

Diaspora, Oil and Climate Change: Some Issues for Guyana

by
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Zoom Presentation: 'Oil and Climate Change in Guyana's Wet Neighbourhood',
Probing Promises and Potential Peril/Loss'
Examining matters raised in Chapter 6 of Dr. Lloyd Griffith's Book
July 8, 2025

Let me begin by Thanking Dr. Lloyd Griffith for writing this book . I will begin this presentation with some ideas on:

1. Diaspora Engagements; and this will be followed by:
2. Climate Change Matters.

Diaspora Engagements

1. Remittances: Cash Transfers

- a. **The largest source of remittances comes from the USA; this is because the USA has the largest Guyanese diaspora group.**
- b. **Most of these transfers are sent by Guyanese who work in different business sectors; and some of these Guyanese may be working two jobs, in order to make these transfers possible. Transfers sent to family and friends.**
- c. **The Question is, why do people send money home? Answer: many uses: including consumption (food, rent, health, transportation; legal matters, education, other).**

1. Remittances: sending money Home for all types of purposes: Health, education, food, rent, all kinds of expenses. **Rank of Remittances with major commodity Exports, Significant !**

Remittances and Export Earnings; Guyana Oil Earnings

Table 1 : Remittances and Export Earnings (US \$M)			
Categories	2022	2023	2024
Remittances	\$539.1	\$545.6	\$565.0
Sugar	\$ 17.4	\$ 24.9	\$ 19.40
Rice	\$ 195.6	\$ 211.7	\$ 254.80
Bauxite	\$ 98.9	\$ 79.6	\$ 94.8
Gold	\$ 829.8	\$ 808.6	\$ 990.0
Timber	\$ 27.6	\$ 20.7	\$ 20.0
Crude Oil	\$ 9,853.8	\$ 11,581.5	\$17,993.2
Guyanese Share of oil (14.5% of total exports)	\$1,428.80	\$ 1,679.32	\$2,609.01
Guyana Pay Taxes for the Oil Company	??	??	\$ 2,406.4
At most Guyana Share from oil in real terms	??	??	\$ 202.66

Estimate: 565.0 M for 2024

Remittances bigger than Oil earnings?? US\$202 less than US\$558?

Guyana pays Taxes to itself for the company.

Source <https://www.kaieteurnews.com/2023/12/19/world-bank-report-as-guyana-increases-oil-production-yearly-citizens-depend-more-on-overseas-relatives-for-financial-help/>

Source: BoG Annual Report 24: <https://bankofguyana.org.gy/boG/images/research/Reports/ANNREP2024.pdf>

Tax information from Financial Statements

Check Gold Price : it was US\$3,397.43 per oz, on 6/26/ 2025; check price today ??

Remittance data: <https://www.statista.com/outlook/fmo/payments/remittances/guyana>

<https://knoema.com/atlas/Guyana/topics/Economy/Balance-of-Payments-Current-accounts/Personal-remittances-received?mode=amp>

2. Diaspora and Healthcare Assistance:

a. There are many Guyanese, including those who work in Hospitals and Healthcare facilities, send/carry equipment, and medicines home. The value of these in-kind transfers are not captured in remittances.

b. There are individuals and organizations that provide free medical services to people in need of healthcare. For example, Medical Doctors, and other medical professionals, travel to Guyana at their own expense, and deliver free medical services. One such organization is GuyMetro; they specialize in providing healthcare to diabetic patients at the Davis Memorial Hospital.

c. It should be noted that with today's modern communication technology, access to professional help from overseas professionals can be obtained in real time; and this can save lives.

3. Diaspora and Alumni Associations:

a. Many former students form diaspora organizations, send books, teaching materials and teaching aids to their High Schools. A complete listing of all these associations are not known; but here are a few names: Queens College, Bishops High School, Cambridge Academy, Tutorial High, St. Stanislaus College, St. Joseph, among others.

b. Interestingly, no published financial information is available for these transactions, but these contributions make a difference in the lives of the current student populations.

4. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Diaspora: This program is geared to building mutually beneficial relationships between Guyana and the Guyanese Diaspora. Part of the emphasis is on energy, economic diversification, and economic development (Dr. Griffith, page 107); some Diaspora individuals have licenses to undertake business in Guyana (Pg. 138). In 2020, Guyana had the highest share (36.4 %) in the world of native-born individuals living abroad (pg. 102).

5. Diaspora Professional Engagement: Oil and Gas Governance Network (<https://www.oggn.org/>) is a non-political, and a non-profit organization with a 501 (c) (3) status. It advocates for the Rule of Law; Environmental Protection; financial norms with respect to oil exploration and production; prudent management (Pg. 103; pg. 45). Another organization produces the Guyana Business Journal and Magazine; it advances opportunities for doing business in Guyana (pg. 104).

6. Technology Transfer and online learning by the Diaspora: Modern communication technology has made this possible. Many have opportunities for online learning.

7. Diaspora and Cultural Exchanges: Diaspora return home to assist Guyanese with musical performances and participate in cultural shows.

General Comment:

Undoubtedly, remittances are important private financial contributions that enhance the wellbeing of the Guyanese people; it is a major source of foreign exchange; and while it results from the loss of workers in the local labor market in Guyana, the flow of remittances to Guyana is certainly a benefit that cannot be denied.

I will now speak on the second matter:

Oil and Climate Change in Guyana's Wet Neighbourhood:

Probing Promise and Potential Peril/Loss

Climate Change is premised on the notion that there is over heating of the environment, due to the surplus of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) and other elements in the Atmosphere.

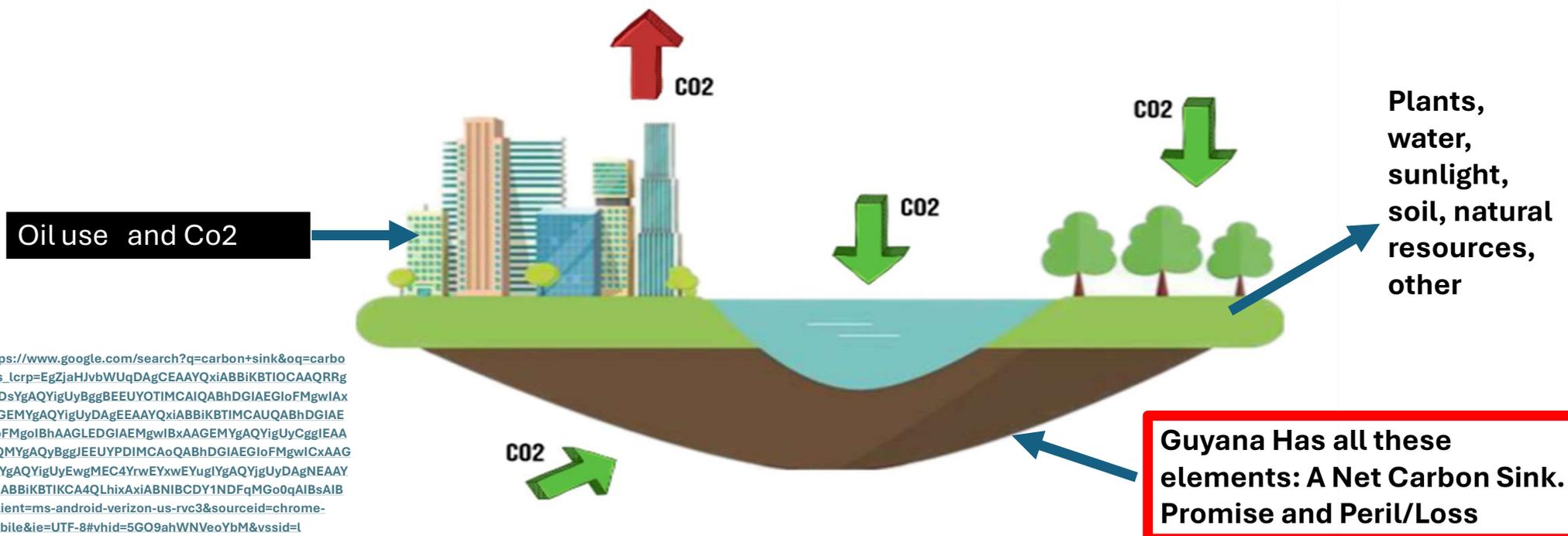
The overheating results in melting ice caps, rising sea levels, flooding, changes that affect Plants, Animals, and the overall balance in the environment.

The Cause of the Problem: Is the excessive use of oil in society with insufficient attention given to the waste disposal (CO₂) that overwhelms the balance of nature with unlimited pollution.

Solution: Provide a viable and sustainable Carbon Sink that is not overwhelmed by excessive amounts of CO₂ and green house gases that are recklessly dumped into the environment.

Co2 and a Carbon Sink

A carbon sink is a natural or artificial reservoir that absorbs and stores more carbon from the atmosphere than it releases. Essentially, it's anything that removes carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere. This process helps mitigate climate change by reducing the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.



[https://www.google.com/search?q=carbon+sink&oeq=carbon+sink&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUqDAgCEAAAYQxiABBikBTIOCAAQRrgnGDsYgAQYigUyBggBEEUYOTIMCAIQABhDGAIEGloFMgwIAx AAGEMYgAQYigUyDAGEEAAAYQxiABBikBTIMCAUQABhDGAIE GIoFMgoIBhAAGLEDGIAEMgwIBx AAGEMYgAQYigUyCggIEAA YsQMYYgAQYBggJEEUYPDIMCAoQABhDGAIEGloFMgwICx AAG EMYgAQYigUyEwgMEC4YrweYxwEYuglYgAQYjgUyDAGNEAAY QxiABBikBTIKCA4QLhixAxiABNIBCDY1NDFqMG0o0qAIBsAIB &client=ms-android-verizon-us-rvc3&sourceid=chrome- mobile&ie=UTF-8#vhid=5GQ9ahWNVeoYbM&vssid=l](https://www.google.com/search?q=carbon+sink&dq=carbon+sink&oeq=carbon+sink&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUqDAgCEAAAYQxiABBikBTIOCAAQRrgnGDsYgAQYigUyBggBEEUYOTIMCAIQABhDGAIEGloFMgwIAx AAGEMYgAQYigUyDAGEEAAAYQxiABBikBTIMCAUQABhDGAIE GIoFMgoIBhAAGLEDGIAEMgwIBx AAGEMYgAQYigUyCggIEAA YsQMYYgAQYBggJEEUYPDIMCAoQABhDGAIEGloFMgwICx AAG EMYgAQYigUyEwgMEC4YrweYxwEYuglYgAQYjgUyDAGNEAAY QxiABBikBTIKCA4QLhixAxiABNIBCDY1NDFqMG0o0qAIBsAIB &client=ms-android-verizon-us-rvc3&sourceid=chrome- mobile&ie=UTF-8#vhid=5GQ9ahWNVeoYbM&vssid=l)

Guyana's Wet Neighbourhood and a Carbon Sink

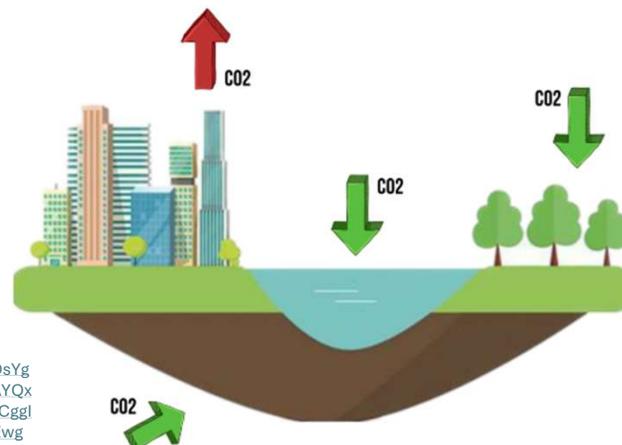
Dr. Griffith states (page 237): Guyana is a wet neighbourhood because of the combined effects: geographic, topographic, and climactic factors.

These factors include:

1. A long – 285mile Atlantic coast, parts of which are six feet below sea level, which allows the Atlantic Ocean often to breach the sea protection and flood coastal areas; **maintaining the sea wall is important.**
2. Hundreds of mountains, rivers, and waterfalls; and significant tropical forests, which cover 87 per cent of the country and produces considerable rainfall, all of which make the country susceptible to frequent and sometimes disastrous flooding.

Carbon sink: a system, like a forest or an ocean, that removes more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere than it releases over a given period. A system that achieves negative emissions, meaning that it removes more carbon dioxide than it emits over time. A net-carbon sink business is one that achieves this goal by measuring, reducing, and offsetting its carbon footprint, while also enhancing its carbon sequestration potential.

<https://www.google.com/search?q=carbon+sink&rlz=CgZjAhUjVdWUqDagCEAAATQXIABBiKBTIOCAAQRRgnGDsYgAQYigUyBggBEEUYOTIMCAIQABhDGIAGloFMgwIAxAGEMYgAQYigUyDagEEAAAYQxiABBikBTIMCAUQABhDGIAGloFMgoIBhAAGLEDGIAEMgwIBxAGEMYgAQYigUyCggIEAAYsQMYgAQYBggJEEUYPDIMCAoQABhDGIAGloFMgwICxAGEMYgAQYigUyEwgMEC4YrwEYxwEYugIYgAQYigUyDagNEAAYQxiABBikBTIKCA4QLhixAxiABNIBCDY1NDFqMG00qAIBsAIB&client=ms-android-verizon-us-rvc3&sourceid=chrome-mobile&ie=UTF-8#vhid=5GO9ahWNVeoYbM&vssid=l>



Just a reminder: Guyana has all the elements for a carbon sink: See 2 above and the diagram



Photosynthesis:

Plants absorb CO₂ from the atmosphere through tiny pores on their leaves called stomata. [🔗](#)

Energy Conversion:

Inside the plant's cells, specifically in the chloroplasts, sunlight, water, and CO₂ are used to produce glucose (a type of sugar) and oxygen. [🔗](#)

Oxygen Release:

Oxygen production from Co₂ in plants

The oxygen produced during photosynthesis is then released back into the atmosphere. [🔗](#)

Carbon Sink:

Carbon Sink

Plants act as carbon sinks, absorbing CO₂ from the atmosphere and storing it in their tissues. This process helps regulate the global carbon cycle. [🔗](#)

Respiration:

While plants use CO₂ for photosynthesis, they also respire, releasing some CO₂ back into the atmosphere. However, the amount of CO₂ they take in during photosynthesis is generally greater than the amount they release during respiration. [🔗](#)

If there are no plants and there is an abundance of Co₂ in the atmosphere, this traps heat in the Earth's atmosphere, contributing to the greenhouse effect and global warming (Peril/Loss)

Comment:

Keep live plants in your house, we get free oxygen; we give off CO₂.

https://www.google.com/search?q=humans+give+off+co2&rlz=1C1ONGR_enUS1113US1113&oq=humans+give+off+co2&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIICAEQABgWGB4yCAgCEAAyFhgeMg0IAxAAAGIYDGIAGIoFMg0IBBAAGIYDGIAGIoFMg0IBRAAGIYDGIAGIoFMg0IBhAAAGIAEGKIE0gEINDU0MWowajeoAgCwAgA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

https://www.google.com/search?q=plants+use+co2&rlz=1C1ONGR_enUS1113US1113&oq=plants+use+co2&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyCQgAEEUYORIABDIHCAEQABIABDIHCAIQABIABDIICAMQABgWGB4yCAgEEAAyFhgeMggIBRAAGBYHJIICAYQABgWGB4yCAgHEAAyFhgeMggICBAAGBYHJIICAKQABgWGB7SAQg2NjE5ajBqN6gCALACAA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

Guyana has an Extensive Range of Natural Resources that have significant market value. Oil and gas is just the latest.

Pg. 246: US Rainforest Foundation asserts: Guyana has an important role in the environmental Health of the world.

Promise (Gift)

1. Guyana is one of the most densely forested countries in South America, with rainforests covering about 87 per cent of its land mass (66, 123 square miles; or 171,257 sq. kilometers)
2. Guyana's rainforests (part of the Guyana Shield) are instrumental in regulating rainfall throughout the Amazon basin, significantly impacting global climate regulation (**Promise/ Gift**).
3. Guyana has maintained the lowest deforestation rate on Earth (**Promise/Gift to the world**), **creating a massive forest carbon sink that stores an impressive 19.5 gigatons of carbon dioxide**.
4. Guyana has a rich biodiverse environment (**Promise/Gift**) that include jaguars, giant river otters, harpy eagles, tapirs, giant anteaters, and giant armadillos, tapirs, monkeys, frogs. Also, there are birds, fresh-water fishes, crocodiles, anacondas, rattlesnakes, coral snakes, lanceheads, fer-de-lance and the bushmaster.
5. Guyana's Amazon rainforest both generates significant rainfall and regulates it (Carbon sink element).
6. Consequently, protection of this ecosystem (**Promise/Gift**) is vital for the environmental health of the world and in mitigating climate change difficulties.

Guyana: Location and size (pg. 238--): Guyana shares borders with Suriname, Venezuela, Brazil and the Atlantic Ocean. It is 83,000 square miles, with territorial waters that extend 12 nautical miles and an Exclusive Economic Zone, stretching 200 nautical miles from the coastline. The land area occupies 76,003 square miles, with the water area being some 6,996 square miles. Guyana's highest point is in the southwest – Mount Roraima, an impressive 2,835 meters (9,301 feet) high at the point where Guyana meets Brazil and Venezuela.

Figure 6.1 Major Rivers of Guyana

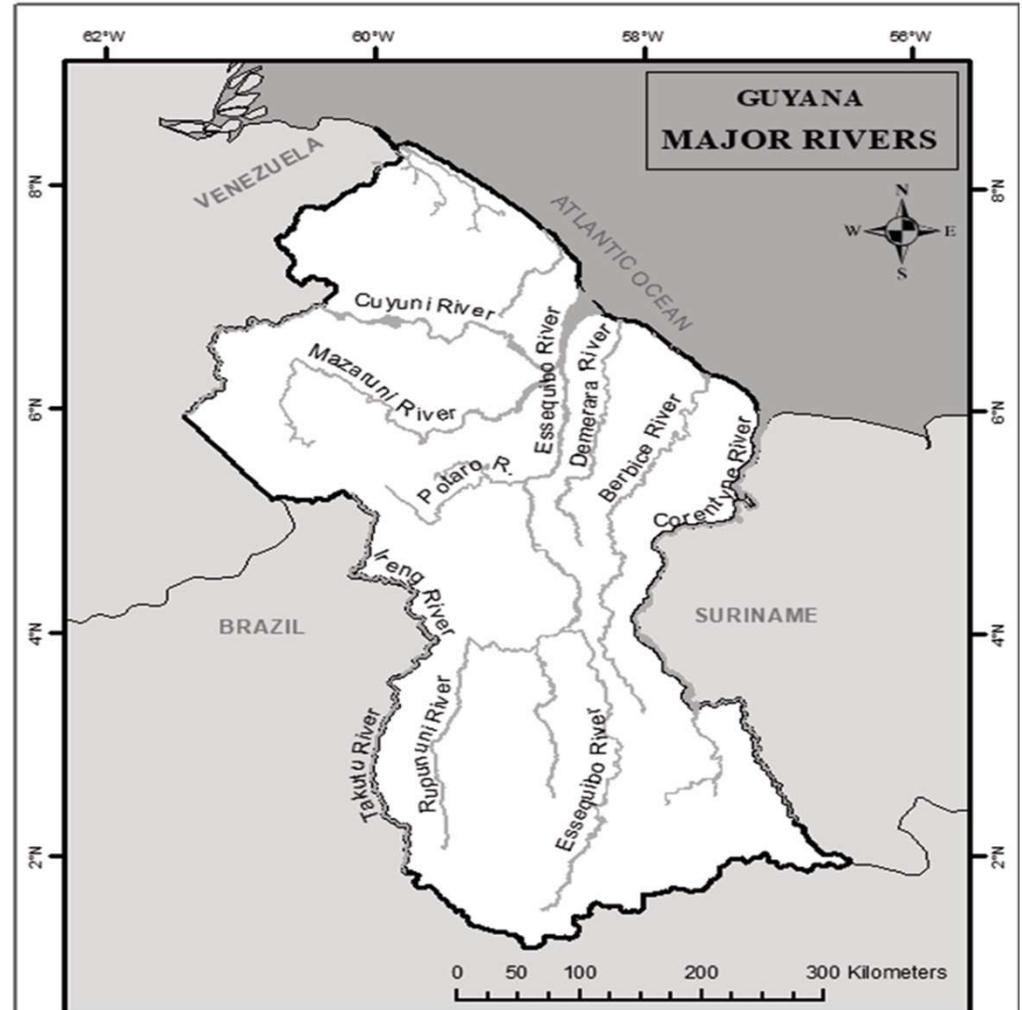


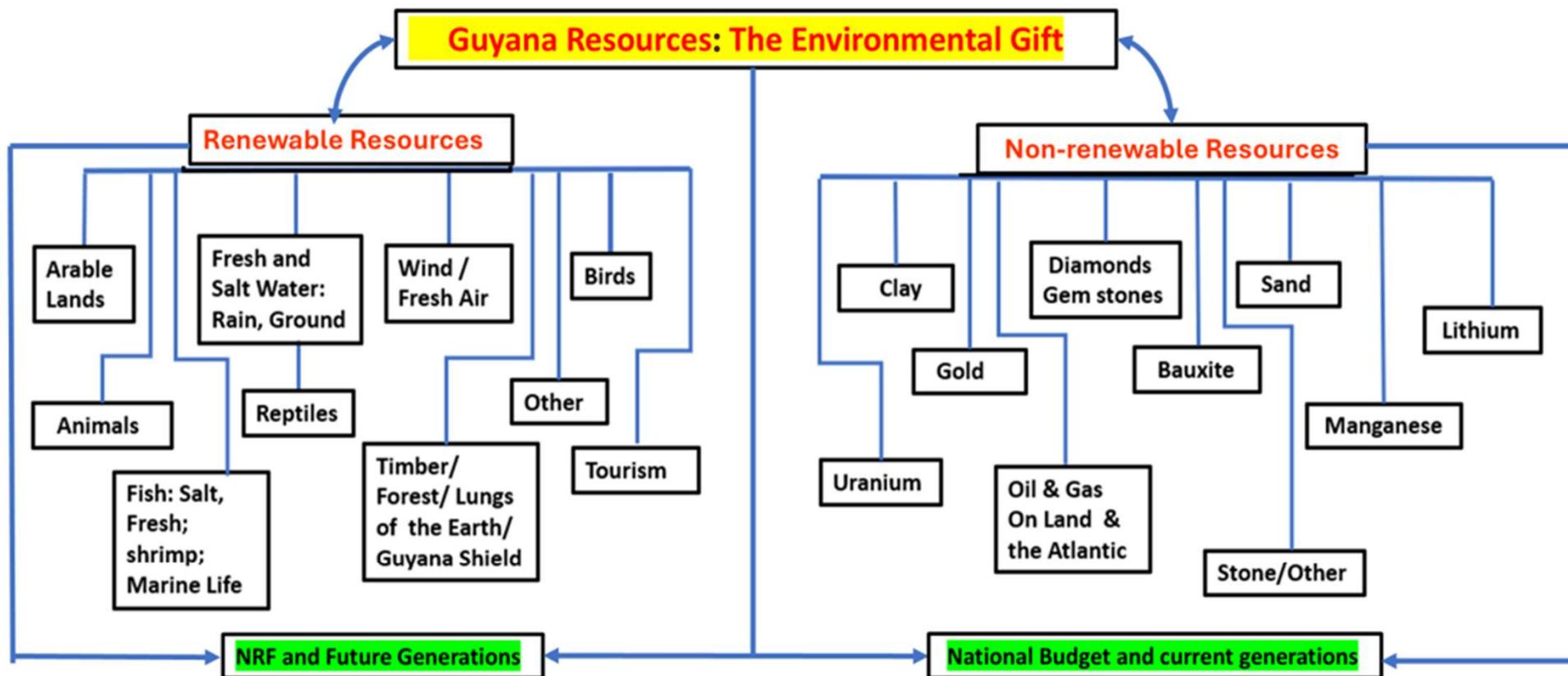
Figure: Guyana Topography, An overview

Four Natural Regions	Topography	Square Miles	Square Kilometers
1	Low Coastal Plain (with 1-3 meters below sea level)	3,521	9,120
2	The Hilly Sand and Clay Region (bauxite, red and white clays, logging and stone quarrying)	11,166	28,920
3	Hinterland Forest (Timber, gold, diamond. Etc. Mountain range):	60,406	156,450
4	Rupununi Savannahs	7,907	20,479
Total Area		83,000	214,969
Land and Water Division		xx	xx
1	Land Area	76,003	196,847
2	Water Area	6,997	18,122
Total Area		83,000	214,969

Check the length and connections to the Essequibo River: 630.1 miles long (1010 km)

Figure : Main Rivers in Guyana (pg. 242)– Land of many waters (fresh in this case; good for Business)

River Name	Gaging Station	Drainage Area (mi ²)	Maximum Daily Flow (cfs)	Minimum Daily Flow (cfs)	Mean Flow (annual discharge) (cfs)	Period of Record
Essequibo	Plantain Island	25,700	283,000	5,130	78,570	1950-69
Cuyuni	Kamaria Falls	20,600	190,500	350	37,560	1946-68
Mazaruni	Apaikwa	5,420	92,150	1,500	25,990	1950-68
Mazaruni	Hillfoot	8,000	146,350	2,000	40,460	1961-68
Potaro	Kaieteur Falls	1,020	39,600	400	7,224	1950-68
Potaro	Tumatumari	2,395	78,550	1,550	18,427	1946-54
Demerara	Great Falls	950	18,100	150	2,585	1949-67
Demerara	Saka	1,560	15,790	410	3,938	1950-67
Berbice	Itabu Falls	1,970	14,740	60	1,412	1960-68
Canje	Reynold's Bridge	107	304	51	94	1969



On a per capita basis, Guyana is perhaps one of the richest places on the Planet.

Problem: We do not know the Quantity and Quality of each of the Environmental gifts we have. Better skills sets are needed to evaluate and monitor our God Given gifts.

P. 244:

**Top ten waterfall;
Pg 244. Is there the potential
for Hydro-power
development?
Hydro-power is a clean
energy source and would
contribute to the Carbon
Sink requirements.**

NAME	REGION NAME & NO.	SOURCE RIVER	TOTAL HEIGHT
Amaila Falls	Potaro-Siparuni (8)	Kuribrong River	~ 60 meters
Aruwai Falls	Cuyuni-Mazaruni (7)	Wenamu River	~ 60 metres (over 2 km)
Kamarang Great Falls	Cuyuni-Mazaruni (7)	Kamarang River	~ 160 meters
King Edward VIII Falls	Cuyuni-Mazaruni (7)	Semang River	~ 256 meters
Kaieteur Falls	Potaro-Siparuni (8)	Potaro River	~ 226 meters
Kumerau Falls	Cuyuni-Mazaruni (7)	Kurupung River	~ 190 meters
Kurutuik Falls (Kurutuwu Mehru)	Potaro-Siparuni (8)	Ireng River	~ 100 meters
Marina Fall on Ipobe,	Potaro-Siparuni (8)	Ipobe River	152 meters
Orinduik Falls	Potaro-Siparuni (8)	Ireng River	~ 25 meters
Oshi Falls (King George VI Falls)	Cuyuni-Mazaruni (7)	Oshi River	~214 meters

**One Meter = 3.861022 Feet
King Edwards VIII Falls
compared with Kaieteur
Falls.**



Promise (Gift) and Peril/(Loss)

With the abundance of natural resources, Dr. Griffith noted that the **Promise (Gift)** which oil offers and the potential **Peril/Loss** that climate change portends combine to produce co-existence of optimism and apprehension within Guyana and in the diaspora.

(Moreover, he asserted that) Whether optimism increases and apprehension decreases ... will depend... on the fortunes (and management of)... the oil industry,... and how global economic and geopolitical forces beyond the control of political, industry, and civic society actors in Guyana help shape developments.' (pg. 127).

Peril/(Loss)

Evidence suggests that previous extraction processes of our raw materials did not consider the quality of the environment which was left after the wealth had been extracted.

Example 1: When **mercury** is used in gold extraction (**Promise/ Peril/Loss**), health concerns are increased, as no cleaning of the water used in the process is undertaken; and so, contaminated water (**Peril/Loss**) with mercury is a health problem for rural communities.

Example 2: The extraction of gold, diamond, bauxite, sand, manganese, clays (**Promise/Gift**) can leave a disfigured landscape that can negatively impact the surrounding areas (**Peril/Loss**).

Promise (Gift) and Peril/(Loss):

Example 3: When timber is extracted (**Promise/Gift**) and there are no silviculture programs, the quality of the environment changes (**Peril/Loss**), and this could affect other plants, birds, animals, and marine life.

Example 4: When contaminated water is not pumped back into the reservoir after the oil is extracted (**Promise/Gift**), this water destroys fish and marine life (**Peril/Loss**). In particular, this waste-water has reduced the fish catch (**Peril/Loss/**), reduced fishermen income (**Peril/Loss**), and decreased the supply of protein (**Peril/Loss**), which is the cheapest source of protein (**Promise/Gift**) in the Guyanese diet.

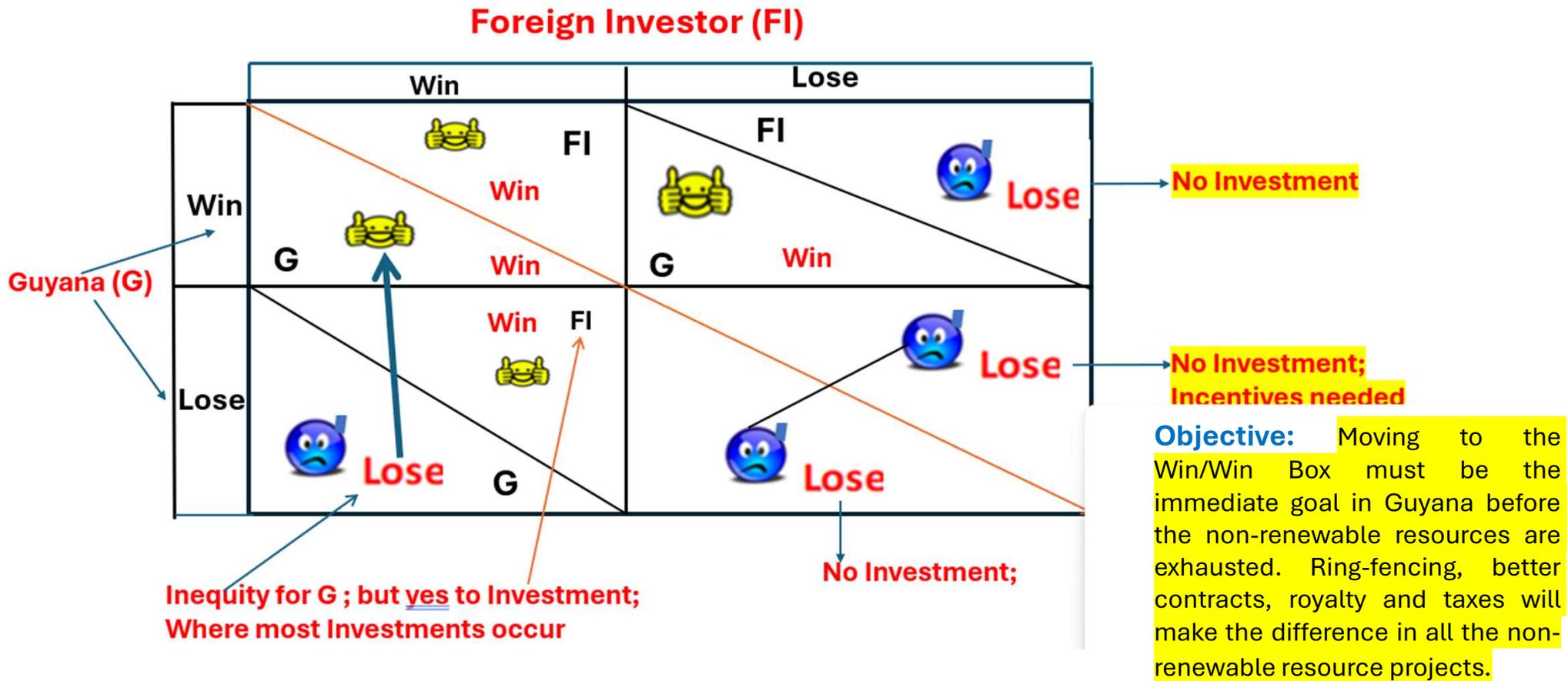
Example 5: Oil extraction (**Promise/Gift**) from beneath the Atlantic Ocean involves gas flaring (**Peril/Loss**) which generates greenhouse gases (**Peril/Loss**) and air pollution (**Peril/Loss**).

https://www.google.com/search?q=gas+flaring&rlz=1C1ONGR_enUS1113US1113&oq=gas+flaring&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyCQgAEEUYORiABDIHCAEQABiABDIHCAIQABiABDIHCAMQABiABDIHCAQQABiABDIHCAUQABiABDIHCAYQABiABDIHCAcQABiABDIHCAGQABiABDIHCAkQABiABNIBCDMzMTNqMG03qAllsAIB8QWwRQgIAuqMfPEFsEUICALqjHw&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

Greenhouse gases, like carbon dioxide (CO₂), trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere, contributing to the greenhouse effect and global warming (Peril/Loss). While CO₂ is a major greenhouse gas, it's not the only one; methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases also play a significant role.

Source:https://www.google.com/search?q=green+house+gas+and+co2&rlz=1C1ONGR_enUS1113US1113&oq=green+house+gas+and+co2&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIKCAEQABgKGBYYHjIICAIQABgWGB4yCAGDEAAYFhgeMgolBBAAGAOYFhgeMgolBRAAGAUyDRgeMgolBhAAGAUyDRgeMgolBxAGAUyDRgeMgolCBAAGIYDGIAGIogFMgclCRAAG08F0gEJMTQ0OTRqMG03qAlAsAIA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

A National Concern: The lack of a fair and equitable deal in the extraction of our non-renewable resources (gold, diamonds, bauxite) has been a troubling issue for decades; and to this troubling list, we can now add oil and manganese. See the diagram below.



How to deal with the negative impact of climate change in Guyana

Environmental Security Investment Plan (pg. 267). Components are as follows:

- 1. Maintenance of the sea defenses, clearance, revetment, and maintenance of the canals and dykes;**
- 2. Repair/replacement and maintenance of water pumps;**
- 3. Restoration and maintenance of mangrove forests and the rehabilitation and maintenance of the coastal seawalls; would be key aspects of the second component.**
- 4. The relocation of Georgetown away from the doorsteps of the Atlantic Ocean and the construction of Silica City. It will be a community 30 miles outside Georgetown, 33 miles from the mining town of Linden, and a short distance from the Cheddie Jagan International Airport. The project cost is US\$390.0 Million (G\$81.7 Billion).**
- 5. Is hoped that LEAP, a leading space logistics company (LEAP), will establish its launch platform there.**
- 6. See the master Plan on the next slide (pg270).**

Figure 6.5

Silica City Master Plan Land Use Portrait Pg.269

LAND-USE

MIXED USE DISTRICTS

NOTE:
All districts are mixed-use and contain the following:

- Markets
- Pharmacies
- Clinics
- Utilities
- Residential (different densities)

INNOVATION DISTRICT

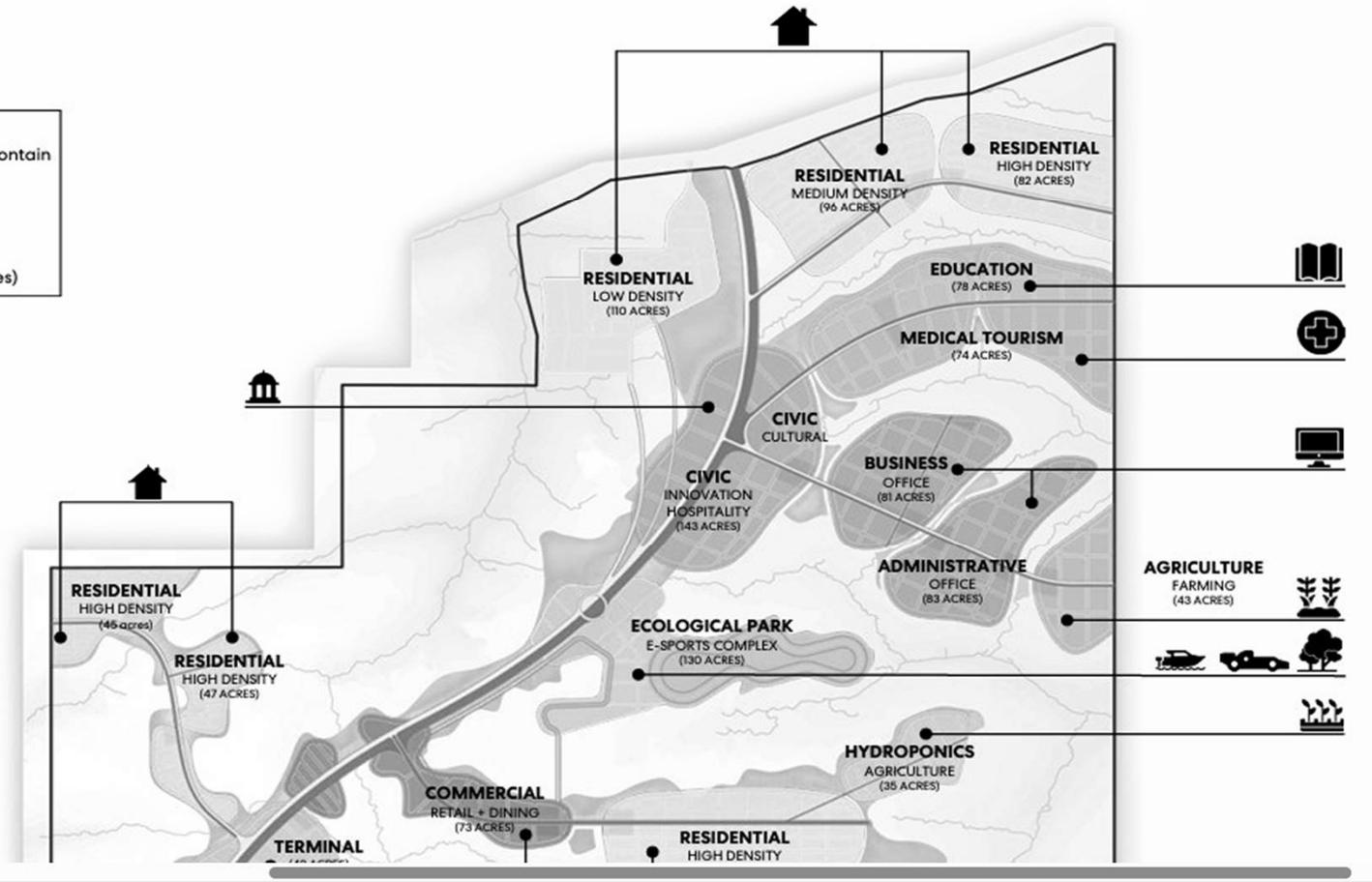
- RESEARCH FACILITIES
- BIO-DIVERSITY INSTITUTE
- DATA CENTER
- AI RESEARCH CENTER
- HOSPITALITY

CIVIC DISTRICT

- CIVIC
- RELIGIOUS
- CULTURE
- MUSEUMS
- HOSPITALITY
- RETAIL
- UTILITIES

BLUE + GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- PUBLIC PARK
- HYDROPONIC FARMS
- BOTANICAL GARDENS
- GREEN HOUSE
- MICRO-AGRICULTURE



The Birthing of an International World Good, with benefits beyond Borders

(pg 248):

The Iwokrama International Centre for Rainforest Conservation and Development was established in 1996 to manage the forest in Guyana.

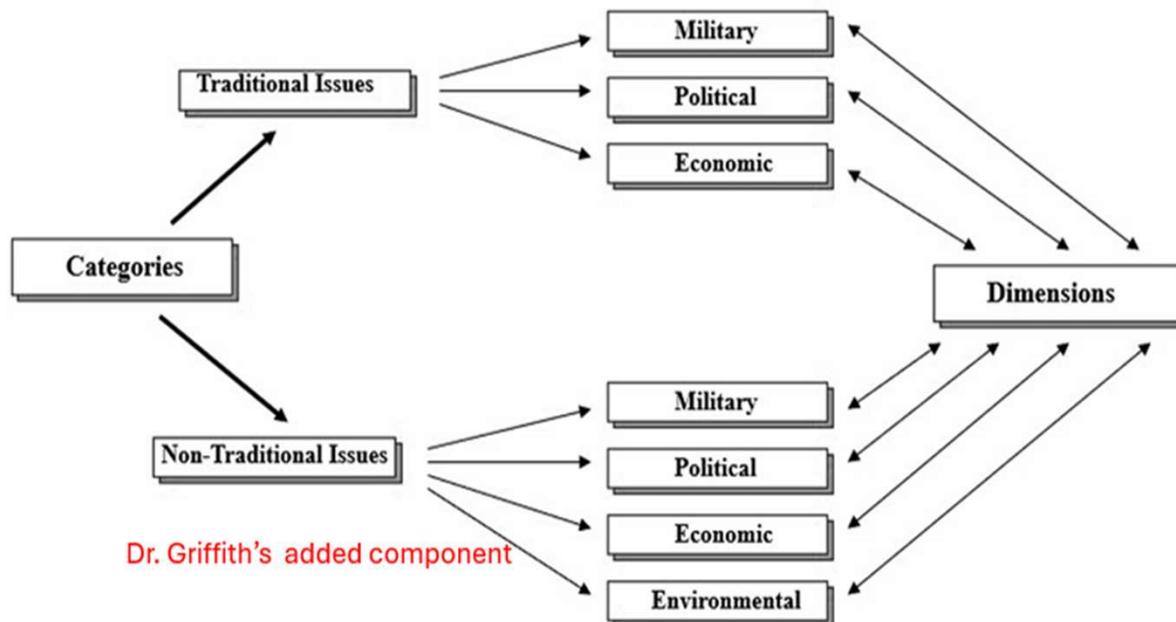
It is an agreement between the Government of Guyana and the London based Commonwealth Secretariat.

Focus: ‘promote the conservation and the sustainable and equitable use of tropical rainforests in a manner that will lead to lasting ecological, economic and social benefits to the people of Guyana and to the world in general.’

Question: Should this Institution be financed by all countries, except the net positive carbon sink countries? What do you think? Is this a fair requirement? A benefit received without a contribution can result in more pollution!

Componentets of National Security (pg263):

Dr. Griffth advances the idea that national security must have not only military, political, and economic indicators, but it must include an environmental dimensions.



Points to note about Guyana and Climate Change:

1. Guyana serves as a carbon sink (**Promise/ Gift**) due to its rainforest coverage, water ways, and low utilization of fossil fuel.
2. However, global warming impacts its rainfall, and its flooding experiences (**Peril/ Loss**).
3. Flooding is increasing due to shrinking glaciers and ice sheets leading to a projected sea-level rise of between 2.6 feet and 6.6 feet by 2100 (**Peril/Loss**).
4. As a result, ‘the Guyana coast is subsiding owing to groundwater extraction, soil compaction, and drainage of wetlands (**Peril/Loss**). From 1951 to 1979, sea levels off Guyana rose at a rate some six times the global average, (0.4 inch, or 10.2 millimeters per year), around six times the twentieth century average or three times the 1993 to 2009 annual average’ (UCS 2011) (**Peril/Loss**). Flooding will destabilize infrastructure, buildings, roads, bridges, dams; floodwaters will remain stagnant increasing the possibility of the spread of disease. Salt water will damage agriculture and Coastal ecosystems will disappear (pg.266; **Peril/Loss**).

Question: Given the fact that Guyana is a net-carbon sink country, should Guyana be compensated for ensuring that it maintains its Promise (Gift) of forests, other life forms, and river areas as a Sustainable Carbon Sink; and if so, what should be the compensation, and who should pay? Should polluters pay ?

On the question who should pay for polluting the environment?

It was Milton Friedman, a world-famous economist, who argued that the most effective way to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions is to make emitters pay for the damage they cause.

https://www.google.com/search?q=pollution+for+free+freedman&rlz=1C1ONGR_enUS1113US1113&oq=pollution+for+free+freedman&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIHCAEQIRigATIHCALQIRigATIHCAMQIRifBTIHCAQQRifBTIHCAUQIRifBTIHCAQYQIRifBTIHCAcQIRifBTIHCAgQIRifBTIHCAkQIRifBdlBCDkxMzRqMGo3qAlAsAIA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:0c5059ee,vid:0YGfwSvLkC0,st:0
<https://www.ecosystemmarketplace.com/articles/ghost-of-milton-friedman-materializes-in-chicago-endorses-a-price-on-carbon/>

Therefore, net-carbon sink countries should receive payment from Polluters.

Policies affecting greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions in the USA

<https://www.stabroeknews.com/2025/06/24/features/project-syndicate/the-ethics-of-carbon-pricing/>

- 1. President Obama was the first President to put a price on carbon; the price was set at \$42 per ton.**
- 2. President Trump: In his first term cut the tax to \$5.00 per ton.**
- 3. President Biden: Carbon Tax raised to \$190.00 per ton.**
- 4. President Trump: More in favor of prioritizes domestic oil and gas production and has expressed intentions to roll back clean energy policies:**

https://www.google.com/search?q=price+for+carbon+credits+under+trump&rlz=1C1ONGR_enUS1113US1113&oq=price+for+carbon+credits+under+trump&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIHCAEQIRiPAJIHCAIQIRiPAAtIBCTI4MzA4ajBqN6gCALACAA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

Recommendation: Net carbon sink countries should be compensated for their net-positive sequestration of carbon from the atmosphere.

Thank you.