

GYEITI Engages Toshaos on Transparency and Accountability at NTC Executive Meeting 2026



The Guyana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (GYEITI) Secretariat and Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) were honoured to participate in the National Toshaos Council (NTC) Executive Meeting 2026, delivering a presentation on Day Three of the meeting held on May 21, 2026, at the National Exhibition Centre, Sophia.

The engagement provided an important opportunity for GYEITI to interact directly with Toshaos and Village Leaders, who serve as the elected leaders of Indigenous villages and communities across Guyana. More than ten (10) Toshaos representing several regions participated in the session, contributing valuable perspectives on transparency, accountability, and natural resource governance.

Also participating were two Civil Society representatives on the GYEITI Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG), Mr. Derrick John and Mr. Shane Cornelius, both of whom are Toshaos. Mr. John serves as Chairperson of the National Toshaos Council (NTC), while Mr. Cornelius serves as Secretary of the NTC. The NTC is the national representative body of Guyana's Indigenous village leaders, bringing together Toshaos from communities across the country to discuss issues affecting their communities and advocate on matters of national importance. NTC Executive Meetings are held twice per year and provide an important forum for village leaders to discuss emerging issues, share experiences, and coordinate positions on matters affecting Indigenous communities. Their participation provided valuable insights into Indigenous perspectives on transparency, accountability, and the management of Guyana's natural resources.

During the presentation, the Secretariat provided an overview of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), including its global origins, objectives, and Guyana's journey as an implementing country. Participants were also updated on preparations for Guyana's second EITI Validation and the outcomes of the first EITI Validation, which was conducted in 2021. The presentation highlighted the important role that civil society plays in the EITI process and emphasized the value of transparency and accountability in the management of natural resources. It also explored how access to reliable information on the extractive sector can help Indigenous leaders better understand developments affecting their communities and engage more effectively in discussions on natural resource governance.

During the engagement, the Secretariat also distributed a range of GYEITI dissemination materials, including brochures, newsletters, and the GYEITI Data Dissemination Bulletin for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023. These resources provided participants with accessible information on Guyana's extractive sector and key findings from GYEITI reporting. Toshias were encouraged to share these materials with the villages and communities they represent, helping to broaden awareness of transparency and accountability issues beyond the meeting itself. Participants were also encouraged to visit the [GYEITI website](#) and follow the [GYEITI Facebook page](#) to access reports, educational resources, newsletters, and updates on GYEITI activities and developments within Guyana's extractive sector.

The session generated meaningful and productive discussions, with Toshias and leaders actively raising questions and sharing perspectives on issues affecting Indigenous communities and extractive sector activities occurring in and around their villages. Participants discussed concerns relating to transparency, community participation, and accountability in the management of Guyana's extractive resources. The Secretariat encouraged Toshias to continue raising issues through established leadership structures and to ensure that concerns are appropriately documented and supported by relevant information where necessary.

The engagement reinforced the importance of collaboration among Indigenous communities, civil society, government, and industry stakeholders in advancing transparency and responsible natural resource governance. Discussions also highlighted the value of ensuring that Indigenous voices remain an integral part of national conversations on the management of Guyana's natural resources and the benefits derived from the extractive sector.



Special Thanks

The GYEITI Secretariat extends special thanks to Mr. Derrick John, Chairperson of the National Toshias Council (NTC), and Mr. Shane Cornelius, Secretary of the NTC, for their support in coordinating and facilitating GYEITI's participation in the 2026 NTC Executive Meeting. The Secretariat further expresses its appreciation to all participating Toshias and Village Leaders for their active engagement, valuable contributions, and commitment to promoting transparency, accountability,

and informed dialogue on the management of Guyana's natural resources. Their participation was instrumental in making the session both meaningful and productive.

About GYEITI

The Guyana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (GYEITI) promotes the open and accountable management of Guyana's natural resources through public reporting, stakeholder engagement, and implementation of the EITI Standard.

Contact Information



42 Brickdam and United Nations Place, Stabroek, Georgetown, Guyana

Telephone: (592) 231-1252

Email: gyeiti@nre.gov.gy

Website: <https://eiti.gy/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EITIGUYANA

