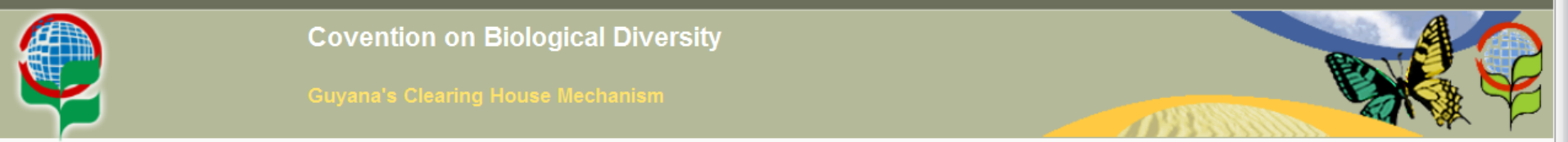


Clearing House Mechanism

Presented by: Sean Mendonca





About

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EPA Guyana



Guyana became signatory to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on August 29, 1994 and acceded to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on June 16, 2008. Having signed the CBD, Guyana accepted national responsibility for developing an information gathering & distribution network in support of national biodiversity conservation as one of its obligations.

A Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM) was subsequently established in March 2010.

The CHM is a national network of organizations and individuals primarily collating, distributing and exchanging public information on biodiversity and its conservation in Guyana.

The CHM in accordance with [Article 18 \(3\)](#), has been set up to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation in support of the CBD and its three objectives:

- the conservation of biological diversity,
- the sustainable use of its components, and
- the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resource

Further, the CHM has three goals, all of which are necessary for achieving the goals of the Convention:

- Cooperation - Promotion and facilitation of scientific and technical cooperation.
- Information Exchange - Development of a global mechanism for exchanging and integrating information on biodiversity.
- Network Development - Development of the CHM Focal Points and their partners

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Cooperation

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Information Resources

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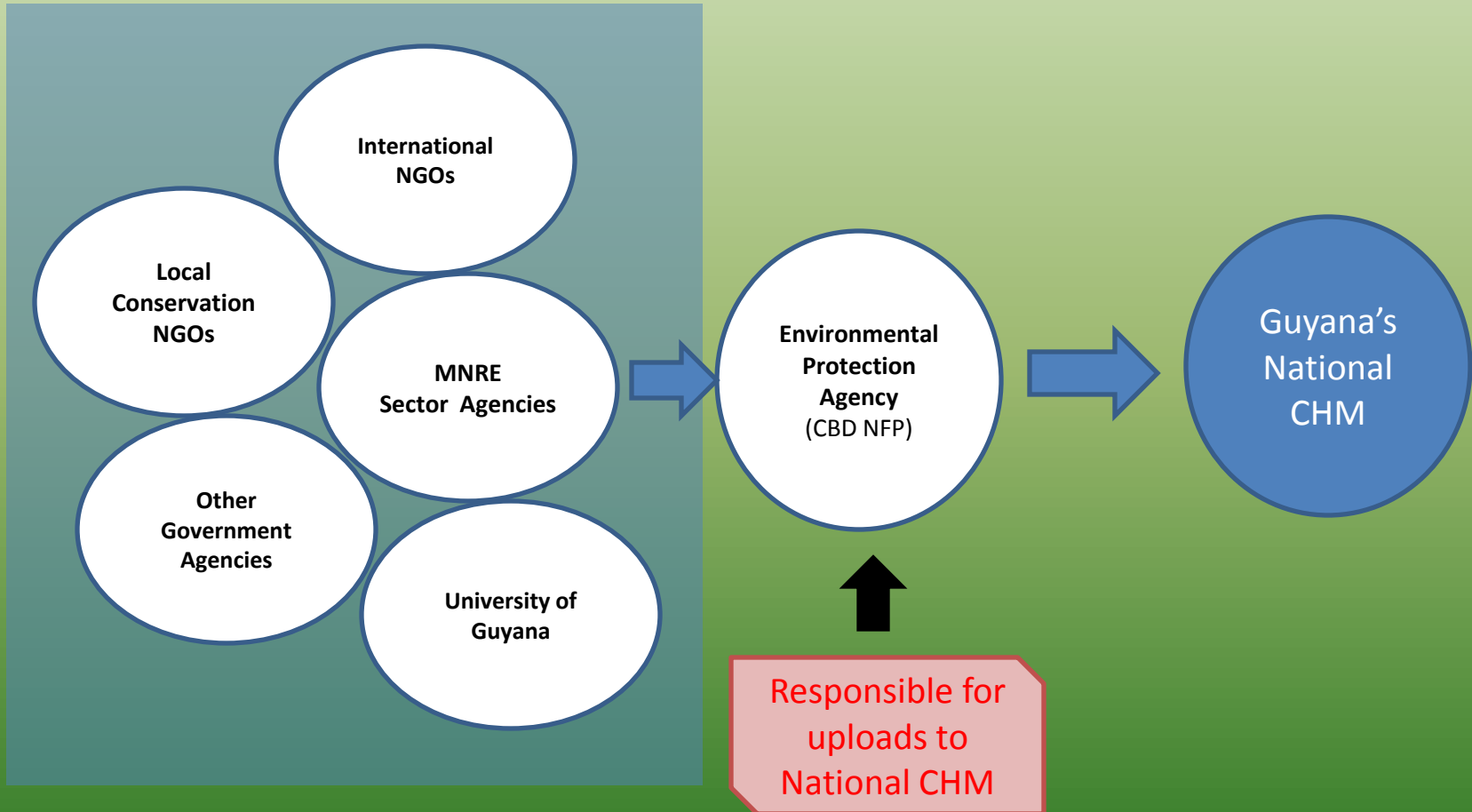
[Outreach Materials](#)

- Initial National CHM Workshop March 2010

Objectives:

- training key stakeholders to serve as 'contributors' via the Naaya Content Management Software
- To sensitize agencies and organisations in Guyana's natural resources management sector about the purpose and functioning of the CHM.
- To identifying the types of information that can be contributed to the CHM from their respective agencies and organisations.

Present structure of National CHM



Biodiversity

Key sectors and Biodiversity

Biodiversity and Guyana's
Indigenous Peoples

Protected Areas

Status and trends

Biodiversity

- Key sectors & biodiversity
- Biodiversity and Guyana's indigenous People
- Protected Areas

Implementation of CBD

Focal Point

Documents related to
implementation of CBD

Thematic Areas

Cross-cutting Issues

Implementation of CBD

- provide details of the CBD and the past/present initiatives related to Guyana's

Cooperation

International

Regional

National

Cooperation (presently lacking data)

- e.g. International – list of all conventions/protocol Guyana is a signatory related to biodiversity.

Information Resources

Biodiversity Projects

Biodiversity Research

Outreach Materials

Information Resources

- Relevant document/reports related to Biodiversity Projects
- Public Awareness materials

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Present structure of National CHM

Challenges

(1) Institutional Structure

- By taking on the responsibility of acquiring/reviewing/uploading information to CHM

(2) Level of awareness and commitment

- not promoted well

(3) Inter-institutional coordination & cooperation

- no flow of information. As reports and other relevant documents are produced they are not forwarded to the EPA for uploading to National CHM.

Actions for consideration

- Roles of Contributor, Validator and Administrator
- Improving the quantity and quality of information that can be found on the CHM. Also providing hyperlinks on all MNRE's sector agencies websites.
- Matters related to Guyana's National CHM to be on the agenda of Ministry's meetings (both within sector and cross-sector)

CHM & implementation of NBSAP

- 1) Allows of sharing of information across the board
- 2) Networking opportunities to meet targets
- 3) Tracking Guyana's progress in implementation and highlighting milestones achieved.

Cooperation and Support

- 1) Better cooperation among the natural resources and environment sectors within Guyana.
- 2) Access to financial aid to increase stakeholder understanding and promote greater cooperation (continuity)
- 3) Sharing experiences with other countries (challenges). Improve regional networking.

Thank You

