



Water Views & Information Network In the Guiana Shield

Water Management in Guyana

Aubrey K. Roberts
Guyana Water Inc.



Contents

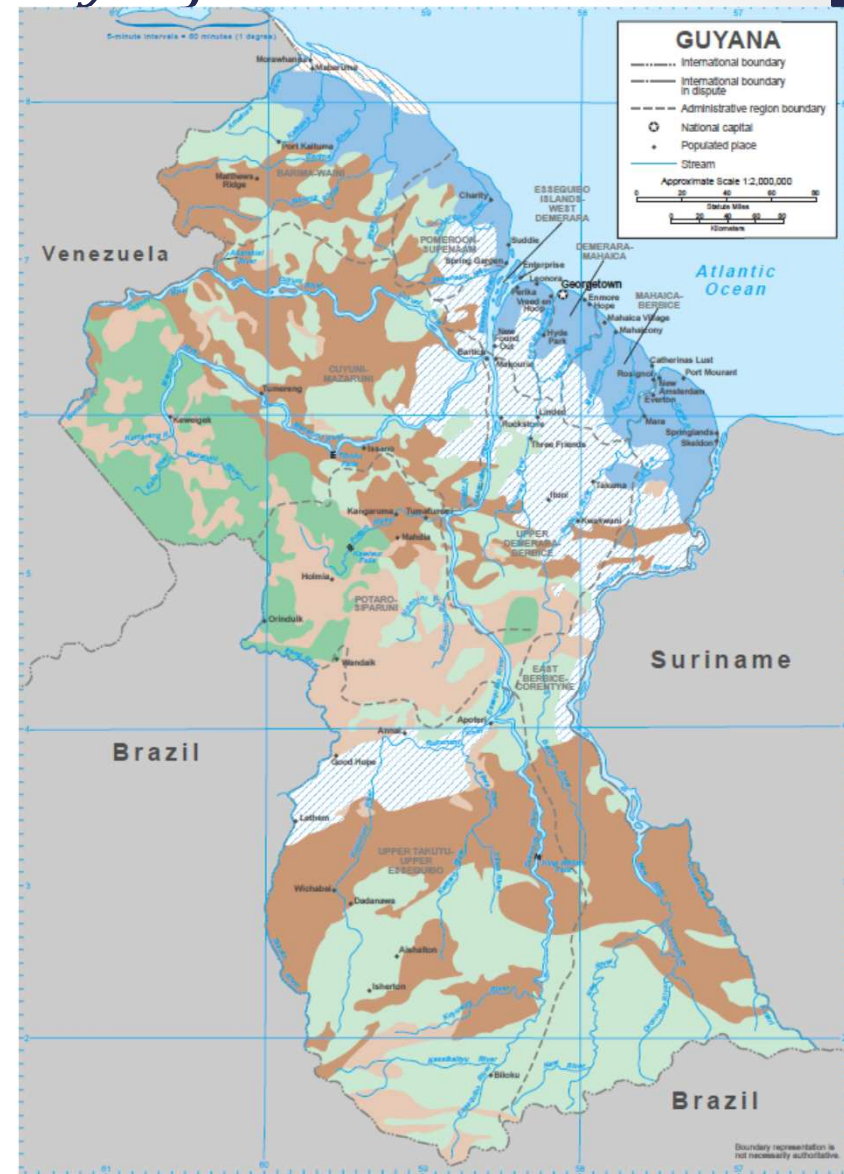
1. *Hydrographic basin
key information*
2. *Water policy*
3. *Actors of water
management*
4. *Water issues and
management tools*
5. *Interests for
international
cooperation on
water*



Hydrographic basin key information

Background data

- Total Area : 216,000 Sq. Km
- Population: 763,719 (Bureau of Statistics 2007 Estimate)
- Volume of water available : Unknown
- 130,000 Cu. M is abstracted annually
- Access to water: 98%



Hydrographic map of Guyana

Water Policy Supranational

1. Collaboration at the level of Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organisation (ACTO) where Guyana has a representative
2. On going initiative to develop a common approach to trans boundary water resources within the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean region (ECLAC) with support from UNECE- June 2013
3. Cartagena Convention for the protection of the Wider Caribbean Region from land based pollutants of water resources- June 2010
4. International convention on the pollution of Water from ships (MARPOL) - 1997



Water Policy -National

The major principles of the legal texts on water management

- The Water and Sewerage act (2002) is the main governing legislation for the use and regulation of all our water resources. It deals initially with the establishment of a National Water Council, a National Water Policy and the content of the National Water Policy. It also outlines the duties of the Minister and the Council.

This Act further outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Hydrometrological Department, the main custodian of Guyana's water resources.

- Public Utilities Act defines the role of the Public Utilities Commission as the regulator of utilities including water.



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Water Policy - National

- Environmental Protection Act 1996
- The EPA Act 1996 governs the activities of the Environmental Protection Agency with specific emphasis on the protection of Guyana's natural resources and the environment on a whole.
- With respect to water resources, the EPA Act makes reference to the completion of Environmental Impact Assessments "Every environmental impact assessment shall be carried out by an independent and suitably qualified person approved by the Agency

Water Policy - National

East Demerara Conservancy Act (1935 revised in 1988)

- This Act (1935 and revised in 1998) established the East Demerara Water Conservancy for the purpose of making better provision for the supply of water in East Demerara.
- It also allows for the provision for the management of the conservancy and purposes connected to it.

Water Policy - National

- The Mining Amendment Act (2005)
- The Mining Amendment Act (2005) was established in response to the growing number of environmental defaulters who contribute to contamination of rivers, creeks and other waterways affecting various life-forms.
- These laws encompass mercury use, mine reclamation, mine effluents, contingency planning, mine waste and tailings management.
- The statutes set out by the legislation include compliance with a number of practices, failure of which may result in penalties. There are also 4 additional acts that make reference to water resources.

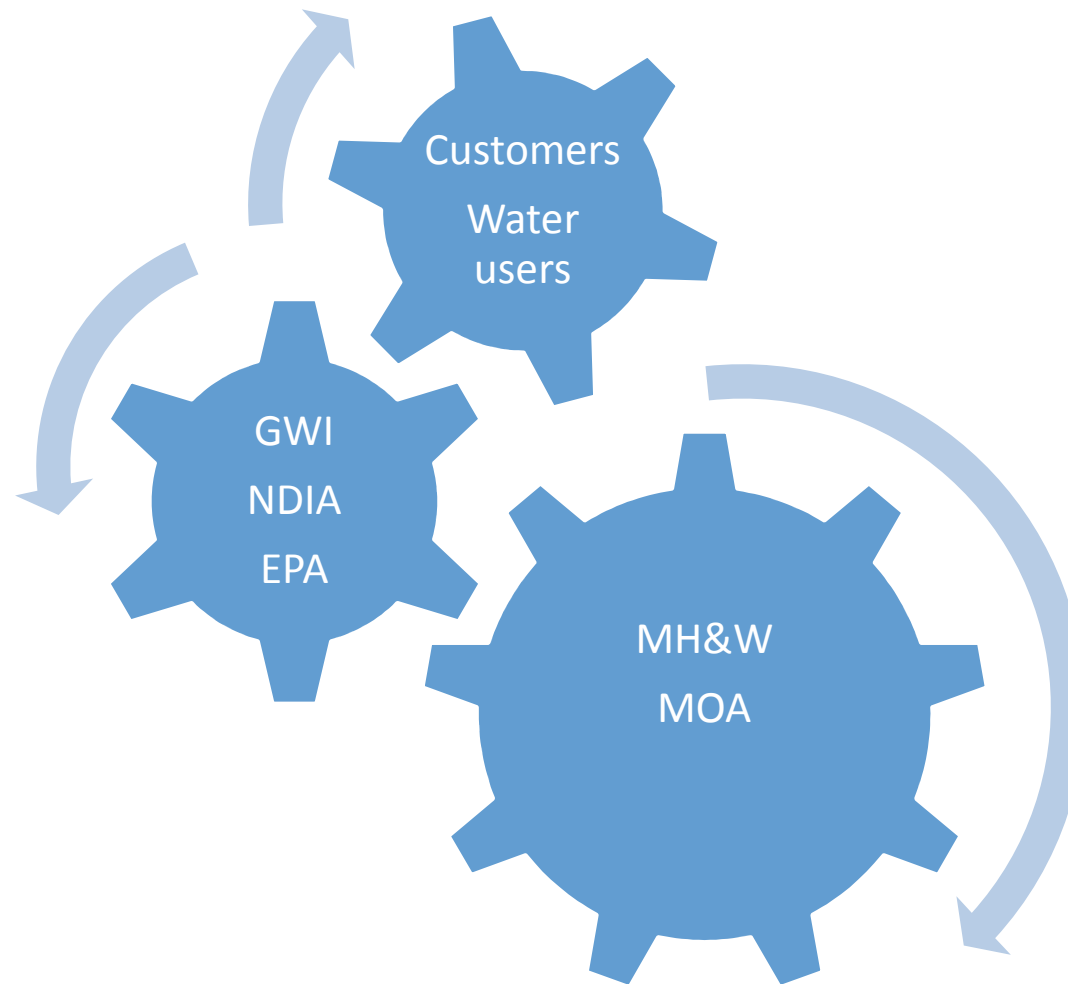
Water Policy -National Related acts

- Indigenous Peoples Act
- Drainage and Irrigation Act
- Sea Defense Act
- Central Housing and Planning Authority Act

There is also the National Integrated Water Resources Management Policy that has been drafted for the coordination of our water resources and to specify the role of the many development partners within the country.

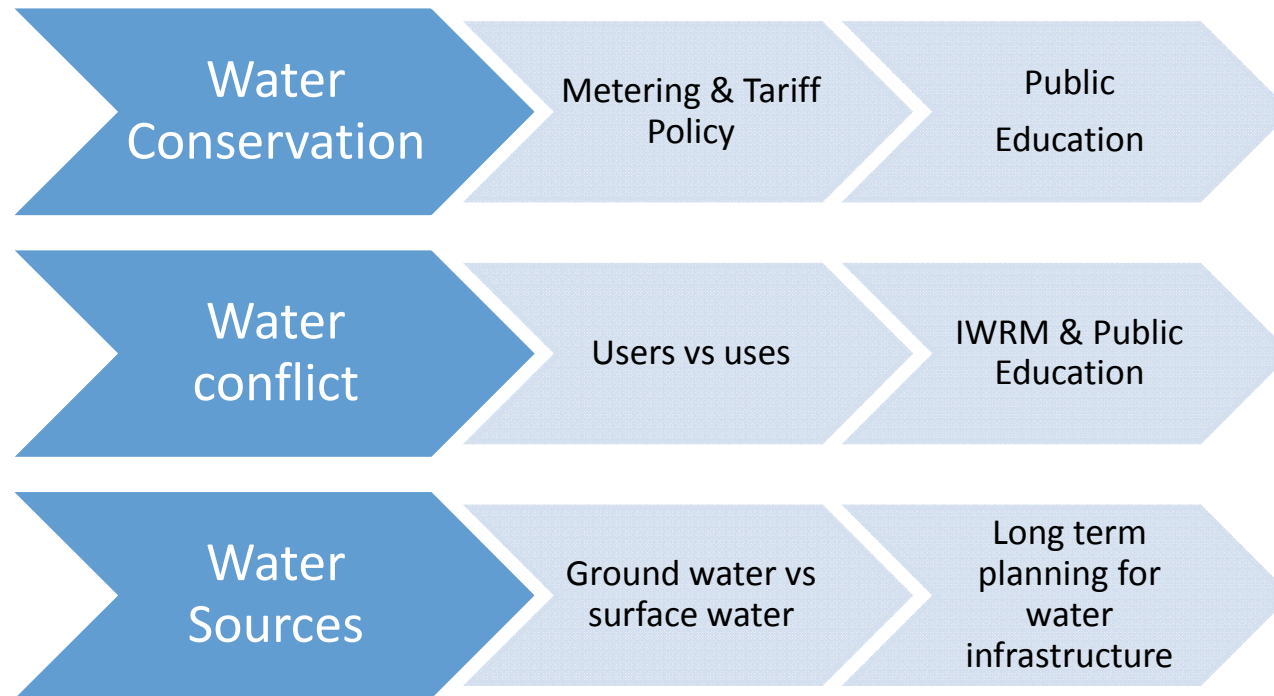
Actors of Water Management

| Actor | Governance | Focus |
|--|------------------|--|
| Ministry of Housing and Water | State | Policy formulation |
| Ministry of Agriculture | State | Allocation of permits |
| Environmental Protection Agency | Regulatory | Review of EIA, protection of natural resources |
| Guyana Water Inc | Water operator | Delivery of potable water services and collection of waste water in Georgetown |
| National Drainage and Irrigation Authority | Water operator | Management of surface water storage and drainage |
| Water Users (agricultural) | Community based | Water for rice and sugar plantations |
| Water users (GWI customers) | Service contract | Water for domestic, commercial and industrial use |

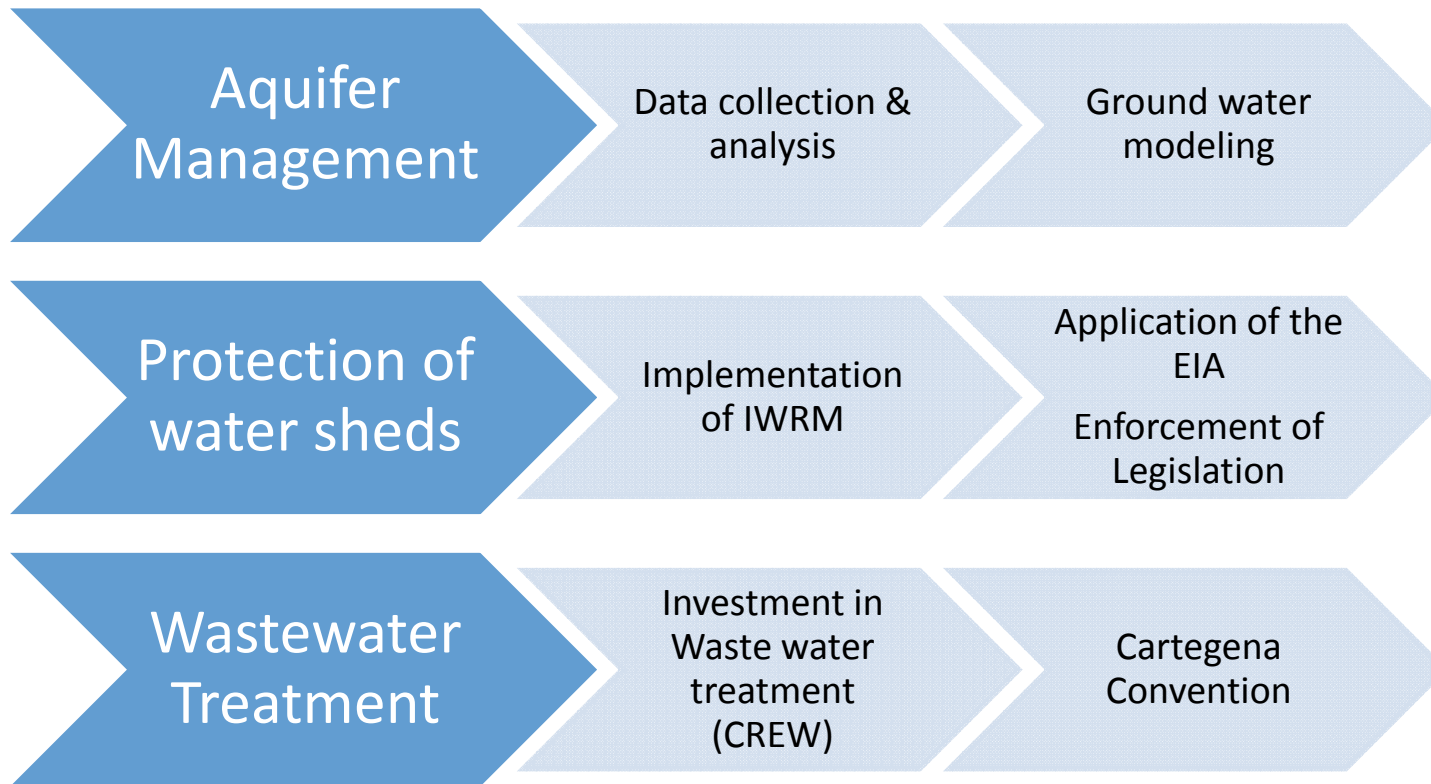


Relationship of key stake holders in water management

Water Issues and Management Tools



Water Issues and Management Tools



Interests for international cooperation on water

1. Aquifer studies for the trans boundary aquifers and consideration of Artificial aquifer recharge from fresh water sources
2. Control of water pollution from mining activity in the Guiana shield
3. Information sharing on water resource use, management, protection and economic development experiences
4. Lobby of Political support through UNASUR and ECLAC



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Interests for international cooperation on water

- The consideration of the convention on the protection and use of trans boundary water resources and international lakes which is now open to all UN member states.



Acknowledgement

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Thank you for
your attention !



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