

## LCDS Quick Facts

- It was launched on 8, June, 2009, by then President, of Guyana, Dr. Bharrat Jagdeo.
- It outlines Guyana's vision for a low carbon economy, while helping to fight climate change by keeping our forest intact.
- It notes that cutting down our forests would bring us as much as US \$600M dollars a year!
- It recognizes that cutting down our forests would be bad for the climate so we do not
- It points out that our forests help to remove carbon dioxide and store water a job worth about US \$40 Billion a year!
- It proposes that the world should pay us for keeping our forests so that they can continue to help to fight against climate
- It outlines that the money for keeping our forests would allow us to more quickly:
  - \* Convert to low carbon energy and agriculture.
  - \* Build better flood protection e.g. sea-walls and drainage
  - \* Install faster telecommunications
  - \* Install better flood warning systems
- It provides for Amerindians to put their forests up for international protection if they wish.
- Norway and Guyana signed an agreement for US\$250 M to keep our forests. This money would be given to Guyana if it shows that it has avoided deforestation.

## Low Carbon actions you can do at home and school

- \* Turn off lights when leaving the room.
- \* Ride your bike or walk if you have to go short distances.
- \* Take a reusable lunch bowl to school.
- \* Turn off the tap when not in use e.g. brushing your teeth or soaping your body in the shower.
- \* Take shorter showers.
- \* Plant a tree or care for one.
- \* Dispose of your waste in a bin.
- \* Carry a reusable shopping bag to the shop.



Source:

[www.lcds.gov.gy](http://www.lcds.gov.gy)

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## The LCDS for Primary Schools



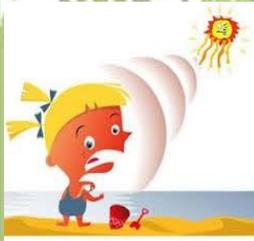
## What is Weather and Climate ?

Weather is the day-to-day conditions of a particular place e.g. it could be raining where you live today and be sunny tomorrow!



Climate is something quite different from weather. It is the common, average weather conditions at a particular place over many years e.g. more than 30 years.

Guyana's climate is warm and tropical. There is lots of rainfall especially in January and December and it is very humid.

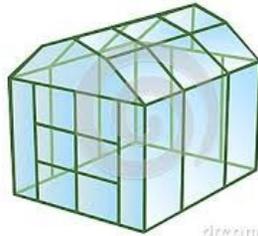


However, along the coast the sea-breeze helps to make it cooler and less humid.

## What is Climate Change?

Global climate is the average climate around the world. However, scientists have evidence to show that the world's climate is changing - this is what is known as climate change.

Climate Change is happening mainly because people are using excessive



amounts of fossil fuels which release high amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide traps heat in the atmosphere, similar to what happens in a greenhouse. This heating up of the Earth's atmosphere is called **global warming** and is what is causing global climate change.

## What is Low Carbon Development?

Countries realize that they MUST stop doing the things that put so much carbon dioxide in the atmosphere e.g. using so much fossil fuels and cutting down trees. Changing to ways that will use less fossil fuel and save the forests is known as **low carbon development**.



## Guyana's Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS)

More than three quarters of Guyana is covered with forests! Our forests are working free for us and the world to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Guyana has decided that it can keep its forests if the world pays for the service they provide. To convince the world that it should pay us to keep our forests Guyana developed a plan to follow a low carbon path in its development. This plan is called the Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS).

## Highlights of the LCDS

The LCDS highlights several projects that Guyana needs to do in order to develop in a low-carbon way. Some of them are:

- Setting up a hydropower plant.
- Building roads and canals to make savannah lands better for agriculture.
- Install high speed fibre optic cables for faster Internet and telephone communication.
- Grow more fruits and vegetables and fish for export.
- Start Bio-ethanol production.
- Continue to harvest and process wood in a way that keeps our forests healthy.
- Improve training opportunities so that people can become skilled for new jobs.
- Maintain roads and water supplies.
- Maintain coastal seawalls and drainage.
- Expand and improve systems to warn of disasters such as floods.
- Grow flood resistant crops.