



# Annual Progress Report to the FCPF for Suriname

for the period 1 January –  
31 December 2020

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United Nations Development  
Programme

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Approved by:  
Tim Clairs,  
Principal Policy and Technical advisor UNDP

*Tim Clairs*

Date: 01-Jun-2021

Margaret Jones Williams,  
Deputy Resident Representative UNDP Country Office  
in Suriname

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Date: May 31, 2021

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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), Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment (former Coordination Environment Cabinet of 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 \$2,650,000 May 2019
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)  Revised project document incorporating additional funds: 4 Jan 2019	No-Cost Extension:  New End Date:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  Original end date 31 December 2018 revised end date 15 December 2021 (Operational Closure under Additional Funds)
Duration of Project	7 years		

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## 2020 Results

### 1. Achievements

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 an additional USD 2.65 million for its REDD+ Readiness phase. Suriname and the UNDP as its delivery partner on 4 January 2019 signed the revised project document programming these funds as well as the remaining resources from the initial grant of USD 3.8 million. The total program contribution of the FCPF for readiness in Suriname is USD 6.45 million excluding UNDP general management services cost. The additional funds were made available to the country during the second quarter of 2019.

On 25 of May 2020, General Elections were held in Suriname, resulting in changes in the ruling coalition. As a direct consequence the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment was established. This Ministry has taken on the responsibilities of the former Coordination Environment within the Office of the President. These responsibilities included primary focal points for United Nations Framework Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), as well as several chemical's conventions including Minamata. Additionally, the Ministry also houses the focal points for International environment and climate funding mechanisms such as Global Environment Fund (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF) and Adaptation Fund (AF).

The National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (NIMOS), the main implementing partner for this REDD+ project in Suriname, is the working arm of the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment. NIMOS will transition into the National Environmental Protection Agency, mandated by the Environmental Framework Law 07 May 2020. The new Environmental Framework Law also creates the legal basis for Strategic Environmental and Social Assessments as well as Social and Environmental Impact Assessments.

The objective of maintaining forest cover at 93% is articulated in Suriname's Second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and supported by the [National REDD+ Strategy](#) as submitted to the UNFCCC Paris Agreement. The preparation of Suriname's Third National Communication to the UNFCCC is ongoing. Suriname in 2020 prepared its second Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) for Suriname's REDD+ programme. The draft second FREL captures the historical and projected Deforestation and Forest Degradation and associated emissions till 2025.

In addition to the project outputs, implementation of the REDD+ Strategy is being carried out in Suriname. Through the implementation and further upscaling of Nature Based Solutions related to:

A. Deforestation and mercury pollution in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Goldmining (ASGM) sector. The key objective here is to demonstrate the environmental and economic benefits of environmentally responsible mining practices (ERMPs) and technologies, through decreasing deforestation and mercury emissions. Example projects are:

- National Action Plan for the ASGM sector,
- Improving Environmental Management in the Mining Sector of Suriname, with Emphasis on ASGM sector
- Further upscaling by accessing additional Global Environment Facility (GEF) and partner Co-financing resources through the GOLD+ project. The GOLD+ project document and GEF CEO Endorsement Request submission is planned for July 2021.

B. Forest degradation and conservation focusing on Commercial Forestry, Community Forest Management and NTFP livelihood activities and Forest Conservation is the ASL2 project. Complementary to these actions aimed at reducing Deforestation and Forest degradation that embody implementation of Policies and Measures identified in the National REDD+ Strategy as published and available on the UNFCCC REDD platform, are Climate Change Adaptation Actions examples of projects are:

- Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA+) Suriname Phase 2 Project;
- Enabling, Gender - Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience EnGenDER Project);
- UNDP Climate Promise Initiative.

The implementation of these projects directly link to implementation of policies and measures stated in Suriname National REDD+ Strategy. This is also the case with the Government of Suriname's and UN SDG Joint Programme on a Roadmap for a Sustainable Financial System for Suriname. Agreement on the projects is facilitated by capacities in key national institutions that the REDD+ project provided substantial contribution towards. Examples are Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control ([SBB](#)) in general and specifically its Research and Development directorate, but also within private sector as stated in Suriname 2019 – 2020 report to the FCPF on its partnership with private sector.

The SDG Roadmap for a Sustainable Financial System for Suriname project, in addition to also implementing Suriname National REDD+ Strategy, provides opportunity to build and further strengthen sustainability of REDD+ project investments in local capacities.

The new administration, after 25<sup>th</sup> May general election, immediately had to address the consequences of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic as well its effects on the Surinamese economy while simultaneously grappling with an already present economic crisis<sup>1</sup>. Suriname new government identified the main priorities for the short term as response to COVID-19 and existing fiscal and budgetary constraints as of its Crisis and Recovery Plan.

The focus is a process with the new government, to further adopt the objective of Nature Based Solutions as a core part of the development paradigm, whilst considering current Crisis and Recovery Plan. This also requires awareness and recognition with regards to past successes and failures to arrive at comprehensive and integrated programmes of work on Nature Based Solutions that meet development needs

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

The REDD+ project has been extended as per the request of the implementation partner, NIMOS, after careful review by UNDP giving due consideration to FCPF Global REDD+ Readiness programme in general and exigency circumstances in Suriname. These can be summed up as:

- extension of the FCPF Global Readiness Programme till 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022,
- substantial progress to date in Suriname in implementing REDD+ readiness,
- delays in implementation of specific readiness actions including the Benefit Sharing Mechanism, and Indigenous and Tribal Peoples supported, engaged and ready for implementing REDD+.

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<sup>1</sup> Socio-Economic Impact Assessment and Response plan for covid-19 in Suriname,  
page 8

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- need to complete the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment and Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)
  - The extension also allows for a timely Final Evaluation and project closure.

The Key results in 2020 are:

1. Subsequent to completion of Safeguards Information System ([SIS](#)) in 2019, the Summary of Information was completed in 2020, the SOI is primarily based on the information in the Suriname SIS. The SOI document and National REDD+ strategy are available on the [UNFCCC REDD+ platform](#).
2. Progress in Strengthening of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS): through enhancement in Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS), continued research and inventory in Mangrove areas as part of National Forest Inventory (NFI), enhancement to Sustainable Forestry Information System Suriname (SFISS) and additional platform [KOPI](#) linked to GONINI providing more access and transparency to the general public on Forestry related statistical data. The platform clearly presents the substantial increase in logging trends from 2000 – 2019.
3. Implementation of ground truth projects continued in 2020 albeit with delays due to COVID-19. Application of livelihoods strategies, technologies and practices focused on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Villages, geographically targeting the village of Kwamalasumutu in far South of Suriname. This project focused on the herbal tea value-chain and partnered with Amazon Conservation Team, and the Village of Apura bordering Guyana which involved an ecological study for management of Carapa tree populations near Apura and on agroforestry at Village of Marchalkreek. A number of these projects have enhanced the participation and support of civil society, private sector and academia for REDD+ implementation.
4. UNDP in Suriname, as part of its REDD+ project implementation support and as per the request of the organizations of the Association of Indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname (VIDS) and Tribal Peoples of Kwinti, Aluku, Matawai, Pamaaka, Okanisi and Samaaka (KAMPOS) REDD+ representatives provided support in drafting a project proposal to access REDD+ project funding targeted at: General capacity building for VIDS and KAMPOS organizations to facilitate leadership and engagement of their work on Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) protocols and Development of FPIC protocols for Suriname. UNDP CO with input from VIDS and KAMPOS prepared terms of reference and subsequently hired a consultant to support the work. The results from the support was development of project proposal and VIDS Capacity Needs Assessment report. At time of reporting (May 2021) the project is signed and under implementation.

UNDP coordinated its delivery partner support to the readiness programme, with other ongoing initiatives under the UNDP Suriname portfolio as follows:

- The government of Suriname and UN in October 2020 launched the SDG Joint Fund Suriname Sustainable Financing Roadmap (2020 – 2022), with the objective to develop a National Roadmap for a Sustainable Financial System to reorient the flow of international and local resources toward more inclusive and gender responsive sustainable actions (i.e. banking, public and private sector investments) in the Republic of Suriname. It incorporates the implementation of sustainable forest management and other nature-based solutions priorities included in Suriname's second and enhanced NDC, whilst strengthening scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships.

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- The strengthened management of protected and productive landscapes in the Surinamese Amazon (ASL2) (2021 – 2026) project was finalized and submitted to the GEF for approval. This project is part of the Global Environment Facility (GEF 7) Impact Program on the Amazon, focusing on four strategic project components: (1) Improved management of protected landscapes (2) Strengthened, gender-inclusive, participatory management of productive landscapes; (3) Policies/incentives for protected and productive landscapes; (4) Knowledge management, learning, and monitoring and evaluation. The start of implementation in two target areas of the Surinamese Amazon biome of the Saamaka-Matawai and the Coeroeni-Paroe landscapes is planned for Q4, 2021.
  - The Global Climate Change Alliance Suriname Adaptation project, second phase (2020 – 2023) co-funded by the European Union and focusing on resilience building of coastal communities and ecosystems. This project further supports and expands the integration of Mangrove Forest ecosystem into Suriname National Forest Monitoring System as well as enhances knowledge on emissions from mangroves and facilitates incorporation of this data into Suriname FREL and reporting.
  - Enabling, Gender - Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) Project (2019 – 2023) is a regional project which aims to integrate gender equality into action on climate change, environment, and disaster risk reduction and recovery in 9 Caribbean countries, by leveraging sector-level entry points (e.g., NAPs and NAMAs), specifically supporting implementation and/or upscaling of countries' priority actions.
  - Suriname is participating in UNDP Climate Promise initiative (2020 – 2021), with general support for the enhancement of NDC implementation, specifically under the service lines of building political will and societal ownership at national and sub-national levels, and communications and learning.
  - The ongoing "Improving Environmental Management in the Mining Sector of Suriname, with Emphasis on Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (EMSAGs)" project (2018 – 2025) seeks to improve the environmental management of mining in Suriname, particularly small-scale gold mining, which is the largest driver of deforestation in the country and contributes to biodiversity loss (through habitat degradation and pollution), climate change (through deforestation) and unsustainable land, water and forest management. The project addresses policy and institutional constraints to improved management of Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) as a sector as well as to create an enabling environment for the dissemination of environmentally responsible mining practices. To do so, the project will work at the policy level (Outcomes 1 and 2) with government stakeholders, as well as with miners themselves (Outcome 3) to demonstrate the environmental and economic benefits of environmentally responsible mining practices (ERMPs) and technologies.
  - Development of a project within the Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM Sector Plus (GEF-GOLD Suriname) Programme, (2022 – 2027). The project focuses on the ASGM sector as part of GEF GOLD+ global programme and targets the reduction in the use of mercury in the ASGM sector in Suriname, through a process which seeks to formalize this mainly informal sector, and increase access to finance leading to adoption of sustainable mercury free technologies and access to traceable gold supply chain. The finalization and submission to GEF for approval is scheduled for July 2021.

**Table 1. Summary of progress in FCPF funded activities (Key activities as per signed Project Document of 04 January 2019)**

<b>Output 1 Suriname leaders, stakeholders and rightsholders understand the REDD+ potential for development, are engaged in the consultation process and have the human capacities to implement REDD+</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible institution (Main/involved)</b>
<i>1a. Human and technical capacities are built, information is shared, and dialogue and participation are effective with key stakeholders and rightsholders' groups.</i>	Ongoing	06 -2021	PMU, NIMOS, Coordination Office, Cabinet of the President
<i>1b. Indigenous and Tribal Peoples are specifically supported, engaged and ready for implementing REDD+.</i>	Ongoing	06 - 2021	VIDS & KAMPOS (ITP organization), Ministry of RO/ UNDP
<i>1c. The programme is suitably monitored and evaluated.</i>	Ongoing	06 -2021	NIMOS/UNDP
<i>1d: Institutional and Legal Arrangements are made for full and effective REDD+ implementation.</i>	Ongoing	06 -2021	Coordination Office, Cabinet of the President, PMU and NIMOS
<b>Output 2 REDD+ strategy and business model with active support from major national stakeholders and rightsholders in Suriname implemented.</b>			
<i>2a. Studies to encourage economic co-benefits/opportunities are performed.</i>	Ongoing	06 - 2021	NIMOS, PMU,
<i>2b. A Results-Based Payment (RBP) system for REDD+ is designed.</i>	Ongoing	06 - 2021	NIMOS, SBB
<i>2c. International support is secured to assist and fund REDD+ strategy implementation.</i>	Ongoing	06 – 2021	NIMOS/PMU Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment
<i>2d A National REDD+ Fiduciary Trust Fund (NRFTF) or a Sovereign National Earmark Account (SNEA) established and validated</i>	Canceled	12 - 2020	Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment
<b>Output 3 A comprehensive set of tools are built to support REDD+</b>			
<i>3a. Develop a Carbon Asset Transactions Registry or National REDD+ Registry (CATR), including serialization, Emissions reductions issuing, tracking and retiring, and valuing co-benefits intrinsic assets.</i>	Ongoing	06 - 2020	SBB, NIMOS
<i>3b. A National Safeguard Information System (SIS/SOI) is Designed and Developed.</i>	Completed	06 - 2019	NIMOS
<i>3c. Online/offline REDD+ interoperability is developed between input data and geoservices from FREL, NFMS, SIS, SFISS, CATR, CIU, RBP, SLMS, NRTMS, BSM, NRFTF/SNEA and NFI.</i>	Ongoing	06 - 2021	NIMOS, Colead: SBB
<i>3d. Feedback, Grievance, and Redress Mechanism (FGRM) operational.</i>	Ongoing	06 - 2021	NIMOS, UNDP
<i>3e. A National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS), including a Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) function is developed and functional</i>	Ongoing	06 - 2021	SBB



<i>3f. A second iteration of a national Forest REL/RL is developed and official numbers are validated for reporting.</i>	Ongoing	06 - 2021	SBB, CELOS
<i>3g: The Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) is fully operationalized</i>	Ongoing	06 – 2021	NIMOS, PMU

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

There was no change to reformulated outputs other than output 2d A National REDD+ Fiduciary Trust Fund (NRFTF) or a Sovereign National Earmark Account (SNEA) established and validated. This output is canceled under the REDD+ project. The reason for its discontinuation under REDD+ project is because the activity is preempted by the Environmental Framework Law of May 2020, which states that an Environmental Fund should be established to finance implementation of environmental management. UNDP was advised that the NRFTF would be incorporated in the Environmental Fund. Support from the Green Growth Suriname Foundation (new NGO) was accessed by the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment to support in the realization of the Environmental Fund. The Green Growth Suriname Foundation in December 2020, as part of assignment also consulted the UNDP Country Office work, on UNDP country programme vis a vis the Environmental Fund and Environmental Financing in general.

## **2. In Focus**

### **Output 1: Pillar1 Human capacities and stakeholder’s engagement**

The REDD+ project board did not have face-to-face meetings and no virtual meetings were hosted due to COVID-19, given the composition of the PB, with members based in remote interior districts with limited to no access to internet. The project board provided remote via email no-objection approval to the extension of the project and Multi-Year Annual Work Plan 2019 – 2020 till 30 June 2021.

The impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Suriname was serious and affected the hosting of meetings, caused delays in implementation of specific readiness actions, among others:

- Benefit Sharing Mechanism,
- Indigenous and Tribal Peoples are specifically supported, engaged and ready for implementing REDD+, Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment and Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), in public outreach, and awareness activities, roll out of the Community Based Monitoring (CBM).

NIMOS capacity strengthening continued with the hiring of technical assistance services to review NIMOS internal procedures, including its organigram and staffing. This also included the accountability mechanism in the context of a fit-for-purpose institution as part of its transition to the National Environmental Authority (NMA).

The capacity building proposal of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITP) platforms/ organization VIDS (Indigenous) and KAMPOS was prepared and subsequently funded. KAMPOS comprises of Tribal Peoples (Tribes) of Kwinti’s, Aluku’s, Matawai, Pamaaka, Okanisi and Saamaka. It is a relatively new organization, resulting from the Conservation International CI led Wise REDD process of 2016. The results from the CI WISE REDD were incorporated into the REDD+ project work. KAMPOS is also receiving technical and

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operational support from the Association of Saamaka Tribal Leaders (VSG). The association of Saamaka Tribal Leaders (VSG) is a longstanding organization of the Saamaka Tribe, that was present and instrumental in the approval of Suriname REDD+ project. .

The VIDS Capacity Needs Assessment report focuses on capacities to engage on environmental issues in general and specifically REDD+. The preparation of the Needs Assessment report is funded by the REDD+ project. To facilitate the engagement of VIDS and KAMPOS it was agreed that the VIDS and KAMPOS project proposal and VIDS Capacity Needs Assessment report would be prepared in Dutch.

The public outreach and awareness activities continued in part, virtually during 2020, with emphasis on children and youth. The spoken word competition with Forest as theme targeting Youth was successfully held.

### **Output 2: Pillar2 National REDD+ strategy**

The National REDD+ Strategy is published and available on UNFCCC REDD+ platform as of second half 2020. On 2020 focus has been among others on Suriname Fiscal and budget crisis and COVID-19. During this period UNDP has had regular bilateral interactions with government ministers, who reiterated the importance of reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation. The focus is a process with the new government, to further adopt the objective of Nature Based Solutions as a core part of the development paradigm, whilst considering current Crisis and Recovery Plan.

The National REDD+ strategy, together with the Multi-Annual Development Plan are key reference points within the Government of Suriname and UN SDG Joint Programme on Roadmap for a Sustainable Financial System for Suriname. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Business Relations (BIBIS) in his opening remarks stated “ That arriving at a roadmap for a sustainable financing system for SDG through leveraging of nature-based solutions aligns to the objective of newly elected government under leadership of the president of Suriname, his excellency Chandrikapersad Santokhi”. The Minister of Spatial Planning and Environment during his key note address shared following on Suriname commitment to sound management of its natural wealth “ Suriname affirmed its commitment to sound custodianship of its natural resources at international fora such as COP24 with 93% forest cover commitment, that was reaffirmed at COP25 with the submission of Suriname second Nationally Determined Contribution. The passing of the Environmental Framework Law in parliament, establishing the National Environmental Management Authority (NMA) and repositioning of the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment” are in support of this.

In country learning and capacity development for design of a Results-Based Payment (RBP) system for REDD+ including the enabling conditions is ongoing, as part of implementation of the four (4) ground truth projects. The 4 projects in support of Livelihoods strategies, technologies and practices and national capacities are<sup>2</sup>:

- Ecological study for management of Carapa tree populations in Apura and surrounding area;
- Agroforestry project at Marchalkreek and the expansion of a herbal tea value-chain pilot project in Kwamalasamutu village
- The expansion of the herbal tea value-chain pilot project in Kwamalasamutu village;

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<sup>2</sup> FCPF RF REDD+ Country Participants Progress Report – Suriname 2019 – 2020, page 4

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- Natural Resources and Engineering studies (NATIN) to improve the capacity for practical training in forest and nature education.

UNDP Country Office, the National Implementing partner and PMU due to COVID-19 carried out a virtual field visit to the Marchalkreek location. UNDP was led by Head of Office DRR Ms. Margaret Jones Williams, Mr. Cedric Nelom, Acting General Director NIMOS also joined in the virtual mission. Key points from this virtual site visit. COVID-19 pandemic leading to sanitary lockdowns and travel restrictions. Secondly and related to REDD+ implementation, is the long-term sustainability and continuation of the applied research and income generation on the 2 hectares, given this is done on communal land of the Village and that village chief/elders or government may change the land use/land tenure of the 2 hectares applied research/income generation plot. Members of virtual field visit team suggested this aspect as area of further improvement and strengthening to support the sustainability of the investment.

Benefit Sharing Mechanism is ongoing, after 2 unsuccessful procurement efforts in finding suitable technical assistance, the terms of reference were under review given the lack of response. The lack of response is also in part due to relative new nature of Benefit Sharing Mechanism and limited experience with its design.

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. NIMOS has requested to consider the GRO and align in the context of the new National Environment Authority.

### **Output 3: Pillar 3 Implementation framework and tools:**

Improvements on the [Gonini](#) portal continued during 2020, including on Near Real-Time Monitoring (NRTM). Additional support for further improvements of NRTM is incorporated in the Improving Environmental Management in the Mining Sector of Suriname, with Emphasis on the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (EMSAGs) project.

The continued partnership on Sustainable Forestry Information System (SFISS), is also integrated in strengthening management of protected and productive landscapes in the Surinamese Amazon (ASL2) project.

An integral part of the National Forest Monitoring work was on the mangrove ecosystem. Data was gathered at nine mangrove biodiversity monitoring locations, which resulted in an updated Mangrove Forest Cover map, updated carbon stocks, and biodiversity data for these locations. This data supports and complements policies and measures proposed in Suriname's Mangrove Strategy Plan. The monitoring of Mangroves is to be supported by GCCA+ phase 2 project and supports the implementation of Suriname's second Nationally Determined Contribution, Suriname National REDD+ Strategy and National Adaptation Plan (NAP) that incorporates key cross cutting strategic priorities (such as institutional arrangements, data, mainstreaming adaptation, enhanced national capacity, culturally and gender sensitive adaptation) and four priority sectors of Water Resources, Forestry, Agriculture and Energy.

No progress made on the joint technical committee on land rights roadmap and agreed draft Law on land rights prior to the general elections of 25 May 2020. The Usance is that after general elections all committees are reassessed and, in this instance, a new technical committee has been established, with a new Chair to review the draft legislation on land rights and provision of legal status to ITP traditional leadership.

### 3. Risks and responses

**Table 2: Key Risks and Issues during 2020**

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 2020	NIMOS
Slow progress of government of Suriname and Indigenous and Tribal Peoples process	Develop a better understanding of the steps between Government of Suriname and Indigenous and Tribal Peoples to review, approve and submit the draft land rights legislation	Throughout 2020	NIMOS, Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment, UNDP
Lack of available International finance for REDD+ implementation funding, particularly for conservation in the context of forest rich countries such as Suriname	Identify one or two additional high-level champions and engage with them meaningfully.  Participation in International Fora: - 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.	Throughout 2020	NIMOS, Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment, UNDP
Policy changes and lack of clarity related to long term institutional arrangement for Forest Management and Nature Conservation institutions	Advocacy to high level government representatives on importance of decision and taking action steps  Directly engage the responsible minister and ministry as well as technical institutes  Engage permanent parliamentary committees and Climate and Environment committee on the subject  Support in assessments and studies	Throughout 2020	NIMOS, SBB, Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment, UNDP

	that facilitate decision making		
ESMF endorsement by NIMOS per REDD+ common approach creates challenges with new Environmental Framework Law	NIMOS and UNDP as needed with technical support undertake review and alignment process of draft ESMF vs Common Approach and Environmental Framework Law	Throughout 2020	NIMOS, Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment, UNDP
Implementing partners are unable to focus on the project implementation due to COVID-19 response efforts	Continue regular engagement of PMU and key implementing partners and project extension	Throughout 2020	NIMOS, Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment, UNDP

#### 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 within the Suriname REDD+ team is stable and unchanged from 2018. At the start of 2019 the PMU consist of Project Manager, Engagement Officer, Technical Assistant, REDD+ communications officer, Finance and Admin Officer/Assistant, Logistics Assistant and Communications Officer, supported part-time by Sr. Advisor under overall supervision of the Acting General Director NIMOS.

##### Technical staff at SBB

The contracting of technical staff at the Foundation for Forest Management and Production to support the technical work under FREL, NFMS, SFISS as advised by the UNDP Midterm Evaluation and FCPF Midterm Progress Report, is ongoing and continues to build national capacity.

##### Operational/procurement capacity

The PMU, NIMOS and SBB project staff capacity strengthening continues in the areas of procurement, substantive knowledge, engagement.

##### Project oversight and monitoring

In 2020, there were no management meetings comprising of the Director Research of SBB, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment and Acting General Director NIMOS in providing oversight, support and guidance to the PMU and NIMOS in the strategic direction of the REDD+ programme.

On the capacity issues and recommendations from the UNDP commissioned Independent Mid-term Evaluation 2017 all actions have been implemented during the period 2017 – 2019, with exemption of one item which is highlighted in yellow, in the table below. With the new Environmental Law of 07 May 2020, the reestablishment of the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment and NIMOS General Director reporting to the Minister of Spatial Planning and Environment access to high level policy makers is provided.

**Table 3: UNDP commissioned Independent Mid-term Evaluation 2017 key recommendations and actions**

Key issues and Recommendations from the Mid-Term Review	Management Response	Key Actions
<p>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 available to support a technical and policy discussion.</p> <p>Recommendations: 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>	<p>We support this recommendation and propose this be realized immediately and throughout, the remaining lifespan of the project</p> <p>Noteworthy and already ongoing: High level engagement with the Office of the President and the Council of Ministers in Dec 2016. Based 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"> <li>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.</li> <li>2. Identify one or two additional high-level champions and engage with them meaningfully.</li> <li>3. PMU reconfigured to optimize results until the end of the project and Project Coordinator until end of project will be designated.</li> <li>4. Establish the REDD+ Steering Committee to afford the Director of NIMOS the formal avenue to engage high level policy makers.</li> </ol>
<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: 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 strengthened and UNDP needs to revise and precise better the implementation</p>	<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</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>2. Enhance UNDP Country Office program and project quality assurance per support to NIM and ensure timely follow up to agree action steps and</li> </ol>

<p>modality for future projects with this IP.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>4. HACT assessment should be redone to consider the current situation.</p>	<p>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"> <li>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&amp;E officer.</li> <li>2. For SBB as of April 2017 Data Analyst to support FREL.</li> </ol>	<p>documentation of this follow up.</p> <p>3. Integrate UNDP substantive (technical) support, beyond general management services (GMS), in the project implementation strategy and ensure appropriate costing until project end.</p>
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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?**

With the new Environmental Framework Law the REDD+ PMU and implementing partner NIMOS, will undertake final review and alignment of Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) with reference the new Law and international standards and assess whether capacities are in place to successfully implement the ESMF. The implementation of the review and alignment with new legislation as well as UNDP and FCPF/World Bank guidelines were discussed and considered in 2020, however these will now take place in 2021.

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

The design of the Grievance and Redress Mechanism (GRM) for REDD+ was completed in January 2019 and initial steps taken towards the establishment of the Grievance and Redress Office (GRO) for REDD+. 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 were discontinued given NIMOS request to reassess the operationalization of GRM, GRO and hiring of Director, considering that the new Environmental Framework Law of 7th May and mandates under the National Environmental Authority (NMA) would results in potential changes and a recalibration of how the GRM would fit into the new framework.

## 7. 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 initial budget of US\$3.8 million for the project implementation, with additional USD 2.65 million made available after successful Midterm Review of Suriname for a total project implementation amount of USD 6.45 million. The total expenditures of the REDD+ project for the period 2014-2020, amounts to US\$ **5,415,305.94**.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS				
OUTPUTS	Total budget (A)	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2020		
		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	\$0.00	\$1,987,984.14	\$1,987,984.14
OUTPUT 2 - REDD+ strategy	\$891,000.00	\$0.00	\$836,770.52	\$836,770.52
OUTPUT 3 - Implementation Framework and tools	\$780,000.00	\$0.00	\$694,255.20	\$694,255.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,800,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3,702,756.27</b>	<b>\$3,702,756.27</b>
OUTPUTS	Total budget (A)	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2020		
		Commitments (B)	Disbursements (C)	Total Expenditures (D) = B + C
Additional Funds				
OUTPUT 1 - Human capacities Consultation	\$1,015,000.00	\$5,932.41	\$784,526.71	\$790,459.12
OUTPUT 2 - REDD+ Strategy Business Model	\$695,000.00	\$0.00	\$448,989.84	\$448,989.84



UNDP 2020 Annual Progress Report to the FCPF  
as a Delivery Partner – Suriname

OUTPUT 3 - Development Decision Tools	\$940,000.00	\$0.00	\$473,100.71	\$473,100.71
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$2,650,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,932.41</b>	<b>\$1,706,617.26</b>	<b>\$1,712,549.67</b>
	<b>\$6,450,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,932.41</b>	<b>\$5,409,373.53</b>	<b>\$5,415,305.94</b>

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## 8. Attachments, links to reports

### Reference material:

- [Suriname Second Nationally Determined Contribution \(NDC\)](#)
- Suriname National REDD+ Strategy
- [SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE PLAN FOR COVID-19 IN SURINAME](#)
- [www.gonini.org](http://www.gonini.org)
- [KOPI webpage](#)
- <http://www.sfiss.sbb.sr/>
- <https://statistics-suriname.org/surinameenvironmentinfo/>
- [Suriname National Adaptation Plan \(NAP\)](#)
- <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/system/files/documents/FCPF%20RF%20REDD%2B%20Suriname%20Progress%20Report%202019-2020%20Final%20%28002%29.pdf>
- <http://www.sis.surinameredd.org/media/1060/sis-report.pdf>
- [https://www.sr.undp.org/content/suriname/en/home/presscenter/articles/2020\\_Article\\_Landing/-roadmap-for-a-sustainable-financial-system-for-suriname.html](https://www.sr.undp.org/content/suriname/en/home/presscenter/articles/2020_Article_Landing/-roadmap-for-a-sustainable-financial-system-for-suriname.html)
- Translation Environmental Framework Act of May 07, 2020

9. REDD+ Suriname in action Pictures and data:



Photo 9.1: Suriname REDD+ spoken word competition, winners together with PMU and NIMOS staff 30 Sept 2020

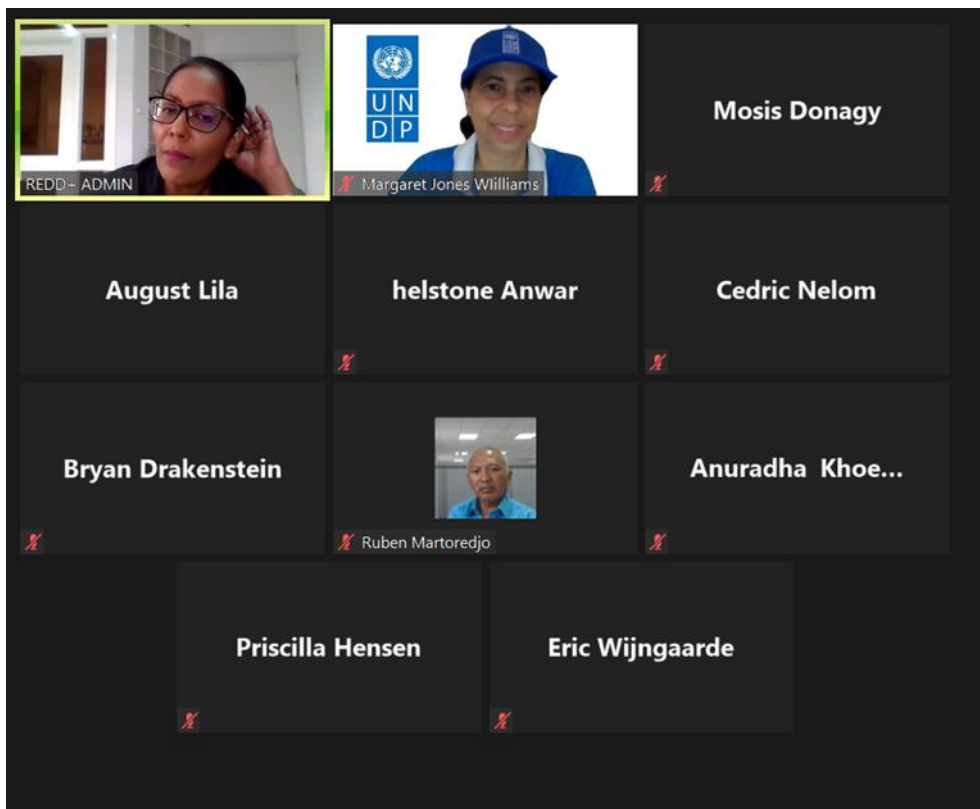


Photo 9.2: Zoom screenshot participants virtual site visit Marchallkreek ground truth project, 12 Dec 2020

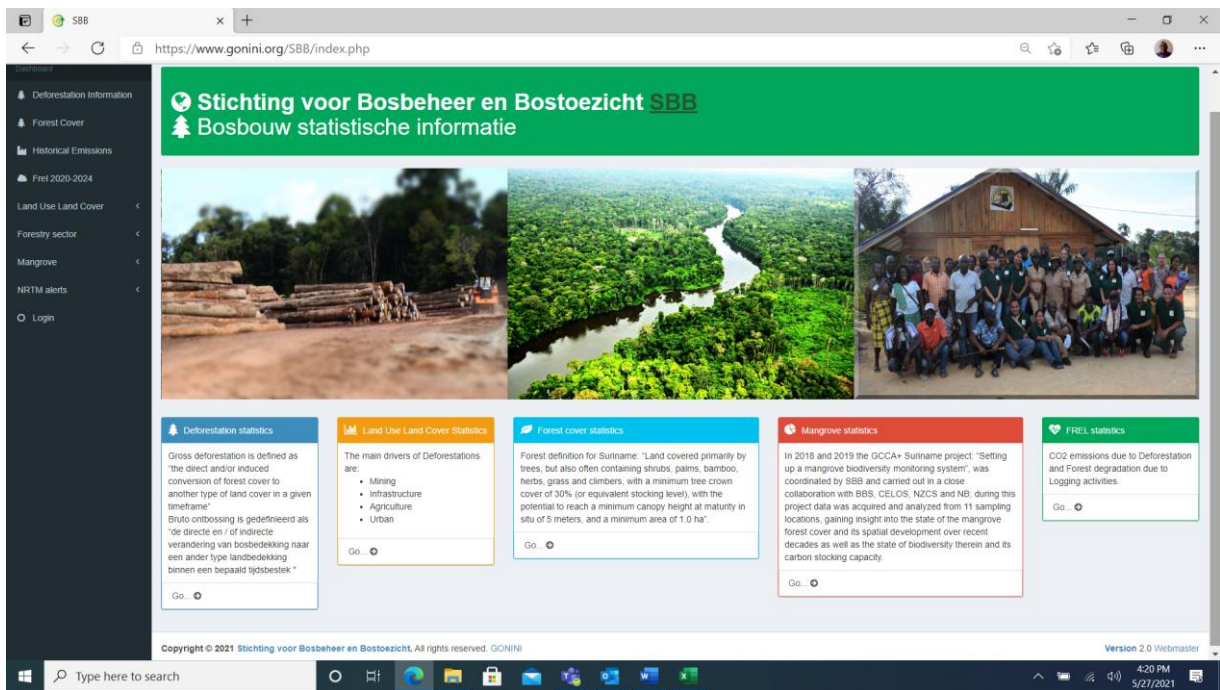


Photo 9.3: Screenshot [KOPI](#), Copyright © 2021 [Stichting voor Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht](#). All rights reserved. [GONINI](#), downloaded 4.20 PM Suriname time, 27 May 2021

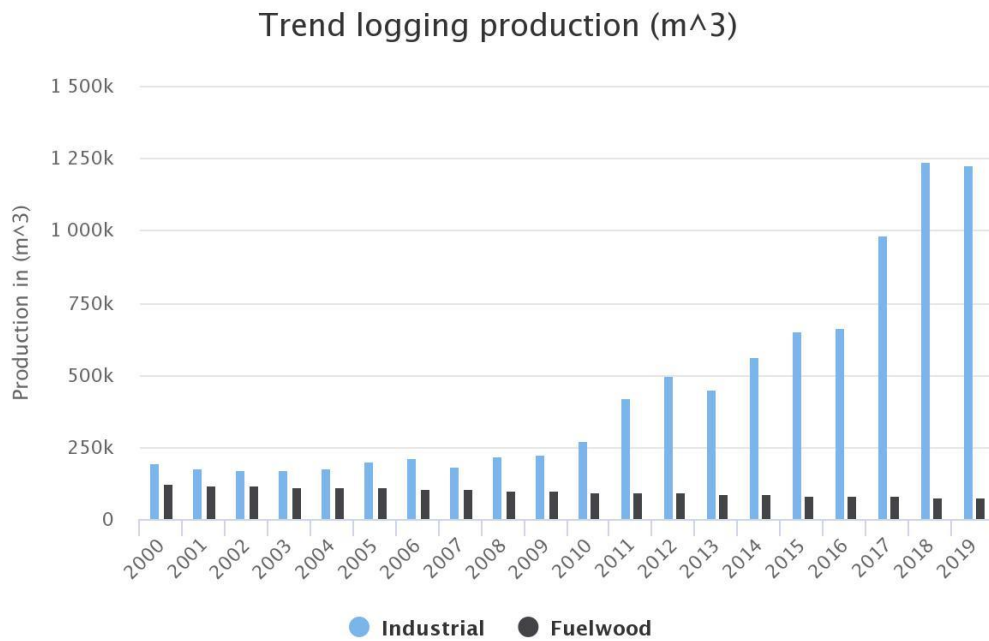


Photo 9.4: [KOPI](#), Copyright © 2021 [Stichting voor Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht](#). All rights reserved. [GONINI](#), downloaded 4.38 PM Suriname time, 27 May 2021