

REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY: Suriname

April 2014

1. R-PP Preparation and FCPF Readiness grant

- The first informal submissions of the RPP of Suriname took place in 2009 and 2010.
- Suriname invited UNDP to act as Delivery Partner of the FCPF during PC11 (March 2012, Paraguay).
- UNDP realized a scoping mission in April 2012, to meet and discuss with the government and the stakeholders about expectations, needs, conditions, and identify the best ways of supporting the preparation of the RPP. One of the major issues discussed during this mission was the need for a strong early dialogue process with local and national stakeholders.
- Between May and August 2012, funds have been mobilized through the Guyana Shield Facility (usd295,950.00), the own resources of UNDP Country Office in Suriname (usd50,000.00) and a Targeted Support of the UN-REDD programme (usd 50.000) to strengthen the institutional capacity. A team has been set up under the leadership of CCDAs to take the lead on the elaboration of the RPP and realize of the early dialogue at the national and local level with stakeholders.
- An inception workshop was held in October 2012, to discuss about REDD and about the organization of the work until the formal presentation of the RPP, planned during Q1 2013.
- Several national and local meetings have been organized since Oct 2012. These meetings included one inception workshop, to share the project with the project group. 4 local dialogues (two were in Indigenous villages and two in Maroon villages), to share information about REDD+, climate change and the R-PP with selected communities. Three national dialogues (one in 2012 and two in 2013) and concluded in Feb- 17 May 2013 with a workshop to inform a broad range of stakeholders about the content of the R-PP and the progress of the project to date.
- The RPP has been submitted to the FMT for formal presentation, and endorsed by the Participant Committee during PC14 in March 2013. On March 26th, during a press conference, the positive results of the presentation to the FCPF were presented to the local press.
- The revised RPP, incorporating TAP and PC comments, has been submitted on May 24th 2013.
- The FMT on the 25th June finalized its completeness check of revised RPP of May 2013.
- In August 2013 UNDP started its due diligence process prior to signature of the R-PP.
- Final draft Project Document for Implementation of the -PP completed in Q1 2014 and currently in public review

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- Formal arrangements have not yet started, but the process to advance this has been formulated through a transition project proposal which is to be finalized early June 2013.
- The transition project initiation plan has been formulated with the National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname as lead institute. The transition phase aims to formulate the Government of Suriname and UNDP Project Documents as well as prepare all stakeholders involved for the effective and efficient implementation of the R-PP. Per Oct 2013 all funding, (FCPF USD 200,000), (GSF USD 100,000), (UNDP office USD 50,000), (UNREDD USD 50,000) for the transition phase to R-PP implementation are available. Grant agreement signed with WWF Guianas for support to REDD+ Transition phase for the amount of USD 72,350.-. Conservation International Suriname will also support the REDD+ Transition phase with USD 20,000.-
- Transition project Initiated. NIMOS capacity strengthened with project unit staff, technical REDD+ officer and communications expert. Increased office space established for execution of REDD+ activities.

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

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- The RPP stresses that all stakeholders (public sector, private sector, forest dependent communities, civil society and research institutes) will be consulted and will eventually participate in the design, implementation and monitoring of the R-PP activities.
- Over the past months (Oct 2012 – May 2013) a series of early information sessions and consultations have taken place with forest dependent communities. There were four of these sessions with four tribal communities. At three instances national dialogues were held. Before the PC14 these were on 3 December 2012 and 15 February 2013. After PC14 the last national dialogue under this project was held on 17 May 2013 to share the approval of the RPP with a broad stakeholder based as well as to lay out the next steps in the process.
- The review of the implications of the Saramaka judgment of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and indigenous and tribal people's rights for REDD+ in Suriname completed with draft final report being disseminated. The review included in country mission and consultations in Sept and Oct 2013.
- The UNDP due diligence process included in country mission and consultation on the Grievance and Redress Mechanism. The review involved in country mission in Oct 2013, with the draft final report disseminated to stakeholders.
- Representatives from Government and Indigenous peoples participated in regional training workshop on FPIC, Panama City 29-31 Oct 2013 and regional social inclusion workshop, Bogota 2-6 Dec 2013.
- One REDD+ Assistants meeting held in Q1 of 2014. In Q2 REDD+ Major Groups Collective meeting, sectoral meeting planned.
- International REDD+ conference for 8 HFLD countries planned in Q2 as well.

4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- As stated in final RPP, Suriname, as a HFLD country, focus of the to-be formulated REDD+ Strategy will be on limiting the growth in the forest-transition curve and associated emissions, without limiting economic and social development. A total number of 13 strategy options have been identified during dialogues with stakeholders. These 13 options will be further assessed, resulting in selected options to be part of the REDD+ Strategy. Two provisions, designed in a participatory manner, as part of the REDD+ delivery mechanisms will be established: a Climate Fund and a Benefit Sharing Mechanism.
- No further work has been done on this outside of the RPP formulation.

5. Implementation Framework

- According the RPP, the implementation of the R-PP itself will be done by existing and to-be-established institutions (Climate Compatible Development Unit within the Cabinet of the President of Suriname as the political focal point, NIMOS as the technical focal point, the 17 ministries because of their sector-specific environmental responsibilities) and by supporting entities (REDD+ Steering Committee, Major Groups Collective and REDD+ Assistants Collective, civil society, private sector and research institutes).
- The RPP indicates that for addressing grievances and conflicts a temporary three-tier approach will be set up, starting with the REDD+ Steering Committee. If issues cannot be resolved at this level, they can be submitted to the Bureau for Contact with the People in the Cabinet of the President and as an ultimate solution to the Parliamentary Commission on Climate Change.
- Climate Change Compatible Development Unit established within the Cabinet of the President in Q3 2013
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6. SESA

- Standard ESIA procedures, provided by NIMOS, will serve as the basis to conduct a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA). The SESA will provide a comprehensive stakeholder analysis, a description of the initial social and environmental situation of the forest sector in Suriname, an analysis of the possible impacts of the several REDD+ strategy options scenarios, an analysis of impacts of different REDD+ alternatives and the verification of compliance with World Bank policies. SESA preparation will be the basis for the formulation of an Environmental and Social Management Framework that will help minimize and mitigate any potential negative impacts of REDD+ implementation on the social and environmental integrity of the country.
- No further work has been done on this outside of the RPP formulation.

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- Suriname will establish a national forest reference level (RL), which will have the following characteristics: (i) it will be national in scope; (ii) it will be based on deforestation and forest degradation; (iii) it will include above- and below-ground tree biomass, dead wood, and soil, and; (iv) it will distinguish among emission factors on the basis of drivers. Specific actions to establish the RL for Suriname include updating the forest definition, analysis of historical data and acquisition of additional data to enable scenario modeling (projection of business-as-usual, projection of a development scenario in the absent of a REDD+ scheme, and a development scenario with REDD+).
- No further work has been done on this outside of the RPP formulation.

8. MRV

- A national forest monitoring system will be designed to follow changes in all five REDD+ eligible activities, i.e. reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conserving forest carbon stocks; sustainable forest management; enhancing forest carbon stocks. It will build on available terrestrial inventory and remote sensing data, while aiming to incorporate new emerging technologies to continuously improve the quality and cost-efficiency of the national MRV system. The monitoring system will help to ensure that forests are utilized efficiently. A monitoring system will also be developed for monitoring impacts on forest biological diversity and ecosystem services, socio-economic impacts, productive impacts and governance. Several organizations and stakeholders are expected to be part of the monitoring institutional structure to enable an efficient monitoring system: NIMOS, SBB, forest dependent communities, research institutes, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries and Ministry of Public Works.
- No further work has been done on this outside of the RPP formulation.

9. Other

- As the project results were shared with all stakeholders, it gained support from conservation organizations in Suriname. WWF Guianas gave financial support to one local dialogue in 2013 in South-West Suriname, Kwamalasemutu an Indigenous village.

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