

Representing the constituency of marginalized groups, such as older persons, indigenous and persons with disabilities, we note the VNR pays little attention to their concerns and health of marginalized groups.. For example, we further note older people in Guyana are regularly expected to put their own health problems aside while caring for family.

We are calling on the government of Guyana to invest in strengthening capacity-building on the collection and disaggregation of data by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location, or other characteristics, in order to ensure evidence based policymaking and monitoring of the SDGs implementation. Without a dynamic, evidence based understanding of the challenges faced by marginalized groups such as older persons, persons with disabilities, and indigenous people in Guyana, it is impossible to determine to achieve the SDGs for them and the best way forward.

Particularly, we are keen to hear your plans to combat ageism and discrimination in health care throughout the country, especially in the hinterlands.

Our questions:

1. What concrete actions is the Government of Guayana planning to undertake to leave no one behind to achieve the SDGs? How would you like to work together to improve the quality of life for older persons, indigenous people and persons with disabilities and other marginalized people in Guyana?
2. Is Guyana intending to participate in the global City Group on Ageing Statistics which addresses data gaps for older people as a core strategy to realize the SDGs?
3. What investments will the government of Guyana make to improve the lives of indigenous people?