

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDING FACILITY



GFDRR
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery



WORLD BANK GROUP

Resilient, Green, and Inclusive Flood Investment Baseline for the Georgetown Metropolitan Area

Context and Objectives

Guyana is exposed to multiple weather and climate change-related risks, especially flooding. The country's coastal plains, where 90% of the population lives (including the capital city of Georgetown) and which support agricultural areas vital to the country's economy, are particularly vulnerable. Flood hazards in Georgetown are manifested through rising sea levels, excessive rainfall, and inadequate drainage infrastructure and water management, and are compounded by poor refuse disposal. Due to its complex physical drainage system, the Georgetown Metropolitan Area (GMA) was not included in previous flood-risk management studies, yet as the city is likely to continue expanding due to urban growth authorities are needing a cohesive strategy to guide flood risk reduction and spatial planning strategies.

This project was launched to assist the government in designing this new strategy to guide new opportunities for investments in resilient infrastructure based on natural solutions. The government of Guyana is developing a comprehensive map of the GMA's hydrological regime, resulting in a base strategy upon which to develop future interventions. This strategy includes topics such as improving the efficiency of the urban drainage system, identifying opportunities for improvement while considering the GMA's continuing expansion and population growth.

Main Activities

- Understanding and managing flood risk through in Georgetown Metropolitan Area.
- Technical support for developing a comprehensive study for a resilient, green, and inclusive Georgetown metropolitan area.

Results

Following a specific request from the Ministry of Finance of Guyana, a list of priority no-regret drainage interventions for Georgetown metropolitan area was collected. An inception workshop was organized in October 2021, and data collection and review is currently ongoing, as well as the development of the model conceptualization, and the main site walkovers are completed. A final, approved inception report outlining no-regret drainage interventions in Georgetown metropolitan area was delivered on November 26, 2021.

Partnerships and Coordination

This project is undertaken jointly with institutions of the government of Guyana including the Ministry of Agriculture's Agriculture Sector Development Unit, the National Drainage and Irrigation Authority, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Public Infrastructure and the Municipality of Georgetown.

Country

Guyana

Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility component

Adaptation Facility for Leveraging Investments in Resilience in the Caribbean

Amount approved

EUR 442,713 / \$503,409

Duration

07/2020-02/2023