Briefing session for Business Support Organisations in Guyana and Suriname

Friday, 10 July 2026

FORESTRY BUSINESS MISSION TO EUROPE (Antwerp, Belgium & selected EU Member States - November 2026)

Purpose of today's session

We are launching the Call for Expressions of Interest on Monday, 13 July. Your organisations are the trusted channel through which the companies should apply. Today’s meeting aims to align on the process, the timeline, and the support we need from your organisation.

10:00–10:05	Welcome and opening remarks/ The Global Gateway Investment Agenda — European Union Delegation
10:05–10:15	The Forestry Business Mission: objectives and value
10:15–10:25	Launch of the Call for EoI: eligibility, application, key dates
10:25–10:35	Selection approach of the companies and evaluation criteria
10:35–10:45	The role of BSOs: dissemination and outreach framework
10:45–10:55	Discussion and Q&A
10:55–11:00	Agreed next steps and closing

By the end of this meeting

- A shared understanding of the mission and the EoI process
- One or two focal points confirmed per organisation
- Agreement on dissemination channels and outreach to member companies
- Commitment to mobilise candidates for the 20 July information session

Why this mission, and why now

Under the Global Gateway Investment Agenda for Guyana and Suriname, the EU is advancing targeted initiatives to contribute to diversified, sustainable economies, aligned with both countries' priorities for inclusive development. The Forestry Business Mission is the first flagship commercial activity of the Technical Assistance Facility.

1

Export diversification

Open structured access to European buyers for timber and value-added wood products, beyond traditional markets.

2

Local value addition

Position semi-finished and finished wood products — not only logs and sawn timber — with qualified EU counterparts.

3

Private investment

Connect companies with investors, equipment suppliers and joint-venture partners in sustainable forestry value chains.

A structured, three-tier commercial approach: deal-ready opportunities • strategic partnerships • market-expansion networking.

1–7 NOVEMBER 2026 — ANTWERP, BELGIUM & SELECTED EU MEMBER STATES

The mission at a glance

5 + 5
companies selected — five from Guyana, five from Suriname

7 days
of B2G (Business to Government) dialogue, tailored B2B matchmaking and study visits

100%
of essential participation costs sponsored by the European Union

IHC
anchored around the International Hardwood Conference, Antwerp, Belgium

EU sponsorship covers round-trip economy flights, intra-EU transport, travel insurance, Schengen visa fees, and accommodation with per diems for up to seven nights.

A STRUCTURED WEEK IN EUROPE

Mission programme

Nov 1–2

Brussels (tbc)

Arrival, mission briefing, official launch and Business-to-Government (B2G) meetings.

Nov 3–4

Selected EU Member States

Tailored one-on-one business visits with qualified buyers, investors and strategic partners.

Nov 5

Antwerp

Technical study visit to the Port of Antwerp; EU–Guyana–Suriname Forestry Investment & Buyer Forum with company pitch sessions and a B2B matchmaking dealroom.

Nov 6

Antwerp

Full participation in the International Hardwood Conference: market trends, sustainability, EU regulatory frameworks.

Nov 7

—

Wrap-up and return travel.

A FULLY SUPPORTED PACKAGE

What selected companies receive

1 EU-sponsored participation

Round-trip economy flights, intra-EU transport, travel insurance, Schengen visa fees, accommodation under per diems for up to seven nights.

2 Pre-departure business coaching

A specialised service provider will prepare **Guyanese** companies through targeted coaching, refined company profiles, pitch decks, and product materials aligned with EU market requirements.

3 Curated matchmaking

One-on-one meetings with qualified buyers, importers, distributors, investors, machinery and technology suppliers, and joint-venture partners — prepared in advance around each company's profile.

4 Market and regulatory intelligence

Direct exposure to EU market trends, sustainability expectations and regulatory frameworks at the International Hardwood Conference.

Who should apply

We are looking for established, export-ready enterprises operating in timber supply chains — from primary processing to value-added wood products.

- ✓ Legally registered company, actively operating in the forestry or wood-processing sector in Guyana or Suriname.
- ✓ Full compliance with applicable national forestry legislation and regulations.
- ✓ No outstanding major environmental or legal compliance issues.
- ✓ Guyanese applicants: formal commitment to the mandatory investor and buyer matchmaking coaching facility.
- ✓ The proposed participant must be a senior decision-maker — Owner, CEO or Commercial Director — with authority to negotiate.

Supporting documents

Business registration, forestry permits or concession licences, tax compliance, certifications (e.g. FSC, PEFC, ISO), environmental clearances, proof of export history, product catalogues, recent financials, and the delegate's credentials.

TWO WEEKS — A TIGHT WINDOW

The EoI process and key dates

GLOBAL GATEWAY INVESTMENT AGENDA
Guyana & Suriname

1 13 July

Call opens

EoI disseminated through EUD channels and your organisations.

2 20 July

Online information session

11:00 Suriname / 10:00 Guyana (English). Guidance on objectives, evaluation and application. Registration link in the Call.

3 24 July

Submission deadline (COB)

Completed EoI form + supporting documents, by email or online form — or relayed through your organisation.

4 Late July

Evaluation & notification

Technical evaluation by the GGIA TA team, the EU Delegation and EU member States; selected companies notified by early August and onboarding begins (indicative).

Only 11 calendar days to apply. Early dissemination and direct outreach by your organisations in week one will determine the quality of the applicant pool.

TRANSPARENT, CRITERIA-BASED, CONFIDENTIAL

Selection approach

Applications will be assessed against a technical evaluation matrix by the GGIA Technical Assistance team, together with the EU Delegation. All company information is treated confidentially, in strict alignment with the European data-privacy framework, and used solely for the purpose of this business mission.

Sector relevance & product-market fit

Products, species and value-addition levels matched against European buyer demand.

Export & investment readiness

Production capacity, export track record, financial maturity, and a credible growth strategy.

Legality & sustainability

Compliance with national forestry legislation; certifications or robust legality and traceability frameworks; ESG commitment.

Commitment & seniority

A senior decision-maker as delegate; for Guyana, commitment to the mandatory coaching facility.

Indicative evaluation dimensions — full criteria will be communicated with the Call and at the 20 July information session.

YOUR ROLE IN MAKING THIS MISSION A SUCCESS

What we expect from your organisation

Global Gateway

#GlobalGateway

GLOBAL GATEWAY INVESTMENT AGENDA

Guyana & Suriname

1 Disseminate the Call

Circulate the EoI to your membership and commercial networks within 48 hours starting July 13th — newsletters, mailing lists, WhatsApp groups, social media.

2 Reach out directly

Identify and personally contact your most promising, export-ready timber and wood-processing members and encourage them to apply.

3 Mobilise for 20 July Info-session

Promote the online information session and help prospective applicants register and attend.

4 Serve as a relay

Receive and forward EoIs from members who prefer to submit through your organisation; assist with questions on the form.

5 Name a focal point

Confirm one or two contact persons to coordinate with the EU Delegation and the GGIA TA team throughout the process.

Guyana: GO-Invest, PSC, GCCI, GMSA, ECCG

Suriname: SITA, KKF, VSB, ASFA, AKMOS, SGCC

EOI online HERE https://forms.gle/7SJKasSwJwFSpbAG9

A PARTNERSHIP, NOT A ONE-OFF REQUEST

What your organisation gains

Global Gateway
#GlobalGateway
GLOBAL GATEWAY INVESTMENT AGENDA
Guyana & Suriname

Visibility as an official channel	Your organisation is named in the Call as a submission and information channel, positioning you at the centre of an European Union flagship initiative.
Concrete value for your members	A sponsored, senior-level European market-access opportunity you can offer directly to your membership.
A seat in the GGIA process	This mission inaugurates a two-year pipeline of GGIA business missions to Europe, study tours and investment events across priority sectors — with BSOs as standing partners.
Stronger EU relationships	Regular coordination with the EU Delegation and the GGIA technical assistance team, including periodic meetings and shared market intelligence.

Next steps

Today	Confirm your organisation's focal point(s) for the mission.
Mon 13 July	Call for EoI opens — dissemination begins through all channels.
By 17 July	Direct outreach to priority member companies completed.
Mon 20 July	Online information session — 10:00 Guyana / 11:00 Suriname.
Fri 24 July	Submission deadline.

Contact & submissions

Global Gateway Investment Agenda Technical Assistance team:
Simona Obreja: obrejas@yahoo.com
Yacine Khelladi: yacine@yacine.net

EoI submissions: by email, via the online form, or through your local organisation.

July 20th Information session registration: link provided in the Call.

Thank you — we look forward to working with you.

Global Gateway
#GlobalGateway
GLOBAL GATEWAY INVESTMENT AGENDA
Guyana & Suriname