



Forest Partnership with the EU

Guyana

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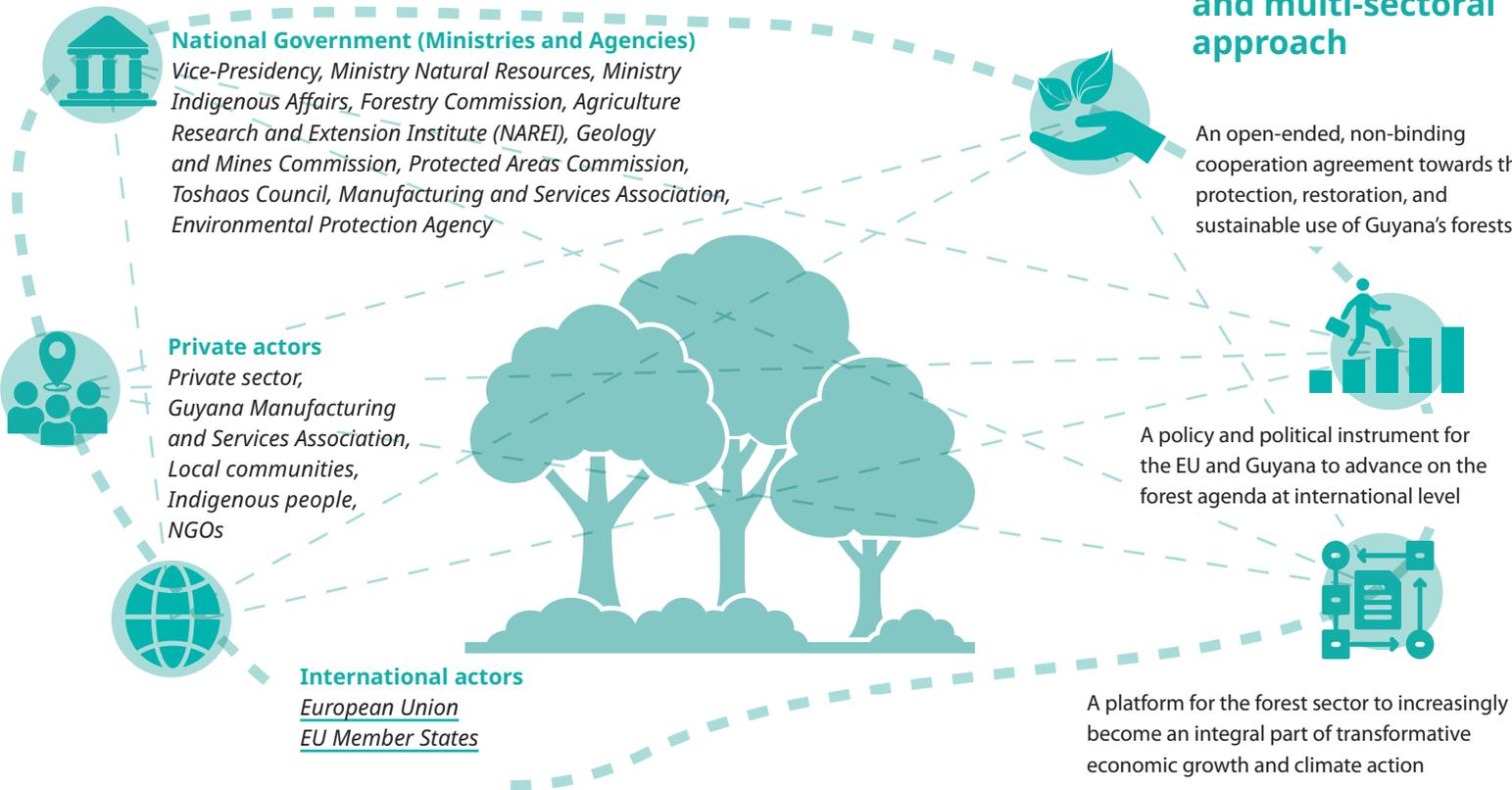
Contributing to the environment agenda →

COUNTRY
REPORT
ABSTRACT

The political power of the Forest Partnership

Under the EU Global Gateway, the EU-Guyana **Forest Partnership** aims to **enhance trade and investment**, with social and environmental safeguards such as creating more **decent forest jobs**, conserving biodiversity and maintaining forests as **carbon sinks** to mitigate climate change.

Forest Partnership players



"This Memorandum of Understanding demonstrates our shared values of sustainable forest management and protection of the environment."

Irfaan Ali
President of Guyana



"Through the Forest Partnerships, the EU supports our partners in sustainably managing and preserving forests, one of the world's richest natural resources to combat climate change and conserve biodiversity as well as to promote sustainable development."

Ursula von der Leyen
European Commission
President



High-level and broad engagement

The Forest Partnership serves as an effective umbrella for addressing and resolving different challenges and for coordinating various forest-related initiatives nationwide. This framework strengthens existing interagency collaborations harmonising efforts geared at achieving common EU-Guyana green objectives.

Implementing the Global Gateway

In a relatively short time the **Forest Partnership** has stimulated collaboration with the **private sector** and opened new avenues for potential **investment in sustainable forestry**.

TARGETS 2030

12.5 million hectares sustainably managed forests

+ **200 000** hectares restored forests

+ **30%** protected and conserved forests

+ **8%** decent forest jobs

< **0.1** per year deforestation

more investment and trade in legal and sustainable wood products



Achievements

- ✓ Starting a political instrument to advance the forest agenda internationally
- ✓ Building on the [EU-Guyana FLEGT](#) and [VPA](#) agreements
- ✓ Enhancing synergies between different forestry programmes
- ✓ Mapping of financial instruments for forests in Guyana
- ✓ Involving Guyana Manufacturing and Services Association (GMSA)
- ✓ Enhancing the role of forests in sustainable development
- ✓ Supporting consultations for three new regulations

REPORT [Assessment for forest finance in Guyana](#)

Guyana presents a unique opportunity to lead globally in forest finance innovation. Indicative top instruments to scale are forest value-chain finance (SMEs and non-wood forest products), and biodiversity credits (high-integrity, carbon-light, biodiversity-rich landscapes).

Promoting forest-based value chains

Forest-based value chains are key to the EU approach to forests, reflected by the **Forest Partnership**. They serve EU **Global Gateway** ambitions attracting green investments, and mitigating climate change.

Forest-based value chains

- More formal forest jobs
- More value and revenues
- New sustainable wood and non-wood sectors
- Legal deforestation-free production and trade



Developing forest-based value chains, including for mangroves



Achievements

- ✓ Progress in compliance with the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)
- ✓ Launch of a digital Wood Tracking System (dWTS)
- ✓ Enhancing monitoring of timber through near-real-time traceability
- ✓ Supporting a policy for the promotion of wood in public procurement
- ✓ Livelihood opportunities assessment for mangrove-based enterprises
- ✓ Working group on market strategy for wood industry
- ✓ Assessment on sawmilling training needs
- ✓ Training package on Codes of Practices of the forestry sector
- ✓ Wood industry waste value chain study
- ✓ Assessment of the solid wood furniture markets and investments opportunity

Forests value

3.9 % GDP in 2024 (burgeoning oil and gas sector stimulates the country's growing construction needs).
EUR 19 million annual forestry exports.



Exemplary Forest status

85% of the country are forests (18 million hectares), one of four countries globally with a **High** Forest Low Deforestation status (HFLD).



ART TREES carbon credits

First country to receive the Architecture for REDD+ Transactions (ART) certification, gaining access to the REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard (TREES) carbon credits.

Contributing to the environment agenda

The **Forest Partnership** supports Guyana in addressing forest **protection** and aligning national efforts with international frameworks like the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and is strongly aligned to Guyana's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Key workstreams of the Forest Partnership

Forest governance

- Improved regulatory framework

Sustainable use of forests

- Sustainable forest management and forest value chains

Forest Protection

- Eco-system services based on forest conservation
- Prevention of deforestation and forest degradation

Achievements

- ✓ Tourism strategy for Protected Areas
- ✓ Formal reinstatement of the Land Reclamation Committee
- ✓ Training workshops on Copernicus Satellite technology
- ✓ Strengthening inter-agency forest monitoring
- ✓ Interagency strategy for use of logs felled by miners
- ✓ Exploring acquisition of drone technology for firefighting
- ✓ Assessment of the ecosystem services of the mangroves



Forest degradation impacts

While deforestation is not a major concern, illegal mining causes forest degradation.



Climate change impacts

Rising global temperatures threaten coastal areas and mangroves forests. Guyana is particularly vulnerable to sea-level rise and extreme weather events threatening the very existence of low-lying coastal areas.

Protected areas

9% the country are protected areas with aim to increase to **30% by 2030**.



Indigenous Amerindian territories hold around **3.5 million hectares** of forest, including the Kanashen Amerindian Protected Area.



*A Global Gateway
flagship initiative*



For more info:

[EU Delegation to Guyana, Suriname and CARICOM](#)
[Sustainable Forests for the Future Group](#)

This publication has been prepared by the [Forests for the Future Facility \(F4F\)](#). It does not represent the official view of the European Union.