

## **Earth Day 2025: Our Power, Our Planet – A Call to Action from Guyana**

Earth Day 2025 marks the 55th anniversary of this vital global observance. This year's theme, "**Our Power, Our Planet**," resonates with a clarion call to accelerate the transition to renewable energy sources, not only to combat climate change but to empower communities and protect future generations.

At the heart of this year's campaign is the goal of **tripling global renewable electricity generation by 2030**, spotlighting solar, wind, hydroelectric, geothermal, and tidal energy. These alternatives to fossil fuels—major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions—offer a cleaner, more resilient energy future.

### **The Economic and Environmental Case for Renewable Energy**

Beyond environmental benefits, renewable energy makes economic sense. In 2023, the global renewable energy sector was valued at **\$1.21 trillion**, and it is projected to grow by **17.2% annually through 2030**. This transition is expected to generate over **14 million new jobs worldwide**, presenting a significant opportunity to redefine energy economies while safeguarding the planet.

For the approximately **3.8 billion people** living below the *Modern Energy Minimum*—with electricity usage under 1,000 kWh per capita—renewable energy also brings hope. Access to clean, affordable energy improves living standards, enhances education and healthcare outcomes, and especially uplifts women and children in marginalized communities.

### **Guyana's Path to Renewable Power**

Guyana is embracing its responsibility and potential in the clean energy transition. Through its **Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS) 2030**, the country is making measurable progress in reducing dependence on fossil fuels, which currently power 97% of its energy needs.

As part of this national transformation:

- **Mahdia** now benefits from a **0.65 MW Solar Photovoltaic Grid-Connected System.**

- **Leguan** hosts a **0.6 MW solar system**, and **Bartica's Dogg Point** is being equipped with solar technology.
- Investments in **hydropower** include the **Amaila Falls Hydropower Project** and the **150 kW Micro Hydropower Plant in Kato**.
- Guyana's strategic use of **natural gas** as a transitional fuel is also guiding its gradual move away from heavy fuel oil.

These initiatives demonstrate the Government's commitment to a sustainable energy future that is cleaner, cheaper, and more equitable.

### **EPA's Earth Day 2025 Highlight**

To mark Earth Day 2025, the **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** will be presenting a powerful and thought-provoking **poetry piece** centered on this year's theme, "*Our Power, Our Planet.*" Through creative expression, the Agency hopes to inspire individuals to reflect on their role in the energy transition and environmental protection.

We invite members of the public to join us and be part of this moment of artistic and environmental awakening.

**Registration is now open**—don't miss your chance to experience the message, the moment, and the movement.

### **What You Can Do: Everyday Energy Tips**

While national projects and policies drive large-scale change, each of us has a role to play. Start small and stay consistent:

- Use **energy-efficient light bulbs**.
- Choose **Energy Star-rated appliances**.
- Turn off and unplug devices when not in use.
- **Collect rainwater** for cleaning or gardening.
- Make use of **natural lighting** during the day.

Every action, no matter how small, contributes to the bigger picture of a cleaner, greener Guyana.

**This Earth Day, remember: our choices matter.**

**Our power is in our hands. Let's protect our planet—starting today!!!**