

GYEITI Strengthens National Dialogue at Guyana Festival 2026

Collaborative engagement at Booth #3 deepens public understanding of transparency, accountability, and extractive sector governance across Guyana.

The Guyana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (GYEITI) delivered a strong and vibrant presence at Guyana Festival 2026, hosted at the Guyana National Stadium, Providence from May 15–17. The festival is among activities for Guyana's 60th Anniversary Celebration. It provides a valuable opportunity to contribute to the national observance by promoting transparency, accountability, and public awareness within the extractive sector. The extractive sector over the three-decades has contributed positively towards Guyana's economic and social development.

Over the three-day event, GYEITI carried out a series of impactful public engagement, education, and outreach activities at Booth #3. The festival brought together citizens from across Guyana, creating a dynamic space for learning, dialogue, and interaction around the country's extractive industries and the importance of transparent natural resource governance.



Engaging Citizens Across Guyana

The GYEITI booth welcomed visitors from diverse backgrounds, including academics, students, parents, children, researchers, investors, professionals, and members of the wider public. Visitors received clear and accessible information on transparency in the extractive sector, public accountability, and Guyana's participation in the global EITI Standard. Participants explored GYEITI publications, scanned QR codes linking to the GYEITI website and Facebook page and engaged in meaningful discussions with Secretariat staff and MSG representatives on issues relating to transparency, governance, and the extractive industries.

This surge in public interest also translated into increased digital engagement, with the GYEITI Facebook page gaining over 50 new followers during the three-day event. Additionally, several festival-related Facebook posts generated significant online interaction, with some posts reaching

as many as 700 views within a five-day period, reflecting growing national interest in extractive governance, transparency, and the work of GYEITI.



A Festival Highlight: The GYEITI Mascot

One of the most memorable features of the booth was the **GYEITI Mascot**, which quickly became a favourite among children, families, and festival-goers. The mascot helped create a welcoming and interactive environment, encouraging visitors to take photos, ask questions, and collect educational materials.



Informative Materials Shared with the Public

GYEITI distributed a wide range of publications designed to strengthen public understanding of Guyana's extractive industries, including:

- **GYEITI Fiscal Year 2023 Report**
- **Data Dissemination Bulletins FY 2022 vs FY 2023**
- **GYEITI Newsletters**
- **Brochures on:**
 - **Gender and Extractive Governance**
 - **Understanding EITI**
 - **Building Transparency in Natural Resources**

The **Data Dissemination Bulletin** and **FY 2023 Report** drew particularly strong interest, with many visitors noting their value for **research, school assignments, and general public awareness.**



Questions That Matter: What the Public Wanted to Know

Visitors engaged in thoughtful discussions and raised important questions about:

- **The role and membership of the Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG)**
- **How decisions are made within GYEITI**
- **Opportunities within the extractive sector**
- **Accessing GYEITI reports and publications**
- **Ways to participate in public engagement activities**

These conversations reflect a growing national interest in **good governance, transparency, and accountability** as Guyana's extractive industries continue to expand.



Collaboration at the Heart of GYEITI's Work

GYEITI's Guyana festival participation was guided by the **Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG)** and executed by the **GYEITI Secretariat**, showcasing Guyana's collaborative governance model.

MSG members on the ground included:

- **Mr. Balraj Budwah** – Civil Society Representative
- **Miss Sonya Roopnauth** – Government Representative

(Seen in the photo below with the GYEITI Mascot- second photo right)

Together with Secretariat staff, they engaged visitors, answered questions, and explained how GYEITI works to ensure transparency and accountability in the extractive sector.

Visitors also called for expanded outreach to schools, universities, and technical institutions, including the **Government Technical Institute (GTI)**, to help young Guyanese understand the extractive sector and the value of transparency.



A Thank You to the Public

GYEITI extends sincere appreciation to everyone who visited **Booth #3**, interacted with staff, collected materials, and supported our mission. Your engagement, both in person and online, strengthens national dialogue and reinforces the importance of **openness, informed public participation, and accountability** in Guyana's extractive sector.

To stay connected and explore more of our work, **check out more by visiting our Facebook page at [EITI Guyana](https://www.facebook.com/EITIGUYANA).**

Contact Details

📍 42 Brickdam and United Nations Place, Stabroek, Georgetown.

☎ (592) 231-1252 🌐 <https://eiti.gy/> ✉ gyeiti@nre.gov.gy

📘 www.facebook.com/EITIGUYANA

