

# Index of Governance and Public Policy in Disaster Risk Management (iGOPP) National Report Guyana

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Environment, Rural  
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TECHNICAL  
NOTE N°  
IDB-TN-01607

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July 2019



Cataloging-in-Publication data provided by the  
Inter-American Development Bank

Felipe Herrera Library

Index of Governance and Public Policy in Disaster Risk Management (iGOPP): national report Guyana / Sergio Lacambra, Tsuneki Hori, Yuri Chakalall, Ivonne Jaimes, Haris Sanahuja, Ana Maria Torres, Ernesto Visconti.

p. cm. — (IDB Technical Note ; 1607)

1. Natural disasters-Government policy-Guyana. 2. Emergency management-Government policy-Guyana. 3. Environmental risk assessment-Government policy-Guyana. I. Lacambra, Sergio. II. Tsuneki, Hori. III. Chakalall, Yuri. IV. Jaimes, Ivonne. V. Sanahuja, Haris. VI. Torres, Ana María. VII. Visconti, Ernesto. VIII. Inter-American Development Bank. Environment, Rural Development and Risk Management Division. IX. Series.

IDB-TN-1607

Key Words: natural disasters, risk management, governance, Latin America

JEL Codes: Q1, Q54, Q58

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The Government of Guyana provided inestimable collaboration.

The development and publication of this document was financed through the Regional Technical Cooperation RG-T2787, financed by the Multi-Donor Fund for Disaster Prevention with contributions from Canada, Spain, Japan and Korea.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

According to the report “Progress and Challenges in Disaster Risk Management in Guyana”<sup>1</sup>, published in 2014, under Guyana first ‘disaster’ plan – the National Prevention, Preparedness and Relief Plan – the Civil Defense Commission (CDC) was created as the lead organization in Guyana in charge of conducting operations to deal with all types of disasters in the country and was placed under the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM). In 1985, a comprehensive National Disaster Preparedness Plan was documented and put into use. In 1992, the responsibility for the CDC was moved to the Office of the President (OP), where it still remains. In September 2001 Standard Operation Procedures for the National Emergency Operations Centre were upgraded to meet new challenges of the worsening domestic and international disaster situation.

The research conducted during the application of the iGOPP did not find evidence about the existence of a formal normative framework for comprehensive Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in Guyana. According to the Civil Defense Commission (CDC) the current policy framework for DRM has been approved by Cabinet Office resolutions, which are not available for consultation due to their classified nature. Therefore, important conditions assessed by the iGOPP indicators requiring the existence of national framework for DRM are not yet met in Guyana. However, it is also important to highlight that among the set of documents reported as being approved by a cabinet resolution in 2014, the draft version of DRM Policy elaborated by the CDC in 2013, establishes the guiding principles and architecture for DRM in Guyana, introducing the institutional structures, roles, responsibilities, authorities and key processes required to achieve a comprehensive, coordinated, coherent and consistent approach to DRM.

While the analysis of the national DRM framework was limited due to the classified nature of some documents, the research conducted during the application of the iGOPP found robust evidence of the inclusion of DRM considerations in the policy development framework of Guyana. The Low Carbon Development Strategy 2010 (LCDS), which contains the development priorities and challenges of Guyana and supplements the National Development Strategy (2000-2010) and, the National Competitiveness Strategy (2006), includes explicit targets and indicators in DRM.

In terms of the Risk Identification component, Guyana shows a limited progress, with a 11.2% of compliance for the respective indicators. One of the important gaps is the lack of regulations identifying a national party responsible for providing technical assistance and guidelines at territorial and sectorial levels for the disaster risk analysis. Additionally, no general or sectorial mandates to conduct risk analysis were identified for the 10 sectors and public utilities companies assessed by the iGOPP in Guyana. On the other hand, the iGOPP reveals that the Water and Sewage Act, approved by the Parliament of Guyana in 2002, establishes relevant responsibilities of the Department of Hydrometeorology, which include the creation and maintenance of Information Systems for Disaster Risk Management.

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<sup>1</sup> This report was published by the Civil Defense Commission of Guyana with support from the European Union and UNISDR

The iGOPP also reveals a low level of progress for the Risk Reduction component in Guyana, with a 15% of compliance for the respective indicators. Among the gaps found by the iGOPP application, it is worth highlighting the lack of regulations about coordinated responsibilities between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation for territorial and sectorial entities. Also, the National Building Codes published by Central Housing Authority of Guyana in 2012 do not define essential buildings, indispensable or critical infrastructure. Guyana also lacks national or sectoral regulations that establish responsibilities for the sectors or public service companies to reduce the risk in the sectorial scope of its powers. In terms of policy implementation, the iGOPP application found that among the different sectors assessed, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Public Infrastructure allocate resources for risk reduction, focusing on flood risk management projects.

Guyana's lack of a normative framework for DRM is also reflected in the absence of formal regulations for the process of disaster preparedness and response. Nevertheless, it is important to highlight that the draft version of the Multi-hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, developed by the CDC in 2013 and reported as approved by Cabinet Resolution in 2014, considers the formulation of emergency or contingency plans at the national level and outlines a set of "Response Sub Plans and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)". Additionally, this Plan contains provisions and regulations for the establishment of contingency plans in the different sectors or ministries. In the same line, it is important to mention that the draft version DRM Policy foresees the implementation and operation of early warning systems for natural hazards.

In terms of definition of sectorial responsibilities for disaster preparedness, the iGOPP application reveals the compliance of the health sector, through the "Health Vision 2020: A National Health Strategy for Guyana, 2013-2020". Additionally, the Ministry of Education shows progress in this component through the development of a policy document titled "Policy- Disaster Preparedness for the Education Sector", approved by the Education Systems Committee in November 2010. One important gap found by the iGOPP application in terms of policy implementation, is the lack of emergency, contingency or continuity of operations, or equivalent plans, for the 10 key sectors assessed in the country. It is important to mention that the CDC informed that there are contingency plans, elaborated with CDC support and approved by Cabinet Resolution, which means they are considered as classified documents and therefore not available for the iGOPP analysis.

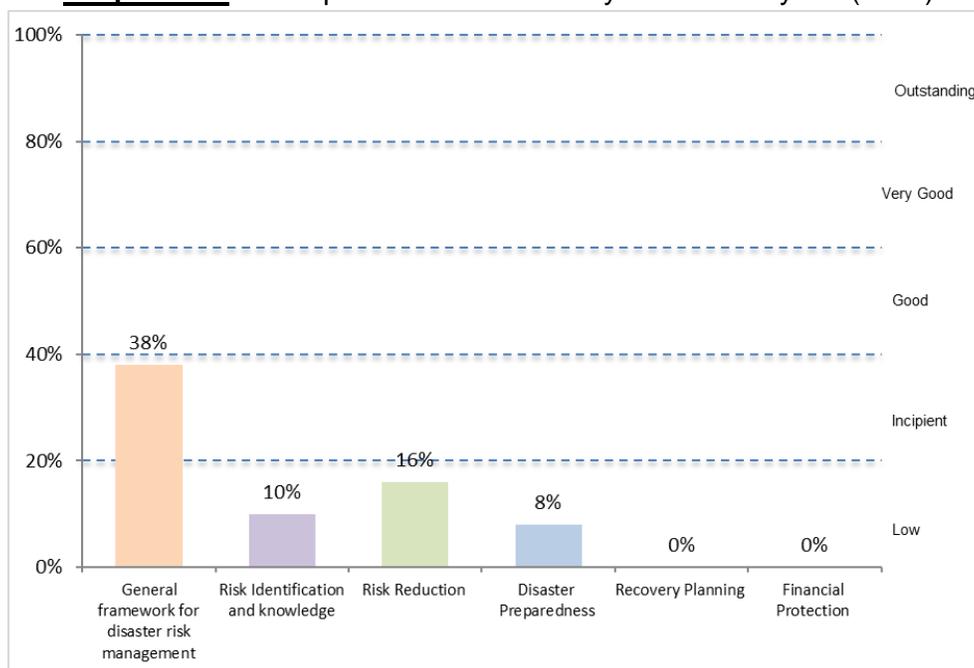
The iGOPP application shows no advance yet for Post-disaster Recovery Planning component in Guyana. However, it is important to underline that draft versions of the National DRM Policy and the Multihazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan already contain relevant references about quality attributes that should guide the recovery process. At the same time, it is important to highlight that the process related with the recovery planning component are relatively incipient in all the countries of the region, and the low results obtained by the iGOPP application for Guyana are not surprising as they follow the trend already revealed by iGOPP applications in the rest of countries assessed so far.

Regarding Financial Protection, the iGOPP application found no progress in this policy phase. There are no funds for disaster response, contingent credit lines or insurance instruments, aiming at reducing the fiscal vulnerability of the country to the occurrence of disasters. It is important to highlight that this is happening in a context where the Ministry of Finance does not have yet responsibilities regarding financial management of disasters risk. Currently, budget reallocation, loans and grants are used for financing the expenses related to disasters.

Besides the challenges found in Guyana to have access to the relevant DRM policy and planning instruments reported as approved by cabinet resolutions, the CDC reported to the iGOPP team that the Government has made good progress towards putting together a DRM Bill. This Bill would integrate all the important policies and planning instruments developed by the country since 2003, such as the DRM Policy and the Multihazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, among others. The future enactment of this piece of DRM legislation would allow all the significant normative and policy work undertaken by Guyana in recent years to be publicly available and it would place Guyana on a higher level of progress according the iGOPP methodology.

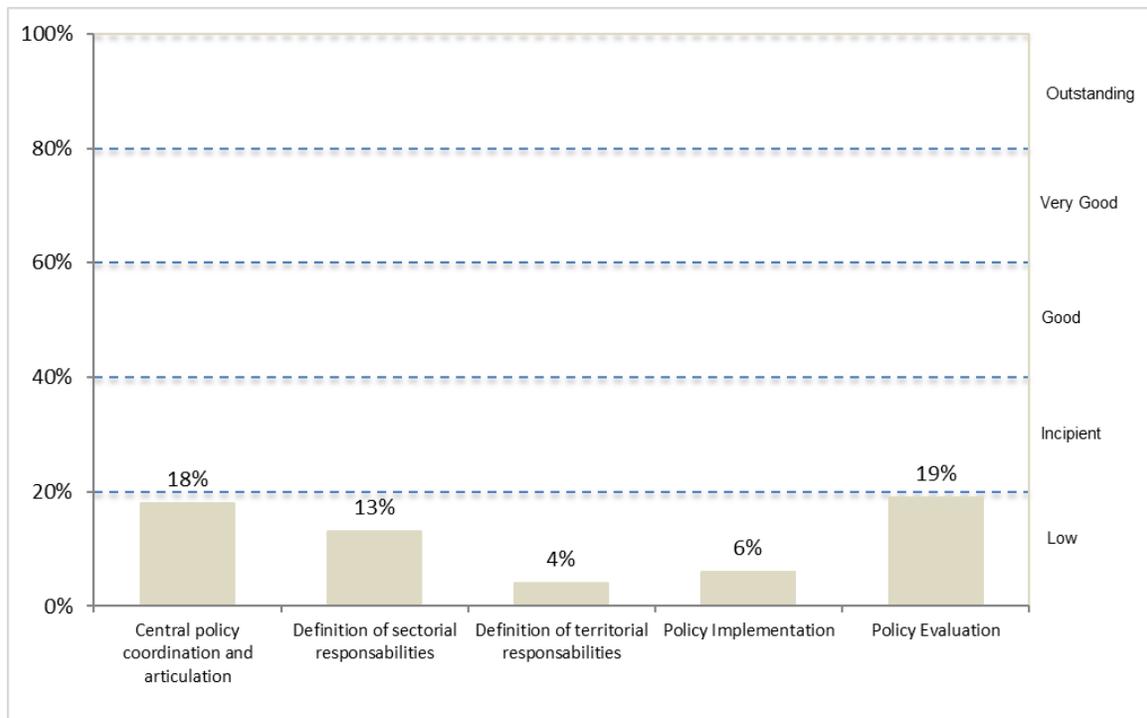
The results of the iGOPP application in Guyana (2017) show a general progress level of 12.08%, which places the country in “low” range of advance. The analysis of the results by component of public policy (Graph 1) reveals that “General Framework of Governance for DRM” is the most advanced component, reaching a 38% of compliance, which is considered as “incipient” progress, according to the iGOPP’s classification. In a range considered as “low progress” the iGOPP places the rest of the five components, with “Risk Reduction” reaching a 16% followed by “Risk Identification” and “Disaster Preparedness” components, with a 10% and 8% compliance, respectively. No progress is reported by the iGOPP for indicators associated with the “Disaster Recovery Planning” and “Financial Protection” components (0% compliance).

**Graph No. 1** – Component of Public Policy Reform- Guyana (2017)



At the same time, the analysis of the iGOPP’s results from a public policy phases perspective (Graph 2), reveals that all the phases fall in a “low level” of progress. “Policy Evaluation”, as well as “Central Policy Coordination and Articulation”, show the highest percentage of compliance, with 19% and 18%, respectively, followed by “Definition of Sectorial Responsibilities”, with 13% of compliance. The indicators related to “Policy Implementation” and “Definition of Territorial Responsibilities” have the lowest levels of compliance with 6% and 4%, respectively.

**Graph 2:** Public Policy Phases according to iGOPP- Guyana (2017)



Based on the iGOPP findings the following recommendations are proposed:

*Short Term*

- It is recommended that during the final consultation on DRM Bill the Government harmonizes and integrates the key documents approved by cabinet resolution in recent years, (particularly the DRM Policy, the Multihazard Disaster Preparedness and Responses Plan, the National Multi-Hazard Alert System for Guyana and the Damage and Needs Assessment -DANA- Framework), taking also into account the gaps revealed by the iGOPP which are not currently covered in these documents.
- Related to the previous recommendation, it is recommended that the DRM Bill includes explicitly that the coordination and articulation of the DRM policy tools be made at a hierarchical level equal or higher than ministerial. This would also result in the harmonization of the different institutional settings proposed in the set of documents approved by cabinet resolution.
- It is recommended that the DRM Bill considers including, as a quality attribute, that disaster risk management must be subjected to control by the respective authorized organizations, such the Audit Office.

- It is recommended that the DRM legal framework considers financial protection as a main component of DRM. In this context it must assign responsibility to Ministry of Finance for developing risk retention and risk transfer strategies. In order to comply with such responsibility, recommended the Ministry of Finance (MoF) should develop a financial strategy or policy document to guide the financial management of disaster risk in the country, informed by the experiences of similar undertakings by other MoFs in the region.
- It is recommended to design and implement a budgetary instrument/tool for identifying the budgetary allocations related with ex ante DRM programs and climate change adaptation activities.
- It is recommended that the Audit Office of Guyana, as the supreme audit institution of the State with competencies to conduct performance audits, undertakes an assessment on the existing regulations in disaster risk management.
- It is recommended that the CDC formalizes the existence of the National Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Platform, recently re-activated by the Ministry of State. The formal launching of the National Platform should ideally include the definition of objectives, a governance structure and a membership list (or criteria) for this mechanism.
- It is recommended that the DRM Bill includes the identification of a national entity responsible for providing technical assistance and guidelines at territorial and sectorial levels for the disaster risk analysis
- It is also recommended that the DRM Bill includes the identification of a national entity responsible for the definition of methodologies for the preparation of studies on climate change effect.
- It is recommended that the practice of uploading the impact data associated to historical emergencies and disasters in Desinventar database becomes a regular activity backed by regulations that establish the systemization and updating of database of the effects of disasters.
- It is recommended that sectors allocate resources to disaster risk identification activities that can be specifically identified through budgetary instruments/tools.
- It is recommended to develop regulations establishing that studies on geological and hydrometeorological hazards should consider the frequency of occurrence of such events and their associated levels and intensities.
- It is recommended to include in the provisions of the DRM Bill that each sector and each public utility company is responsible to carry out disaster risk analysis in the sectorial scope of its powers.
- It is recommended that the entities responsible for generating information on geological, hydrological and meteorological phenomena, undertake at least one quality assessment of their research, monitoring and dissemination processes.
- It is recommended that the DRM Bill includes a clear mandate about the responsibility to inform the citizens on disaster risk.
- It is recommended that Guyana develops regulations that define benchmarks of acceptable risk for at least 2 hazards in the country to guide the disaster risk reduction efforts. For instance, the existence of technical parameters such as the “drainage coefficient” used by the National Drainage and Irrigation Authority (NDIA) main criteria for the sluice system, could be a good platform for the development of benchmarks for acceptable risk.
- Together with the identification of critical infrastructure by regulation, it is recommended to develop at least one national standard for vulnerability reduction of such infrastructure.
- It is recommended to develop regulations that mandate the consideration of disaster risk reduction measures during the construction of public and private infrastructure projects.

- It is recommended that sectors allocate resources to disaster risk reduction activities that can be specifically tracked through budgetary instruments/tools.
- It is recommended to include in the DRM Bill provisions that establish the responsibility of the public service provider companies to reduce disaster risk in the scope of their operations.
- It is recommended that the Audit Office of Guyana, as the supreme audit institution of the State with competencies to conduct performance audits, undertakes an assessment on the implementation of existing regulations on disaster risk reduction in the country.
- It is recommended that sectors allocate resources to disaster risk reduction activities that can be specifically identified through budgetary instruments/tools.
- It is recommended that the Audit Office of Guyana, as the supreme audit institution of the State with competencies to undertake performance audits, conducts at least one 'after event' assessment on the government performance in relation to future emergency response activities.
- It is recommended that during the final consultation of the DRM Bill, the Government harmonizes and integrates all the considerations for the disaster preparedness process contained in key documents approved by cabinet resolution in recent years, (particularly the DRM Policy, the Multihazard Disaster Preparedness and Responses Plan, the National Multi-Hazard Alert System for Guyana and the Damage and Needs Assessment (DANA) Framework), taking also into account the gaps revealed by the iGOPP which are not currently covered in these documents.
- It is recommended that the DRM Bill also establishes a mechanism or instance for crisis management at the highest national political level that clarifies the current responsibility of the Office of the President and the role of the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) and its National Emergency Coordinator.
- It is recommended that the Environment Emergency Plan and other sectorial plans mentioned in the draft versions of the DRM Policy and the Multihazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan are made available to the public through the publication in the websites of the CDC and of the ministries involved in the development of those plans.
- It is recommended to develop regulations that mandate the formulation and implementation of emergency or contingency plans associated with transport, handling or processing of hazardous substances, including emergency or contingency plans in the event of fuel spill or oil pollution. This is particularly important for Guyana, given the potential for the oil extraction industry in the country.
- It is recommended to define in the DRM Bill preparedness and response responsibilities for the territorial management units.
- It is recommended that sectors allocate resources to disaster preparedness activities that can be tracked through budgetary instruments/tools and that they develop sectoral disaster contingency plans.
- It is recommended that in the final consultation for the DRM Bill, the Government harmonizes and integrates all the relevant considerations for the post-disaster recovery planning process contained in key documents approved by cabinet resolution in recent years, and also takes into account the gaps revealed by the iGOPP which are not currently covered in these documents.
- It is recommended that the DRM Bill includes: i) an explicit definition of the responsibility of the State regarding the disaster recovery process; ii) a mandate to develop institutional arrangements for coordinating post-disaster reconstruction, and iii) a mandate to develop ex ante disaster recovery plans.

- It is recommended that the DRM legal framework considers the creation of a disaster risk management fund that finances both emergency response and risk reduction activities.
- It is recommended to evaluate financial protection instruments available to Guyana, such as the parametric insurance policies offered by CCRIF, in order to reduce the financial impact of the occurrence of tropical cyclones, earthquakes and excess rainfall events.

#### *Medium Term*

- It is recommended that in future reviews of the National Building Codes and the Town and Country Planning Act, the Government considers the inclusion of at least one rule that defines which buildings are essential, indispensable or that are considered as critical infrastructure.
- It is recommended to promote the incorporation in the regulatory frameworks of the environment, agricultural, health, education, housing, transport, telecommunication, water and sanitation and energy sectors the responsibility to carry out disaster risk analysis or adverse effects of climate change in their respective areas of competence.
- It is recommended that the obligation to conduct hazard zoning in cities is included in future regulations on development planning and land use.
- It is recommended, as part of the development of a regulatory framework for public investments, the development of legislation that mandates the inclusion of disaster risk analysis (including the effects of Climate Change for hydro-meteorological hazards) in all phases of the public investment process.
- It is recommended to promote the incorporation of the responsibility to reduce risk in each sector in the respective regulatory frameworks of the environment, agricultural, health, education, housing, transport, telecommunication, water and sanitation and energy sectors.
- It is recommended that future policy reforms related to regulations on development planning and land use (or equivalent), consider the following: i) the establishment of the zoning of areas at risk as a determinant factor in the definition of use and occupation of the land; ii) comprehensive improvement of human settlements; iii) relocation of human settlements located in risk zones.
- It is recommended that the provisions of the “Policy- Disaster Preparedness for the Education Sector”, are included in future policy reforms or updates of the main regulatory framework for the education sector.
- It is recommended to promote the incorporation in the regulatory frameworks of the environment, agricultural, housing, transport, water and sanitation, telecommunication and energy sectors the responsibility to carry out disaster preparedness activities in their respective areas of competence. The progress achieved by the health sector could be used as an example.
- It is recommended to include regulations that establish the review or update of local development plans regulations after a disaster has affected the territorial units.
- It is recommended to promote in the regulations for public service companies the inclusion of a requirement for the development and implementation of business continuity plans for disasters.
- It is recommended to encourage the preparation and formal approval of ex ante disaster recovery plans for the different sectors and utilities companies.
- Insurance should be mandatory by regulation for the critical public infrastructure.

### *Long Term*

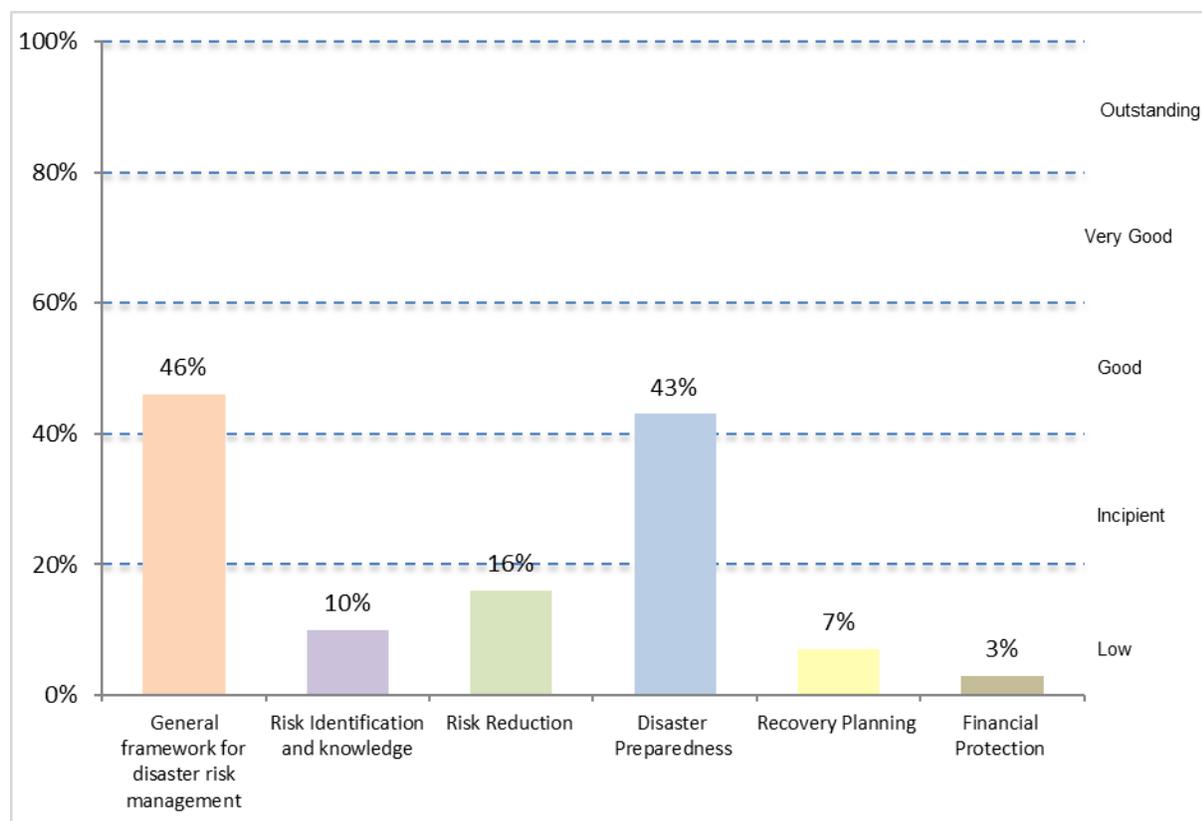
- It is recommended that in future policy reforms of the Local Democratic Organs Act, the Government considers the inclusion regulations that decentralize local development and territorial planning and land use to territorial management units, and empower Territorial Management Units (regions, town, districts, etc.) to create networks, agreements, alliances or territorial agreements in DRM.
- It is recommended to include recovery planning responsibilities in the regulatory frameworks of the environment, agricultural, housing, transport, water and sanitation, telecommunication and energy sectors.
- It is recommended to develop an ex ante financial protection mechanism for supporting the economic reactivation of the agricultural sector after the occurrence of a disaster.
- It is recommended to design and implement a financial protection structure for the agricultural sector.

### **Additional considerations for Guyana's iGOPP application**

As mentioned before, the Civil Defense Commission (CDC) reported that the current policy framework for DRM has been approved by Cabinet Office resolutions, which are not available for consultation due to their classified nature. The iGOPP's methodology requires actual verification of documents that support the compliance with the indicators. Given the particular case found in Guyana with the DRM normative framework, the iGOPP team calculated against the iGOPP's metrics assuming that the draft versions of DRM Policy and the Multi-Hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan were the versions actually approved by the Cabinet Office resolutions. The results are shown below in Figures 2 and 3. This hypothetical exercise provides a reference of the level of progress that the iGOPP would be able to report for Guyana if cabinet resolutions and the approved versions of the documents were the same and were also both available for consultation.

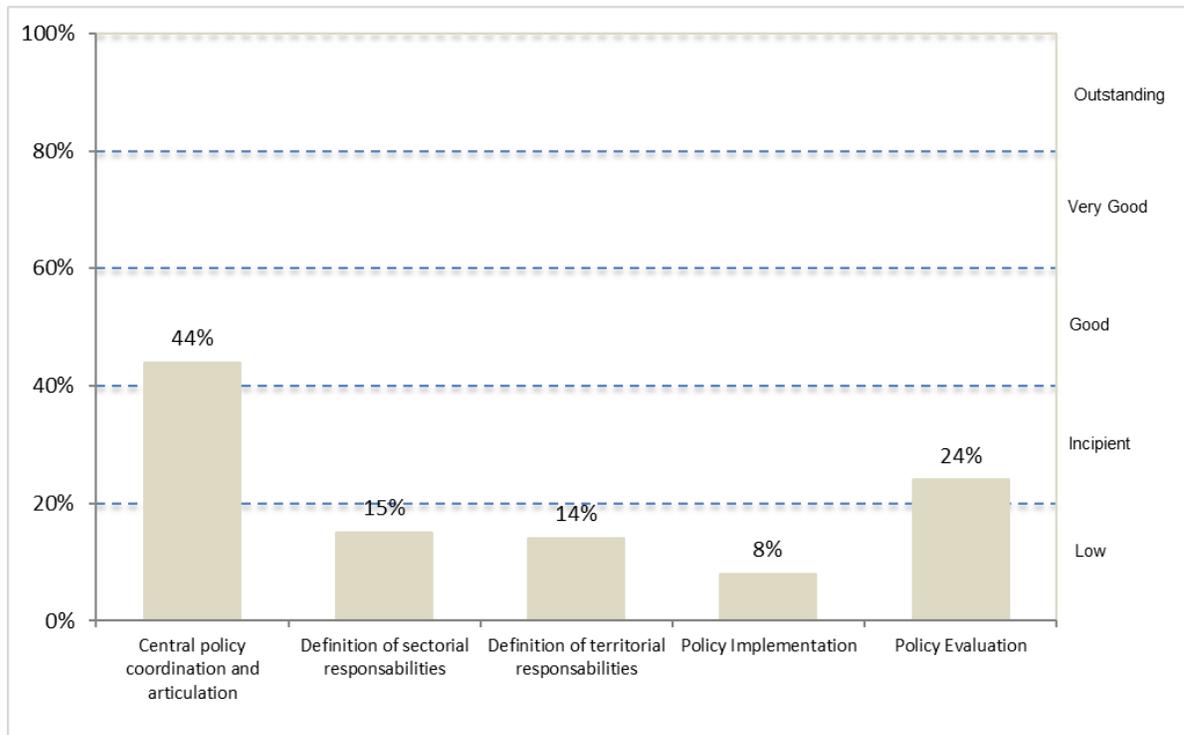
The hypothetical results obtained for the analysis of the six components of public policy reform show that Guyana would have a significant improvement in the level of progress at least for two components: (i) General Framework of Governance for DRM, which would move from an incipient level, with 38% compliance, to a "good level" of progress, with 46% of compliance; and (ii) Disaster Preparedness component, which would increase from a low level of progress, with 8% of compliance, to a "good level" of progress with 43% of compliance. A minor increase would be reflected for the Disaster Recovery Planning and Financial Protection components, with 7% and 3% of compliance, respectively. No changes would be reported for the Risk Identification and Risk Reduction components under this hypothetical exercise.

**Graph No. 3** – Component of Public Policy Reform- Guyana (2017) – Based on potential verifiers



In terms of the public policy phases, the main difference would be reflected in the percentage of compliance for the Central Policy, Coordination and Articulation aspects, which would reach a “good” level of progress in this hypothetical case, with a 44% of compliance (vs. 19% in the standard application. Also, the “policy evaluation” component would increase from 19% to 24% of compliance, moving it from low to an incipient level of progress. Smaller increases will also be reflected in the other components of public policy reform, but still remaining in a range of “low level” of progress. (See Graphic 2).

**Graph 4:** Public Policy Phases according to iGOPP- Guyana (2017) - Based on potential verifiers



In all cases, the main documents supporting these changes in the values of the iGOPP would be the DRM Policy and Multi-hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, both prepared by the CDC in 2014 and approved by Cabinet Resolution in 2014, according to the CDC.

## I. INTRODUCTION:

The iGOPP has been designed to evaluate the formal, and therefore provable, existence of a series of legal, institutional and budgetary conditions that are considered fundamental in order for the processes of DRM to be implemented in a particular country.

The iGOPP does not replace or substitute other indicators related to the subject, but rather complements the different methodologies that exist for the comprehensive evaluation of risk and disaster risk management.

The practical use of the iGOPP lies in the identification of the gaps in the legal, institutional and budgetary framework that may exist in a particular country. It helps to focus a country's efforts (and the IDB's support, when applicable) on relevant aspects of governance aimed at strengthening the DRM public policy options in the countries of LAC.

The iGOPP is a composite or synthetic indicator that allows for verifying whether a particular country possesses the appropriate governance conditions (in legal, institutional and budgetary terms) for implementing a public policy for comprehensive DRM. The Index makes it possible to quantify to what extent the actions, policies and reforms of the government and its institutions are consistent with the objectives, results and processes of DRM.

The iGOPP prioritizes the explicit, rather than "perceived," compliance of the indicators. The iGOPP methodology determines compliance with the indicators when there are clear and explicit verifiable documents on the condition being measured. On the other hand, according to this methodology, those indicators that are sustained by verifiable documents in which compliance is "perceived" are considered non-compliant. That is to say, the iGOPP prioritizes explicit compliance, and not one that is merely "perceived."

The design of the iGOPP is based on two conceptual pillars:

- The Disaster Risk Management conceptual framework and its main processes
- The Governance conceptual framework and public policy phases

**Disaster Risk Management (DRM)** refers to all the processes to design, apply and evaluate strategies, policies and measures aimed at improving the understanding of disaster risk, to foment the reduction and financial protection of disaster risk, and to promote the continuous improvement of preparedness, response and recovery practices for disaster cases, with the explicit objective of increasing human safety, well-being, quality of life, resilience and sustainable development. It includes prospective, corrective and reactive risk management. DRM constitutes an indispensable development policy for ensuring sustainability and territorial security and collective rights and interests, and therefore is intrinsically associated with the planning of safe development and sustainable territorial environmental management in all levels of government.

Within the conceptual framework of the iGOPP, DRM is approached as a set of processes aimed at adopting and implementing policies, strategies and practices to reduce risk and its potential effects and is analyzed on the basis of six (6) components that are necessary in order for DRM to be effectively implemented. The selection of these components is based on the experience of the political reform processes supported by the Bank:

1. General Framework of Governance for DRM (GF): This refers to the regulatory foundation suitable for the organization and coordination of DRM in each country. This includes both the specific regulations in DRM and the enabling territorial and sectorial regulations that guarantee their viability. In addition, it includes the availability of resources to implement the DRM processes, and the establishment of adequate data and citizen participation mechanisms, as well as mechanisms for the monitoring, evaluation and follow-up of said processes.
2. Risk Identification and Knowledge (RI): This is the process of DRM focused on the knowledge of the origins, causes, scope, frequency and possible evolution, among other aspects, of the potentially dangerous phenomena, as well as of the location, causes, evolution and resistance and recovery capacity of the exposed socioeconomic elements. This process includes the preliminary analysis of the consequences and contains both objective and scientific interpretation as well as social and individual perception interpretations. The conceptual framework of the iGOPP references the existence of a regulatory, institutional and budgetary framework that facilitates the continuous development of risk analysis, a tool that makes it possible to identify risk factors and causes and evaluate the probable damages and losses to be caused by natural events.
3. Risk Reduction (RR): This is the DRM process focused on minimizing vulnerabilities and risks in a society, to avoid (prevention) or limit (mitigation) the adverse impact of hazards, within the broad context of sustainable development. This process includes the prospective and corrective interventions of DRM, and in order for it to be appropriately implemented it is necessary to have a good foundation of data on the risk conditions. The conceptual framework of the iGOPP references the existence of a regulatory, institutional and budgetary framework that enables the timely and appropriate intervention in the causes that generate the conditions of vulnerability.
4. Disaster Preparedness (DP): This is the DRM process whose objective is to plan, organize and test the society's response procedures and protocols in the event of a disaster, guaranteeing appropriate and timely assistance to affected persons, facilitating the normalization of the essential activities in the zone affected by the disaster. Preparedness is carried out through the monitoring of events and the definition of risk scenarios, the planning, organization, training, resources and simulation for actions of alert, evacuation, search, rescue, aid, and humanitarian assistance that must be made in case of an emergency. The conceptual framework of the iGOPP references the existence of a regulatory, institutional and budgetary framework that enables the implementation of mechanisms for a quick and appropriate response to an event or imminent event of an emergency situation.
5. Disaster Recovery Planning (RC): Ex-ante process focused on preparations for a quick and appropriate reestablishment of acceptable and sustainable life conditions through the rehabilitation, repair or reconstruction of infrastructure, goods and services that were destroyed, interrupted or deteriorated in the affected area, and the reactivation or impulse of the economic and social development of the community under conditions of lower risk than that which existed before the disaster. The conceptual framework of the iGOPP refers to the existence of a regulatory, institutional and budgetary framework that enables the implementation of mechanisms to reestablish means to life, basic services and infrastructure in such a way that reduces the improvisation, inefficiency and ineffectiveness in the disaster recovery processes.

6. Financial Protection (FP): This is the DRM process that seeks the optimal combination of financial mechanisms or instruments for the retention and transfer of risk in order to have ex-post access to timely economic resources, which improves the response capacity to disasters (smaller and recurrent events and large infrequent disasters) and protects the fiscal balance of the State (Ghesquiere and Mahul, 2010). The conceptual framework of the iGOPP refers to the existence of a regulatory, institutional and budgetary framework that enables the design and implementation of a suitable structure for the retention and transfer of disaster risk.

On the other hand, **Governance** (Ballart, 2013) refers to the capacity to govern a public problem. This capacity manifests itself in the ongoing and stable management on behalf of the governments and administrations but also of the sectorial and private stakeholders of a country. As the capacity to govern a public problem increases, there should be an observable increase in the effectiveness of the adopted decisions and implemented policies, thus helping to prevent a greater number of negative consequences that result in the event of a disaster.

Within the conceptual framework of the iGOPP, governance is approached from the perspective of the three phases of the policy reform process, which include the following:

- A. Inclusion on the Governmental Agenda and Policy-Making  
Being included on the agenda of Government demonstrates the level of recognition and acceptance of the public problem and the commitment to finding a solution at the level of the political and social pressure that institutions receive. In order for the political leadership and social and economic pressure to give rise to substantive action it may be necessary for the political realm to make significant progress toward defining the responsibilities of the different stakeholders involved in the analysis process. The iGOPP analyzes the inclusion on Government's agenda by verifying the existence of appropriate legal frameworks for DRM, or the inclusion of the subject in sectorial and territorial regulations. The iGOPP analyzes the inclusion on the agenda and formulation of public policy at three levels: (i) Central Policy Coordination and Articulation; (ii) Definition of Sectorial Responsibilities; and (iii) Definition of Territorial Responsibilities.
- B. Policy Implementation  
The iGOPP analyzes evidence of implementation by verifying the actions taken or the availability of resources allocated to the parties responsible for implementing the DRM policy, in its different components and governmental levels.
- C. Policy Evaluation  
The iGOPP analyzes the public policy evaluation from the perspective of the existence of monitoring and accountability mechanisms, as well as data and citizen participation mechanisms.

Both dimensions (DRM and Governance/Public Policy) are shown on the iGOPP matrix structure, in five (5) columns that analyze the public policy phases, and on six (6) rows that analyze the components characterizing the reform processes of a suitable public policy for DRM.

This matrix structure is expressed in 30 cells that make up a variable number of binary indicators. The index scoring ranges from 0 to 100 and uses the following classification system:

### **iGOPP Classification System**

<b>%</b>	<b>Level of Favorable Governance Conditions for the DRM</b>
91 - 100%	Outstanding
71 - 90%	Very good
41 - 70%	Good
21 - 40%	Incipient
0 - 20%	Low

**Figure 1: CLASIFICACION AND CODIFICACION OF THE IGOPP**

Public policy phases ..... Components of public policy reform in DRM	1. Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation			2. Policy Implementation	3. Policy Evaluation:
	Central policy coordination and articulation	Definition of Sectorial Responsibilities	Definition of Territorial Responsibilities	Evidence of Progress in Implementation	Monitoring, Accountability and Participation
General Framework of Governance for DRM (GF)	GF-1A	GF-1B	GF-1C	GF-2	GF-3
Risk Identification and Knowledge (RI)	RI-1A	RI-1B	RI-1C	RI-2	RI-3
Risk Reduction (RR)	RR-1A	RR-1B	RR-1C	RR-2	RR-3
Disaster Preparedness (DP)	DP-1A	DP-1B	DP-1C	DP-2	DP-3
Disaster Recovery Planning (RC)	RC-1A	RC-1B	RC-1C	RC-2	RC-3
Financial Protection (FP)	FP-1A	FP-1B	FP-1C	FP-2	FP-3

## II. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK:

According to the report “Progress and Challenges in DRM in Guyana”, published in 2014, under Guyana first ‘disaster’ plan – the National Prevention, Preparedness and Relief Plan – the Civil Defense Commission (CDC) was created as the lead organization in Guyana in charge of conducting operations to deal with all types of disasters in the country and was placed under the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM). In 1985, a comprehensive National Disaster Preparedness Plan was approved and implemented. In 1992, the responsibility for the CDC was moved to the Office of the President (OP), where it still remains. In September 2001 Standard Operation Procedures for the National Emergency Operations Centre were upgraded to meet new challenges of the worsening domestic and international disaster situation. The current Committee functions are listed as follows:

- (i) Service Provider – Promoting its role of providing services to local authorities/communities and for that purpose, to develop programmes designed to enhance those services;
- (ii) Planning and Implementation – Ensuring the promotion and development at national level of disaster planning and management and, in co-operation with local authorities, facilitating the implementation of disaster management measures for the purpose of emergency relief and support;
- (iii) Loss reduction and Mitigation – Promoting the adoption of disaster loss reduction and mitigation policies and practices at the national and local authority level;
- (iv) Voluntary Service – The promotion and development of voluntary service as an integral aspect of disaster management;
- (v) Training and Education – To establish and promote the development, maintenance and improvement of the tenants of disaster management training and education; and;
- (vi) Permanent Staffing – Maintaining a permanent body to enhance the national capacity for disaster management services.

The Civil Defense Commission coordinates the national system and is committed to initiating and supporting the disaster management process throughout Guyana. Responsibility for disaster management in Guyana extends to every individual, family, community, government and private sector organizations. The current policy framework for DRM has been approved by Cabinet Office resolutions, which are not available for consultation due to their classified nature. Among these documents, there is a DRM Policy elaborated by the CDC in 2013, which in its draft version (available on-line) establishes the guiding principles and architecture for DRM in Guyana, by presenting the institutional structures, roles, responsibilities, authorities and key processes required to achieve a coordinated, coherent and consistent approach to DRM. The draft version of the DRM Policy states that “*the CDC is responsible for the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC)*”, which is defined as “*a critical institution, which is activated in times of disasters in Guyana.*”

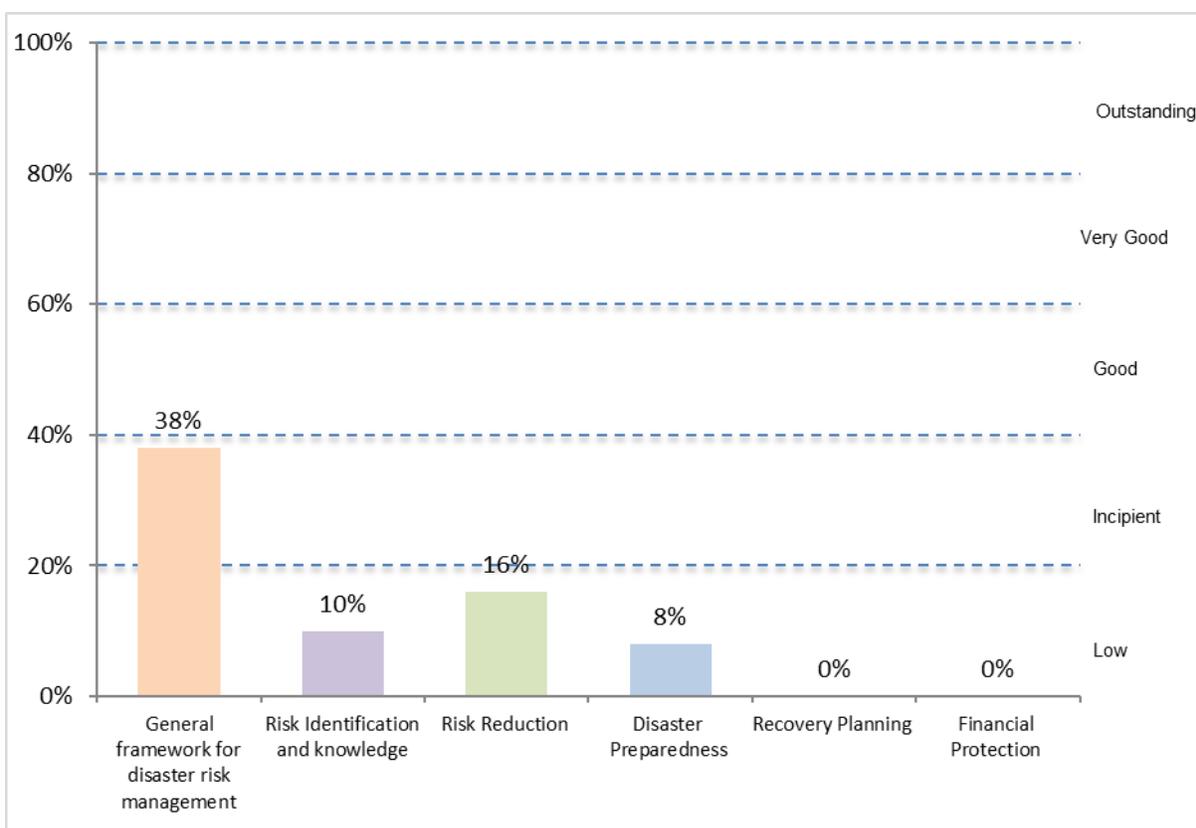
### III. APPLICATION BY COMPONENT:

The following tables and graphs show the overall levels of compliance with the iGOPP indicators according to: i) the six components of public policy reform in DRM. (Table 1, Graph 5) and, ii) the public policy phases (Table 2, Graph 6)

**Table No. 1:** Components of public policy reform in DRM according to iGOPP - Guyana 2017

<b>1</b>	<b>General Framework of Governance for DRM</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Risk Identification and Knowledge</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Risk Reduction</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Disaster Preparedness</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Post-disaster Recovery Planning</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Financial Protection</b>	<b>0%</b>

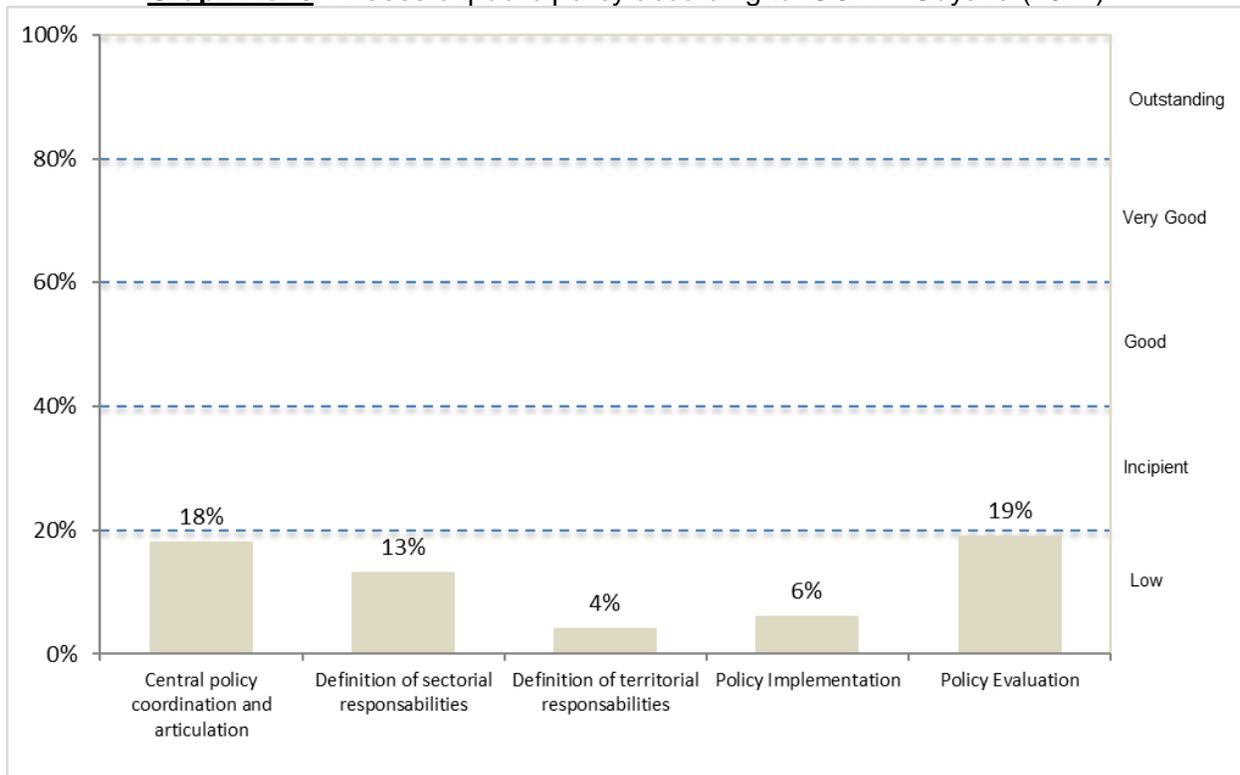
**Graph No. 5** – Component of public policy reform – Guyana (2017)



**Table No. 2:** Phases of public policy according to iGOPP- Guyana 2017

<b>1</b>	<b>Central policy coordination and articulation</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Definition of sectorial responsibilities</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Definition of territorial responsibilities</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Evidence of progress in implementation</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Monitoring, accountability and participation</b>	<b>19%</b>

**Graph No. 6:** Phases of public policy according to iGOPP- Guyana (2017)



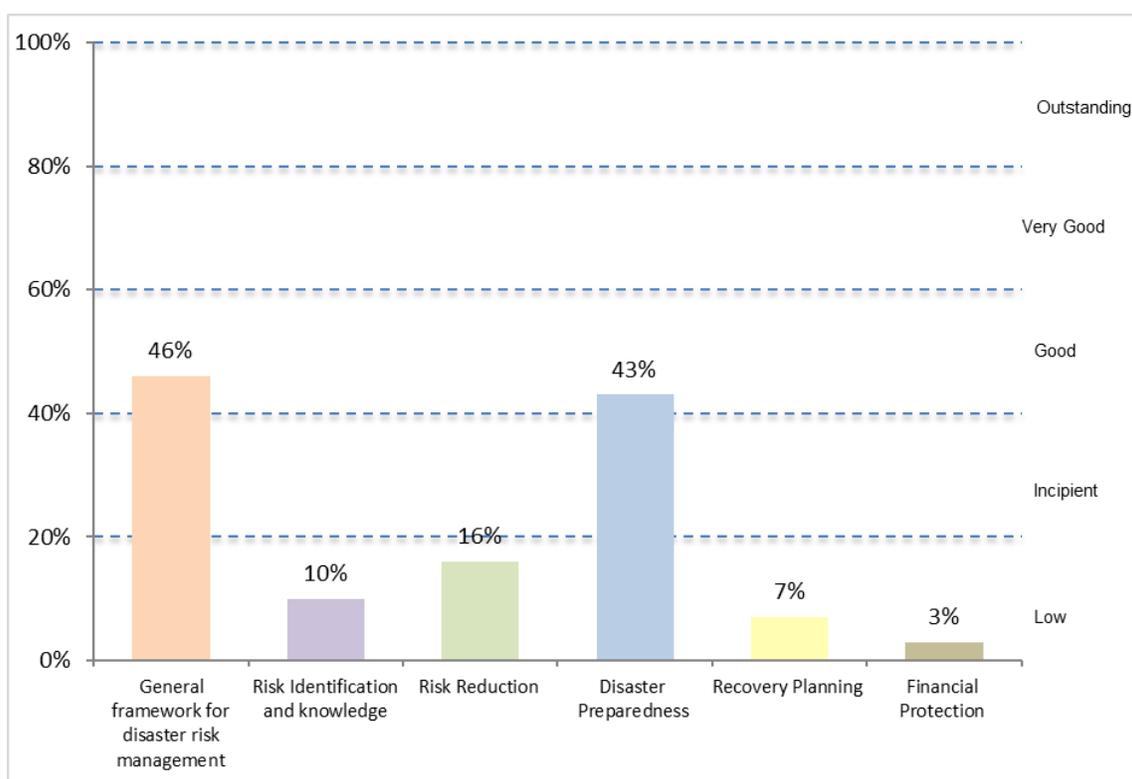
**Additional Considerations**

The Civil Defense Commission (CDC) has reported that the current policy framework for DRM has been approved by Cabinet Office resolutions, which are not available for consultation due to their classified nature. The iGOPP’s methodology requires the access to formal verifiable that support the positive assessment of the indicators. Given the particular case found by the iGOPP team in Guyana in terms of the DRM normative framework, the team analyzed a hypothetical case, using the draft versions available in Internet of the set of policy and planning documents reported as approved by cabinet resolutions, as if these draft versions were acceptable verifiers for the iGOPP. The resulting calculations of the iGOPP are shown below (see Graphics 7 and 8). It is important to highlight that this is a hypothetical exercise assuming that following condition is met: *the contents of the draft documents available on-line which have been reported as approved by cabinet resolution are in fact the same contents of the respective versions approved by cabinet resolution. This exercise provides a reference of the level of progress that the iGOPP would be able to report for Guyana if cabinet resolutions and the approved versions of the documents were*

available for consultation, and the condition about the same contents of the draft and approved version is met.

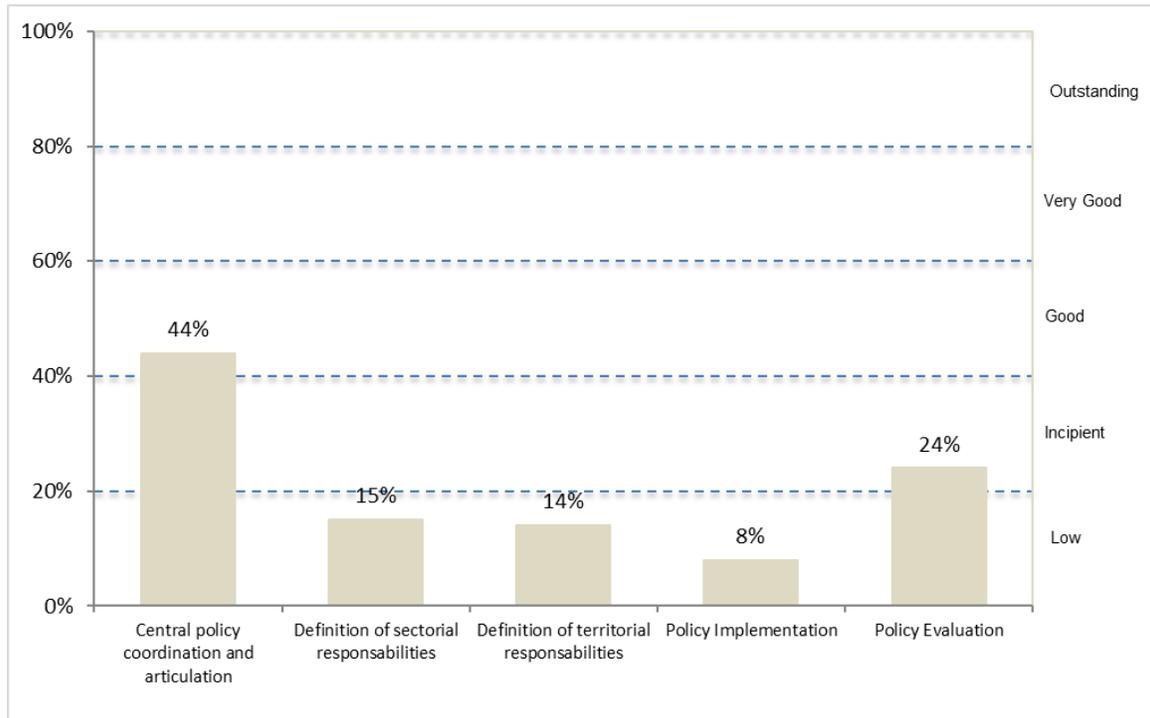
The hypothetical results obtained for the analysis of the six components of public policy reform show that Guyana would have a significant improvement in the level of progress in two components: (i) General Framework of Governance for DRM, which would move from an incipient level, with 38% compliance, to a “good level” of progress, with 46% of compliance; and (ii) Disaster Preparedness component, which would increase from a low level of progress, with 8% of compliance, to a “good level” of progress with 43% of compliance. A minor increase would be reflected for the Disaster Recovery Planning and Financial Protection, with 7% and 3% of compliance respectively. No changes would be reflected for the Risk Identification component and Risk Reduction components under this hypothetical case.

**Graph No. 7** – Component of Public Policy Reform- Guyana (2017) – Based on potential verifiers



In terms of the public policy phases, the main differences would be reflected in the percentages of compliance for the Central Policy Coordination and Articulation aspects, which reach a good level of progress, with a 44% of indicators meeting the conditions assessed. Also, the “policy evaluation” component would increase from 19% to 24% of compliance, moving it from low to an incipient level of progress. Smaller increases will also be reflected in the other components of public policy reform, but still remaining in a range of “low level” of progress. (See Graphic 8).

**Graph No. 8:** Public Policy Phases according to iGOPP- Guyana (2017) – Based on potential verifiers



In all cases, the main potential verifiers supporting these changes in the indicators compliance would be the DRM Policy and Multi-Hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, both prepared by the CDC in 2014 and approved by Cabinet Resolution in 2014, according to the CDC.

Following a qualitative analysis for every DRM component is introduced according to the different public policy phases: 1. Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation: 1.1. Central policy coordination and articulation; 1.2. Definition of sectorial responsibilities; 1.3 Definition of territorial responsibilities; 2. Policy implementation: 2.1 Evidence of progress in implementation, and 3. Policy Evaluation: 3.1. Monitoring, accountability and participation.

**a. General Framework of Governance for Disaster Risk Management (GF):**

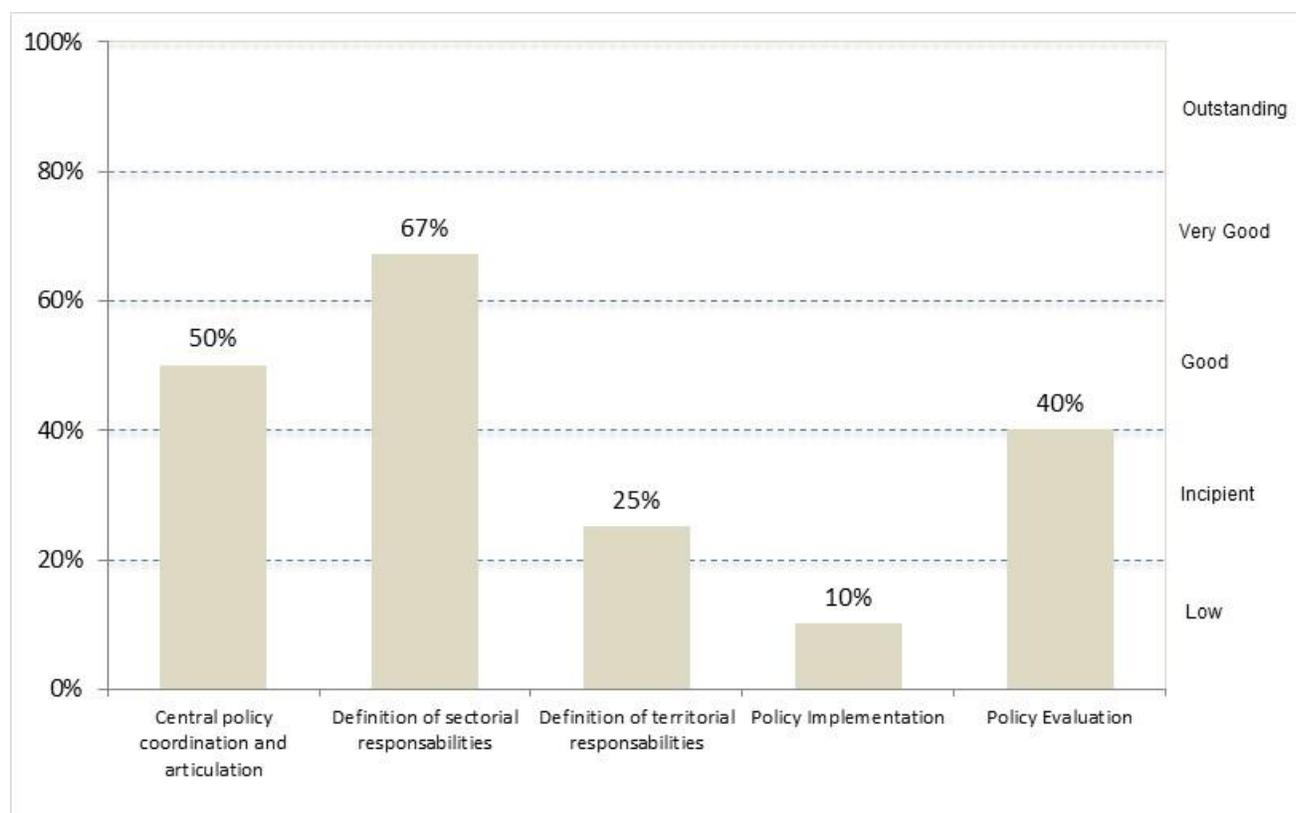
*The aspects related to the “General Framework of Governance for DRM” reach an “incipient” progress level, being the highest level for the six components analyzed by the iGOPP, with a 38% of compliance. The analysis by policy phases for this component highlight the progress of those aspects related to the definition of sectorial responsibilities, with a good level of progress (67% of compliance), followed by the “central policy coordination and articulation aspects”, with a 50% of compliance. The aspects related to monitoring, accountability and participation reach a 40% of compliance (in the borderline between “incipient” and “good” level of progress). The definition of territorial responsibilities shows an “incipient” level of progress (25% compliance), and the*

evidence of progress in implementation is currently in a low level of progress in Guyana (10% compliance). (See Table 3, Graph 9).

**Table No. 3** - General Framework of Governance for Disaster Risk Management by public policy phases - Guyana 2017

<b>1</b>	<b>Central policy coordination and articulation</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Definition of sectorial responsibilities</b>	<b>67%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Definition of territorial responsibilities</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Evidence of progress in implementation</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Monitoring, accountability and participation</b>	<b>40%</b>

**Graph No. 9** - General Framework of Governance for Disaster Risk Management by public policy phases - Guyana 2017



The main findings resulting from the iGOPP analysis for this component, according to the three main public policy phases (Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation; Policy Implementation; and Policy Evaluation) are as follows:

1. Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation: The main findings corresponding to this public policy phase are analyzed considering its three dimensions:

1.1. *Central policy coordination and articulation (GF-1A)*: No evidence was found about the existence of a formal normative framework for Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in Guyana. According to the CDC the documents that provide the basis for the current policy framework for DRM have been approved by Cabinet Office resolutions, which are not available for consultation due to their classified nature.<sup>2</sup> Therefore, important conditions related to such legal framework that require per the iGOPP methodology an actual verification of approved documents are not yet met in Guyana<sup>3</sup>. Nevertheless, the iGOPP found robust evidence of the inclusion of DRM in the policy development framework of Guyana. The Low Carbon Development Strategy 2010 (LCDS), which contains the development priorities and challenges of Guyana and supplements the National Development Strategy (2000-2010) and, the National Competitiveness Strategy (2006), includes explicit targets and indicators in DRM, such as: (i) maintaining drainage systems (US\$20 million); (ii) maintaining and reinforcing the ocean seawall which protects most of the low-lying coastal areas from the Atlantic (US\$30 million); (iii) strengthening building codes and expanding the early warning system (US\$19 million); (iv) building an emergency response system (US\$15 million); and (v) Developing financial and risk/insurance measures to boost resiliency post-flooding (US\$10 million)<sup>4</sup>. Additionally, the LCDS is also the main policy document that links development and climate change in Guyana, and outlines actions and investments that the Government of Guyana must undertake in order to reduce the risk of flooding. Even though these actions and investments are framed as "adaptation measures", they explicitly include what are considered standard DRM actions and measures, such as "strengthening building codes and expanding the early warning system", "building an emergency response system"; "developing financial and risk/insurance measures to boost resiliency post-flooding", among others<sup>5</sup>. More recently, as part of the implementation of the LCDS, the Government of Guyana published on March 28<sup>th</sup> 2017 the "Framework of the Guyana Green State Development Strategy and Financing Mechanisms", which includes as one of the strategic axis "*Coastal Resilience and Sustainable Infrastructure, to ensure that Guyana can continue its green transition and achieve economic prosperity, well-functioning and reliable infrastructure that can support trade flows and travel, and protect economic assets and human settlements from natural catastrophes, is paramount*". The iGOPP also reveals that the Constitution of Guyana of 1980, together with the Public Services Rule enacted in 2014, provide regulations that establish a regime of professional career in public administration applicable, among others, to the entities responsible for the coordination of DRM policies in the country.<sup>6</sup>

1.2. *Definition of sectorial responsibilities (GF-1B)*: the iGOPP found that the Act of Water and Sewerage 2002, enacted by the Parliament of Guyana in 2002, includes both DRM and climate change adaptation responsibilities for this sector, establishing that "*the communities and assets*

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<sup>2</sup> See indicator GF-1A-1

<sup>3</sup> See indicators GF-1A-2 to GF-1A-4

<sup>4</sup> See indicator GF-1A-5

<sup>5</sup> See indicator GF-1-6

<sup>6</sup> See indicator GF-1-7

are protected from severe hydrometeorological events”, and that the National Water Policy sets out strategies, objectives, plans, guidelines, and procedures to provide for “water resources management for drought and flood mitigation”, and instructs that “climate change and changing patterns climate change and water availability are sensibly accommodated”<sup>7</sup>. On the other hand, no evidence was found that Environmental Impact Assessment regulations, contained in Environmental Protection Act enacted by the Parliament of Guyana in 1996, integrate disaster risk analysis<sup>8</sup>.

1.3. *Definition of territorial responsibilities (GF-1C)*: the iGOPP reviewed The Local Democratic Organs Act (enacted the Parliament of Guyana in 1980) and the Municipal District Councils Act (amended in 2015) were reviewed and no evidence was found of regulations that decentralize the responsibilities to territorial management units regarding development planning, territorial planning or land use<sup>9</sup>. The same gap was found in terms of regulations that empower Territorial Management Units to create networks, agreements, alliances or territorial agreements in DRM. The Act of Water and Sewerage 2002 was reviewed too, and no evidence was found in relation to regulations for basin or eco-region approach to water resources<sup>10</sup>. On the other hand, the iGOPP reveals that overall regulations to empower the formation of structures of territorial management for integrated water resources management are contained in the Drainage and Irrigations Act, enacted in 2002. Additionally, the iGOPP highlights that a vital part of the drainage and irrigation system in Guyana is a system of regulatory bodies named “conservancies”, that were created in the past through the enactment of single Acts, such as the East Demerara River Water Conservancy Act, enacted in 1935 (GF-1C-4b), and the Mahaica-Mahaicony-Abary Agricultural Authority Act, enacted in 1977, and that these are concrete examples of structures of territorial management for integrated water resources management<sup>11</sup>.

2. Policy implementation- Evidence of progress in the implementation (GF-2): iGOPP found that aligned with the Low-Carbon Development Strategy (2010) the country has the Guyana REDD+ Investment Fund (GRIF), which allows financing climate change adaptation activities<sup>12</sup>. The GRIF is funded from Norway based on verification of Guyana’s deforestation and forest degradation rates and the progress on the REDD+ enabling activities.

The country does not have a disaster risk financial strategy document that establishes a policy for reducing its fiscal vulnerability to disasters<sup>13</sup>. Similarly, the iGOPP did not find budget categories or instruments/tools for allocating resources to *ex ante* DRM activities<sup>14</sup> or to climate change adaptation activities<sup>15</sup>.

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<sup>7</sup> See indicator GF-1B-1 and GF-1B-2

<sup>8</sup> See indicator GF-1B-3

<sup>9</sup> See indicator GF-1C-1

<sup>10</sup> See indicator GF-1C-3

<sup>11</sup> See indicator GF-1C-4

<sup>12</sup> See indicator GF-2-6

<sup>13</sup> See indicator GF-2-1

<sup>14</sup> See indicator GF-2-3

<sup>15</sup> See indicator GF-2-4

Since the iGOPP team could not verify any formally approved legal documents that establish the Civil Defense Commission as the leading national entity for disaster risk management, it is not possible to evidence the allocation of resources for purposes of coordination or articulation of disaster risk management in the country<sup>16</sup>.

The iGOPP application also shows that there is no fund for financing or co-financing *ex ante* disaster risk management activities<sup>17</sup>. In addition, the iGOPP analysis shows that the country lacks a mechanism for contracting disaster risk transfer instruments for the asset portfolio of its fiscal responsibility<sup>18</sup>. Finally, the country has not yet developed any budgetary instruments to encourage the sectors or territorial units to implement activities in disaster risk management<sup>19</sup>.

3. Policy evaluation: the iGOPP found that Act No. 21, "Access to Information Act 2011", enacted by the Parliament of Guyana and approved by the President in 2011, contains regulations regarding transparency that apply to how DRM is publicly managed<sup>20</sup>. Additionally, the iGOPP found that the Civil Defense Commission compiled and published in November 2014 the report "Progress and Challenges of Disaster Risk Management in Guyana, 2014", a report that includes a detailed review of the DRM regulatory framework, including the progress and gaps for different DRM processes<sup>21</sup>. On the other hand, no evidence was found of the existence of regulations that state that disaster risk management must be subjected to control by the respective authorized organization<sup>22</sup>. Thus, it is not surprising to see that The Audit Office of Guyana, which is the supreme audit institution of the State tasked with the promotion of good governance, including openness, transparency and improved public accountability, has not conducted a compliance assessment of on the existing regulations in disaster risk management.<sup>23</sup> The iGOPP found evidence that there is a National Disaster Risk Management Platform which was recently re-activated by the Ministry of State, and includes members of various public and private bodies and civil society organizations. Nevertheless, no evidence was found of a legal instrument that supports the establishment and set the goals of this National Platform<sup>24</sup>.

#### Additional considerations

If the draft versions of DRM Policy and Multi-Hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, both reported by CDC as approved by Cabinet Resolution in 2014, are considered the same versions actually approved by the Cabinet and therefore constitute potential verifiers for the iGOPP, then the results for the GF component of the iGOPP would increase from 38% of compliance ("incipient" level) to a 46% ("good" level). As illustrated in the graphic No. 10, the level of compliance would increase in terms of the "central policy coordination and articulation", reaching to 88% of progress, which is considered as "very good", particularly based on the

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<sup>16</sup> See indicator GF-2-2

<sup>17</sup> See indicator GF-2-5

<sup>18</sup> See indicator GF-2-7

<sup>19</sup> See indicator GF-2-9 and GF-2-10

<sup>20</sup> See indicator GF-3-2

<sup>21</sup> See indicator GF-3-4

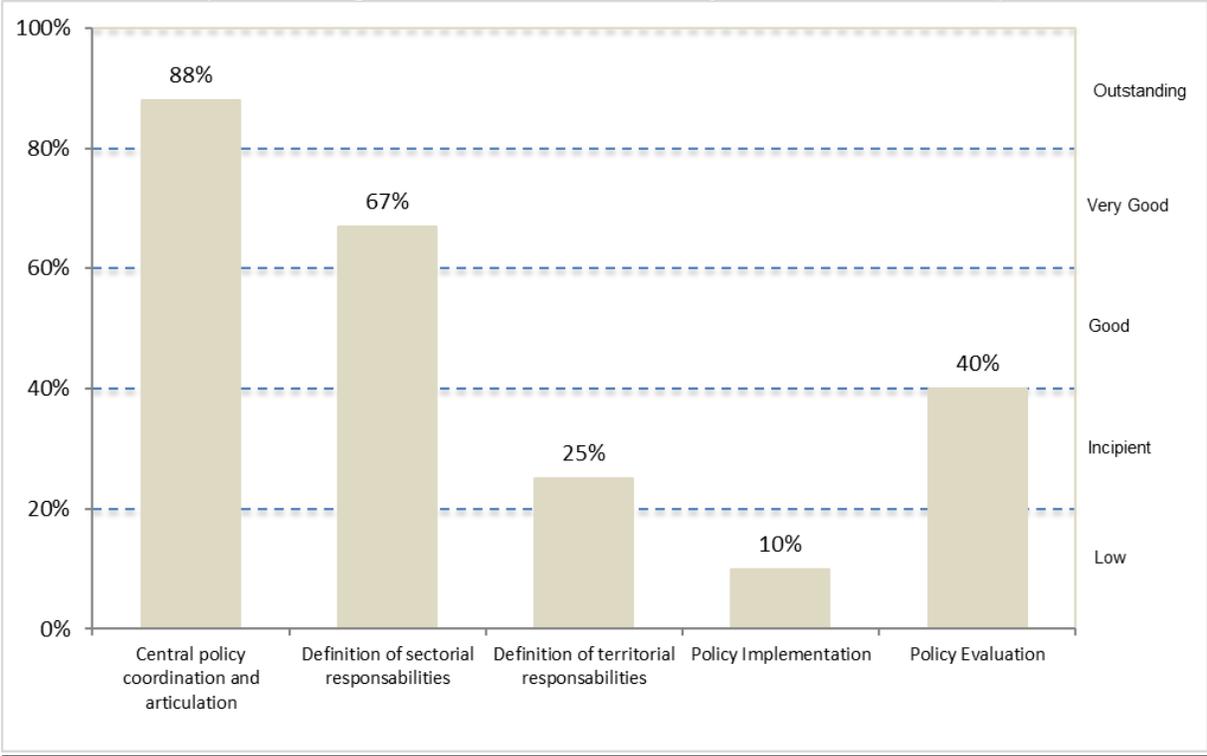
<sup>22</sup> See indicator GF-3-1

<sup>23</sup> See indicator GF-3-3

<sup>24</sup> See indicator GF-3-5

provisions contained in the DRM Policy, which set the foundations for comprehensive framework on disaster risk management for all Government levels in Guyana. In that sense, the draft version of DRM Policy elaborated by the CDC in 2013 establishes the guiding principles and architecture for DRM in Guyana, by presenting the institutional structures, roles, responsibilities, authorities and key processes required to achieve a coordinated, coherent and consistent approach to DRM. It is important to highlight that this is just a hypothetical analysis since the cabinet resolution as well as the approved text of the DRM Policy were not available to the iGOPP team, due to the classified nature of cabinet resolutions.

**Graph No. 10** Hypothetical results for GF component in Guyana  
(Considering the draft of the DRM Policy as an iGOPP verifier)



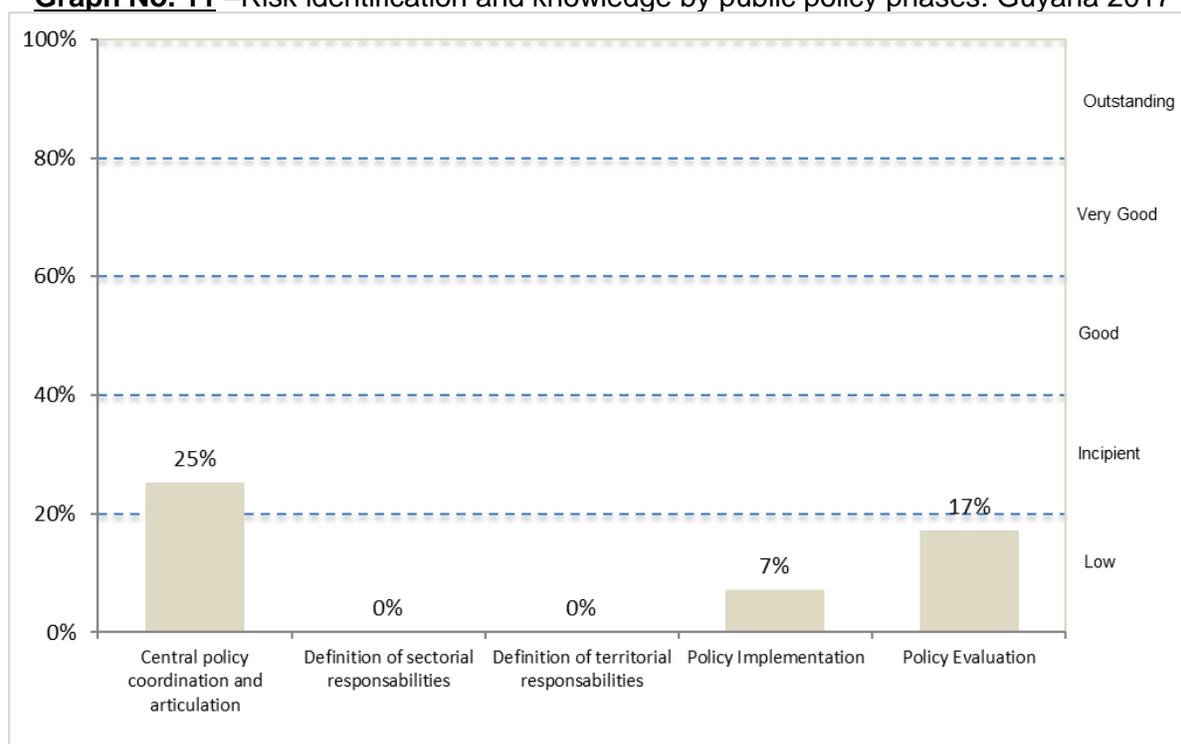
**b. Risk Identification and Knowledge (RI):**

The RI component shows a “low” level progress in Guyana, with a 10% of compliance for the indicators that are assessed for this component. In terms of the progress in the different public policy phases (see Table 4 and Graph 11), the aspects related with the “central policy coordination and articulation” reach a 25% of compliance (incipient level of progress), whereas the rest of policy phases assessed show a low level of progress. For the indicators related to “monitoring, accountability and participation”, the iGOPP reveals a 17% of compliance, followed by the indicators related to “evidence of progress in implementation”, with 7% of compliance. None of the indicators related with the definition of sectoral and territorial responsibilities is complied with.

**Table No. 4** – Risk identification and knowledge by public policy phases. Guyana 2017

<b>1</b>	<b>Central policy coordination and articulation</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Definition of sectorial responsibilities</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Definition of territorial responsibilities</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Evidence of progress in implementation</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Monitoring, accountability and participation</b>	<b>17%</b>

**Graph No. 11** –Risk identification and knowledge by public policy phases. Guyana 2017



The main findings resulting from the iGOPP analysis for this component, according to the three main public policy phases, 1) Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation; 2) Policy Implementation; and 3) Policy Evaluation, are as follows:

1. Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation: The analysis of these three specific dimensions is presented next.

1.1. *Central policy coordination and articulation (RI-1A)*: the iGOPP team did not find evidence of regulations that designate a national party responsible to provide technical assistance and guidelines at territorial and sectorial levels for the disaster risk analysis<sup>25</sup>. It is important to highlight that among the documents developed by the CDC, the draft version of the Disaster Risk

<sup>25</sup> See indicator RI-1A-1

Management (DRM) Policy available online includes as one of the Elemental Strategies for National Integrated DRM, the process of Risk Identification, but does not specify a national entity tasked with these responsibilities. The same gap was found in terms of regulations that should designate a national party responsible to define methodologies for preparation studies on climate change effects<sup>26</sup>.

Regarding other critical indicators, the Water and Sewage Act approved by the Parliament of Guyana in 2002 does establish among the responsibilities of the Department of Hydrometeorology, under the Ministry of Agriculture, for creation and maintenance of Information Systems for Disaster Risk Management<sup>27</sup>. Also, according to the report on "Progresses and Challenges for DRM in Guyana" (CDC, 2014), the data collected on historical emergencies and disasters in Guyana is periodically uploaded to the Desinventar database. Nevertheless, no specific regulation was found about the creation, systematization or updating of a database on the effects of disasters in the review of the National Data, Management, Authority Act<sup>28</sup>.

*1.2. Definition of sectorial responsibilities (RI-1B):* the iGOPP team did not find evidence of Guyana's compliance with any of the eighteen (18) indicators related to this policy dimension. One of the main gaps is the lack of regulations that stipulate that each sector or the public service companies or utilities are responsible to carry out disaster risk analysis in the sectorial scope of its powers<sup>29</sup>. The lack of these legal mandate is also reflected in their respective sectorial normative frameworks for the 10 sectors assessed by the iGOPP, where no responsibilities to undertake disaster risk or adverse effects of climate change analysis are established<sup>30</sup>.

The National Policy of Guyana for Science and Technology and the regulatory framework for the National Science and Research Council (including the amendment Act No. 23 of the NSRC enacted by the Parliament of Guyana in 1983) were reviewed, and neither of both documents refer to the promotion of knowledge on disaster risk or climate change in the country<sup>31</sup>.

While the Water and Sewerage Act 2002, enacted the Parliament of Guyana in 2002, establishes the responsibility of the Hydro-meteorological Department, under the Ministry of Agriculture establish, operate and maintain national hydro-meteorological information networks, the iGOPP team did not find a similar legal mandate for observation and monitoring networks related to other natural hazards<sup>32</sup>. Additionally, the review of the National Building Codes and the Town and Country Planning Act, which regulates the development of lands, cities, towns and other areas, urban or rural, did not provide any evidence related to the definition of essential or indispensable buildings, or critical infrastructure of the country<sup>33</sup>.

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<sup>26</sup> See indicator IR-1A-2

<sup>27</sup> See indicator IR-1A-3

<sup>28</sup> See indicator IR-1A-4

<sup>29</sup> See indicators IR-1B-3 and IR-1B-4

<sup>30</sup> See indicators IR-1B-8 to IR-1B-17

<sup>31</sup> See indicator IR-1B-5 and IR-1B-6

<sup>32</sup> See indicator IR-1B-7

<sup>33</sup> See indicator IR-1B-18

1.3. *Definition of territorial responsibilities (RI-1C)*: the iGOPP team did not find any regulation establishing that territorial management units are responsible for disaster risk assessment in their respective territories. The same gap applies in terms of regulations that should appoint a national stakeholder responsible to define the scale or resolution in which risk analysis should be carried out at different government levels. Also, neither the Local Democratic Organs Act, enacted by the Parliament on Guyana in 1980, nor the Town and Country Planning Act, published in the Laws of Guyana Compilation of 1998, include regulations that establish the obligation to conduct hazard zoning in cities.

2. Policy implementation- Evidence of progress in the implementation (RI-2): In terms of the sectorial policy implementation, the iGOPP team only found budgetary evidence of resources assigned in Fiscal Year 2016/2017 to perform disaster risk analysis in one sector (energy) of the 10 key sectors assessed<sup>34</sup>. Ministry of Natural Resources, in charge among others of Petroleum Management, allocates resources to “*Encourage exploratory seismic studies across the Guyana basin*”<sup>35</sup>. Additionally, the iGOPP did not find budgetary evidence of resources assigned in Fiscal Year 2016/2017 to perform disaster risk analysis in the public utilities’ companies analyzed<sup>36</sup>.

As mentioned in the general framework component (GF) section, it is important to note that the iGOPP team did not find budget categories or instruments/tools that allow identifying the allocation of resources to ex ante DRM activities. This could mean that if the government were allocating resources to the different sectors for risk analysis purposes, the lack of a specific budget category for this specific activity would not allow its proper tracking. Therefore, the iGOPP score obtained for this specific policy phase, although quite improbable, could underrepresent the actual efforts of the country in terms of policy implementation, as defined per the iGOPP methodology.

3. Policy evaluation: The iGOPP team found that the regulations contained in the Water and Sewerage Act 2002, enacted by the Parliament of Guyana in 2002, provide the mandate for the public access to the available information on climate change studies and define the “*national hydro-meteorological database*”, as the mechanism for its exchange<sup>37</sup>. On the other hand, no evidence was found about any self-assessments conducted on the quality of the Hydro-meteorological Department or the Geological Service Division respective research, monitoring and dissemination processes<sup>38</sup>. Also, no evidence was found either about verification or assessment performed by the Audit Office of Guyana on the information generation and its availability on disaster risk in the last 5 years<sup>39</sup>. Guyana also lacks regulations that mandate the responsibility to inform the citizens about disaster risk<sup>40</sup>.

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<sup>34</sup> See indicator IR-2-3 to IR-2-11

<sup>35</sup> See indicator RI-2-12

<sup>36</sup> See indicators RI-2-13 to RI-2-15

<sup>37</sup> See indicator RI-3-2

<sup>38</sup> See indicators RI-3-3 and RI-3-4

<sup>39</sup> See indicator RI-3-5

<sup>40</sup> See indicator RI-3-6

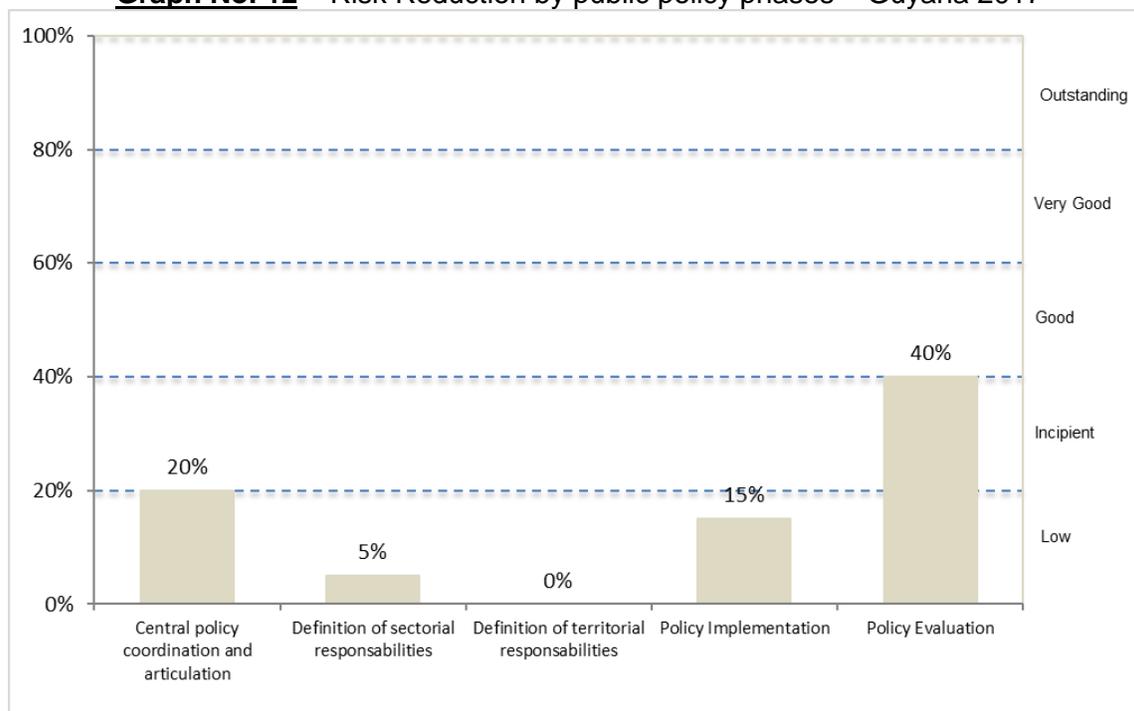
**c. Risk Reduction (RR)**

The RR component shows a low level of progress in Guyana, with a 16% compliance of its indicators. In terms of the progress in the different public policy phases (see Table 5 and Graph 12), Guyana has a 40% of compliance with the indicators related to the policy phase “Monitoring, accountability and participation”, very close to what is considered by the iGOPP methodology as “good” level of progress. “Central policy coordination and articulation” has a rate of compliance of 20%, followed by “Evidence of progress in implementation” and “Definition of sectorial responsibilities”, with 15% and 5% compliance, respectively (all corresponding to a “low” level of progress, according to the iGOPP methodology). No progress is reported for the indicators related to the “Definition of territorial responsibilities” (0% compliance).

**Table No. 5** –Risk Reduction by public policy phases – Guyana 2017

<b>1</b>	<b>Central policy coordination and articulation</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Definition of sectorial responsibilities</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Definition of territorial responsibilities</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Evidence of progress in implementation</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Monitoring, accountability and participation</b>	<b>40%</b>

**Graph No. 12** – Risk Reduction by public policy phases – Guyana 2017



The main findings resulting from the iGOPP analysis for this component, according to the three main public policy phases, 1) Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation; 2) Policy Implementation; and 3) Policy Evaluation, are the following:

1. Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation: Below these three specific dimensions of this policy phase are analyzed in more detail.

1.1. *Central policy coordination and articulation (RR-1A)*: The iGOPP team did not find evidence of regulations establishing the articulation between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation matters for territorial and sectorial entities. It is important to mention that the draft version of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Policy elaborated by the CDC in 2013 encourages better linkages of DRM with Climate Change Adaptation and addresses specifically the subject in Section Four: 4.3. DRM Nexus with Climate Change<sup>41</sup>.

The iGOPP team reviewed DRM-related documents, the National Building Codes, the Town and Country Planning Act and the Water and Sewerage Act and did not find evidence of the existence of benchmarks for acceptable risk for hazards in Guyana<sup>42</sup>. The National Building Codes, prepared by the Guyana National Bureau of Standards, approved by the National Standards Council and published by Central Housing Authority of Guyana in 2012, do not define essential buildings, indispensable or critical infrastructure<sup>43</sup>. However, the iGOPP team did find evidence that the Building Codes include a general section on "*Code of Practice for Building, Part 1- Enforcement*", which establishes specific penalties for the breach of the regulations set in the other sections of the National Building Codes<sup>44</sup>. The iGOPP team did not find any regulation that mandates the incorporation of disaster risk reduction measures during the construction of public and private infrastructure projects<sup>45</sup>.

1.2. *Definition of sectorial responsibilities (RR-1B)*: the iGOPP team did not find evidence of Guayana's compliance with any of the indicators related to this policy phase. As described in the analysis for the Risk Identification component (RI), Guyana also lacks regulations stipulating that each sector, the public service companies or utilities are responsible to reduce the risk the sectorial scope of its powers<sup>46</sup>. The lack of this legal mandate is also reflected in the respective sectorial normative frameworks of the 10 sectors assessed by the iGOPP, where no responsibilities to reduce disaster risk or adverse effects of climate change are established<sup>47</sup>. Although the National Building Codes published by Central Housing Authority of Guyana in 2012, do mention "High-rise Buildings", and include earth tremors and high wind resistance considerations for such buildings, the iGOPP team did not find evidence about the existence of at least one national safety standard (code) for earthquake or wind resistant design of buildings,

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<sup>41</sup> See indicator RR-1A-1

<sup>42</sup> See indicator RR-1A-2

<sup>43</sup> See indicator RR-1A-3

<sup>44</sup> See indicator RR-1A-4

<sup>45</sup> See indicator RR-1A-5

<sup>46</sup> See indicators RR-1B-1 and IR-1B-2

<sup>47</sup> See indicators RR-1B-6 through RR-1B-16

mandatory for public and private projects<sup>48</sup>. The same gap was found about construction and design of essential buildings, indispensable or critical infrastructure among the set of standards and codes that are part of the National Building Codes<sup>49</sup>.

Finally, Guyana lacks a public investment system, so there are no regulations that mandate the performance of disaster risk analysis or integration of climate change studies during any investment phase<sup>50</sup>.

*1.3. Definition of territorial responsibilities (RR-1C):* The iGOPP did not find in DRM-related regulations or in the Local Democratic Act any references or mandates that establish the responsibilities on DRM for the territorial management units<sup>51</sup>. Additionally, the Town and Country Planning Act, approved by the Parliament of Guyana in 1946, does not include any reference to zoning based on risk considerations, or references to the improvement of human settlements or the relocation of human settlements located in risk zones<sup>52</sup>.

*2. Policy implementation- Evidence of progress in the implementation (RR-2):* The iGOPP team found that only one sector (agriculture) of the 10 key sectors of the country allocated resources for disaster risk reduction activities in the Fiscal Year 2016/2017<sup>53</sup>. Thus, evidence was found that the Ministry of Agriculture allocated resources for a flood risk management project and for drainage and irrigation (which includes a component of flood risk reduction)<sup>54</sup>. Additionally, the iGOPP team found evidence of resource allocations made by the Ministry of Public Infrastructure related to sea and river defenses work, that contributed to flood risk reduction. Under the iGOPP methodology, these allocations were attributed to the transport sector, which is under the umbrella of the Ministry of Public Infrastructure<sup>55</sup>. It is also important to mention, as described in the general framework component (GF) section, that the iGOPP team did not find budget categories or instruments that allow identifying allocation of resources to *ex ante* DRM activities. This could mean that if the government were allocating resources to the different sectors for risk reduction purposes, the lack of a specific budget category for this specific activity would not allow its proper tracking. Therefore, the iGOPP score obtained for this specific policy phase, although quite improbable, could underrepresent the actual efforts of the country in terms of policy implementation, as defined per the iGOPP methodology.

With regards to public utilities companies, no evidence of allocation of resources for performing disaster risk reduction activities was found by the iGOPP team<sup>56</sup>.

*3. Policy evaluation:* The Environmental Protection Act, enacted in 1996 (and its Amendment Act of 2005), establishes the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the regulatory framework

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<sup>48</sup> See indicator RR-1B-3

<sup>49</sup> See indicator RR-1B-4

<sup>50</sup> See indicators RR-1B-17 and RR-1B-18

<sup>51</sup> See indicators RR-1C-1 and RR-1C-2

<sup>52</sup> See indicators RR-1C-3, RR-1C-4 and RR-1C-5

<sup>53</sup> See indicators RR-2-1, RR-2-3 to RR-2-10

<sup>54</sup> See indicator RR-2-2

<sup>55</sup> See indicator RR-2

<sup>56</sup> See indicators RR-2-11 to RR-2-13

for the environmental sector. This Act establishes in Part II, 4(1), among the functions of the EPA "...k) *establish and enforce administrative penalties*. A system of penalties that the public and private entities are subject when they cause damage to the environment is detailed in the "Fifth Schedule" of this Act<sup>57</sup>.

The Audit Office of Guyana has not performed a verification or evaluation on the performance of actions regarding disaster risk reduction in the last 5 years, including assessments on the implementation of risk reduction measures during the construction phase of infrastructure<sup>58</sup>. The Town and Country Planning Act, approved by the Parliament of Guyana and published in the Laws of Guyana compilation 1998, regulates the development of lands, cities, towns and other areas, urban or rural, but does not assign responsibilities in terms of monitoring, evaluation and updating of local development plans or similar plans<sup>59</sup>.

On the positive side, the Water and Sewerage Act assigns responsibilities for the monitoring, evaluation and updating of watershed plans in Guyana to the Hydro-meteorological Department<sup>60</sup>.

**d. Disaster Preparedness (DP):**

*The DP component shows an "low" level progress in the Guyana, with only an 8% compliance of its indicators. In terms of the progress in the different public policy phases (see Table 6 and Graph 13), the highest level of compliance corresponds to "Monitoring, accountability and participation" (17%) and to "Central policy coordination and articulation" (13%). "Evidence of progress in implementation" and "Definition of sectorial responsibilities" report lower compliance rates with 7% and 6%, respectively. No progress is found for the indicators related to the "definition of sectorial responsibilities".*

**Table No. 6** – Disaster Preparedness by public policy phases. Guyana 2017

<b>1</b>	<b>Central policy coordination and articulation</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Definition of sectorial responsibilities</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Definition of territorial responsibilities</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Evidence of progress in implementation</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Monitoring, accountability and participation</b>	<b>17%</b>

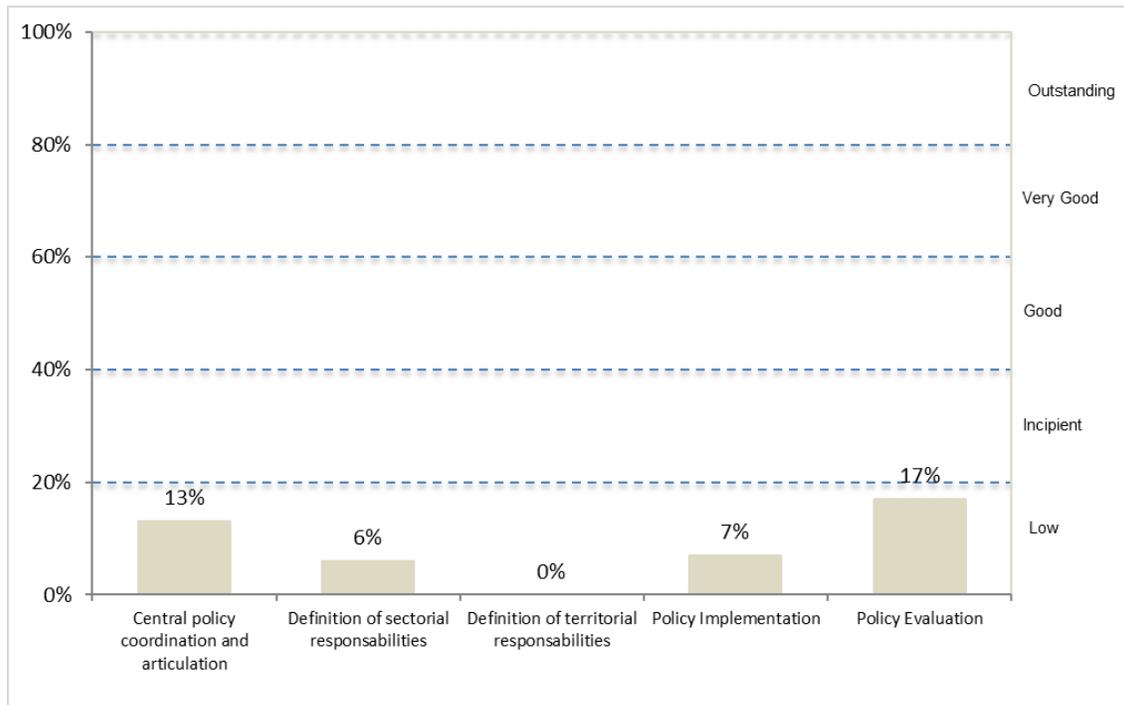
<sup>57</sup> See indicator RR-3-1

<sup>58</sup> See indicators RR-3-2 and RR-3-5

<sup>59</sup> See indicator RR-3-3

<sup>60</sup> See indicator RR-3-4

**Graph No. 13** – Disaster Preparedness by public policy phases. Guyana 2017



The main findings resulting from the iGOPP analysis for this component, according to the three main public policy phases<sup>1</sup>) Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation; 2) Policy Implementation; and 3) Policy Evaluation, are the following:

1. Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation: Below, the iGOPP results for the three dimensions of this policy phase are analyzed.

1.1. *Central policy coordination and articulation (DP-1A)*: Guyana lacks a normative framework for DRM in general, including regulations for the processes of disaster preparedness and response<sup>61</sup>. There are a set of documents developed by the Civil Defense Commission (CDC) which, according to the officers interviewed in this institution, have been approved by the Cabinet in 2014. The Cabinet resolutions are considered classified documents and the approved versions of these documents are not available for public consultation. Therefore, important conditions assessed by the iGOPP in terms of the central policy coordination and articulation for the DP component that require the existence of such a normative framework could not be verified in Guyana and, therefore, are considered as not complied with, in accordance with the iGOPP methodology. However, it is important to mention that the iGOPP team reviewed the draft version of the Multi-hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, developed by the CDC in 2013. This Plan establishes the formulation of emergency or contingency plans at the national level and outlines in Annex B a set of "Response Sub Plans and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)", including: National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC) SOPs; Regional Emergency Operation

<sup>61</sup> See indicators DP-1A-1 and DP-1A-2.

Center (REOC) SOPs; RDC Response Plans; Damage Assessment and Needs Assessment (DANA) Plan; and an Early Warning Systems (EWS) Plan; among others<sup>62</sup>. Additionally, this draft version of the Multi-hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan also establishes that response actions and humanitarian assistance are based on damage assessments and needs analysis and provides regulations for the coordination of international assistance and mutual help in case of disaster<sup>63</sup>. One condition that is met in Guyana is contained in the Constitution of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana 1980, enacted by the Parliament of Guyana in 1980, which provides for a set of provisions related to a temporary regime measures in the case of the declaration of a disaster, emergency or public calamity<sup>64</sup>.

*1.2. Definition of sectorial responsibilities (DP-1B):* As mentioned before, Guyana lacks a normative framework for the processes of disaster preparedness and response. It is important to mention that the draft version of the Multi-hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan available online contains provisions and regulations for the establishment of emergency or contingency plans in the different sectors or ministries, and the draft version of the DRM Policy foresees the implementation and operation of early warning systems for natural hazards<sup>65</sup>. Nevertheless, as mentioned before, neither document can be used as verifier due to their “draft” nature. In terms of the establishment of DP responsibilities in sectoral regulatory frameworks, the iGOPP reveals the compliance of the health sector through the "Health Vision 2020: A National Health Strategy for Guyana, 2013-2020"<sup>66</sup>. It is important to mention that although the Ministry of Education has developed a policy document titled "Policy- Disaster Preparedness for the Education Sector", approved by the Education Systems Committee in November 2010<sup>67</sup>, the iGOPP methodology requires that this definition is contained in the main regulatory instrument for the education sector (the Education Act), or another sectorial regulation approved, at least, by decree. Also, worthwhile to mention is that the draft of the DRM Policy mentions that "*Several other DRM plans are currently being developed, and these include a draft Integrated DRM Agriculture/Environment Plan*" but it was not possible to locate the approved version of this plan in the website of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency or the official website of the CDC, and verify that its content is fully aligned with the draft version reviewed<sup>68</sup>. The iGOPP team did not find regulations that mandate development and implementation of emergency or contingency plans associated with transport, handling or processing of hazardous substances, or regulations related to the development and implementation of emergency or contingency plans in the event of fuel spill or oil pollution<sup>69</sup>.

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<sup>62</sup> See indicators DP-1A-3 and DP-1A-5

<sup>63</sup> See indicators DP-1A-6 and DP-1A-8

<sup>64</sup> See indicator DP-1A-4

<sup>65</sup> See indicators DP-1B-1 and DP-1B-2

<sup>66</sup> See indicator DP-1B-5

<sup>67</sup> See indicator DP-1B-7

<sup>68</sup> See indicators DP-1B-3 and indicator DP-1B-4

<sup>69</sup> See indicators DP-1B-16 and DP-1B-17

1.3. *Definition of territorial responsibilities (DP-1C)*: the iGOPP team did not find evidence of Guyana's compliance with any of these indicators. Nevertheless, it is important to mention that the draft of the Multi-Hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan available online, (not considered as a verifiable due to its draft nature), includes provisions about instances of coordination for the disaster preparedness activities through the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Democratic Councils and its regional bodies<sup>70</sup>. This draft document also establishes subsidiary assistance criteria between the different government levels and the formulation of emergency or contingency plans at territorial levels<sup>71</sup>. Finally, the iGOPP team did not find any evidence of the existence of other regulations that define for the responsibility of the territorial management units in disaster preparedness and response, or that enable municipalities to use their own resources outside their jurisdiction in situations of emergency<sup>72</sup>.

## 2. Policy implementation- *Evidence of progress in the implementation (DP-2)*:

The iGOPP team found evidence of allocation of budgetary resources for fire prevention and control activities in the last fiscal year<sup>73</sup>. Important to mention that, according to the public officials interviewed, due to the rainforest conditions of Guyana (too much humidity for wood combustion), forest fire prevention is not generally considered an issue in Guyana, and consequently there is not an entity in charge of fire prevention<sup>74</sup>.

The iGOPP did not find legal support for the role of the Civil Defense Commission as the leading national entity for disaster preparedness and response. Consequently, it is not possible to evidence allocation of resources to the leading national entity for disaster preparedness and response<sup>75</sup>.

The iGOPP team did not find evidence about the existence of emergency, contingency or business continuity plans for the ten (10) key sectors assessed<sup>76</sup>. It is important to mention that the Committee of Civil Defense (CDC) informed that there are contingency plans, elaborated with CDC support. These plans were approved by Cabinet Resolution, which means they are classified and therefore, not accessible. Regarding allocation of resources to disaster preparedness, the iGOPP team did not find evidence of such allocations for any of the 6 key selected sectors<sup>77</sup>. As for the utilities companies, the iGOPP team did not find evidence about the existence of emergency, contingency or business continuity plans developed by these companies<sup>78</sup>.

3. Policy evaluation: The iGOPP team did not find evidence of the existence of regulations that establish mechanisms in which civil society, social and non-governmental organizations participate in disaster preparedness public policy decision making. It is important to mention that the draft of Multi-hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan developed by the Committee of Civil Defense (CDC) in 2013, identifies under the description of duties for the Regional

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<sup>70</sup> See indicator DP-1C-1

<sup>71</sup> See indicator DP-1C-2

<sup>72</sup> See indicators DP-1C-3 and DP-1C-4

<sup>73</sup> See indicator DP-2-2

<sup>74</sup> See indicator DP-2-3

<sup>75</sup> See indicator DP-2-1

<sup>76</sup> To see indicators DP-2-4 to DP-2-12

<sup>77</sup> See indicators DP-2-5, DP-2-6, DP-2-8, DP-2-10, DP-2-11 and DP-2-12

<sup>78</sup> See indicators DP-2-13 to DP-2-15

Democratic Councils (RDC) in disaster preparedness and response the following: *"the RDC will establish Neighborhoods Disaster Committees (NDCc) under the management of the Neighborhoods Democratic Councils (NDC) as well as Community Disaster Committees (CDCc) under the Community Democratic Councils (Com)"*. Nevertheless, as pointed out before in this report, the draft nature of the Multi-hazard Plan impedes its use as a verifier.

The iGOPP team did not find evidence of the Audit Office performing any assessments on disaster preparedness in the last 5 years<sup>79</sup>. On the positive side, the Civil Defense Commission (CDC) compiled and published in November 2014 the report "Progress and Challenges of Disaster Risk Management in Guyana, 2014", which includes analytical sections on the progress and limitations existing for disaster preparedness and response processes in the country<sup>80</sup>. The iGOPP found evidence that the CDC developed and published in 2014 the National Standards for Emergency Shelters. However, the formal adoption of similar quality standards for water, sanitation and nutrition could not be verified<sup>81</sup>.

#### Additional considerations

If the draft versions of DRM Policy and Multi-Hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, both reported as been approved by Cabinet Resolution in 2014, were considered as the same versions approved by the Cabinet and, therefore, used as potential verifiers for the iGOPP, then the results for the DP component of the iGOPP would show a very significant rise from 8% ("low" compliance level) to 43% ("good" compliance level), with a higher percentage of compliance for all the public policy phases assessed by the iGOPP for this DP component. As illustrated in the Graphic No. 14 below, "Central policy coordination and articulation" would reach a 75% of compliance ("very good" level), and the compliance of the "Definition of territorial responsibilities", would increase from 0% to 60% ("good" level). "Policy evaluation" would show an increase of compliance from 17% ("low" level) to 50% ("good" level). It is important to highlight that this is just a hypothetical analysis since the cabinet resolutions as well as the approved text of the documents were not available to the team that assessed the iGOPP in Guyana, due to the classified nature of cabinet resolutions.

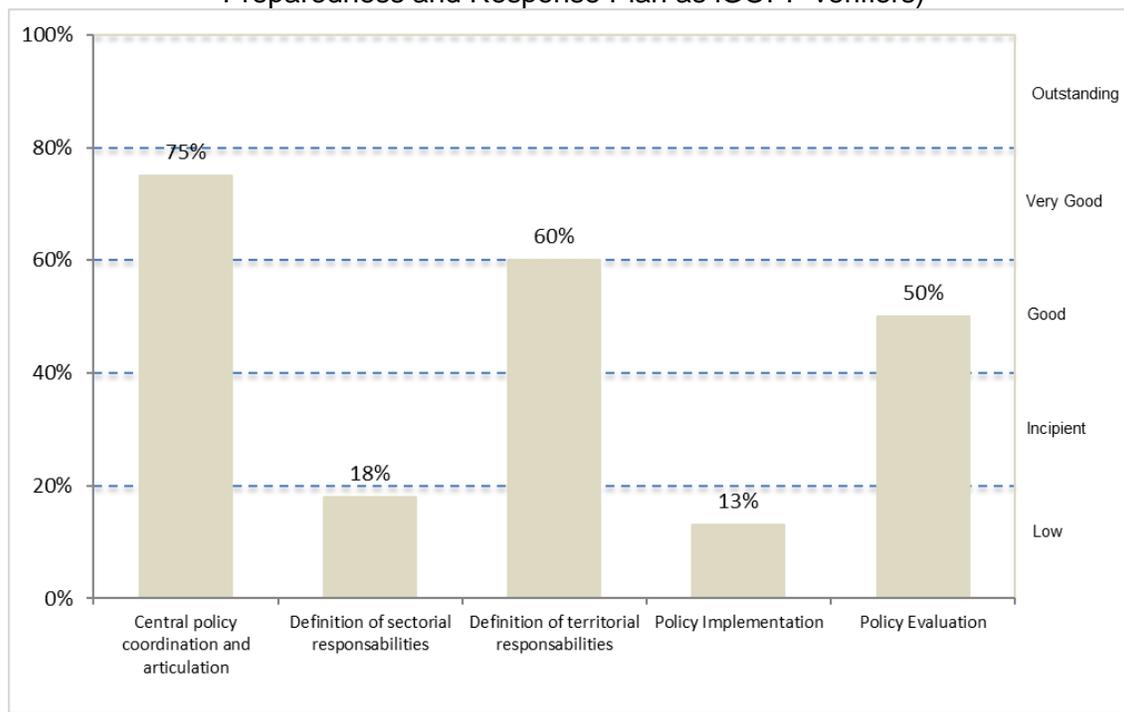
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<sup>79</sup> See indicators DP-3-2 and DP-3-3

<sup>80</sup> See indicator DP-3-4

<sup>81</sup> See indicator DP-3-5

**Graphic No. 14. Hypothetical results for DP component in Guyana**  
(Considering the drafts of the DRM Policy and the Multi-Hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan as iGOPP verifiers)



**e. Recovery planning (RC)**

Guyana does not comply with any of the indicators of the Recovery planning component (see table 7 below). It is important to highlight that the progress in this component is incipient in Latin America and the Caribbean region, so the low results obtained by the iGOPP application for Guyana are not surprising and follow the trend already revealed by iGOPP applications in the rest of countries assessed so far.

**Table No. 7** –Recovery Planning by public policy phases. The Guyana 2017

<b>1</b>	<b>Central policy coordination and articulation</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Definition of sectorial responsibilities</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Definition of territorial responsibilities</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Evidence of progress in implementation</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Monitoring, accountability and participation</b>	<b>0%</b>

The main findings resulting from the iGOPP analysis for this component, according to the three main public policy phases, 1) Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation; 2) Policy Implementation; and 3) Policy Evaluation, are the following:

1. Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation: The three specific dimensions of this policy phase are analyzed below.

1.1. *Central policy coordination and articulation (RC-1A)*: No evidence was found about the existence of regulations on disaster recovery in Guyana. There is a set of DRM-related documents developed by the Civil Defense Commission (CDC), including the National DRM Policy and the Multihazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan amongst others, that contain multiple references about quality attributes that should guide the recovery process (see below “additional comments”). For instance, the draft version of DRM Policy formulated by the CDC in 2003 and currently available online includes under the "Key Strategic Objectives": "2.4.10. *Undertaking post disaster recovery and reconstruction as an opportunity to build back better.*" The draft version of the Multi-hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan includes in a section on Early Recovery that makes reference to “*sustainably rebuilding lives and communities*”. Besides the fact that these documents cannot be used a potential verifier for the purposes of the iGOPP due to their draft nature, it is also important to underline that they don’t include an explicit definition of the responsibility of the State regarding the recovery process or any specific mandate for the development of *ex ante* (before event) disaster recovery plans.

1.2. *Definition of sectorial responsibilities (RC-1B)*: the iGOPP team did not find evidence of Guyana’s compliance with the ten indicators assessing the existence of regulations defining the responsibilities for carrying out recovery planning activities. It is worthwhile mentioning that according to the draft version of DRM Policy formulated by the Civil Defense Commission in 2013, "Several other DRM plans are currently being developed, and these include a draft *Integrated DRM Agriculture/Environment Plan.*" Nevertheless, no evidence of the existence of such plan was found in the websites of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Civil Defense Committee.

1.3. *Definition of territorial responsibilities (RC-1C)*: The iGOPP team did not find evidence of Guyana compliance with the two indicators of this policy phase. Thus, the Towns and Country Planning Act that regulates the development of land, cities, towns and other areas was reviewed, and it does not include any regulations that govern the assessment, review or update of development plans after a disaster has affected the territorial management unit.

2. Policy implementation- Evidence of progress in the implementation (RC-2): The iGOPP team did not find any evidence of disaster recovery plans prepared *ex ante* and formally approved in the last 5 years in any of the 10 sectors assessed. According to the DRM Policy formulated by the CDC in 2013 "Several other DRM plans are currently being developed and these include a draft *Integrated DRM Agriculture / Environment Plan*", but no evidence of the existence of this plan or any other relevant plan was found in the website of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency or CDC’s.

3. Policy evaluation: the iGOPP team did not find any evidence of Guyana’s compliance with any of the four indicators assessed for this policy phase. There are only some general references to community participation in the recovery process included in the draft version of the Multi-hazard

Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan (in the Early Recovery chapter), but not a clear identification of a mechanism to channel that participation. Additionally, in an interview with the head of the Audit Office of Guyana, it was confirmed that no verification or assessment on the government’s performance in relation to any disaster recovery process has been carried out in the last 5 major disasters declared at national level.

Additional considerations

If the draft versions of DRM Policy and Multi-Hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, (both reported as having been approved by Cabinet Resolution in 2014), were the same versions actually approved by the Cabinet, the metrics for the RC component would improve slightly by using those documents as verifiers. Notably, the “Central policy coordination and articulation” phase would increase from 0% to 38% compliance, a score considered as “incipient”, according to the iGOPP methodology. This improvement would be the result of complying with two indicators: the establishment of the recovery of livelihoods as a purpose of disaster recovery, and the development of disaster recovery plans that explicitly seek to reduce pre-existing vulnerability. Both aspects are addressed in the draft versions of the DRM Policy and the Multi-Hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, respectively. It is important to highlight that this is just a hypothetical analysis, since the cabinet resolutions as well as the approved text of the documents were not available to the team that assessed the iGOPP in Guyana, due to the classified nature of cabinet resolutions.

**f. Financial Protection (FP):**

*Guyana does not comply with any of the indicators of the Financial Protection component and, consequently, of its policy phases. (see Table 8).*

**Table No. 8:** Financial Protection component by public policy phases – Guyana 2017

<b>1</b>	<b>Central policy coordination and articulation</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Definition of sectorial responsibilities</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Definition of territorial responsibilities</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Evidence of progress in implementation</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Monitoring, accountability and participation</b>	<b>0%</b>

The main findings of the iGOPP analysis for this component according to the three major public policy phases, 1) Inclusion on the government's agenda and policy formulation; 2) Policy implementation; and 3) Policy evaluation, are the following:

1. Inclusion on the Government Agenda and Policy Formulation: The iGOPP did not find any advances in this policy phase. The relevant aspects of the analysis are mentioned for the three levels evaluated are set out below.

*1.1. Central policy coordination and articulation (FP-1A):* There is no progress in this policy phase. The current policy framework for Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in Guyana has been approved by Cabinet Office resolutions that are not available due to its classified nature. Consequently, it was not possible to confirm if the legal framework for DRM established a fund for attending the occurrence of disasters<sup>82</sup>. Important to mention that CDC informed the iGOPP team during an interview that the country lacks such fund. As Participant State of Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), Guyana could have access to CDEMA's Emergency Assistance Fund, which shall be used solely to defray expenses incurred in connection with the rendering of assistance in the event of a disaster occurring in a Participating State. However, the iGOPP team was not able to find any national document endorsing the agreement with CDEMA. It is also important to mention that iGOPP did not find any legal provisions for establishing the annual percentage of resources to be allocated to CDEMA's Emergency Assistance Fund<sup>83</sup>.

On the other hand, the country does not have any development funds<sup>84</sup>, therefore this type of resource is not part of the available funding mechanisms for attending the occurrence of disasters. Additionally, the iGOPP team did not find any regulations mandating the formulation of a disaster risk retention and transfer structure<sup>85</sup>. Important to mention that, according to the third draft of the yet to be approved "A Low-Carbon Development Strategy, Transforming Guyana's Economy While Combating Climate Change" (2010), adaptation measures will include "*Developing innovative financial risk management and insurance measures to resilience*".

Another gap revealed by the iGOPP is the lack of a mandate related to the estimation of catastrophic risk reserves for non-homogenous/special assets and for homogenous/uniform assets, based on probabilistic risk assessment models defined or certified by the sector's regulating entity<sup>86</sup>.

*1.2. Definition of sectorial responsibilities (FP-1B):* There is no progress in this policy phase. The iGOPP did not find any evidence about the establishment by any legal text of fiscal responsibility of the Government of Guyana to the consequences of disasters<sup>87</sup>.

Also, no evidence was found about regulations assigning competencies to the Ministry of Finance for financial protection against disaster risk<sup>88</sup>. In addition, there are no regulations establishing that sectorial entities must cover their public assets with insurance policies<sup>89</sup>, nor regulations on incentives for private housing insurance against disaster risk<sup>90</sup>.

*1.3. Definition of territorial responsibilities (FP-1C):* There is no progress in this policy phase. The iGOPP shows that there are no regulations that mandate that territorial entities must cover their

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<sup>82</sup> See indicator PF-1A-1

<sup>83</sup> See indicator F-1A-2

<sup>84</sup> See indicator F-1A-6

<sup>85</sup> See indicator F-1A-3

<sup>86</sup> See indicators F-1A-4 and F-1A-5

<sup>87</sup> See indicator F-1B-1

<sup>88</sup> See indicator F-1B-2

<sup>89</sup> See indicator F-1B-3

<sup>90</sup> See indicator F-1B-4

public assets with insurance policies<sup>91</sup>, nor are regulations that mandate, at the sub-national level, the implementation of financial protection schemes or mechanisms against disasters<sup>92</sup>. In addition, the Capital City of Georgetown does not have a fund for financing or co-financing disaster management activities<sup>93</sup>. In that regard, the national entities are the ones in charge of supporting sub-national entities (regions), in case of the occurrence of a disaster.

2. Policy implementation- Evidence of progress in the implementation (FP-2): Regarding risk retention instruments, as a CDEMA participating country, Guyana could access CDEMA's Emergency Assistance Fund (a regional Fund). However, the iGOPP team could not find evidence of any national document endorsing Guyana's agreement with CDEMA. The document regulating this Fund does not include provisions related with the annual percentage of resources to be allocated to this Fund<sup>94</sup>, nor does it comply with the "golden rule" of accumulation and expenditure based on anticipated annual loss or records of losses from past disaster<sup>95</sup>. CDEMA verbally informed the iGOPP team that the fund has the capacity to accumulate resources over time, but it was not possible to have access to the document that supports this affirmation<sup>96</sup>.

On the other hand, in Guyana regular budget resources are used in case of the occurrence of disasters for financing the emergency response, rehabilitation and reconstruction phases.

As mentioned, the iGOPP found that Guyana does not have a national fund for disasters, or a development fund for financing or co-financing risk management activities<sup>97</sup>. In addition, the iGOPP team found that the country does not have any contingent credit lines for disasters<sup>98</sup>.

Regarding risk transfer instruments, CDC informed that the country does not have much progress regarding disaster insurance. As previously mentioned, the insurance of the public assets is not mandatory. In the same vein, the iGOPP team did not find any evidence of the existence of standards for the insurance of the public assets<sup>99</sup>, concessions<sup>100</sup>, or related guidelines for the sub national entities<sup>101</sup> (regions), in a context where the country is in a process of giving more autonomy to territorial levels.

The capital city of Georgetown does not have a financial protection structure in the event of disaster<sup>102</sup> nor a disaster risk transfer instrument for a portfolio of assets of its fiscal responsibility<sup>103</sup>. Resources for supporting the emergency expenses incurred in regions come from the national budget.

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<sup>91</sup> See indicator F-1C-1

<sup>92</sup> See indicator F-1C-2

<sup>93</sup> See indicator F-1C-3

<sup>94</sup> See indicator F-1A-2

<sup>95</sup> See indicator F-2-10

<sup>96</sup> See indicator F-2-9

<sup>97</sup> See indicator F-2-8

<sup>98</sup> See indicator F-2-11

<sup>99</sup> See indicator F-2-4

<sup>100</sup> See indicator F-2-5

<sup>101</sup> See indicator F-2-7

<sup>102</sup> See indicator F-2-1

<sup>103</sup> See indicator PF-2-12

The other financial instruments used by the country in the context of emergencies are grants and loans.

The Ministry of Finance does not have an estimate of the Probable Maximum Loss (PML) from catastrophic events for different return periods<sup>104</sup>, or an estimate of the Annual Average Loss<sup>105</sup>.

The iGOPP team did not find *ex ante approved* financial instruments to encourage economic recovery in areas affected by disasters<sup>106</sup> or a financial protection structure defined for the agricultural sector<sup>107</sup>.

3. Policy evaluation: Monitoring, Accountability and Participation (FP-3): the iGOPP application reveals the absence of control, accountability and participation conditions in place for this component, as none of the indicators assessed have been complied with. In other words, the iGOPP reveals a lack of: i) official assessments conducted on the compliance with regulations on financial protection mechanisms, as no such regulations exist; ii) the use of probabilistic risk assessment models for estimating catastrophic reserves (not surprising at all, considering that the current regulatory framework for the insurance sector does not mandate the use of the probabilistic evaluation model for the estimation of catastrophic risk reserves of the insurance companies); and iii) official assessments conducted on the implementation of a financial protection strategy (again, not surprising, given that the country does not have such an official strategy approved)<sup>108</sup>.

#### Additional considerations

As in the analysis of the GF, DP and RC components analyzed before, under the hypothesis that the draft versions of the DRM Policy and Multi-Hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, both prepared by the CDC in 2014 and reported as being approved by Cabinet Resolution in 2014, were considered potential verifiers for the iGOPP, then the results for the FP component would change slightly, from 0% to 3% compliance. In particular, the central policy coordination would increase from 0% to 17% of compliance, which would still be considered as a low level of progress but with one condition assessed by the iGOPP that would be met, since the regulations on DRM established a fund to finance emergent expenses in disaster situations<sup>109</sup>.

The Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Policy elaborated by the CDC in 2013, approved by the Cabinet Office in 2014, includes a section on "Resource Mobilization and Financing Risk Management" (Section 4.6), that refers to the following measure and action: "4.6.8. *Ensuring that disaster funding mechanisms are designed and implemented to provide continued and sustainable funds for both pre-disaster and post-disaster activities. A National Disaster Risk Management Fund should be put in place*". Important to mention that the DRM Policy does not include provisions related with the annual percentage of resources to be allocated to this Fund, or provisions related with its capacity to accumulate resources over time.

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<sup>104</sup> See indicator F-2-2

<sup>105</sup> See indicator F-2-3

<sup>106</sup> See indicator F-2-14

<sup>107</sup> See indicator F-2-15

<sup>108</sup> See indicators F-3-1 to F-3-3

<sup>109</sup> See indicator FP-1A-1

## IV. CONCLUSIONS

The salient elements and conclusions revealed by the iGOPP application in Guyana are summarized below:

1. The iGOPP team did not find evidence about the existence of a formal normative framework for Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in Guyana. According to the Civil Defense Commission (CDC) the current policy framework for DRM has been approved by Cabinet Office resolutions, which are not available for consultation due to their classified nature. Therefore, important conditions assessed by the iGOPP indicators requiring the existence of national framework for DRM are not met in Guyana. However, it is also important to highlight that among the set of documents reported as being approved by a cabinet resolution in 2014, the draft version of DRM Policy elaborated by the CDC in 2013, establishes the guiding principles and architecture for DRM in Guyana, introducing the institutional structures, roles, responsibilities, authorities and key processes required to achieve a coordinated, coherent and consistent approach to DRM.

2. While the analysis of the national DRM framework was limited due to the classified nature of some documents, the iGOPP team found robust evidence of the inclusion of DRM considerations in the policy development framework of Guyana. The Low Carbon Development Strategy 2010 (LCDS), which contains the development priorities and challenges of Guyana and supplements the National Development Strategy (2000-2010) and, the National Competitiveness Strategy (2006), includes explicit targets and indicators in DRM.

3- In terms of the Risk Identification component, Guyana shows a “low” level progress with only a 10% of compliance for all indicators assessed under this component. One of the important gaps is the lack of regulations identifying a national party responsible for providing technical assistance and guidelines at territorial and sectorial levels for the disaster risk analysis. Additionally, no general or sectorial mandates to conduct risk analysis were identified for the 10 sectors and public utilities companies assessed by the iGOPP in Guyana. On the other hand, the iGOPP reveals that the Water and Sewage Act, approved by the Parliament of Guyana in 2002, establishes relevant responsibilities of the Department of Hydrometeorology, which include the creation and maintenance of Information Systems for Disaster Risk Management.

4. The iGOPP also reveals a low level of progress for the Risk Reduction component in Guyana, with a 15% of compliance for the respective indicators. Among the gaps found, there is the lack of regulations about coordinated responsibilities between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation for territorial and sectorial entities. The National Building Codes published by Central Housing Authority of Guyana in 2012, do not define essential buildings, indispensable or critical infrastructure. Guyana also lacks national or sectoral regulations that establish responsibilities for the sectors or public service companies to reduce the risk the sectorial scope of its powers. In terms of policy implementation, the iGOPP team found that among the different sectors assessed, only the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Public Infrastructure allocates resources for risk reduction, focused on flood risk management projects.

5. Guyana’s lack of a legal framework for DRM is also reflected in the absence of formal regulations for the processes of disaster preparedness and response. The iGOPP shows a “low” level progress for the DP component in Guyana, with only 8% of compliance. Nevertheless, it is important to highlight that the draft version of the Multi-hazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan, developed by the CDC in 2013 and reported as approved by Cabinet Resolution

in 2014, considers the formulation of emergency or contingency plans at the national level and outlines a set of "Response Sub Plans and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)". Additionally, this Plan contains provisions and regulations for the establishment of contingency plans in the different sectors or ministries. In the same line, it is important to mention that the draft version DRM Policy foresees the implementation and operation of early warning systems for natural hazards.

6. In terms of definition of sectorial responsibilities for disaster preparedness, the iGOPP reveals the compliance of the health sector, through the "Health Vision 2020: A National Health Strategy for Guyana, 2013-2020". Additionally, the Ministry of Education shows progress in this component through the development of a policy document titled "Policy- Disaster Preparedness for the Education Sector", approved by the Education Systems Committee in November 2010. One important gap found by the iGOPP team in terms of policy implementation, is the lack of emergency or contingency or continuity of operations plans, for the 10 key sectors assessed in the country. It is important to mention that the Committee of Civil Defense (CDC) informed that there are contingency plans, elaborated with CDC support and approved by Cabinet Resolution, which means they are considered as classified documents and not available for public consultation, and therefore for the iGOPP analysis.

7. The iGOPP shows no compliance for any of the indicators assessed for the Disaster Recovery Planning component in Guyana. However, it is important to underline that draft versions of the National DRM Policy and the Multihazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan contain relevant references about quality attributes that should guide the recovery process. At the same time, it is important to highlight that progress in the recovery planning component is incipient at best in all the countries of the region, and the low results obtained by Guyana are not surprising as this follows the trend already revealed by iGOPP applications in the rest of the Latin American and Caribbean countries assess so far.

8. Regarding the Financial Protection component, the iGOPP found no progress in this policy phase. There are no funds for risk retention, contingent credit lines or insurance instruments, aiming at reducing the fiscal vulnerability of the country to the occurrence of disasters. It is important to highlight that this is happening in a context where Ministry of Finance does not have yet responsibilities regarding financial management of disasters risk. Currently, budget resources, loans and grants are used for attending the occurrence of disasters.

9. Besides the challenges found in Guyana to analyze relevant DRM policy and planning instruments, reported as approved by cabinet resolutions, the CDC reported to the team assessing the iGOPP that the Government has made good progress towards putting together a DRM Bill. This Bill will integrate all the important policies and planning instruments developed by the country since 2003, such as the DRM Policy, the Multihazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan; among others. The future enactment of this piece of DRM legislation will allow all the significant normative and policy work undertaken by Guyana in recent years to be publicly available and it will position Guyana in a higher level of progress according the iGOPP methodology.

## V. RECOMMENDATIONS OF POLICY REFORM

Component of DRM	Short Term (1-4 years)	Medium Term (4-8 years)	Long Term (more than 8 years)
<i>a. General Framework of DRM (GF)</i>			
It is recommended that during the final consultation on DRM Bill the Government harmonizes and integrates the key documents approved by cabinet resolution in recent years, (particularly the DRM Policy, the Multihazard Disaster Preparedness and Responses Plan, the National Multi-Hazard Alert System for Guyana, the reconstitution of the CDC in 1997, establishing the roles of the Civil Defense Committee, the Strategic Plan (2014) of the Civil Defense Commission (CDC) and the Damage and Needs Assessment (DANA) Framework), taking also into account the gaps revealed by the iGOPP which are not currently covered in these documents.	X		
Related to the previous recommendation, it is recommended that the DRM Bill includes explicitly that the coordination and articulation of the DRM policy tools be made at a hierarchical level equal or higher than ministerial. This would also result in the harmonization of the different institutional settings proposed in the set of documents approved by cabinet resolution.	X		
It is recommended that the DRM Bill considers including, as a quality attribute, that disaster risk management must be subjected to control by the respective authorized organizations, such the Audit Office.	X		
It is recommended that in future policy reforms of the Local Democratic Organs Act, the Government considers the inclusion regulations that decentralize the responsibilities in the matter of development planning or territorial planning and land use to territorial management units, and empower Territorial Management Units (regions, town, districts, etc.) to create networks, agreements, alliances or territorial agreements			X

It is recommended that the DRM legal framework considers financial protection as a main component of DRM. In this context it must assign responsibility to Ministry of Finance for developing risk retention and risk transfer strategies. In order to comply with such responsibility, recommended the Ministry of Finance (MoF) should develop a financial strategy or policy document to guide the financial management of disaster risk in the country, informed by the experiences of similar undertakings by other MoFs in the region.	X		
It is recommended to design and implement a budgetary instrument/tool for identifying the budgetary allocations related with ex ante DRM programs and climate change adaptation activities.	X		
It is recommended that the Audit Office of Guyana, as the supreme audit institution of the State with competencies to conduct performance audits, undertakes an assessment on the existing regulations in disaster risk management.	X		
It is recommended that the CDC formalizes the existence of the National Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Platform, recently re-activated by the Ministry of State. The formal launching of the National Platform should ideally include the definition of objectives, a governance structure and a membership list (or criteria) for this mechanism.	X		

<b>Component of DRM</b>	<b>Short Term (1-4 years)</b>	<b>Medium Term (4-8 years)</b>	<b>Long Term (more than 8 years)</b>
<i>b. Risk Identification (RI)</i>			
It is recommended that the DRM Bill includes the identification of a national entity responsible for providing technical assistance and guidelines at territorial and sectorial levels for the disaster risk analysis	X		
It is also recommended that the DRM Bill includes the identification of a national entity responsible for the definition of methodologies for the preparation of studies on climate change effect.	X		

It is recommended that the practice of uploading the impact data associated to historical emergencies and disasters in Desinventar database becomes a regular activity backed by regulations that establish the systemization and updating of database of the effects of disasters	X		
It is recommended to develop regulations establishing that studies on geological and hydrometeorological hazards should consider the frequency of occurrence of such events and their associated levels and intensities.	X		
It is recommended to include in the provisions of the DRM Bill that each sector and each public utility company is responsible to carry out disaster risk analysis in the sectorial scope of its powers.	X		
It is recommended that the practice of uploading the impact data associated to historical emergencies and disasters in Desinventar database becomes a regular activity backed by regulations that establish the systemization and updating of database of the effects of disasters.	X		
It is recommended that in future reviews of the National Building Codes and the Town and Country Planning Act, the Government considers the inclusion of at least one rule that defines which buildings are essential, indispensable or critical infrastructures of the country.	X	X	
It is also recommended to promote the incorporation in the regulatory frameworks of the environment, agricultural, health, education, housing, transport, telecommunication, water and sanitation energy; the responsibility to carry out disaster risk analysis or adverse effects of climate change in the scope of its powers.	X	X	
It is recommended that in future regulations on development planning and land use, to include regulations that establish the obligation to conduct hazard zoning in cities	X	X	
It is recommended that sectors allocate resources to disaster risk identification activities that can be specifically identified through budgetary instruments/tools.	X		

It is recommended that the entities responsible for generating information on geological, hydrological and meteorological phenomena, undertake at least one quality assessment of their research, monitoring and dissemination process.	X		
It is recommended that among the contents of the DRM Bill it is included a clear mandate about the responsibility to inform the citizens on disaster risk	X		

<b>Component of DRM</b>	<b>Short Term (1-4 years)</b>	<b>Medium Term (4-8 years)</b>	<b>Long Term (more than 8 years)</b>
<i>c. Risk Reduction (RR)</i>			
It is recommended that Guyana develop regulations that define benchmarks of acceptable risk for at least 2 hazards in the country to guide the disaster risk reduction efforts. For instance, the existence of technical parameters such as the “drainage coefficient” used by the National Drainage and Irrigation Authority (NDIA) main criteria for the sluice system, could be a good platform for the development of benchmarks for acceptable risk	X		
Together with the identification of essential buildings recommended under RI, it is recommended develop at least one national standard that mandates public entities to reduce the vulnerability of essential buildings.	X	X	
It is recommended to develop regulations that mandates the incorporation of DRR measures during the construction of public and private infrastructure projects	X	X	
Together with the identification of critical infrastructure by regulation, it is recommended to develop at least one national standard for vulnerability reduction of such infrastructure.	X		
It is also recommended to promote the incorporation in the regulatory frameworks of the environment, agricultural, health, education, housing, transport, telecommunication, water and sanitation energy; the responsibility to reduce disaster risk within the scope of its powers.	X	X	

It is recommended that in future policy reforms related to regulations on development planning and land use (or equivalent), to consider regulations for: i) the establishment of the zoning of areas at risk as a determinant factor in the definition of use and occupation of the land; ii) comprehensive improvement of human settlements; iii) relocation of human settlements located in risk zones.	X	X	
It is recommended that sectors allocate resources to disaster risk reduction activities that can be specifically identified through budgetary instruments/tools.	X		
It is recommended, as part of the development of a regulatory framework for public investments, the development of legislation that mandates the inclusion of disaster risk analysis in all phases of the public investment process.	X	X	
It is recommended the approval of legislation that mandates the inclusion of climate change studies as requirement for the approval of public investments.	X	X	
It is recommended that the Audit Office of Guyana, as the supreme audit institution of the State with competencies to undertake performance audits, undertakes an assessment on the implementation of existing regulations on disaster risk reduction in the country.	X		

<b>Component of DRM</b>	<b>Short Term (1-4 years)</b>	<b>Medium Term (4-8 years)</b>	<b>Long Term (more than 8 years)</b>
<i>d. Disaster Preparedness (DP)</i>			
It is recommended that during the final consultation of the DRM Bill, the Government harmonizes and integrates all the considerations for the disaster preparedness process contained in key documents approved by cabinet resolution in recent years, (particularly the DRM Policy, the Multihazard Disaster Preparedness and Responses Plan, the National Multi-Hazard Alert System for Guyana, the reconstitution of the CDC (1997), establishing the roles of the Civil Defense	X		

Committee, the 2014 Strategic Plan of the Civil Defense Commission (CDC) and the Damage and Needs Assessment (DANA) Framework), taking also into account the gaps revealed by the iGOPP which are not currently covered in these documents.			
It is recommended that the DRM Bill also establish a mechanism or instance for crisis management at the highest national political level that clarifies the current responsibility of the Office of the President and the role of the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) and its National Emergency Coordinator.	X		
It is recommended that the Environment Emergency Plan and other sectorial plans mentioned in the draft versions of the DRM Policy and the Multihazard Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan are made available to the public through the publication in the websites of the CDC, the line ministries involved in the development of those plans.	X		
It is recommended that provisions of the “Policy-Disaster Preparedness for the Education Sector”, are included in future policy reforms or updates of the main regulatory framework for the education sector.		X	
It is also recommended to promote the incorporation in the regulatory frameworks of the environment, agricultural, housing, transport, water and sanitation, telecommunication and energy sectors; the responsibility to carry out disaster preparedness activities reduce disaster risk within the scope of its powers. The progress achieved by the health sector could be used as an example.		X	
It is recommended to promote in the regulations for public service companies the inclusion of a requirement for the development and implementation of business continuity plans for disasters.		X	
It is recommended, to develop regulations that mandate the formulation and implementation of emergency or contingency plans associated with transport, handling or processing of hazardous	X		

substances, including emergency or contingency plans in the event of fuel spill or oil pollution This is particular important for Guyana, given the recently exposed potential for the oil extraction industry in the country.			
It is recommended to define in the DRM Bill competences for the territorial management units in preparedness and response	X		
It is recommended that sectors allocate resources to response preparedness activities that can be specifically identified through budgetary instruments/tools and that they develop sectoral contingency plans in the event of disasters	X		
It is recommended that the Audit Office of Guyana, as the supreme audit institution of the State with competencies to undertake performance audits, conducts at least one 'after event' assessment on the government performance in relation to future emergency response activities.	X		

Component of DRM	Short Term (1-4 years)	Medium Term (4-8 years)	Long Term (more than 8 years)
<i>e. Disaster Recovery planning (RC)</i>			
It is recommended that in the final consultation for the DRM Bill, the Government harmonizes and integrates all the relevant considerations for the post-disaster recovery planning process contained in key documents approved by cabinet resolution in recent years, and also takes into account the gaps revealed by the iGOPP which are not currently covered in these documents.	X		
Related to the previous recommendation, it is recommended the DRM Bill includes: i) an explicit definition of the responsibility of the State facing this RC process; ii) a mandate to develop institutional arrangements for coordinating post-disaster reconstruction, and iii) regulations mandating the development of <i>before event</i> post-disaster recovery plans.	X		
It is also recommended to promote the incorporation in the regulatory frameworks of the environment, agricultural, housing, transport, water and sanitation, telecommunication and		X	

energy sectors; responsibilities for carrying out recovery planning activities.			
It is recommended to include regulations that establish the review or update of development plans regulations after a disaster has affected the territorial management units.		X	
It is recommended to encourage the preparation and formal approval of ex ante disaster recovery plans for the different sectors and utilities companies.			X

<b>Component of DRM</b>	<b>Short Term (1-4 years)</b>	<b>Medium Term (4-8 years)</b>	<b>Long Term (more than 8 years)</b>
<i>f. Financial Protection (FP)</i>			
It is recommended that the DRM legal framework must create a fund enabled for attending the occurrence of disaster and for allocating resources to ex ante DRM activities	X		
It is recommended to evaluate financial protection instruments available to Guyana, such as the parametric insurance policies offered by CCRIF, in order to reduce the financial impact of the occurrence of tropical cyclones, earthquakes and excess rainfall events.	X		
Insurance should be mandatory by regulation for the critical public infrastructure.		X	
It is recommended to develop an ex ante mechanism for supporting the economic reactivation of the agricultural sector after the occurrence of a disaster			X
It is recommended that a financial protection structure for the agricultural sector be designed and implemented			X
It is recommended that during the final consultation of the DRM Bill, the Government harmonizes and integrates all the considerations for the financial protection policy.			