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Building Our Future Together

Foreword by the UN Resident Coordinator

Guyana is making steady progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including through its partnership with the United Nations. Since the start of the decade, the Government has significantly scaled up public investment, anchored in the long-term objectives of the Low Carbon Development Strategy, which is closely aligned with multiple SDGs.

This strong commitment is reflected in improving development outcomes. In 2025, Guyana's SDG Index score reached 66.3, up from 59.7 in 2020, with its global ranking improving from 124th to 102nd. The country is assessed as being on track to achieve SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), with notable progress observed under SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 15 (Life on Land) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). For other Goals, progress has been more gradual or assessment is constrained by data limitations.

Broader development gains are also evident in human development outcomes. Guyana's Human Development Index reached 0.776 in the 2025 Human Development Report, firmly placing the country in the high human development category and marking one of the fastest improvements in the region in recent years. These gains have been driven primarily by strong income growth, while improvements in health and education outcomes have progressed more gradually.

Through its partnership with the UN, Guyana made further progress in 2025 towards priority SDGs under the four pillars of cooperation. This Annual Results Report highlights selected results and achievements of the Guyana–United Nations partnership in 2025 through the UN's integrated support across policy advice, capacity development and programme implementation. It illustrates how joint efforts have supported national development objectives and contributed to progress towards the SDGs.

Looking ahead, Guyana's near- and medium-term growth prospects remain exceptionally favourable, driven by expanding oil production, diversified economy and sustained public investment. This strong outlook also underpins a highly positive long-term development trajectory. At the same time, translating rapid economic growth into inclusive and sustainable development outcomes will depend on continued efforts to implement policies that promote diversification, resilience and social inclusion, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Jean Kamau
UN Resident Coordinator
in Guyana



UN Country Team

The following United Nations Agencies, Funds, and Programmes, make up the United Nations Country Team to support Guyana's development.

The organisations that maintain a field presence in Guyana are:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations · IOM UN MIGRATION · PAHO Pan American Health Organization World Health Organization · UN WOMEN · UNDP · UNFPA · unicef for every child · THE WORLD BANK · WFP World Food Programme

Shifts in global funding led to the closure of the UNHCR Guyana office in June 2025 and the transition of UNAIDS in November 2025 to a remote support model.

The following non-resident UN Specialised Agencies, Funds, and Programmes and the UN's Regional Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) provide technical assistance to Guyana from regional or global offices.

IAEA · IFAD Investing in rural people · ILO · IMF · International Trade Centre · UN trade & development · UNCTAD · UNITED NATIONS ECLAC

UN environment programme · unesco · UN HABITAT FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE · UNIDO · unitar United Nations Institute for Training and Research · UNLIREC

UNDRR The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction · UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime · UNOPS · UN VOLUNTEERS · UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



Jean Kamau (fourth from right, front row), Hon. Dr. Ashni Singh, Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance (fifth from left , front row) with UN Heads of agencies and staff of the Ministry of Finance. © RCO Guyana

Key Development Partners of the UN System in Guyana

The UN Country Team in Guyana acknowledges the invaluable contributions of all UN Member States, whose assessed contributions, voluntary investments, and essential resources support our work. Gratitude is also extended to development partners for supporting our work in Guyana.

National Authorities

- Civil Defence Commission
- Director of Public Prosecutions
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Ethnic Relations Commission
- Guyana Energy Agency
- Guyana Elections Commission
- Guyana Geology and Mines Commission
- Guyana Lands and Survey Commission
- Guyana Livestock Development Authority
- Guyana Police Force
- Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission
- Guyana Water Incorporated/Ministry of Public Utilities and Aviation
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Amerindian Affairs
- Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Home Affairs
- Ministry of Housing and Water
- Ministry of Human Services and Social Security
- Ministry of Labour and Manpower Planning
- Ministry of Legal Affairs
- Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development
- Ministry of Natural Resources
- Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance
- Ministry of Tourism, Industry, and Commerce
- National Agriculture Research and Extension Institute
- National Toshaos Council
- National Commission on Disability
- Office of the First Lady
- Office of the President
- Office of the Prime Minister
- President's Youth Advisory Council
- Rights of the Child Commission
- Small Business Bureau
- University of Guyana
- Women and Gender Equality Commission

CHAPTER 1 Country and Regional Context

Guyana's economic transformation continues to unfold at an unprecedented pace, driven by offshore oil production and supported by robust expansion in the non-oil economy. This has positioned the country as the fastest-growing economy in the world. The Government of Guyana is actively leveraging this transformation to accelerate national development, creating new opportunities to advance progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and deliver on its long-term ambitions, as articulated in the Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030.



Sunset over Georgetown. © Joshua Gobin

GDP Growth
19.3%

Inflation
2.5%

In 2025, Guyana's economic performance remained exceptional, reflecting both favourable conditions and proactive policy choices. Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth reached 19.3%, with strong non-oil growth of 14.3%, underpinned by broad-based expansion across key sectors. Over the period 2021–2025, average growth was close to 40%, firmly positioning Guyana as a global outlier. This has been accompanied by relative macroeconomic stability, including moderate inflation of 2.5%, a stable exchange rate and improving labour market outcomes, particularly among young people, reflecting prudent macroeconomic management in a context of rapid structural change.

This has translated into a significant easing of fiscal constraints, enabling the Government to scale up public investment at an unprecedented pace. The Public Sector Investment Programme has increased by over 800% between 2020 and 2025, with major allocations to infrastructure, health, education, energy and other sectors central to inclusive and sustainable development. These investments are laying the foundations for long-term growth while supporting tangible improvements in people's lives.

This transformation is also reflected in Guyana's evolving demographic trends. A notable milestone in 2025 was the country's population reaching one million. In a regional context where many Caribbean countries are experiencing, or are projected to experience, population decline, this trend highlights Guyana's growing attractiveness and expanding economic opportunities, while reinforcing the importance of continued investment in public services and social infrastructure, including in areas such as the care economy.

Beyond economics, 2025 was also a significant year for democratic governance and international engagement in Guyana. National elections were conducted in a peaceful and orderly manner, resulting in the renewal of the Government's five-year mandate. Furthermore, the country continued to advance its commitment to human rights, including through the completion of its fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

Guyana also continued to demonstrate global leadership on climate and biodiversity. In July 2025, the country hosted the inaugural Global Biodiversity Alliance Summit in Georgetown, bringing together global leaders, scientists, Indigenous representatives and international partners. The summit positioned Guyana at the forefront of global efforts to halt biodiversity loss while also highlighting its role as a champion of innovative approaches to biodiversity financing. Additionally, Guyana's role on the UN Security Council during its 2024–2025 elected term further elevated its voice on peace, security, and development linkages. As its term concluded on 31 December 2025, official communiqués underscored a tenure framed by "Partnering for Peace and Prosperity" and sustained advocacy on conflict-induced food insecurity that connects the Caribbean's security priority with a global agenda.

These developments have taken place against a complex and evolving global backdrop. In 2025, heightened geopolitical tensions and trade-related uncertainties contributed to increased volatility in the international environment. Despite this, Guyana's growth trajectory has remained resilient, driven primarily by domestic dynamics and sustained public investment.

CHAPTER 2
UN Development Support to National Development Priorities through the Cooperation Framework

Figure 1 **UN's support to national policies, frameworks, plans, protocols and guides**

01 NATIONAL POLICIES & FRAMEWORKS

- National Integrated Early Childhood Development Policy (2025-2030)
  Partners: Ministry of Human Services & Social Security + UNICEF
- National Juvenile Diversion Policy (First Draft)
  Partners: Ministry of Home Affairs + UNICEF
- National Breastfeeding Policy (Updated)
  Partners: Ministry of Health + UNICEF
- ICT Policy & Regulatory Frameworks (Regional Harmonization)
  Partners: Office of the Prime Minister + ITU

02 STRATEGIC PLANS & ROADMAPS

- National Commission on Disability Strategic Plan (2025-2029)
  Partners: National Commission on Disability + UNICEF
- Health National Adaptation Plan (H-NAP)
  Partners: Ministry of Health + PAHO/WHO
- Multi-Hazard Early Warnings for All (EW4All) Implementation Roadmap
  Partners: Civil Defence Commission + UNDRR + WMO + ITU
- Minimum Initial Services Package (MISP) Action Plan (Disaster Readiness)
  Partners: Ministry of Health + CDC + UNFPA
- Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Plan for Seabob Shrimp Value Chain (Draft)
  Partners: Ministry of Agriculture + FAO + ILO
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) (review)
  Partners: Environmental Protection Agency + UNDP
- Rupununi Freshwater Turtle Management Plan
  Partners: Guyana Wildlife Conservation & Management Commission + FAO

03 STANDARDS & HUMAN RIGHTS PROTOCOLS

- Core Principles for Engaging Persons, including Children with Disabilities
  Partners: Government of Guyana + UNICEF
- Prevention of Sexual Exploitation Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) Guidelines & Standards
  Partners: Ministry of Human Services & Social Security + UNFPA
- National Protocol for Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) & Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Services
  Partners: Ministry of Health + UNFPA

04 MANUALS & GUIDE

- Maternal Health Manual updated for Community Health Volunteers and Traditional Birth Attendants.
  Partners: Ministry of Health + PAHO/WHO
- PSEAH Training Manual
  Partners: Ministry of Human Services & Social Security + UNFPA
- Handbook on the Management of Adolescent/Youth Friendly Spaces (revised draft)
  Partners: Ministry of Human Services & Social Security + UNFPA
- Guide to Turtle Nest Monitoring, protocol for Community-based Monitoring of terrestrial wildlife, turtles and inland fisheries in the Rupununi
  Partners: Ministry of Natural Resources and Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission + FAO

2.1. Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

The Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF) for the English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean is the overarching strategic document governing UN development cooperation in the region in support of the 2030 Agenda. It coordinates the UN's engagement across the region, including in Guyana, to ensure coherent and effective support to national priorities.

In 2025, UN work under the MSDCF continues to concentrate on four key areas: (1) promoting shared prosperity and economic resilience; (2) advancing equality, well-being, and leaving no one behind; (3) strengthening resilience to climate change, shocks, and sustainable natural resource management; and (4) fostering peace, safety, justice, and the rule of law. These efforts focused on the delivery of inclusive, rights-based support to social sectors and priority populations with a goal to transform the lives of those who have been left furthest behind.

Building on the momentum of the Pact for the Future, the Financing for Development Conference, the Fourth United Nations Food Systems Summit and the Second World Summit for Social Development, the UN Country Team intensified efforts around a key set of transition areas to spearhead SDG acceleration.



ICT hub in Capoey, Region 2. © UNDP Guyana



River transport of harvested sugar cane. © Kevin Snyman

Digital connectivity

The Government of Guyana is pursuing a robust and ambitious digital agenda with a strategic focus on digitizing public services, establishing and enhancing digital infrastructure and connectivity, incorporating AI and emerging technologies, and developing human capital. In this context, the Office of the Prime Minister, with UNDP, supported the construction, outfitting and internet-provisioning of 34 more Information and Communication Technology (ICT) hubs in 2025, in addition to the existing 141 hubs across hinterland and remote communities, which provided 1,390 indigenous residents with critical digital access. Beyond infrastructure, the training of 33 hub managers, 20 community trainers, and 189 public servants ensured that digital access becomes a sustained enabler of public services, learning, and livelihoods.

This transition helped to accelerate the indigenous residents' economic development by opening new income streams and reducing geographic barriers to opportunity. It also advances social inclusion by connecting Indigenous peoples, youth, and remote households to essential services. By working with the Government of Guyana, UNDP is helping digital access become the backbone that allows progress in all other sectors to move faster and more equitably.

Jobs and social protection

Through the ILO's 2024 Decent Work Country Diagnostic and Guyana's third Decent Work Country Programme (2025–2027), the UN's joint partnership for action on green economy helped strengthen Guyana's shift from fragmented interventions to a coordinated reform agenda, positioning the country to modernise labour laws, strengthen institutional capacity, and expand protections to workers currently excluded. For workers in emerging sectors and vulnerable employment, this means clearer pathways to formal, protected, and productive work. Socially, inclusive education measures assisted by UNFPA, UNICEF and IOM expanded participation and protection for vulnerable groups entering or engaging in the labour market. These measures included menstrual health management in schools and English-as-a-Second-Language support for migrant learners, as well as improved working conditions through ILO's occupational health and safety's advisory services. Environmentally, UN's programmatic investments in sustainable, low-impact fisheries and value-chain upgrading and modernization - delivered through the support of FAO and ITC - reduced pressures for Guyana's biodiversity-rich natural resources. This transition accelerates development by ensuring that jobs created through rapid economic growth are decent, diverse, green, and accessible to vulnerable groups.

Just energy transition

Under the Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS) 2030, the Government of Guyana is accelerating its transition to sustainable mobility by combining fiscal incentives, such as tax removals for electric vehicles (EVs), with critical infrastructure and technical training. As a key achievement in 2025, the UN continued to support clean energy expansion through the Joint SDG Fund's Just Energy Transition Seed Funding Initiative; UNDP and IOM supported the Guyana Energy Agency (GEA) and the Board of Industrial Training to advance tangible progress toward sustainable mobility in Guyana. Four new solar-powered electric vehicle charging stations have been procured for installation and commissioning across Regions 3, 5, and 10, which will create the country's first off-grid clean-energy public charging pilots to reduce emissions from the transport sector, complementing the six existing grid-powered stations managed by the GEA.

This transition area interlinks with the decent work agenda and supports the Government's commitment to expand education opportunities for human capital development. As part of the joint programme, 22 Guyanese technicians were trained and certified in electric vehicle diagnostics, solar photovoltaic (PV) installation, charging system maintenance, and electrical safety. This investment in skills, especially among young people and women, helps to lay the foundation for a homegrown clean-energy cadre and demonstrates how coordinated action across agencies can accelerate national climate and human capital development priorities.

Climate change, biodiversity and pollution

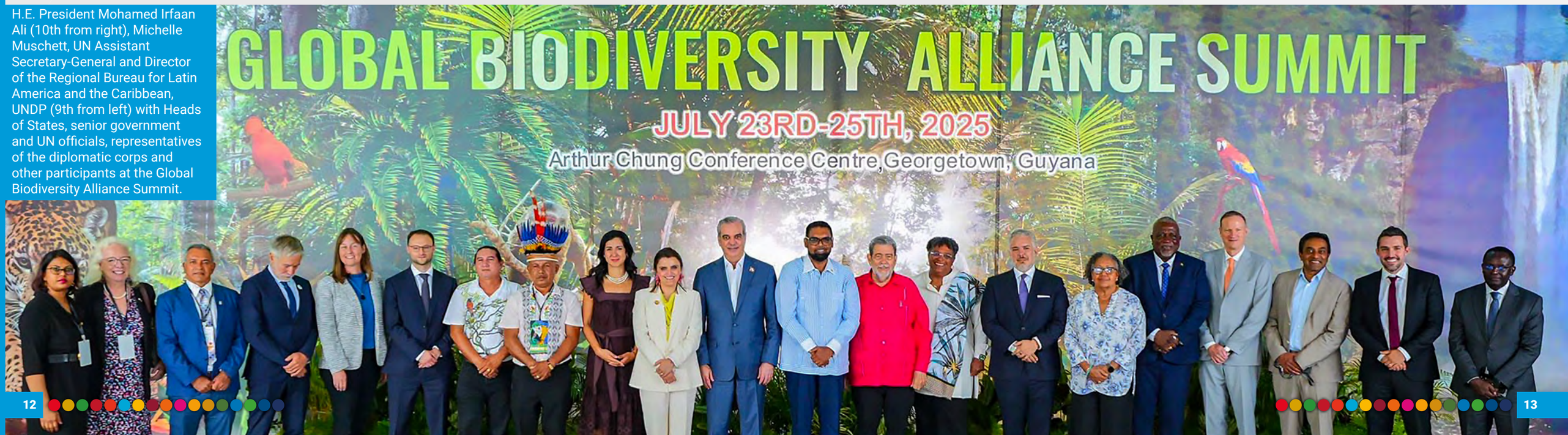
In 2025, the UN Country Team, through the technical support of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) collaborated with the Civil Defence Commission to advance the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative. Through two national consultative workshops and a national capacity assessment, a nationally defined multi-hazard EW4ALL implementation roadmap was developed and endorsed with a budgetary framework. This roadmap represents a further demonstration of the national commitment to disaster risk reduction and the Sendai Framework, to strengthening climate resilience in infrastructure and productive sectors and to protecting lives and livelihoods in the long term.

In line with Guyana's Global Biodiversity Alliance - a renewed commitment among nations and international actors to protect the Amazon rain forest, UNDP supported Guyana's early implementation of the Kunming -Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework through its Global Biodiversity Framework–Early Action Support project. UNDP also supported the Environmental Protection Agency in the completion of a rapid review of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan to assess its alignment with new global targets, identifying priority gaps and advancing national dialogue on biodiversity governance, monitoring systems, and finance.



Training of Master Trainers on Chargers for Electric Vehicles by the Guyana Energy Agency.
© UNDP Guyana

To address environmental pollution, the UN Country Team supported the Government of Guyana through at least three interventions. This includes UNDP's expanded mercury-free mining training for the extractive industries with the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission; FAO's training of farmers to reduce reliance on chemical fertilizers and promote sustainable waste recycling, and UNICEF's emergency Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) support. These interventions align with the national strategies and reduce risk, restore nature, and build healthier communities and livelihoods.



H.E. President Mohamed Irfaan Ali (10th from right), Michelle Muschett, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP (9th from left) with Heads of States, senior government and UN officials, representatives of the diplomatic corps and other participants at the Global Biodiversity Alliance Summit.

2.2. Cooperation Framework Priorities, Outcomes and Outputs

Strategic Priority 1 Shared Prosperity and Economic Resilience

Key results

185
individuals trained in ICT to support hinterland, poor and remote communities

Adolescent Action Study
conducted to generate data on adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health issues

E-commerce
platform launched to support digital market access

UN implementing agencies

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; ILO; IOM UN MIGRATION; International Trade Centre; ITU; UNDP; UNFPA; WFP World Food Programme

SDGs

1 NO POVERTY; 2 ZERO HUNGER; 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH; 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE; 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES; 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Lead national partners

American Chamber of Commerce Guyana, Centre for Local Business Development, Demerara Bank Limited, Guyana Manufacturing and Services Association, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, Office of the Prime Minister

Expenditure
US$ 5,393,562

Digital Transformation

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is leading efforts to continue expanding access to technology and public e-services in hinterland and remote communities through civil works, capacity building and community engagements. The OPM is receiving support from UNDP on fiduciary and implementation oversight responsibilities as well as monitoring and reporting. In 2025, 34 new ICT hubs became operational, bringing the total to 141 functioning hubs nationwide. These hubs now serve as reliable gateways for government e-services, online learning and skills development and digital livelihoods for 1,390 Indigenous residents. Beyond infrastructure, the initiative emphasized local ownership and sustainability.

Through this partnership, training was delivered to 33 hub managers, 42 community-based trainers, and 110 public servants, building the technical capability needed to operate, maintain, and expand digital access in villages where connectivity had once been out of reach. These national advancements are complemented by regional efforts through the International Telecommunication Union, which provided technical assistance to harmonize ICT policy and regulatory frameworks. In collaboration with the Caribbean Telecommunications Union and the Caribbean Community, this work supports the realization of a 'Single ICT Space' to integrate Guyana into a regional digital economy.

Community-Based Nutrition

The Government of Guyana continues to enhance the National School Feeding Programme by integrating local food systems to improve student nutrition while simultaneously supporting the livelihoods of rural farming communities. Through the Ministry of Education's Community-Based Hot Meals Programme and the Ministry of Agriculture, the administration has successfully prioritized procurement from local smallholders to ensure a consistent supply of fresh, diversified produce to schools in Wauna and Nappi.

To scale these efforts, in 2025, UN agencies supported the strengthening of nutrition outcomes by linking school feeding to local food systems. Building on the Ministry of Education's Community-Based Hot Meals Programme, WFP and FAO, working in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, provided 38 smallholder farmers in Region 1 with agricultural inputs – seeds, fertilizers and essential tools for crop and livestock production - to bolster their ability to sustainably produce and supply school feeding programmes. In addition, operational manuals were developed to engage over 25 students of two hinterland school clubs to promote sustainable farming practices and healthy lifestyles. To strengthen the programme's monitoring and evaluation systems, the WFP provided targeted technical assistance including a capacity building workshop for Ministry staff and partner institutions focused on practical skills in results-based management, data collection, and analysis.

Meal preparations for school feeding programme. © WFP/Shameza David



Strengthening Data Systems for Evidence-Based planning

The Ministry of Agriculture was supported with technical assistance from FAO to design and analyze the Guyana 2023 Agricultural Survey. As part of this collaboration, staff members were trained in statistical software to improve policy analysis and to advance data-driven nutrition financing. FAO also supported the analysis of the Cost of a Healthy Diet (CoHD), supporting the development of preliminary CoHD indicators, providing the Government with additional tools to better align food policy and social protection spending with nutritional requirements. This effort enhanced national systems to measure, monitor, and respond to the cost of a healthy diet, contributing to improved food security and nutrition outcomes.

Similarly, CARICOM and the World Food Programme launched the 'Caribbean Real-Time Food Security Monitoring Dashboard', providing live data on food security conditions across 11 Caribbean countries, including Guyana. Using phone-based surveys, the platform generates timely insights on food security and strengthens evidence-based decision-making, supporting governments and partners to design targeted programmes and build more resilient and sustainable food systems across the region.

The Ministry of Health, with support from UNFPA, strengthened the generation of data on adolescent sexual and reproductive health issues that inform adolescent pregnancy programme interventions. A key intervention of this effort included the conduct of an Adolescent Action Study, following a human -centered design approach, that engages beneficiaries during the problem-solving process in Regions 1 and 8.

Similarly, the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, with UNFPA support, strengthened its data capacity on population dynamics through the development of a draft population situational analysis with emphasis on ageing to help guide the Ministry's future interventions and good health outcomes for the ageing population in Guyana.

In parallel, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, with support from IOM, enhanced national capacity to integrate migration into development planning. This was done through the "Essentials of Migration Data" training of 26 officials from 11 targeted ministries and state agencies, which are directly involved in servicing migrant communities. This strengthened understanding of migration data collection, analysis, and indicator development, further supporting more coordinated, evidence-based responses to mobility trends.

Essentials of Migration Data Training. © IOM Guyana

CARICOM, World Food Programme introduce new Caribbean Food Security Tracker

MSME Competitiveness, Innovation and Sustainable Growth

Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in Guyana expanded their market reach and sales opportunities through the launch of a project-supported e-commerce platform, "Uncapped Marketplace", facilitated by the International Trade Centre (ITC) in partnership with the Guyana Manufacturing and Services Association. Launched in December 2025, the platform successfully onboarded 20 SMEs in 2025, facilitating local product sales ranging from GY$50,000 to GY$285,000. By integrating a coordinated logistics network that provides free delivery, the platform has removed significant trade barriers for local manufacturers and strengthened digital market access.

The partnership, formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding, also supported broader engagement with Demerara Bank Ltd., the American Chamber of Commerce Guyana, and the Centre for Local Business Development, contributing to the launch of the "Dream.



Launch of the Dream Build Lead Innovation Tank. © NewsRoom

Build. Lead Innovation Tank" initiative. This initiative assisted agri-MSMEs in branding, packaging, labelling compliance, and marketing, which enhances access to finance and investment readiness.

Meeting with fishers to discuss cooperatives. © FAO Guyana/Shara Seelall



FAO and ILO join hands to strengthen Guyana's artisanal fisheries cooperatives

Strengthening Livelihoods

Through the FISH4ACP programme, with funding from the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Ministry of Agriculture, with support from FAO, strengthened the sustainability and competitiveness of the seabob shrimp value chain in 2025.

Key outputs included the development of a draft Occupational Health and Safety plan, a seabob handling and food safety campaign and collaboration with ILO to improve artisanal fisherfolks skills and working conditions. The four-day Training of Trainers programme delivered by the Ministry of Labour and Manpower Planning, in collaboration with ILO and FAO, helped to strengthen the capacity of the artisanal fisheries sector cooperatives, particularly those engaged in the Atlantic seabob value chain, a vital segment of the blue economy. By equipping officers with practical strategies and fostering inter-ministerial collaboration, the training enhanced resilience, empowered fisherfolk, including women, and promoted decent work, aligning with the International Year of Cooperatives and the SDGs. Furthermore, FAO supported the Seabob Working Group and the Guyana National Fisherfolk Organization, helping to strengthen their organizations and build their organizational capacity, supporting improved coordination and governance within the fisheries sector. Technology trials and gear modifications were undertaken to reduce bycatch and discards, while sector assessments and training programmes enhanced stakeholder capacity.

Through an EU-funded programme, FAO supported the Government of Guyana with the launch of an accelerator aimed at improving access to finance for forestry-based small and medium-sized enterprises. The programme also supported the design of a Sawmilling training programme to modernize the forestry value chain and a furniture industry market assessment.

Decent Work

In 2025, the Government of Guyana, with the International Labour Organization, and national employers' and workers' organizations, signed the country's third Decent Work Country Programme. The Programme establishes three strategic priorities: strengthening tripartite constituents and social dialogue; promoting rights at work, employment, and social protection for all; and fostering inclusive labour markets and sustainable enterprise development. Aligned with Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy, the Programme focuses on creating decent jobs, particularly in emerging sectors such as the green and digital economies. This high-level agreement provides a five-year framework to guide national efforts in building a more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable labour market, reinforcing the role of social dialogue in advancing decent work for all.

Third Decent Work Country Programme signed. © ILO Caribbean



Guyana signs third Decent Work Country Programme

Strategic Priority 2 Equality, Well-Being, and Leaving No-One Behind

Key results

215,000
people reached through Mass Drug Administration campaign

1,830
individuals trained to support delivery of social services

34,592
individuals benefited from social services

2
Vaccine Boats and 11 Solar Refrigerators provided to support immunization in hinterland communities (Regions 1 & 9)

UN implementing agencies

IOM UN MIGRATION · PAHO · UNAIDS · unesco · UNFPA · unicef for every child · UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

SDGs

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING · 4 QUALITY EDUCATION · 5 GENDER EQUALITY · 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Lead national partners

ChildLink Inc, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, National Commission on Disability

Expenditure

US$ 5,219,817

Expanding Equitable Access to Integrated HIV and Sexual and Reproductive Health Services

The Ministry of Health, through the National AIDS Programme Secretariat, strengthened access to integrated sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) services in hinterland communities of Region 1, Region 7, and Region 8 with support from UNFPA through the Canada EQUAL SRHR programme. SRH mobile services in these regions reached 465 persons with clinical services, including family planning, contraceptive counselling and cervical cancer screening. 280 HIV tests were conducted and 74,352 condoms were distributed. Forty-one (41) healthcare workers and 30 peer educators were also trained in HIV combination prevention interventions to support institutional capacity strengthening. Mobile service outreaches supported national efforts geared towards universal access to SRH information and services, and demonstrated that mobile, community-based interventions remain an effective mechanism for reaching remote populations in Guyana's hinterland regions, including migrants.

Cervical Cancer Prevention through Integrated Immunization and Screening Services

The Ministry of Health strengthened cervical cancer prevention under the Expanded Programme on Immunization with support from PAHO/WHO, achieving a major milestone with the introduction of the 9-valent Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine targeting individuals 9–35 years. The vaccine, which is 90 per cent effective and protects against nine HPV strains, replaced the quadrivalent vaccine. To support rollout, PAHO facilitated the procurement of 50,000 HPV doses and 15,000 screening vouchers were distributed by the Ministry of Health. This is expected to advance an integrated approach to vaccination and early detection, accelerating progress toward the WHO 90-70-90 elimination targets.

To complement national immunisation efforts, UNICEF procured two vaccine boats and 11 solar refrigerators to provide sustained access to potent vaccines in remote communities in Regions 1 and 9 with limited electricity. Additionally, UNICEF provided technical assistance for the development of the investment case on Community Health Committees. This demonstrated that the initiative is a cost-effective model for improving antenatal and immunization care-seeking behaviours through participation in hinterland communities.



Vaccine boat used in remote communities. © Ministry of Health

Strengthening Mental Health Systems and Adolescent Well-being

Individuals, particularly adolescents, are better supported through strengthened national mental health systems and expanded prevention efforts. The Ministry of Health, with technical support from PAHO/WHO and UNICEF, launched Guyana's National Suicide Surveillance System, providing timely, confidential data, including patient demographics, and specific modes of self-harm, to inform coordinated responses and targeted interventions while upholding the highest standards of patient data privacy. UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health to operationalize the national mental health action plan (Adolescent MHPSS Operational Guide), including through the delivery of an anti-stigma campaign reaching over 300,000 persons, and training of 60 healthcare workers and 75 educators. These efforts support national priorities to improve mental health services.

Guyana expands mental health training for teachers and health professionals to help detect and support youth in distress



Mental health training with students and teachers.
© PAHO/WHO

Strengthening Early Childhood Development and Inclusive Education Systems

More than 18,000 young children and their parents/caregivers gained improved access to early learning and nurturing care services, through UNICEF-supported training for healthcare workers and provision of the early childhood development kits.

The Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, with support from UNICEF and the Government of Canada, launched the National Integrated Early Childhood Development Policy 2025–2030, providing a coordinated framework to enhance quality and inclusive early childhood services nationwide.

Targeted interventions strengthened inclusive education outcomes, with 545 migrant children benefiting from dual-language workbooks. In addition, 234 persons from Venezuela, including 110 children, received integrated English as a second language (ESL) and early childhood development (ECD) support, while 328 migrant children accessed ECD services through health facilities.

Learning environments for vulnerable groups were further enhanced by the Ministry of Education with UNICEF support through gender-responsive programming, including menstrual health and hygiene management for 217 students from seven dormitory schools in five regions and the development of social-emotional teaching and learning materials.

The Ministry of Education, with support from UNESCO in partnership with the Global Partnership for Education and the Inter-American Development Bank, also strengthened instructional leadership across districts and schools through the launch of the National Education Leadership Academy. In the next two years, UNESCO and partners will continue to support the Academy in continuous professional development for education leaders, through curriculum and institutional design, training and mentorship for school and district leaders to achieve improved teaching quality, strengthened school management, and enhanced student learning outcomes nationwide.

Empowering education leaders across Guyana



English as a Second Language learning programme in Lethem, Region 9.
© UNICEF Guyana



Medial outreach in Region 1. © IOM Guyana

Expanding Access to Protection and Essential Services for Migrant and Vulnerable Populations

Migrant and vulnerable populations, particularly in hinterland and remote communities, experienced improved access to health, protection, and social services through strengthened national systems. The Ministry of Health, with support from IOM, delivered integrated medical outreaches across 35 remote communities in Region 1, reaching 660 individuals with primary and specialized care, including sexually transmitted infections (STIs) screening, dental, and vision services.

The Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Health, supported by UNHCR, expanded access to protection and essential services, reaching 486 persons with information on international protection, providing case management to 200 forcibly displaced individuals. This collaboration provided legal counselling to 485 persons, and targeted support to 249 individuals on stay permits and school enrolment. Survivor-centered protection services with individual case management were also provided to 253 forcibly displaced people, survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, alongside mobile health and vaccination support in remote areas. IOM complemented these efforts by supporting 170 households (262 persons) in this area, including information and guidance on how to renew stay and work permits, enrollment of children in school, registration of their children's births, and translation and accompaniment services for migrants to access social services.

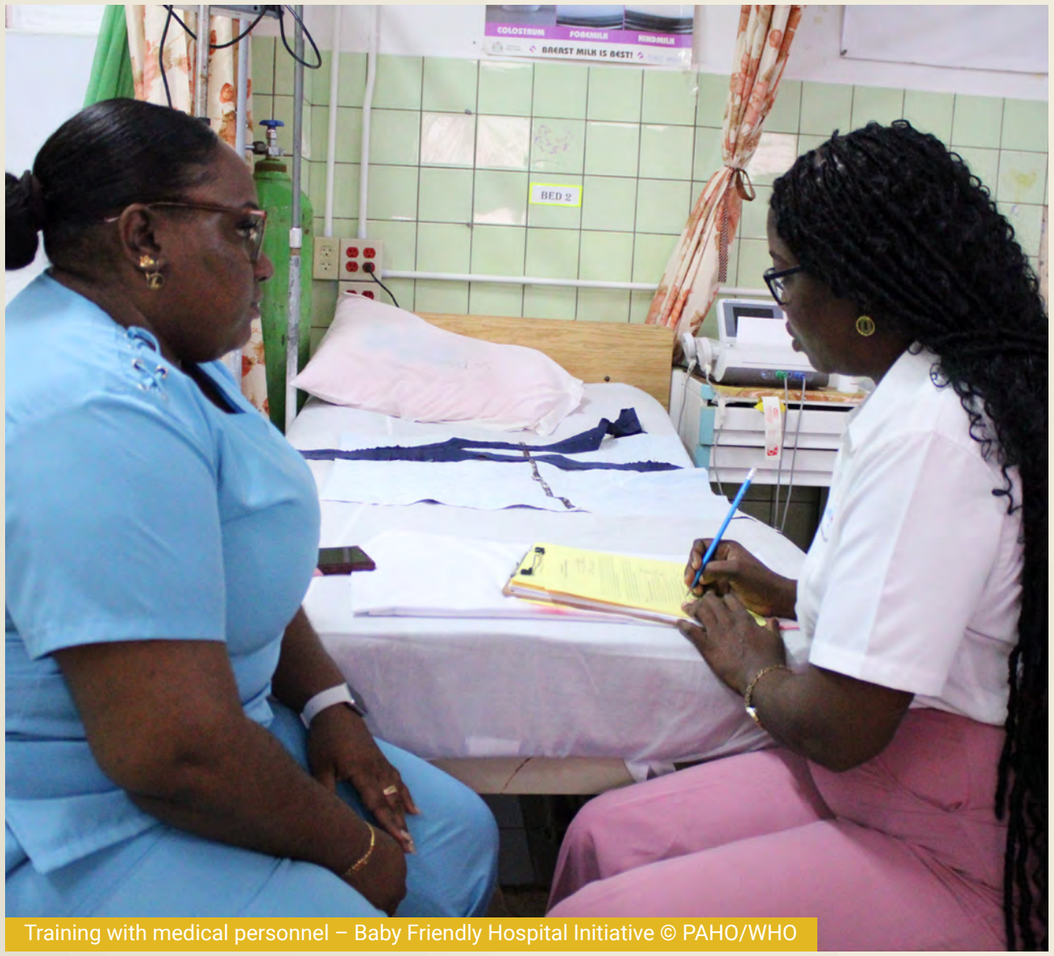
Funding from UNICEF towards Blossom Inc. supported the strengthening of national child protection systems which enabled inter-agency coordination meetings among key stakeholders (including representatives from the police, health services, social services and the education sector) to enhance service integration. This partnership helped 1,824 children and families from migrant and host communities to benefit from targeted and integrated community services such as court support, case tracking, child protection case management, mental health therapy, etc. The partnership included the provision of critical support to victims of abuse and vulnerable youth, including forensic interviews via Child Advocacy Centres in multiple regions, court support, case tracking and review, child protection case management, psychosocial support and mental health therapy.

The Ministry of Human Services and Social Security and the Childcare and Protection Agency, with support from UNFPA and ChildLink Inc., enhanced awareness of positive parenting approaches by parents and stakeholders, to strengthen gender-based violence prevention and response efforts. This was accomplished through the conduct of three (3) parental/child communication training workshops to build positive parenting skills. These workshops were conducted in Regions 8 and 9. A total of 45 participants including parents, community leaders, police officers, representatives from the Ministry of Education and community policing groups, benefited from the capacity building training.

Strengthening Maternal Health and Quality of Care through Standardized, Rights-Based Services

Women, particularly in hinterland and remote communities, are benefiting from improved access to quality, life-saving maternal and reproductive health services as national systems are strengthened. The Ministry of Health, with support from PAHO/WHO, certified eight hospitals under the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative in five regions.

An Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care assessment conducted across Regions 1, 7, 8 and 9 by the Ministry of Health, with technical support from UNFPA and PAHO/WHO, generated critical evidence to inform national strategies to reduce maternal mortality. With support from UNFPA, through the Canada-funded EQUAL Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights programme, 33 medical doctors, residents and nurses were trained in emergency obstetric care and management of post-partum haemorrhage across all ten regions. Further, PAHO/WHO facilitated the updating of the Maternal Health Manual for Community Health Volunteers and Traditional Birth Attendants to improve safe birthing practices in hinterland communities.



Training with medical personnel – Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative © PAHO/WHO

Strengthening National Health Systems and Community Resilience

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, PAHO/WHO and UNICEF provided technical cooperation to support the development and rollout of the hospital commissioning plan for six new regional hospitals located at Lima, De Kinderen, Diamond, Enmore, Bath, and No. 75 Village. These facilities are central to the Government of Guyana's strategy to decentralize tertiary-level care and ensure equitable access to specialized services. To bolster the health workforce, PAHO/WHO supported the Ministry of Health to facilitate the engagement of the University of São Paulo and provided technical support for the development of a three-year hybrid nursing curriculum. This innovative programme utilizes online learning and regional simulation centres to expand the professional workforce, specifically targeting remote and marginalized communities. The yearly student intake since the inception of the programme has grown from 656 in 2023 to 856 in 2025.

Public health outcomes were further improved through intensified disease prevention efforts. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, PAHO/WHO trained 639 pill distributors and supervisors, who reached approximately 215,000 people with preventive treatment for lymphatic filariasis in Region 4 and Region 3 through a Mass Drug Administration campaign. National capacity to detect and respond to health threats was strengthened through the certification of the National Public Health Reference Laboratory as a WHO-recognized National Influenza Centre in global health. PAHO contributed to the transition of the "One Health" platform handover to the Guyana Livestock Development Authority, ensuring a unified response to zoonotic and environmental health threats.

Maternal, newborn, and community health outcomes were strengthened through the Ministry of Health's Nutrition Unit, with UNICEF support, including the update of the National Breastfeeding Policy and the training of 800 health workers under the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative. As a result, 4,661 antenatal women and 5,660 postnatal mothers received breastfeeding counselling. Community-based care was further advanced through the development of an investment case for Community Health Committees in Region 9. To advance long-term Non-Communicable Disease prevention, PAHO/WHO and the Ministry of Health's Chronic Disease Unit completed the Global Youth Tobacco Survey. This comprehensive assessment obtained data from 1,761 respondents across 25 schools throughout all regions in Guyana, providing the evidence base required to strengthen national tobacco control policies and enforcement. Supporting this data-driven approach, 83 physicians were trained in specialized tobacco cessation techniques to enhance clinical support for persons seeking to quit.



Pill distribution during the Mass Drug Administration campaign. © PAHO/WHO

Guyana's Fight Against Lymphatic Filariasis: A Story of Hope, Leadership, and Community

Strengthening Adolescent Health Services and Youth Empowerment

Young people in Region 2 are better supported to access quality health services and exercise their rights as national systems for adolescent health and participation are strengthened. The Ministry of Health's Adolescent Health Unit, with support from UNFPA and PAHO/WHO, advanced national efforts to rollout guidelines and standards for the delivery of adolescent-friendly health services so as to strengthen service delivery, particularly in underserved areas of the country. Through the conduct of an adolescent health workshop in Region 2, 24 healthcare providers benefited from enhanced awareness and strengthened capacity to deliver adolescent-friendly services that take into account the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy as well as adolescent standards and guidelines. This aids the delivery of standardized, non-judgemental, and age-appropriate adolescent health services. The Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, with support from UNFPA, drafted a revised handbook on the management of adolescent-friendly spaces, which benefited from a validation workshop with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, and leaders of existing youth-friendly spaces.

The Ministry of Human Services and Social Security convened and hosted Guyana's first Children's Conference, with UNICEF's conceptual and financial support, further contributing to the empowerment of children and youth. Two hundred children from Regions 3, 4 and 6, including foster care and childcare facilities, benefited from this event, specifically through exposure to rights-based awareness sessions on bullying, mental health and digital safety, thereby equipping participants to advocate for their well-being.

The Government of Guyana, with support from UNFPA, strengthened the capacity of civil society organizations and Government Departments/Ministries to deliver out-of-school Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) communication and facilitation skills to trainers of trainers. A total of 31 personnel were trained to deliver the CSE for out-of-school settings toolkit. As part of this intervention, mentorship and coaching was also provided to strengthen participants' facilitation, presentation, instructional, and group management skills. CSE out-of-school sessions were facilitated in Regions 1, 4 and 8.

Promoting Disability Inclusion and Equal Access to Services and Opportunities

Through strengthened coordination and the establishment of rights-based standards, systems are being improved for greater inclusion of persons with disabilities at the national level. The Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, in partnership with UNICEF, hosted the Unleash Ability Summit in July 2025, the first national conference of its kind, bringing together persons with disabilities, government and private sector stakeholders to promote inclusive development. During the summit, the Government adopted the "Core Principles for Engaging Persons, including Children with Disabilities," providing a standardized framework for respectful, rights-based engagement across sectors. The Convention on the Rights of the Child was summarised and disseminated in both hard copy and audiobook formats, the latter to support persons who are blind or visually impaired. The National Commission on Disability, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and UNICEF, also launched its 2025–2029 Strategic Plan, guiding national coordination, accessibility, inclusive education, and the protection of rights.



Participant at the Unleash Ability Summit. © UNICEF Guyana

Strategic Priority 3
Resilience to Climate Change and Sustainable Natural Resource Management

Key results

12
shade houses equipped to enhance food security and climate resilience

National base maps
modernized through survey of 290 km² of land parcels using high-resolution satellite imagery

National roadmap
for a multi-hazard Early Warning System developed

UN implementing agencies

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations · ITU · PAHO · UNDP · UNFPA · UNDRR · UN environment programme · unicef for every child · WFP World Food Programme · WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

SDGs

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION · 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY · 13 CLIMATE ACTION · 14 LIFE BELOW WATER · 15 LIFE ON LAND

Lead national partners

Civil Defence Commission, Environmental Protection Agency, Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission, Guyana Technical Institute, Guyana Water Inc (GWI), Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Amerindian Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Natural Resources and Guyana Mining School and Training Centre

Expenditure
US$ 7,779,616

Sustainable Land Management

In partnership with the Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission (GLSC), FAO's Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Development and Management project contributed to increased national capacity for sustainable land management, through improved land governance, digital systems, and restoration initiatives. Over 290 km² of land parcels were surveyed using high-resolution satellite imagery, modernizing national base maps. Institutional capacity was further enhanced through the construction and rehabilitation of GLSC regional offices in Regions 1 and 7, to support the decentralization of land administration services.

Efforts to restore degraded landscapes were undertaken through seven pilot interventions across three Administrative Regions, targeting areas affected by mining and deforestation. These initiatives contributed to national priorities on environmental protection and land restoration while supporting progress towards SDG 15 (Life on Land) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). In parallel, the completion of the Next Generation Lease Management System housed in the GLSC introduced a unified digital platform for managing the full lifecycle of land leases, strengthening transparency, efficiency, and security of land tenure.

Complementing these structural improvements, 40 farmers from Regions 4 and 10 received training in sustainable agricultural practices. This included methods to reduce reliance on chemical fertilizers and to promote waste recycling, contributing to more resilient and environmentally sustainable food production systems. Capacity development in the land administration sector was enhanced through support provided to eight (8) students to complete the Land Surveying Diploma Programme at the Guyana Technical Institute, helping to build a new cadre of professionals to sustain national land management systems.



Reforestation activity. © FAO Guyana/Fazlay Arafat



Community-led turtle conservation efforts in Yupukari supported by FAO Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) Programme.
© FAO Guyana/Shara Seelall

Biodiversity and Wildlife

In collaboration with the Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission and the Ministry of Natural Resources, FAO continued the implementation of the EU-funded Sustainable Wildlife Management Programme. The programme supported measures to protect ecosystems while supporting the livelihoods of 24 Indigenous communities and strengthening their role as stewards of biodiversity in the Rupununi region. This initiative produced key tools including the simplified Rupununi Freshwater Turtle Management Plan and Guide to Turtle Nest Monitoring, a protocol for "Community-based Monitoring for terrestrial, wildlife, turtles and inland fisheries in the Rupununi" across seven (7) indigenous communities. These achievements integrated biodiversity conservation with community-driven wildlife management, ensuring long-term resilience and sustainability.

Complementing these efforts, UNDP, working with the Environmental Protection Agency, helped to advance Indigenous-inclusive biodiversity governance through the Global Biodiversity Framework–Early Action Support (GBF-EAS) project. The project supported national dialogue and technical assessments that strengthened the recognition of Indigenous knowledge, community participation, and access and benefit-sharing considerations within emerging GBF-aligned biodiversity policies and NBSAP updating processes.

Climate Smart Agriculture

To enhance food security and climate resilience, the Government, with support from FAO, established twelve shade houses equipped with drip irrigation systems, water storage, and organic inputs, across ten private farms and at two National Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (NAREI) stations. Further, FAO supported the Government to conduct soil surveys to update information for reporting to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Also, gender-responsive climate-smart agriculture value chains were identified, and two multi-hazard analysis workshops were conducted with 26 farmers to increase awareness among value chain actors on disaster risk management concepts.

Climate Resilient Health Systems

The Ministry of Health, in coordination with PAHO/WHO, supported the development of Guyana's Health National Adaptation Plan (H-NAP), to build climate-resilient systems. This plan, which was submitted to the Ministry of Health for review and approval, establishes a structured framework to address climate-related health vulnerabilities across six key pillars. Additionally, the Ministry of Health and PAHO/WHO conducted a multisectoral workshop with 30 participants to validate the importance of integrating air quality considerations into health planning and to promote coordinated national action against priority environmental health risks.



CDEMA Disaster Relief Unit training.
© WFP Guyana

Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Resilience

In 2025, the Civil Defence Commission (CDC) strengthened national disaster preparedness and response systems as part of the Government's mandate for emergency management. To support these efforts, WFP provided technical assistance through targeted training to build CDC capacity in disaster logistics and supply chain management. The training focused on practical skills in inventory and warehouse management, including stock rotation, digital tracking, and emergency dispatch procedures. This support enhanced the CDC's operational readiness and ability to efficiently manage relief supplies during emergencies, contributing to more effective disaster response and increased national resilience to shocks. Further, in 2025 the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), in partnership with the Regional Security System and the Government of Guyana through the Civil Defence Commission, led the CARICOM Disaster Relief Unit training and field simulation exercise to strengthen national and regional disaster response readiness. To complement these efforts, WFP provided technical support to the planning and delivery of the exercise, contributing expertise in emergency logistics and humanitarian coordination.

The Government of Guyana, with support from UNDRR, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) advanced implementation of the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative through the development of a national roadmap for a multi-hazard Early Warning System. In collaboration with the Civil Defence Commission, two national consultative workshops were convened to support the design of a nationally defined implementation plan, including stakeholder mapping, gap analysis, and priority actions. The process brought together national institutions and regional partners including CDEMA and IFRC to strengthen coordination and collaboration. These efforts support the Government's priorities on disaster risk reduction and climate resilience by advancing a people-centred, integrated early warning system capable of addressing hydro-meteorological, geological, and biological hazards, helping safeguard lives, livelihoods, and critical infrastructure.



Early Warning Systems for All consultation.
© UNDRR

Guyana's National Consultative Workshop to Strengthen Early Warning Systems for All

The Ministry of Health and the Civil Defence Commission, with support from UNFPA, benefited from support for the integration of Minimum Initial Services Package (MISP) for reproductive health and gender-based violence in disaster preparedness and response. A draft MISP Action Plan was developed following a validation workshop convened with representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Civil Defence Commission, and other stakeholders.

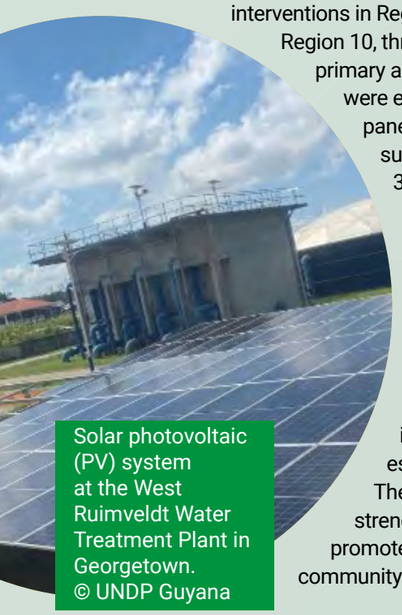
Guyana's Disaster Response Capacity Strengthened Through Warehouse and Inventory Management Training

Climate Resilient Infrastructure and Water Security

The UN supported national efforts to modernize water infrastructure. UNDP supported Guyana Water Incorporated (GWI) to procure and mobilise 1.05-megawatt solar photovoltaic (PV) systems for installation at eight major water treatment plants in Regions 3, 4, and 6. This equipment will deliver direct operational, financial, and resilience benefits to GWI by addressing one of its largest cost and risk drivers: electricity consumption. Grid-tied solar PV systems lower energy costs and cut greenhouse gas emissions. This is in direct support of Guyana's low-carbon development objectives.

UNDP has also supplied GWI with 15 submersible water pumps and 15 Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) which are being installed in 14 pump stations in Regions 4, 5 and 6. This will help GWI significantly improve the efficiency, reliability, and cost-effectiveness of its water supply operations. Together, the pumps and VFDs improve system reliability, support more stable water pressure, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and strengthen GWI's overall ability to deliver safe and reliable water services across regions in cost-effective ways.

UNICEF provided funding to GWI to increase access to safe water and sanitation through targeted interventions in Regions 9 and 10. In Region 10, three schools at nursery, primary and secondary levels were equipped with solar panels to improve safe water supply systems, benefitting 300 students as well as the local health centre, daycare centre, village office, and ICT hub. In Region 9, UNICEF provided funds to GWI to construct sanitation facilities for 1,779 migrants, ensuring inclusive access to essential services. These interventions strengthened resilience and promoted healthier learning and community environments.



Solar photovoltaic (PV) system at the West Ruimveldt Water Treatment Plant in Georgetown. © UNDP Guyana

Sustainable Natural Resources Management

With UNDP's support to the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC) and the Guyana Mining School and Training Centre, activities were implemented to strengthen institutional readiness for environmentally responsible mining. This is a critical priority for safeguarding biodiversity while enabling sustainable livelihoods. Through UNDP's procurement of hardware, Guyana's regulatory bodies were equipped to monitor mining operations using drones, satellite imagery, remote sensing, and other digital tools, significantly enhancing their ability to track land disturbance, detect non-compliance, and respond quickly to environmental risks. The Technical Assistance to Miners Programme deepened knowledge of 509 miners on mercury-free technologies and safer mining practices, supporting Guyana's obligations under the Minamata Convention. Training programmes to facilitate the use of a mercury analyser, mineral and geophysical prospecting, and remote sensing equipment significantly strengthened the GGMC's regulatory, monitoring, and enforcement capacity. Notably, 59% of 92 training participants were women, a transformative step for gender inclusion in environmental governance, traditionally a male-dominated field. These interventions contributed to a more robust enabling environment for sustainable resource management, improved transparency and compliance within the sector and accelerated the transition toward cleaner, safer mining practices that protect ecosystems and communities.

The Amerindian Land Titling Project, led by the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs, advanced processes on land titling including demarcations, grievance redress and issuance of Absolute Grants to accelerate progress toward securing land rights for Guyana's Indigenous peoples. UNDP continued to provide strategic support through fiduciary and implementation oversight functions as well as monitoring and reporting responsibilities. In 2025, seven (7) Certificates of Title were issued for the villages of Sawariwau, Manawarin, Hotoquai, Hobodeia, Red Hill, Akawini and Moco. This achievement reflects continued expansion of land security, which not only strengthens governance and resource management in Amerindian communities but also reinforces Guyana's broader priorities in biodiversity protection, cultural preservation, and climate-resilient development.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

A total of 1,779 people from migrant families in Regions 2 and 7 received emergency WASH support from UNICEF. This included hygiene supplies and menstrual hygiene materials, alongside hygiene promotion and sessions on safe water use. These actions helped reduce health risks and supported the protection and well-being of vulnerable migrant communities.

UNICEF, in partnership with the Civil Defence Commission, conducted WASH assessments in 21 schools across all levels in hinterland regions to inform planned upgrades to school water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities. The assessments will guide the construction and rehabilitation of age-appropriate and gender-sensitive WASH infrastructure by the Government, ensuring safe access to clean water and sanitation for all children, including migrants, while strengthening school resilience and enabling facilities to function as safe shelters during emergencies.



Drone training with staff of the Environmental Protection Agency. © EPA Guyana

Strategic Priority 4 **Peace, Safety, Justice, and the Rule of Law**

Key results

Launch of the Children's Court in Charity (Region 2), serving approximately 15,000 children

Launch of the Guyana's first Mental Health Court, establishing therapeutic pathways for justice

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) curriculum developed and incorporated into the Guyana Police Academy

UN implementing agencies

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner; UNDP; unesco; UNFPA; unicef for every child; UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; UN Women

SDGs

5 Gender Equality; 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; 10 Reduced Inequalities; 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions; 17 Partnerships for the Goals

Lead national partners

Ethnic Relations Commission, Guyana Elections Commission, Guyana Football Federation, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, Ministry of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance, National Toshaos Council, Rights of the Child Commission, Supreme Court of Judicature

Expenditure
US$ 2,894,148

Strengthening Legal and Justice Systems

The Government and Judiciary of Guyana, with joint technical and financial support from UNICEF, launched a Children's Court in Charity, Region 2, establishing a therapeutic and rights-based pathway within the criminal justice system for persons with psychosocial or intellectual disabilities. The initiative strengthens access to justice through rehabilitation-focused processes across magistrates' courts, in line with the Mental Health Protection and Promotion Act 2022, and advances progress toward SDGs 3 and 16 by promoting inclusive justice, reducing stigma, and improving psychosocial outcomes.

Further, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Home Affairs to advance child-friendly justice through its technical review and financial support towards the finalisation of the country's first draft Juvenile Diversion Policy, including the Ministry's hosting of a multistakeholder roundtable discussion to garner technical inputs on the Policy. Such activities helped to ensure better alignment between child rights, juvenile justice standards and the Juvenile Justice Act on the one hand, and the draft Policy. The Policy supports alternatives to punitive measures, rehabilitation and reintegration for children in conflict with the law and who commit minor offences and streamlines accountability measures. Also, to support juvenile justice reform, capacity-building sessions were conducted by UNICEF, through the Ministry of Home Affairs, for juvenile justice personnel from the Juvenile Holding Centre on Social and Behaviour Change and Accountability to Affected Populations, focusing on diversionary measures and prevention initiatives for children in conflict with the law.

The Ministry of Legal Affairs, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs (including the Police Force, Prison and Fire Services and the Forensic Lab), the Judiciary and Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions has advanced critical modernisation efforts to enhance efficiency and access to justice with support from the UNDP-European Union Partnership of the Caribbean and the European Union on Justice Programme. With direct implementation support from UNDP, including budget and financial management and quality assurance, state agencies received targeted support in key areas including provision of specialised tools and platforms as well as targeted efforts for capacity building. In 2025, the Judiciary outfitted eight courtrooms with Liberty Court Recording Software, enabling accurate real-time audio capture, minimising transcription delays, and supporting virtual and hybrid hearings, an essential capability in a modern justice system. Additionally, across police, prosecutorial, forensic, fire, prison, and judicial services, UNDP provided upgraded ICT equipment worth approximately $400,000, including desktop systems, laptops, fingerprint machines, tablets, and digital cameras. These tools improved evidence gathering, case tracking, digital document management and interagency communication. Further, 100 judicial officers received training on criminal case management and restorative justice, criminal mediation and children in conflict with the law, of which 77 were women in the judiciary. Collectively, these investments increased institutional readiness for faster and more reliable case management, strengthened transparency, improved coordination regionally and nationally across the criminal justice chain, and supported measurable progress toward a more responsive, people-centred justice system.



Training on criminal case management and restorative justice. © UNDP Guyana



Children's Court in Region 2. © Ministry of Legal Affairs

Charity Children's Court Officially Commissioned

Electoral Integrity & Democratic Governance

The Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM), with technical assistance support from UNDP, funded by the Government of the United Kingdom, strengthened institutional, technical and operational capacity of GECOM to deliver credible, transparent, and inclusive elections in 2025 while also laying the groundwork for sustained institutional development for future electoral cycles. Historic issues regarding Guyana's electoral cycles, including elements on transparency, inclusivity, and public trust were significantly addressed in the 2025 General and Regional elections specifically through improved polling, counting, tabulation and certification processes. This featured increased communication dissemination and transparency and improved predictability, traceability and accountability of material flow. Additionally, UNDP supported GECOM's upgrades to the Statement of Poll Upload system with cybersecurity safeguards as well as their deployment of an enhanced Results Tabulation application across 20 counting centres. Further, 2,790 polling stations were assessed for accessibility and safety for voters and 13,925 polling officials trained, strengthening transparent and inclusive electoral processes. GECOM implemented a communications strategy, crisis protocol, and media policy, while over 100 journalists were trained. Accessible voter education materials were provided for persons with disabilities, first time voters, Indigenous communities, and other marginalized groups who were better informed and able to participate fully and safely. Additionally, the UN, through OHCHR, trained staff of the Ethnic Relations Commission on understanding freedom of expression, hate speech and incitement to hatred in an electoral context.



GECOM staff conducting country awareness engagements as part of electoral preparations. © UNDP Guyana

Strengthening Trust in Democracy: UNDP's Support to Guyana's 2025 General and Regional Elections

Gender-Based Violence Protection and Systems Strengthening

Through the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, and in collaboration with the Guyana Police Force under the Ministry of Home Affairs, UNFPA supported the development of a Gender-Based Violence (GBV) module for the Guyana Police Academy training curriculum for all members of the Guyana Police Force. During the GBV curriculum development and rollout phase, a cohort of 15 members of the Guyana Police Force were trained. Through this intervention, there is enhanced awareness among members of the Guyana Police Force of responsibilities to fight GBV, to aid prevention and response efforts and to address GBV cases effectively.

Further, a draft national protocol was developed to guide healthcare providers in Clinical Management of Rape (CMR)/Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) services. This was done through the partnership between the Ministry of Health, the civil society and support from UNFPA, in line with WHO guidelines. A validation meeting was convened with support from UNFPA to review the draft standard operating procedures and ensure technical accuracy, feasibility, and national ownership prior to finalization to operationalize the further strengthening of GBV-related service delivery.

Further, to strengthen national and inter-agency efforts addressing gender-based violence in emergencies (GBViE), UNFPA provided critical technical inputs and financial resources to the GBViE Working Group. This collaboration brought together 25 stakeholders from the Government of Guyana, and civil society organizations, addressed service delivery gaps and fostered improved coordination among key stakeholders. As a result of this collaboration, both governmental and non-governmental stakeholders were clearer on the standards of the mechanism's success in harmonizing GBV-related efforts, which contributed to enhanced collaboration among stakeholders engaged in survivor-centred GBV case management and response, particularly in relation to services for Venezuelan migrants and host communities in Guyana.

Prevention of Sexual Exploitation Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH)

The Rights of the Child Commission, the Guyana Football Federation and UNICEF jointly facilitated the strengthening of child protection and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) awareness through community mobilization and capacity-building sessions in Region 9. Sessions with children included topics of child rights, consent in peer relationships, sexual harassment, recognizing, preventing and reporting abuse and exploitation through systems such as the 914 hotline. Sessions with coaches included topics of child rights, domestic and international legislation pertinent to child rights and child protection, as well as PSEA. Activities reached over 50 child football players, and coaches representing clubs that reach more than 120 children and 446 players.

The Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, with support from UNFPA, developed and institutionalized PSEAH measures for the public sector and the private sector in Guyana. Through the EQUAL Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights programme, UNFPA facilitated the development and rollout of the first PSEAH Guidelines and Standards as well as PSEAH Training Manual, as part of the national gender equality and empowerment seal that has been developed and rolled out by the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security. This supports the implementation of the GBV essential service package global standards.

UNFPA launches the Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (PSEAH) Guidelines and Standards for the public sector in Guyana



Engagement on PSEAH. © UNFPA Guyana

GBV Capacity Building Training

The Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, with support from UNFPA, has strengthened mechanisms and capacities across Government entities and civil society organizations to promote as well as implement positive social norms and change interventions to address Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and harmful practices. This was facilitated through the conduct of a capacity building workshop on social and behaviour change communication interventions. Forty-one (41) individuals benefited from the capacity building, representing Government and civil society organizations. Participants were equipped with knowledge and practical skills to promote positive social norm change and to implement effective interventions.

The Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, with support from UNFPA, has been able to strengthen the capacity of GBV actors in psychological first aid services delivery, through the delivery of refresher training to 15 personnel within the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security. Further, as part of this effort, awareness was raised among indigenous leaders, through the conduct of an orientation session on GBV prevention and response mechanisms with the Executive of the National Toshaos Council (of Village Chiefs) and with the Village Councillors and community leaders in Santa Aratak in Region 3.

Combating Firearms-Related Crime through Enhanced Detection, Investigation and Prosecution

The Ministry of Home Affairs, with support from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime through its Global Firearms Programme and with financial support from the Government of Germany, strengthened national capacities to detect, investigate, and prosecute firearms-related crimes through the delivery of a three-day national training course. The training brought together criminal justice and law enforcement practitioners from customs, border police, the military, investigative units, and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, enhancing inter-agency coordination and operational readiness in line with the Caribbean Firearms Roadmap. Participants were equipped with practical tools to address the illicit trafficking of firearms, the use of the internet and dark web, and the growing role of artificial intelligence in arms-related crimes. As a result, participants improved their operational skills and legal understanding, reinforcing Guyana's institutional capacity to respond effectively to illicit firearms trafficking and strengthening national security outcomes.

UNODC strengthens Guyana's capacities to detect, investigate and prosecute firearms-related crimes

Firearms training. © UNODC



Women's Peace and Security Agenda

The Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda advanced in Guyana through two strategic dialogues to support the development of national and regional action plans on WPS. A regional dialogue convened by UN Women, in partnership with the British High Commission and Our Secure Future, brought together stakeholders from Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, and Barbados to advance a coordinated regional Women, Peace and Security approach. The convening leveraged regional expertise and international technical support to strengthen institutional frameworks, address gender-based violence and reinforce women's leadership and meaningful participation in peace and security processes across the Caribbean. Complementing this regional dialogue, civil society organisations across Guyana also participated in a dialogue to identify entry points for localising the WPS agenda, strategically aligned with Guyana's presidency of the United Nations Security Council and SDGs 5 and 16.

Human Rights

In 2025, Guyana reaffirmed its commitment to human rights during its Fourth Universal Periodic Review Cycle. The United Nations Human Rights Council adopted the outcome report in September, with the Government of Guyana formally supporting 146 recommendations, demonstrating its commitment to advancing human rights and addressing key national priorities. In coordination with UN Guyana, the UPR Branch provided technical support and guidance to the Government's delegation ahead of the review. Further, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance delivered the second iteration of the International Human Rights Law Certificate Course, reaching approximately 300 participants nationwide. With technical support from the OHCHR CARICOM Office, Treaty Body Division, FAO Guyana, and UNESCO Regional Office, the course enhanced understanding of the international human rights system and treaty body mechanisms, promoting integration of human rights standards into governance and service delivery.

Women Peace and Security Guyana Experts Meeting. © UN Women



Civil Society Dialogue Builds Momentum for Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Guyana

2.3. Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

Partnerships

The UN advanced corporate alignment with the SDGs in Guyana, through the hosting of a private sector sustainable development forum in collaboration with the UN Global Compact Network Caribbean and the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The forum brought together close to 30 participants, including business leaders, entrepreneurs with disabilities, policymakers, and development partners. Participants engaged in strategic dialogue on the role of private enterprise in building inclusive, sustainable economies through responsible business conduct.

The UN Global Compact Network also convened a webinar in collaboration with the Women's Chamber of Commerce and Industry Guyana, the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Centre for Local Business Development to promote responsible business practices. Businesses engaged in the webinar reaffirmed the importance of aligning corporate strategies with global standards, enhancing access to practical tools and support for environmental and social governance (ESG) integration, and the need to foster stronger public–private collaboration to drive sustainable development impact.

With a wide range of civil society organisations, the UN continues to forge strategic partnerships to accelerate progress on the SDGs, particularly among vulnerable groups. Youth organisations promoted entrepreneurship and civic participation, women's groups strengthened economic empowerment and GBV services, and disability organisations advanced inclusion and access to essential services, supporting equity-focused targets. Additional partnerships enhanced targeted responses, with HIV/AIDS groups addressing stigma, Indigenous organisations driving community resilience, and LGBTIQ+ groups advancing inclusion and equal rights.



Private sector representatives and UN Staff at the Private Sector Partnerships Forum. © RCO Guyana

Global and National Shifts in Development Finance

2025 saw further shifts in the global development finance landscape as major traditional donors recalibrated their spending priorities in response to evolving geopolitical and economic pressures. These trends have translated into a tightening of resources across the United Nations system, with several agencies, funds and programmes implementing budget adjustments and reductions. These dynamics are also being felt in the Caribbean and in Guyana, affecting the scale and composition of development financing available to the UN system and its partners.

At the national level, Guyana's transition towards high-income status is creating a parallel shift in its development finance landscape. While reflecting strong economic performance, this transition is expected to affect access to concessional financing, including eligibility for Official Development Assistance and the terms and prioritization of support from bilateral and multilateral partners. In response, the Government of Guyana and the United Nations have initiated discussions on the implications of these shifts for the country's development trajectory and financing needs. These discussions are identifying opportunities to strengthen engagement in global development financing processes, including through the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development. Jointly, the Government of Guyana and the United Nations are advocating for developed countries to fulfil their 0.7% Gross National Income allocation commitment towards Official Development Assistance. At the same time, the Government and the United Nations are contributing to international efforts to promote financing frameworks that move beyond income-based criteria as the primary determinant of financing eligibility and better account for multidimensional vulnerabilities, including environmental and climate-related risks that disproportionately affect Small Island Developing States.

Aligned with SDG 17, the United Nations continues to support efforts to mobilize and align financing for sustainable development, strengthen partnerships across public and private actors, and adapt its programmatic and financing approaches to a rapidly changing context in Guyana.

2.4. Results of the UN Working More and Better Together: UN Coherence, Effectiveness and Efficiency

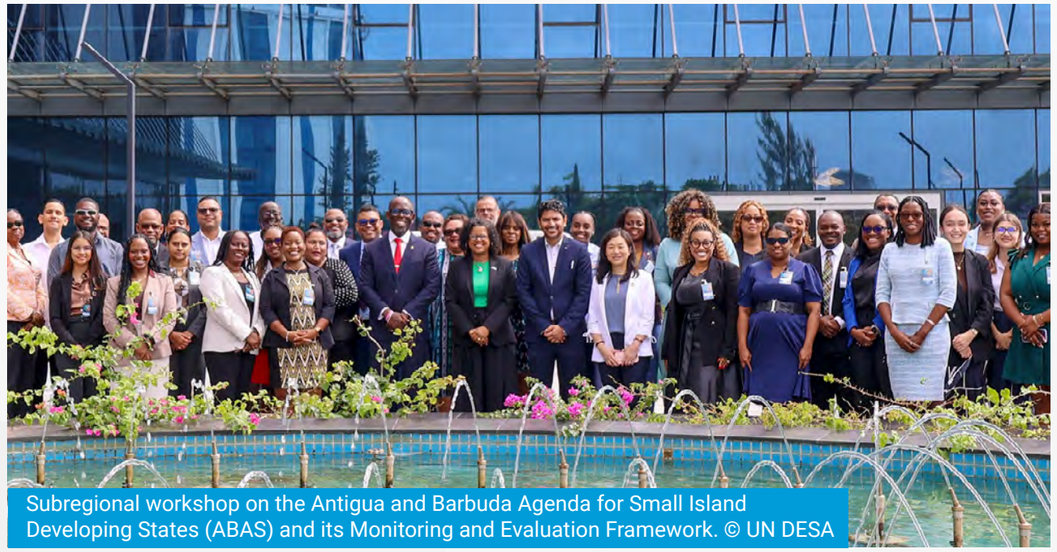
2025 was a pivotal year for the UN, marking its 80th anniversary and a global push to be more effective, efficient, and fit for purpose. In Guyana, this moment aligned with a shifting funding landscape that encourages the UN Country Team (UNCT) to collaborate beyond traditional resident partners. For a relatively small UNCT, this has meant tapping into the shared UN expertise at the regional and global levels, and forging innovative partnerships with the growing private sector and new development actors attracted by Guyana's oil-driven economy.

Operationally, the UN in Guyana has responded with coherence and agility to a demanding calendar for both internal milestones and external processes — amid the withdrawal of the physical presence of UNHCR and UNAIDS.

Internally, the UN Programme Management Team (PMT) liaised with the Joint National Steering Committee, regional stakeholders such as CARICOM, other UN country teams of the Caribbean region and contributed to the Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2022-2026) evaluation and the design discussion for the next MSDCF; the UNCT's Standing Analytical Capacities Working Group organized multiple thematic consultations and technical discussions to advance the development of a Common Country Analysis (CCA) that integrates strategic foresight analysis; and the UN Communications Group (UNCG) illuminated Guyana with a vibrant cascade of signature events and public celebrations, honouring the UN's 80-year journey with a spirit of unity, reflection, and shared hope.

Importantly, the different coordination mechanisms of the UN Country Team also collaborate and amplify results and impact delivered by the UN. For example, the inter-agency Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) network held not only an internal all-staff PSEA training but also contributed to the work of the PMT to strengthen national standards and capacity on prevention and

Coordination mechanisms	Performance at a glance (Key performance indicators)
UN Communications Group (UNCG)	**2,176,484 views** across UN Guyana social media accounts Over **1100 participants** engaged in public events
Programme Management Team (PMT)	**Four joint programme** proposals developed and submitted **100%** of administrative regions benefited from UN's programmatic interventions
Human Rights Focal Points Group (HRFPG)	**47%** gender scorecard targets exceed or meet expectations **52 %** disability scorecard targets exceed or meet expectations **Over 20 CSO groups** engaged for consultations and events in 2025 **69 UN personnel** trained for PSEA



Subregional workshop on the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States (ABAS) and its Monitoring and Evaluation Framework. © UN DESA

protection, in support of the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security. Similarly, the UN Communications Group also plays a central role in advancing disability inclusion, gender equality, youth development, counter hate speech, and human rights and anti-corruption, in support of the UN Human Rights Focal Point Group.

Externally, the UN Country Team, through the Resident Coordinator's direct engagement, has maintained continuous dialogue with the Joint National Steering Committee throughout the Cooperation Framework annual cycle, weaving together ad-hoc and thematic exchanges on The Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), the Second World Summit for Social Development in Doha, and the evolving intergovernmental discourse on the Multi-Vulnerability Index (MVI) in the context of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States (ABAS). During 2025, the UNCT also forged a promising partnership with the new Ministry of Public Service, Government Efficiency, and Implementation - a new ministry poised to invigorate results-oriented collaboration and deepen sectoral coordination, which expects to strengthen the shared pursuit of impact across the UN system and national institutions.

Throughout 2025, the UN Development Partners Group (DPG) network was strengthened with information sharing and strategy alignment that pivoted with emerging priorities in the Manifesto and new Government directions following the declaration of the election result. The DPG has rapidly onboarded new entrants, including newly accredited diplomats, non-resident embassies, and multilateral development banks, laying the groundwork for concrete collaboration in development financing and partnerships for the upcoming cycle of a new Multi-country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF 2027-2031).

With connection to the UN80 process, the UNCT, led by the Resident Coordinator (RC), has been testing the "experts on demand" approach, mirroring a concept emerging under the UN80 workstreams. To turn what is traditionally seen as a disadvantage as a small UN Country Team, the RC has presented multiple compelling arguments to request and tap into global and regional expertise for "prevention" advisory during the early stage of the national election process, and in the new government priority areas of orange economy, infrastructure, Nationally Determined Commitments, national digitization, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) governance. Line ministries in the host Government ministries have also been briefed on multiple "services" and "offers" the United Nations can bring, beyond what has been presented in the past from the accredited agencies that are already operating in country. This model aligns with Guyana's rapid growth and demand for technical cooperation, enabling swift scoping and solution design with UN Headquarters and specialized networks, while demonstrating the agility, effectiveness and efficiency of the UN system to provide tailored solutions to a programme country.



Caribbean Government and UN officials at the Annual Coordination Meeting. © RCO Trinidad and Tobago

2.5. Evaluations and Lessons Learned

MSDCF Evaluation

As a member of the 22-country constituency under the UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF), the UNCT in Guyana and the host country Government have actively engaged throughout the evaluation process. Their participation encompassed sustained collaboration with the independent evaluation team, including contributions to consultations, key informant interviews, and comprehensive document and data reviews.

Overall, the evaluation finds that the multi-country design of the MSDCF has helped Guyana benefit from regional technical depth e.g., disaster risk management, gender, migration, and digitization and the one voice of a Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in international platforms. At the same time, the breadth of MSDCF outcomes has at times diffused focus and stretched limited delivery and monitoring and evaluation capacity, which echoes the reflections provided by Guyana UNCT representatives during the interview process.

From efficiency and effectiveness perspectives, the evaluation finds that evidence quality and results aggregation remain the recurrent constraints faced by the Caribbean SIDS that comprise the MSDCF. While project-level results are visible, uneven baselines, administrative data gaps, and misaligned reporting cycles continue to limit the ability to credibly demonstrate outcome-level contribution.

On crosscutting commitments, the evaluation finds clearest evidence in the advancement of gender equality and human rights (e.g., survivor centred pathways, institutional capacity support), while youth and disability inclusion show promising pilots but require deeper mainstreaming.

On means of implementation, the evaluation finds that financing for development and private sector engagement have gained traction, yet pipeline conversion and scale remain tempered by transaction costs and absorption capacity. Particularly relevant to Guyana, the evaluation finds that joint programmes add coherence where deployed, but most delivery still occurs through single agencies due to siloed funding and planning cycles.

Finally, based on the aggregated analysis of stakeholders' perception survey, host Governments and UN Country Teams generally view the UN's coordination efforts, consultative processes, and results-focused programming as constructive and supportive of national priorities. Yet, civil society organizations offer a more nuanced perspective, showing gaps in ensuring meaningful participation and strengthening civic space. These reflections resonate with observations from Guyana, where stakeholders emphasize inclusive dialogues that fully harness the voices of communities and grassroots actors.

Country's economic transitions and lessons for UNCT support

Beyond the findings of the Cooperation Framework evaluation, the UN Country Team continues to integrate shifts in its operational environment and broader external dynamics into adaptive planning, risk management, and configuration discussions.

In 2025, the evolving global funding landscape led to the closure of UNHCR's physical presence in Guyana and the transition of UNAIDS to a remote support model. Through this period, the Resident Coordinator, working closely with the UN Country Team, proactively engaged the Government to provide timely updates on the financial pressures affecting the UN development system. These discussions included clear timelines and implications for programme continuity, while offering options to safeguard national priorities such as protection, public health and inclusive growth.

The experience of 2025 continues to be relevant as the UNCT and the Government jointly navigate the evolving development financing landscape and mitigate service disruptions. The experience provides a strong foundation for the UN to manage the changes strategically and collaboratively with the Government, in a manner that reinforces long-term resilience and sustainability.

2.6 Highlights of 2025

Beijing +30 National Conference

The UN, in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security and the Embassy of China in Guyana, co-hosted a National Conference that convened government leaders, civil society, and development partners to reflect on progress and renew commitments around the issues of gender-based violence and women empowerment in economic and social development.





UN Day and UN@80 Open House

The UN premises were opened to the public, offering visitors an opportunity to learn how UN agencies work together to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Hon. Gail Teixeira, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance, and members of the diplomatic corps joined the event, highlighting the strong partnership between the United Nations and national stakeholders. The Open House also featured a health fair and blood drive, promoting community engagement and well-being.

Red Shoe Project

The UN supported the Women and Gender Equality Commission and CSOs to amplify women's empowerment and gender equality awareness during the 16 Days of Activism to end Gender-Based Violence.

Turning shoes into voices



UN Participation at the Annual Anti-corruption and Human Rights Expo

The United Nations Guyana Country Team participated in the 4th Guyana Annual Human Rights and Anti-Corruption Expo, an event by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance that united government agencies, civil society and the public in a shared showcase of work advancing human rights and integrity.

Human Rights and Anti-Corruption Expo 2025 Celebrates "Everyday Essentials"



Pride Flag Raising and Dialogue

The UN Country Team, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance and the Diplomatic Corps engaged with LGBTIQ+ organisations to discuss areas for collaboration to advance the SDGs and conducted advocacy initiatives, including the annual pride flag raising at UN House, celebrating the resilience, diversity, and achievements of LGBTIQ individuals in Guyana.



ASG Felipe Paullier's Visit to the Guyana School of Agriculture

High-level advocacy for youth engagement was advanced through the mission of the UN Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs, Dr. Felipe Paullier, to Guyana. The ASG's mission incorporated a dialogue with students who are emerging food innovators and entrepreneurs, underscoring the importance of youth leadership in advancing climate-smart technologies and sustainable food systems.



UN-UG Youth Dialogue

With the University of Guyana (UG), a youth dialogue brought together 30 students, faculty, and civil society partners for a focused discussion on youth participation in national development.



The central role of young people in shaping Guyana's development highlighted during University of Guyana-UN youth dialogue

International Youth Day Conference and Local Conference on Youth

Over 200 young people in Guyana participated in two (2) UN-supported conferences, showcasing their leadership in climate actions and advocating for resilience, justice, and innovation. Hosted in partnership with the Rights of the Child Commission, UNICEF, and regional youth networks, these platforms strengthened youth engagement in climate decision-making and reinforced their role as key actors in shaping national, regional, and global climate action.



Guyanese Youth Mobilize for the SDGs

First Local Conference of Youth Guyana 2025 a Success

Disability Etiquette Training

In partnership with the Guyana Council of Organisations for Persons with Disabilities the UN hosted a disability etiquette training as part of the implementation of the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy.



Disability Inclusive Sport Competition

The UN partnered with the Guyana Council of Organisations for Persons with Disabilities and Spartans Domino Club to host a domino competition, demonstrating how sport can promote inclusion and accessibility. The event provided a space for networking and learning, while actively promoting the participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of social, cultural, and economic life.

Disability-inclusive domino competition promotes unity and accessibility in Guyana



COP 30 Dialogue

The UN Country Team, in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Embassy of Brazil and the National Toshaos Council (NTC), convened a multi-stakeholder dialogue in the lead-up to the 30th UN Climate Change Conference (COP30). The impact of climate change on local communities and the importance of indigenous traditional knowledge formed part of the discussions.

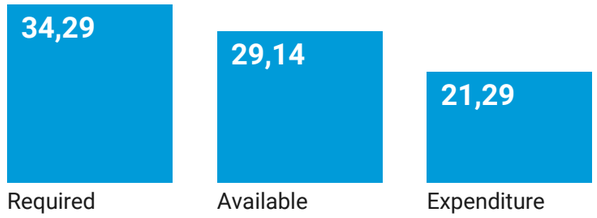




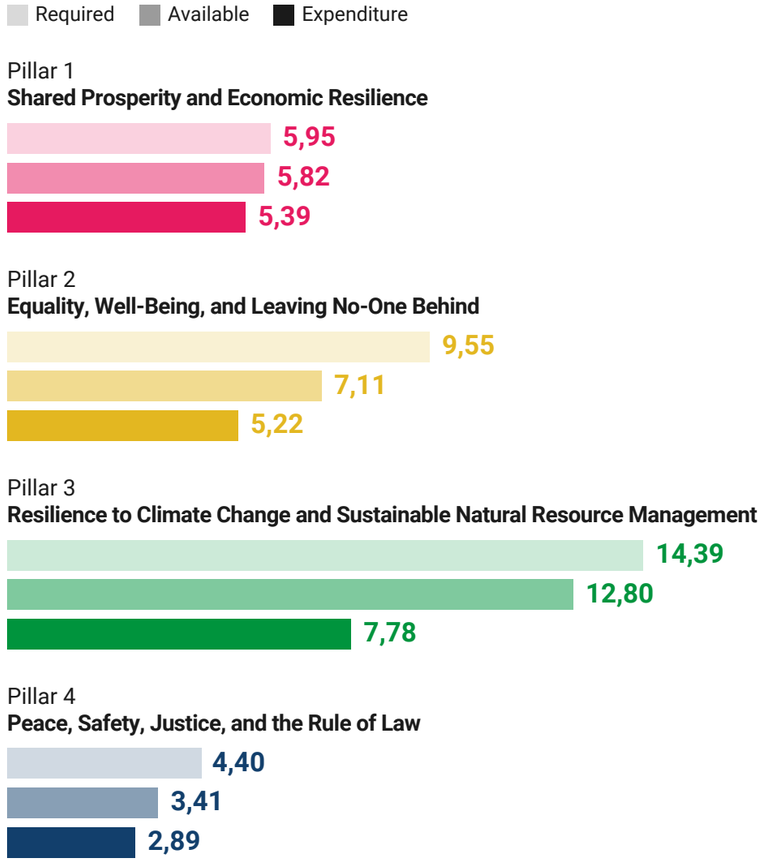
2.7. Financial Overview

The total portfolio for 2025 comprises required funds of USD 34.3M, with USD 29.1M of available funds, representing a funding rate of 85%. Of the available funds, USD 21.3M has been expended, resulting in an overall utilization (absorption) rate of 73.1% across 150 total interventions.

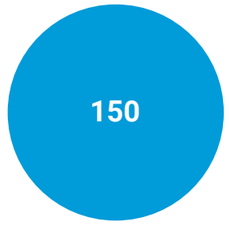
Total USD million



By Pillar USD million

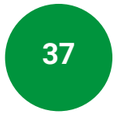


Interventions











CHAPTER 3
UNCT key focus for 2026

In line with Guyana's rapid economic expansion and the evolving national priorities, and as informed by the findings of the 2025 MSDCF evaluation, the UNCT will focus on four core areas to ensure continued prioritization, country ownership and transformative impact.



Aerial view of the Essequibo River and Iwokrama Rainforest and River Lodge, Region 8. © FAO Guyana/Shara Seelall

1. Strategic planning and accountability for the Next MSDCF cycle

A key 2026 priority centres around the regional formulation process of the 2027–2031 Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF). Guided by the evaluation's call for sharper prioritization and more structured national engagement, the UNCT will conduct targeted, inclusive consultations across Guyana, in collaboration with the Joint National Steering Committee to ensure that the next MSDCF fully reflects Guyana's development priorities and acceleration needs.

In parallel, several UN agencies will undergo agency-level development processes for new multi-year Country Programme Documents (or equivalent planning instruments). Systematic consultations will support the alignment of agencies' strategic frameworks with the Government's plans and the Low-Carbon Development Strategy, laying a critical foundation for future joint programming and impact-level aggregation to minimize reporting fragmentation and strengthen accountability.

2. Deepening support on financing for development

In 2026, the UNCT will strengthen its support to the Government's engagement on financing for development, informed by the outcomes of the 2025 Seville Summit and Guyana's high-income country status. The shifting financing context requires adaptive strategies to protect development gains, sustain social investments, and unlock long-term structural transformation.

Internationally, the UNCT will assist the Government in navigating discussions on the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index and the Borrowers' Platform. The UNCT will also leverage the UN's global expertise and networks to engage with international financial institutions to support advocacy on equitable access to concessional finance and more flexible financing modalities tailored to SIDS needs. Domestically, the UNCT will continue to help strengthen private sector development and public-private partnerships that channel private capital toward SDG-aligned investments, especially in climate resilience, agrifood transformation, green energy, and social-sector innovation.

3. Joint work to advance high-impact SDG acceleration areas

Building on the MSDCF evaluation's recommendation to sharpen focus, the UNCT Guyana will select two high-impact SDG acceleration (or "key transitions" areas) for intensified joint support. The acceleration areas under consideration - food systems and nutrition and climate and energy security - reflect both regional priorities and the Government's strategic direction, reiterated in national addresses and regional platforms. Highly relevant to Guyana's role in CARICOM's food security commitments, the UN will continue to promote joint work to support resilient, climate-smart agriculture, local value-addition, and the roll-out of Guyana's national nutrition strategy. As Guyana's strategic priority is to position itself as a model for balancing energy security, economic development and climate stewardship, the UN will deepen its support for climate resilience, clean energy, sustainable natural resource management, and climate finance.

4. Furthering climate and biodiversity leadership through south-south and triangular partnerships

As Guyana strengthens its role as a global climate and biodiversity leader, the UNCT will continue to support the Government in fulfilling its responsibilities and expectations that accompany this elevated position. Guyana's international influence has grown significantly through the President's championing of the Global Biodiversity Alliance. In 2026, the UNCT will work with national counterparts to translate this leadership into strengthened diplomatic engagement, evidence-based policy advocacy, and enhanced skills and participation of the Global South in intergovernmental processes on climate, forests, and sustainable finance. Through south-south and triangular partnerships, Guyana will be equipped to sustain its influential role on the regional and global stage while mobilizing new opportunities to advance the SDGs at home and more broadly.

Acronyms

ABAS	Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ASRH	Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CCA	Common Country Analysis
CDC	Civil Defence Commission
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
CMR	Clinical Management of Rape
CREWS	Climate Risk & Early Warning Systems
CSE	Comprehensive Sexuality Education
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DFATD	Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development
DPG	Development Partners Group
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESG	Environmental, Social, and Governance
ESL	English as a Second Language
EU	European Union
EVs	Electric Vehicles
EW4All	Early Warnings for All
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCDO	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
FfD4	The Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development
GBF-EAS	Global Biodiversity Framework–Early Action Support
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GBViE	Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies
GCOPD	Guyana Council of Organizations for Persons with Disabilities
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GLSC	Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
H-NAP	Health National Adaptation Plan
HPV	Human Papilloma Virus
HRFPG	Human Rights Focal Points Group
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICT	Information, Communication, Technology
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INL	International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
ITC	International Trade Centre
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
LCDS	Low Carbon Development Strategy
LGBTIQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer People
MISP	Minimum Initial Services Package
MSDCF	Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MVI	Multi Vulnerability Index
NAREI	National Agriculture Research and Extension Institute
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Master Plan
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PAGE	Partnership for Action on Green Economy
PAHO/WHO	Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization
PMT	Programme Management Team
PRM	Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
PSEAH	Prevention of Sexual Exploitation Abuse and Harassment
PV	Photovoltaic
RC	Resident Coordinator
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCG	UN Communications Group
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNCTAD	UN Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNEP	UN Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	The United Nations Refugee Agency
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNLIREC	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
US	United States of America
VFDs	Variable Frequency Drives
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WPS	Women Peace and Security

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United Nations

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UNITED NATIONS GUYANA

Building Our Future Together