French Guiana — Who gets seen from Cayenne?



French Guiana AI white paper • 27 November 2026 · Revision 2

A procurement model can see a space-centre contract more readily than a river settlement’s unmet need. French Guiana should test AI on both kinds of evidence. The proposed starting point is to give a local reviewer the means to add missing evidence and record when a satellite or administrative record cannot answer a question.

The decision before local leaders

This paper proposes two starting points for French Guiana. Before either begins, the service owner should agree on an existing comparison service, a way to challenge an error and the conditions for ending the trial.

Rebook a sample of interior appointments with the normal transport arrangements recorded.

Proposed lead. Participating booking supervisor and interior care-centre staff

What to measure. Count offers a patient can reach, cancellations caused by travel and minutes until a staff member can correct a slot.

Audit map flags against dated imagery and the relevant permit record.

Proposed lead. Mapping lead and responsible land officer

What to measure. Publish confirmed, rejected and unresolved flags as separate counts.

Local evidence in context

Indicator	Value	Observation	Source
Municipal population	293,996	1 Jan 2023	INSEE census

The year and geographic coverage belong to each observation. These figures describe the jurisdiction as a whole. Collect service-level figures before setting a cost target, staff requirement or digital access threshold.

Economic and social needs

Open procurement to a second kind of supplier

INSEE traced more than a quarter of investment in French Guiana in 2019 to the Guiana Space Centre during construction of a new launch complex. The mix of contracts in that period makes a poor training set for assessing a small supplier today. An automated search for past winners could repeatedly favour firms able to document large industrial jobs and overlook a competent newcomer.

Policy response. Trial a supplier-search tool against small contracts as well as space-related purchases. Have a procurement officer log qualified firms it missed.

INSEE, The impact of space activity on the economy of French Guiana in 2019

Let the river journey count

The regional health agency and INSEE describe how decentralised care centres serve parts of French Guiana where distance makes care hard to reach. An appointment tool trained on a coastal travel pattern could offer a slot that looks free on screen and is impossible to keep. A local booking team could record what the patient says about transport, then test whether that information changes the appointment offered.

Policy response. Test the booking process with an interior care centre. Keep a staffed route for changing a slot without an online connection.

ARS Guyane and INSEE, Access to care across French Guiana, 2017

Public institutions and environmental needs

Identify the accountable office

The Collectivité territoriale de Guyane describes its remit as combining powers previously exercised separately by the regional and departmental authorities. A single front door for residents does not tell them which service took a decision. Before introducing a shared assistant, each participating directorate should identify what it may authorise, what requires referral and who can change an answer already given to a resident.

Policy response. Put the responsible directorate and a working correction contact on every consequential notice produced in the trial.

Collectivité territoriale de Guyane, Responsibilities of the territorial authority

Read a mining map with its legend

The mapping service maintained by ONF Guyane records land degraded by both authorised and illegal mining. An image classifier could mark a changed surface with high confidence and still say nothing about permission or responsibility. An analyst should compare the date and definition of the mapped footprint with the permit record before opening a case. Keep sensitive locations out of any public training sample.

Policy response. Require a second source before a map flag enters an enforcement file. Record how often an apparent change is an old footprint.

GéoGuyane and ONF Guyane, Areas affected by mining activity

How the policy would change a decision

Enter an authorised test request with a landing name and no street number. Follow it from intake through scheduling. If it fails to match, an officer should receive it in time to verify the location and book the household’s visit.

- Test the address formats the service accepts, using staged or authorised records. Review unresolved cases with staff who know the locations.
- Give residents a telephone or in-person route to correct an address. Give staff the source record, time and authority to change the schedule, and record the reason when they do.

The field-service director should inspect the unmatched queue and a corrected visit schedule before authorising use. Suspend automatic ordering if an unmatched request disappears or staff cannot move it back into the queue. Verify that every affected household has a recorded next action before restarting.

Source: CAIA jurisdiction guide for French Guiana. The worked example illustrates the proposal.

Let communities set the terms for a route listing

Ask participating Indigenous and Maroon communities which languages, places and routes may appear. Pay reviewers and include a non-digital method for correcting errors. Do not collect sensitive sites first and ask permission later.

The local pilot connects to Tourism, retail and small businesses. Review R03 · R05 in the regional risk register.

Implementation and public review

Stage	Evidence or decision	Proposed responsibility
Before the trial	Define a completed case and sample the current process. Include people who use the phone, desk or an offline route.	Participating booking supervisor and interior care-centre staff
During shadow testing	Count offers a patient can reach, cancellations caused by travel and minutes until a staff member can correct a slot. Compare the same cases through both routes and record every override.	Participating booking supervisor and interior care-centre staff
At the local decision	Publish confirmed, rejected and unresolved flags as separate counts. Record whether the result justifies a live trial and identify the person who can stop it.	Mapping lead and responsible land officer
After six months	Publish results by channel, the correction time, unresolved complaints and the decision to continue, revise or stop.	Local service owner

What partners can share

Use existing regional conservation ties to compare how often routes are wrong. Partners can exchange lessons without moving community maps, identifiable voices or exact locations across borders.

Record the local approval, correction route and stop authority before exchanging results. Other jurisdictions can reuse the method and run their own tests. Regional recommendation 5.

Where to draw the boundary

An office adopting this proposal would still need to check its own powers, contracts and data permissions. Organisations named as possible reviewers or leads have not been appointed by this publication. Publish any accepted role and its date with the local trial record.

A 90-day plan for the first service

Rebook a sample of interior appointments with the normal transport arrangements recorded.

Proposed pilot lead. Participating booking supervisor and interior care-centre staff

A clinic books an interior appointment a patient cannot reach

Failure to test. The booking assistant offers a time that conflicts with available transport from an interior community.

Evidence to retain. Keep the transport and appointment records, correction times and cases reviewed with local staff.

Pause condition. A patient could lose access because the appointment cannot be reached by the available routes.

When	Proposed action and evidence
Days 1–30	Participating booking supervisor and interior care-centre staff agrees the eligible cases, existing service measures, staffed alternative and authorised decision owner. Record reviewers and a cost estimate in local currency for staff time, testing, access and recovery. Identify the funding source and who would approve it.
Days 31–60	Run the original and proposed routes on the same sample. Count offers a patient can reach, cancellations caused by travel and minutes until a staff member can correct a slot. Report counted errors and eligible cases by channel and language where lawful, plus the time from error report to correction.
Days 61–90	Witness the fallback, correction and restart before asking the accountable officer for a decision. Pause on the condition above. Record affected cases, unresolved issues, costs and the date for the next check.
Six months after live launch	Publish a lawful comparison with the baseline, including corrections, open complaints and the decision to continue, change or end the use.

Sponsorship, funding and the proposed lead’s acceptance require a recorded local decision. Share test methods with Caribbean partners using the local data permissions.

Sector guide · ARS Guyane and INSEE, Access to care across French Guiana, 2017 · Local evidence and sources · Regional high-impact use rules · Local risk scenario

Sources and method

The committee used published local evidence to select the four priorities and compared them with the Caribbean AI Framework's requirements for access, data, skills, oversight and adoption. Recommendations and stories are editorial proposals. This edition reports no results from a completed local pilot.

1. INSEE, The impact of space activity on the economy of French Guiana in 2019
2. ARS Guyane and INSEE, Access to care across French Guiana, 2017
3. Collectivité territoriale de Guyane, Responsibilities of the territorial authority
4. GéoGuyane and ONF Guyane, Areas affected by mining activity
5. INSEE census — Municipal population
6. French Guiana jurisdiction guide, Caribbean AI Association
7. French Guiana pilot note, Caribbean AI Association
8. Caribbean AI Framework, consultation edition, 27 November 2026

Suggested citation: Caribbean AI Association, AI Framework Committee (2026). French Guiana — Who gets seen from Cayenne?. Country white paper, consultation edition, 27 November 2026. Publication page.