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Annual Progress Report to the FCPF for Suriname

for the period 1 January – 31
December 2018

United Nations Development
Programme

Approved by:
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Date 21/5/2019

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Date 20/05/2019

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, UNDP offers global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

The Participants Committee (PC) at its ninth meeting in June 2011 approved UNDP to serve as Delivery Partner under the Readiness Fund. The Transfer Agreement was signed between the World Bank, acting as the Trustee of the FCPF, and the UNDP on August 9, 2012.

To ensure a uniform set of safeguard standards, the Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners was also approved at the ninth FCPF PC meeting. The Common Approach is designed to provide the World Bank and the Multiple Delivery Partners with a common platform for risk management and quality assurance in the REDD+ Readiness Preparation process which is substantially equivalent to the World Bank's applicable policies and procedures on environmental and social safeguards, disclosure of information, and grievance and accountability mechanisms.

The report has been prepared by UNDP and solely reflects the perspectives of UNDP as a Delivery Partner.

Summary

Country:	Suriname
Project Title:	Strengthening national capacities of Suriname for the elaboration of the national REDD+ strategy and the design of its implementation framework
Implementing Partners:	National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (NIMOS), Cabinet of the President
Implementation Modality:	National Implementation Modality (NIM)

Project Timeline			
FCPF PC Resolution Approving R-PP	PC/14/2013/7	Transfer of Funds to Country Office	\$200,000 22 Oct 2013 \$3,600,000 21 Aug 2014
Preparatory Grant	17 October 2013	Inception Workshop	9 -10 December 2014
Project Appraisal Committee	21 May 2014	Mid-term Review	Oct – Dec 2016
Project Signature	31 May 2014 (ceremony 11 June 2014)	No-Cost Extension: New End Date:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No 30 June 2020 (Operational Closure under Additional Funds)
Duration of Project	6 years		

2018 Results

1. Achievements

- a. **Progress on how the project activities are being coordinated with other REDD+ related initiatives, included those funded by others.**

Suriname's R-PP was approved by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in 2013 and in January 2018 the country received approval from the FCPF participants committee for the additional USD 2.65 M USD for REDD+ Readiness phase. Suriname through the UNDP as its delivery partner, submitted the revised project document to the FCPF in January 2019 thereby securing the additional resources and bringing the total contribution of the FCPF for readiness in Suriname to USD 6.45 M.

The Suriname FCPF REDD+ programme is currently the main national vehicle for accessing long-term and increased external Climate Finance to Suriname to address the main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. This in support of Suriname's objective to conserve more than 93% of its Forest. This objective is aligned with the Suriname's first Nationally Determined Contribution ([NDC](#)) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement. Where Suriname states its willingness to "deploy its forest, as part of the global mitigation contribution as well as continue promoting and introducing the use of renewable energy, specifically in remote areas, provided adequate financing is made available to support these transitions".

Key results in 2018 are: final draft national REDD+ strategy available with the validation; approval and publication planned in 2019; design of Suriname REDD+ Grievance and Redress Mechanism; drafted Land tenure and land rights study; submission of Suriname Forest Reference Emission Level ([FREL](#)); drafting of revised project document for REDD+ readiness and its approval by the project board; and participation in international climate fora, such as Global Environment Facility (GEF) Assembly, FCPF participants committee meeting, [UNGA side event on Forest-Smart Mining](#) to Advance the New York Declaration on Forests and the Sustainable Development Goals and [UNFCCC COP24](#), in Poland.

The UNDP coordinated its delivery partner support to the readiness programme, with other ongoing initiatives supported by UNDP Suriname for example aimed at strengthening of the information and data systems for National Forest Inventory in Mangrove areas, environmental management particularly geospatial, Climate and Water related data by compilation and digitization of historic data. As well as making these in part accessible on platforms such as the REDD+ readiness supported Gonini platform, which hosts the Suriname Water Resource Information System and the Suriname Environmental Information Network (SMIN). Important for the provision of improved information/data for environmental management the Suriname 8th Environmental Statistics report was launched in 2018 and of Suriname's 6th National Report to the convention on Biological Diversity drafted. Other relevant work included interventions on preparation of the national action plan on Artisanal and Small-Scale Goldmining and Improvement of technologies and practices within Artisanal and Small-Scale Goldmining in specific locations in the interior. The aforementioned interventions are supported by funding from the Global Environment Facility and the European Union.

The president of the Republic of Suriname provided his approval for the hosting of the international conference for High Forest Low Deforestation (HFLD) countries. Subsequently preparations for hosting of the conference in 2019 were initiated in 2018, with safe the date letters being dispatch. Also realized in 2018 was the in-principle agreement to also provide support for the conference between the government of Suriname and United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).

Table 1. Summary of progress in FCPF funded activities

Output 1: Pillar1 Human capacities and stakeholders engagement			
Activity	Status	Timeline	Responsible institution (Main/involved)
1a. Arrangements are made and allow for effective management of the REDD+ process in Suriname, including a Grievance and Redress Mechanism	Ongoing	06-2020	NIMOS, Coordination Office, Cabinet of the President
1b. General human capacities are built, information is shared and dialogue and participation is effective with key stakeholders' groups	Ongoing	06 - 2020	NIMOS, Coordination Office, Cabinet of the President, Indigenous and Tribal Peoples representatives, SBB
1c. Indigenous and maroon peoples are specifically supported, engaged and ready for implementing REDD+	Ongoing	06 -2020	VIDS, Maroon Representatives, CBO, SBB/ Land rights Commission coordinated by Ministry of RO/ UNDP
1d: The programme is suitably monitored and evaluated	Ongoing	12 -2020	NIMOS/ UNDP
Output 2: Pillar2 REDD+ strategy in Suriname is formulated with active support from major national stakeholders and right holders			
2a. Technical and human conditions to run REDD+ options analysis and SESA are built	Ongoing	12 - 2020	NIMOS, Suriname Business Association (VSB), Suriname Business Forum (SBF), Platform for the Wood Industry in Suriname (PHS)
2b. Background studies for strategic analysis and planning are developed	Completed	12 - 2017	NIMOS, Coordination Office, Cabinet of the President, Planbureau
2c. REDD+ options are fully developed and integrate social and environmental risks and integrate social and environmental risks and benefits as part of a draft REDD+ Strategy	Completed	12 – 2018	NIMOS
2d. SESA is completed	Ongoing	06 - 2019	NIMOS
2e: National safeguard information system is designed	Ongoing	12 - 2020	NIMOS, SBB
2f. REDD+ strategy is finalized and integrated into the post-2016 national development strategy	Ongoing	12 - 2019	NIMOS, Coordination Office, Cabinet of the President, Planbureau
2g. International support is secured to assist and fund REDD+ investment plan	Ongoing	06 - 2020	NIMOS, Coordination Office, Cabinet of the President
Output 3: Pillar3 Implementation framework and tools: A comprehensive implementation framework is designed and related instruments are built progressively			
3a. Technical and human conditions to set up the implementation framework and tools are built	Ongoing	06 - 2020	SBB, NIMOS
3b. A first iteration of a national forest REL/RL is developed	Completed	06 - 2018	SBB

3c. The national forest and carbon monitoring system is set up in a participatory and right-based manner	Completed	12 - 2017	SBB
3d. Legal reforms are fully planned and progressively implemented	Ongoing	06 - 2020	SBB
3e. Institutional and financial arrangements are made for full and effective REDD+ implementation	Ongoing	06 - 2020	NIMOS, UNDP

b. Important changes in the technical design or approach related to the project activities

There are no critical changes in the technical design or approach of the project activities. What has taken place is adjustment implementation of certain activities to expedite linkages between community forest management activities with the REDD+ programme as a means of learning and improving of Suriname collective knowledge and understanding on what it takes to be REDD+ ready from the community level to the policy maker. Additional UNDP support has been agreed for design of the Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM).

2. In Focus

Output 1: Pillar1 Human capacities and stakeholders engagement

Continued with capacity building of the project management unit and implementing partners in the areas of procurement, project management, consultation and stakeholder engagement. The public outreach and awareness activities continued during 2018, with emphasis on Children and Youth. As part of this, specific communication and education material was prepared and events organized such as Youth Climate Dialogues, a visit from the global youth organization, [Green Hope Foundation](#) and more structural national partnership with Suriname Children Museum [Villa Zapakara](#) on the new multiyear exhibit “Sranan Krakti”.

Capacity building of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITP) platforms continued and expanded with the agreement signed with the new Tribal Peoples organization Kwinti’s, Aluku’s, Matawai, Pamaaka, Okanisi, Saamaka (KAMPOS). This new organization resulted from the Conservation International CI led Wise REDD process and has continued on its path to independence and sustainability. It is also receiving technical and operational support from the Association of Saamaka Tribal Leaders (VSG).

Output 2: Pillar2 National REDD+ strategy

The realization of the draft National REDD+ Strategy, high level outreach and consultation with council of ministers and permanent secretaries, members of parliament, consultation of the private sector in particularly the Wood and Mining Industry.

The consultant was contracted and started the assignment for the preparation of the Safeguard Information System. UNDP support was requested and agreed to advance the work on the Benefit Sharing Mechanism

Output 3: Pillar3 Implementation framework and tools:

Three maps were produced under the Sustainable Land Management System (SLMS); these are National LULC 2015, Deforestation map 2016-2017, Post-deforestation LULC map 2000-2017. The aforementioned maps are available on the [Gonini](#) portal. Work continued towards creating Near Real Time Monitoring (NRTM). Additional support for the NRTM is incorporated in the Suriname GEF

funded project focusing on Artisanal Small Gold Mining (ASGM). This support, will assist to expand current NRTM that is focused on unplanned logging activities to include Mining activities; The collaboration between Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB) and Geological Mining Division (GMD) in respect to NRTM, will facilitate this process.

The Sustainable Forestry Information System, that is part of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS), is being designed with involvement of state and non-state actors within the forestry sector. This system will replace and improve the current log tracking (LogPro) system. This is being done with support from the Brazil's Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais (IBAMA).

Additionally, during 2018 under pillar 3 the Suriname Grievance and Redress Mechanism (GRM) for REDD+ was designed, building on the initial assessment and proposal done during the preparation of the REDD+ readiness plan in 2013. it is clearly understood that some grievances and disputes may arise as consequence of implementation of REDD+ programme and to lesser extent during the current REDD+ Readiness phase. The Grievance and Redress Mechanism aims to respond to these grievances and disputes as and when they arise.

3. Risks and responses

Table 2: Key Risks and Issues during 2018

Issues/risks	How to resolve it	Proposed date of action	Responsibility
Sustain rightsholders, stakeholders and high-level engagement for REDD+ solutions	Critical towards the success of the REDD+ readiness outcome, is together with the people (communities, civil society) and government is providing tangible short-term results/solutions within the context of REDD+ readiness whilst working on long-term solutions	Throughout 2018	NIMOS
Slow progress of government of Suriname and Indigenous and Tribal Peoples process	Develop a better understanding of the roadmap between Government of Suriname and Indigenous and Tribal Peoples to negotiate collective land rights and land tenure issues	Throughout 2018	NIMOS, Coordination Office, Cabinet of the President
Lack of available International finance for REDD+ implementation funding, particularly for conservation in	Identify one or two additional high-level champions and engage with them meaningfully. Participation in International	Throughout 2018	NIMOS, Coordination Office, Cabinet of the President, UNDP

<p>the context of Forest rich countries such as Suriname</p>	<p>Fora:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - advocating on the role of Large Intact forest in combatting Climate Change, as represented by High Forest Low Deforestation countries; - Climate Change policy and finance for developing countries. 		
<p>Policy changes and lack of clarity related to long term institutional arrangement for Forest Management and Nature Conservation institutions</p>	<p>Advocacy to high level government representatives on importance of decision and taking action steps</p> <p>Directly engage the responsible minister and ministry as well as technical institutes</p> <p>Engage permanent parliamentary committees and Climate and Environment committee on the subject</p> <p>Support in assessments and studies that facilitate decision making</p>	<p>Throughout 2018</p>	<p>NIMOS, SBB, Coordination Office, Cabinet of the President, UNDP</p>

4. Progress in addressing key capacity issues of the Programme Management Unit (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this project

Staffing of PMU

PMU capacity is stable with clear understanding of what is required substantially for successful completion of REDD+ readiness and position Suriname to access REDD+ implementation financing. Like other PMU it has also been susceptible to the necessary staff turnovers in 2018 with 2 members namely the REDD+ Technical Officer and the RAC Engagement Assistant deciding not to continue their contract within the Suriname REDD+ team. On the other hand, the PMU was able to find suitable replacement for the REDD+ communications officer position. At the start of 2019 the PMU consist of Project Manager, Engagement Officer, Technical Assistant, Sr. Advisor, Finance and Admin Officer/Assistant, Logistics Assistant and Communications Officer. The Monitoring & Evaluations officer, Technical Officer and RAC Engagement Assistant positions are vacant.

Technical staff at SBB

The contracting of technical staff at the Foundation for Forest Management and Production after the closure of the Amazon Conservation Treaty Organization (ACTO) regional project, to support the technical work under FREL, NFMS, Information sharing field visits as advised by the UNDP Midterm Evaluation and FCPF Midterm Progress Report, was realized and has already proven beneficial in building capacity.

Operational/procurement capacity

The PMU, NIMOS and SBB project staff have participated in certified Procurement training (CIPS2), with the cost shared with other UNDP projects.

Project oversight and monitoring

The regular management meetings comprising of the Director Research of SBB, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative and Acting General Director NIMOS in providing oversight, support and guidance to the PMU and NIMOS in the strategic direction of the REDD+ programme. The Coordination Environment from the Office of the President, also housing the UNFCCC national focal point, is also a member and participating in the Management Meeting.

The capacity issues and recommendations from the UNDP Mid-term Evaluation 2017 are still relevant and hereby included.¹

Key issues and Recommendations from the Mid-Term Review	Management Response	Key Actions
Key issue: NIMOS will require capacity building support to its Director for engaging in high level political discussions on REDD+, identified as part of a national development strategy for Suriname, when a strategic vision of REDD+ is agreed and the technical studies and information are	We support this recommendation and propose this be realized immediately and throughout, the remaining lifespan of the project Noteworthy and already ongoing: High level engagement with the Office of the President and the Council of Ministers in Dec 2016. Based	1. Disseminate and make accessible to a broader audience (Office of the President, council of Ministers) the finalized MTR and key outputs of the readiness phase. 2. Identify one or two additional high-level champions and engage with them meaningfully.

¹ Actions already done, initiated or ongoing are highlighted in yellow.

<p>available to support a technical and policy discussion.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hire a senior person to focus on the REDD+ strategy discussion at a high political level at NIMOS. 2. Hire a senior person to lead the PMU to support the NIMOS coordinator with the high-level engagement. 	<p>on NIMOS' position within the Office of the President, NIMOS has received support from the Presidential Advisor on Environment.</p> <p>The hiring of senior persons at this moment is not applicable/required.</p> <p>NIMOS has assigned an interim Project Coordinator and together with the General Director of NIMOS an evaluation will be conducted to fill in the Project Coordinator position.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. PMU reconfigured to optimize results until the end of the project and Project Coordinator until end of project will be designated. 4. Establish the REDD+ Steering Committee to afford the Director of NIMOS the formal avenue to engage high level policy makers.
<p>Key issue: The experience shows low IP's ability to execute the project in accordance with the work plan, having problems specially in contracting process to equip the personnel to run the REDD+ project.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The full support to NIM, could have better worked for this project in line with the IP capabilities showed so far. 2. The IP capabilities needs to be strengthen and UNDP needs to revise and precise better the implementation modality for future projects with this IP. 3. The Project should consider moving to full support to NIM or should require UNDP assistance in Identification and recruitment of project personnel needed to complete the PMU team under the present modality. 4. HACT assessment should be redone to consider the current situation. 	<p>This is accepted and has taken place in design of the project. However, the PMU was not established as per project design. Guided by UNDP Policies and Procedures for Programs and Projects and ensuring full national ownership more thorough assessments, including risk mitigating measures are incorporated for current project and during design of new projects.</p> <p>UNDP is providing support to NIM as of 2016 and in parallel to this support, capacities at counterpart institutions such as SBB and NIMOS are being built.</p> <p>For example, within NIMOS/PMU the following recruitments have been realized:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For NIMOS: as of September/October 2016 a Senior Program advisor – supporting the project coordinator on the day to day basis and an M&E officer. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and agree on specific actions to strengthen the national implementing partner's knowledge and skills on procurement and REDD+. Further training will be more focused on activities related to the National REDD+ Strategy, such as scenario modelling with participation of ministries, Planning Office and SBB. 2. Enhance UNDP Country Office program and project quality assurance per support to NIM and ensure timely follow up to agree action steps and documentation of this follow up. 3. Integrate UNDP substantive (technical) support, beyond general management services (GMS), in the project implementation strategy and ensure appropriate costing until project end.

	2. For SBB as of April 2017 Data Analyst to support FREL.	
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5. Progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the project. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach? Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?

The Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF) are in draft and undergoing final review and discussion to ensure full compliance with the common approach as well as being nationally appropriate, based on current national legal systems, capacities and what will be in place in the near future, as well as recommendable and attainable. Suriname ideally sees the proposed SESA building on what is currently established on a voluntary basis for Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for certain activities and sectors. The draft Environmental Framework Act that is now being discussed in parliament, it is anticipated, will provide legal basis for current ESIA process as well as SESA. So, alignment and accordance are required with current procedure, foreseeable legislation (draft Environmental Framework Act) in near future as well as UNDP and World Bank guidelines. The final decision is expected during the first half of 2019.

6. Progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, and disclosure of information and the FGRM, related to this project

Grievance and Redress Mechanism (GRM). One important goal of REDD+ is to minimize the risk that REDD+ activities create or increase grievances or disputes over forests. In broad terms, REDD+ decisions, projects and activities could trigger grievances or disputes in several ways:

- By changing the uses and activities that are permitted in particular forest areas;
- By reallocating rights among different forest stakeholders regarding access to, use of, or extraction from forests;
- By creating new benefits and incentives that trigger disputes among stakeholders seeking to claim them.²

However, it is clearly understood that some grievances and disputes may arise as consequence of implementation of REDD+ programme and associated REDD+ projects. The Grievance and Redress Office (GRO) tasked with the GRM, and GRM in general already in this phase of getting REDD+ ready can provide valuable contribution in building capacity in this area and responding to any REDD+ grievance and dispute that is raised.

Design of GRM was finalized with the GRO to be established in 2019 through a phased approach per design of GRM. Gradually upscaling in its activities as well as in staffing.

² Development of a REDD+ Grievance Mechanism for Suriname; Final Design Report, Consensus Building Institute; 31 January 2019

7. In Numbers

	Year 1 (2014)	Year 2 (2015)	Year 3 (2016)	Year 4 (2017)	Year 5 (2018)
Number of civil society organizations actively engaged in different aspects of the programme	5	6 CI, VIDS, VSG, Tropenbos, CELOS, PAS	6 CI, VIDS, VSG, KAMPOS Tropenbos, CELOS/UvS	NA	VIDS, KAMPOS, AdeKUS, MGC-group “Children and Youth” 223 persons
Number of people trained on REDD+ and climate change (please indicate when possible Men/women ratio)	0	228 M/F: 100/128		9 Walk in school sessions for total of 249 persons	12 Walk in school sessions for total of 281 persons
Number of people trained on the four Warsaw Framework elements (please indicate when possible men/women ratio)	0	25 M/F: 11/14		15	10
Number of national consultation workshops held (men/women ratio)	4	12		Info sessions in 35 villages for total of 275 persons FREL session for total of 110 persons ³	19 sessions for 60 villages with over 651 participants.

8. Financial Data

The table below provides up-to-date cumulative financial progress of the R-PP implementation on planned, committed and disbursed funds, at the end of the reporting period and including all cumulative yearly disbursements. The World Bank has approved a budget of US\$3.6 million for the project. The total expenditures of the REDD+ project as from the period 2014-2018 (current year), amounts to US\$**3,592,116.36**. Up to 31 December 2019 total 95% of the REDD+ funds is expensed. The project board in November 2018 also approved a shift of 200,000 USD from Pillar 2 to Pillar 1 or 5% of the existing Total Budget Work Plan. The realization being lower than the planning, however it is noted that the project budget would be insufficient to cover the originally planned activities.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS				
OUTPUTS	Total budget (A)	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2018		
		Commitments (B)	Disbursements (C)	Total Expenditures (D) = B + C
Transition Phase to implement Suriname Readiness Proposal	\$200,000.00	\$0	\$183,746.41	\$183,746.41
OUTPUT 1 - Human capacities and stakeholder's engagement	\$1,929,000.00	\$8,983	\$1,953,025.63	\$1,962,008.63
OUTPUT 2 - REDD+ strategy	\$891,000.00	\$14,309	\$804,781.01	\$819,090.01
OUTPUT 3 - Implementation Framework and tools	\$780,000.00		\$ 548,532.18	\$548,532.18
Total	\$3,800,000.00	\$23,292	\$ 3,306,338.82	\$3,513,377.23

9. Attachments, links to reports, Picture and caption

Reference material:

- Suriname REDD+ Project Board meeting, Friday, November 16, 2018
- Suriname First Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)
- Forest Reference Emission Level for Suriname's REDD+ programme (FREL)
- (<http://www.surinameredd.org/media/3128/final-draft-awp-2018-eng.pdf>)
- www.gonini.org
- <https://statistics-suriname.org/surinameenvironmentinfo/>
- <http://www.swris.sr/>
- UNDP Suriname Results Oriented Annual Report 2018, March 2018
- Development of a REDD+ Grievance Mechanism for Suriname; Final Design Report, Consensus Building Institute; 31 January 2019

REDD+ Suriname in action Pictures:



Green Hope foundation visit to Ambassador Winston Lackin, National Coordinator Environment and Climate Change for Suriname, July 2018



Panel discussion left to right Mr. Cedric Nelom National REDD+ Coordinator, Ambassador Robby Ramlakhan Coordination Environment, Mr. Melvin Koniki, Chair of the Youth Parliament of Suriname, during national youth Climate Change dialogue, October 2018



Land Use and Land Change National training, October 2018



Grievance and Redress Mechanism validation workshop, 28 November 2018