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|  |  | **CBD** |
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WORKSHOP ON BIODIVERSITY CORRIDORS IN THE GUIANA

 SHIELD TO STREAMLINE SUPPORT FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT

 OF THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS

Kurupukari, Guyana, 21 - 23 May 2014

# **Information Note for Participants**

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1. Opening and registration

The workshop on Guiana Shield Biodiversity Corridors to provide technical inputs for the streamlining of support for the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets will start at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 21 May, 2014 and registration will take place from 3:00 p.m. at the Iwokrama River Lodge.

The workshop will start at 9:00 a.m. on 19 May 2014. Registration will take place at the venue of the workshop from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. the same day.

1. Venue

The workshop will be held at:

**Iwokrama River Lodge and Research Centre**

Kurupukari, Region 8 - Potaro-Siparuni, Guyana

Telephone: +592 225 1504 or +592 225 1186

Website: <http://www.iwokrama.org/>

Social networks: www.facebook.com/iwokramainternationalcentre and

www.instagram.com/iwokramatourism

1. Working language of the workshop

The workshop will be held in English with simultaneous Spanish and Portuguese interpretation.

1. Documents

Participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the pre-session documents for the workshop as there will be no extra copies made available on site during the workshop. Pre‑session documents will be available on the Secretariat’s website at:

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<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=PAWS-2014-01>

1. General information on access to Iwokrama River Lodge and Research Centre, Kurupukari, Guyana

The main international airport servicing Guyana is the Cheddi Jagan International Airport in Georgetown. Participants will connect to a chatered domestic flight to Kurupukari.

Kurupukari is located on the left bank of the Essequibo River in the centre of the country in Region #8 - Potaro-Siparuni, (about 370 km south-west of the city of Georgetown). The closest aerodrome/airport is in FairView Village, about 1 km from the Iwokrama River Lodge. A special chartered flight to FairView Village has been scheduled on 21 May for all paritipcants. The flight duration is approximately 1hr 15 minutes. More information will provided directly to participants.

All participants will be met at the aerodrome/airport according to flight arrivals in FairView Village and will be provided transfer to the Iwokrama River Lodge. More details will be sent via e‑mail.

1. Visa information

Participants from countries listed below **do not** require an entry visa for Guyana. Participants from all other countries are strongly advised to contact the nearest Guyanese diplomatic or consular mission **as soon as possible** in order to secure the required entry visa, including transit ones, in a timely manner, prior to departure. To facilitate the issuance of visas, the Secretariat will issue **upon request** invitation letters to be attached to the visa applications. The visa application process can be lengthy, so please allow sufficient time. Some airline companies will not allow boarding without a valid visa.

A list of relevant information on visa procedures and Guyanese diplomatic/consular missions abroad is available on the web site of the Ministry of Home Affairs as follows:

General visa information:

* All participants must travel with a passport valid for at least 6 months from the date of entry into the country.
* 1 passport sized photo.

Visa pplication form:

<http://www.minfor.gov.gy/images/minfor_docs/consular_services/VISA_APPLICATION_FORM.pdf>

Visa procedures for participants wihtout local Guyanese Missions or Consulates in their country for whom a visa upon arival may be requested: <http://www.minfor.gov.gy/images/minfor_docs/consular_services/New_Immigration_Procedures_Visa_Fees.pdf>.

Consular missions abroad:

<http://www.minfor.gov.gy/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=99>

**COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WHOSE CITIZENS DO NOT REQUIRE A VISA IN ORDER TO ENTER GUYANA AS VISITORS**

1. Antigua and Barbuda

2. Argentina

3. Austria

4. Australia

5. Barbados

6. Belgium

7. Belize

8. Bolivia (Holders of Diplomatic, Special and Official Passports)

9. Brazil

10. Canada

11. Chile (Holders of Diplomatic and Service Passports)

12. China (Holders of Diplomatic & Official Passports)

13. Colombia (Holders of Diplomatic, Special & Official Passports)

14. Cuba

15. Cyprus- Republic of ( Holders of Diplomatic & Service Passports)

16. Costa Rica (For Tourism Purposes)

17. Denmark

18. Dominica

19. Dominican Republic (Holders of Diplomatic & Service Passports)

20. Ecuador

21. Finland

22. France

23. Germany

24. Greece

25. Grenada

26. Haiti ( Holders of Diplomatic, Official & Special Passports)

27. India ( Holders of Diplomatic & Special Passports)

28. Iran ( Holders of Diplomatic & Special Passports)

29. Ireland

30. Italy

31. Jamaica

32. Japan

33. Luxembourg

34. Mexico (Holders of Diplomatic & Official Passports)

35. Montserrat

36. New Zealand 37. North Korea

38. Norway

39. Peru

40. Panama (For Tourism Purposes)

41. Portugal

42. Russian Federation

43. South Korea

44. South Africa

45. Spain

46. St. Christopher and Nevis (St. Kitts)

47. St. Lucia

48. St. Vincent & the Grenadines

49. Suriname

50. Sweden

51. Switzerland

52. The Bahamas

53. The Netherlands

54. Trinidad and Tobago

55. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

56. United States of America

57. Uruguay (Holders of Diplomatic & Official Passports)

58. Venezuela ( Holders of Diplomatic & Official Passports)

1. Health information

In accordance to the World Health Organization (WHO) procedures, Guyana requires yellow fever vaccination certificate from all travellers over one year of age arriving from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission with the exception of Argentina, Paraguay, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago.  The WHO link is as follows:

<http://www.who.int/ith/chapters/ith2012en_countrylist.pdf?ua=1>.

According to the WHO, malaria risk is high throughout the year in all parts of the interior. Risk is highest in Regions 1, 2 4, 7, 8 (meeting venue), 9, and 10, and very low in Regions 3, 5 and 6.

For more information or your vaccination requirements for Guyana, please consult a medical professional with regard to the vaccination requirements for your travel.

1. Hotel information

A block booking has been made at the Iwokrama River Lodge (meeting venue) on behalf of all sponsored participants according to your flight arrangements. All personal expenses including accommodation, meals, laundry, phone calls, etc., will be paid by participants upon check out.

**Iwokrama River Lodge and Research Centre**

Kurupukari, Region 8

Guyana

Telephone: : +592 225 1504 or +592 225 1186

Web site: <http://www.iwokrama.org/>

**Participants arriving before 21 May may require accommodation in Georgetown**

A list of recommended hotels in Georgetown is listed below:

Brandsville Apartments

89-90 Pike St., Section 'M' Campbellville, Georgetown

Tel: + 592-227-0989

Fax: +592-231-7001

Web site: <http://www.brandsville.net/>

Sleepin International Hotel

24 Brickdam, Stabroek, Georgetown.

Telephone: +592 227 3446 /3467

Fax: +592 225 0800

E-mail: stay@sleepininternationalhotel.com

Skype: [@skypename](http://www.sleepininternationalhotel.com/contact.html)

Web site: <http://www.sleepininternationalhotel.com/index.html>

1. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowances (DSA)

Sponsored participants will receive the relevant portion of their DSA on the first day of the workshop.

1. Official language in Guyana

The official language in Guyana is English.

1. ![MCj04325870000[1]]()Weather and time zone information

For detailed information on Guyana’s weather, go to:

<http://www.accuweather.com/en/gy/guyana-weather>

<http://www.hydromet.gov.gy/>

The standard time zone in Guyana is GMT/ UTC -4 hours.

1. Electricity

Guyana uses two voltages: 110-127 volts and 220-240 volts. In Kurupukari, the voltage is 110 volts, 60 Hertz.

In general, the plugs are a two-pin type as shown in the figure below. However, it is highly recommended that participants bring their own universal adapters, because different types of electrical sockets are used in Guyana.

  

![MCj04338080000[1]]()

1. Currency

The Guyana currency is the Guyana Dollar (GY$). The current exchange rate as at 30 April 2014 is US $1 = GY$205.70 and € 1 = GY$285.39. <http://www.bankofguyana.org.gy/bog/> . Visa and MasterCard are accepted by some establishments in Guyana. Cash and travellers checks can be exchanged in banks.

1. Disclaimer

The CBD Secretariat disclaims all for medical, accident and travel insurances, for compensation for death or disability compensation, for loss of or damage to personal property and for any other losses that may be incurred during travel time or the period of participation. In this context, it is strongly recommended that participants secure international medical, accident and travel insurances for the period of participation prior to departure.

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