

GMRP'S OBJECTIVES:

- To establish the administrative capacity for the management of mangroves in Guyana
- To promote sustainable management of mangrove forest
- To establish and complete a legal framework for mangrove ecosystem management which encourages community-based participation
- To support research and development of Guyana's mangrove forest
- To develop effective protection and/or rehabilitation of mangrove ecosystems
- To increase public awareness and education on the benefits of the mangrove forests

How does this project affect your community ?

- Your homes will be safer compared to the times when there was less protection from the sea
- Because you are directly associated with mangroves and will benefit from the protection of mangroves against the sea, you will be expected to help check on the mangrove area. Any observation of illegal activities must be reported.
- Some activities will require a shift in how they are conducted. For example, clearing of mangroves or indiscriminate burning will not be allowed. Animals need to be taken to safer grazing pastures rather than to the beach area.
- Community members and youth will have an excellent opportunity to contribute to community development by participating in community events and volunteering with the project.

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MANGROVES PROTECT US FROM THE SEA.
LET US PROTECT THEM!

WHAT ABOUT the Guyana Mangrove Restoration Project (GMRP)?



THE PROJECT



MANGROVES ARE CRITICAL FOR GUYANA'S SEA DEFENCE GIVEN THE THREATS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND SEA-LEVEL RISE. USE OF MANGROVES IN A WISE MANNER

AND RESTORING (PUTTING BACK) IS THEREFORE A PRIORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA.

IN FEBRUARY 2010, THE GUYANA MANGROVE RESTORATION PROJECT (GMRP) WAS LAUNCHED.

THIS PROJECT WAS CONCEIVED UNDER THE EUROPEAN UNION'S GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE PROGRAMME, LINKED TO SUSTAINABLE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT.

THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA VIA THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (MOA) HAS IDENTIFIED THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL-RESEARCH INSTITUTUE (NARI) AS THE LEAD AGENCY FOR THE OVERALL CO-ORDINATION OF THE PROGRAMME WITH GUIDANCE FROM A MANGROVE ACTION COMMITTEE

Restoration of Mangroves

Restoration simply means **replanting** of trees where they were once plentiful. Several sites along the coast have been identified for replanting of mangroves.

There are predominantly 3 common types in Guyana:

- The Black Mangrove
- The Red Mangrove
- The White Mangrove

Only the black mangrove is being replanted at this time.

The first step is to understand which mangrove species belongs at a particular site and what conditions it needs in order to grow. We need to understand what is hin-



MON REPOS YOUTH WITH SEEDLINGS

dering the normal growth of mangrove trees and fix those conditions. If this step is not successful then new mangroves will have to be planted.

Community Development and Public Awareness

The role of communities in management and monitoring is vital for the long-term success of the project.. The project will be managed in a transparent manner in accordance with the mandate of the management plan.

The level of community consultations is key to understanding how people use the beaches, the sea and the mangrove areas. The initial year will be spent on enhancing people's knowledge of mangroves and awareness of the project.

Areas of Research

There are several areas of research planned over the next three years. For now, the project is expected to use several methods to strengthen our coastal sea defence which includes hard structures known as Sea Walls and Groynes.

The beach and the shoreline shift naturally, and the project will try to understand how this will impact on restoration efforts.

In addition, research will be done to understand the value of the mangrove ecosystem to the fishing industry and to ecotourism.

Management Plans and Monitoring

The Mangrove Management Plan which was developed and tabled in Parliament is now a legal instrument. This plan will guide the monitoring of the various values and uses that mangroves provide. A Code of Practice to guide how