



Guyana's National Progress on the Implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development

Review



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► Advances made at National level

❑ **Full integration of population dynamics into sustainable development with equality and respect for human rights:**

➤ Guyana's Green State Development Strategy (GSDS) vision 2040 finalized. It will guide Guyana's economic and social development and provides a roadmap to achieving the SDGs.

❖ Development objectives:

➤ **Sound Fiscal and Monetary Policy**

➤ **Sustainable management of natural resources.**

➤ **Green and Inclusive Economic diversification.**

➤ **Transition to Renewable Energy.**

➤ **Resilient Infrastructure, Green Towns and Urban Spaces.**

➤ **Trade, Investment and International Cooperation**

➤ **Healthy, Educated and Socially Cohesive Population**

➤ **Good Governance, Transparency and Knowledge Management.**



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- ▶ **Rights, needs, responsibilities and requirements of girls, boys, adolescents and youth**
- Ongoing Challenge - high youth unemployment rate still persists
- Successful initiatives continue to garner results as it relates to assisting persons to become self-employed.
- These include: (i) The Youth Entrepreneurial Skills Training (YEST) programme; (ii) The Sustainable Livelihoods and Entrepreneurial Development (SLED) (iii) The Hinterland Employment and Youth Service (HEYS), (2000 benefitted (iv) The Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) platform for certified training for out-of-school youth. Financial Grants offered to expand or start business.
- Interventions such as this seeks to positively impact on increased employment generation, entrepreneurship and empowerment of youths
- Continuous country wide health Fairs- promote awareness(HIV, STDs awareness, suicide prevention, drug abuse,



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- **Rights, needs, responsibilities and requirements of girls, boys, adolescents and youth cont'd**
- The implementation of reintegration policy for pregnant and parenting adolescent girls commenced. Over teen 800 mothers have been reintegrated.
- The Juvenile Justice Bill passed 2018. Amended age of criminal responsibility from 10yrs to 14yrs.
- The Bill addresses diversionary options - diverting the juvenile away from formal Court procedures to informal procedures and access to legal aid is provided.



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- **Ageing, social protection and socioeconomic challenges**

- Old age pension annual increases. Greater increases expected next budget cycle.
- National Policy Aging is being formulated, objective facilitate societal integration and allow for added participation of the elderly in the development process.



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- **Universal access to sexual and reproductive health services cont'd**
- Guyana continues to work to address maternal health
- The Guyana Responsible Parenthood Association (GRPA) along with representatives of the India-United National Development Partnership Fund project signed a \$G117 million pact to address this issue. The project aims to provide the availability of, and access to quality sexual and reproductive health information and services. Goal 10% reduction in adolescent pregnancy in several indigenous regions by 2022. (NEW)
- Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy launched(**sexual orientation and sexual Rights.** the SRH Policy will cater for adolescents, the elderly, men, FSW. Specific focus on increase access and reducing barriers for each priority population. Focus -availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality health care. (NEW)



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► Gender equality

- In 2018 (31.9%) 2019 -36% of seats in the National Assembly are held by women
- 40% of Cabinet are women



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- **Gender equality**
- Established 3 court for sexual offences cases . Offers a rights-based approach, victims will not be re-victimized.
- Model guidelines for sexual offence cases developed, taking into account international best practices for the management of such cases.



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- Address Gender Based Violence
- A National Plan of Action for Domestic and Sexual Violence has been finalized. This plan of action focusses on the protection of victims, prevention of GBV, sexual and domestic violence, prosecutions, rehabilitation of victims and will soon be approved for implementation.
- Guyana beneficiary of the spotlight initiative to end violence against women and girls. Actions will be geared towards advancing changes in the prevention strategies and strengthen multi-sectoral responses to violence against women and girls. Country Programme is being formulated finalized in November 2019.
- Development and implementation of an essential services package for survivors of gender-based violence, is being undertaken. This initiative will provide greater access to a coordinated set of essential and quality multi-sectoral services for all women and girls who have experienced gender-based violence. It aims to identify the essential services to be provided by the health, social services, police and justice sectors.



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- ▶ **International migration and protection of the human rights of all migrants**
- ▶ **Best Practices**
 - Government has been providing relief to Venezuelan migrants in the border regions. (Temporary accommodation to vulnerable women and children, food items distributed, counseling, health-care services is offered through mobile health teams)
 - Access to education (Over 850 Venezuelan students attending schools across the regions in Guyana. Guyanese teachers to trained to teach English language as a foreign language to migrant students)
 - The provision of livelihood activities such as farming and entrepreneurship support in the form of small grants for micro-business.



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- **Indigenous peoples: interculturalism and rights**
- Challenges- Significant gap in the education, health and poverty levels between those on coastland and hinterland.
- Indigenous students continue to benefit from Scholarships, Dormitories have been constructed for students to reside while they attended school in the capital.
- Sensitization workshop on Sexual Offences Act, the Domestic Violence Act, the Labour Act and Labour related issues, Combating Trafficking in Persons Act.
- Budgetary increases to incentives and initiatives geared towards indigenous peoples.



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- ▶ *Territorial inequality, spatial mobility and vulnerability*
 - Improved access to potable water (Hinterland Regions)
 - Numerous Water Supply Rehabilitation Programme commenced
 - Ensuring access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing
 - The Hinterland Sustainable Housing programme is aimed to improve livability of low income families in select indigenous communities through better access to housing, potable water, sanitation.



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- **Afro-descendants: rights and combating racial discrimination**
- Country coordinating body for the International Decade for People of African Descent established a credit union for use of persons of African descent.
- The body has been conducting a number of seminars, country wide, to bring awareness to the opportunities that persons of African descent can tap into trade opportunities, etc.
- The body has given financial assistance to small businesses owned by persons of African descent.
- They have also been assisting women with skills development through various avenues.



THANK YOU

