



Readiness Fund REDD+ Country Participants Progress Report

COUNTRY: Suriname
REPORTING PERIOD: July 2019 – June 2020



FCPF Readiness Fund: REDD+ Country Participant Annual Progress Report

About this document

This template is for use by Readiness Fund (RF) REDD+ Country Participants to report their annual progress on REDD+ readiness activities in general, and on FCPF-supported activities in particular. The data provided through these reports represents a central information source for measuring progress against the FCPF's expected results and performance indicators, as articulated within the FCPF Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework.

Report preparation

Reports cover progress through 30th June of each year.

When preparing the report, RF REDD+ Country Participants should draw upon the country M&E system for REDD+ (component 6 of the R-PP) and should consult members of the national REDD task force or equivalent body. Inputs from stakeholders including IPs and CSOs should be integrated, with any divergent views recorded as appropriate. Detailed, indicator-by-indicator definitions and reporting guidance are provided within the FCPF M&E Framework (<https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/monitoring-and-evaluation-0>).

Reporting schedule

Completed reports should be submitted to the FCPF's Facility Management Team (FMT) by **15th July** every year.

SECTION A: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. In brief, what were the main REDD+ readiness-related activities and achievements delivered within your country during the last year?

- Activities - For example, strategy / policy drafting, stakeholder consultation events, capacity building / training, awareness raising initiatives
- Achievements - For example, x number of individuals attended REDD+ consultations (sex disaggregated, if available), national REDD+ strategy was finalised, government formally adopted national REDD+ related policy/s, NFMS was established, partnership agreement with private sector association signed
- Please be as specific as possible, e.g. name, date and number of participants in consultation events (sex disaggregated, if available), name of policy being drafted, institutions involved in policy drafting

Suriname's R-PP was approved by the FCPF in 2013 and the country is currently in an advanced stage of REDD+ Readiness. Additional funds of the Suriname REDD+ Project to continue the Readiness Phase commenced in January 2019 and had the end date of June 30, 2020. The National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (NIMOS), as the implementing partner of the REDD+ project, foresees that an additional period of approximately one (1) year will be required for a full realization of the project's remaining projected outputs. In this regard, a formal request for a no- cost extension until June 30, 2021, was submitted and approved by the UNDP.

During the reporting period, Suriname made significant progress in reaching the outputs as outlined in the project's Multi-Year Annual Work Plan 2019 – 2020. The National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname (NS) has been finalized and endorsed by the Government of Suriname. Suriname's Safeguards Information System (SIS) is developed through a broad participatory process and the country's first Summary of Information (SOI) has been finalized. The National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) has been further strengthened and as part of the NFMS, the Sustainable Forestry Information System Suriname (SFISS) has been established. During the reporting period, emphasis was

also placed on further strengthening of Indigenous and Tribal People’s capacities for engagement in REDD+ and general stakeholder engagement in Suriname’s REDD+ process.

In December 2019, Suriname submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for the period 2020 – 2030 to the UNFCCC. This NDC seeks to outline a cost-effective pathway to decarbonizing sustainable economic development, maintaining the integrity of natural forest acting as a carbon sink, and strengthening resilience to enable adaptation and mitigation action. This NDC includes (enhanced) contributions from emitting sectors, also including the forestry sector. The National REDD+ Strategy is aligned with the NDC and as the NDC- report states: “*Much effort has gone into setting up the framework for Suriname to reduce emission and enhance the carbon stock in the forest sector and participate in the REDD+ process. This resulted in the National REDD+ Strategy outlining Suriname’s mitigation actions, formulated in its REDD+ vision and the policies and measures necessary to achieve that.*”

In short, the following progress has been made in the reporting period:

Finalization and endorsement of the National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname (NS)

With extensive engagement of stakeholders, including governmental institutions, Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs), the private sector, and civil society, throughout the development process, which started early 2017, the National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname was endorsed by the Government of Suriname in October 2019.

All the 10 different indigenous and tribal groups were consulted, approx. 675 persons. During the preparation of the final draft of the National REDD+ Strategy, consultations with various stakeholders were continued, including the Government of Suriname (GoS), platforms for ITPs, University of Suriname, Major Group Collective “Children and Youth”, and mining sector. A total number of 223 persons (M/F: 63/160) have been consulted additionally. The validation workshop was attended by 105 representatives of national stakeholders.

The NS is available in both Dutch and English. Hard copies have been shared with all involved stakeholders. The document is available on the project’s website: https://www.surinameredd.org/media/3351/national-reddplus-strategy-of-suriname-en_web.pdf

Establishment of Suriname’s Safeguards Information System (SIS)

The development process of the Safeguards Information System (SIS) for Suriname started in November 2018. To ensure inclusive engagement of all relevant stakeholders, different groups of stakeholders were identified and have been involved in different ways in the development of the SIS. Consultations with ITPs were held in the interior of the country, reaching out to all ten ITP communities over the period from April to September 2019, reaching 339 participants (M/F: 190/149).

The SIS Counterpart Group, a group of national technical experts with various relevant backgrounds, provided input during the different steps of the SIS development.

In November 2019, the SIS validation workshop took place and served to discuss the results of the SIS process, including the final interpretations of safeguards, the indicators and information sources and the SIS online portal. A total of 72 (M/F: 38/34) representatives of the different stakeholders attended the SIS validation workshop.

In preparation of both workshops, a pre-meeting was held with ITP representatives (43 participants: M/F: 26/17) to ensure they were familiar with the topics of the workshop and felt enabled to engage. SIS and SOI trainings were held at the end of the development process by the external consultants to hand over the management and maintenance of the SIS portal and discuss the aspects of importance for producing and updating the Summary of Information (SOI). Trainings were attended by participants who will be responsible for the SIS and SOI in the future. The SIS training was attended by 5 participants (M/F: 2/3) and 11 trainees (M/F: 3/8) participated in the SOI training.

The Suriname SIS Report, containing information on the development, content and management of Suriname’s REDD+ Safeguards Information System (SIS), is available on: <http://www.sis.surinameredd.org/media/1060/sis-report.pdf>

All information channelled into the SIS is available on an online portal, available at www.sis.surinameredd.com where information can be accessed on how safeguards are addressed and respected at both national and project scale of REDD+ implementation.

For more information on the Suriname SIS, we refer to the published article on the website of UN-REDD: <https://www.unredd.net/documents/un-redd-partner-countries-181/latin-america-the-caribbean-334/suriname-1371/17349-surinames-journey-towards-developing-its-redd-safeguards-information-system.html>

Development of the Summary of Information (SOI)

The process of the development of the Summary of Information started in January 2020, right after establishing the Suriname SIS. The main source of input in producing the SOI is the information included in the current version of Suriname's SIS. Suriname's SOI consists of four main sections, namely, description of the national circumstances regarding REDD+ in Suriname, the Cancun Safeguards and the scope and development process of the SOI; elaboration on Suriname's SIS; further information on the safeguards in the national context, including the national interpretation as well as information on how the safeguard is addressed and how it is respected; conclusions that can be drawn from the current status of information on the extent to which the Cancun Safeguards are addressed and respected and the outlook on how information can be further improved over time.

The review process has been conducted in close collaboration with the SIS Counterpart Group, who was also involved in the development of the country's SIS. The SIS Counterpart Group consisted of representatives of stakeholders with combined backgrounds which cover both the technical as well as the social sides of the SIS, including knowledge on gender, ITP rights (including land tenure), forest conservation (esp. in the context of development planning), stakeholder participation, and institutional capacities to handle information. The SOI was finalized in June 2020. Suriname will submit its first SOI to the UNFCCC in the second semester of 2020.

Development of a Feedback, Grievance and Redress Mechanism (FGRM)

The Final Design Report of Suriname's FGRM was completed and approved in January 2019. Based on this design report, the UNDP CO prepared a draft Terms of Reference (ToR) regarding the hiring of a Grievance Redress Office (GRO) Director. Discussions between NIMOS and UNDP on operationalizing of the GRO are currently taking place.

Development of a REDD+ Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM)

Upon request of NIMOS, the designing of the BSM is coordinated by the UNDP Country Office in Suriname. The UNDP CO is currently leading the procurement process to hire a consultancy team for developing the BSM. The procurement process for hiring an international consultancy to develop the BSM started mid-2019, through international advertisement of the post by the UNDP. Up till now, no suitable consultancy team has reflected to the opening. UNDP is continuing with the procurement process.

Designing and implementing ground-truth projects on sustainable economic development opportunities

The main objectives of the Ground-truth projects are strengthening and fine-tuning the policies and measures (PAMs) of the National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname in order to make potential results of REDD+ more tangible and show more concretely what REDD+ can mean to stakeholders and capacity building of and preparing (potential) partners in implementing activities on the ground.

The call for proposal was held during a 6-week period in June - July 2019. An information session was held on July 5, 2019, for potential applicants. A total of 38 proposals were received. Based on administrative and technical criteria that were approved beforehand and the available budget, 4 projects were approved for implementation, including, an ecological study for management of carapa tree populations in Apura and vicinity; a project by the Institute for Natural Resources and Engineering studies (NATIN) to improve the capacity for practical training in forest and nature education; an agroforestry project at Marchallkreek and the expansion of a herbal tea value-chain pilot project in Kwamalasamutu village.

The contracts with the 4 grantees were signed on Nov. 29th, 2019. The transfer of the first payments took place during January 2020, after which the ground-truth project's execution started.

Measures from the Government regarding COVID- 19, impacted the execution of the project activities. Starting mid- March, the scheduled workshops could not be organized; planned trips (e.g. to the Hinterland such as Kwamalasamutu) could not take place and the practical trainings of the students of NATIN were cancelled. This has led to a significant delay in reaching the project's objectives. The duration of the projects was scheduled till end May 2020. However, given the delay in project execution, all 4 projects, will be extended to allow full execution.

Executing the action plan for Private Sector Engagement

At the beginning of 2019, NIMOS, REDD+ PMU and the Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB) developed an action plan for increasing private sector engagement within REDD+. One of these activities includes the co-funding of the private sector-initiated project "Building a Business Model for wood waste recycling". The project seeks to develop a commercially and environmentally sustainable solution for utilizing waste from the wood processing industry in Suriname.

The project activities from the co-funding from REDD+ started on June 14th, 2019. Several research studies have been funded through the REDD+ Project, including, "Improvement of production process for wood waste-based biofuels (Charcoal & Briquettes)"; "Commercialization of the wood waste production process"; "Production logistics and technical requirements for market compliance, product grading and quality assurance system" and "Business plan". The project was successfully completed in the last quarter of 2019.

Further Strengthening of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)

- Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS):

- The deforestation map for 2017-2018 was finalized, using Sentinel-2 images with a 10 m spatial resolution. It indicated deforestation of $8817,96 \pm 315,49$ ha which is lower than the previous year, but also with a much lower standard deviation. The higher resolution images will make it possible to measure smaller real changes. This deforestation map is published on www.gonini.org for visualisation purposes, but can also be downloaded from there as a shapefile.
- Mapping mining: An updated layer of goldmining, the largest driver of deforestation, was finalized for the year 2018. There was also a regular update of the mining concession layer made available by the Geological Mining Division. This gold mining map is published on www.gonini.org for visualisation purposes, but can also be downloaded from there as a shapefile.
- The historic change analysis of mangrove forest cover for the period 1988 and 2018 was conducted. Additionally, a map showing the distribution of the two mangrove species (Avicennia and Rhizophora) was finalized. This mangrove change map is published on www.gonini.org for visualisation purposes, but can also be downloaded from there as a shapefile.
- To be able to monitor changes in land use/ land cover between 2000 and 2015, a LULC map for 2000 was produced. This map was also used as an input for a regional (Guiana Shield) analysis on the changes of Land Use/ Land Cover. This LULC is published on www.gonini.org for visualisation purposes, but can also be downloaded from there as a shapefile.
- Within the SLMS team further capacity was built on the use of Google Earth Engine during a training in Guyana, but also through the production of the mangrove data. These techniques are used to improve the existing methodologies.
- Within the collaboration with UN-REDD and FAO, the geospatial platform www.gonini.org was further updated. All data mentioned above, and more was shared through the platform. There were also some improvements implemented on the platform:
 - Possibility to create a PDF map
 - Possibility to display layers transparent

- National Forest Inventory (NFI):

- In total 11 Permanent Sampling Units were established in the mangrove forest. Data was collected on aboveground carbon, Soil Organic Carbon, Avian diversity and mammals.
- A session was held to finalize the geomorphological map with two international experts. This map will be an important input for the design of the full National Forest Inventory.
- Data was collected to validate the pantropical allometric equations. In total 31 trees were harvested and weighted from different regions and with dbh's between 13,8 and 70,3 cm.

- Sustainable Forestry Information System Suriname (SFISS):

- The new SFISS www.sfiss.sbb.sr was launched on July 18th, 2019. Since that date, the following results were achieved:
 - 482 external users from the forestry sector and 155 internal users from SBB are using the system for the daily activities related to the tracking of logs.
 - 337 entities (companies, natural persons, and communities) were registered
 - 666 harvest plans were entered into the system
 - 943 cutting registered were entered
 - 191,502 barcode labels are circulating, from which 70,000 are already having registered log data.

- In general, SFISS has made the registration of forestry operations more transparent for the public as well as the private sector. This could be illustrated through the following examples:
 - Exporting companies checking the status of logs in the system and verifying if all information is correct (and if the logs are legal)
 - Difficulties to enter logs with an unknown origin in the system
 - Alerts when potential illegal logs are entered into the system
- Currently, we are finalizing two mobile applications, which will further improve the use of the SFISS in the field. One will be for the tracking of logs, the other one to inspecting the harvest operations. While the log tracking app is crucial for checking legality, the 2nd app is important for sustainability.
- SFISS has been a useful starting point to discuss all internal procedures at the SBB. Additionally, three manuals have been produced for the external user and a fourth one is currently being finalized. All documentation can be found through: <https://sbbsur.com/sfiss/>
- In the 2nd half of 2019, many trainings have been provided to the SBB staff, the private sector and the communities, in the use of SFISS, including:
 - In-depth training on sustainable forest management, forest inventory, harvest plan and the use of the new SFISS system during a 1 week period at JSOOC: 121 persons from private sector and communities: 19 forest management planners from the private sector, 17 persons from two communities Pokigron and Pierre Kondre, 28 representatives (M/F: 23/5) of local communities (a total of 17 settlements), 25 representatives (M/F: 20/5) from the private sector and community and 31 representatives (M/F: 24/7) of 24 Matawai communities. All the participants who have successfully participated in this training received a certificate.
 - Training roundwood measurements at Chotkan log yard during half a day: 64 persons from the private sector and communities were trained
 - Training roundwood measurements and GPS at Chotkan log yard combined with a theoretical SFISS-training during one full day: 110 persons from SBB (mostly forest guards)
 - Short field training in the production of harvest plans at CELOS: 44 persons from the private sector and communities were trained
 - Classroom training in SFISS during 4 half a day session for 40 region managers of the SBB
 - Classroom training at the SBB for private sector in harvest plan: 20 persons
 - Computer training in the use of SFISS was held for 93 persons of the SBB
 - Computer training was held for 15 persons of the SBB management
 - Computer training in the use of SFISS was held for 75 persons from the private sector
 - Through information sessions and the official launch of SFISS, a lot of people are informed about the new SFISS system and the changes in procedures among the execution of Sustainable Forest Management. SBB personnel, large group of the private sector and the communities, government institutions, NGO's, general public, etc. were informed about the new system. According to the lists of attendees more than 550 persons were informed through the information session organized by SBB. Additionally, through facebook posts and media, a much larger group of the population is informed.
 - Based on the available (incomplete) information on gender included as a column in the registration list, the following can be concluded:
 - 66 females and 170 males were trained
 - 73 females and 125 males were informed about SFISS.

Also, in the first half year of 2020 a lot of trainings were planned, but due to COVID-19, they are currently on hold.

- New planned developments of SFISS: a mobile application for export, reporting on sustainability, production, due diligence, legality etc., migration of all legacy data from the previous log tracking system to SFISS, improvement of the existing modules. SFISS for round wood should be finished by the end of 2020. From 2021 onwards, the focus will then be on the inclusion of traceability of processed timber.
- SFISS is the first step towards a fully sustainable and legal forestry sector; Nevertheless, to achieve this completely many more investments are needed. Nevertheless, with SFISS we aim to measure the degree of sustainability and due diligence of the forestry operation through the collection of big data within the normal operations of the SBB. We are planning to implement to research studies to optimize this and to investigate on the cost efficiency of this model.

- *Community Based Monitoring (CBM):*
 - During 2019, we focused on bringing SFISS to communities, making it a tool for community-based monitoring in the community forest. The following framework has been implemented in 44 communities:
 - STEP 0: Initial talks were held with the traditional authority
 - STEP 1: Hold a community meeting where SFISS was explained and other information was given (forest management act, general rules and procedures). During these meetings we approached the women organisations as much as possible.
 - STEP 2: Two community members were proposed by the traditional authority. These members are responsible to support the community in the use of SFISS.
 - STEP 3: Training of these community members were held during 1 week in harvest planning, sustainable forest management and the use of SFISS
 - STEP 4: ongoing discussions with the trainees and the traditional authority to guide them further within this process.
 - After the training, an exchange workshop was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Regional Development (RO). The theme of the workshop was "Sustainable forest management within community forests". The workshop took place on the 9th and the 10th of September 2019 in Solei at the Anton Dragtenweg in Paramaribo and was opened by the Minister of Spatial Planning, Land and Forest Management, Minister Soerdjan. During the workshop, the traditional authority, the participants from the training, RO and SBB discussed how sustainable forest management can take place within community forests and how these groups can support each other in the process. About 100 representatives (M/F: 80/20) from the communities were present.
 - We need to evaluate the effectiveness of this approach over the coming half year, further improve the approach and expand it to the other villages.
 - We are currently also discussing the development of a SFISS app specifically meant for communities, in collaboration with ACT.
- *Near Real Time Monitoring (NRTM):*
 - With NRTM we use more recent satellite images to track the activity within the forest. Currently we are focusing on crosschecking the logging activities registered in SFISS with Sentinel-2 images. This seems to be an effective approach to immediately identify unplanned or illegal activities. We are embedding this now in the standard operational procedures of the SBB.
- *Reporting*
 - Suriname is currently developing the Third National Communication for UNFCCC. This will be coordinated by the National Environmental Authority, but the AFOLU sector will be coordinated by the NFMS team. This will be prepared in parallel with the next version of the FREL.
 - Additionally, input was provided within the reporting to UNFF, Environmental Statistics, Reporting on Land Degradation, and the yearly forest sector analysis.

Strengthening Indigenous and Tribal People's capacities for coordination and engagement in REDD+

- Supporting/strengthening Tribal Peoples platform, KAMPOS: activities for supporting capacity building of KAMPOS for coordination and engagement in REDD+ started in June 2018 and continued up till the current date. Planned activities, also including the staffing of Bureau KAMPOS (an Office coordinating the activities of KAMPOS) and consultation sessions of KAMPOS with the different tribes were carried out throughout the reporting period.
- On the request of ITP-communities, the REDD+ PMU organized training sessions on the themes "Entrepreneurship and Business Planning", including training sessions in cost price calculation, access to finance and market accessibility. These specific trainings were requested by the different ITP-communities through the REDD+ Assistants and since capacity building of ITPs is key to the Suriname REDD+ Programme, these trainings were included in the work plan of the REDD+ Programme of 2019. These sessions were given by staff of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism during the period April – September 2019. In the reporting period, 2 trainings sessions were organized. A session for the Indigenous communities of Apoera, Washabo and Section (West-Suriname), with 21 participants (M/F: 7/14F). A session for the tribal community of Witagron): 16 participants (M/F: 11/5).

- Within the NFMS activities to strengthen communities have also been carried out. See earlier section on community monitoring.

Training REDD+ institutions

- In October 2019, the REDD+ PMU organized a session for gender mainstreaming in (climate) projects for its staff and other partner organizations, including SBB, UNDP, Coordination Environment Unit and NIMOS. Number of participants: 17 (M/F: 2/15). The training goal was to increase knowledge on gender mainstreaming in climate change projects.
- Trainings on the SIS and SOI trainings were held at the end of the development process of the SIS to hand over the management and maintenance of the SIS portal and discuss the aspects of importance for producing and updating the Summary of Information. Trainings were attended by a select number of participants who will be responsible for the SIS and SOI in the future. Total number of participants: 16 (M/F: 5/11)
- Participation in training sessions on gender analysis by PMU team member and SBB team member, in Feb. and June 2020.
- Participation in training course “Communications & Public Relations (PR)” by PMU team member, organized by SBB, during June – July 2019.
- During the REDD+ Retreat in August 2019, a total of 27 colleagues from the REDD+ PMU, SBB, NIMOS, UNDP CO and Coordination Environment Unit, participated in training sessions in “Communication” and “7 Habits of Highly Effective People”.
- Two SBB representatives participated to a training on the use of Google Earth Engine in Guyana.
- One SBB representative is participating in an intensive training related to GHG-inventory.

Stakeholder Consultation and Participation

- ITP- community consultations have been conducted regarding the development of the SIS, starting in April 2019. During the reporting period, 5 sessions are organized, with a total of 120 participants; M/F: 66/54.
- In the reporting period specific national stakeholder consultation sessions have been organized regarding the development of the Safeguards Information System (SIS), namely the SIS Validation Workshop in Nov. 2019, with a total of 72 participants (M/F: 38/34).
- During the reporting period 2 meeting with the national SIS Counterpart Group were organized with 23 participants (M/F: 6/17)
- A pre-meeting was organized with the REDD+ Assistants and ITP-representatives in November 2019, preparatory to the SIS Validation Workshop. Participants: 43 (M/F: 26/17)
- An information session was organized regarding the Call for Proposals for REDD+ Ground Truth Projects in July 2019 with 32 participants (M/F: 10/22)
- In order to validate the outputs of the SLMS and NRTM, stakeholder consultation and participation is very important. Several meetings were held with the Geological Mining Services (GMD) to collaborate on overlapping logging and mining concessions. In February 2020, an agreement was made that updated data will be shared continuously in a systematic way between GMD and SBB. Further collaboration with GMD will be strengthened and continued to solve national issues.
- ITP- community consultation has also taken place in the framework of community-based monitoring (see section on community monitoring).
- SFISS was launched on July 18th, 2019, during a workshop at the University Guesthouse. 100 persons attended this workshop.

Public outreach and awareness raising activities

A wide range of public outreach and awareness raising activities have been organized, including, among others:

- General REDD+ information sessions (walk-in-school) were organized throughout the year for different stakeholders, including the Government of Suriname (GoS), children and youth, local authorities. The activities were held in Paramaribo and other districts, including, Coronie, Para, Saramacca, Nickerie and Marowijne. During the reporting period 13 walk-in-school sessions were organized, with a total of 478 participants. Several planned walk-in school sessions during the period March – June 2020, were cancelled due to the COVID-19 measures indicated by the Government.
- REDD+ community awareness sessions were organized for the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs) in the Hinterland of Suriname. In the reporting period, one awareness session was organized in the area Tapoeripa in the district Brokopondo, with 65 participants (M/F: 16/49).

- A series of five children’s environmental awareness films, produced early 2019 by the REDD+ PMU, were broadcasted widely through television channels on several occasions, including World Forest Day, March 22.
- Aforementioned series of children’s environmental awareness films were upgraded with English subtitles and sign language and distributed to relevant audiences.
- On the occasion of Climate Action Day, October 24, 2019, several video productions on REDD+ and climate change were broadcasted through national television stations.
- Two short video films on the capacity building sessions for the ITPs were produced and shared through the REDD+ FB-page.
- A six series audio productions in seven indigenous and tribal languages were re-broadcasted on local radio stations during November 2019.
- Publication of the National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname and distribution to relevant stakeholders.
- Publication of an article in the international magazine “Popular Places”, titled “Conserving the “Green Gold”, to promote Suriname’s potential as High Forest cover, Low Deforestation (HFLD) country, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cfzuDwdMRGWQyVniyZrxR3zbqStZzOtu/view?usp=sharing>
- Publication of a news article on the development of the Suriname SIS on the website of UN-REDD: <https://www.unredd.net/documents/un-redd-partner-countries-181/latin-america-the-caribbean-334/suriname-1371/17349-surinames-journey-towards-developing-its-redd-safeguards-information-system.html>
- Start of the production of audio productions in indigenous and tribal languages on the topics of the Suriname SIS, gender in relation with environment and climate change, sustainable forestry information system, community forest monitoring. Productions are expected to be ready for broadcasting by the third quarter of 2020.
- Production of communication material, including REDD+ newsletters (June and October 2019 and February 2020), brochures, posters, REDD+ calendar 2020.
- Public outreach through internet: the REDD+ project website: <http://www.surinamredd.org> and social media outreach through the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/reddplussuriname/> and the geospatial Gateway: www.gonini.org
- During the reporting period, the Suriname REDD+ Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/reddplussuriname/> reached a total number of 10,065 visitors.

2. What were the main REDD+ readiness-related challenges and/or problems during the last year?

- For example, lack of engagement from key stakeholders, political barriers, limited funding

● **REDD+ Project delay due to COVID-19**

National measures ordered by the Government regarding COVID-19, started mid-March 2020, including curfew, lockdown, limited persons per gathering, impacted the execution of the REDD+ project activities. Due to these measures, many scheduled communication and engagement activities were cancelled. Regarding the REDD+ Ground- truth projects the scheduled workshops could not be organized; planned trips (e.g. to the Hinterland such as Kwamalasamutu) could not take place and the practical trainings of the students of NATIN were cancelled. This has led to a significant delay in reaching the objectives of concerning projects. The duration of the Ground -Truth projects was scheduled till end May 2020. However, given the delay in project execution, all 4 projects, will be extended.

The training program for SFISS has also been delayed significantly.

● **Difficulties contracting expertise developing Benefit Sharing Mechanism**

The UNDP CO is leading the procurement process to hire a consultancy team for developing the BSM. The procurement process for hiring an international consultancy started mid-2019, unfortunately, no suitable candidates applied. UNDP will continue the procurement process through short listing.

● **Under-spending activity 1b**

Under activity 1b of the Multi Year Work Plan 2019 – 2020, “*Indigenous and Tribal Peoples are specifically supported, engaged and ready for implementing REDD+*”, a budget of \$290K has been allocated, for activities to be identified and implemented by the ITP Platforms KAMPOS and VIDS. From the start of the REDD+ project in 2014, and notwithstanding discussions with both platforms, the delivery under this activity is very low (e.g. under \$3K in FY2019). On the request of KAMPOS and VIDS, an external national consultant, has been contracted in June 2020, to prepare a project document for institutional strengthening of KAMPOS and VIDS and the development of FPIC protocols.

3. What are the main REDD+ readiness-related activities that you hope to deliver, and achievements anticipated during the next year?

- For example, hold x consultation events, submission of R-Package to the PC, finalisation of SIS, commission research into REDD+ strategy options

Suriname intends to extend the duration of the REDD+ Project to June 30, 2021. NIMOS has prepared a Multi-Year Work Plan for the extension period between July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. In June 2020, the REDD+ Project Board has approved the request for extension and the Multi-Year Work Plan 2020 – 2021.

Since the Suriname REDD+ Project currently is in an advanced stage, it is expected that by June 30, 2021, Suriname will be REDD+ Ready. In accordance with the Multi-Year Work Plan 2020 – 2021, the following activities are planned during the next year:

- A successful and full implementation of the REDD+ Ground-truth projects on sustainable economic development opportunities
- Finalization of the Summary of Information (SOI) and submission to the UNFCCC
- Development of REDD+ Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM) for Suriname
- Operationalizing of the REDD+ Grievance and Redress Mechanism (GRM) of Suriname
- Revision and operationalization of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)
- Establishment of the National REDD+ Registry
- Strengthening capacities of ITPs for full REDD+ engagement
- Support in the establishment of the Environmental Fund
- Stakeholder engagement and outreach activities through walk-in-school sessions, information session for ITPs and public outreach and awareness activities
- The development of the FREL 2021 – 2025 and submission to the UNFCCC.
- Finalisation of SFISS for round wood (Development of mobile apps, new modules e.g. transport and reports, strengthen existing modules). Further strengthening of public and private sector in the use of SFISS
- Further strengthening the capacity of the ITP communities in the use of SFISS
- Finalisation of a Land Use Land Cover map for 2019, new forest cover base map for 2019, deforestation map 2018-2019 and drivers of deforestation map 2017-2019, all based on the Sentinel-2 10m spatial resolution imager

SECTION B: READINESS PROGRESS

4. Please provide your own assessment of national progress against all REDD+ readiness sub-components:

(Indicator OV.1.B: Number of FCPF supported countries that have in place a National REDD+ Strategy, FREL/FRL, NFMS and SIS; Output 1.3 indicators)

Progress rating key:

5	Completed	The sub-component has been completed
4	Significant progress	Significant progress
3	Progressing well, further development required	Progressing well, further development required
2	Further development required	Further development required
1	Not yet demonstrating progress	Not yet demonstrating progress
0	N/A	The sub-component is not applicable to our process

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
R-PP Component 1: Readiness Organisation and Consultation		
Sub-component 1a:	5 Completed	The REDD+ PMU Team currently includes 6 FTEs, including expertise on project management,
	4 Significant progress	

National REDD+ Management Arrangements	3	Progressing well, further development required		<p>communication, community engagement, technical, administration and logistical organization. At the implementing partner SBB/ FCMU, 8 staff members are in charge of REDD+ implementation.</p> <p>This team is sufficient for adequate project realization towards the project end.</p> <p>The work contracts of the REDD+ Assistants with the National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (NIMOS) will be extended till the project end date.</p> <p>The HACT audit over FY19 was completed in Q1 2020.</p>
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Outreach	5	Completed		<p>The REDD+ Communications Strategy for 2019, the Stakeholder Engagement Plan for 2019 and the Stakeholder Engagement & Communication Plan 2020 were developed and (are being) implemented.</p> <p>Consultation and participation activities were planned and executed, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 walk-in-school sessions were organized, with a total of 478 participants. • 1 information sharing session for ITP-communities was organized, reaching 65 individuals (M/F: 16/49). • 2 training sessions were organized for the ITPs on “Entrepreneurship and Business Planning” with 37 participants (M/F: 18/19). • 5 consultation sessions within ITP-communities were conducted regarding the development of the SIS, with a total of 120 participants (M/F: 66/ 54). • Validation workshop on the Suriname Safeguards Information System with key stakeholders involved 72 participants (M/F: 38/34). • A pre-meeting for the RAC and ITP representatives on the SIS validation was held with 43 participants (M/F: 26/17). • The SIS Roadmap workshop involved 66 participants. <p>Supporting communication material were produced: upgrading a series of 5 environmental awareness films with English subtitles and sign language; production of 2 short video films on training sessions for the ITP; 3x posters on SIS; 3 editions of the REDD+ Newsletter; publication of the National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname; REDD+ Calendars 2020.</p> <p>Public information and outreach activities were implemented, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadcasting environmental awareness films through national television. • Broadcasting of REDD+ radio programs through community radios • Publication of the article “Conserving the Green God” in the international magazine “Popular Places”: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cfzuDwdMRGWQyVniyZrxR3zbqStZzOtu/view?usp=sharing
	4	Significant progress	x	
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of a news article on the development of the Suriname SIS on the website of UN-REDD: https://www.unredd.net/documents/un-redd-partner-countries-181/latin-america-the-caribbean-334/suriname-1371/17349-surinames-journey-towards-developing-its-redd-safeguards-information-system.html • Continuous update on REDD+ public outreach activities through internet: the REDD+ project website: http://www.surinameredd.org and social media outreach through the Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/reddplussuriname/ and the geospatial Gateway: www.gonini.org • Launch of the Suriname SIS Portal: www.sis.surinameredd.org • The website of the UNDP CO (http://www.sr.undp.org) provides updated information on the Suriname REDD+ Project and is accessible to the public. • Media exposure: through press releases and invitation of the news media at REDD+ activities. • Public outreach activities, including, among others, participation in youth activities, awareness activities in the Surinamese Hinterland for adults and the youth.
R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation				
Sub-component 2: REDD+ Strategy	5	Completed	X	The National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname was approved by the Government of Suriname after due consultations with all relevant national stakeholders, including governmental institutions, Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs), the private sector, and civil society. The official documents can be downloaded through the website: www.surinameredd.org
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	5	Completed	X	Within the background study of the REDD+ National Strategy for Suriname, historical analyses were executed, completed by further modelling and scenario analyses. An assessment of the drivers of deforestation is updated on a biannual basis with the post deforestation land use land cover maps.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options	5	Completed		N/A
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A	X	
Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework	5	Completed		As part of the National REDD+ Strategy a REDD+ Implementation Framework has been developed. Institutional and legal arrangements are currently being established for operationalization of the REDD+ Implementation Framework, including the establishment of the National Environmental Authority,
	4	Significant progress	X	
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		

	0	N/A		which will give policy directions on REDD+ in Suriname and the establishment of the Environmental Fund, which will also include REDD+ funds.
Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts	5	Completed	X	Potential environmental and social REDD+ risks were assessed as part of the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) that took place in 2017 alongside the development of Suriname's National REDD+ Strategy. The social and environmental considerations are incorporated in the National REDD+ Strategy. The SIS, which was developed in 2019, also considers social and environmental impacts.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels				
Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	5	Completed	X	Suriname's first FREL was completed and submitted to the UNFCCC in June 2018. Currently, the FREL 2021-2025 is being developed.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards				
Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System	5	Completed	X	Satellite monitoring is well implemented and is providing recurrent results, SFISS is up and running, but will be further strengthened resulting in daily measurements of the impact of forest degradation as a tool for guiding the private sector companies, NFI data was collected within the mangrove forest, but the methodology still needs further development, Reporting frameworks need to be developed to result in more streamlined reporting from the NFMS to the different conventions. NRTM is up and running, but the method will be further improved resulting in better detection of unplanned activities.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	5	Completed	X	Suriname's Safeguards Information System (SIS), which was developed in 2019 and provides three different types of information: 1) Information on how existing PLRs address aspects of importance under each safeguard; 2) Information on how safeguards are respected through provisions and/or activities at national level; and 3) Information on how safeguards are respected through provisions and/or activities at local level, i.e. as part of REDD+ implementation on the ground. All information channelled into the SIS is available on an online portal available at www.sis.surinameredd.org where information can be accessed on how safeguards are addressed and respected at both national and project scale of REDD+ implementation. Suriname's first SOI contains further information on the safeguards in the national context, including the national interpretation as well as information on how the safeguard is addressed and how it is respected, as well as conclusions that can be drawn from the current status of information on the extent to which the Cancun Safeguards are addressed and respected. Suriname's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) includes a number of provisions to ensure that safeguards are respected.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		

		<p>An analysis of existing Policies, Laws and Regulations (PLRs) responding to the requirements of the Cancun Safeguards has been conducted as part of the development of the SIS.</p> <p>Currently, the procurement process is being conducted for contracting expertise for the development of a REDD+ Benefit Sharing Mechanism for Suriname.</p>
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SECTION C: NON-CARBON BENEFITS

5. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at livelihoods; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates livelihoods)?

(Indicator 3.2.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
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If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach:

The policy lines and measures in the National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname that explicitly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods are:

Policy line 1.B: Support existing, alternative and additional sustainable livelihoods and diversification of the economy

Measure 1.B.1: Promotion of non-timber forest products (NTFP) with a view to providing alternative livelihoods to forest dependent communities

Measure 1.B.2: Promotion of nature and ecotourism with a view to provide alternative livelihoods to forest dependent communities and aid in the diversification of the economy

Measure 1.B.3: Provide alternative livelihoods to forest dependent communities through the promotion of medicinal plants

Measure 1.B.4: Provide alternative livelihoods to forest dependent communities through the promotion of agroforestry practices

Measure 1.B.5: Support education and training opportunities in forest-based communities in the interior

Policy 3.D: Participatory community development

Measure 3.D.1: Promote democratic management of community forests/HKV's and an equitable allocation of benefits among all the members of the community

6. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at biodiversity conservation; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates biodiversity conservation)?

(Indicator 3.3.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
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If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach

In the National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname, it is clearly expressed, as part of the vision/mission that REDD+ in Suriname should be implemented in a way that contributes to biodiversity preservation. The policy lines and measures in the National REDD+ Strategy that explicitly aim to conserve biodiversity are:

Strategic line 1: Continue being a High Forest cover and Low Deforestation country (HFLD) and receive compensation to invest in economic diversification

Through this strategic line, Suriname intends to maintain its high forest cover of 93% and conserve its biodiversity and environment. Suriname has declared its commitment internationally to maintain its current level of forest cover, counting on technical and financial support from the international community to realize this ambition. The expected compensation for this global environmental service can assist the transition to a diversified and resilient economy. In February 2019, the Government of Suriname hosted the “High Forest cover, Low Deforestation Conference on Climate Finance Mobilization”, with the aim to increase cooperation, exchange knowledge and experience and discuss joint strategies and positions between HFLD countries to preserve their forest cover.

Policy line 4.A: Protected areas

Measure 4.A.1: Increase the coverage of protected areas and provide for their protection through measures including the involvement and participation of ITPs

Measure 4.A.2: Protection of mangrove areas

Policy line 2.C: Forest and environmental laws and regulations

Measure 2.C.4: Revision of the nature conservation law

SECTION D: FINANCE

(Please complete in US\$ ONLY)

7. Please detail the amount of all finance received in support of development and delivery of your national REDD+ readiness process since the date that your R-PP was signed. Figures should only include secured finance (i.e. fully committed) – ex ante, (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions should not be included: (Indicator 1.B: Amount of finance received to support the REDD+ Readiness process (disaggregated by public, private, grants, loans))

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Date committed (MM/YY)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
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EXAMPLES:

\$500,000	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	10/2013	Public /Private	Grant /Loan /Other
\$250,000	Ministry of Forestry	01/2014	Public /Private	Grant /Loan /Other

\$52,500	UNREDD	06/2014	Public	Grant
\$3,800,000	FCPF	06/2014	Public	Grant
\$100,000	Guiana Shield Facility	10/2013	Public	Grant
\$2,650,000	FCPF	01/2019	Public	Grant

8. Please detail any ex ante (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions that you hope to secure in support of your national REDD+ readiness process:

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
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\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other

SECTION E: FCPF PERFORMANCE

9. To help build an understanding of the FCPF strengths, weaknesses and contributions to REDD+, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.B: Participant Countries' assessment of FCPF's role within and contribution to national REDD+ processes)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
The FCPF's support has had a central influence on the development our national REDD+ systems and processes					X
The FCPF's support has improved the quality of our national REDD+ systems and processes					X
The FCPF's support has improved national capacities to develop and deliver REDD+ projects					X
The FCPF's support has helped to ensure substantive involvement of multiple stakeholders (including women, IPs, CSOs and local communities in our national REDD+ systems and processes)					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

10. To help assess the usefulness and application of FCPF knowledge products (publications, seminars, learning events, web resources), please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.3.a: Extent to which FCPF learning, evidence and knowledge products are used by Participant countries)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
We regularly access FCPF knowledge products to obtain REDD+ related information					X
FCPF knowledge products are relevant to our REDD+ related information requirements					X
FCPF knowledge products are sufficient to address all of our REDD+ related information requirements					X
The FCPF website is a useful resource for accessing FCPF and REDD+ related information					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

SECTION F: FINAL COMMENTS

11. If appropriate, please provide any further comments or clarifications relating to your work on REDD+ Readiness during the last year: