



SEOGS
Suriname Energy, Oil and
Gas Summit



SURINAME-GUYANA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The background of the entire page is a photograph of an industrial refinery or petrochemical plant. Several tall, cylindrical distillation columns are visible, some with ladders and platforms. The scene is illuminated by the warm, orange and yellow light of a sunset or sunrise, with a cloudy sky in the background. The foreground shows a complex network of pipes, valves, and structural steel, with some areas lit by artificial lights.

**SEOGS CHRONICLE: STRENGTHENING
TIES, SPARKING VENTURES BETWEEN
SURINAME AND GUYANA**

POST-MISSION MESSAGE FROM DR. VISHNU DOERGA, CHAIR OF THE SGCC



Dr. Vishnu Doerga, Chair SGCC

I am pleased to share the successful completion of the Suriname Guyana Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) trade mission and our significant participation in the Suriname Energy, Oil, and Gas Summit (SEOGS) 2024. This mission has solidified our commitment to fostering stronger economic ties between Guyana and Suriname.

Throughout this mission, we engaged in high-level discussions with President Chandrikapersad Santokhi and key government officials, focusing on the free movement of goods and services and the progress of the Corentyne Bridge. Our presence at SEOGS, featuring eight prominent companies, attracted substantial interest, leading to numerous qualified leads and promising investment opportunities.

A notable highlight was the signing of multiple Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), including a crucial agreement between GO-Invest and the Suriname Investment & Trade Agency (SITA), as well as an MOU between SGCC and the Curaçao Investment and Export Promotion Agency Foundation (CINEX). These agreements mark a significant step towards enhanced regional cooperation.

The "Guyana in Focus" seminar provided valuable insights into the investment opportunities within Guyana, emphasizing sectors like agriculture, manufacturing, and renewable energy. Our business-to-business meetings facilitated over 50 engagements, resulting in the signing of FDAs and potential joint ventures.

As we look ahead, the SGCC remains steadfast in our mission to improve economic relationships between our nations. We are already planning our very own conference, the International Business Conference (IBC), scheduled for October 15th-17th in Guyana. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all participants and contributors for their dedication and effort in making this mission a resounding success. Together, we will continue to build a brighter future for businesses in Suriname and Guyana.

PRESIDENT SANTOKHI ENGAGED WITH SGCC DIRECTORS



On June 3, 2024, President Chandrikapersad Santokhi met with the board of directors of the Suriname-Guyana Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) to discuss enhancing cooperation and trade between Surinamese and Guyanese businesses. Key topics included the free movement of goods and services and the progress of the Corentyne Bridge construction, both vital for improving bilateral trade and economic growth. The meeting, which included Ambassador Liselle Blankendal and SGCC Chairman Dr. Vishnu Doerga, emphasized the SGCC's role in attracting investors and strengthening investment ties between the two nations.



SGCC HOSTED ITS INAUGURAL TRADE MISSION “GUYANA TO SURINAME” EDITION



The SGCC pavilion at SEOGS showcased its members, who represented a multitude of sectors including, finance, logistics, construction, oil and gas, and retail. This pavilion became a hub for business interactions, generating substantial interest and investment opportunities.



SGCC LED SUCCESSFUL TRADE MISSION;SEOGS



The "Guyana in Focus" seminar featured presentations from SGCC's leadership and Guyanese officials. This session highlighted the Chamber's support for businesses and discussed future events like the International Business Conference (IBC) to be held in Guyana October 15th - 17th.

SGCC LED SUCCESSFUL TRADE MISSION;SEOGS



Dr. Peter Ramsaroop, CEO of Go-Invest Guyana, proudly announced substantial progress in bilateral cooperation between Suriname and Guyana. Subsequently, a pivotal MOU was signed between Go-Invest and the Suriname Investment & Trade Agency (SITA), cementing investment ties and enhancing the economic partnership. This agreement is expected to enhance cross-border investments, streamline trade processes, and promote sustainable development in both countries.



Furthermore, an important MOU between the Suriname Guyana Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) and the Curaçao Investment and Export Promotion Agency Foundation (CINEX) was signed, expanding regional trade opportunities. This partnership aims to facilitate increased trade activities, encourage joint ventures, and open new markets for businesses within the region.

SGCC LED SUCCESSFUL TRADE MISSION; SEOGS



The closing phase of the mission prioritized strengthening business ties through various (B2B) meetings, resulting in signed contracts and the potential for joint ventures.



The SGCC also met with the Vereniging Surinaams Bedrijfsleven (VSB) to explore future collaborations and ways to boost private sector development.



The mission culminated in a networking event organized by the SGCC. The mission's achievements were highlighted by the generation of hundreds of promising leads and the establishment of strong connections, paving the way for ongoing expansion and collaboration in the region.

HERE'S WHAT SGCC PAVILION PARTICIPANTS HAD TO SAY!



"The SGCC excelled at SEOGS 2024, securing valuable leads and emphasizing its significance. Meaningful B2B meetings and discussions with stakeholders, including the President, underscored a united mission to address sector challenges. Looking ahead, our priority is to enhance the chamber's structure for improved service to Suriname and Guyana's private sectors."

-Derrick Klaverweide
Vice Chair of the SGCC
Commercial Director,
Optiek Ninon



"We sincerely thank the SGCC for their exceptional organization at SEOGS 2024. Our team was thrilled to introduce Kroon-Oil Suriname and engage with exhibitors, leading to promising leads and meaningful networking. As new members, we look forward to future collaborations and the benefits of membership."

-Arun Bhagwandin
Chief Executive Officer
Kroon-Oil



"Our first-time participation at SEOGS 2024, facilitated by our SGCC membership, was a resounding success. The well-organized event connected us with qualified leads and showcased our credibility. SEOGS fostered collaboration and deeper understanding, making it a highly recommended event for future participation."

-Gaytri Rampersad & Timothy Jones
CEOs
Ardant Solution



"M. Sookhai & Co. extends sincere thanks to SGCC for organizing SEOGS, enhancing our reach in Suriname. The event facilitated crucial networking, showcasing our offerings and forging connections. SGCC's commitment to regional cooperation bolsters our business outlook, and we eagerly anticipate future collaborative opportunities."

Mark Sookhai
Managing Partner
M. Sookhai and Co.

CONNECTING BUSINESSES: VOICES FROM THE SGCC TRADE MISSION PARTICIPANTS

"We thank SGCC for facilitating our participation in SEOGS 2024, offering networking with regional and international firms to enhance Guyana-Suriname business potential. The event provided insights into Suriname's energy sector and fruitful connections with potential clients and partners from the region. We anticipate future collaborations with SGCC and similar initiatives, inspired by the promising cross-border business opportunities."



**-Filisha Duke,
Chief Executive Officer
SureGig Inc.**



"As a member of the SGCC delegation at SEOGS 2024, I found the conference pivotal for engaging with industry experts and exploring energy sector collaborations. Highlighting the event was a potential partnership with a Suriname-based construction firm, aiming to boost regional cooperation and infrastructure development. The insights gained in innovative technologies will support our projects in Guyana's energy sector growth."

**-Delmar Walcott,
Managing Director
Pinnacle Solutions Inc**

"MBW Energy Support Services, as members of SGCC, appreciated the Chamber's support and networking opportunities during the SEOGS event. As first-time visitors and new members, we valued the platform to showcase our business and initiate strategic alliances between Guyana and Suriname. Despite challenges, we commend SGCC's commitment to fostering business development and look forward to future collaborations for mutual economic growth."



**-Ezlyn Washington,
Chief Operations Officer
MBW Energy Support Services**



"CCA Guyana Inc. thanks the SGCC for organizing the B2B meetings held on the sidelines of the SEOGS exhibition. Being a part of the Guyana Delegation significantly boosted insight and expectations of businesses outside of Guyana. The event facilitated invaluable connections with key industry leaders and potential partners. We look forward to future collaborations to strengthen Suriname-Guyana business relations."

**Chris Mohan
General Manager,
CCA Guyana Inc.**

CONNECTING BUSINESSES: VOICES FROM THE SGCC TRADE MISSION PARTICIPANTS



"I was truly impressed with the SGCC's dedication to uncovering new opportunities, led by the CEO and team's commendable commitment to growth. The Chamber's efforts enabled me to explore numerous avenues, greatly enhancing my personal and professional development. I wholeheartedly endorse SGCC for those seeking to expand horizons and achieve success.

-Amrita Sookram
Chief Executive Officer,
Steadfast Logistics

"During June 5th to 7th, the SGCC organized numerous successful B2B meetings for my companies, resulting in valuable connections. I commend the Chamber on this achievement and look forward to more fruitful collaborations. Keep up the excellent work!"

Rogier Mahangi
Owner/ Manager,
Preconsu Construction and Environmental Services
SoE Transport and Rentals



"We were invited by SGCC for B2B meetings during SEOGS 2024. Our company received a warm welcome from our Surinamese counterparts. Interactions with these businesses offered great prospects, and we eagerly anticipate following up to ensure successful partnerships ahead.."

-Klaus Chin
Owner/ Manager
Trail Masters Adventure Tours

"SGCC's B2B meetings proved invaluable, aligning our business goals and identifying potential partnerships across different territories. Meeting diverse individuals with strong Surinamese expertise made this mission highly enriching. We appreciate SGCC's facilitation and look forward to leveraging these connections for growth."

-Kriss Ramsewak,
Business Development Executive
GISCAD Limited



We extend our gratitude to the SGCC for facilitating meetings with Surinamese business owners and representatives experienced in the manufacturing sector. This opportunity provided valuable insights into the Surinamese market, and we eagerly look forward to exploring further opportunities for collaboration."

-Claudette Austin & Sherry Mohammed
Representatives,
Comfort Sleep Guyana

CONNECTING BUSINESSES: VOICES FROM THE SGCC TRADE MISSION PARTICIPANTS

"The meeting organized by the Suriname Guyana Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) was highly enlightening. It was an excellent opportunity to engage with Guyanese business owners specializing in auto parts, which significantly broadened my understanding of Guyana and its offerings."

**-Gregory Hermelijn ,
Chief Executive Officer,
Hermelijn Auto Parts**



"The B2B meeting coordinated by the Suriname Guyana Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) provided me with a valuable experience. I had the opportunity to engage with companies from Guyana, gaining insight into the current dynamics and growth of the Real Estate sector there. This event offered a promising opportunity to establish partnerships with these firms. I am optimistic about the potential for future business collaborations with Guyana."

**-Prashant Soerdjbalisingh,
Manager
Sital Vastgoed**

"The Suriname Guyana Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) did a fantastic job facilitating meetings with Guyanese real estate companies. My discussions with these representatives were very productive, and potential partnerships look promising. I'm glad I had the opportunity to represent our company on this mission."

**- Aruna Singh
Real Estate Agent,
Renaissance Realty**



"Our experience with the Suriname-Guyana Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) was excellent. Their professional B2B meetings facilitated crucial connections. Thanks to their dedication, we formed valuable partnerships and improved business opportunities. I highly recommend the Chamber for companies aiming for success in the region."

**Dronica Debi Tewari
Owner/Director
Impressive Suriname Travel NV**

OPENING DAY AT THE SEOGS EXHIBITION

The Suriname Oil and Gas Summit (SEOGS) is a premier event dedicated to showcasing the significant developments and opportunities in Suriname's burgeoning oil and gas sector. Bringing together industry leaders, government officials, and key stakeholders, the summit facilitates insightful discussions, strategic partnerships, and investment opportunities aimed at harnessing Suriname's hydrocarbon potential.

This year, the Suriname Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) played a pivotal role, emphasizing their commitment to fostering economic growth and collaboration within the industry. At SEOGS 2024, the Chamber was well-prepared to capitalize on emerging opportunities, poised to execute strategic initiatives that will further bolster Suriname's position as a key player in the global oil and gas market.



OPENING DAY AT THE SEOGS EXHIBITION

The Suriname-Guyana Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) made a strong debut at the Suriname Energy Oil & Gas Summit, featuring a diverse range of exhibitors from both Guyana and Suriname. This showcased the chamber's commitment to fostering strong trade relationships between the two nations, with representatives from numerous companies in attendance.



The booth featured vibrant displays showcasing SGCC sponsors and partners, emphasizing the chamber's dedication to advocacy, robust member support, and fostering potential partnerships. It warmly welcomed inquiries and introduced visitors to the organization's overarching "Vision."

"GUYANA IN FOCUS: SEMINAR HIGHLIGHTED BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AND REGIONAL COOPERATION"



The "Guyana in Focus" seminar was a highlight of the fourth day, with SGCC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Rahul Lildhar and Chair Dr. Vishnu Doerga discussing the Chamber's role in supporting Surinamese and Guyanese businesses. Vice Chair Derrick Klaverweide shared his experience expanding Optiek Ninon into Guyana, while Ambassadors Liselle Blankendal and Virjanand Depoo highlighted business development services. Dr. Peter Ramsaroop outlined investment opportunities in Guyana, focusing on the "Brand Guyana" initiative and potential collaborations in agro-processing and manufacturing. The event also featured insightful panel discussions on business growth and regional cooperation in the oil and gas sector, emphasizing the SGCC's commitment to fostering a collaborative environment.

STRENGTHENING REGIONAL COLLABORATION: SGCC AND CINEX SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING"

The Suriname Guyana Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) and the Curaçao Investment and Export Promotion Agency Foundation (CINEX) have cemented their commitment to regional cooperation through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This significant agreement aims to foster closer ties between Suriname, Guyana, and Curaçao, facilitating greater economic integration and collaboration across various sectors. By formalizing this partnership, the SGCC and CINEX are laying the groundwork for enhanced trade relations, knowledge sharing, and joint initiatives that will benefit businesses and communities throughout the region.



PRE-SCHEDULED B2B MEETINGS UNVEILED

The first day of the Suriname-Guyana Chamber of Commerce's B2B meetings at the Assuria High Rise Building proved to be a resounding success. The energy in the room crackled with possibility as approximately 70 pre-arranged meetings unfolded throughout the day. These weren't mere conversations; they were the sparks that ignited the flames of new partnerships and collaborations. The evening served as a microcosm of the Suriname-Guyana Chamber of Commerce's mission: to foster connections, build bridges, and ultimately fuel regional economic growth through collaborative business ventures.



FINAL DAY AT THE SEOGS EXHIBITION

The final day welcomed a fruitful turnout from the general public. This diverse audience presented a fantastic opportunity for the SGCC to connect with the broader community. Chamber members actively engaged with the public, fielding questions about the chamber's goals for both Suriname and Guyana. Many attendees, particularly students, expressed keen interest in the concept of bilateral understanding. They were eager to learn more about the potential opportunities that could arise from this strengthened relationship between the two nations. The SGCC representatives were happy to provide insights and highlight the chamber's role in facilitating cross-border collaboration and economic growth.



SGCC AND VSB COLLABORATE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Suriname Guyana Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) convened with the Vereniging Surinaams Bedrijfsleven (VSB) to explore potential areas of collaboration and strategies to bolster private sector development within the region. This meeting served as a platform to explore avenues for joint initiatives and exchange insights aimed at advancing economic growth and prosperity. As a testament to their shared commitment to fostering cooperation, both parties laid the groundwork for future collaboration by tabling a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), signaling their mutual dedication to driving forward regional development initiatives.



PRE-SCHEDULED B2B MEETINGS UNVEILED

The momentum from the first day's B2B meetings carried over seamlessly into day two at the Suriname-Guyana Chamber of Commerce (SGCC) booth. Companies from both Guyana and Suriname remained enthusiastic about exploring new business prospects. This eagerness translated into approximately 30 additional successful meetings throughout the day. The focused discussions likely resulted in the identification of further collaboration possibilities, solidifying the initial connections made on day one. This continued success highlights the strong demand for cross-border partnerships within the oil and gas sector facilitated by the SGCC. It underscores the strategic value of these B2B meetings in fostering economic growth and collaboration between Guyana and Suriname.



NETWORKING EVENT CAPS SUCCESSFUL MISSION: SGCC CONTINUES MOMENTUM FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The mission concluded with a networking event hosted by the SGCC, supported by Ambassadors Liselle Blankendal and Virjanand Depoo. Raoul Chong, Director of Trade at SITA, delivered a presentation on Suriname-Guyana trade relations, enhancing collaboration opportunities. This event facilitated connections and laid groundwork for future collaborations. Looking ahead, SGCC plans a trade mission with Surinamese businesses visiting Guyana on 15th-17th, demonstrating ongoing commitment to economic ties. The SGCC expresses gratitude to all participants, fostering a promising future for businesses in both nations. Together, we continue to build bridges for sustainable growth and prosperity in the region.

