The Centre for Local Business Development is Guyana's leading source for oil and gas business and industry information, policy advocacy, and professional networking. Since 2017, the Centre has been meeting the growing demands of Guyanese businesses by offering training, mentoring for growth, and networking opportunities.

## **O&G Guyana**



The first quarter of 2022 was notable for its offshore activity in Guyana. ExxonMobil Guyana received approval for its Yellowtail Project from the EPA. SBM Offshore was contracted to provide, "Yellowtail One Guyana", the FPSO vessel that will be utilised for the project expected to begin in 2025.

One Guyana's vessel specifications are said to be the same as her sister vessels, Liza Unity and Liza Prosperity, with storage capacity of two million b.o.e and production capacity of 220,000 b.o.e of oil per day. With rising pressure on the oil and gas supply chain, global markets should welcome the potential expansion of oil production in Guyana.

CGX, Repsol and Tullow, operators of other offshore blocks, have also announced drilling campaigns for 2022. CGX hit high-quality crude in their Kawa-1 well in the Corentyne Block, however, it has subsequently plugged the well. CGX instead intends to focus on further exploration of the Corentyne Block citing the Wei Wei-1 well for drilling in the latter half of the year. Repsol also intends to spud the Beebei-Potaro well in Kanuku Block around the same time and has identified Noble Drilling for exploratory drilling services.

With an uptake in economic activity in Guyana, interest in Guyana's Gas to Energy project continues to grow. The Gas to Energy project will make use of a 135-mile pipeline that will utilise gas from the Liza-1 and Liza-2 wells to sustain an electricity powerplant established in Wales on the West Coast of the Demerara.

# Safety as a Culture



There has been a clear shift in the safety culture with the emergence of the oil and gas sector in Guyana. ExxonMobil Guyana continues to lead this positive change with its commitment to safe operations and ensuring the health and safety of its employees and contractors.

April was Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) month with various activities led by the Ministry of Labour as it seeks to promote safety awareness throughout the month under the theme, "Act together to build a positive safety and health culture".

OSH month began with a mini exhibition on April 1 at the Ministry's Brickdam Office where government agencies and several private companies including ExxonMobil Guyana participated. Company representatives engaged with the public to build awareness on the importance of safety in the oil and gas sector.

More than 70 employees brought their "A Game" to the OSH Walk on April 3 which started at Brickdam and ended at the Square of the Revolution. Joining the team on the walk was Exxon Mobil Guyana President Alistair Routledge who advocates for the company's participation in public events to promote and share its strong safety culture with wider groups.

"Safety as a culture goes beyond our ability to implement policies. It requires deliberate actions to put those policies into practice, not only at work but in every aspect of our lives," Routledge encouraged.



### **UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES**

 2022 Tender List posted on the Supplier Registration Portal

#### **UPCOMING TRAININGS**

- Introduction to the Offshore Oil & Gas Industry
- Health, Safety, Security & Environment (HSSE)
- The Procurement Process

### **VISIT US**

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## The Centre @ the Energy Conference



The Centre participated in the first International Energy Conference and Exhibition held in Guyana on February 15-18, 2022.

The Energy Conference provided an opportunity for local and international companies to network and and showcase their work across the Guyanese energy sector. The event was highlighted by a combination of presentations, key panel discussions and an exhibition where individuals interacted with businesses serving the local oil and gas sector.

The Centre's Director and QHSSE Manager both participated in panel discussions during the conference. Centre Director Dr. Natasha Gaskin-Peters addressed the conference on, "The Skills Needed for the Progress of the Energy Industry in Guyana" while QHSSE Manager Lavonia Springer gave a presentation on, "Building an HSSE Culture in Guyana: International Standards and Regulations".

These sessions were timely as the development of Guyana's oil and gas (O&G) sector continues to expand. Through the panel discussions, the business audience, particularly local companies, was able to gain a better sense of how to prepare and equip their businesses to enter into and succeed in the O&G sector. Both panels included industry experts from the sector's prime contractors, local businesses, as well as government officials.

The Centre also exhibited at the event, providing an information booth where the business community and broader public were able to learn more about the Centre's diverse services and products including capacity building, business linkages, mentorship, and outreach.

# **Speaking to Economic Diversity**



On March 7-9, the Centre organised its first in-person Join the Conversation (JTC) Speaker Series since the COVID-19 pandemic hosting Dr. Zainab Usman from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Dr. Usman provided her perspectives to the Guyanese business community on the importance of economic diversification based on her latest discussion paper, Beyond Revenue Management: Principles for an Oil-Led Development Strategy in the 21st Century.

JTC provides a platform for distinguished international energy experts to offer their unique perspectives on the global oil and gas industry and its development in Guyana.

During her visit, Dr. Usman engaged with leading representatives from the business community, students from the University of Guyana, and members of government and the diplomatic corp. She has built a career on understanding and mapping the importance of economic diversification in resource rich economies, and shared her research and thoughts on how Guyana can diversify and grow during these robust economic times.

Dr. Zainab Usman is the Director of the Africa Programme at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, D.C. She is an expert on institutions, economic policy, energy policy, and emerging economies in Africa and similar economies. She was recently published in the New York Times on "How African Countries Can Overcome the Resource Curse" which has received widespread global interest among policymakers and energy experts.



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