



TOPIC:

NAME: BRIDGET ROBERTS - SENIOR METEOROLOGICAL TECHNICIAN (FORECASTER)

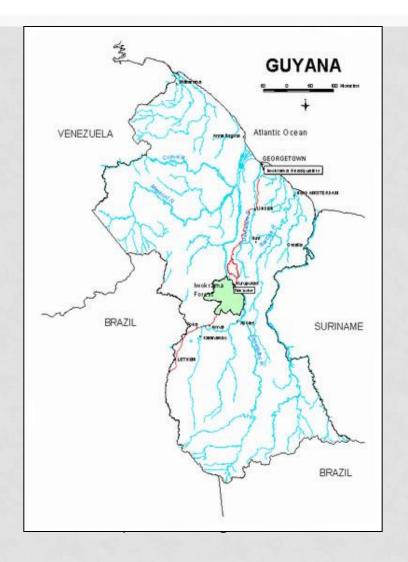






GUYANA - "LAND OF MANY WATERS"

- situated in Northern South America and part of the of Caribbean.
- borders the North Atlantic Ocean, between Surinam and Venezuela
- approximately 214,970 square kilometers.
- The country is situated between 1 and 9 north latitude and between 56 and 62 west longitude..
- The land comprises three main geographical zones: the coastal plain, the white sand belt, and the interior highlands.
- Six ethnic groups African, Indian, Chinese, Europeans, Amerindian and mixed race.
- Unique to Guyana is that we are the only English speaking country in South America and the only Caribbean nation on the mainland of South America.



CLIMATE DATA COLLECTED

- 9 synoptic stations,
- 150 rainfall stations,
- 5 Climate Stations,
- 5 Automatic weather stations.
- 28 hydrological stations
- One Doppler Weather Radar Monitoring station



CLIMATE VARIABLES COLLECTED

Rainfall	Temperatures	Evaporation	Wind	A/Pressure
	Sunshine			

- Earliest rainfall data can be traced to 1880s
- Hard and softcopy database is mainly populated with rainfall, but includes other parameters such as temperatures, wind, sunshine etc.

CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

- Insufficient staff within organisation
- A lack of strong analytical skills or interpretative capacity to make use of the models and data that is already available esp. in climatology
- Incomplete coverage of the observation network due largely to a lack of funding for staff to operate and maintain recording stations in remote locations
- Significant amount of data still needs to be rescued (meaning processed and digitized)

ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

 Guyana also works closely with regional centres including the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) to expand our automated monitoring network in remote and vulnerable areas.