

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



ANNUAL REPORT 2014

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SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS 2014

This year, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) undertook the development and implementation of various Regulations to boost its regulatory capability. The Litter Enforcement Regulations and the Wildlife Management and Conservation Regulations which were enacted in 2013 were both put into effect this year. Also, Compliance and Enforcement Regulations and Regulations for Access and Benefits Sharing of Genetic Resources were both developed and at the finalization stage at the end of the year. In addition, under a Regional Biosafety Project, a Draft National Biosafety Bill and Regulations were developed and submitted for public consultation.

The EPA also implemented a project to update the second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. The revised Strategy and Action Plan along with a Fifth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity were completed with funding from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). Further, the EPA commenced the implementation of the GEF-funded project *Mainstreaming Biodiversity Project* to enhance Biodiversity Protection through Strengthened Monitoring, Enforcement and Uptake of Environmental Regulations in Guyana's Gold Mining Sector.

Recognizing the increasing and changing demands for its services, the EPA invited bids for a consultancy to undertake a critical assessment of its structure and functions to enable it to better perform its role.

The EPA continued to undertake its mandate with financial resources from the Government of Guyana and received \$ 206.250 M this year, as government subvention to conduct its work. Aspects of the EPA's work related to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity were funded by donors such as the German Development Bank (KfW), GEF, and World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

Other major achievements for the 2014 were as follows:

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS

The EPA received two-hundred and seventy-eight (278) Applications for Environmental Authorizations this year, an increase of twenty-one percent (21%) over last year. Applications for short-term Noise Permits (358) also increased more than two-fold over last year; all Applications were processed and approved.

The EPA granted one hundred and two (102) Environmental Authorisations this year - a twenty-four percent (24%) increase over last year. Among the authorized operations this year were several large-scale projects such as DTL Logging and Sawmilling Operation, Barama Integrated Wood Industries Complex, Variety Woods Sawmilling and Wood Processing Facility, and the West Coast

Demerara Road Improvement Project, to name a few. At the end of the year, thirty (30) Projects were in the Authorisation process.

Water Quality Management: A Water Quality Unit was established this year, within the EPA. As such, the EPA completed a proposal for funding under the Guyana Wastewater Revolving Fund (GWRF) and participated in the creation of a list of activities for the National Action Plan for the Elimination of Mercury Use and Updating of the Mining Codes of Practice. Further, in collaboration with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) and other stakeholders, National Effluent Standards for Guyana are being developed.

Hazardous Waste/Material & Air Quality Management: The EPA was able to achieve approximately eighty percent (80%) of its planned targets in Hazardous Waste Management in 2014. Specifically, ten (10) Permits were issued for exports of Lead Acid Batteries and related Projects, and three (3) Environmental Guidelines and an Air Quality Monitoring Protocol for Linden were developed. In terms of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), the EPA was also fully compliant with the obligations for 2014, under the Basel Convention.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT:

This year, one hundred and fifty-nine (159) environmental complaints were received, and two hundred and thirty-five (235) investigations were conducted comprising ninety-six (96) new complaints, eighty-two (82) follow-up inspections, and fifty-seven (57) related to Prohibition Notices.

The EPA surpassed its target for investigation on new complaints by sixty-eight percent (68%) and fully met its target of conducting forty-one (41) compliance and surveillance visits. Of the planned closure of forty-five (45) cases, twenty-two (22) complaint cases were closed for the year. Surveillance was conducted for five (5) cases resulting in the closure of three (3) of these cases. Overall, eleven (11) cases were resolved of the projected twenty-five (25). Further, seventeen (17) Prohibition Notices and eight (8) injunctions were issued, and fourteen (14) cases were taken to Court for the year.

Litter Prevention and Enforcement: Thirty-four (34) reports of littering and dumping were investigated and relevant citations issued along with sensitization efforts. Also, eleven (11) cases were pursued in court this year, one (1) of which was dismissed for no-show of witness; one (1) case/defendant is to be re-issued with citation, and the other cases are pending trial. Since the commencement of the Litter Enforcement Programme, a total of 269 citations comprising 167 Clean-up orders, 93 Removal orders and 9 direct fines were issued.

Compliance Monitoring: Seventy (70) compliance monitoring inspections were conducted for Permitted Projects during the year. The majority (27) of these were forestry-related projects, fourteen (14) were gas stations, nine (9) were mining projects, seven (7) were integrated farm

projects, five (5) were rice mills, five (5) were infrastructure projects, four (4) were hotel projects, and five (5) were manufacturing entities.

Six (6) public fora were organized to raise awareness on the EPA's Environmental Guidelines on Poultry Rearing, Swine Rearing and Spray Painting and Litter Prevention Regulations, thereby assisting Local Authorities in the various Regions.

Research and Development Application Forms for Environmental Authorisation were revised and a new Application Form for '*Changed Permit Conditions*' was created. The EPA also commenced implementation of a Permit Fee for a long-term Noise Permit as well as a fee to vary an Environmental Authorisation.

In collaboration with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the EPA developed and finalized the Environmental Protection Enforcement and Compliance Regulations which is ready for final approval and enactment.

An Ecological and Physico-chemical Assessment of the Konawaruk and Mazaruni Rivers was conducted through a collaborative exercise involving the EPA, the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, the MNRE and WWF. The assessment focused on both freshwater and terrestrial habitats within forests and freshwater ecosystems and was done by experts and individuals from various institutions such as WWF (Guianas), EPA, GGMC and UG.

Draft Regulations were developed to institute the moratorium and enforcement of the use of alternative biodegradable food packaging and the ban on the use of Styrofoam; an implementation plan for the Regulations was also developed.

BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

GPAS Phase II Project: All activities supporting the follow-up measures for the GPAS Phase I Small Grants Projects in the Shell Beach Protected Area were completed. Further, several sub-projects were completed under the GPAS Phase II Project this year, namely the Shell Beach Management Plan; a GY\$40.57M Tukeit Guesthouse and Wardens Building; and a GY\$50.90 M Staff Living Quarters at Kaieteur Top. Further, the Protected Areas Commission (PAC) Head Office Building was completed at a cost of GY\$46.09 M and officially handed over to the Government of Guyana in the presence of German Officials.

The GPAS II Project was evaluated by the German Development Bank (KfW) and recommendations made for final activities under the Project. In addition, the design for GPAS Phase III, to be implemented by the Protected Areas Commission, was discussed with the relevant partners and an *Aide Memoire* signed. With regard to Tranche II (Euro 4 Million) for the National Protected Areas Trust Fund, UBS Financial Services Inc. was selected as fund administrator for investment of the Trust funds.

Biodiversity Research: Forty-five (45) applications to conduct Biodiversity Research were received this year, of which forty-three (43) were processed and approved; twenty-three Export Permits were also granted.

Biodiversity Projects: Several Projects were implemented with funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and UNEP to advance national capacity to sustainably utilize, manage and conserve biodiversity and to meet national commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Protocols. This year a *Revised National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and a Fifth National Report to the CBD* were completed. Also, *Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Regulations* were being finalized. Further, Guyana endorsed a new initiative being developed by UNEP in collaboration with the GEF, under GEF-5. On April 22, this year, Guyana acceded to the Nagoya Protocol - the 30th country and the first in the Caribbean Region to do so.

Through a *Regional Biosafety Project*, a Draft National Biosafety Bill and Regulations were developed and submitted for consultation. The EPA also commenced implementation of the GEF-funded project *Mainstreaming Biodiversity Project* to enhance Biodiversity Protection through Strengthened Monitoring, Enforcement and Uptake of Environmental Regulations in Guyana's Gold Mining Sector.

Wildlife Management: The WMC Regulations (2013) were implemented this year, setting the stage for an extensive programme for the management and conservation of wildlife. As such, an Implementation Plan was prepared and collaboration forged with relevant partners to strengthen the monitoring and enforcement of these Regulations - especially as it relates to trading of wildlife (exotic pets and the Bushmeat trade). Public awareness on the Regulations also commenced utilizing television and workshops for law enforcement officers and wildlife dealers (middlemen and exporters). Much focus was placed primarily on protected species and the licensing component of the Regulations. Two (2) complaints of illegal wildlife activities were investigated.

A Wildlife Management Steering Committee was established by the MNRE to oversee the implementation of a PANTHERA funded project aimed at researching wildlife harvesting activities in the South Rupununi. Opportunities for joint project funding to pursue local Red Siskin conservation efforts in Guyana are being pursued with support from the Smithsonian Institution.

The EPA participated in the review of the Arapaima Management Plan (2002). The finalized plan received the approval of the North Rupununi Development Board, the governing NGO body to oversee management of wildlife of the North Rupununi comprising sixteen (16) communities.

EDUCATION, AWARENESS AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Education Materials: Twenty-six (26) new environmental education and awareness materials were produced in various formats in 2014, based on the climate change focus of international environmental days this year.

Outreach: Forty-six (46) outreach activities were conducted to schools, teacher colleges, technical institutes, and groups accounting for approximately fifty (50) percent of the target set for 2014. Further, as part of its ongoing outreach to schools on climate change awareness, the EPA interfaced with twenty-three (23) schools this year, reaching some 600 students in Regions 02, 04, 05, 06, 09 and 10. Further, in collaboration with various partners, the EPA reached some four hundred (400) youths and young adults at Bartica and St Cuthbert's Mission and eight (8) groups on the subject of climate change and waste management at camps organized by these partners.

Environmental Observances: Seven (7) international environmental days (International Day for Biological Diversity and World Environment Day, etc.) were observed representing an accomplishment of eighty (80) percent of the target for this year. A range of activities including interactive presentations; youth fora and seminars; environmental camps; art competition; quizzes; exhibitions; ceremonies; environmental conversation; clean-up; etc. were organized to mark the days. The theme for the different environmental days focused primarily on climate change and its impact on Small Island Developing States (SIDs).

Teacher Training: The EPA conducted a teacher training workshop in Region 09 reaching some thirty (30) teachers from sixteen (16) communities in the North Rupununi to build their capacity to deliver environmental education in the school curriculum. The EPA fully met its target of conducting community composting training sessions with the assistance of an expert at St Cuthbert's Mission and at Guyana School of Agriculture in Anna Regina, Region 02.

Community Awareness: In collaboration, with the Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF), the EPA conducted awareness sessions at Annai, Santa Mission, Wiruni, Mashabo, and Mabura reaching over one hundred (100) persons on the topics of water, sanitation; waste management and climate change.

Exhibitions: The EPA participated in sixteen (16) exhibitions/fairs in an effort to interface with members of the public on matters pertaining to the environment and to distribute education and information material. Among major exhibitions in which the EPA participated were UG Career Fair; Berbice Expo; Essequibo Night; National Science Fair; and, Guyexpo.

Media: The EPA aimed to publish two articles each week in two newspapers, namely the Guyana Chronicle and the Guyana Times. In addition, two features were prepared and published on the occasion of Earth Day and International Day of Biological Diversity (IDBD). The EPA also utilized the television media to discuss the significance of the IDBD and World Environment Day 2014 themes and aspects of the National Biosafety Legislation being developed. Radio was utilized as an alternative to TV with ten (10) interviews being conducted this year for publicizing the Litter Prevention Regulations as well as other aspects of the EPA's work.

1. GUIDING LEGISLATION AND STRATEGIES

1.1 MISSION

The Mission of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is to “*take measures necessary for effective protection and management of the natural environment, coordination of conservation programmes, sustainable use of natural resources, assessment of the impact of development activities on the environment and the integration of appropriate environmental provisions into development planning*”.

1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT

The EPA was established with the passing of the **Environmental Protection Act (EP Act)** on 5, June, 1996. The EP Act mandates the Agency to oversee the effective management, conservation, protection and improvement of the environment, the prevention and control of pollution, the assessment of the impact of economic development on the environment and the sustainable use of natural resources.

As the EPA works towards its mandate, it contributes to national and global environmental protection, sustainable use of natural resources, and conservation. The EPA develops and implements education, regulation and enforcement programmes and uses partnerships and collaborative approaches to strengthen the impact of its interventions.

1.3 FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Agency are stated in the EP Act, Part II 4 (1) and can be classified broadly as being *regulatory, coordinating, and the promoting of public participation in environmental protection*.

As part of its regulatory functions, the Agency enforces the EP Act (1996) and its amendments, and associated Regulations, to ensure that measures for environmental protection are integrated into development activities.

The Agency also coordinates the sustainable use and conservation of Guyana’s natural resources. Both the coordinating and regulatory functions of the Agency are complex, spanning a range of inter-connected issues and requiring collaboration with private, public sector and non-governmental organizations.

Another major responsibility of the Agency is to promote the participation of the public in the process of integrating environmental concerns in the planning for sustainable development. This requires the provision of information to the public on environmental development projects, issues and problems, and on the Agency’s procedures and processes.

1.4 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Figure 1 shows the Organizational Structure of EPA during 2013. The Chairman of the EPA Board and the Executive Director of the EPA both report to the Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment.

1.5 PROGRAMME AREAS

The EPA's mandate is implemented primarily through five (5) major Programmes: Biodiversity Management (BM); Environmental Management (EM); Cross-Sectoral; Education and Awareness; and Capacity Building (Fig.2). The EM Programme comprises six components: Environmental Authorizations, Monitoring and Enforcement, Complaints and Response, Research and Development, Hazardous Wastes and Air Quality Management and Water Quality Management. The BM Programme has three components: Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, Biodiversity Conservation, and Wildlife Management.

Environmental Management

The EM Programme, is geared towards addressing the EPA's mandate for pollution control and prevention. This Programme focuses on bringing developmental projects into conformity with the goal of environmental sustainability through an environmental authorization process and environmental monitoring and enforcement. In implementing the EM Programme, the EPA authorises new developments and monitors compliance with the conditions of Environmental Authorisations; the EPA also authorizes existing developments under this Programme.

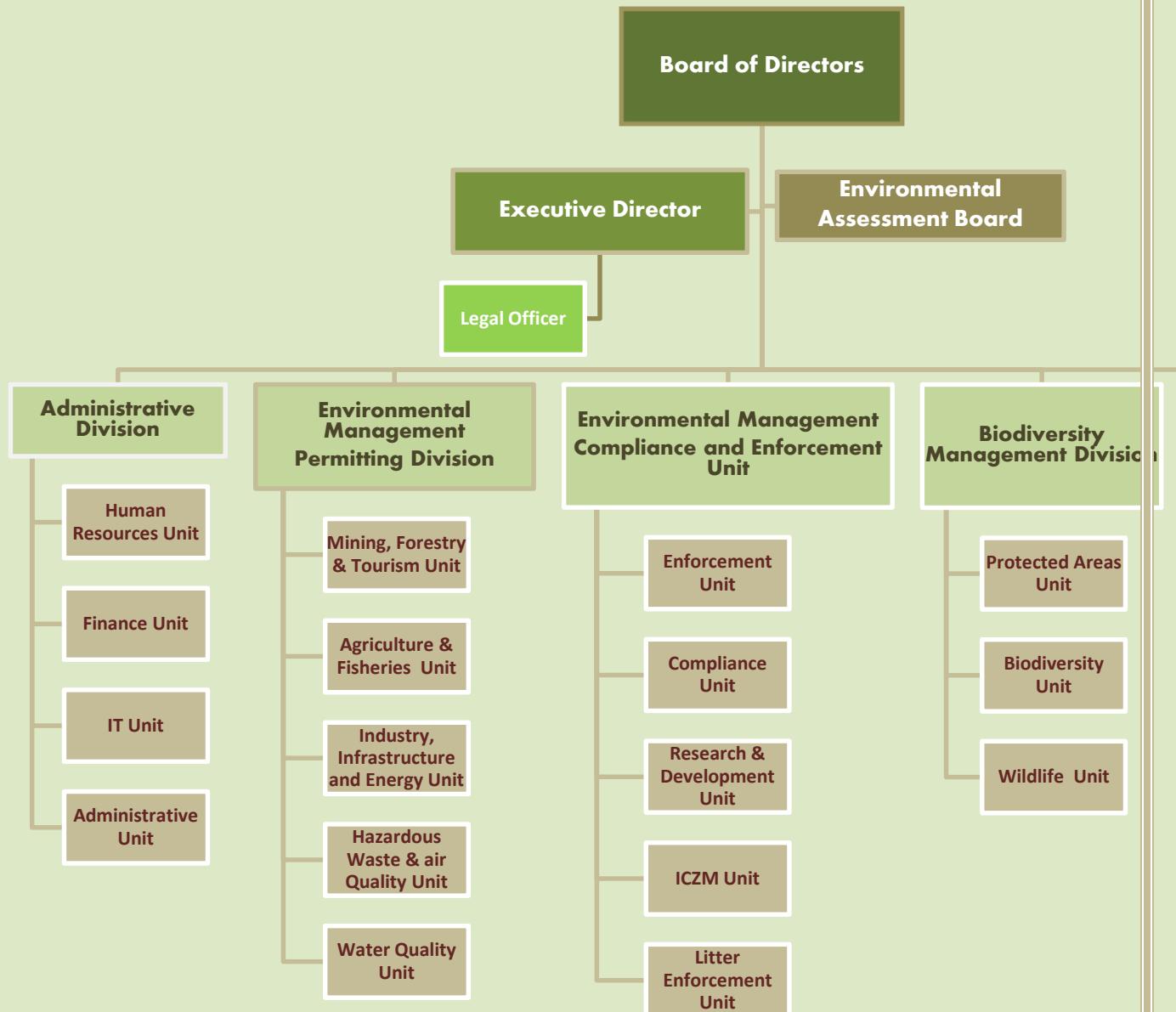
Recognizing that its role would be more effective if stakeholders are aware of their roles and responsibilities, the EPA focuses on building their competencies in EM. The EPA also pursues the development of Regulations; reviewing and development of Standards, Environmental and Operational Guidelines and Codes of Practice and coordinates EM through stakeholder collaboration.

Further, the EPA manages Environmental Complaints with the goal of resolving them and in cases when this is not possible enforces against defaulters. In addition, the EPA focuses on building its readiness for environmental emergencies.

Biodiversity Management

Guyana ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Protocols on Biosafety and Access and Benefits Sharing of Genetic Resources and the EPA is the National Focal Point for these Agreements. As such, the EPA takes the lead in advancing Guyana towards meeting its commitments under these agreements. Among these commitments are the development of

FIGURE 1: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF EPA.



legislative, administrative and policy measures to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity.

Specifically, Guyana is required to develop National Biodiversity Strategies, Plans and Programmes and regulate the trans-boundary movement and use of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) and Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs). Further, under the EP Act, 1996, the EPA is required to coordinate and maintain a programme for the conservation of biodiversity and its sustainable use in Guyana. The requirements and responsibilities under the CBD and its Protocols and that under the EP Act are the primary foci of the BM Programme.

The EPA collaborates with various Sectoral Agencies and Institutions and with Amerindian Communities to achieve the objectives of the BM Programme. Main collaborative Sector partners include the Guyana Forestry Commission, Ministry of Agriculture, Wildlife Division, Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, University of Guyana, the Protected Areas Commission, among others. The EPA also collaborates with local and international Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), such as Conservation International – Guyana (CIG), the Guyana Marine Turtle Conservation Society (GMTCS), and the World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF), among others.

Important Strategy documents guiding the work of the NRM Programme are the National Biodiversity Action Plans (NBAP I, II and III), the National Biosafety Framework (NBF). New Wildlife Management and Conservation Regulations and the National Biosafety Bill and Regulations when passed will also serve to guide the future work of the Programme.

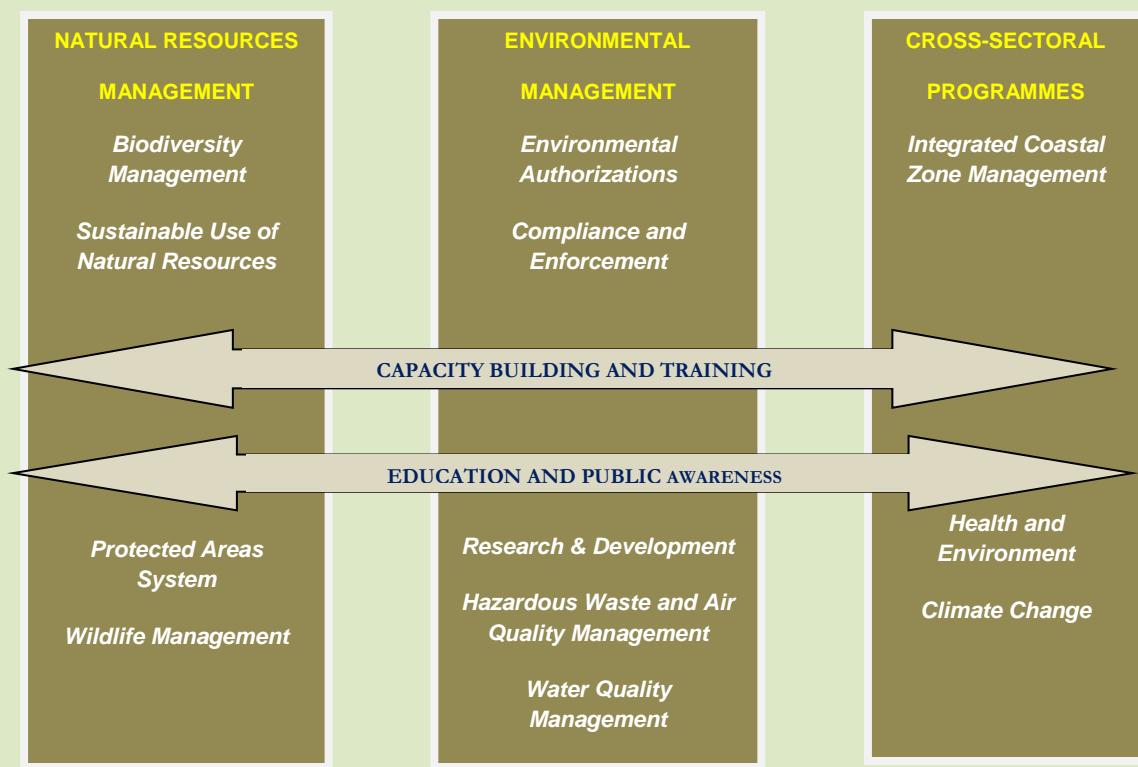


FIGURE 2: EPA PROGRAMMES

Cross-Sectoral Programmes

Currently, the Agency plays a role in a number of cross-sectoral programmes including integrated coastal zone management (ICZM), climate change, and solid waste management.

As part of its role regarding environmental coordination, the Agency's primary approach is to work with and to create strategic partnerships with existing organizations.

Education, Awareness and Capacity Building

The promotion of public awareness and participation in protection, conservation and sustainable use of the environment is a key function of the EPA as outlined in the EP Act (1996). Through its Education and Awareness and Capacity Building Programmes, the EPA provides information in a range of formats to a wide segment of the population.

The delivery of the Programmes entails working in close collaboration with the Environmental Management and the Biodiversity Management Programmes of the EPA as well as a number of Sectoral Agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations.

The Programme has a twofold purpose: promoting public awareness of and participation in environmental decision-making as well as informing the public of the systems and procedures established by the Agency for environmental management and conservation.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PERMITTING DIVISION

The EM-Permitting Division (EMPD) continued to manage Environmental Authorisations, Hazardous Wastes and Air Quality and Water Quality components of the EM Programme. Environmental Authorisations continued to be managed by the five Units of the EMPD: Agriculture, Fisheries and Tourism (AFT), Industry, Infrastructure and Energy (IIE), Mining and Forestry (M&F), Hazard Waste and Air Quality (HW&AQ) and Water Quality (WQ).

A Water Quality Unit was established and staffed this year which, along with the Hazardous Wastes and Air Quality Unit, served both the EM-Permitting and EM-Compliance and Enforcement Divisions.

2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS

In 2014, the EPA received an increased number of Applications for Environmental Authorisations and Noise Permits (Fig.3). A total of six hundred and thirty-six (636) Applications for Environmental Authorizations were received this year, of which one hundred and fifteen (115) were for New Projects, sixty-eight (68) for Existing Operations, eighty-three (83) for Renewals, six (6) for Variance, five (5) for Transfer, one (1) Changed Permit Condition and three hundred and fifty-eight (358) Applications for Noise Permits. With the exclusion of Applications for Noise Permits, there was a twenty-six (26%) increase in applications this year when compared to 2013. Three hundred and fifty-eight (358) Applications were received for short-term Noise Permits - a more than two-fold increase over last year.

The EPA granted an increased number of Environmental Authorisations and short-term Noise Permits in 2104 (Fig.4). Ninety-four (94) Environmental Authorisations were granted this year - a ten percent (10%) increase over last year. Among the Projects granted Authorisation were several large-scale projects such as DTL Logging and Sawmilling Operation, Barama Integrated Wood Industries Complex, Variety Woods Sawmilling and Wood Processing Facility, and the West Coast Demerara Road Improvement Project, to name a few. Thirty (30) Projects were in the Authorisation process at the end of 2014, among which were: ten (10) Projects requiring Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) of which eight (8) are active, and twenty (20) requiring Environmental Management Plans (EMPs). For the year, the EPA received eleven (11) EMPs of which three were approved.

All three hundred and fifty-eight (358) Applications for short-term Noise Permits were processed and approved; this is an increase of one hundred and twenty-three percent (123%) compared with last year.

Human and financial resources, as well failure of developers to submit necessary documentation continued to affect the rate of processing of environmental authorizations.

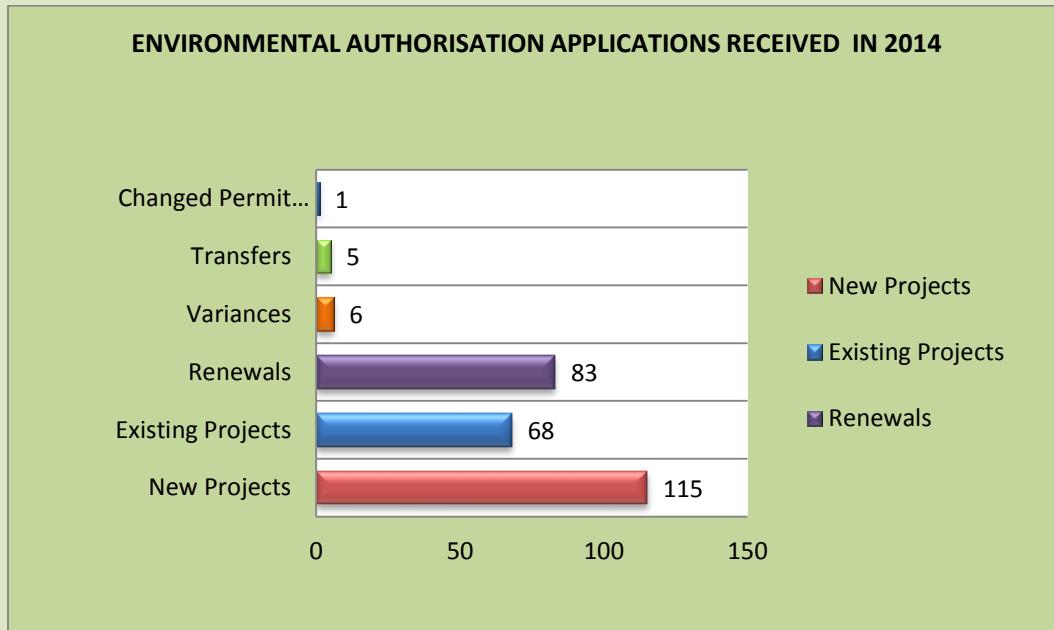


FIGURE 3: ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS RECEIVED IN 2014

2.2 HAZARDOUS WASTE/MATERIAL & AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

The EPA was able to achieve approximately eighty percent (80%) of its planned targets in Hazardous Waste Management in 2014. Specifically, ten (10) Permits were issued for Hazardous Wastes/Materials related Projects and three (3) Environmental Guidelines and an Air Quality Monitoring Protocol for Linden were formulated. The EPA was fully compliant with the obligations for 2014 under the Basel Convention.

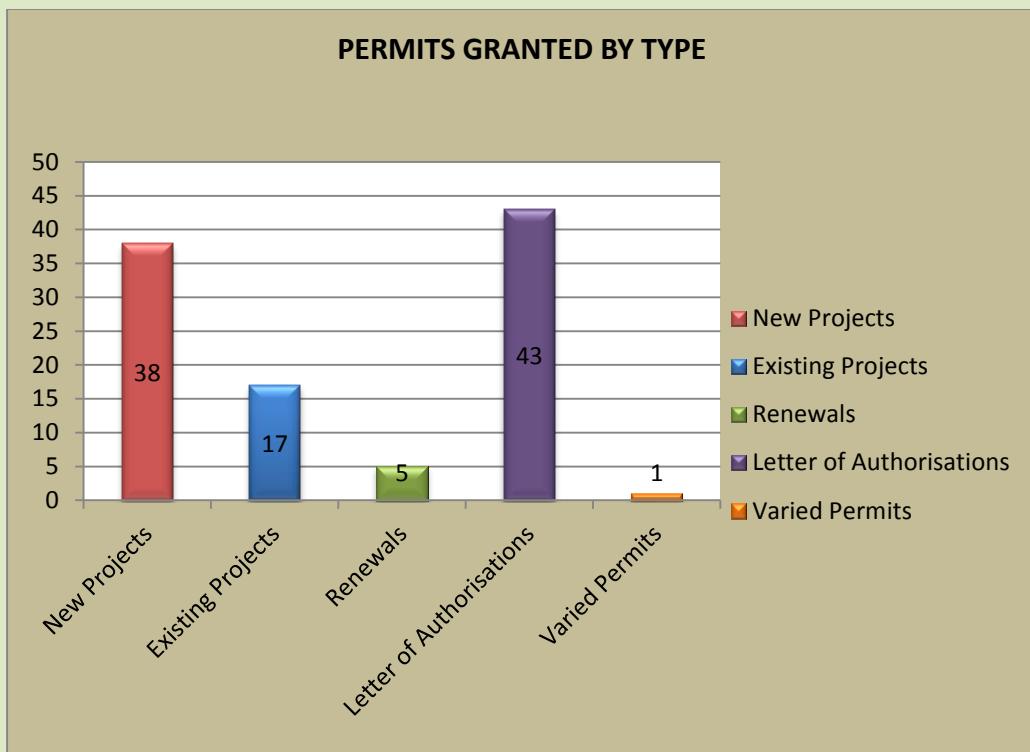


FIGURE 4: PERMITS GRANTED BY TYPE

2.3 WATER QUALITY UNIT

The EPA established the Water Quality Unit in June 2014, to boost its work in water quality management. At this initial phase, a proposal for funding under the Guyana Wastewater Revolving Fund (GWRF) was completed. Collaborative work was carried out with the Guyana National Bureau of Standard (GNBS) and other stakeholders towards the development of a National Effluent Standards for Guyana and the review of the Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment. Further, support was given towards the creation of a list of activities for objective four (4) of the National Action Plan Elimination of Mercury Use and Updating of Mining Codes of Practice.

Foundation level work was also done to develop and update tools for water quality management. As such, Water Quality Guidelines were developed for the Mining and Forestry Sectors and the EPA's Water Sampling Protocol updated. All existing water quality data within the EPA were compiled and a list made of all permitted projects (categorized by sector) that will have a significant impact on water quality. The latter will serve as a base to inform developers should changes be made to Permit conditions for water quality and wastewater management.

2.4 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

This year, the EPA revised and updated various Application Forms for Environmental Authorisation. Specifically, Forms for New Operations (Environmental Permit), Existing Operations

(Operation Permit), Noise Permit, Renewal of Authorisation, Variance of Authorisation, and Transfer of Authorisation were revised. Further, the EPA created a new Application Form for '*Changed Permit Conditions*', which is provided for in the EP Act, but was not implemented to date.

This year, the EPA began implementing an Authorisation fee for long-term Noise Permits, in accordance with the Fee Schedule of legislation governing the EPA. This followed the approval by EPA Board of Directors of a Proposal for the Implementation of this fee.

In March, 2014, the Agency began implementation of a fee to vary an Environmental Authorisation.

During 2014, the Guidelines for Landfill Sites (Final Draft) were completed further adding to the suite of Environmental Guidelines developed by the EPA to inform developers in various sectors of best practices in environmental management of their operations.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

The Environmental Management Compliance and Enforcement Division (EMCD) was established and became functional in August, 2013. The Division comprises four units: Research and Development (R&D), Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), Compliance, and Enforcement. Currently, ICZM activities fall within the ambit of R&D. Since its establishment, the Division jointly coordinated the implementation of the Litter Prevention Regulations with the Pick-it-Up Campaign under the MNRE. Figure 5 depicts the EMCED's organizational structure and cross-cutting areas and coordination with Environmental Management Permitting Division (EMPD).

3.1 COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT

The EPA received fewer environmental complaints this year compared to 2013 (Fig.5). A total of one hundred and fifty-nine (159) complaints were received this year, indicating a forty percent (40%) decrease over last year. These complaints related to dust, noise and fumes, from furniture manufacturing, operation of generators, spray painting activities, and livestock rearing activities. Over the last two years, there was a gradual decline in the number of reports of pollution or complaints received by the Agency.

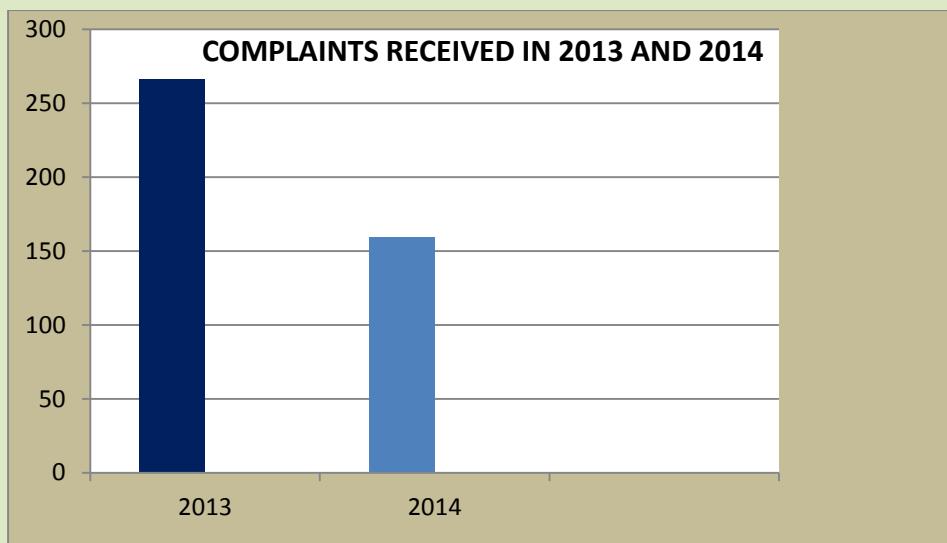


FIGURE 5: COMPLAINT TREND FOR 2013 AND 2014

During the year, the EPA investigated two hundred and thirty (230) complaints (Fig.6). Of the complaints investigated, ninety six (96) were for new complaints, eighty-two (82) for follow-up inspections, and fifty-seven (57) for Prohibition Notices issued. As a result of the inspections conducted this year, twenty-two (22) cases were closed. **Based on the number of inspections**

conducted and those complaints that were closed as a result of inspection, the Agency has a backlog of two hundred complaints to be investigated in 2015. This number will be further extended based on complaints received during the period of 2015.

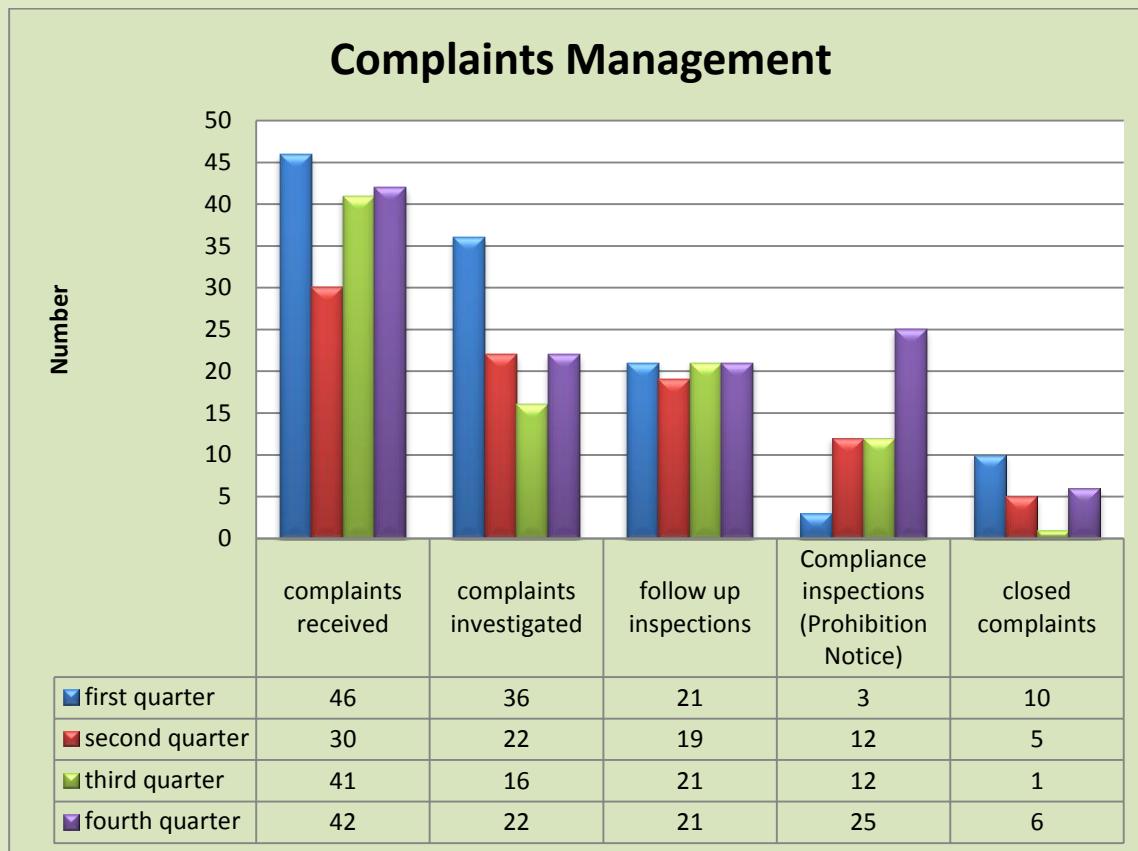


FIGURE 6: COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT IN 2014

3.2 LITTER ENFORCEMENT

In March of 2014, the Agency began implementation of the Litter Enforcement Programme. The overall objective of the Programme is the reduction in littering and illegal dumping in Georgetown and across the municipalities in Guyana by the end of 2016. To date, a total of two hundred and sixty-nine (269) citations were issued which included: one hundred and sixty-seven (167) Clean-up Orders, ninety-three (93) Removal Orders and nine (11) direct fines (Table 1).

TABLE 1: LITTER ENFORCEMENT 2014

Total Citations	Clean-up Orders				Litter Removal Orders				Direct Fines			
	Issued	Complied	Follow-up required	Cases pursued	Issued	Complied	Follow-up required	Cases pursued	Issued	Complied	Cases pursued	

	<i>Court</i>	<i>Court</i>	<i>In court</i>
267			
160	4	93	14
140	93	81	1
16	81	10	8
	10	2	
	2	14	
	14	1	
	1		
			8

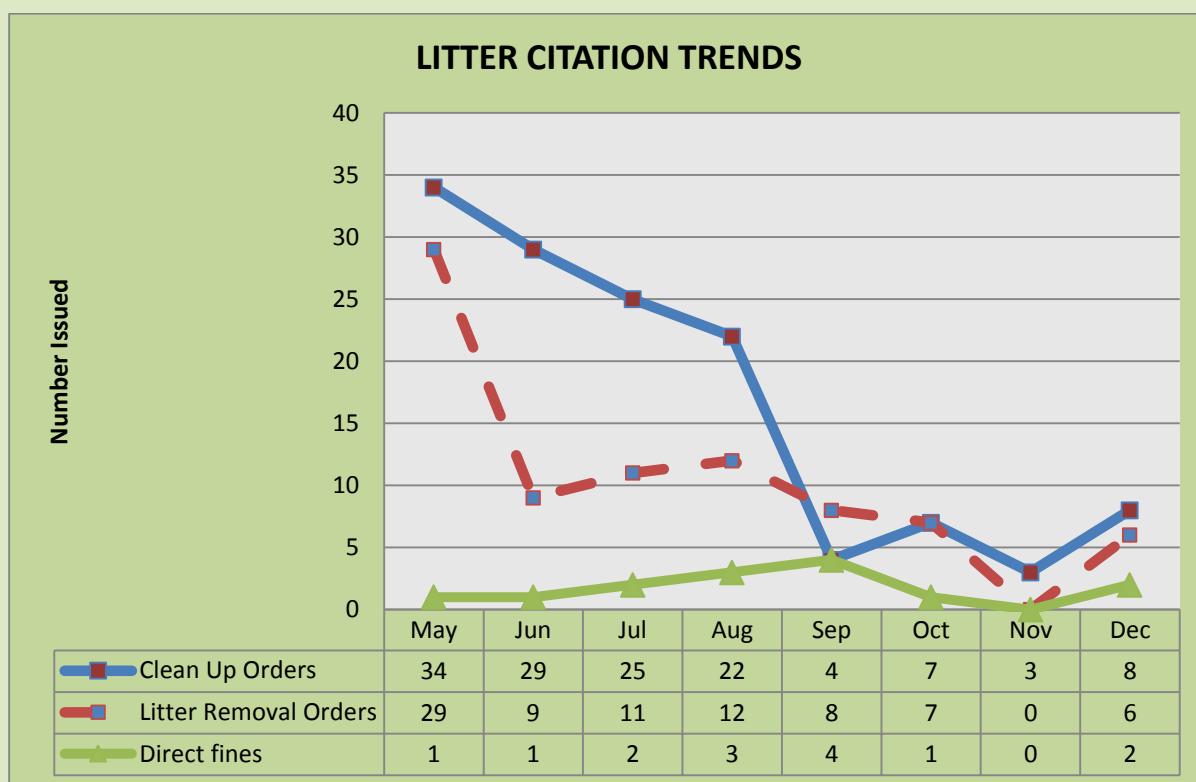


FIGURE 7: LITTER CITATION TRENDS FOR 2014

3.3 COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS

In 2014, the EPA focused its attention on compliance of Permitted Projects categorized as “high risk” or with the potential to have permanent or long-term serious environmental harm and/or life threatening or long-term harm to health, safety and well being. There was a 34.2% reduction in the number of inspections conducted in 2014 compared with last year (Figure 8) which is attributed to the risk-based approach to compliance utilized this year.

The EPA sought to boost reporting by Permitted facilities by sending letters requesting the submission of Annual Reports. In this regard, forty-one (41) annual compliance reports were received in 2014.

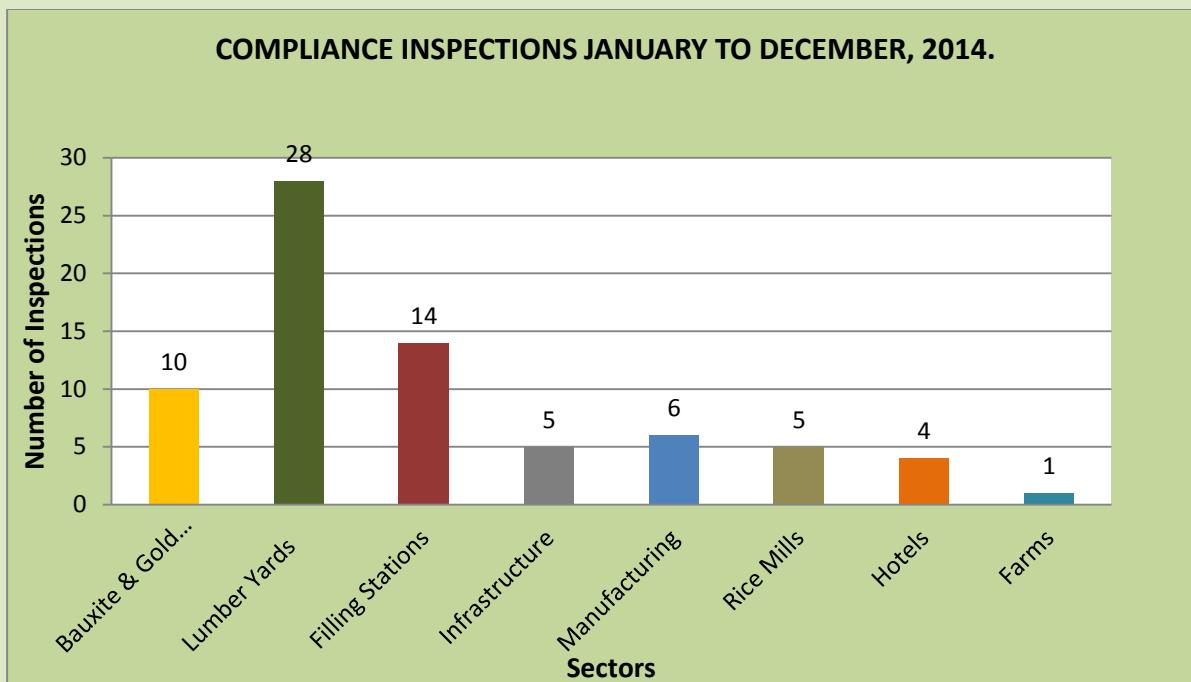


FIGURE 8: COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS BY SECTORS IN 2014

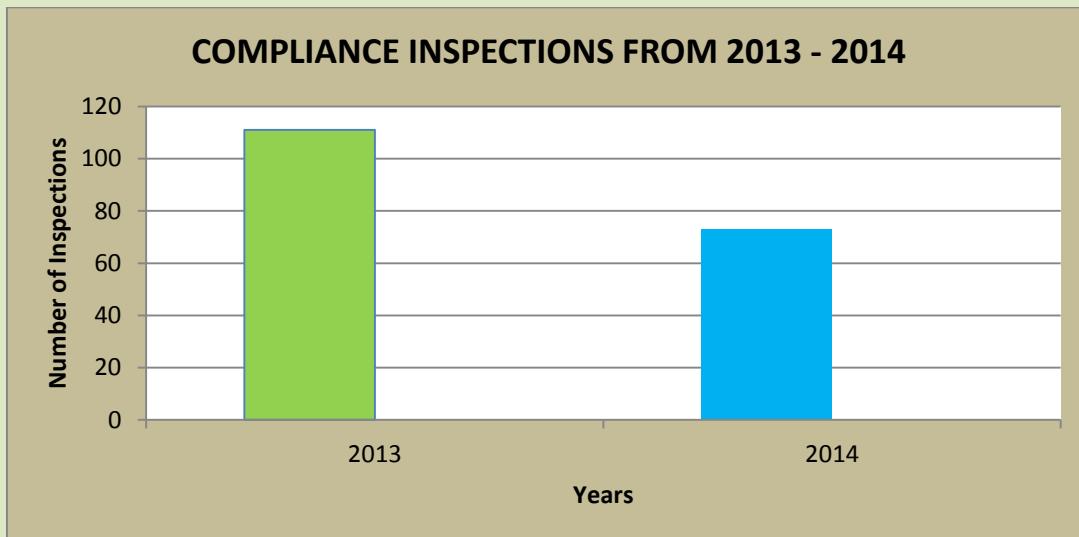


FIGURE 9: COMPARISON OF INSPECTIONS IN 2013 AND 2014

The EPA adopted a new initiative this year of using Outreach Clinics. It conducted “Outreach Clinics” on Compliance in Regions 6 (No. 52 Village to Crabwood Creek), and in Region 2, along the Essequibo Coast. The Clinics continued to be a part of the EPA’s strategy to promote compliance in complaints “hotspots” or areas with high risk activities. As part of these Outreach Clinics, the EPA

visited forty-seven (47) facilities this year, inclusive of Auto-body Workshops, Gas Stations, Poultry-rearing, Swine-rearing and Saw Milling operations informing them of best practices and the Environmental Guidelines that can be used to improve the environmental management of their facilities.

Pick It Up Guyana /Litter Compliance Promotion

This year, Pick It Up Guyana (PIUG) worked towards achieving a litter free environment by implementing the first phase of the Environmental Protection Litter Enforcement Regulations (2013) in Georgetown. This first phase of implementation of the Regulations was coupled with public awareness activities that focused on sound environmental practices, collaboration, training, and the development of educational materials. Also, PIUG participated in twenty (20) radio interviews and six (6) television features and coordinated the placement of ten (10) Billboards around the various municipalities of the country. Posters were also developed targeting four (4) different target groups; these posters were distributed to both public and private organizations in the various Regions of Guyana.

With assistance from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), a Waste Management Booklet was developed which targets Grade 6 students. The Booklet highlights the general requirements for sound environmental activities that can be employed in everyday lives to reduce waste generation.

In 2014, twelve (12) outreach activities were conducted throughout the various Regions of Guyana; these targeted specific groups inclusive of Regional Authorities, NDCs, Municipal Authorities, Market Staff and residents.

3. 4 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Agency with support from (World Wild Life Fund for Nature) WWF developed Compliance and Enforcement Regulations to support of its Compliance and Enforcement Programme. These Regulations provide a suite of regulatory administrative, civil and criminal sanctions than the can be used to deal with breach and non-compliance with the EP Act (1996).

The EPA has taken the initiative to develop Regulations that will institute a ban on the importation and use of Styrofoam in the food service industry, along with an implementation plan.

To add to the body of knowledge and better understand systems that have significant impact on the environment and development in Guyana, the EPA in collaboration with the Guyana Geology and Mine Commission (GGMC) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), conducted an Ecological and Physico-chemical Assessment of the Konawaruk and Mazaruni Rivers. This Assessment was aimed at addressing the impacts from mining and other activities on the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. The overall finding of the Assessment is that (1) the Konawaruk River is not dead, but that its fish

fauna have suffered severely from the impacts of riparian deforestation and gold mining; and (2) the Mazaruni River is less impacted but begins to show signs of impacts from mining.

3.5 INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT (ICZM)

The EPA assisted with the development of a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MNRE), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and the Ministry of Public Works and Communication (MoPW). The foremost objective of the MoU is the strengthening of the ICZM Unit within the EPA to further develop ICZM approaches, communication with stakeholders along with the building of awareness and capacity within the various Ministries.

The EPA is currently in the process of developing project proposals geared towards improving the understanding of coastal functions and the impact of land-based activities on the Coastal Mangrove habitat. This project will seek support from UNEP/CEP.

4. NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Under the EP Act (1996), the EPA is mandated to coordinate and maintain a programme for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in Guyana. Also, as the national focal point for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Agency is required to design, source funding for, execute and implement projects to assist in achieving the general objectives and programmes of the Convention.

The objectives towards sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity are implemented under the Biodiversity Management (BM) Programme which is organized into three components namely: Protected Areas, Biodiversity, and Wildlife.

4.1 CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY

Guyana Protected Areas System (GPAS) Project- Phase II

In 2014, the EPA received a total sum of EUR 379,707.94 in replenishment of the disposition account for project activities bringing the total disbursement to approximately EUR 785,275.78 or (98%) of the project funds; in 2013 and 2012, the Agency had received EUR 275,567.84 and EUR 130,000, respectively. During the implementation of the GPAS II Project, the Project expenditure cumulatively was 5.5%, 31.1% and 84.8% of the total project budget in the years 2012, 2013 and 2014, respectively.

Audits for the GPAS II Project for 2012 and 2013 were conducted by the Audit Office of Guyana in March/April 2014 and the completed audit report was submitted in September, 2014.

In November 2014, a no-objection was granted by the German Development Bank (KfW) for a budgetary neutral extension of the GPAS II Project from December, 2014 to February 28, 2015.

The Shell Beach Management Plan Sub-project started in March, 2014, and was completed in December 2014. The final draft of the management plan was submitted to the Board of the Project Areas Commission for approval following the end of the public review period.

Infrastructure development in Protected Areas: This component of the GPAS II Project was approximately 75% completed at the end of 2014. The construction of the *Tukeit Guesthouse and Warden's/Caretaker's Building, Kaieteur National Park* (GY\$ 40.8M) was practically completed in 2014. Also, the GY\$ 10.9M contract for the *Procurement and Installation of the Electrical and Photovoltaic Systems* to the Guesthouse was awarded in August 2014 and completed in November 2014.

The construction of the *Staff Living Quarters, Kaieteur National Park* (GY\$ 42.8M) was approximately 85% completed in 2014. On December 30, 2014, tenders were opened for the *Procurement and Installation of the Electrical and Photovoltaic Systems to the Staff Living Quarters, Kaieteur National Park*. The recommended bidder was *Farfan and Mendes* for a sum of GY\$9,933,954.

In December 2014, approval was granted by NPTAB for the award of contract for the *Renovation of Existing Warden's Quarters, Kaieteur Top, Kaieteur National Park - Construction of Reinforced Concrete Pad Foundation and Concrete Short Columns* (GY\$ 2.7M), and *Replacement of Wooden Stairs at Visitor Arrival Centre, Kaieteur Top, Kaieteur National Park – Construction of Two Reinforced Concrete Stairs* (GY\$ 1.4M).

Supporting the Establishment of the Protected Areas Commission: The Protected Areas Commission's Head Office was completed at a cost of GY\$ 32M and was handed over to the Government of Guyana (GoG) by the visiting German Delegation in April 2014. The first phase of the Sub-project, *Remodelling/Rehabilitation of the Boardroom, National Park, Thomas Lands* (GY\$ 1.1M) was completed in 2012.

The Solar Grid-tied System (GY\$ 11.9M) for the PAC Head Office was awarded and completed in April 2014 and later upgraded with an Automatic Transfer System (GY\$ 3.1M) in November 2014.

GPAS I Follow-up Support - Activities under this component of the GPAS II Project was completed in February 2014. This included monitoring of Sub-projects and a capacity building training workshop. In 2012, KfW recommended that the unspent funds from GPAS Phase I be used for follow-up/support of the GPAS I Small Grants Projects. In 2013, consultancy services were contracted to conduct a baseline study of the GPAS I Small Grants Projects and prioritise Sub-projects for follow-up support.

KfW Mission: KfW representative, Dr. Haider, visited Guyana to evaluate the GPAS II Project. Recommendations were made for final activities under the Project based on requests of the GoG/PAC. In addition, the design for GPAS Phase III, to be implemented by the PAC, was discussed in detail with the relevant partners and an *Aide Memoire* signed.

With regard to Tranche II (Euro 4 Million) for the National Protected Areas Trust Fund (NPATF), UBS Financial Services Inc. was selected as fund administrator for investment of the Conservation Trust Fund. In September 2014, the NPATF was officially established and the GoG committed GY\$ 1B to the Trust Fund.

Guyana Protected Areas System (GPAS) Project- Phase III

The Government of Guyana and the Government of Germany have signed the agreement for a GPAS Phase III Project and activities are expected to commence in 2015. The Protected Areas Commission will execute GPAS Phase III which includes a component aimed at improving

environmental management around the Protected Areas; the EPA would also receive funding for acquisition of equipment and development of relevant infrastructure. Furthermore, there is a training component for which EPA would receive funds for capacity building to support improved environmental management in buffer areas.

4.2 SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY

Under this component of the BM Programme, the EPA manages a Biodiversity Permitting Process inclusive of processing Applications for Biodiversity Research and the issuance of Permits to conduct biodiversity research in Guyana and export of biological specimens from Guyana. In addition, Projects and Programmes for the Sustainable Use and Conservation of Biodiversity in Guyana are coordinated, executed and implemented as part of this component.

Biodiversity Research

The EPA continued to maintain the National Biodiversity Research System (NBRIS) during the year. A six-month Special Service Contract was prepared and signed between the EPA and the Consultant who developed the NBRIS, for the maintenance of both the Local Area Network (LAN) and the Web Module. Thus far, the Consultant has rectified all the errors encountered with both modules. Further, payments were made to Server Intellect for continued hosting of the NBRIS website and to the University of Guyana, Centre for Information Technology for maintenance of the following domain www.epabiodiv.gy.

For 2014, the EPA received forty-five (45) Research Applications of which thirty-eight (38) or eighty-four percent (84 %) were processed and approved. Additionally, the EPA approved four (4) Applications received in 2013. As such, in 2014, the EPA issued forty-two (42) Research Permits, i.e thirty-eight (38) for Applications received this year and four (4) for Research Applications received in 2013 (Fig. 10). Of the Permits issued, the majority or about forty percent (40%) were for research to be conducted on fauna followed about twenty percent for filming.

Export Permits Issued: During this year, twenty-four (24) Export Permits were issued for specimens collected under Research Permits issued in 2013 and 2014. These Permits stipulated that all specimens exported will be used in accordance with the Guidelines for Biodiversity Research in Guyana and are to be returned as specified by the Centre for the Study of Biological Diversity (verification body acting on behalf of the EPA), University of Guyana.

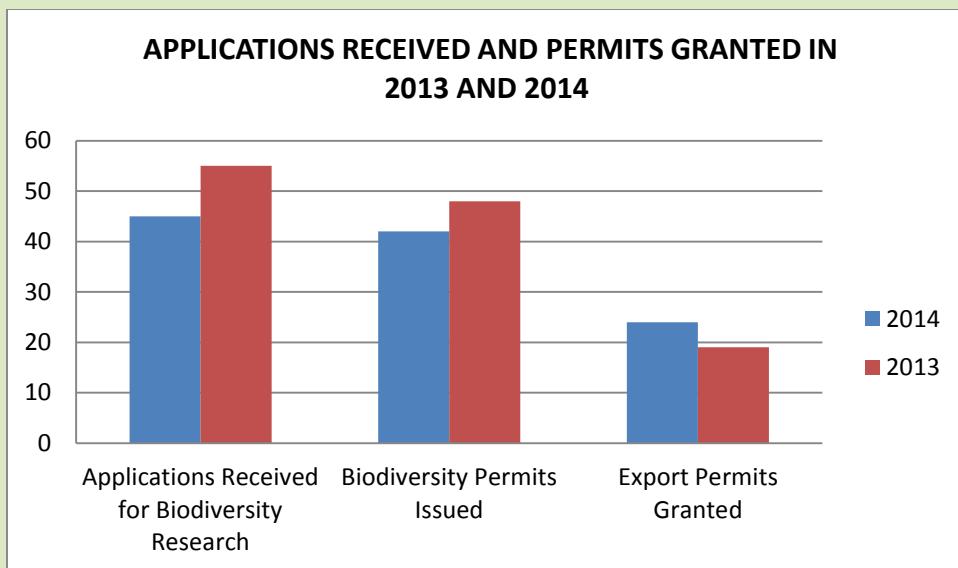


FIGURE 10: APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AND PERMITS GRANTED IN 2013 AND 2014

Monitoring and Enforcement

The EPA continued to maintain its linkages to ensure that researchers adhere to the National Biodiversity Research Guidelines and the Terms and Conditions of their respective Research Permits. This aspect is in addition to the ongoing monitoring and enforcement aspect of the Research process which is conducted by local counterparts from the University of Guyana, when possible. Critical linkages were maintained with Sector Agencies within the MNRE, the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs, the University of Guyana and Iwokrama International Centre for Rain Forest Conservation and Development. In addition, the EPA continued to ensure that researchers fulfill their reporting obligations as stipulated by their Research Permits prior to departing Guyana and the issuance of any Export Permits.

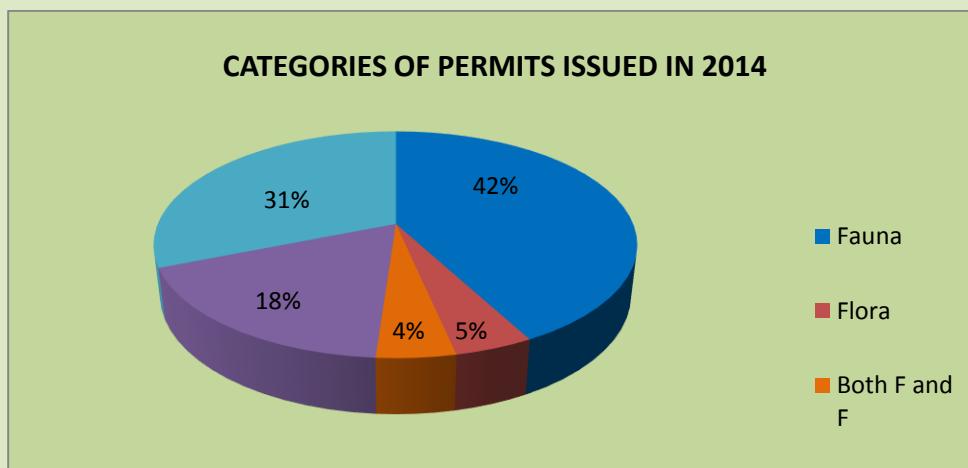


FIGURE 11: PERMITS GRANTED IN 2014

Revenue Generation

A total of sixteen thousand three, hundred and seventy-five United States dollars (US\$16,375.00) was generated for the period from Application, late Application, and Permit fees (this excludes Permit fees for applications currently being processed, to be processed, and in some instances Application and late Application fees).

Biodiversity Projects

The EPA implemented a number of projects to support the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Guyana. These are as follows:

Implementing National Biosafety Framework in the Caribbean Sub Region (Regional Biosafety Project)

This Regional Project is funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) with the objective of supporting Guyana and other countries of the Caribbean in implementing their National Biosafety Frameworks. A Draft Biosafety Bill and Regulations developed under this Project were, this year, submitted for National Consultations and based on inputs received from these Consultations are currently being updated. The EPA, in an effort to raise awareness on the consultations, participated in several media activities in collaboration with the Guyana Revenue Authority.

The EPA convened three National Steering Committee meetings this year to provide update on the status of the Regional Biosafety Project and the work plan for 2014. At these meetings, other matters such as National Consultations on the Draft Biosafety Bill and Regulations; finalization of the Biosafety Policy, Project budget and disbursements, and collaboration on public awareness efforts were discussed. Additionally, the 3rd Regional Steering committee meeting was held on June 03, 2014, via Skype during which each country presented a report on Project achievements.

All expenditure reports for 2014, along with supporting documents were submitted to the Regional Office. On August 12, 2014, a Mid-term Evaluation was conducted; the EPA has since received and reviewed a Report submitted by the Consultant engaged to conduct the evaluation. Further, the Project Coordinator and EPA Staff participated in the Project's first training workshop – "Environmental Risk Assessment in Biosafety" held in Dominica during the period April, 14-16, 2014.

All activities identified for action in 2014 were completed, with the exception of finalization of the Biosafety Policy. Additionally, the Agency, received all funds budgeted for 2014.

Support to Guyana for the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the CBD

The EPA hired Environmental Management Consultants (EMC) for the Project in January, 2014. In July, and September, 2014, National Stakeholder Workshops were facilitated for the review of draft

versions of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and Fifth National Report (5NR), respectively. Inputs received at these Workshops were utilized in finalizing the draft NBSAP and the 5NR; these documents were further reviewed by the EPA and submitted to the MNRE for approval.

Regional Project on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing

All activities under this Project were completed and the Project ended on July 31, 2014. A contract for the revision and finalisation of the draft ABS Regulations was signed between the Consultant and the EPA in March, 2014. The Regulations were finalised by the Consultant; however, additional comments from the Justice Institute of Guyana are to be incorporated.

Additionally, all expenditure and co-financing reports were prepared and submitted to the Regional Office.

Enhancing Biodiversity Protection through Strengthened Monitoring, Enforcement and Uptake of Environmental Regulations in Guyana's Gold Mining Sector (Mainstreaming Biodiversity Project)

During the preparation of the project document, the consultant made visits to Guyana during which he met with stakeholders such as the MNRE, GGMC, GFC and the MoAA. A Project Committee was also established; the Executive Director and Director of the EMCD were identified as EPA's representatives on the Committee.

On June, 06, 2014, the Agency received a correspondence from the GEF indicating approval of the medium-sized Mainstreaming Biodiversity Project; a press release was prepared to this effect. A local Project Appraisal Committee meeting was held to appraise the quality of the project before implementation of the project began.

A project Inception meeting was held on September 23, 2014 and an Inception Report was prepared and forwarded to the MNRE. All 2014 activities (procurement of communication, audio-visual and information technology equipment) were completed.

On November 17, 2014, the Agency received a correspondence from the MNRE indicating that management of the project would be assumed by a Staff member of the MNRE as Project Coordinator. In place of the Project Assistant position, a Junior and Senior Accounts Clerk will be hired for the Finance Unit. Further, funds allotted for Project management would be reallocated towards other project activities.

Small Grants Programme (SGP)

The EPA reviewed fourteen (14) project concepts and six (6) proposals and provided comments to the Small Grants Project Coordinator. Among the project proposals reviewed were:

- Community Based Adaptation (CBA) Strategy;
- Aishalton Village Council Project;
- Sustainable Management of Kaburi Village Forest (training and development of 5 year forest management plan); and
- Rainwater Harvesting for Organic Pineapple Production with Biodegradable Mulch and Drip Irrigation in Laluni, Region 4.

The following projects quarterly progress reports were reviewed:

- Building Climate Change Resilience amongst the 21 Communities of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area (KMPA);
- Capacity building and protected agriculture demonstration for farmers in Guyana; and
- Community environment, health and recycling project.

Further, the ED and SEO of the Biodiversity Unit within the BMD were reconfirmed as member and alternate on the SGP committee, respectively.

The Biodiversity Clearing House Mechanism (CHM)

The target of developing and maintaining the CHM was met. Contact was made with Ms. Andreea Teodorescu for assistance in re-establishing the CHM. Subsequently, the EPA was informed that Ms. Miruna Badescu and Mr Valentin Dumitru would provide the required assistance. Mr Dumitru provided the specifications for the establishment of a new CHM and indicated that assistance can also be provided with the installation of the CHM toolkit once a server was established.

The National GEF Website

The EPA moved a step further towards maintaining the National GEF Website. Information on completed Biodiversity Projects was uploaded to the website.

Payment was processed for the hosting services from the provider, Redspider.

Other

Other achievements in Biodiversity Management in 2014 are as follows:

- Guyana acceded to Nagoya Protocol on ABS on March 22, 2014.
- The revised proposal for the ACTO Regional Observatory and the Amazon Research Network Centre (ARNC) was reviewed.
- Participated in the Sub-regional Capacity-Building Workshop on the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing for the Caribbean during May 19-22, 2014.
- Endorsed the “Advancing the Nagoya protocol in countries of the Caribbean Region” project and reviewed and commented on the project summary and Project Information Form (PIF).

4.3 CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF WILDLIFE

In coordinating, developing, and maintaining a programme of activities for the sustainable use and conservation of Wildlife in Guyana, the following were achieved:

Wildlife Conservation and Management Regulations

In 2014, the EPA focused on initiating the implementation of the Wildlife Management and Conservation Regulations (WMCR) of 2013, enacted under the EP Act (1996). As such, an Implementation Plan was developed and a public awareness campaign initiated. Public awareness on the WMCR was facilitated through appearance on six (6) television interviews, publishing of four (4) newspaper articles and the distribution of two (2) flyers. Additionally, presentations were prepared and delivered to Police Officers at a training workshop organized by the MNRE to highlight laws that related to the environmental sector. Also, a Consultative Workshop was facilitated with local wildlife dealers (middlemen and exporters) during which a presentation was made giving an overview of the WMC Regulations in collaboration with the Wildlife Division.

This year, focus was placed primarily on protected species and the forth-coming licensing component of the Regulations. Collaboration to strengthen monitoring and enforcement of these Regulations - especially as it relates to trading of wildlife (for international trade and the local bush meat market) was made between the Unit and the Wildlife Division. To that extent, a representative from Wildlife Unit with the BMD now sits on the Wildlife Scientific Authority (WSA).

A Wildlife Management Steering Committee was established by the MNRE to oversee the implementation of a PANTHERA funded project aimed at research on wildlife harvesting activities in the South Rupununi. Further, the Committee will also give general advice on matters related to the overall activities being implemented under the WMC Regulations (2013) as needed. This pilot project is intended to be scaled up to gather similar data and raise public awareness.

The EPA also participated in the review of the Arapaima Management Plan (2002); the finalized plan received the approval of the North Rupununi Development Board, the governing NGO body to oversee management of wildlife of the North Rupununi comprising sixteen (16) communities.

Opportunities for joint project funding to pursue local Red Siskin conservation efforts in Guyana are being pursued with support from the Smithsonian Institution in collaboration with the South Rupununi Conservation Society.

Notably, as a result of on-going awareness efforts of the WMC Regulations, several reports would have been made to the Agency related to wildlife crime and nuisances. The Unit responded to several reports over the year involving illegal hunting activity, cruelty to wildlife and wildlife causing nuisance.

5. EDUCATION AWARENESS AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The promotion of public awareness and participation in the protection, conservation and sustainable use of the environment is a key function of the EPA. This function is carried out primarily through the Education and Awareness and Capacity Building Programmes. While these Programmes are both cross-cutting, they are led by the Agency's Education, information and Training Division.

Education and Awareness and Capacity Building activities are planned and implemented with the goal of increasing understanding of environmental issues and participation in environmental decision-making at various levels of society. Inter- Divisional collaboration and key external alliances with Sector Agencies, Government and Non-Governmental Organisations are essential for the delivery of these Programmes.

5.1 DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

As environmental issues become more dynamic and expansive, the Agency is challenged to develop materials that are relevant, appealing and appropriate for various target audiences. During 2014, a number of relevant informational materials were developed on a range of topics to meet the needs of varied target groups. These materials were disseminated at various events and activities to groups and individuals in various areas of the country.

Specifically, materials were developed in various formats and on various topics to complement outreach and training activities during the year as shown in Table 2.

Green Leaf Newsletter

A quarterly electronic newsletter was produced highlighting the EPA's main activities and events, as well as other topics of interest.

Information/Activity Packages

During the year, information and activity packages were prepared and distributed to schools and environmental clubs focused on the 2014 theme for World Wetlands Day, World Water Day, International Day of Biodiversity and World Environment Day, as well as, general information on environmental issues (Table 2).

A design including a message for EPA memorabilia was created which was used on bags, water bottles and mugs; these were distributed during outreach and training activities throughout the year.

TABLE 2: INFORMATION MATERIALS DEVELOPED IN 2014

Subject of Information Materials Developed in 2014				
Booklets	Brochures/Bookmarks		Posters/Banners	Games/Scripts/Training Aids
Green Cities	Poultry Rearing		Biotechnology	Adaptable Environmental Puzzle
Biodiversity Issues	Low Development (LCDS)	Carbon Strategy	Littering	Adaptable Spin the Wheel
Biotechnology	SIDS		Biodiversity	Adaptable Environmental Trivia
Environmental Guidelines	Litter Enforcement Regulations		Conservation	Climate change script
Water: Conservation Sanitation	Biodiversity sticker			Adaptable Facts Tree (EPA Careers; Forests) Forest Facts tree;
A 14-page Sticker & Colouring Book				Water Whiz Quiz game;
Climate Change				Adaptable Windows to Action
Composting challenge				Adaptable Scavenger Hunt
			Environmental stewardship storyline	Biotechnology Word Search

5.2 OUTREACH

Outreach is an effective approach for promoting awareness on environmental issues and influencing desired attitudinal change towards the environment around different areas of the country. This year was a productive one for the EPA as it sought to expand the magnitude and scope of its awareness interventions.

Outreach activities in 2014, centered primarily on the issue of Climate Change and the challenges it poses for Small Island Developing States. This was in support of 2014 being designated UN ***International Year of Small Island Developing States (SIDS)*** to highlight the challenges facing SIDs, their notable achievements and the many strides they continue to make in the quest for sustainable development.

World Wetlands Day, celebrated annually on February 02, was this year, observed under the theme “Wetlands and Agriculture”. As such, presentations on the theme were delivered to four (4) Primary Schools thereby reaching one hundred and eighty-four (184) students. The EPA also coordinated a Seminar at the Guyana School of Agriculture, Mon Repos in which forty-five (45) students of the School participated.

World Water Day, celebrated annually on March 22, was observed this year, under the theme: “Water and Energy.” To observe the Day, a presentation on this topic was delivered to two (2) Primary schools in Region 10, namely, Bamia New Hope Primary and Coomacka Primary. Thirty-three (33) Grade Five and Grade Six Students were engaged in this outreach activity.

Earth Day was observed this year, under the theme “Green Cities.” To raise awareness of this theme and its significance, an inaugural Earth Day Camp was conducted with participants drawn from nine (9) Secondary schools from within Regions 02, 03, 04, 05 and 06. A total of thirty (30) students and nine (9) teachers were present at the Camp, which was held at Camp Wesleyana, Soesdyke-Linden Highway. Participants were engaged in a variety of educative activities geared to increase their awareness of the environmental issues that cities face and possible solutions to these issues.

International Day for Biodiversity (IDB) May 22, was observed under the theme: “Island Biodiversity”. For this observance a *Youth Forum* was coordinated and implemented at Leguan, Region 3. This *Forum* targeted students of Grade 6-7 of the Primary and Secondary schools on the island. The participating schools were required to prepare and deliver creative presentations on various topics related to the IDBD 2014 theme. An Art Competition was also organized; the thirty-one (31) entries received were judged on creativity, originality and relevance to the theme. Winners were awarded Book Vouchers of value \$25,000, \$20, 000 and \$15,000 as 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Prize, respectively. Also, an exhibition was set up at the National Museum, inclusive of brochures and a collage depicting island biodiversity.

World Environment Day is celebrated annually on June 05 and this year, it was observed under the theme “Raise your voice, not the sea level”, supporting 2014 being designated the international year of SIDS. In commemoration, a World Environment Day (WED) Ceremony was held on June 05, 2014 at the Kingston Seawall, Georgetown; the Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment, Mr. Robert Persaud and the Minister of Public Works, Mr. Robson Benn were main speakers at the event. The audience included members of the diplomatic core, civil society, ministries and schools; they were treated to a blend of cultural items including poetry, song and dance which reflected the interpretation of the theme. Awards were also presented to outstanding individuals and groups in recognition of their role in environmental advocacy.

A *National Conversation* on Solid Waste Management was also organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment. The event was held at the Amerindian Village,

Exhibition Site, and aimed at fostering a participatory approach towards developing a National Action Plan on solid waste management. Among the participants were the Mayor and City Council, Private Sector, tertiary educational institutions and youth organisations.

International Day for Preservation of the Ozone Layer was observed this year on September 16, under the theme “*The Mission Goes On*”. The EPA, with support from the National Ozone Action Unit of the Hydro-meteorological Department, Ministry of Agriculture, conducted two Seminars in Bartica, Region 7, targeting nine (9) Primary and two (2) Secondary Schools in the area, engaging more than a hundred (100) students through games, videos and interactive presentations on the topic of ozone layer protection.

International Coastal Cleanup Day is observed annually in September, and this year the EPA in collaboration with the Caribbean Youth Environment Network, Guyana Chapter (CYEN, Guyana) and the MNRE, conducted Coastal Cleanup activities in Regions 06, 04 and 10. These Clean-ups targeted the No. 63 Beach, Kingston Seawall and Wismar and Mackenzie Market areas. Over three-hundred (300) volunteers from religious and youth groups, schools, and non-governmental organisations supported these events to collect data on the materials that comprise waste found along the seashore.

In preparation for the Region 06 Cleanup, presentations on Marine Litter were conducted with four (4) groups in Berbice: Corentyne Comprehensive Secondary; Lower Corentyne Secondary; PYARG-New Amsterdam; and Guysuco Training Centre. A total of two hundred and thirty-seven 237 persons participated in these outreach sessions.

Climate Change Awareness

The EPA continued to conduct outreach to Primary Schools to increase awareness on Climate change and utilizing its Climate Change activity booklet developed in 2010 as the main resource material for these sessions. A total of fivehundred and thirty-seven (537) students from twenty-one (21) Primary schools across Regions 02, 06, 09 and 10 participated in these outreach sessions learning about climate change through videos, music and games; this topic is part of the Grade 6 curriculum.

EPA - Nature School Collaboration

EPA conducted sessions on ‘Wildlife Habitats’ with two (2) Primary schools visiting the Nature School. A total of sixty-two (62) students participated in these sessions which highlighted where different animals live and the importance of their habitats.

EITD/PYARG Collaboration

The EPA collaborated with the President's Youth Award (Republic of Guyana) Bronze Programme to spread awareness about Climate Change. Creative pieces were used during the sessions which were conducted at St. Cuthbert's Mission and Bartica – some four hundred (400) participants aged 16 – 25 years, participated in these sessions.

Environmental Camps

The EPA collaborated with the CYEN and National Museum, organizations that hosted environmental camps during the July-August period, to spread awareness, to children and youths on topics such as Climate Change and Waste Management. The EPA's presentations were interactive utilizing music, storytelling, videos and games to get information across to the audience aged 6-16 years.

Awareness on Waste Management

Presentations on Waste Management were delivered to three (3) Primary schools in Georgetown, two (2) Primary schools on West Bank Demerara, the Kwakwani Secondary School and the Parent Teachers Association (PTA) of the Gitts and Hinds Learning Centre; over three hundred (300) persons took part in these outreach activities.

Environmental Education

The EPA delivered opening remarks and participated in the 'Religion and Science for Environmental Sustainability' Symposium at the University of Guyana on February 05, 2014. Additionally, the EPA facilitated a Guest Lecture on the Environmental Education and its work in this area twenty-four (24) first year students of the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences (SEES).

5.3 PRESENTATIONS

During the year, approximately sixty-nine (69) presentations (**Appendix 1**) were prepared and delivered to groups, organizations and schools. The focus of these presentations was largely determined by the theme of various international environmental days and the targeted topics under Education and Awareness Programme for 2014. Among the wide range of environmental topics covered were: EPA's work; wetlands; water; climate change; biodiversity; composting, environmental stewardship, waste management, wildlife and the environment; Environmental Clubs management; ozone layer depletion; marine litter, environmental education and its infusion into the school curriculum.

Schools formed the majority of the groups to which presentations were made. However, through collaboration, the EPA was able to deliver presentations to five (5) rural communities. During 2014, the EPA was able to reach more outlying areas through collaboration with PYARG and BNTF.

5.4 CAPACITY BUILDING

During the year, six (6) capacity building activities were conducted at various locations and included a Teacher Training Camp, Taxidermy Camp, Community Composting Workshops, Environmental Camps, Water and Sanitation, and Training of Young Environmental Ambassadors.

A Teachers' Training Workshop was conducted at the Bina Hill Institute, Annai, Region 09 and targeted teachers at the Nursery, Primary and Secondary level within the Region. Participants were drawn from ten (10) villages in the North Rupununi Sub-Region, namely: Annai, Aranaputa, Yakarinta, St. Ignatius, Kwaimatta, Kwatamang, Wowetta, Massara, Toka and Surama. The Workshop focused on how to integrate Environmental Education (EE) into the School Curriculum in a fun and interactive way, and how to start the scientific inquiry process in young minds through school yard ecology. Twenty-six (26) Teachers participated in the two (2) day training exercise.

At the Taxidermy Camp organized by the National Museum, the EPA conducted several sessions centered on Climate Change and Pollution. Approximately forty (40) children aged 6 - 14 yrs benefited from these sessions.

Training workshops on composting were conducted at two locations. The first workshop was in Essequibo, at the Guyana School of Agriculture, Essequibo Branch, attracting thirty-four (34) participants. The second workshop was at St. Cuthbert's Mission on the Linden-Soesdyke Highway and attracted twenty- three (23) community members. At both of composting workshops, participants learnt about the different types of composting, the value of composting, its benefits to the environment and how it can help in the fight against climate change.

At an **Environmental Camp** organized by the Caribbean Youth Environmental Network (CYEN), during the August holidays, the EPA conducted Climate Change awareness sessions to children ages 7-12. Further, at another **Environmental Camp** organized by the Global Youth Movement under the Berbice Shines Initiative, the EPA conducted two 3-day training workshops to over fifty (50) youths from Secondary schools in Regions 05 and 06 to equip them with knowledge and skills to be good environmental ambassadors in their respective schools and communities.

In collaboration with the Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF) and with funding through the Caribbean Development Bank, the EPA conducted water and sanitation training workshops in communities that benefitted from water systems that were donated by BNTF. The opportunity was also taken to discuss the need for waste management and climate change adaptation. The workshops were hosted in the villages of Annai, Santa Mission, Wiruni, Mashabo, and Mabura. All together, more

than one hundred (100) persons from the host villages and neighbouring communities participated in the workshops.

5.5 MEDIA PROGRAMMES

Television Appearances

During the year, the EPA was able to participate twice on the Guyana Today Show; once to highlight World Wildlife Day and once to discuss the activities planned for World Environment Day 2014. Further, the EPA coordinated and participated in TV Panel Discussions on the theme for International Day for Biodiversity and World Environment Day 2014.

In an effort to inform the public of its work in 2014, the EPA participated in an interview for the Guyana Shines Programme which was broadcast on TV. Also, the EPA participated in an interview used in the Pick It Up Guyana infomercials. Additionally, the EPA participated in a TV Panel Discussion to discuss Biotechnology and the Biotechnology Legislation developed under the Regional Biosafety Programme.

Radio

During the year, the EPA participated in ten (10) radio interviews.

Newspaper Articles

To engage the public through the print media, articles were written and sent for publishing every week in the Guyana Chronicle and Guyana Times newspapers. However, due to circumstances beyond the EPA's control, some of the articles were not published.

A total of thirty-six (36) articles were published for the year in the "Our Environment" Column in the Sunday Chronicle. A total of thirty-five (35) articles were prepared for publishing for the Column "Our Earth, Our Environment" featured in the Tuesday Edition of the Guyana Times.

Two news spreads were also published for Earth Day and International Day for Biological Diversity.

Press Releases

Three Press Releases were prepared and sent for publishing in newspapers, two related to the illegal capture and transport of a young Puma, and the third related to *International Coastal Cleanup 2014*.

EXHIBITIONS

The EPA participated in seventeen (17) Exhibitions (Table 3), an increase in excess of 50% when compared with 2013. During the year, information material was distributed on a range of

environmental issues at these events; the opportunity was also taken at these exhibitions to engage the public in interactive activities through which they learnt about environmental issues.

5.6 DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

The Document Centre continued to be a valuable source of information for researchers and members of the public. Books, EPA publications, and magazines were reorganized and categorized in the Document Centre.

TABLE 3: 2014 EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH EPA PARTICIPATED

Exhibitions in which the Agency participated in 2014	
1. UG Career Fair	2. Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport Career Fair
3. GFC International Day of Forest Exhibition	4. Lion's club career fair
5. Berbice Expo and Trade Fair	6. Geographic Information Systems Exhibition
7. International Day for Biodiversity exhibition	8. Guyana Tourism Authority Exhibition
9. World Environment Day Exhibition	10. National Conversation on environment exhibition
11. Caribbean Development Bank Vybzinc Exhibition	12. Fire Service exhibition
	13. GuyExpo
14. Berbice Expo and Trade Fair	15. Kwakwani Day Exhibition
16. National Science Fair	17. Essequibo night

6. ADMINISTRATION

The Administrative Division comprises the Administrative, Finance, Human Resources, and Information Technology (IT) Units. The main responsibilities of the Division are related to Administrative and Human Resources Management. Materials, equipment and services to meet the needs of the Agency are procured with core funding from Government subvention and donor funded projects.

6.1 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

In 2014, G\$206.250 M was received as Subvention (Fig. 12) and, \$25,606 as Miscellaneous income. Revenue generated by the EPA in 2014, was G\$41.958 M. Details of Subvention received and Revenue collected on a monthly basis are shown in Figure 13.

Major financial management activities conducted in 2014 were:

- 1) Monthly Financial Reports were prepared for EPA; Pick it Up Guyana; Wildlife Division; KfW; Biosafety; and NBSAP Projects for January to September, 2014.
- 2) Monthly Payrolls were prepared for EPA; Pick it Up Guyana; and Wildlife Division from January to September, 2014.
- 3) Gratuity was prepared and paid in July and December, 2014.
- 4) Retroactive payments and Vacation allowance for 2014 were prepared and paid.
- 5) NIS & PAYE remittances for EPA; Pick It Up Guyana; and Wildlife Division were paid monthly.
- 6) VAT Returns for January to December 2014 were prepared and submitted to the GRA.
- 7) The Monthly Cash Flow Statements for the year were prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Finance.
- 8) Support was provided to the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Project and KfW Phase II Project.
- 9) QuickBooks Enterprise Solutions accounting software was implemented effectively.
- 10) Employer and Employees Tax Return for the year 2013 was completed and submitted to GRA.
- 11) Recurrent and capital budget for the year 2015 for EPA and Wildlife were completed.

12) The Audit of KfW for both 2012 and 2013 was completed and the Audit Report was received.

13) The Audit of EPA/Wildlife Consolidated Financial Statements 2013 was completed and the Audit Report was received.

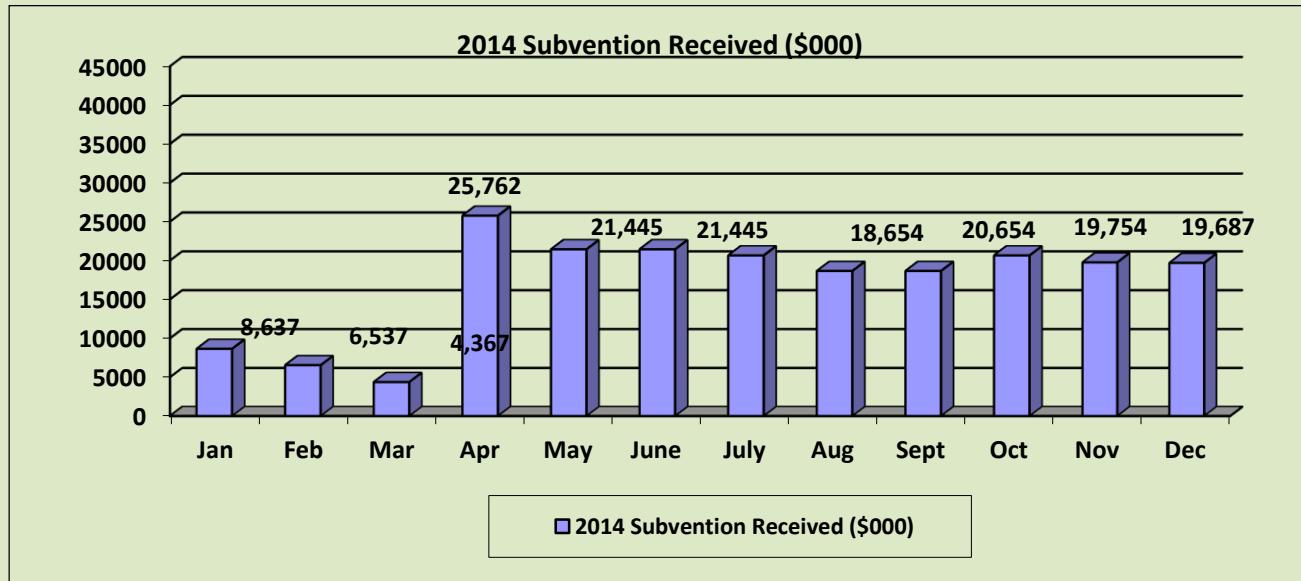


FIGURE 12: SUBVENTION RECEIVED IN 2014

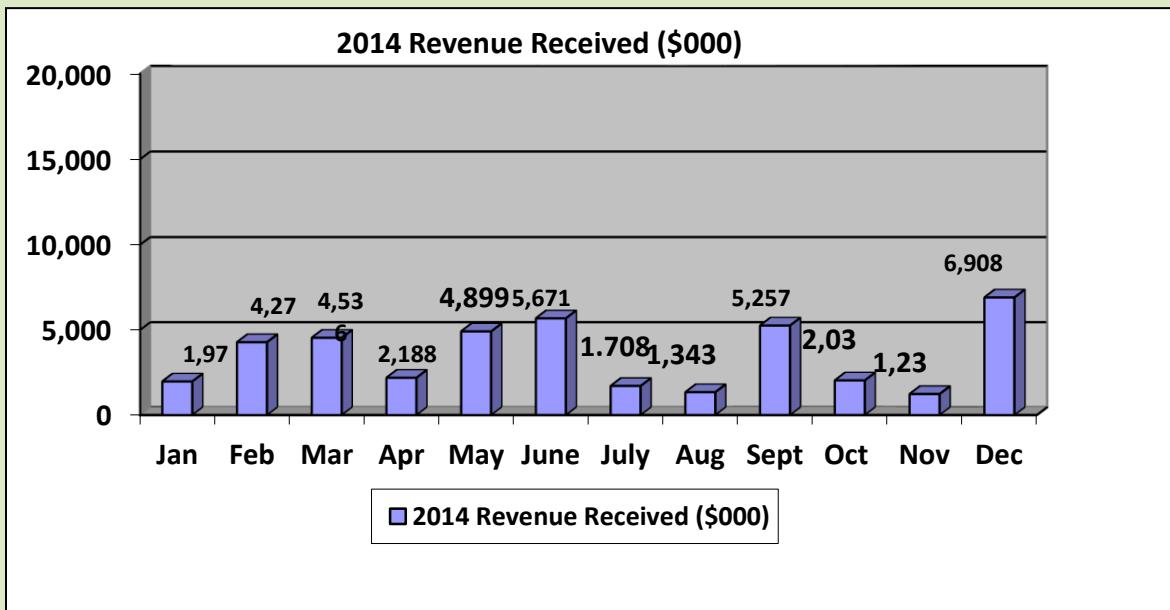


FIGURE 13: REVENUE RECEIVED IN 2014 (\$000)

6.2 PROCUREMENT AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

All Divisions and Projects Units were provided with administrative and logistical support. Further, evaluation and procurement of materials, equipment and services were efficiently managed.

Procurement and Management

Early in the year, physical checks of EPA's fixed assets were conducted by the Audit Office of Guyana against EPA's Stock Records. During 2014, the EPA conducted internal asset checks and updated its Asset Register and the labeled additional assets procured.

The procurement process was managed for the purchase of capital items under the National Capital Expenditure 2014 and items approved by the EPA's Board under the Agency's Trust Fund. Among items purchased in 2014 were: a Delux Hazmat Kit, a Multi-Rae Pro for Gas monitoring and VOC's Detection, Fluke Distance Readers, a Plotter for support to the GIS Unit, Filing Cabinets, Office Chairs, Printers, Microwave and Kettle and Water Boilers, Brush Cutting Machine, Pressure Washer and several Global Positioning Systems (GPS), Field Cameras, Tablets, Samples Refrigerator, Ceiling Fans, Water Dispensers, Vacuum Cleaner, Complete Pressure Pump, Dust Blower and Motor Vehicles.

Further, the EPA sought and was granted approval from the MNRE for procurement of one new PBX Switchboard System to support the EPA's growing structure. In this regard, an award of contract was received from the National Procurement and Tender Administration Board for the purchase of the Switchboard.

Stationery and dietary supplies were purchased as required to meet the EPA's needs.

Vehicle Maintenance

The EPA carried out regular maintenance of its fleet of vehicles to avoid extensive repairs and its associated costs and to fulfill transportation requirements. Insurance, fitness, road license etc. were renewed in a timely manner.

Aged vehicles within the EPA's fleet, including one Toyota RAV 4 transferred from the MNRE, were maintained regularly through servicing. The Nissan Patrol, with extensive damage caused by an accident, was repaired while major repair and body work were carried out on an aged Pickup, registration number PGG 6339. Complete body work was also done on one Nissan Car which was later transferred to the MNRE.

Building and Compound Maintenance

General aesthetics of the building and compound were enhanced through regular cleaning, brushing and maintenance. As such, Contracts were prepared and signed for the following works and services:

- Termite control;
- Disposal of sanitary units;
- Maintenance of the photocopier;
- Electrical repairs;
- Security Services;
- Service and repairs to air conditioning units; and
- General Cleaning of the Compound and its Environs.

Additionally, corrective works were done on the plumbing system due to an interruption in the flow of water into the building; the Generator was also serviced.

Provision was made for office spaces within the building to house the new Water Quality Unit; additional EO for EMPD; and, an additional Office Assistant for the Administrative Unit.

Rehabilitation works of the EPA's Entrance Road and Parking Area were completed. Through the National Competitive bidding process works were awarded for the Construction of a Vehicle Parking Shed and for the Construction of a Corridor Shed.

The Agency continued to face issues of faulty plumbing and as such approval was granted and procurement completed for the purchase of a complete pressure pump to correct the problem.

Works were also contracted for the thorough cleaning and clearing of the inner and outer perimeters of the Agency.

Additional Support

Administrative support was provided for:

- Printing of Brochures and activity sheets for outreach programmes;
- Public Ceremony in observance of World Environmental Day;
- National Conversation at the Amerindian Heritage Village;
- Outreach to schools, Coastal Cleanup in Region 10 and Guyexpo;
- Outreach to St. Cuthbert's Mission and the Berbice Expo;
- Set-up of the office of the Litter Warden's Unit including procurement of equipment, furniture and office supplies;

- Pick-it-Up Guyana for outreach activities in Essequibo;
- NBF Project in the consultations countrywide; and
- NBSAP consultations.
- Worked in collaboration with the Internal OSH Committee to correct hazards within the building.

6.3 HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources Unit is responsible for recruiting a skilled and committed workforce and building a team of professionals empowered to perform competently and with excellence.

During the year, there was a high rate of appointments with more than forty percent (40%) of them being Litter Wardens for the new Litter Warden Unit. Specifically, there were thirty-seven (37) appointments comprising three (3) Senior Environmental Officers; eight (8) Environmental Officers (I); two (2) Environmental Officers (II); sixteen (16) Litter Wardens; one (1) Office Assistant; three (3) Drivers and two for (2) Handyman. Two (2) Environmental officers (1) were seconded from the MNRE to the EPA.

At the end of the year, there were ten (10) vacant positions: one (1) for Director; one (1) for SEO, five (5) for Litter Wardens; one for Human Resources Officer; one (10 for Senior Accounts Clerk; and one (1) for Accounts Clerk.

There were eight staff resignations in 2014.

Training and Workshops

Overseas

Eighteen (18) Cabinet Papers were prepared requesting approval for staff members to participate in meetings and or workshops abroad. Of these requests, ten (10) were approved and Officers of the EPA were able to attend nine (9) of these meetings.

Relevant staff of EPA was able to attend twenty-nine (29) training activities locally to build capacity in their areas of work.

TABLE 4: STAFF EMPLOYMENT DYNAMICS IN 2014

Position	Vacancies	Appointments	Confirmations	Promotions	Resignations	Inter-Div. Transfer
Director	1					
Senior Environmental Officer	1	3	3		1	
Environmental Officer (I)		8	5	7	2	1
Environmental Officer (II)		2			2	
Secondment EOI		2				
Litter Prevention Warden	5	16	10		2	
Human Resources Officer	1				1	
Senior Accounts Clerk	1					
Accounts Clerk	1					
Office Assistant		1	1			
Driver		3	5			
Legal Officer			1			
Executive Assistant			1			
Handyman		2				
Cleaner			1			

6.4 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Information Systems Management and Website Maintenance

- The Assets Database was maintained and backed up.
- The Complaints and Permits Database were updated and maintained. The SQL backend of the database was backed up and also maintained. Queries and data sets were generated based on the requirements of the EMC and EMP Divisions, respectively.
- New documents, downloads and vacancies were uploaded to www.epaguyana.org website. The Website Template was upgraded to Joomla 2.5 to enhance securities and graphics and content continues to be updated.
- New documents and downloads were uploaded to www.gefguyana.org

- The NBRIS internal web module was supported.
- Assistance was given to the Biodiversity Division to procure Hosting Provider for the Deployment of the CHM (Clearing House Mechanism) Portal.
- All website and hosting problems were fixed in a timely manner.

Network Support and Administration

- The Local Area Network was expanded to accommodate additional new staff. This expansion included structured cabling and installation of network switches.
- All network connectivity errors were fixed such as defectives cables, surface mounts and switches.
- User accounts, mapped drives and permissions were created to facilitate new staff entering the Agency.
- Assistance was given to the NBRIS consultant with problems relating to the LAN Module.
- Support was given to Human Resources Information System.
- The QuickBooks database was relocated to the data server and was automatically mapped to the computers in the Finance unit. This software is fully functional.
- The Litter Wardens were relocated to EMCD and configured to the network.
- Remote access service was configured for the Data Server.
- Kaspersky Antivirus Server Continues to receive updates from the Internet then deploy automatically to the network.
- Hardware and software firewall was updated to latest firmware and software. Another Sonic wall network device was installed in the IT Room to enhance security on the senior network.

- A fiber Optic Internet service was procured from E-Networks Inc to enhance Internet Access to the Directors and Boardroom. This also will act as back up in the case of when GT&T DSL connections are experiencing difficulties.
- Five 1500 and 500 VA ups were procured to fix outstanding power problems within the EMPD and EMCD.
- New Canon Printers were procured to replace damaged printers in EITD and the Administrative Unit.
- A Server was configured to provide internet access from 07:00h for all staff.
- Wireless internet was made available between 12:00h to 13:00h on the unsecured network to facilitate the request of staff for internet access on their personal devices.
- Complete backups of the Agency's data and Virtual machines were done.
- Virus definitions were updated on all of the Agency's Servers.

PC Support

- The IT unit repaired a number of desktops and laptops which were affected by hardware or software problem.
- Complete computer systems were deployed to all new staff entering the Agency.
- Several Computers were reloaded with new operating system and appropriate programs due to corrupt software or hardware failure.
- Defective monitors, mouse, keyboards, surge protectors, line conditioners and Ups were replaced.
- Computer systems were upgraded for all Divisions.

7.0 CHALLENGES

The EPA's work was affected by various challenges in 2014 among which were:

- The position of Director for the Biodiversity Management Division (BMD) remained vacant throughout 2014. This position, though advertised, did not succeed in attracting a suitable applicant in 2014.
- Training opportunities have not been available in specific areas to enable the transfer of the essential skills required to fully implement the programmes of the four technical divisions.
- Sourcing of funds to support conservation research and the conduct of species surveys linked to the Bushmeat trade.
- The Small Budget allocated to EIT constrained:
 - The reach of activities to promote education and awareness and to build capacity of different target groups in environmental management and conservation; and
 - Use of media for promotion of education and awareness.
- Some groups earmarked for education and awareness activities could not participate due to various reasons outside of the EPA's control.
- Non-submission of full documentation by developers in several cases hindered the full processing of applications for Environmental Authorization.
- The litigation process for defaulters is very lengthy.
- The staff complement is below what is needed to cope with the high volume of applications and complaints being managed by the Agency.
- The absence of National Standards to support the existing Environmental Regulations affected their enforcement.

8. PLANS FOR 2015

The EPA plans to focus on the following objectives in 2015:

Environmental Authorizations

- To bring 40% of large manufacturing companies, infrastructure projects, funeral homes and fuel depots in (Regions 4, 3 and 6) of the country into the Environmental Authorization process.
- To resolve 40% Environmental Appeals before the Environmental Assessment Board.
- To improve procedures, tools and mechanisms for the Environmental Authorizations Process, such as the authorization manual, EIA Guidelines Volume 1-5, development of Plan to implement the priority recommendations of EIA process, review consultancies and development of Plan to implement the priority recommendations of EMS Consultancies
- Finalize a Format for Terms of Reference for EIAs and revise Generic EIA Guidelines to better align with this new Format.
- To improve preparedness and response to effectively address 90% of environmental emergencies received related to Oil Spill/Effluent Discharge, etc.
- To ensure national compliance with reporting requirement obligations under the Basel Convention on the effective management of the trans-boundary movement of hazardous wastes and the reporting requirement obligations of the Cartagena Convention for which the Agency is the Focal Point.
- To improve by 30 % Environmental Management Practices in the authorization process through R&D.
- To support the Agency's development of an updated database.
- To strengthen linkages with all Sector Agencies and stakeholders.
- To improve procedures, tools and mechanisms for Air and Water Quality Management by:
 - Preparing a proposal seeking funding for the implementation of the Air Quality Regulations, 2000.
 - Conduct Air Quality Monitoring for Linden.
 - Implementing the Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulation 2000.
 - Water Sampling Protocol for the Agency. Finalize the technical guidelines for Mining and Forestry sectors with a view to increase monitoring of these facilities next year.
 - Implementing the Project funded under the Guyana Wastewater Revolving Fund (GWRF) once funding received.
- Increase by 60% the permitting of developmental projects related to Hazardous Wastes/Materials Management.

- Create committee/working group for the management of radioactive materials. Finalizing Memorandum of Understanding between Guyana Revenue Authority (GRA) and the EPA.
- Develop new Environmental Guidelines: Management of Used Tyres.

Compliance and Enforcement

- Monitor compliance of all large-scale, high risk facilities and at least 30% of medium-risk facilities that have been authorized by the EPA.
- Investigate and apply relevant enforcement sanctions for all authorized facilities in breach of their permit conditions.
- Investigate and apply relevant enforcement sanctions regarding 100% high risk and at least 30% medium- to low-risk pollution reports.
- Prepare and respond to all environmental emergencies.
- Conduct litter patrol and investigations and prosecute/pursue all cases of non-compliance across Guyana.
- Expand awareness and implementation of Litter Prevention Regulations to Regions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10.

Research and Development

- Collaborate with EMPD and GNBS for development of air and water quality standards.
- Coordinate with MNRE for development of an action plan for the phasing out of mercury in the mining sector by 2020 and State of Environment Report.
- Coordinate the promotion of the Agency's Emergency Response Guidelines within the various sectors.

Biodiversity Management

- Increase Guyana's readiness to regulate Access and Benefits Sharing (of the benefits of biodiversity) and Biosafety and Biosecurity through:
 - Approved ABS Regulations;
 - Approved Biosafety Policy and Biosafety Bill and Regulations;
 - Biotechnology/Biosafety Public Awareness and Education Strategy; and
 - Endorsement of project document for the project "Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in the Countries of the Caribbean Region".
- Increase participation of at least 30 % of small-scale miners in areas identified as high priority in sound environmental management via implementation of the 2015 Workplan for the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Project.

- Increase wildlife management by 25% through:
 - Five (5) Public awareness workshops/activities on the WMC Regulations (2013) encompassing all Regions of the country;
 - Effective response to 75% wildlife issues in 2015;
 - Collaboration with Panthera for the execution of a project to gather data on wildlife harvesting in Rupununi and extend similar efforts to coastal regions and other targeted regions in Guyana; and
 - Sourcing of funding to support conservation research efforts for TWO protected species (Red Siskin and Sun Parakeet) in South Rupununi.

Education and Awareness

- Increase education and awareness by expanding outreach activities by fifteen percent (15%) through:
 - Pursuing of FIVE new partnerships with Agencies, voluntary and community organizations;
 - Increasing staff complement by at least TWO Environmental Officers; and
 - At least TWO additional outreach activities in Regions 1, 7, 8 and 9.
- Increase visibility of the EPA and awareness of its processes by ten percent (20 %) through:
 - Paid quarterly TV Programme on EPA's procedures and processes;
 - Paid quarterly newspaper feature on the EPA's procedures and processes;
 - At least two high profile World Environmental Day activities; and
 - At least two high profile International Day of Biological Diversity Activities.
- Increase by twenty (20%) training to build capacity in environmental management by:
 - Involving two new schools with live-in facilities in composting;
 - Conducting two additional training workshops for teachers in environmental education; and
 - Conducting Climate Change education with TWO additional women's groups.

Staff and Infrastructure

- Explore the possibility of constructing a building to ease the present cramped space for staff, and to accommodate more staff to effectively undertake the mandate of the Agency.
- If the above is agreed, source funds to implement as indicated above.

9. CONCLUSION

The EPA implemented its 2014 Work Plan with dedication and within the resources available. The EPA was able to increase the staff complement of the Litter Warden Unit and the Wildlife Unit and to establish a Water Quality Unit. The Litter Warden Unit was expanded with staff to be placed in Regions 02-07 & 10 to enhance the EPA's efforts to reduce littering in the county. The Wildlife Unit was also expanded to four (4) Officers to commence work on the implementation of the Wildlife Regulations (2013). Further, the Water Quality Unit was staffed to increase the EPA's work in addressing water pollution.

The EPA will strive to design and implement strategies to cope with the increasing demand for its services such as, Environmental Authorisation; Compliance and Enforcement; and Education and Awareness. Among these strategies would be continued advocacy for and sourcing of necessary support - human, technical and financial - towards desired progress. The approach of increasing participation in environmental management will continue to be implemented in 2015 towards reducing new environmental complaints and resolving existing ones. Further, the EPA will continue to forge strategic partnerships and strengthen, existing linkages with sector agencies, the private sector and non-governmental organizations to advance its goals and objectives.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: EPA STAFF LIST AT THE END OF DECEMBER, 2013.

	NAME OF OFFICER	DESIGNATION
Office of the Executive Director		
1.	Indarjit Ramdass	Executive Director (ED)
2.	Kerean Geer	Executive Assistant to ED
3.	Ramsarran Etwaroo	Driver to ED
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION		
4.	Dhanraj Persaud	Administrative Director (AD)
5.	Faneefa Alli	Executive Assistant to AD
6.	Ryan Tiwari	IT Specialist
7.	Antonio Valenzeoela	Network Administrator
8.	Bharat Sasenarine	Technical Support Officer
9.	Vacant	Human Resources Officer
10.	Jewell-Ann Harry	Human Resources Assistant
11.	Lancelot France-Cummings	Finance Officer
12.	Fiona Marshall	Senior Accounts Clerk
13.	Debbie Wilkinson	Senior Accounts Clerk
14.	Hollee Ragnauth	Accounts Clerk
15.	Dadre Bayley	Accounts Clerk
16.	Shivon Caesar	Administrative Officer
17.	Divinjali Bailey	Administrative Assistant
18.	Eric Hinds	Driver
19.	Kwesi Smith	Driver
20.	Kamal Ramdayal	Driver
21.	Kumardev Samaroo	Officer Assistant
22.	Avinash Persaud	Officer Assistant
23.	Winifred Perreira	Cleaner
24.	Oslyn Peters	Cleaner
25.	Kevin	Handyman
26.	Richard Layne	Legal Officer
Environmental Management Permitting Division		
27.	Geeta Singh –Ubaldo Espinosa	Director
28.	Radhika Mootoo	Executive Assistant
29.	Sonia Gumbs-Luke	Senior Environmental Officer
30.	Teijvarti Persaud	Senior Environmental Officer
31.	Karen Alleyne	Senior Environmental Officer
32.		Environmental Officer II
33.	Nalissa Persaud	Environmental Officer II
34.	Savitri Itwaru	Environmental Officer II
35.	Dulcie Abrahams	Environmental Officer I
36.	Gregoria Vaughn	Environmental Officer II
37.	Melinda Franklin	Environmental Officer I
38.	Andrew Gupta	Environmental Officer I
39.	Latoya Farinha	Environmental Officer II
40.	Marcia Hall	Environmental Officer II
41.	Sharmin Joseph	Environmental Officer II
42.	Saudia Sadloo	Environmental Officer II

43.	Delon Earle	Environmental Officer I
44.	Camille Adams	Senior Environmental Officer
Environmental Management Compliance and Enforcement Division		
45.	Kemraj Parsram	Director
46.	Colis Primo	SEO, Research and Development
47.	Chandra Anastasia	Environmental Officer I, ICZM
48.	Monique Williams	Environmental Officer
49.	Tashana Redmond	Senior Environmental Officer
50.	Felicia Adams	Senior Environmental Officer
51.	Liverpool Whoopi	Environmental Officer I
52.	Ali Zahair	Environmental Officer I
53.	Browne Denroy	Environmental Officer I
54.	Darshani Seeram	GIS Environmental Officer I
55.	Nadia Nasir	GIS Technician
56.	Junior Paul Chanderpaul	Field Technician
57.	Roneka Joseph	Field Technician
58.	Nicole Hohenkirk	Executive Assistant
Education, Information and Training Division		
59.	Sharifah Razack	Director
60.	Fareena Alli	Executive Assistant
61.	Candacie Thompson	Senior Environmental Officer
62.	Deuel Hughes	Environmental Officer II
63.	Gracelyn Trim	Environmental Officer I
64.	Vacant	Environmental Officer II
65.	Dillon Charles	Environmental Officer
Natural Resources Management Division		
	Vacant	SEO, Biodiversity Unit
66.	Asma Sharief	SEO, Protected Areas Unit
67.	Sean Mendonca	SEO, Wildlife Unit
68.	Shanace Odwin	Environmental Officer I
69.	Stacy Lord	Environmental Officer II
70.	Diana Fernandes	Environmental Officer II
71.	Rae Smith	Environmental Officer II
72.	Rayner McAndrew	Environmental Officer II
73	Alisha Rambaran	Executive Assistant
74	Vacant	Environmental Officer
75	Jenniffer Bentick	NBF Coordinator
76	Zynell Blossom Manbodh	NBF Project Assistant
77		
78		

APPENDIX II: STAFF VACANCIES ADVERTISED IN 2014

- Environmental Officer I, EMPD and BMD
- Environmental Officer I, AFT, EMPD
- Environmental Officer I, Wildlife Unit, BMD
- Environmental Officer I, Biodiversity Unit, BMD
- Litter Wardens Region 2-7 &10
- Director BMD
- Environmental Officer I, Water Quality Unit, EMPD
- Environmental Officer I, EITD
- Senior Environmental Officer, Water Quality Unit, EMPD
- Drivers, Admin
- Office Assistant
- Senior Environmental Officer, EMCD
- Environmental Officer I, Industry, Infrastructure & Energy Unit, EMPD
- Environmental Officer I, Mining & Forestry Unit, EMPD
- Project Assistant/ Finance Assistant, Mainstreaming Biodiversity in the Mining Sector Project
- Project Coordinator, Mainstreaming Biodiversity in the Mining Sector Project, BMD
- Accounts Clerk, Biodiversity Mainstreaming Project
- Human Resources Officer

APPENDIX III STAFF APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS IN 2014

Position	Name of Officer	Date of Appointment
Senior Environmental Officer, AFT Unit, EMPD	Ms. Camille Adams	January 13, 2014
Senior Environmental Officer, PAU, BMD	Ms. Bibi Sharief	February 03, 2014
Senior Environmental Officer, BU, BMD	Ms. Stacy Lord	February 17, 2014
Environmental Officer I, AFT, EMPD	Ms. Khadija Ali	March 24, 2014.
Environmental Officer I, Wildlife Unit, BMD	Ms. Tamara Gilhuys	March 31, 2014
Litter Prevention Wardens (11)	Eleven Wardens	April 30, 2014
	Mr. Steffon George	September 08, 2014
	Mrs. Carla Ann Payne	November 03, 2014.
	Ms. Shonella Charles	
	Mr. Surjpaul Singh	November 03, 2014
	Mrs. Prudence Archer	December 01, 2014
Environmental Officer I, EITD	Ms. Vanessa Williams	May 19, 2014
Environmental Officer I, BU, BMD	Mr. Vidyanand Mohabir	May 19, 2014
Senior Environmental Officer, Water Quality Unit, EMPD	Ms. Angela Franklin	June 02, 2014
Environmental Officer I, Water Quality Unit, EMPD	Mr. Frank Grogan	June 02, 2014
Environmental Officer I, Water Quality Unit, EMPD	Mr. Mahesh Persaud	June 02, 2014
Environmental Officer II, AFT, EMPD	Mr. Selwyn Anthony	June 02, 2014
Driver, Litter Prevention Programme	Mr. Joel Williams	June 02, 2014
Driver, Litter Prevention Programme	Mr. Stephen Michael	June 02, 2014
Driver, Admin	Mr. Igris Lewis	June 02, 2014
Office Assistant, Admin	Ms. Arlene Allen	June 9, 2014
Temporary Handyman, Admin	Mr. Raymond Legall	June 12, 2014
	Mr. Kevin Durant	December 15, 2014
Environmental Officer I, EMCD	Mr. Mahendra Budhram	September 01, 2014
Environmental Officer II, M&F Unit, EMPD	Ms. Odessa Duncan	November 17, 2014
Environmental Officer I, II&E, EMPD	Ms. Makini Hackett	December, 19, 2014

SECONDMENT:

- Mr. Oswin David Environmental Officer I was seconded from MNRE to the Wildlife Unit, NRMD, effective February 03, 2014.

- Mr. Dillon Charles, Environmental Officer I was seconded from MNRE to the EITD, effective October 01, 2014.

INTERNSHIP:

The Agency responded positively to a request from the University of Guyana, to accommodate six (6) University Students as part of a two (2) months internship programme. The students that were selected to undergo internship at the Agency were:

- Mr. Timothy Babb, 3rd year Environmental Science student and Ms. Makini Hackett, 4th year Environmental Science student, attached to EMPD.
- Ms. Sara Henry, 3rd year Environmental Science student and Mr. Govindra Punu, 3rd year Biology student, attached to EMCD.
- Mr. Nickolas Chin, 4th year Environmental Science student and Ms. Ashley Semple, 2nd year Environmental Science student, attached to EITD.

PROMOTIONS

Confirmation:

- Mr. Richard Layne was confirmed in the post of Legal Officer, Office of the Executive Director, effective January 02, 2014.
- Mr. Erick Hinds was confirmed in the post of Driver, ADMIN, effective January 29, 2014.
- Ms. Nicole Hohenkirk was confirmed in the post of Executive Assistant, EMCD, effective February 18, 2014.
- Mr. Kwesi Smith was confirmed in the post of Driver, Admin, effective March 02, 2014.
- Ms. Camille Adams was confirmed in the post of Senior Environmental Officer, AFT, EMPD, effective April 13, 2014.
- Ms. Bibi Sharief was confirmed in the post of Senior Environmental Officer, PAU, NRMD, effective May 03, 2014.
- Mr. Carl Foo was confirmed in the post of Litter Prevention Warden, EMCD, effective July 30, 2014.
- Ms. Desney Inniss was confirmed in the post of Litter Prevention Warden, EMCD, effective July 30, 2014.
- Ms. Tenisha James was confirmed in the post of Litter Prevention Warden, EMCD, effective July 30, 2014.
- Mr. Tethram Persaud was confirmed in the post of Litter Prevention Warden, effective July 30, 2014.

- Ms. Jevella Rodney was confirmed in the post of Litter Prevention Warden effective July 30, 2014.
- Mr. Eshwar Samaroo was confirmed in the post of Litter Prevention Warden, EMCD, effective July 30, 2014.
- Ms. Joycelyn Gibbons was confirmed in the post of Litter Prevention Warden, EMCD, effective August 12, 2014.
- Mr. Benedict Singh was confirmed in the post of Litter Prevention Warden, EMCD, effective August 14, 2014.
- Ms. Vanessa Williams was confirmed in the post of Environmental Officer I, EITD, effective August 19, 2014.
- Mr. Vidyanand Mohabir was confirmed in the post of Environmental Officer I, BMD, effective August 19, 2014.
- Mr. Igris Lewis was confirmed in the post of Driver, ADMIN, effective September 02, 2014.
- Mr. Stephen Michael was confirmed in the post of Driver attached to the Litter Prevention Unit, EMCD, effective September 02, 2014.
- Mr. Joel Williams was confirmed in the post of Driver attached to the Litter Prevention Unit, EMCD, was September 02, 2014.
- Mrs. Angela Franklin was confirmed in the post of Senior Environmental Officer, EMPD, effective September 02, 2014.
- Mr. Frank Grogan was confirmed in the post of Environmental Officer I, EMPD, effective September 02, 2014.
- Mr. Mahesh Persaud was confirmed in the post of Environmental Officer I, EMPD, effective September 02, 2014.
- Mrs. Arlene Allen was confirmed in the post of Office Assistant, ADMIN, effective September 09, 2014.
- Mr. Mahendra Budhram was confirmed in the post of Environmental Officer I, EMCD, effective December 01, 2014.

TRANSFER:

- Mr. Zahair Ali, Environmental Officer I was transferred from EMCD to the Wildlife Unit, BMD, effective, September 01, 2014.

PROMOTION

- Mrs. Saudia Sadloo-Tromtan was promoted to Environmental Officer II, within the Environmental Management Permitting Division effective December 01, 2013.

- Ms. Dulcie Abraham was promoted to Environmental Officer II, within the Environmental Management Permitting Division effective January 02, 2014.
- Ms. Gregoria Vaughn was promoted to Environmental Officer II, within the Environmental Management Permitting Division effective January 02, 2014.
- Ms. Monique Williams was promoted to Environmental Officer II, within the Environmental Management Compliance Division effective January 02, 2014.
- Ms. Sharmin Joseph was promoted to Environmental Officer II, within the Environmental Management Permitting Division effective May 14, 2014.
- Ms. Melinda Franklin was promoted to Environmental Officer II, within the Environmental Management Permitting Division effective November 26, 2014.
- Mr. Andrew Gupta was promoted to Environmental Officer II, within the Environmental Management Permitting Division effective December 03, 2014.

RESIGNATION

- Mr. Jermaine Clark, SEO, BU, NRMD, tendered his resignation effective January 10, 2014.
- Ms. Tamara Gilhuys, Environmental Officer I, Wildlife Unit, NRMD tendered her resignation effective May 30, 2014.
- Mr. Andrew Alexander, Litter Prevention Warden, EMCD tendered his resignation effective August 04, 2014.
- Mr. Selwyn Anthony, Environmental Officer II, AFT, EMPD tendered his resignation effective August 01, 2014.
- Mr. Steffon George, Litter Prevention Warden, EMCD tendered his resignation effective September 22, 2014.
- Ms. Anzaleen Hoosein, Environmental Officer II, I, E & I, EMPD tendered her resignation effective October 01, 2014.
- Mr. Ronley Kendall, Human Resources Officer tendered his resignation effective January 01, 2015.
- Ms. Vanessa Williams, Environmental Officer I, EITD, tendered her resignation effective January 04, 2015.

TERMINATION:

- Mr. Anthony Hazell, Litter Prevention Warden, EMCD voluntary terminated his services effective July 15, 2014.
- Mr. Michael Mendonca, Litter Prevention Warden, EMCD was terminated effective August 20, 2014.

DEATH

- Mrs. Candacie Sobers, Environmental Officer II, EMPD passed away on January 22, 2014.

APPENDIX V - CABINET PAPERS PREPARED FOR EPA STAFF IN 2014

1. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Mr. Kemraj Parsram, Director, EMCD to attend the Nineteenth (XIX) Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment, which is scheduled to be held in Las Cabos, Mexico during March 13 - 14, 2014.
2. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Ms. Anastasia Chandra, Environmental Officer I, EMCD to attend The Expert Group Meeting on Integrated Planning and Coastal Management in the Caribbean, which is scheduled to be held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago during March 17 – 18, 2014. MNRE failed to respond on whether or not approval was received from Cabinet.
3. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Ms. Diana Fernandes Environmental Officer II, BMD, to take part in the Third (3rd) Caribbean ABS Workshop which is scheduled to be held in Bogota, Colombia, during May 20 - 22, 2014.
4. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Mr. Kemraj Parsram, Director, EMCD to attend the Nineteenth (XIX) Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment which was scheduled to be held in Las Cabos, Mexico during March 13 – 14, 2014. Approval was granted and this officer attended the workshop.
5. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Ms. Anastasia Chandra, Environmental Officer I, EMCD to attend The Expert Group Meeting on Integrated Planning and Coastal Management in the Caribbean which was scheduled to be held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago during March 17 – 18, 2014. Approval was granted and this officer attended the workshop.
6. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Ms. Diana Fernandes Environmental Officer II, BMD, to take part in the Third (3rd) Caribbean ABS Workshop which is scheduled to be held in Bogota, Colombia, during May 20 - 22, 2014.
7. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Ms. Stacy Lord, Senior Environmental Officer, Biodiversity Unit, BMD and Ms. Jenniffer Bentick, Project Coordinator, NBF Project, BMD, to take part in the Regional Biosafety Project Training Workshop on Environmental Risk Assessment in Biosafety which is scheduled to be held in Dominica, during April 14 - 16, 2014.
8. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Dr. Indarjit Ramdass, Director, Environmental Protection Agency, to take part in the Regional Workshop for Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC) on Resource Mobilization which is scheduled to be held in Brasilia, Brazil during April 15-17, 2014. No response was received from MNRE, hence officer did not attend.

9. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Ms. Bibi Sharief, Senior Environmental Officer, Protected Areas Unit, NRMD, to take part in the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) Workshop on Ecosystem conservation and restoration which is scheduled to be held in Belize City, Belize during April 28 – May 02, 2014.
10. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Ms. Geeta Singh, Director, EMCD to take part in the Second Meeting of the Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee to the LBS Protocol which was scheduled to be held in Managua, Nicaragua, during June 10 – 13, 2014. Approval was granted and this officer attended the meeting.
11. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Ms. Latoya Farinha, Environmental Officer II, EMPD, to take part in the Regional Workshop for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material which was scheduled to be held in Panama City, Panama, during June 02 – 06, 2014. Approval was granted and this officer attended the workshop.
12. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Mr. Sean Mendonca, Senior Environmental Officer, Wildlife Unit, NRMD, to take part in the Red Siskin Recovery Planning Meeting which is scheduled to be held in Front Royal, Virginia, USA, during July 08 – 12, 2014. Approval was granted and this officer attended the meeting.
13. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Ms. Stacy Lord, Senior Environmental Officer, Biodiversity Unit, BMD, to take part in the Regional Preparatory Workshop of Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) Member Countries to the 12th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity which is scheduled to be held in El Puyo, Ecuador during September 03 – 04, 2014. Approval was granted and this officer attended the Workshop.
14. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Ms. Jenniffer Bentick, NBF Coordinator and Ms. Diana Fernandes, Environmental Officer II, Biodiversity Unit, BMD, to take part in the Caribbean Biosafety Workshop on “Agriculture, Environmental Risk Assessment and Socio-economics which was scheduled to be held in Bridgetown, Barbados during September 10 – 12, 2014. No response was received from MNRE, hence officers did not attend.
15. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Dr. Indarjit Ramdass, Executive Director, EPA, to take part Seventh Meeting of the Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Twelfth Meeting of the Conference on Biological Diversity on “Biodiversity for Sustainable Development” which is scheduled to be held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, during September 29 – October 03, 2014. Approval was granted and this officer attended the Conference.
16. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Mr. Rae Smith, Environmental Officer II, Protected Areas Unit, BMD, to take part in the Sepanguy Symposium on Protected Areas which is scheduled to be held in Cayenne, French Guiana, during October 11 – 15, 2014. No response was received, hence officer did not attend.
17. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Ms. Felicia Adams, Senior Environmental Officer, EMCD, to take part in the Sustainable Solid Waste Management in

CARICOM Member States Training Course which is scheduled to be held in Okinawa, Japan during October 15 – November 29, 2014. No response was received, hence, officer did not attend.

18. Cabinet Memorandum was submitted to PS, MNRE, nominating Mr. Kemraj Parsram, Director, EMCD, to take part in the Global Intergovernmental and Multi-Stakeholder on the Sixth Global Environment Outlook Report (GEO-6) which is scheduled to be held in Berlin, Germany during October 21 - 23, 2014. Approval was received; however, officer did not attend.

APPENDIX VI -WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS ATTENDED BY EPA STAFF IN 2014

1. Mr. Richard Layne, Legal Officer, Office of the Executive Director, attended a meeting on January 15, 2014 held by the Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security on Noise Regulation.
2. Ms. Camille Adams, Senior Environmental Officer, AFT, Environmental Management Permitting Division attended the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Annual Accountability held by Ministry of Agriculture on January 24, 2014.
3. Ms. Camille Adams, Senior Environmental Officer, AFT, Environmental Management Permitting Division attended a meeting on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) which was organized by IICA on February 17, 2014.
4. Ms. Camille Adams, Senior Environmental Officer, AFT and Ms. Latoya Farinha, Environmental Officer II, Environmental Management Permitting Division attended a meeting dealing with Interim Guidelines for Industrial effluent discharge into the environment which was organized by GNBS on February 27, 2014.
5. Mr. Colis Primo, Senior Environmental Officer, Environmental Management Compliance Division attended the Committee meeting on Ambient Air Emissions into the Environment which was organized by GNMS on March 05, 2014.
6. Mr. Kemraj Parsram, Director, Environmental Management Compliance Division attended a two (2) days Working group Session for review and planning of the MRVS Roadmap during March 24 - 25, 2014.
7. Ms. Latoya Farinha, Environmental Officer II, Environmental Management Permitting Division attended a one (1) day meeting on International Chemicals Agreements for Sound Chemicals Management organized by Ministry of Agriculture on March 24, 2014.
8. Ms. Kerean Geer, Ms. Radhika Mottoo, Ms. Faneeka Alli, Ms. Alisha Rambarran and Ms. Nicole Hohenkirk, Executive Assistant, Ms. Divinjali Bailey, Administrative Assistant and Ms. Jewell-Ann Harry, Human Resource Assistant attended the Administrative Professional Seminar which was organized by Zoywin's Reflections on April 23, 2014.

9. Ms. Geeta Singh, Director, Environmental Management Permitting Division attended a one (1) day Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) Workshop which was organized by Ministry of Public Works on May 08, 2014.
10. The Agency attended The World Environment Day Ceremony which was organized by MNRE held at the Band Stand on June 05, 2014.
11. The Agency attended Environmental Conversation Day which was held at Sophia Exhibition Centre on June 21, 2014.
12. Ms. Sharmin Joseph, Environmental Officer II, Ms. Gregoria Vaughn, Environmental Officer II, Ms. Melinda Franklin, Environmental Officer I, Mr. Frank Grogan, Environmental Officer I and Mr. Delon Earle, Environmental Officer I, EMPD attended a four (4) days training on Internal Auditor Training for the ISO 9001 QMS which was organized by GNBS during the period July 28 – 31, 2014.
13. Ms. Sharmin Joseph, Environmental Officer II, EMPD attended a five (5) days workshop on Tropical Basic Offshore Safety and Emergency Training in Trinidad & Tobago during August 11 – 15, 2014.
14. Mr. Kemraj Parsram, Director, EMCD and Mrs. Sonia Gumbs-Luke, Senior Environmental Officer, EMPD is scheduled to attend a Regional Conference on Solid Waste Management organized by IDB in Montego Bay, Jamaica during September 30 – October 03, 2014.
15. Mr. Lancelot France-Cummings, Finance Officer, Ms. Debbie Wilkinson and Ms. Fiona Marshall, Senior Accounts Clerk, Ms. Hollee Ragnaugh and Ms. Dadre Bayley, Accounts Clerk, ADMIN, Ms. Camille Adams, Senior Environmental Officer, Mr. Delon Earle, Environmental Officer I, EMPD, Ms. Whoopi Liverpool, Ms. Anastasia Chandra, Mr. Denroy Browne and Mr. Mahendra Budhram, Environmental Officer I, EMCD and Ms. Vanessa Williams, Environmental Officer I, EITD attended the Annual Conference hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accounts of Guyana (ICAG) at Pegasus Hotel during September 08 – 10, 2014.
16. Mr. Delon Earle, Ms. Khadija Ali, Environmental Officer I, Ms. Malicia Hall, Ms. Latoya Farinha, Ms. Gregoria Vaughn, Environmental Officer II, EMPD, Ms. Fareena Alli, Executive Assistant, Mr. Deuel Hughes, Environmental Officer, EITD, Mr. Zahair Ali, Environmental Officer I, BMD, Mr. Denroy Browne, Environmental Officer I, EMCD and Mr. KumarDev Samaroo, Office Assistant, ADMIN, attended a half day (1/2) day training organized by the Guyana Fire Service on September 24, 2014.
17. Mr. Sean Mendonca, Senior Environmental Officer, Wildlife Unit, BMD and Ms. Tashana Redmond, Senior Environmental Officer, EMCD attended a two (2) days training on Creative Problem Solving and Analytical Thinking organized by Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business during October 29 – 30, 2014.
18. Ms. Malicia Hall, Environmental Officer II, EMPD, attended a two (2) days training on Aviation Fuel organized by the Guyana Energy Agency (GEA) during October 21 – 22, 2014.
19. Mrs. Sonia Gumbs-Luke, Senior Environmental Officer, EMPD, attended the International Day for Disaster Reduction 2014 on October 13, 2014.

20. Officers from the various Divisions attended a one (1) day Customer Service Training which was organized by JWT Management Institute on October 15 and 24, 2014.
21. Ms. Camille Adams, Senior Environmental Officer, Ms. Dulcie Abraham, Environmental Officer II, EMPD attended a one (1) day workshop on Waste Water Management in Guyana which was organized by the Ministry of Housing and Water on November 06, 2014.
22. Ms. Savitri Itwaru, Environmental Officer II, EMPD, attended a two (2) days seminar on Sharing experiences on the FLEG/T/VPA during November 18-19, 2014.
23. Ms. Dulcie Abraham, Environmental Officer II, Mr. Frank Grogan, Environmental Officer I and Ms. Malicia Hall attended a one (1) day workshop on Code of Practice for Packaged Water and Specification for Packaged Water which was organized by GNBS on November 24, 2014.
24. Mr. Colis Primo, Senior Environmental Officer, EMCD attended the Conformity Assessment Workshop which was organized by GNBS during November 17 – 19, 2014 in Trinidad.
25. Mrs. Sonia Gumbs-Luke, Senior Environmental Officer, Ms. Gregoria Vaughn, Environmental Officer II, EMPD, Ms. Monique Williams, Environmental Officer II and Mr. Mahendra Budhram, Environmental Officer I, EMCD, attended a three (3) days training on Environmental and Social Safeguard which was organized by the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development during December 01 – 03, 2014.
26. Ms. Malicia Hall and Ms. Gregoria Vaughn, Environmental Officer II, EMPD, Mr. Denroy Browne and Ms. Whoopi Liverpool, Environmental Officer I, EMCD, attended a two (2) days training on the Use of Environmental Monitoring Equipment which was organized by the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development during December 09 – 10, 2014.
27. Ms. Camille Adams, Senior Environmental Officer, EMPD attended a one day meeting on the Formation of a National Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Committee which was organized by IICA on December 11, 2014.
28. Mr. Kemraj Parsram, Director, EMCD attended The Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region during December 08 - 13, 2014 in Cartegena De Indias, Columbia.
29. Mrs. Sonia Gumbs-Luke, Senior Environmental Officer, EMPD attended the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Coordination Platform Meeting which was organized by The Civil Defence Commission on December 16, 2014.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
DRAFT STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Note	G \$	G \$	2013
Non Current Asset				
Tangible Fixed Assets	14		30,426,662	20,297,658
Current Assets				
Receivables	15	11,394,920		14,774,282
Cash at Bank	13	650,889,546		133,229,219
Cash in Hand		<u>120,784</u>		<u>5,836</u>
			<u>662,405,250</u>	<u>148,009,337</u>
Total Assets			<u>692,831,912</u>	<u>168,306,995</u>
Equity				
Government Contribution		31,761,221		18,761,221
Misc Inc/Donations		4,717,833		4,717,833
Accumulated Surplus		<u>81,780,296</u>		<u>84,159,559</u>
			<u>118,259,350</u>	<u>107,638,613</u>
Non Current Liability				
Deferred Income	5		2,510,875	3,766,313
Current Liability				
Suspense A/c			-	1,003,614
Payables	16	572,061,687		55,898,455
Total Equity and Liability			<u>692,831,912</u>	<u>168,306,995</u>

Approved By: Rajesh Randhawa
Executive Director

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
DRAFT STATEMENT OF INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	Note	G \$	2013 G \$
Income:			
Government Subvention	2	206,250,000	196,718,681
Revenue from Operations	6	43,527,419	33,641,684
Miscellaneous Receipts	6	504,000	4,637,000
Deferred Income		1,255,438	6,821,753
Other Income	6	52,794,492	1,794,065
Total Income		<u>304,331,349</u>	<u>243,613,183</u>
Less Expenses:			
Employment Costs	7	185,580,922	144,005,149
Materials, Equipment & Supplies	8	16,247,476	11,567,554
Maintenance of Building	9	10,205,015	15,182,089
Transport, Travel & Postage	10	18,243,659	14,938,813
Other Goods & Services	11	6,911,057	18,255,862
Other Operationg Expenses	12	35,598,183	10,980,439
Training & Scholarships		2,662,136	3,914,660
Expenses Specific to Agency		9,108,148	8,773,172
Fuel & Lubricants		5,354,910	3,651,499
Utility Charges		4,723,328	3,516,948
Security		5,134,161	4,160,806
Depreciation		6,907,189	4,864,909
Total Expenses		<u>306,676,184</u>	<u>243,811,900</u>
Surplus		(2,344,835)	(198,717)
Withholding Tax		34,128	43,433
Net Surplus for the Year		<u>(2,378,963)</u>	<u>(242,150)</u>

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
DRAFT STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	Government Contribution G\$	Donations G\$	Accumulated Surplus G\$	Total G\$
Balance at January 01, 2013	14,000,000	4,717,833	84,508,581	103,226,414
Prior Year Adjustment	-	-	(106,872)	(106,872)
Surplus for the year	<u>4,761,221</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(242,450)</u>	<u>4,518,771</u>
Balance at December 31, 2013	<u><u>18,761,221</u></u>	<u><u>4,717,833</u></u>	<u><u>84,159,259</u></u>	<u><u>107,638,613</u></u>
Balance at January 01, 2014	18,761,221	4,717,833	84,159,259	107,638,613
Prior Year Adjustment	-	-	-	-
Surplus for the year	<u>13,000,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,378,963)</u>	<u>10,621,037</u>
Balance at December 31, 2014	<u><u>31,761,221</u></u>	<u><u>4,717,833</u></u>	<u><u>81,780,296</u></u>	<u><u>118,259,650</u></u>

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
DRAFT STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	2013	G \$	G \$
Operating Surplus before Tax	(2,344,835)	(198,717)	
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation	6,907,189	4,864,909	
Writing off of Suspense a/c	(1,003,914)	-	
Prior Year Adjustment	-	(106,872)	
Deferred Income	(1,255,438)	(6,821,753)	
Receivables	3,379,362	(12,367,568)	
Payables	<u>516,163,232</u>	<u>(7,706,427)</u>	
	521,845,596	(22,336,428)	
Taxation			
Withholding Tax Paid	(34,128)	(43,433)	
Cash Flow From Investing Activity			
Purchase of Tangible Fixed Asset	(17,036,193)	(9,740,427)	
Cash Flow From Financing Activity			
Capital contribution for Government	<u>13,000,000</u>	<u>4,761,221</u>	
Net Increase in Cash & Cash Equivalents			
Cash and Cash Equivalents - January 01	517,775,275	(27,359,068)	
Cash and Cash Equivalents - December 31	<u>133,235,055</u>	<u>160,594,123</u>	
	<u>651,010,330</u>	<u>133,235,055</u>	
Analysis of Cash and Cash Equivalents - December 31			
Cash at Bank	650,889,546	133,229,219	
Cash in Hand	<u>120,784</u>	<u>5,836</u>	
	<u>651,010,330</u>	<u>133,235,055</u>	

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

1 Accounting Principles & Policies

a) Accounting Conventions:

These Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost conventions as modified by the revaluation of fixed assets.

b) Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is computed on a straight line basis at the following rates:

Furniture and Fixtures	12.5%
Office Equipment	20%
Motor Vehicles	12.5%

2 Government Subvention

The Agency received subventions from the Government of Guyana for the year ended December 31, 2014 totalling G\$206,250,000 (2013 G\$196,718,681).

3 Application and Permit Fees

For the year ended December 31, 2014, revenue received from environmental authorisations and permits issued to Developers amounted to G\$37,176,581 (2013 - G\$33,604,804).

4 Currency

Application and Permit Fees that are collected in US\$ and deposited into Bank of Nova Scotia G\$ Account #578-10. The Bank of Nova Scotia uses its daily buying rate to convert currency from US\$ to G\$ and the Agency uses the converted amount to record transactions in the receipt cash book.

5

Tangible Fixed Assets From Projects

Fixed Assets that the Agency's Benefited from under NCSA, IDB, Biosafety, CREP and FFI Projects were taken up into the accounting records based on the Net Book Value of G\$37,875,078 as at December 31, 2007. IAS 20 "Government Grants" was then applied

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

		2013
	G \$	G \$
6. Schedule of Income		
<i>Revenue from Operations</i>		
Application Fees	6,290,733	5,032,088
Permit Fees	37,176,581	28,572,716
Registration of EIA Consultants	60,105	36,880
	<u>43,527,419</u>	<u>33,641,684</u>
<i>Miscellaneous Receipts</i>		
Wildlife Management Authority	360,000	2,085,000
Miscellaneous	144,000	47,000
	<u>504,000</u>	<u>2,132,000</u>
<i>Other Income</i>		
Sale of Tender Documents	-	-
Interest Received	170,640	217,165
Miscellaneous	52,623,852	4,081,900
	<u>52,794,492</u>	<u>4,299,065</u>
7. Employment Costs		
Contracted Employees	185,580,922	133,959,599
Other Direct Labour Cost	-	3,607,576
National Insurance	-	6,437,974
	<u>185,580,922</u>	<u>144,005,149</u>
8. Materials, Equipment and Supplies		
Drugs & Medical Supplies	513,406	156,203
Field Materials & Supplies	4,252,094	3,814,328
Office Materials & Supplies	4,531,522	5,035,534
Print & Non Print Materials	6,950,454	2,561,489
	<u>16,247,476</u>	<u>11,567,554</u>
9. Maintenance of Building		
Maintenance of Building	4,343,457	2,031,834
Maintenance of Compound	5,482,427	12,395,589
Janitorial & Cleaning Supplies	379,131	754,666
	<u>10,205,015</u>	<u>15,182,089</u>

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

		2013
	G \$	G \$
10. Transport, Travel and Postage		
Local Travel & Subsistence	8,486,375	5,665,204
Overseas Conference & Official Visits	174,000	444,537
Postage, Telex & Cablegrams	386,846	313,080
Vehicle Spares & Services	9,196,438	8,515,992
	<u>18,243,659</u>	<u>14,938,813</u>
11. Other Goods and Services Purchased		
Equipment Maintenance	5,826,989	7,336,381
Cleaning & Exterminating Services	464,608	280,280
Other	619,460	-
	<u>6,911,057</u>	<u>7,616,661</u>
12. Other Operating Expenses		
National & Other events	10,320,012	8,023,384
Dietary	1,698,582	1,572,807
Refreshment & Meals	2,571,889	1,384,248
Other	21,007,700	10,639,201
	<u>35,598,183</u>	<u>21,619,640</u>
13. Bank Balances		
Bank of Nova Scotia Account #395-14	583,321,809	58,753,020
Bank of Nova Scotia Account #578-10	46,642,809	53,686,433
Republic Bank Account #483-187-1	9,380,658	9,337,114
Republic Bank Account #1231237	11,544,270	11,452,652
	<u>650,889,546</u>	<u>133,229,219</u>

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

14. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Furniture & Fixtures G\$	Office Equipment G\$	Motor Vehicles G\$	Total G\$
Cost				
January 01	9,000,454	56,433,502	9,930,520	75,364,476
Additions and Disposal	2,325,844	7,759,081	6,951,268	17,036,193
December 31	<u>11,326,298</u>	<u>64,192,583</u>	<u>16,881,788</u>	<u>92,400,669</u>
Depreciation				
January 01	4,619,549	41,870,629	8,576,640	55,066,818
Disposal	-	-	-	-
Charged for the Year	<u>1,177,004</u>	<u>5,053,245</u>	<u>676,940</u>	<u>6,907,189</u>
December 31	<u>5,796,553</u>	<u>46,923,874</u>	<u>9,253,580</u>	<u>61,974,007</u>
Net Book Values				
December 31, 2013	<u>4,380,905</u>	<u>14,562,873</u>	<u>1,353,880</u>	<u>20,297,658</u>
December 31, 2014	<u>5,529,745</u>	<u>17,268,709</u>	<u>7,628,208</u>	<u>30,426,662</u>

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	2013	2013
	G \$	G \$
15. Receivables		
Wildlife Management Authority	1,409,391	3,219,245
Projects	8,440,113	11,371,476
Other receivables	1,545,416	183,561
	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
	11,394,920	14,774,282
16. Payables		
Unpresented Cheques	3,156,841	3,630,479
Projects	548,599,602	36,048,361
Other payables	20,305,244	16,219,615
	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
	572,061,687	55,898,455

Environmental Protection Agency
Schedule of Income
For The Year Ended December 31, 2014

Particulars	Amount
Application Fee	6,290,733
Permit fees	37,176,581
Registration of Eia Consultants	60,105
Others	52,623,852
Government Subvention	206,250,000
Sale of Tender Documents	144,000
Interest Received	170,640
Deferred income on Project Assets	1,255,438
Wildlife Management Authority	360,000
	304,331,349

Environmental Protection Agency
Schedule of Expenses
For The Year Ended December 31, 2014

Expenses	Amount
Security	5,134,161
Account # 106 (Contracted Employees)	185,580,922
Account # 201 Other Direct Labour Cost	-
Account # 204 National Insurance Employer	-
Account # 124 (Print & Non Print Materials)	6,950,454
Account # 131 (Fuel & Lubricants)	5,354,910
Account # 142 (Maintenance of Building)	4,343,457
Account # 143 (Janitorial & Cleaning Supplies)	379,131
Account # 191 (National & Other Events)	10,320,012
Account # 192 (Dietary)	1,698,582
Account #162 (Overseas Conference & Official Visit)	174,000
Account # 163 (postage Telex & Cablegrams)	386,846
Account # 111 (Expenses Specific to the Agency)	9,108,148
Account # 121 (Drugs & Medical Supplies)	513,406
Account # 122 (Field Materials)	4,252,094
Account # 212 (Training & Scolarship)	2,662,136
Account # 123 (Office Materials & Supplies)	4,531,522
Account # 164 Vehicle Spares & Services)	9,196,438
Account # 194 (Others)	21,007,700
Account # 193 (Refreshment & Meals)	2,571,889
Account # 182 (Equipment Maintenance)	5,826,989
Account # 183 (Cleaning & Exterminating Services)	464,608
Account # 161 Local Travel & Subsistence)	8,486,375
Account # 171 Telephone Charges	4,372,294
Other Goods and services purchased	619,460
Depreciation	6,907,189
KfW VAT Refund	-
Withholding	34,128
Water Rates	351,034
Maintenance of Compound	5,482,427
	306,710,312