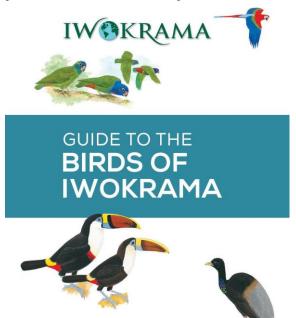
PRESS RELEASE

Iwokrama International Centre for Rain Forest Conservation and Development is pleased to announce the publication of our bird guide. 'Guide to the Birds of Iwokrama'



TW SKRA

Iwokrama acknowledges the efforts of Ms. Daisy Payne in the compilation of this publication and thanks Repsol Exploracion (Guyana S.A) for the invaluable support given.

Pierre, is a Guyanese conservation biologist with an interest in birds, mammals, and

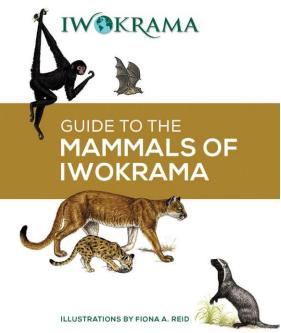
human-wildlife coexistence.

The online versions of both the bird and mammal guides may be viewed at www.iwokrama.org

is an introduction to 50 of the 471 bird species that have been recorded in the Iwokrama forest. It contains concise descriptions of each species and/or guidance on where each may be seen as well as outstanding colour illustrations.

The guide is the second in a series developed and published by the Centre. The first being the 'Guide to the Mammals of Iwokrama', which was initially published in 1999 and reprinted in 2017.

The author of the bird guide, Mr. Meshach



Notes to the Editors:

About Iwokrama

The Iwokrama International Centre (IIC) was established in 1996 under a joint mandate from the Government of Guyana and the Commonwealth Secretariat to manage the Iwokrama forest, a unique reserve of 371,000 hectares of rainforest "in a manner that will lead to lasting ecological, economic and social benefits to the people of Guyana and to the world in general".

The Centre, guided by an international Board of Trustees, is unique and provides a dedicated, well managed and researched forest environment. The forest is zoned into a Sustainable Utilization Area (SUA) and a Wilderness Preserve (WP) in which to test the concept of a truly sustainable forest where conservation, environmental balance and economic use can be mutually reinforcing. The IIC collaborates with the Government of Guyana, the Commonwealth and other international partners and donors to develop new approaches and forest management models to enable countries with rainforests to market their ecosystem services whilst carefully managing their resources through innovative and creative conservation practices.

Iwokrama brings together:

- 20 local communities (approximately 7,000 people) who are shareholders and participants in the IIC's sustainable timber, tourism, research operations and forest management activities through complex co-management and benefit sharing arrangements;
- Scientists and researchers engaged in ground breaking research into the impacts of climate change on the forest and measuring the scope and value of its ecosystem services; and
- A portfolio of sustainably managed and certified business models using innovative governance systems which include participation of the private and public sectors and the local communities, earning income from the forest and its natural assets whilst employing international social, environmental and economic best practice, as well as keeping abreast of the ever changing thinking on funding for environmental projects in the face of climate change and the perennial scarcity of international finance.

This alliance and the Centre's work programmes are committed to showing how a rain forest can be used for real sustainability, real climate change protection and real community benefit.

For further details about the Iwokrama International Centre please visit <u>www.iwokrama.org</u>, <u>www.iwokramariverlodge.com</u> or contact Dane Gobin, Chief Executive Officer on <u>dgobin@iwokrama.org</u>