FORESTS NEWS

Making the most of forest monitoring in Guyana

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Guyana, a country in the northeast part of South America is one of a handful of countries that has managed to keep its deforestation and forest degradation low. Situated in the center of the Guiana Shield, one of the four largest remaining standing tropical rainforests in the world, For years, Guyana has also managed to keep its <u>deforestation rate at around 0.07 percent</u>, according to data from Global Forest Watch.

<u>Guyana is also one of the early implementers of REDD+</u> (Reducing Emissions caused by Deforestation and forest Degradation). In 2009, while the concept of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation was still in its infancy, Guyana and Norway made a pact that if Guyana managed to keep its annual forest loss below 0.056 percent, they would receive payments for it.

This podcast explores how Guyana uses a measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) system that has allowed for comprehensive, consistent, transparent and verifiable assessments and reporting of forest area change.

Hans Sukhdeo, a project officer at the Guyana Forestry Commission will shares lessons learned from MRV practices that have been implemented since 2010. Martin Herold, CIFOR-ICRAF senior associate and professor of geoinformation science and remote sensing at Wageningen University in the Netherlands explains how new technologies can help countries monitor their forests more efficiently, with a particular focus on using laser scanning technology to improve allometric models for forest carbon stock estimation for Guyana.

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