

MANAGE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FISHING INDUSTRY **IN GUYANA**



Fishing domestically and internationally is important to the economy of our country. It is a source of income for thousands of people. It is vitally important for the health and well being of our people and for people around the world. It is also a major source of job creation. A major focus of the United Republican Party is the development of Guyana's economy, and we believe that is vital to improve, expand and cultivate the fishing industry to sustain development.

Our objectives are as follows:

1. The formation of Co-op and Fishermen Organizations so that everyone is represented. It is very important for every region to have a Co-op or organization that best suits the needs of the fishermen in that area. That is the only way to ensure that everyone's voice is heard. This also helps us serve and understand what problems they are facing and how to resolve them. Each Co-op or organization must also include one member from every landing sites in that Region.
2. We also must ensure that every Fishing Vessel is licensed correctly to avoid and stop illegal fishing practices. We need every fishing vessel to be licensed correctly according to the Gare type

and each license must state the Gare type. We recommend that a picture is taken every year of the vessel for identification purposes in case they encounter any problems. This enables the Coast Guard to identify it easily. Actions will be put into place to dock and charge unlicensed vessels since it's the law of the country and to meet international requirements.

3. We strongly recommend Data Collection to understand what we have in order to protect and maintain a healthy stock for the future. Data Collection is very important because it shows how much of our resources have decreased. It helps us to better understand which species are at risk the most. This will also show us what species needs marketing, and it will enable us to understand what percentage is used domestically and internationally.

4. Creating strict Law Enforcement Practices to reduce and stop piracy. We need more Coast Guard Base on the water and regular Water Patrols in order to reduce and capture pirates. We need to implement the rotation of Coast Guards since fishermen claim that they are involved in some pirates acts and are friends with some pirates. The URP will enforce strict laws and guidelines and those who are caught in these types of piracy act will be severely punished to the fullest extent of the law.

5. The Development of Landing Sites and Facilities for Fishermen. We need to identify major Landing Sites and see what needs to be done to ensure they function properly and at the same time bring back vessels to major parts. Return facilities to the new Co-op and Organizations and monitor to ensure they are doing what they must do.

6. Educating and Putting Measures in place in order to meet International Requirements. Through Co-ops and Organizations, we will educate the Fishermen on International Requirements like the use of VMS and other equipment. Fishermen will also be educated by WWF Workshops, CIDA and other organizations.

7. Create and Enforce a plan to regulate issues between different Gare types and sectors. This area is designed to bring Fishermen together to discuss and agree on what will benefit everyone. In this way, any issues that they may have, will allow them to bring it to a satisfactory conclusion.

8. Identify and Protect major nesting grounds of the different species all over Guyana. We will be able to identify where the young fish are and what time of the year they come the most to spawn through Data Collection. This will help us in finding and protecting breeding grounds for the future of the industry.

9. Chemical Testing on rivers to show level of pollution. It's very important to test the waters flowing out the rivers, since we have a lot of mining activities in our country that uses a lot of chemicals. This is very important in protecting the fish and to avoid manmade disasters. Testing will show if we need to put regulations in place to reduce the amount of chemicals used or to start using less toxic chemicals.