

A Regional Safety Net: A sovereign strategic framework for SphereX's Proposed GY-TT-SR-JA Regional Reserve Framework

SphereX Strategic Brief | By Joel Bhagwandin, Executive Director
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Key Insights

- **Immediate Priority:** Guyana requires an emergency-capable regional reserve mechanism, not continued dependence on fragmented private replenishment cycles.
- **SphereX Recommendation:** SphereX proposes a **Guyana-Trinidad & Tobago-Suriname-Jamaica (GY-TT-SR-JA) Regional Reserve Framework** as the principal government-to-government platform for immediate crisis management.
- **Immediate Anchor:** The **Tactical Regional Bridge** is the first operational expression of **our recommended framework**, enabling near-term access to regional buffer stocks.
- **Medium-to-Long-Term Anchors:** Guyana's broader energy-security architecture is already defined within the national masterplan through two gas pipelines, an NGL power plant, hydropower, and consideration of refinery development, subject to feasibility studies and/or a national reserve.
- **Strategic Outcome:** A properly structured regional reserve system strengthens supply continuity, reduces distressed procurement exposure, and improves the country's energy resilience profile.

Executive Abstract

Guyana's fuel-security position has entered a decisive stress window. Three factors are converging simultaneously:

- **Brent crude above US\$90 per barrel**
- **A reported 38.5% increase in fuel import costs**
- **Escalating Middle East volatility, including disruption risk in the Strait of Hormuz**

This is not merely a pricing event. It is a sovereign supply-chain-security issue with direct implications for inflation management, industrial continuity, fiscal stability, and national resilience.

This brief presents **SphereX's proposed Guyana-Trinidad & Tobago-Suriname-Jamaica (GY-TT-SR-JA) Regional Reserve Framework** as a **state-level, inter-governmental response mechanism**. SphereX advances this framework as the logical strategic solution to the current fuel-security crisis, with the objective of converting regional storage access into a rapid-response energy security system through sovereign coordination between Guyana, Trinidad & Tobago, Suriname, and Jamaica.

Strategic Framework & Logistics

- **Assessment:** Guyana remains exposed through private inventory dependence, just-in-time replenishment, and the absence of a meaningful sovereign reserve buffer.
- **Risk drivers:** Brent above US\$90, a 38.5% import-cost increase, Middle East instability, Strait of Hormuz exposure, and logistics stress materially strengthen the case for intervention.
- **Framework logic: SphereX's proposed GY-TT-SR-JA Framework** converts regional storage and refining infrastructure into a coordinated sovereign buffer system.

Territory	Refined Product Reserve Capacity	Duration (National Consumption)	Key Infrastructure / Asset Status
Trinidad & Tobago	~2.5 Million Barrels	~14 Weeks	Mature Paria infrastructure at Pointe-a-Pierre. Domestic consumption: ~25.5k bpd.
Suriname	~300k - 500k Barrels (Est.)	~3 - 4 Weeks	Staatsolie refinery infrastructure (~15k bpd). Active onshore crude processing & storage with some spare refining capacity. Domestic consumption: ~14,000 bpd.
Jamaica	~1.5M Barrels	~2 - 3 Weeks	Petrojam Refinery (35k bpd). Domestic consumption: ~50,000 bpd.
Guyana	~0 (National) / Private Only	~3 Weeks	Primary Regional Crude Source. Domestic consumption: ~22,000 bpd. Surplus crude production exceeds 600,000 bpd, creating feedstock optionality for regional refining integration.
Total Regional Shield (Proposed)	~11.2 Million Barrels	~90 Days (Sovereign Shield)	Comprehensive four-state shield against global supply shocks. Total regional demand: ~124,000 bpd.

- **Reserve path:** the immediate operational buffer is **~3.0 million barrels** or roughly **24 days of regional coverage**; the strategic benchmark remains **~11.2 million barrels** or a **90-day shield**.
- **Regional synergy:** Trinidad & Tobago anchors storage; Suriname and Jamaica add refining depth; Guyana's crude surplus supports a regional production-refining-storage loop.
- **Tactical Bridge:** inter-governmental storage access, swaps, line-fill support, and pre-arranged drawdown protocols provide the fastest executable response.

- **National anchors:** twin gas pipelines, the NGL power plant, hydropower, and consideration of refinery development, subject to feasibility studies and/or a national reserve, remain the medium-to-long-term sovereignty layer.
- **Governance and financing:** execution requires sovereign authority, trigger mechanisms, inventory monitoring, working capital support, and reserve buildout planning.

Conclusion: The Immediate State-Level Action Case

The policy conclusion is direct:

- **Guyana cannot rely solely on private replenishment cycles in a US\$90+ oil environment**
- **The 38.5% import-cost spike confirms a material energy-security vulnerability**
- **Middle East instability materially strengthens the case for sovereign regional coordination**

Accordingly, **SphereX proposes a GY-TT-SR-JA Regional Reserve Framework** as the immediate **government-to-government energy security mechanism** best suited to the present environment, with the **Tactical Regional Bridge** serving as the short-term execution tool and Guyana's broader masterplan serving as the medium-to-long-term energy-security foundation.

This is the practical state-level pathway that **SphereX recommends** for stabilizing supply, containing disruption, and improving long-run resilience.

SphereX remains committed to providing the economic and market intelligence required to convert this urgency into executable strategy.

Disclaimer: The statistics and projections presented in this brief are based on publicly available data and SphereX's internal modeling. While we believe this information to be credible at the time of publication, it is subject to validation as new official data becomes available.

References

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