

## Improve infrastructure and capacity for monitoring and community development within Iwokrama Forest

### Type of priority area

Key Biodiversity Area

Terrestrial Protected Area

Key Landscape for Conservation

### Primary objective

Management Effectiveness

Governance

Livelihoods

### Target groups

Indigenous People

Youth

Women

### Main activity focus

Enforcement

Awareness/Education

Protected Area Management Effectiveness

Capacity Building

 **Duration**  
12.01.2021 – 11.30.2022

 **Type of grant & budget**  
Small Technical Grant | 98,636.64 €

 **Location**  
Guyana, Caribbean

 **Protected & Conserved Areas**  
Iwokrama Forest, Region 8

 **WDPA ID**  
116298

 **BIOPAMA RRIS Link**  
<https://rris.biopama.org/oa/116298>

**Project Lead**  
Iwokrama International Centre for Rain Forest Conservation and Development

**Project Partners**  
N/A

### Description of the project :

This project will seek to enhance the management and governance of priority protected areas by addressing existing limitations through the improvement of key infrastructures within Iwokrama Forest including rehabilitating the two Ranger Stations. It will also focus on strengthening monitoring and enforcement in Iwokrama by equipping the Iwokrama monitoring unit with relevant tools such as a boat and engine, and personal protective equipment including life jackets, and other supplementary equipment such as spot-lights and binoculars to help monitor illegal activities within Iwokrama and its surrounding borders. Additionally the project will also improve capacity between Iwokrama and Fair View by including village members or representatives in monitoring activities and support local communities' initiatives aiming to enhance the livelihoods of local people whilst effectively contributing to protected areas management. Finally, it will support Fair View and North Rupununi District Development Board (NRDDB) wildlife clubs by purchasing equipment e.g. bird field guides, binoculars, posters and other educational media along with youth engagement activities and provide support to Fair View villagers in implementing projects involving sustainable use of resources such as business development.





#### Diagnostic Tools Used

Tools include:

- Iwokrama Monitoring Protocols and reports
- Iwokrama Management Plans
- Iwokrama certification reports



#### The BIOPAMA Action Component Objectives Addressed

- Enhance the management and governance of priority protected areas by addressing existing limitations;
- Enforce the legal framework required to achieve effective biodiversity conservation in PAs;
- Support local communities' initiatives aiming to enhance the livelihoods of local people whilst effectively contributing to protected areas management.



#### Priority Need Addressed

This project will strengthen Iwokrama's monitoring and enforcement capacity while supporting community livelihoods through business development training. Additionally, the project will focus on enhancing community youth capacity through educational activities and equipment support as well as increasing awareness of natural resource legislation for relevant agencies and North Rupununi communities.



#### The change the project implementation will bring for the protected areas

Iwokrama aims to improve key infrastructures (Ranger Stations 1 and 2) that serve as barriers to the two main access points in Iwokrama. These two Ranger Stations are strategically located on the northern and southern borders of a 72km road corridor found within the Iwokrama Forest. The project aims to enhance monitoring efforts within Iwokrama, and especially increase monitoring patrols along the rivers where the most prominent illegal activities (illegal mining and hunting) occur. Iwokrama also aims to support Fair View in monitoring their village lands and natural resources through collaborative monitoring efforts. A representative from the village will accompany rangers during monitoring patrols to improve capacity between Iwokrama and Fair View Village.

Iwokrama's goal is to support Fair View village in their projects and initiatives by providing the villagers with necessary skills in business development planning. Ultimately, we hope that that Fair View Village is able to implement community projects with the skill and knowledge to further develop their community. Fair View youth capacity will also be increased with activities and equipment support.

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BIOPAMA assists the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries to address their priorities for improved management and governance of biodiversity and natural resources. BIOPAMA provides a variety of tools, services and funding to conservation actors in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. The BIOPAMA grant-making facility is managed by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and supports projects on the ground to strengthen the management and governance of protected and conserved areas, with a total budget of 21 million Euros.