

# THE UNDP/GEF 1996 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW REPORTING FORMAT

## 1. Project Identifiers

**Project Number:** GUY/92/G31

**Project Name:** Programme for Sustainable Forestry  
(Iwokrama Rain Forest)

**Region:** LAC

**Country:** Guyana

**Focal Area:** Biodiversity

**National  
Implementing  
Agencies:** Commonwealth Secretariat, IDRC, University of  
Guyana, Smithsonian, Red Thread,  
Guyana Natural Resources Agency

**Executing Agency:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Res. Rep.:** Mr. Carlos Felipe MARTINEZ

**Task Manager:** Dr. Thomas GITTENS

**Entry into Work Program:** **Date:** 05/91

**Amount:** (US\$ M) \$3.00

**ProDoc Signature:** **Date:** Feb, 93

**Cofinancing:** **Amount:** (US\$ M) \$0.780

## 2. Project design and indicators

### Development Objective:

The complex renewable tropical forest assets of Guyana and all countries which possess the tropical rain forest resources should be convertible to sustainable economic benefits, according to historic and recent analyses. Prescribing sustainable forestry methods, on the one hand, and empirically demonstrating that such methods can be profitable contributing to harmonious development, on the other hand, offer quite distinct challenges. The work in the Iwokrama Rain Forest Programme will seek to demonstrate that the tropical rain





## **7. Verbal Summary of Current project status, problems and issues of importance for further implementation.**

Project implementation has picked up momentum over the past year although implementation is still somewhat behind schedule. All major procurement has been completed, and inputs by way of consultants from the Commonwealth Secretariat are being delivered. Inputs under the IDRC subcontract are being delivered, while IDRC has begun working on the establishment of the Communications and Information Center. With the Legal establishment of the Programme in April 1996, the issue of its complex governance structure has taken on greater urgency. This is a significant constraint since the current arrangements require the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to formally approve all major policy decisions, yet the Iwokrama Center is independent by law. A new Board of Trustees needs to be appointed, and subsidiary bodies established.

## **8. Follow up Recommendations**

1. More resolute efforts need to be made to secure financial resources for the Center and its research and training programmes.
2. The Board of Trustees should be appointed without further delay.
3. The prospect of GEF resources to assist in financing the incremental costs of specific research programmes should be analyzed.
4. The training objectives of the Programme, especially with respect to local personnel need to be implemented.

## **9. Appendix**

forest can maintain desired levels of biological diversity while supporting economic activity. An integrated approach to sustainable utilization of the resources derived from tropical rain forests, featuring a variety of economic activities is more acceptable than one reliant solely upon forestry.

### **Immediate Objectives:**

1. The establishment of the Iwokrama Rain Forest Programme - including legal framework, basic site infrastructure, management plans, resource mobilization plans, resource surveys, public awareness campaigns - and its International Board of Trustees capable of undertaking total management of the international programme for the sustainable utilization of the resources from tropical rain forest and the conservation of biodiversity.

### **3. Financial Status**

Disbursements (US \$ Millions)

FY 1995 0.40

FY 1996 0.85

Cumulative expenditure upto 30 June 1996

1.54

Cumulative expenditure as a percentage of the total project budget

51%

**Percentage of actual expenditure against planned expenditure for calendar year 1995.**

80.4%

### **4. Implementation Progress Rating:**

(for each immediate project objective tick one of the 4 ratings.)

highly satisfactory	satisfactory	unsatisfactory	highly unsatisfactory
(75-100%)	(50-70%)	(25-50%)	(0-25%)





## **Immediate Objective:**

1. 50-70%

**Summary:** Project activities and achievements have accelerated over the past year, beginning in November 1995 with the signing of the Agreement between the President of Guyana and the Commonwealth Secretary-General which established the Iwokrama Center, and the passage of the Iwokrama Act by Parliament in April 1996. The major flora and fauna surveys in the programme site are on-going, collaborative research programmes are becoming more frequent, the base camp is fully functional, management plans have been drawn up for the rain forest site, and resource mobilization and institutional development plans have been finalized.

**NGO Participation:** Red Thread, a local NGO has been sub-contracted to spearhead Iwokrama's outreach programmes and prepare a quarterly newsletter.

## **5. Overall Performance Rating**

(Verbal assessment of project performance in achieving all Objectives outlined in section 2)

With the legal establishment of the Programme in April 1996, the main objective of GEF assistance has been achieved. Additionally, establishment of a base camp; on-going surveys and research on the flora and fauna of Iwokrama; the adoption of a five-year Medium-term plan; training of local forest rangers and park wardens; development of a functional GIS of the programme site; and on-going work on preparing management and administrative systems, a funding strategy and a resource mobilization plan are all very much advanced and some already achieved.

## **6. Focal Area Questions:**

The GEF-financed project aims to assist in the establishment of the Iwokrama Programme, and to set up the basic infrastructure and data base of the programme area. As such actual research and the generation of global benefits in the area of biodiversity conservation has not begun as yet. The mere designation of the site as a protected area clearly represents a benefit to the global community. Research into sustainable forestry management is expected to commence in the near future which will represent benefits to the global community.

The project has established a close working relationship with indigenous populations in the area. Iwokrama provides employment and medical services for villagers. Consultations with villagers were held regarding the Iwokrama Bill recently passed by Parliament.