



## Mid Term Progress Report

### SURINAME

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**Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)**

**Readiness Fund**

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**Note:** [FMT Note 2012-7 rev](#) lays out the process for REDD Country Participants to submit, and the Participants Committee (PC) to review, mid-term progress reports and requests for additional funding of up to US\$ 5 million.

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## Acronyms

ACT	Amazon Conservation Team
ACTO	Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization
ADeK	Anton de Kom University of Suriname
AGB	Above ground biomass
ANRICA	Austrian Natural Resources and International Cooperation Agency
ASGM	Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining
ASHU	General Suriname Timber Union
ATM	Ministry of Labor, Technological Development and Environment
BAU	Business as usual
CCDA	Climate Compatible Development Agency
CELOS	Centre for Agricultural Research in Suriname
CI	Conservation International
CSNR	Central Suriname Nature Reserve
DC	District Commissioner
EDU	Ministry of Education
EEPO	Environmental Education and Public outreach department of NIMOS
ESA	Environmental & Social Assessment
ESC	Executive Steering Committee of IIRSA project
ESIA	Environmental and social impact assessments
ETG	Executive Technical Groups of IIRSA project
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
FDC	Forest Dependent Communities
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FGRM	Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism
FNC	First National Communication to UNFCCC
FPIC	Free Prior and Informed Consent
FTAA	Free Trade Area of the Americas
GFC	Guyana Forestry Commission
GHG	Green House Gases
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GLIS	Land registration and Land information system
GMD	Mining Department
HFLD	High Forest Cover Low Deforestation
HI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
IIRSA	Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America
IMAC	Inter-Ministerial Advisory Commission
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
IP	Indigenous Peoples
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
KfW	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau
KKF	Chamber of Commerce and Industry
LBB	Forest Service
LBMA	London Bullion Market Association

LVV	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
MUMA	Multiple-use Management Area
NAMAs	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
NB	Nature Conservation Division
NBS	National Biodiversity Strategy
NFI	National Forest Inventory
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NH	Ministry of Natural Resources
NIMOS	National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname
NRS	National REDD+ Strategy
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
OIS	Organization of Indigenous People in Suriname
OP	Policy Development Plan Suriname
OGS	Commission for the Structuring of the Gold Sector
OW	Ministry of Public Works
PES	Payments for Ecosystem Services
PFE	Permanent Forest Estate
PG	Project Group R-PP
PH	Ministry of Public Health
PMT	Project Management Team for R-PP
PS	Private Sector
REDD+	Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation
REL	Reference Emission Level
ROGB	Ministry of Physical Planning, Land and Forest Management
RGM	Rosebel Gold Mines
RO	Ministry of Regional Development
ROM	Coordination Office for Spatial Planning and Environment
R-PP	R-PP Readiness Preparation Proposal
RPIN	Readiness Plan Idea Note
RSC	REDD+ Steering Committee
SBB	Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control
SCF	Suriname Conservation Foundation
SESA	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SNC	Second National Communication
SURALCO	Suriname Aluminum Company
TBI	Tropenbos International Suriname
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Conventions on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
VIDS	The Association of Village Leaders of Suriname
VSb	The Association of Surinamese Companies
VSG	The Association of Saramaka Authorities
WRI	World Resources Institute
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

## Executive Summary

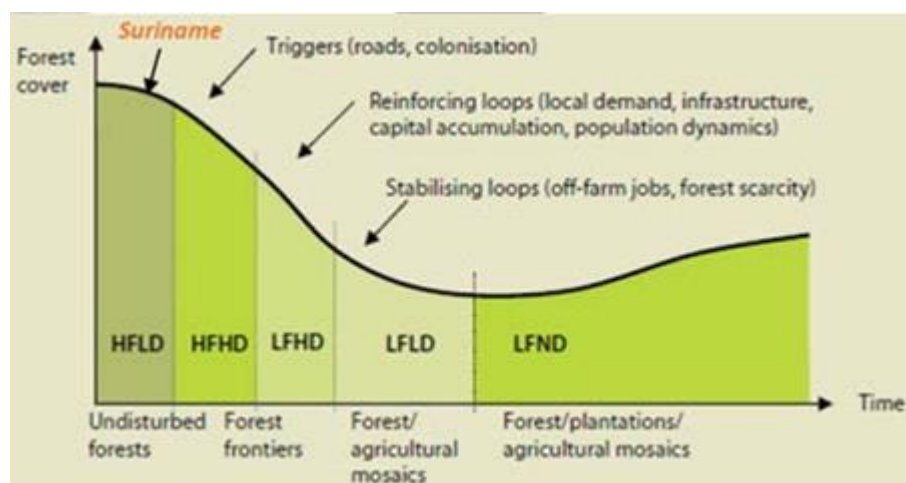
Suriname remains committed to its part in the fight against climate change and recognizes the significant role their forests can play on both national and global scale through reduced emissions, socioeconomic welfare and biodiversity conservation. In this regard, Suriname is keen to pursue a green growth through a climate-compatible development approach and promote REDD+ as a policy development mechanism. Since 2015, the Government of Suriname (GoS) has prioritized the development of the Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (iNDC) under the UNFCCC's Paris Agreement and integrated the climate change mitigation and adaptation programs; including the National REDD+ Strategy (NRS). The NRS will also serve as an instrument to fulfill the iNDC and its integration with intersectoral policies. Meanwhile, Suriname reaffirms its commitment to enable climate resilience by maintaining its forest cover and safeguarding cleaner freshwater resources; it also recognizes the need for the international community to work collectively, responsibly, and with urgency to address this global issue.

Suriname finds itself in an advanced stage of the REDD+ readiness phase. However, overall engagement in REDD+ started already in 2009, when Suriname decided to develop a Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) for submission to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society and Indigenous Peoples. The final R-PP was approved in March 2013 and Suriname received a first grant, out of the REDD+ Readiness Fund, for REDD+ preparation.

Suriname has also aligned its recent national development planning policy *Ontwikkelings Plan* (OP) (2017-2021) with the SDGs, UNFCCC, Agenda 2030, CBD through the Aichi Goals, NBSAPs, UNCCD, UNFF and UN REDD. This plan is chiefly a stepping stone for contributing to the SDGs and especially for enabling REDD+ to adopt the readiness phase and pave the way towards REDD+ implementation. The Surinamese government intends that the plan embraces national policy-making on many levels, as highlighted *"This plan was crafted by consensus, jointly building a diversified Surinamese economy, which is competitive in the competitive global market, has significantly more sustainable development, generates employment and equality, and keeps the environment livable"*. The plan is also aligned with four SDG: 1 (End of poverty), 5 (Gender Equality) 13 (Climate Action) and 15 (Terrestrial Ecosystems) included **specifically REDD+ as a mechanism through paragraphs VI.6. and IX.5.2** which pointed out, *"The compensation for the conservation of Suriname's pristine tropical forest which is necessary for a better world environment, contributes to the national growth and development as well as the income of village communities, competitive small, medium-sized and large companies that increase and diversify the national production and export through forestry and wood processing"* (GoS, 2017).

Suriname is a carbon negative country, as stated in its two National Communications to the UNFCCC, of 2006 and 2013 and in the Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (iNDC) from 2015. It has a forest cover of 15.2 million hectares (93%) storing at least 11.9 Gigaton of CO<sub>2</sub>. The sustainability of Suriname's development progress is highly vulnerable to climatic disasters, especially flooding because of rising sea levels, which has already had high human costs and created financial pressures for households, private businesses and public finances. With an ethnically diverse population of 567,291 inhabitants (GBS, 2017), Suriname has the largest tropical forests cover worldwide with a high biodiversity value and a total forest cover of 93% (SBB, 2017). The combination of these factors provides an opportunity for dialogue with stakeholders on both envision a green economy through Vision 2035 and build REDD+ as a sustainable development mechanism by improving people livelihood and safeguarding

a wise use of biodiversity (GoS, 2017). In global perspective, REDD+'s overarching international development goal is likely to catalyze forest transitioning countries towards a High Forest cover and Low Deforestation (HFLD) stationary steady stage to take advantage of Emissions Reductions Purchase Agreements (ERPAs), Carbon exchanges, and Forest Bonds either on voluntarily or mandatory markets (Fig 1.). Therefore, ensuring funding to complete REDD+ readiness process in Suriname, set a global HFLD benchmark, that should be strategically prioritized to be undertaken through the international policy arena.



**Figure 1.** Forest transition curve.

As a result, Suriname has crafted its blueprint through The National REDD+ Strategy (NRS) to advance towards a market-based mechanism (i.e. Carbon, Water, Biodiversity and Valuation for Ecosystem Services) which has been completed and is currently in the phase of discussion with GoS, after which a validation workshop will be held with stakeholders to approve it. In this NRS, the government identified several policy instruments and institutional arrangements to be made about Suriname effectively complying with the requirements agreed under the common approach, and with UNDP rules and regulations, recognized by the Steering Committee, the Project Board including Indigenous People (IP) and tribal groups through the readiness phase and beyond. Extensive capacity building activities and participatory workshops were conducted including inter-sectoral consultations based on the National Vision for REDD+ and keystone instruments for addressing strategic social and environmental issues and grievance redress mechanisms in its future implementation.

Consequently, the NRS will be supporting the completion of the three pillars of REDD+ readiness such as a) REDD+ strategy for sustainable development; b) stakeholder engagement and capacity building; and c) tools and implementation. Thus, the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) funds has entirely been contributing to the design and consolidation of a national vision and strategy for REDD+ in Suriname (under validation) and its corresponding implementation and sustainable financing plans.

Of the Three Pillars of REDD+ readiness, Suriname has largely made advancements with a) organization and consultation; b) preparation of the REDD+ strategy; c) Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL) / Forest Reference Level (FRL); d) National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS); e) Integration of Social and Environmental Safeguards (SESA). Most of these components will be validated and adopted in the National REDD+ strategy workshop in late November 2017 and will be evolving in refined outputs towards an Early Implementation System (EIS) , if granted.

Suriname has recently completed a first draft about FREL/FRL based on best available data and cutting edge remote sensing technology, with a transparent analysis of uncertainty and remaining gaps. Progress was made on the development of a time-series baseline with land-use change maps and deforestation rates at the national and districts scale. Next, the forest stratification was defined, guidelines for the implementation of methodological protocols for change and cover maps were validated, as well as for emission factors references, have been produced. Therefore, these outputs are scheduled to be officially submitted to the UNFCCC/IPCC Secretariat for technical assessment in January 2018. The draft FREL/FRL will be shared with all stakeholders before submission. Throughout the process, the staff involved with generating the FREL/FRL dataset received training to strengthen the technical capacity within the relevant institutions to determine the most suitable modelling toolkits and software suites such as GEOSiris, DINAMICA-EGO, TerraSet Geospatial Monitoring and Modelling System based on Suriname's current needs and information available.

Suriname deploys multiple sources of support for REDD+ and Sustainable Forest Management (SFM). The GoS, with the collaboration of the National REDD+ Strategy, its REDD+ focal point NIMOS, and the establishment of a Project Management Unit (PMU), has been coordinating the implementation of FCPF readiness components since 2014 in alliance with the Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB – Dutch abbreviation) and its SBB Forest Cover Monitoring Unit (FCMU) making it an integral part of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) working group. In 2012, a FCMU was established inside the SBB to advance towards the coordination of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS), and FREL/FRL baseline. Since 2016, this Unit has successfully advanced with the completion and deliverables of this baseline as well as the NFMS roadmap underlying its structure, technology, consultation, and outreach. This roadmap has been developed by building the technical capacity in terms of knowledge management system, software, staff, and hardware. Through training and workshops, a sound foundation for the development of a robust NFMS has been built with the identification of indicators and initial steps. It also sets out the guidelines for how such activities will be continued, improved, and institutionalized into a fully functional NFMS in the years to come.

Among options suggested from the National REDD+ Strategy outcome, the most relevant for Suriname's implementation phase is establishing the National REDD+ Fiduciary Trust Fund (NRFTF) to be endorsed by stakeholders. This is one of the overarching goal for the Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM) among other socioeconomics catalyzers that will be able to fulfill the National REDD+ Vision through the REDD+ readiness towards implementation phase. Likewise, Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), a technical and a national consultation was carried out with all stakeholders, and the legal and institutional framework report including risks and benefits will be validated in the REDD+ National Workshop to be held in November 2017. This work will be integrated with the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and being completed about structure and workflows (under final review) to be officially adopted in 2018.

All in all, Suriname's request for additional funding, to complete its readiness phase and pillars, were strategically allocated at fostering activities for this final readiness phase by setting out the financial sustainability policy, continuing capacity building, strengthening their policy making engagement, enhancing a stronger sense of ownership, improving HFLD international negotiations, designing their National Forestry Inventory, and enabling safeguards and grievance mechanism feedback through an integrated online system that will lay the foundation to build its interoperability through NRFTF with all stakeholders included. Thus, the following table shows activities strategically identified to complete the final REDD+ readiness phase within their components (Table 1), as follows:

**Table 1.** Activities connected to R-PP components and REDD+ Pillars about requesting additional funding to FCPF and donor countries to consolidate and complete the readiness phase and be fully prepared for implementation:

ORGANIZATION AND CONSULTATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen dialogue with stakeholders about the structure of benefit sharing mechanism (BSM) (i.e. REDD+ National Fiduciary Trust Fund, laying the foundations of BSM)</li> <li>Focalize efforts with the private sector about potential fundraising for continued future activities once the REDD+ readiness grant making cycle is complete (i.e. address and educate large and small-scale mining, logging corporations, etc. in the framework of voluntary business biodiversity offsets, hierarchy mitigation, and impact benefit agreements due to their commitment to their shareholders and annual sustainability reports)</li> </ul>
PREPARATION OF REDD+ STRATEGY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase high level political engagement for REDD+ with government, parliament, and judiciary branches of the state (i.e. including REDD+ continued contribution to Suriname Vision 2035, follow-up REDD+ to keep unfolding through the national development plan 2017-2021).</li> <li>Improve outreach based on a revamped NIMOS communication plan and consolidate the stakeholder engagement strategy (i.e. Civil Society, NGOs, Private sector, IP, Tribal groups, private sector, banking) and keystone products developed (i.e. REDD+ walk-in schools, REDD+ in mainstream media and op-eds, initiate training about REDD+ for districts with representatives of communities and government deploying a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and BSM).</li> <li>Host the Second International REDD+ Workshop with HFLD countries in Suriname to share lessons learned and best practices to spur a pathway for joint international negotiations in a future REDD+ implementation.</li> <li>Maintain capacity building to fine tune outputs and outcomes from REDD+ readiness phase; especially within NIMOS-PMU and SBB-FCMU.</li> </ul>
FREL/FRL BASELINE AND NATIONAL FOREST MONITORING SYSTEM (NFMS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an experimental design study of the Suriname National Forest Inventory (NFI).</li> </ul>
INTEGRATION OF SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS & Grievance, Redress, Mechanism (GRM) FEEDBACK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance the development of ONE gateway decision support system to deliver dual online/offline REDD+ interoperability and integration while responding to user needs that would be built by input data and geoservices from FREL, REL, Emissions' Registry, NFMS, ESMF, GRM, SESA, safeguards, and document management)</li> </ul>



# I – General Progress about R-PP Implementation in Suriname.

## 1 – Readiness Organization and Consultation for REDD+ Readiness

### 1a. National Readiness Management Arrangements for REDD+

#### *Indicator 1. Accountability and Transparency*

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
How are national REDD+ institutions and management arrangements demonstrating they are operating in an open, accountable and transparent manner?	Progressing well, further development required.

Most development partners recognize the media and civil society as important stakeholders for strengthening accountability and transparency in Suriname. They can help reshape attitudes and reverse public apathy and tolerance for corruption. They are also useful in advocacy, awareness, capacity development, and research. Suriname's civil society includes many REDD+ stakeholders. Private-sector organizations and labor unions are relatively well established. There are also numerous NGOs including development organizations, human rights and indigenous groups, tribal groups, women's associations, religious and church-affiliated societies, sports clubs, community service and community-based organizations (CBOs), and academic institutions.

Being accountable to stakeholders is the cornerstone of the REDD+ Readiness phase in Suriname. As a contribution to enhance this accountability, it was developed the program Widening Informed Stakeholder Engagement for REDD+ (WISEREDD+) to support the GoS in filling critical gaps in the stakeholder engagement processes. WISEREDD+ finalized in 2016 and demonstrated the criticality of engaging indigenous and maroon communities in a culturally-appropriate manner to build trust. The project also influenced the resolution of previous issues between the indigenous and maroon peoples and the Government of Suriname on REDD+. The GoS was committed to support continued engagement which significantly contributes to REDD+ openness and accountability (Barquin et al. 2016).

Regarding institutional transparency, Suriname has ratified the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (IACAC). Likewise, a Corruption Risk Assessment (CRA) was carried out by a third party contracted by UNDP and the final report was issued on February 2017 (Vaidya 2017). The analysis showed that the country's most important strength was its acknowledgement that measures should be taken; technical experts within the government, civil society, and the private sector all believed that instruments needs to be in place.

Additionally, in September 2017 Suriname enacted anti-corruption legislation, with the goal of preventing corruption, demanding disclosure and publication of Annual Reports by private and state companies in general (De Nationale Assemblée 2017).

From 2000 to 2015, mining (73%), road infrastructure (15%), and urban development (4%) were the direct drivers of deforestation (in order of impact). The government of Suriname, from a policy perspective, has identified transparency, accountability, public participation, and effective representation as essential elements of good governance in extractive industries. To mitigate corruption and promote good practices, Suriname is a member of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) since 24 May 2017 (EITI 2017). With the membership, the government accepted the EITI standards and it means imposing greater transparency on the extractive industries, especially by raising collective awareness about the purpose and usefulness of the EITI.

It is important to highlight that there are challenges in implementing REDD+ with regards to demarcation of the forest estate, political and policy contradictions between REDD+ goals and other development aims. If these issues are not adequately addressed, the risks of corruption from REDD+ are likely to be high in

REDD+ related sectors such mining and forestry. Unclear land tenure rights have meant that ownership of forested land is often subject to dispute, especially between the people of interior regions and the government, creating opportunities for the misuse of authority. Therefore, a Request for Proposals was released to provide a roadmap for Land Tenure and Land Rights (LTLR) in the REDD+ readiness to nurture the ongoing work of GoS in this matter. The PMU is also working with the GoS to align LTLR policy making measures in 2018.

Apart from the governmental actions to increase transparency in Suriname, NIMOS is also demonstrating transparency. As part of the latest financial audit of REDD+ readiness in Suriname, over USD \$ 900K were scrutinized by T&H Group Auditors endorsed by the International Ethics Standards Board of Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) and the International Standards on Auditing. The audit points out that assets, statement of expenses and cash advances incurred by the Project Management Unit (PMU) at NIMOS in 2016 were in conformity with the approved budget in compliance with UNDP regulations, policies and procedures for procurement and disbursements.

Recognizing there are important actions in place to address corruption issues. The Corruption Risks Assessment (CRA) report states that NIMOS/REDD+ can address corruption risks in many areas. In the short term, it can build capacity, strengthen REDD+ strategy, help raise awareness, and assist civil society organizations to promote REDD+ integrity. It can also improve the rights of indigenous and interior communities, data sharing, and local governance. In the medium and long term, it can support legislation reforms such as land rights, grievance redress, enabling social and environmental safeguards. Civil society organizations can significantly influence corruption risk mitigation by demanding increased freedom of expression, supporting integrity and transparency, encouraging accountability, pressuring the government to comply with anti-corruption conventions, promoting the active participation of society in anti-corruption activities, raising awareness, strengthening the role of civil society organizations in monitoring the public sector (Vaidya 2017).

The next capacity development plan for relevant and interested civil society groups is the final step in achieving the objective of creating a feasible, action-oriented strategy to address the capacity challenges defined by the CRA assessment. Moreover, a set of recommendations on transparency were provided in the corruption assessment of NIMOS/REDD+ to:

- Map corruption hot spots in REDD+ areas and the forestry sector.
- Build the capacity of REDD+ practitioners.
- Increase the understanding of REDD+ and related corruption risks among national and local institutions including local and indigenous communities and civil society organizations.
- Develop the awareness and ability to reduce the potential for forest-related corruption at the local level.
- Educate the interior community on relevant forestry laws and rights.
- Assist local governance systems to counter the risks of REDD+ corruption.
- Improve checks and balances against money laundering in relation to REDD+.
- Offer educational programs about governance and corruption risks in forestry and REDD+ that target university students, local communities, CSOs/NGOs, and officials.
- Sponsor the production of teaching and information materials on REDD+ and forest governance, including anti-corruption issues.
- Raise awareness of REDD+ as a foundation of integrity.
- Develop the ability of CSOs to oversee REDD+ anti-corruption efforts.
- Strengthen the institutional capacity for reward and punishment.
- Help expedite environment-related prosecution cases.
- Ensure integrity in public workplaces, initiate the institutionalization of anti-corruption measures, such as corruption prevention plans and risk assessments.

- Introduce anti-corruption curricula in educational and training institutions.
- Facilitate CSOs in fighting corruption and encourage the private sector to take disciplinary action against citizens who indulge in corrupt practices and financial irregularities.
- Assist governance institutions to tackle risks at the local level, as identified during the REDD+ design phase, to detect, prevent, and suppress corruption in REDD+ implementation.
- Identify *1) REDD+-specific corruption risks at the national and sub-national levels, 2) the local governance institutions (including indigenous communities and civil society) best suited to dealing with corruption, and 3) feasible anti-corruption measures.*
- Enhance support for the engagement of local and indigenous (interior) communities and civil society institutions in monitoring REDD+ decision making and activities, for example by creating oversight committees.
- Advocate for greater transparency in decisions on resource use and distribution, as well as on forest management and REDD+ policies.
- Execute massive information, education, and communication campaigns on REDD+ at all levels, with an emphasis on governance and operations.
- Design REDD+-specific anti-corruption measures to clarify the role of local governance institutions, and introduce these proposals in REDD+ programs.
- Improve the capacity of civil society organizations and local governance institutions to manage investigations, collaborate with national entities, monitor the REDD+ complaints systems, and ensure whistleblower protection.
- Endorse the establishment or amelioration of a grievance mechanism.
- Strengthen policies, regulatory frameworks, stakeholder capacities, and governance related to the sustainable management of natural resources at the national and sub-national levels to guarantee the rights of local and indigenous communities.
- Define the best ways to enhance forest and REDD+ governance structures and practices in Suriname, especially to protect the rights and access of indigenous peoples and local communities.
- Help civil society play a more constructive role in REDD+.
- Train investigative journalists on specific areas of REDD+. These measures will position Suriname to embrace transparency, the rule of law, and good governance; boost the sluggish economy; and achieve a more stable, prosperous, and democratic country.

In summary, the CRA calls for a comprehensive approach to capacity development within the CSOs in Suriname and suggests building upon their existing abilities and strengths. To create maximum value and sustainable development initiatives that should be undertaken to improve integrity promotion and corruption risk mitigation measures.

***Indicator 2. Operating Mandate and Budget / Indicator 3. Multi-sector coordination mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration***

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
How is it shown that national REDD+ institutions operate under clear mutually supportive mandates with adequate, predictable and sustainable budgets?	Progressing well, further development required.

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
How are national REDD+ institutions and management arrangements ensuring REDD+ activities are coordinated, integrated into and influencing the broader national or sector policy frameworks (e.g., agriculture, environment, natural resources management, infrastructure development and land-use planning)?	Further development required.

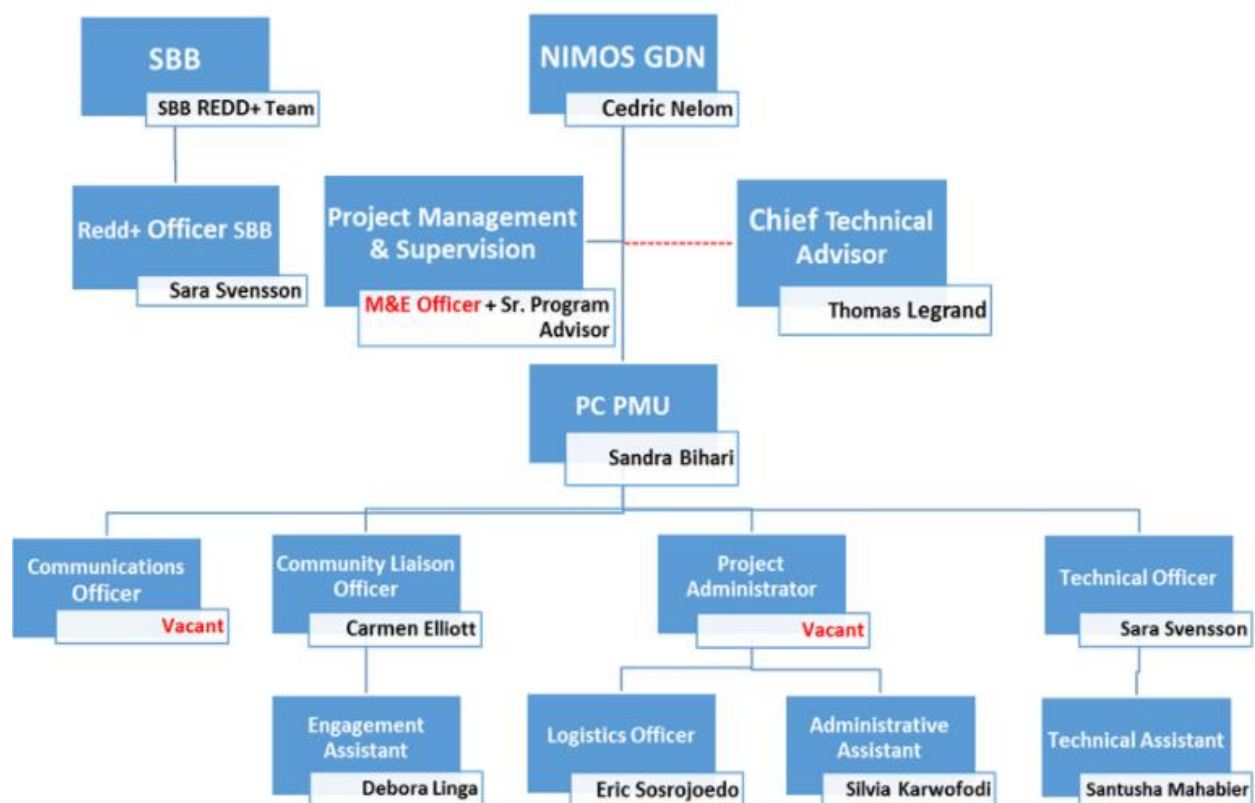
Climate change issues are being addressed through policy, legislation and action programs. The GoS prepared a National Climate Change Policy, Strategy and Action Plan (NCCPSAP) for the period 2014 – 2021. This national climate change policy is being updated to be more aligned to the National Development Plan (2017 – 2021), Suriname INDC as well as a long-term development vision 2035.

To tap the full potential of this vision, a strategic goal was developed for the forestry sector and the GoS which has been articulated with the Policy Development Plan 2017-2021 (PDP) and the INDC as follows: The compensation for the conservation of Suriname's pristine tropical forest which is necessary for a better world environment, contributes to the national growth and development as well as the income of village communities, competitive small, medium-sized and large companies that increase and diversify the national production and export through forestry and wood processing.

The REDD+ mechanism has also led to capacity-building regarding collecting, processing and analyzing forest-related data. These data will be made available for public disclosure not only to the forestry sector but also to other sectors. At the same time the information can now be used to formulate, implement and monitor national policy, programs and projects relevant for Suriname.

Complementary Actions and Donor Coordination where REDD+ is fully integrated in the policy making of climate change challenges in the country, the most active development and donor agencies are: UNDP, the French bilateral agency AFD (i.e. plans to support coastal protective infrastructure including mangroves as coastal defense), the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funding and World Bank/FCPF contribution to the REDD+ Readiness phase), WWF Guianas and the Flemish Interuniversity Cooperation having a long-term cooperation agreement with AdeKUS. Government led donor coordination is, however, at a nascent stage.

There has been progress in establishing REDD+ management arrangements about this readiness process, mainly through the operationalization of the REDD+ Project Management Unit (PMU) settled within NIMOS. The REDD+ PMU is responsible for all aspects of program cycle and management in the readiness phase. The project management arrangements are in place, staffed as shown in the following organogram (Fig 2).



**Fig. 2.** Organogram of the PMU Unit.

Basic arrangements concerning the implementation of the REDD+ readiness have been established at the national level, based on existing legal and institutional frameworks. Although some additional arrangements may be needed to incorporate some specific mandates to specific institutions, in general implementation of the REDD+ strategy will rely on the following general description of tasks, as described by the National REDD+ Strategy (under validation) (GoS 2017).

1. The political direction of the readiness phase will be led to shape the National REDD+ Executive Advisory Board, whose location within the government structure in conformity with stakeholders will be defined.
2. An Executive Coordinating Office will act under the National REDD+ Executive Advisory Board.
3. A Project Steering Committee will advise the Executive Coordinating Office; disseminate information to its multi-stakeholder group of members, and monitor the implementation of the REDD+ Program. It will contribute to select define and control REDD+ projects and activities.
4. A National REDD+ Fiduciary Trust Fund (NRFTF) will coordinate future resources aimed at implementing the REDD+ National Strategy and socioeconomics benefits sharing.

The new land use planning legislation should provide for improved coordination mechanism and consultation and participation with non-state actors, mandatory and accountable land use plans, as well as consistency in hierarchy of plans (national to local, also considering community plans). The Ministry of Physical Planning, Land and Forests Management (RGB) is well-suited to play the role of coordinating agency for land use policies (LUP) as there are synergies between this task and the other tasks assigned to the Ministry. However, RGB is currently not equipped to perform this function and needs to be institutionally strengthened (WWF Guianas 2016).

Approximately 97% of forests in Suriname, except those on privately owned land, are under the responsibility of the RGB. However, infrastructure development in the interior, mining exploration and

mineral resource extraction are the responsibility of other ministries or government agencies. It is important that cross sectoral coordination is strengthened from REDD+ readiness housing a technical and political liaison at RGB, thus enhancing the capacity to achieve cooperative monitoring leading to prevent and halt negative environmental and social actions or impacts, particularly on sensitive or potentially conflictive land uses (NIMOS, et. al 2017).

#### *Indicator 4. Technical Supervision Capacity*

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
How effectively and efficiently are national REDD+ institutions and management arrangements leading and supervising multi-sector readiness activities, including the regular supervision of technical preparations?	Significant progress

The project is currently managed by NIMOS, with endorsement and fully support from the Office of the President of Suriname. NIMOS coordinates the activities from all the implementing partners of the project, through a Project Management Unit (PMU). The PMU consists of a Project Coordinator, a Chief Technical Advisor (CTA), an Assistant in charge of procurement processes, administrative and financial management, an Assistant in planning, monitoring and reporting, and additional technical staff among others key positions (See Fig. 2) (UNDP & GoS 2014). The PMU is principally responsible for:

- Prepare Annual Working Plans (AWP) and procurement plans.
- Implement the AWP by the Project Board.
- Prepare periodic technical and financial reports.
- Organize and facilitate the meetings of the Project Board.
- Inform the Project Board of any significant problem or issue which potentially affect the smooth implementation of the project.
- Coordinate on daily basis with the other related REDD+ initiatives.
- Implement the recommendations of the periodic audits.
- Ensure compliance with the requirements agreed under the Common Approach, and the compliance with UNDP rules and regulations.
- Communicate the reports from Project Board meetings as well as general progress and results of the PRODOC to the members of the Project Board and of the National REDD+ Steering Committee, and disclose them in the websites of NIMOS and UNDP.

On the other hand, one of the main NIMOS's partners in developing and implementing the National REDD+ Strategy is the Foundation for Forest management and Production Control (SBB). The SBB is the institution responsible for the development and improvement of a national Forest Reference Emission Level / Forest Reference Level as well as setting up and coordinating the measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) function and parts of the multi-purpose monitoring structure of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) (UNDP & GoS 2014).

In the case of the private sector, it is represented by the General Suriname Timber Association (ASHU) and by the Timber Sector Platform (Platform Houtsector Suriname, PHS), which have regular meetings with SBB and private organizations from the logging sector. This new phenomenon of consultation has also deal with public awareness on issues of sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation, and management of natural resources. It is an encouraging development and the first time in Suriname's

history that the government gets effective feedback from the society through its representing bodies (Tropenbos, 2011).

Additionally, the Project Board (PB) is responsible for the achievement of the results expected from the REDD+ project, and discuss and agree upon any changes to ensure mainstream implementation. The Project Board is responsible for making by consensus, management decisions for the strategic direction of the project, particularly when guidance is required by the REDD+ Project Coordinator. In addition, the Project Board is responsible for monitoring the effective management of project funds. The Project board is accountable for the quality, timeliness and effectiveness of project-funded outputs. The board will ensure adequate implementation of national legislations and regulations, rules and procedures as well as UNDP's relevant policies and procedures. The Project Board will be responsible to assess regularly the compliance of the project with the requirements of the Common Approach, with a specific attention to the issues of participative processes and stakeholder engagement. In cases where no national guidelines exist, UNDP principles will be applied. The Project Board consists of representatives of key Ministries, NIMOS, SBB, Private Sector, NGOs, Women & Youth Organizations, Indigenous and Maroon Peoples selected by their own institutions and the UNDP (UNDP PRODOC & GoS 2014).

There is an enhanced knowledge capacity and technology available in the country, especially within the governmental institutions to implement REDD+. SBB through their Forest Cover Monitoring Unit (FCMU) has employed well trained staff capable of applying cutting edge geospatial technology like GPS, hand held devices, remote sensing data processing, GIS technology, and coding. Furthermore, SBB has developed a comprehensive computerized log tracking system, so-called LogPro system to monitor harvesting operations, the payment of the forest fees due, monitor forest planning on forest management unit (FMU) level. This system has proven to be a solid tool to promote sustainable utilization and management of the country's productive forest resources. Together with the private sector, SBB has implemented training programs for forest workers for the public and private sector in Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) techniques, use of GPS and in tree spotting. Moreover, During the KfW project funding there was a one-week training in the use of IDRISI LCM. Although, SBB used this within the Drivers of Deforestation Study, nevertheless, for the final FREL Scenario's SBB used DYNAMICA EGO software in a nation-wide participatory process with a strong capacity building component.

#### *Indicator 5. Funds Management Capacity*

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
How are institutions and arrangements demonstrating effective, efficient and transparent fiscal management, including coordination with other development partner-funded activities?	Significant progress

Aside from the governmental actions to increase transparency in Suriname, NIMOS-PMU is also demonstrating transparency. As part of the latest financial audit carried out for REDD+ readiness in Suriname, over USD \$ 900K were scrutinized by T&H Group Auditors endorsed by the International Ethics Standards Board of Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) and the International Standards on Auditing. The audit points out that assets, statement of expenses and cash advances incurred by the Project Management Unit (PMU) at NIMOS in 2016 were in conformity with the approved budget in compliance with UNDP regulations, policies and procedures for procurement and disbursements (T&HGroep 2016).

On the other hand, to develop an internal effective and equitable financial mechanism for REDD+, the GoS and stakeholders can create a National REDD+ Fiduciary Trust Fund (NRFTF) as a hybrid voluntary and



compensation funding for the operation and management of REDD+ resources (NRS, 2017). The main options for a NRFTF fund would effectively include:

- Managing a REDD+ fund within the state budget;
- Maintaining a separate REDD+ fund within state administration;
- Setting up a separate institution for REDD+ fund management and ensuring the sharing benefits from the carbon units exchanges.

The fund is expected to receive resources from different sources, including international and national investment and potentially results-based payments in the future. This financial mechanism will include a review of sinking fund arrangements as a mechanism to distribute resources from a variety of sources to cover the costs of implementing the REDD+ national strategy and prioritized policies and measures (PAMs). Additionally, a direct market mechanism where REDD+ credits can be traded alongside existing certified emissions reductions (CERs) can exist. This mechanism will fund initial operationalization and pilot the distribution of funds to different entities involved in the implementation of REDD+, such as NIMOS; SBB; Ministry of Agriculture (LVV), Ministry of Physical Planning, Land and Forest Management (RGB), Ministry of Natural Resources (NH); Indigenous and maroon representatives and organizations; and NGO and advocacy groups. The Executive Coordinating Office will be responsible for the necessary administrative actions to establish the NRFTF.

A dedicated NRFTF is foreseen to coordinate future resources aimed at implementing the REDD+ strategy. Specific funding windows could help to address investment gaps and imbalances in spending across REDD+ priority activities as well as carbon, payment for ecosystem services (PES) and biodiversity offsets.

#### **Indicator 6. Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanisms**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What evidence is there to demonstrate the mechanism is operating at the national, subnational and local levels, is transparent, impartial, has a clearly defined mandate, and adequate expertise and resources?</li> <li>• What evidence is there that potentially impacted communities are aware of, have access to, and the mechanism is responsive to feedback and grievances?</li> </ul>	Further development required

The formal land rights recognition to indigenous and tribal peoples appears as the main source of conflict potentially affecting the REDD+ activities. The indigenous and tribal peoples have lived and derived their livelihood from many forests of the country for centuries. However, the national legal system on land management does not explicitly recognize the land rights traditional customary system. Therefore, despite of the claims from Indigenous and tribal peoples to obtain real titles to the lands that they inhabit and use, the land remains state property, letting them vulnerable to the pressure of development activities, public and private projects or conservation initiatives. The GoS recognizes the need for a satisfactory solution. In recent years several activities, including land rights conferences, were held by the government to provide a platform for representatives from different groups to reach agreement.

Despite of the efforts made to provide clarity on land tenure rights, it has not yet been achieved. It is a complex topic due to the historical differences among governments and first peoples, the multiple conflicts existing among and within villages, the weak tribal leadership, the lack of trust, the perceived lack of voice from tribal peoples in the project, and the language and cultural differences (Smith 2016).

Aside from the land tenure issues, there are other sources of grievances like inadequate information sharing, selection of stakeholders, support for participation of stakeholders, location of meetings,



language barriers, inadequate explanation of technical concepts, and insufficient time for decision-making. Nonetheless, through the readiness consultations phase most of these challenges were effectively tackled.

An initial Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM) proposal has been designed at project inception stage, however still requires a more inclusive process of stakeholder engagement and demonstrate capacity to impartially facilitate dispute/grievance resolution as means to become fully operational. Additionally, the ESMF expressed concerns about the capacity of an extra-judicial mechanism like the proposed FGRM to deal with judicial consequences derived from the Inter American Court on Human Rights rulings regarding conflicts between Suriname and different indigenous and tribal peoples. During stakeholder engagement, alternative proposal on GRM have been proposed. Draft Terms of References (ToRs) have been prepared to analyze and consult towards even more inclusive process for GRM (GoS 2017).

In the absence of an evolved FGRM, the Majors Group Collective (MGC) and the REDD+ Assistants Collective (RAC) act as part of second tier upscaling process deployed through FGRM as a two-way channel for stakeholders from these groups to raise concerns and complaints related to REDD+ readiness activities and to address and resolve those concerns where possible. It is important to clarify that not all the RAC members have the same level of education, through teamwork / capacity building activities which were managed by the PMU to create better understanding with the RAC.

An interim FGRM is the REDD+ Project Board (PB). Activities of creating broader understanding on what a GRM is, needs to be undertaken towards the PB in parallel to study an inclusive process to arrive at simplified and effective GRM (linked to Ministry of Regional Development's decentralization system by districts) for REDD+ implementation. The prompt establishment of an operational FGRM is imperative to facilitate the REDD+ project progress. As a part of this effort, a proposed online system for receive complaints from stakeholders will be integrated within the REDD+ Decision Support System.

## 1b. Stakeholder Consultation, Participation and Outreach

### *Indicator 7. Participation and Engagement of Key Stakeholders*

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How is the full, effective and on-going participation of key stakeholders demonstrated through institutional mechanisms (including extra efforts to engage marginalized groups such as forest-dependent women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and local communities)?</li> <li>What are the participatory mechanisms being used to ensure that Indigenous Peoples and forest-dependent communities have the capacity to effectively participate in REDD+ readiness and implementation?</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required

The REDD+ stakeholders' engagement strategy started in 2012, with the preparation of the REDD+ readiness proposal, its finalization was released until the end of 2016. Then, several activities were developed during this period including, as follows:

- Participatory mapping and modelling activities to document the land use and concomitant dependency of local communities on forests, Jan-Nov 2012. It involved 191 community members from five indigenous villages in Southern Suriname (Sipaliwini, Pelelutepu, Palumeu, Apetina, Kawemhakan). These were organized by: GoS, conservation planning, Conservation International (CI) Suriname, University of Utrecht and Tropenbos International.
- Activities as part of the project “REDD+ for the Guiana Shield”, since 2014, seeking the establishment of a regional and technical platform for developing REDD+ in the Guiana Shield were focused on stakeholders at decision-making and technical implementation level. Thus, coordinated by the Office National des Forêts (ONF) of French Guiana in collaboration with ONFI (France), GFC (Guiana), Instituto Estadual de Florestas (IEF Brazil), and SBB (Suriname).
- In Feb 2016, 18 Saramaccan community representatives from the Brownsweh and Upper Suriname River met with key stakeholders and policymakers to share results of a two-year process to visualize and document their traditional environmental knowledge over a vast area with help of Tropenbos International, WWF Guyana, Association of Saramaka Authorities, UNDP GEF and Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA).
- RAC training on local community perceptions and vision for the forest, drivers and barriers to REDD+ implementation, on how to conduct the surveys in the villages and on data collection methods, were consulted in 2016. Attended by all members of the RAC, representing five different Maroon tribal communities and various Indigenous Peoples. Organized by GoS, NIMOS-PMU and Tropenbos.
- Focus group discussions between Aug and Oct 2016 with about 34 stakeholders (out of a listed 93, 58 were invited and 34 attended) to do stakeholder mapping and analyze position, interest, power, mandate, interactions, etc. of stakeholders in relation to REDD+ activities were broadly mapped by CES Consultancy in the framework of readiness.
- Activities within the Widening Informed Stakeholder Engagement for REDD+ (WISE REDD+) project, aiming at awareness building with government agencies, dialogues to increase understanding and engagement of Indigenous and Tribal communities, REDD+ community capacity building and government capacity building were organized by CI in collaboration with UNDP, NIMOS-PMU, the Climate Compatible Development Unit of the cabinet of the president and Indigenous people and Tribal Groups representatives.
- Technical collaboration between different institutions to produce post deforestation land use/ land cover maps for 2000-2009, 2009-2013, 2013-2015 were jointly surveyed by SBB-FMCU.

The engagement activities also included a national workshop hosted in May 2017, where community consultations were conducted by Tropenbos International Suriname and GoS between May and August 2017, and surveys and follow-up consultations with experts from different stakeholder groups in August and September 2017. The information gathered in these activities was included in the Suriname’s REDD+ Vision, in the SESA and in the National REDD+ Strategy.

Out of the performed activities, the WISE REDD+ project was fundamental to engage indigenous and tribal groups (i.e. Maroon communities) in a culturally-appropriate manner to build trust. The project encouraged the incorporation of indigenous and tribal peoples’ perspectives on development discussions and pursued a rights-based stakeholder engagement through the Association of Indigenous Leaders in Suriname (VIDS) & the Association of Saramaka Authorities (VSG). Another outcome was the development and further implementation of the capacity building training program to support effective participation

and engagement of Indigenous and Maroon peoples in decision-making processes for REDD+ (Barquin et al. 2016).

Regarding the finalized strategy, the identified stakeholders were: indigenous and maroon tribes, civil society, private sector working in the mining, logging and infrastructure sector in the interior, Government Ministries and academia. The strategy also identified the required inclusion of some groups that should be engaged through the MGC which are: farmers, children and youth, women, scientific and technological community (other than REDD+ experts), workers, trade unions, and local authorities. The stakeholder engagement strategy gives special attention to the forest-dependent indigenous peoples and maroons, knowledge, political influence and lack the formal rights to land and land use. Also, because the exclusion of indigenous and maroon groups from the earlier process of the REDD+ development in 2009-2010 was critical for the revamped readiness process (Smith 2016).

The Stakeholder Engagement Strategy describes other challenges apart from the land conflicts. Very small groups of stakeholders were participating in the REDD+ process and they have demonstrated limited understanding about the REDD+ project functioning. The effective interaction has been prevented by the improved communication outreach used in the NIMOS-PMU and SBB-FMCU. Moreover, challenges such as language and cultural barriers were presented at contacting most of the indigenous and maroon peoples which demanded a tremendous logistic effort. The Methodology for the National REDD+ Strategy consultations with indigenous and tribal peoples, aimed to overcome some of the identified barriers (GoS 2017a).

Despite of work done, the National REDD+ Strategy states that this engagement strategy still requires alignment with other existing strategies and measures aiming at engaging communities (GoS 2017c).

#### **Indicator 8. Consultation Process**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What evidence demonstrates that consultation processes at the national and local levels are clear, inclusive, transparent, and facilitate timely access to information in a culturally appropriate form?</li> <li>• What evidence is there that the country has used a self-selection process to identify rights holders and stakeholders during consultations?</li> <li>• What evidence is there that Indigenous Peoples institutions and decision-making processes are utilized to enhance consultations and engagement?</li> <li>• What evidence is there that consultation processes are gender sensitive and inclusive?</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required

Between 2011 and 2016, Tropenbos International visited, consulted and gathered surveys about REDD+ in all the 10 indigenous and tribal communities. These consultations focused on selected villages for each community due to their geographical dispersion (GoS 2017c).

Another activity was the WISE REDD+ project performed between 2015 and 2016. The project ensured understanding and effectively incorporated the traditional decision-making processes in the project planning and execution. Through the project, there were about 40 consultations with more than 600 Indigenous and Maroon communities' representatives. There was also a national workshop focused on effective engagement with indigenous and maroon peoples with participation of 60 government officials and NGOs representatives (Barquin et al. 2016).

Apart from the WISE REDD+ project achievements, the REDD+ Assistants Collective (RAC) have demonstrated to be fundamental in the consultation process. The RAC started in 2012 with representatives of the Indigenous and Tribal peoples, selected by their own communities. In July 2016 took place a capacity building training and working session for the RAC, organized by the PMU. Before starting the training, the Assistants and the PMU reviewed and discussed the Assistants' agreements and the terms of reference for the REDD+ Assistants before signing the contracts. During the creative design thinking training, the assistants were taught about the SDGs; were instructed to develop a working plan, received guidelines for preparation and organization of community level hearings, and learnt how to gather information for sustainable forest conservation. In October 2017, team building efforts and capacity building sessions were organized with the RAC. The contracts with RAC representatives were extended until December 2017.

Through the process, the Assistants received and learnt how to use phablets to support their work. The phablets allow them to send and receive e-mails and WhatsApp messages and make pictures, videos and audio recordings (PMU 2016). Among the implemented practices were: *communicating in the language of the community, choosing a location that conveys respect to the leadership of the tribe, treating the tribal leaders with courteous demeanor, incorporating their inputs in the process, being familiar with the communities' context to properly interpret their insights, dialogues, ethnodiversity and allowing sufficient time for the conversations.*

Another opportunity for consultations was the development of the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy, finalized in December 2016. The stakeholders' engagement strove for ensuring civil society from all districts, women, and youth made integral part of this consultation process.

The Stakeholder Engagement Strategy delivered through the readiness phase also recognized the work done by the GoS between 2012 and 2013 to involve all direct and indirect forest users in a non-discriminatory manner. Among the activities performed as part of this effort, there was one National Dialogue with representatives from all stakeholder to discuss and validate the R-PP document and the future of the REDD+ planning process. There were also sectorial dialogues to capture their expectations and concerns related to the process. Finally, there were local dialogues with the indigenous and maroon communities to identify concerns, comments, and suggestions. The local dialogues were facilitated by the RAC, who raised awareness and shared information about REDD+ plans before requesting the communities input. Local dialogues occurred in four villages of ten locations with the six maroon tribes and four indigenous tribes living in Suriname in November 2012 (Smith 2016).

The tribal facilitation required designing a focalized methodology for engagement in meetings *a.k.a Krutus*, which vary in form depending on the community location and their historic development. The main methodology characteristics include: inviting and ensuring participation of women, men, elders and youth; formal and appropriate announcement of Krutus; and encouraging the women participation in the meetings, even when men were present.

Some of the insights from the stakeholder engagement process were incorporated in the Multi-Perspective Analysis of Drivers of Deforestation, Forest Degradation and Barriers to REDD+ Activities (DDFDB+), completed in May 2017 (NIMOS et al. 2017). This analysis was a highly participatory process which incorporated the perspectives from all stakeholders and relying strongly on the RAC to conduct the consultations with Indigenous and Tribal communities. The process with indigenous and tribal communities included materials translation to the lingua franca '*Sranan Tongo*'. The surveys covered a wide age range and in some communities managed to obtain an *even woman:men* participation ratio.

In addition to the DDFDB+, the development of the national REDD+ Vision and Strategy for Suriname and the SESA have also been completed in October 2017 (GoS 2017b). The 10 months allocated for these activities and the logistics constraints to contact most of the indigenous and tribal communities limited

the number of consultations. Despite of the short time-frame, there was fair care in capturing the gender-specific perspectives about REDD+. On the other hand, the NRS mentions some existing policy measures to encourage the participation of local communities in the planning and decision-making processes in forest related topics. It also describes additional work to be conducted in this subject matter.

Through several consultations and specifically, in the ones associated with the DDFDB+, some indigenous and tribal representatives expressed one fundamental concern applicable in the context of REDD+. Their strongly reliance on forest to derive their livelihood and the unrecognized land rights make them vulnerable to any land-related initiative (NIMOS et al. 2017).

The development of FPIC protocols and the implementation of the ESMF should be a path to alleviate this indigenous and tribal communities' concern. However, aside from the guidelines about FPIC protocols with tribal communities, included in the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy, there are no GoS official protocols about FPIC.

### **Indicator 9. Information Sharing and Accessibility of Information**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How have national REDD+ institutions and management arrangements demonstrated transparent, consistent, comprehensive and timely sharing and disclosure of information (related to all readiness activities, including the development of REDD+ strategy, reference levels, and monitoring systems) in a culturally appropriate form?</li> <li>• What evidence is there that information is accessible to stakeholders (e.g., in a format and language understandable to them) and is being received?</li> <li>• What channels of communications are being used to ensure that stakeholders are well informed, especially those that have limited or no access to relevant information?</li> </ul>	<p>Progressing well, further development required</p>

Information sharing was populated based on an interactive and intuitive gateway for public dissemination developed by NIMOS-PMU through the REDD+ project website, <http://www.surinamredd.org/en/> available in Dutch and English. This website was developed to run with even low speed access to Internet for low connectivity districts. It also offers overall REDD+ context as well as details about the Surinamese REDD+ entire phases process. The portal has also extended information about project related news and events from 2014 to 2017. Moreover, the site has a library with documents for downloads, videos, newsletters, radio podcasts, and a photo gallery related to REDD+ pillars, the REDD+ preparation phases, monitoring reports for donors, PMU and *Krutus* meetings minutes and other project-related activities. Please, have a look at [www.unredd.net/announcements-and-news/2687-indigenous-and-tribal-communities-help-shape-suriname-s-redd-strategy.html](http://www.unredd.net/announcements-and-news/2687-indigenous-and-tribal-communities-help-shape-suriname-s-redd-strategy.html)

The project has also its social media outreach through Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/reddplussuriname/>. This social venue includes project related information and the instant messaging capability for response to users is fully functional.

Geospatial gateway such as the time-series National Land Monitoring System of Suriname: <http://www.gonini.org/portal/> developed by SBB-FMCU allow to visualize REDD+ readiness consultation process, as well as deploy land use layers such as forests, mangroves, freshwaters and terrestrial ecosystems pertinent to the REDD+ mechanism.

Aside from the official communication sites, there are other crosswalks websites including information about REDD+ process in Suriname populated by:

- Building REDD+ for the Guiana Shield: <https://reddguianashield.com/>
- Saramaccan community engagement: <http://www.cta.int/en/article/2016-03-08/saramacca-communities-in-suriname-look-for-government-recognition-of-their-traditional-knowledge.html>
- WISE REDD+ Suriname: <http://suriname.conservation.org/projects/wise-redd/>

Considering the internet access is widespread in all districts although with limitations on the speed in the country bandwidth, the RAC received and learnt how to use the phablets with online/offline. The phablets allow them to send and receive e-mails and WhatsApp messages and make pictures, videos and audio recordings. The phablet included a sim card, one-month internet connection and prepaid credit. Along with the phablet, the Assistant received an electronic and solar charger and a bag to carry the phablet. Additionally, the Assistants were assigned an e-mail address (Gmail) to be used for their work.

Additional to internet based communication, the stakeholder engagement process used manuals, leaflets and different written, audio, video materials. The DDFDB+ consultation process with indigenous and tribal communities included materials translation to the lingua franca 'Sranan Tongo' (NIMOS et al. 2017).

#### **Indicator 10. Implementation and Public Disclosure of Consultation Outcomes**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How are the outcomes of consultations integrated (fed into, disseminated, publicly disclosed and taken into account) in management arrangements, strategy development and technical activities related to reference level and monitoring and information systems development?</li> </ul>	Further development required.

The consultation details and the mechanisms for public dissemination of information were described in the previous sections.

It is important to highlight the strong reliance of the project on the RAC to keep the Indigenous and Maroon peoples engaged. By now, it appears as the main mechanism for public disclosure of consultation outcomes with local communities. Furthermore, it is urgent to formalize the FGRM and lay the foundation for FPIC protocols from the GoS to close important participatory gaps. The REDD+ National strategy were fully integrated with stakeholders' insights about REDD+ consultation.

## **2 – REDD+ Strategy Preparation**

### **2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land-Use Change Drivers, Forest Policy and Governance**

#### **Indicator 11. Assessment and Analysis Indicator 12. Prioritization of Direct and Indirect Drivers/Barriers to Forest Carbon Stock Enhancement/ Indicator 13. Links between Drivers/Barriers and REDD+ activities**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the summary of the work conducted during R-PP formulation and preparation present an analysis of recent historical land-use trends (including traditional) and assessment of relevant land tenure and titling, natural resource rights, livelihoods (including traditional/customary), forest law, policy and governance issues?</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required.

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How was the analysis used to prioritize key direct and indirect drivers to be addressed by the programs and policies included in the REDD+ strategy?</li> <li>Did the analysis consider the major barriers to forest carbon stock enhancement activities (if appropriate) to be addressed by the programs and policies included in the REDD+ strategy?</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What evidence demonstrates that systematic links between key drivers, and/or barriers to forest carbon stock enhancement activities (as appropriate), and REDD+ activities were identified?</li> </ul>	Significant progress

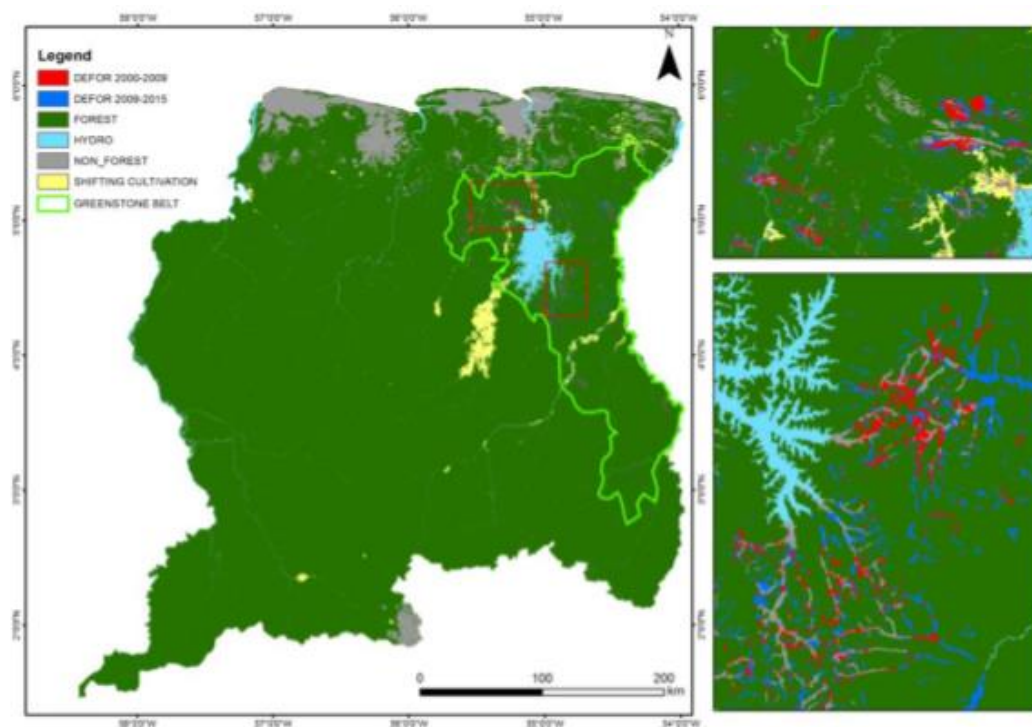
There are widespread anthropogenic drivers of deforestation and ecosystems degradation in the Neotropics in terms of magnitude and direction: a) linear large-scale agricultural and livestock expansion patterns; b) the linear clearing from cooperative road-building projects by colonists; c) common land-clearing in the fishbone pattern for farm development, illegal mining and d) the dendritic spread of logging operations. From these processes and the uneven distribution of efforts at afforestation, the Neotropics contains only 40% of its original forest. As a consequence, heuristic accounting for REDD+ using geospatial technologies and ground-truth methodologies for Neotropical deforestation and forest degradation that should be continued rendered in terms of: a) time-series cumulative deforestation rates of change in accordance with its agents and drivers; either as linear, exponential, logarithmic, potential, logistical or polynomial functions; b) total leaf area; c) water content and quality of the vegetation; d) fragmentation patterns; e) biodiversity estimations; f) socioeconomic welfare indicators; and g) sound metrics about above- and below-ground carbon pools and stocks (Acuna-Rodriguez et al, 2012).

To support a REDD+ strategy design and inform policy-makers with objective information, deforestation and forest degradation and their respective drivers were quantified in several ways. The DDFDB+ analyzed key land use change drivers in three ways (NIMOS et al. 2017):

1. in terms of their contribution to forest loss and forest degradation;
2. contribution to national GHG emissions; and
3. opportunity costs.

In accordance to the background study about **REDD+ in Suriname: *Multi-perspective analysis of drivers of deforestation, forest degradation and barriers to REDD+ activities (DDFDB+)***. The deforestation rate has increased by a factor of five over the past fifteen years, from roughly 0.02% in 2000-2009 to 0.1% in 2014-2015. The majority (73%) of this deforestation is due to mining, especially small- and medium-scale gold mining (Fig 3a) (SBB 2016; Rahm et al. 2016). Figure 3 illustrates the recent deforestation trends and Figure 4 presents deforestation trends by sector (UNIQUE, NIMOS et al. 2017).





**Fig 3.** Deforestation map (2000-2015). Source: NIMOS, SBB & UNIQUE, 2017 (DDFDB+)

A milestone in Suriname's forestry history was the formulation of a National Forest Policy (NFP) that addresses modern forest management subjects as well as community forestry and gender issues (SBB 2003). Moreover, the NFP was a backing for the new SBB and a firm commitment pathway of the government to proceed towards policy reforms.



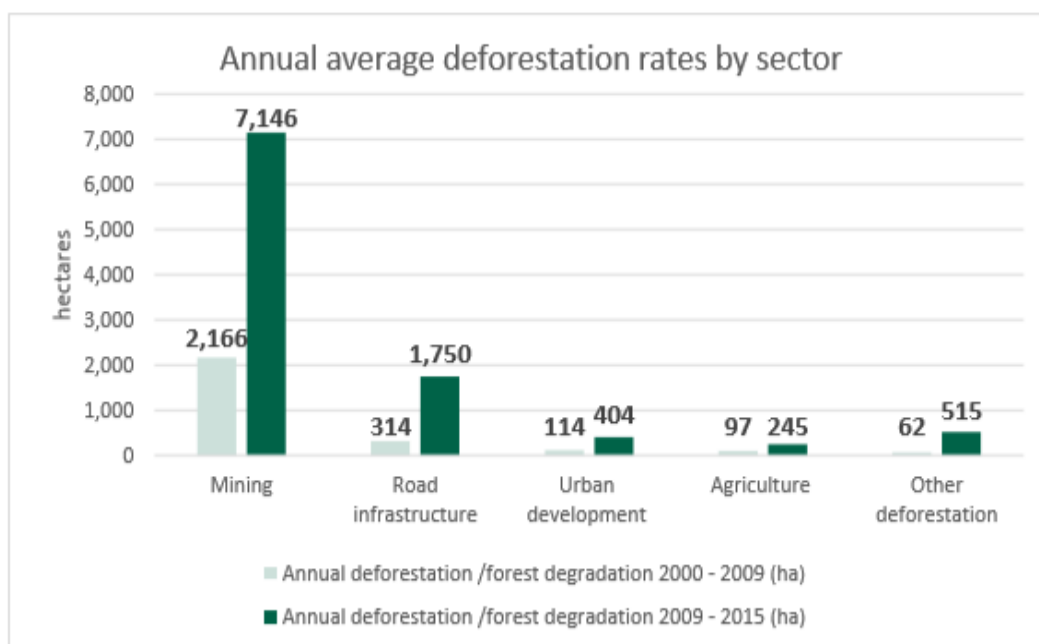
**Fig 3a.** Illegal and Informal Mining in Suriname. Source: Mongabay /Rhet Buttler  
[https://travel.mongabay.com/suriname/images/suriname\\_2763.html](https://travel.mongabay.com/suriname/images/suriname_2763.html)

### **Policy, Natural Resources Rights, Governance and Legal Framework:**

The National development planning through the GoS which has recognized the significant role that its forests can play in the fight against climate change. In the Suriname's Intended Nationally Determined



Contribution (INDC), the country explains that it aims to maintain its HFLD status, with REDD+ as a key mechanism to ensure a forest cover of 93%. This is closely linked with Suriname's National Climate Change Policy, Strategy and Action Plan (NCCPSAP), 2014-2021, which commits the country to a climate compatible development (CCD) approach. Although the Policy Development Plan (OP) 2012-2016 /2017-2021 does mention REDD+ and specifies its role as a sound mechanism towards an economic benefit for people and institutions (GOS 2013; GOS 2017), in this plan the Government of Suriname dovetails several development perspectives that relate to 'physical planning and environment (GOS 2012, section V6). Although these plans could either be considered potentially higher drivers of deforestation (Fig 4), or avoided deforestation when REDD+ is implemented in-country (NIMOS et. al., 2017).



Note: The category "Other deforestation" includes areas deforested but reason not identified by SBB/FCMU, as well as burned areas, pasture, or second vegetation.

**Fig. 4.** Average annual deforestation and forest degradation disaggregated by sector  
Source: NIMOS, SBB & UNIQUE, 2017 (DDFDB)

Stakeholder interviews through related REDD+ activities in consultation venues, generally confirm the perception that Suriname's legal framework is currently limited in its ability to ensure the sustainable use of forests. Nonetheless, it is important to explain the current legal framework, noting especially the framework governing forest use. Several Acts aim to influence the status and often overlapped use of forests. The Forest Management Act (1992) and its corresponding Ministerial Decrees **dominate** the legal framework. Likewise, other Acts or decrees include Mining Act, Trade in Goods Act, Timber Export Act, Planning Act and the Nature Conservation Act (1954) intertwined with manifold land-uses making hard a command and control by the GoS. Five ministries are involved in the executing of this legal framework: Ministries of Physical planning, Land- and Forest Management (RGB); Trade and Industry (HI); Finance (F); Regional Development (RO); and Public Works (OW) (Stoverinck, 2012). The Forest Management Act (1992) covers the sustainable and rational use of forest resources, considering the interests of forest-dwellers and the conservation of nature and biological diversity. It provides rules governing timber production, timber processing and export. It covers the various licenses for forest product harvesting (including timber) from all different types of concessions and the use of community forests (GOS 1992). Forest use on private land is not regulated under the Forest Management Act (1992). A national forest policy was adopted in 2005 after an extensive process of consultation with stakeholders. This policy

provides broad guidelines for the use of forests for production, wise use and biodiversity conservation. According to the policy, the main goal of forest management is “enhancing the contribution of the forests to the national economy and the welfare of the current and future generations, taking into account the preservation of biodiversity”. It contains economic, sociocultural and environmental goals of equal weight (GOS, 2013).

Institutional arrangements governing land and forest about forest ownership, forests in Suriname, except those on privately owned land, are under the responsibility of the Ministry of Physical Planning, Land and Forest Management (RGB). The control over forest management is mandated to the Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB). Before the establishment of SBB in 1998, forest management was under the responsibility of Land’s Bosbeheer (LBB). Some of the original tasks are still under the responsibility of LBB (enforcement of the Nature Conservation Act and the Game Act), others have been redirected to SBB. Other tasks, such as infrastructure development in the interior, mining exploration and mineral resource extraction, have been transferred to other ministries or government agencies. This results in numerous overlaps for land use concessions, *i.e. lack of coordination between the Mining Law and Forest Law resulting in mining concessions within logging concessions*. The overlaps for land use concessions often results in a stagnation of land development activities and blocks investments in land productivity. Frequent restructuring of government institutions relevant for forest and land use also results in instability and insecurity, reducing the interest of private or government stakeholders to invest in the Interior. The overlapping mandates has resulted in overlapping concession rights, which reportedly has resulted in the stalling of land use investments in the recent past.

Conservation policy in Suriname is a potential contributing factor to current HFLD status. However, the ability of protected areas to hold strong in the face of more economically valuable land uses can be considered limited, exemplified by the cases of Bigi Pan multiple use management area and that of Brownsberg Nature Park (GoS 2013). At present, Suriname has 16 legally established protected areas, and four proposed protected areas. The legally established ones cover 21,383 km<sup>2</sup> (i.e. 13.5% of Suriname’s land territory), and the proposed ones 1,320 km<sup>2</sup> (i.e. 0.8%). The Central Suriname Nature Reserve, located in the Interior, is by far the largest, covering 15,920 km<sup>2</sup> (i.e. 9.7%). The other reserves are relatively small, no larger than 1,000 km<sup>2</sup> (i.e. 0.6% or less), and most of them are located less than a 100 km from the coast (GOS 2009). The extent to which this Protected Area (PA) network will contribute to the maintenance of Suriname’s HFLD status into the future development of NBSAPs .

Nature tourism relies on Suriname’s impressive forest resource and biodiversity. Although still modest, the number of visitors entering for tourism purposes (tourist card holders) grew from 162.509 (2007) to 227.699 (2015); an increase of 71% (NIMOS et. al., 2017). This increase of visitors resulted in the establishment of a growing number of lodges and other forms of tourist accommodation in the interior of the country. The impact of this economic development on forests remains relatively low when to its ecological carrying capacity compared to other land uses, especially gold mining. However, the potential localized economic impact of tourism may be important enough to stimulate local community conservation in cases of isolated protected areas with associated small and isolated human populations. Nonetheless, successful examples in Suriname are scarce. The best example is not forest-related but nevertheless relevant: the protection of marine turtles that nest along Suriname’s coast, mainly along the eastern part of the coast.

At the same time, certain underlying causes are cross-cutting in that they affect all deforestation drivers to some degree. One of the main underlying causes identified is the lack of integrated land use planning that combines the development priorities of all relevant sectors while ensuring sustainable forest management. The overarching government body (Council of Ministers linked to the Executive Cabinet and supported by the National Planning Office as technical working arm) needs to be more strengthened and

engaged in REDD+ readiness closing phase to exercise its functions effectively by taking a lead role in balancing the trade-offs between the different land use pressures in a way that fosters REDD+.

The main policy issue identified relates to collective land rights, where there is a strong link with the work carried out for community perceptions. The lack of legal recognition for collective land rights is often seen as a barrier to sustainable land and forest management. This is verified by the work on community perceptions, which identified better governance and lack of secure land rights as the greatest obstacles to achieving sustainable forest management and use. Securing land rights is important to safeguard the protection of the land, the waters and the wellbeing of the indigenous and tribal peoples. At the same time, large commercial and development projects that are beneficial to the government and enterprises take place in communities' vicinity from civil society groups.

**Indicator 14. Action Plans to Address Natural Resource Rights, Land Tenure, and Governance / Indicator 15. Implications for Forest Law and Policy**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do action plans to make progress in the short-, medium- and long-term towards addressing relevant, land-use, land tenure and titling, natural resource rights, livelihoods, and governance issues in priority regions related to specific REDD+ programs, outline further steps and identify required resources?</li> </ul>	Further development required

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the assessment identify implications for forest or other relevant law and policy in the long-term?</li> </ul>	Significant progress

In accordance to the Joint UNDP – World Bank FCPF Guidance Note for REDD+ countries: Establishing and Strengthening Grievance Resolution Mechanism points out *“The REDD+ process is unlikely to resolve complex issues such as land tenure independently, but it can be used to highlight the significance of the issue, assist governments and other stakeholders to develop strategies for preventing and resolving tenure disputes and improve processes for land allocation in such a way as to reduce the likelihood of conflict.”*

Suriname's history has led to the development of two land tenure systems in the country. A formal system based on national law and an informal system based on **customary law and traditions**. Customary law plays a key role in the indigenous and maroon peoples, providing the rule of law for their organization and the use of natural resources and land rights; this is reflected in some legislation which recognizes the *"respect for traditional rights."* (Decree on Land Policy Principle, L-1, Article 4). Moreover *"the customary laws of the tribal inhabitants of the interior (...) shall be respected"* (Forest Management Act, Article 41)

Suriname has filed the candidacy application through the Department of Natural Resources for the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, (EITI), on March 24, 2017 and became a member on May 24 (<https://eiti.org/suriname>). The initiative is an international voluntary supervision group aimed at transparency in the mining and oil industry. This means that, through publication, companies display what royalties and taxes were paid to the government, and then the government makes public revenues open for public disclosure. Compliance with the EITI standards will bring openness, foster transparency, spur international safeguards standards, transfer environmental technology, both on the part of government and industry.

Several demarcation projects to inventory land use areas and land use activities for several indigenous and maroons' villages resulted in a series of maps. A central land use map would work supportively to the government in deciding on development activities in the areas close to the communities, as well as provide relevant information on the occupation of traditional lands (NIMOS, et al 2017) .

Review main conclusions and recommendations from existing documentation on Suriname's land and resource rights studies, including but not limited to the Key Findings and Implications of the Saramaka Judgment, Kaliña and Lokono Judgment, and Moiwana Judgment for the Readiness Preparation Proposal Document (12 November 2013), Development of a Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism to Support REDD+ Readiness in Suriname, Assessment Report (2 December 2013), and other documented information related to the issue the Court ordered the State to *"delimit, demarcate, and grant collective title over the territory of the members of the Saramaka people, in accordance with their customary laws, and through previous, effective and fully informed consultations with the Saramaka people, without prejudice to other tribal and indigenous communities."*

As can be seen there are still some issues that should be resolved to enable the REDD+ mechanism in Suriname. Analyses of the REDD+ elements show that there is still a need for:

- developing a payment scheme which is fair to all;
- fostering stakeholders; strengthening of the legal framework; and
- recognizing and defining the role of forest communities through LTLR.

While the recognition of land tenure and land rights (LTLR) is a priority, the implementation of further development activities on the ground can follow a prior step to establish a contract concession recognizing such rights and how they will be considered and respected during the activities to be implemented.

The national legal framework on land tenure states that 'All land to which the right of ownership cannot be proven by other parties, is property of the State'. (L-Decrees of 1982, (Art. 1, section 1)). This is one of the main reasons why regardless of whether they are traditionally occupied or subject to other uses, 97% of forested lands in the country are state-owned. This unfolds an interesting debate about Carbon accession rights (Acuna-Rodriguez, et. al 2012).

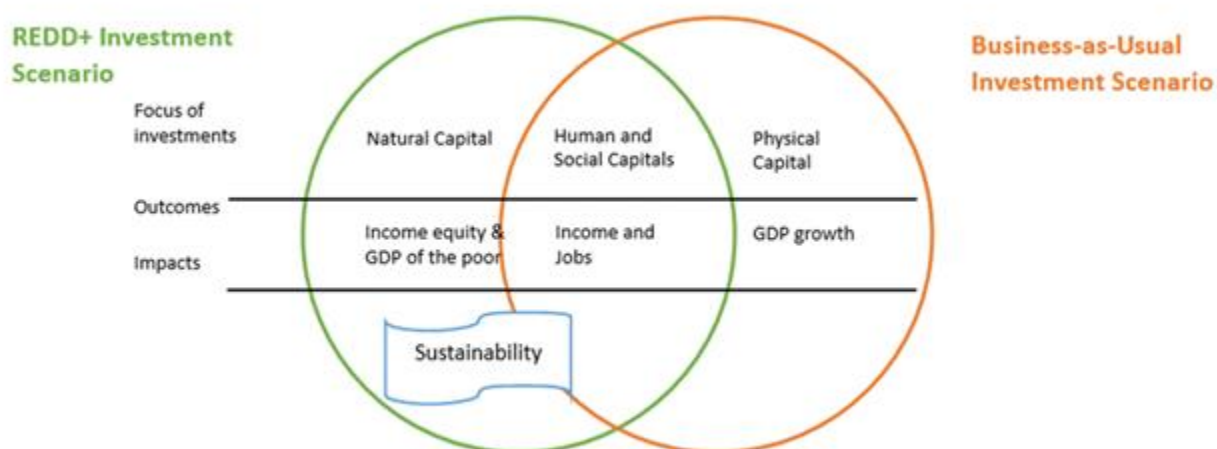
Most forests in Suriname are in the interior (Hinterland), in the Southern part of the country, where indigenous and tribal peoples live. These communities depend on forests for many reasons, including for productive activities, such as subsistence agriculture, hunting, fishing, timber harvest and small-scale gold mining. Suriname is one of the countries in the world, where indigenous and other tribal people live a traditional way of life in these intertwined connections with their forests. Until some decades ago the coastal area and the interior of Suriname developed virtually independent from one another. This situation changed in the 1960's when access to the interior increased for economic development purposes such as the construction of the hydropower Afobaka dam. This resulted in a growing number of land related conflicts between the indigenous and tribal peoples and the Surinamese Government and individuals.

The result of this situation is that the issuance and management of land in Suriname are governed by two systems as early mentioned; the traditional customary system and the national legal system in force. For decades one did not interfere with the other development activities in the areas where these communities live have posed increasing challenges for their traditional system.

Various government administrations have placed the issue of recognition of land rights of the Indigenous and Maroon communities on their agenda. Many of them were reflected in different instruments, such as the Lelydorp Peace Accord providing arrangements for the recognition of Maroon and Indigenous land rights (art. 10), and the Buskondre Protocol, or Presidential Resolution No. PO 28/2000, which stated that:

*‘starting April 1, 2000, the Government of Suriname recognizes the collective rights of Indigenous Peoples and Maroons on the lands they respectively live on [...], and that those territories later [...] will be recorded on maps with coordinates and placed at the disposal of the respective traditional authorities’ (Art. 1, cited in The Amazon Conservation Team Suriname, above).*

It is stated the need that ITPs share the benefits from projects in their territory. Implementation of REDD+ in the country must take due account of the implications of the land tenure situation in general. For example, in the context of REDD+ in Suriname, delimitation and registration of territories that may be impacted by REDD+ activities. The current land tenure situation in the country needs to be addressed for REDD+ implementation. Without remedies to the lack of formal recognition of their title to the lands that they inhabit and without the proper implementation of an ESMF, REDD+ can be potentially increased to forest dwellers and indigenous peoples’ livelihoods, due to the potential revenue flows from protecting forests to third actors. **The government has undertaken various initiatives to define and recognize ITPs rights to the land, including the development of a roadmap to their determination and demarcation.** As the Social and Environmental Assessment developed for this strategy demonstrates, such process acquires a key role in the context of REDD+ implementation and governance with or without REDD+ scenario (Fig 5).



**Fig 5.** Venn diagram showing a business as usual scenario vs REDD+ Investment mechanism for improved people livelihood, community development, and enhanced natural capital. (NIMOS, SESA 2017)

The process of REDD+, from the readiness to the implementation phase, has been and will continue to be an opportunity to engage different stakeholders in the discussion related to the use of the land and the resources in the forests, to address both the direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation.

At the policy level, this strategic line is more elaborated through the National Policy Development Plan (OP) 2017- 2021, which underscores the integration of national and regional development planning to facilitate the sustainable use and management of forests by establishing REDD+. Furthermore, strengthening of the regulatory and supervisory institutions and the involvement of the local population are key principles in this regard. The national Forest Policy has also recognized as policy goals the optimal land use and transparent issuance of land tenure rights fair to all stakeholders at the National Forest Policy. Moreover, the Ministry of RGB has acknowledged the importance of spatial planning for, *inter alia*, the conservation of biodiversity and prevention of land degradation.

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) states as one of its objectives about “conservation of biodiversity and the crucial ecosystems services by a responsible expansion and sustainable management of a network of protected areas, which is representative for the biological diversity of the forests in Suriname” (GOS 2013). The National Forest Policy includes as an objective “to enhance the material, but especially the financial, contribution of non-timber forest products (i.e. medicines, cosmetics, handicrafts and food security) to the national economy, to the income of the people living in the interior and of the government and to the welfare of the citizens by increasing the commercial supply of non-timber forest products harvested in a sustainable manner” (GOS 2006).

ON the other hand, protected areas in Suriname cover over two million hectares, or some 13% of the country area, encompassing sixteen protected areas and including the Central Suriname Nature Reserve, 1.6 million hectares of both montane and lowland primary tropical forests. This represents a great investment in the conservation of forests and forest biodiversity. The protection and management of these areas is the highest priority for biodiversity preservation in the environmental strategy of the National Development Plan 2017-2021. Hence, Increase the coverage of protected areas and provide for their protection through measures including the involvement and participation of civil society, indigenous people and tribal groups.

#### **Reforestation of abandoned mine sites:**

A silviculture program is expected to be implemented at a national level in the context of land degradation in both the abandoned bauxite and gold mines, as projected in the National Development Plan 2017-2021 (GOS 2017). The measure had been previously put forward by the Readiness Proposal for REDD+ (GOS 2013) and would involve afforestation and related experimental activities including species testing restoration and reforestation trials.

As stated above, both the NBSAP and the National Forest Policy endorse the responsible expansion and sustainable management of an ecologically representative network of protected areas. This proposal is also ratified by the Interim Strategic Action Plan for Implementing the National Forest Policy (GOS 2009). Simultaneously with analyses and decisions on the protection of specific areas, the modernization of the nature conservation legislation should be approached for ensuring transparent procedures and criteria for the establishment of protected areas, warranting their legal protection, and facilitating stakeholder participation in their designation and management. The Government of Suriname has committed itself in the National Development Plan 2017-2021 to adopt key environmental legislation for a more meaningful mandate, using REDD+ as a financial sustainable catalyzer of all protected areas, and actions to elongate biodiversity. In this regard, consultation among the three Guianas has started for harmonizing the allocation and financial management of protected areas. This process is supported by the "Guiana Shield Initiative" of the IUCN and the WWF "Forest Conservation Project".

In addition, Conservation International Suriname initiated a project to support the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Forest Management (ROGB) in modernizing the Nature Conservation Act of 1954. A roadmap was proposed to modernize the legislation through an inclusive process; an engagement and awareness process will be followed along with the legal drafting.

#### **Protection of mangrove areas:**

Within the context of the REDD+ Program, and as outlined by the National Development Plan 2017-2021 (GOS 2017), the mangrove forests that protect the Atlantic coastline will be protected within a scheme coupled with improved land zoning and enforcement capacities. At least one tenth of the coastal and marine area should be established as a Marine Protected Area for the achieving of Aichi target 11 of the CBD and provisions of the National Biodiversity Strategic Plan. In addition to the carbon benefits, the project, anticipated by the Readiness Proposal for REDD+ (GOS 2013), will provide coastal protection

against the rise of sea levels, protect the health of marine ecosystems and provide alternative livelihoods. Within the Global Climate Change Alliance Adaptation Project, a National mangrove strategy plan will be developed in 2017-2018. The Mangrove Forum will assist the government in this endeavor.

Several findings from the SESA process with regards to protected areas were already discussed under measure 2.C.4 ( Draft SESA report). People see many benefits from establishing protected areas, including restoration and protection of income sources, food security and safeguarding of traditional livelihoods. Protected areas were also repeatedly regarded as an insurance against encroachment of external actors. Major concern was voiced about potential adverse effects on livelihoods, e.g. in the form of resource and land use restrictions.

Inequality may result where benefits generated by protected areas (e.g. through nature tourism, non-timber forest products) are only accessible to external actors, e.g. where the government or a third party oversees the management. A myriad of ways to avoid or reduce such risks were identified, including involvement in the adaptation of the respective law, transparent communication, monitoring, control and enforcement potentially involving local community members, legal recognition of traditional rules and special arrangements for ITPs around protected areas.

## 2b. REDD+ Strategy Options

### *Indicator 16. Selection and Prioritization of REDD+ strategy options*

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Were REDD+ strategy options (prioritized based on comprehensive assessment of direct and indirect drivers of deforestation, barriers to forest enhancement activities and/or informed by other factors, as appropriate) selected via a transparent and participatory process?</li> <li>Were the expected emissions reduction potentials of interventions estimated, where possible, and how did they inform the design of the REDD+ strategy?</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required.

A final draft of the Suriname National REDD+ Strategy (NRS) was submitted on September 20, 2017 (GoS 2017). The Strategy is based on the inputs received from the DDFDB+ , FREL, NFMS, and from the National Plan for Forest Cover Monitoring development process. Moreover, the NRS is completely integrated with the ESMF and SESA reports.

Previous and parallel stakeholder engagement activities provided valuable information to design the NRS participatory process. The NRS stakeholder engagement process consisted mainly on a National workshop involving representatives from all the relevant stakeholders performed in May 2017; community consultations and surveys conducted by Tropenbos International and including all the Indigenous and Tribal communities between May and August 2017; and follow-up consultations with different stakeholders between August and September 2017.

After consolidating the inputs received from related studies, the participatory process and the SESA process, the NRS presents a vision and four strategic lines with their corresponding PAMs. The NRS vision highlights the Suriname commitment with global sustainability efforts and local community development through sustainable forest management, efficient resources utilization and biodiversity conservation. The four strategic lines aim at maintaining the HFLD status and receive compensation for economic transition, improving the forest governance to achieve sustainable forest management, improving land use planning, and increasing the contribution of forest and ecosystem services to Suriname's economic development.

The NRS also describes the implementation institutional framework and the financial strategy as well as the status of NRS implementation related activities. Next, Suriname National REDD+ Strategy and drivers of deforestation analysis identified in the readiness phase brings the option of initiating a dialogue among stakeholders to design the structure of The National REDD+ Fiduciary Trust Fund (NRFTF) as a platform to be structured before REDD+ readiness is completed. High prioritization has been given to the architecture of this fiduciary fund that will ensure a financial sustainability once the grantmaking process of FCPF REDD+ readiness is over. Therefore, a request for additional funding will be focused on creating the foundation for the fund. Figure 6 presents the architecture to be designed for the National REDD+ Fiduciary Trust Fund.

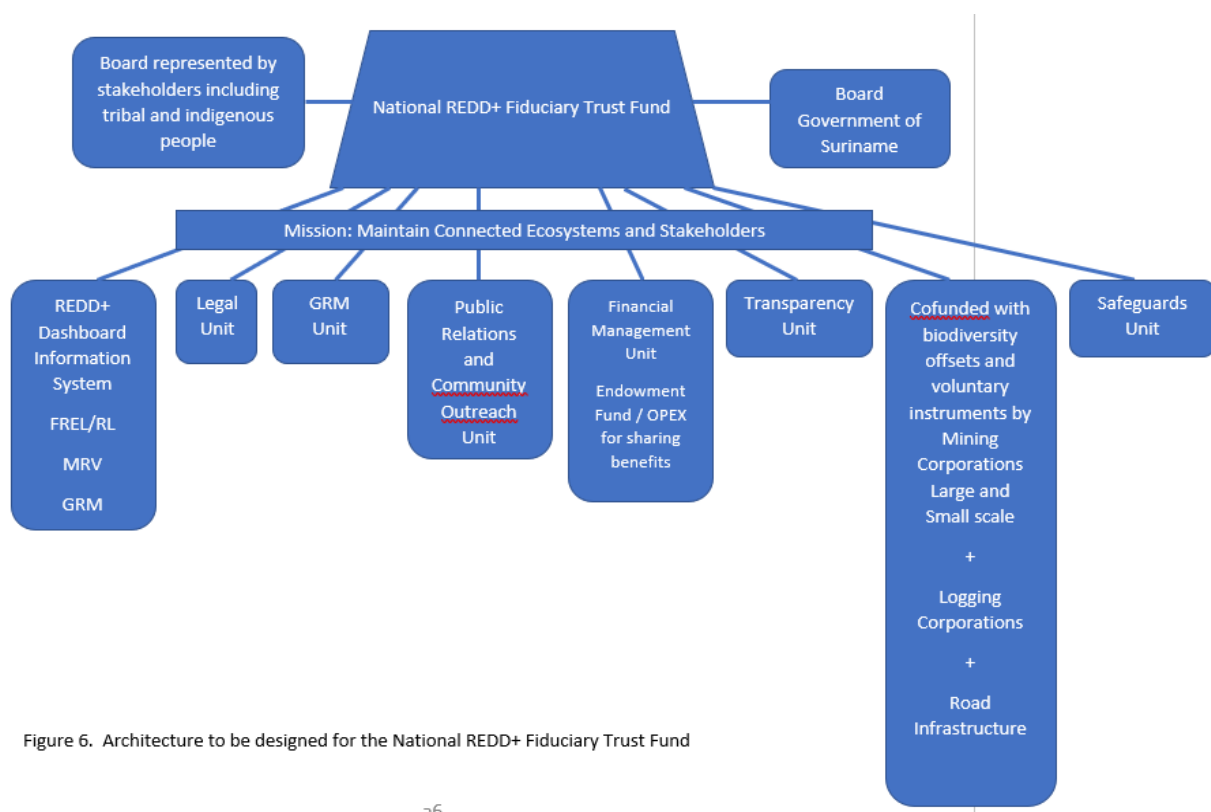


Figure 6. Architecture to be designed for the National REDD+ Fiduciary Trust Fund

The following activities would be developed to shape the outcome of the architecture of the National REDD+ Fiduciary Trust Fund

- Design of a financial sustainability policy for The National REDD+ Fiduciary Trust Fund (NRFTF);
- Keep engaged the Project Steering Committee, Project Board and assure stakeholders are well represented by CSO, IP and Tribal Groups ;
- Develop a FPIC protocol and enable social and environmental safeguards ;
- Legal Review accession rights based on civil code, concessions, and customary land rights (e.g. foresight of international and national law on Carbon rights to explore guidelines for the shared benefits agreements considering concessionary agreements.);
- Integrate an online platform for Grievance and Redress Mechanisms with a system of systems aligned with training for commissioners in decentralized districts;
- Develop a strategy to address large scale mining corporations and logging companies towards a business biodiversity offsets, hierarchy mitigation, and impact benefit agreements platform;
- Align REDD+ readiness activities with small mining groups under a new UNDP project to increase social and environmental safeguards to be submitted in November 2017 to work with the ASMG;
- Foster a high-level engagement with the REDD+ readiness and the project.



### **Indicator 17. Feasibility Assessment**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Were REDD+ strategy options assessed and prioritized for their social, environmental and political feasibility, risks and opportunities, and analysis of costs and benefits?</li></ul>	Progressing well, further development required

The National REDD+ Strategy (NRS) presented four policy lines considering the social and environmental feasibility and convenience. The policy lines are also synchronized with the National Development Plan 2017-2021, the National Biodiversity Plan and the National Forest Policy. Regarding the costs of implementing the prioritized Policy Action Measures (PAMs), the strategy indicates that the National REDD+ Trust Fund (NRTF) is expected to receive resources from different sources, including international and national investment and potentially results-based payments in the future (GoS 2017). The Strategy up-to-date provides no additional details about PAMs funding neither the cost of PAMs implementation to maintain Suriname's Natural Capital. For climate mitigation objectives, it is better to fully conserve forests, but the REDD+ mechanism is not functioning yet, until implementation is launched, then conservation of forest does not bring financial sustainability and Suriname needs to be developed further on this subject matter. Therefore, the voluntary Carbon Market is gaining momentum on the value of a REDD+ / Forestry carbon credit around USD \$ 7 - 15 when Voluntary Carbon Standards (VCS+CCB standards) were verified (Ecosystem marketplace, 2016).

To get support from the private sector there must be transparency and re-investment of the state income in the sector, for example by establishing a 'National REDD+ Fiduciary Trust Fund'. This fund acts as a guarantee to stimulate financing of the forest sector by either a second-floor banking or private banks, which in turn stimulates investments. Furthermore, the government should facilitate the sector: maintenance and expansion of the infrastructure, help identify consumer markets and attune the duration of the concession rights with the duration of investments. The government should also cooperate with other forest-rich countries, such as Guyana, to improve the negotiation position at international financing mechanisms such as REDD+ and must explore the possibilities on the free carbon market. Finally, the government should assure a stable macro-economic and monetary climate to stimulate investments. From the side of the private sector the aim should achieve sustainable long-term profit by implementing sustainable forest management, technological innovation and efficiency with respect to the production processes and use of timber.

### **Indicator 18. Implication of strategy option on existing sectoral policies**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Have major inconsistencies between the priority REDD+ strategy options and policies or programs in other sectors related to the forest sector (e.g., transport, agriculture) been identified?</li><li>Is an agreed timeline and process in place to resolve inconsistencies and integrate REDD+ strategy options with relevant development policies?</li><li>Are they supportive of broader development objectives and have broad community support?</li></ul>	Progressing well, further development required

The REDD+ strategy options are aligned and support the National Development Plan 2017-2021. Additionally, prioritized PAMs are consistent with the National Forestry Policy (NFP) and support an update of the Forest Management Act (1992), the Nature Conservation Act (1954) and the Game Act (1954) to reflect the current national vision.

The strategy identified that the implementation of some REDD+ activities would likely imply reversing some existing mining concessions. This situation occurs because the current legal framework is not enforced enough to minimize the impact of economic activities. Then, if a concession is already granted, there is no obligation to address environmental impacts. Even beyond from the limited regulation on environmental protection, the unresolved land rights issue remains as a potential risk for REDD+ activities in relation with other sectors.

The need of a stringent environmental regulation and additional actions to formalize the land tenure rights are among the objectives of the Government Policy Statement 2015-2020. Beyond supporting the governmental actions, the NRS and PMU focuses on enhanced communication with ministries and other sectors institutions to ensure activities consistency (GoS 2017).

## 2c. Implementation Framework

### *Indicator 19. Adoption and implementation of legislation/regulations*

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have legislation and/or regulations related to REDD+ programs and activities been adopted?</li> <li>What evidence is there that these relevant REDD+ laws and policies are being implemented?</li> </ul>	Further development required

The Surinamese National Development Plan 2017-2021 considers REDD+ mechanism among the fundamental development basis. The plan considers alternatives to attract investments to increase GHG emissions reductions, increasing energy and resource efficiency, and minimizing biodiversity loss and ecosystem damage. The GoS has recognized the need of strengthening and updating the current environmental and land use legal framework. It is in fact one of the purposes of the Policy Development Plan 2017-2021 (GoS 2017a).

Related to forest management, the National Forestry Policy (NFP), existing since 2005, sets the basis for the economic use of forestry resources while using wisely biodiversity. However, policy is not yet reflected on laws and regulations to ensure the objectives are met. The main existing law for the forestry sector is the Forest Management Act (1992) but it is more related to forest economic sustainable logging.

Regarding conservation, the National Biodiversity Strategy 2006-2020 (NBS) supports the biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of resources. Nevertheless, the NBS also lacks its supportive legal framework. The main existing conservation laws are the Nature Conservation Act (1954) and the Game Act (1954), which refer to the establishment of protected areas and appear outdated.

Regarding land use planning, besides developing a rural planning act it is also required to formalize the land tenure systems for Indigenous and Maroon communities.

### **Indicator 20. Guidelines for implementation**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>What evidence is there that the implementation framework defines carbon rights, benefit sharing mechanisms, REDD+ financing modalities, procedures for official approvals (e.g., for pilots or REDD+ projects), and grievance mechanisms?</li></ul>	Further development required

The definition of the carbon rights is closely related to the land rights formalization whether a customary land rights recognition is further developed, and it is also considered within the PAMs identified in the NRS by the GoS. On the other hand, the benefit sharing, and grievance mechanisms are being designed and should require additional funding.

Regarding REDD+ financing, the National REDD+ Strategy describes three possible mechanisms which are:

- A National REDD+ fiduciary trust fund could operate at the national scale for raising funds from donors, biodiversity offsets, payments for ecosystems services, public and private sources and allocate some of those resources to different PAMs.
- A direct market mechanism for REDD+ credits could be traded alongside existing verified emissions reductions, and could be used by companies in countries to meet emissions targets in their national cap-and-trade system or a future evolution on a carbon fee and dividend for stakeholders.
- A hybrid mechanism might be created to generate Carbon finance through voluntary auction processes or by establishing a dual market in which REDD+ credits are linked but are not fully fungible with existing certified emission reductions.

The strategy also states that the definition of the final financing option will be carefully addressed considering national circumstances.

Regarding official approvals, the National REDD+ Strategy mentions that the National REDD+ Project Board is the current decision-making body, responsible for giving the political direction to the REDD+ mechanism. It is comprised of high level government representatives from agencies with mandates that are related, can have an indirect effect or can be affected by REDD+ actions. It will have the responsibility for decision making and to guide the NRFTF (GoS 2017b).

### **Indicator 21. Benefit sharing mechanism**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>What evidence is there to demonstrate benefit sharing mechanisms are transparent?</li></ul>	Further development required

There are some existing policy lines aiming at using the REDD+ financial support for economic diversification, ensuring equitable benefits distribution among community members, obtaining the community involvement in planning of REDD+ related activities, and establishing additional protected areas. It has also been established that The National REDD+ Project Board will be responsible for oversee benefit sharing criteria and guide the NRFTF in managing and allocation of benefits. However, an official REDD+ benefit sharing mechanism, based on the principles of equity, justice and participation, along with its supporting legal framework is not yet developed until early 2018.

Some manuals and conversations have explained to the communities and civil society that one of the REDD+ fundamentals is sharing effectively the benefits with stakeholders. In contrast, the uncertainty

about sharing socioeconomic benefits increased over community perceptions which has not been discussed enough and the RAC; they highlight were not trained about it. The lack of clarification has made the topic arises in most of the engagement activities.

#### **Indicator 22. National REDD+ registry and system monitoring REDD+ activities**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is a national geo-referenced REDD+ information system or registry operational, comprehensive of all relevant information (e.g., information on the location, ownership, carbon accounting and financial flows for sub-national and national REDD+ programs and projects), and does it ensure public access to REDD+ information?</li> </ul>	Further development required

The Suriname National Plan for Forest Cover Monitoring was prepared in 2014 to contribute in the REDD+ activities and to fulfill a requirement made by the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), which Suriname is member. Within the ACTO, the Forest Cover Monitoring Unit (FCMU) at the SBB was established and equipped in 2012.

The FCMU has produced five national forest cover/deforestation maps: a forest cover map of 2000, and four deforestation maps for the periods 2000-2009, 2009-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015. They also produced a Post Deforestation Land Use maps for 2000-2009 which can be found at: <http://sbbsur.com/launch-post-deforestation-land-use-land-cover-lulc-kaart-2000-2009/>. The ACTO membership and Suriname's contributions to the "REDD+ for the Guiana Shield project" have strengthened the FCMU technical capabilities.

On the other hand, the NFMS Roadmap was produced by December 2016. It included the NFMS methodology design, a FREL baseline study, expert consultation on gaps, validation with stakeholders, and roadmap adjustments. The roadmap also described the institutional arrangements to meet the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory and LULUCF reporting requirements under the UNFCCC, initiating the technical development of Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS), and implementing the National Forest Inventory (NFI). Moreover, the roadmap reported the initiation of a NFMS geoportal with the support of the FAO/ UN-REDD remote sensing unit, some of its features are already available at: <http://www.gonini.org/portal/>.

According to the Project Document the National REDD+ Registry (NRR) should have been designed by 2016. Currently, it is expected to be completed, consulted, and officially submitted as of April 2018. The NRR will be waiting the approval of the National REDD+ Strategy by GoS and Stakeholders as of November 2017, in order to enable the design of the registry, which is expected to be aligned with the NRS decisions, and interoperable with FREL, NFMS where descriptions about governance, accountability emissions policy, carbon units exchanges and use of best information technology available (BAT) will be used.

## **2d. Social and Environmental Impacts**

#### **Indicator 23. Analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What evidence is there that applicable social and environmental safeguard issues relevant to the country context have been fully identified/analysed via relevant studies or diagnostics and in consultation processes?</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required

The National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname is committed with REDD+ implementation according with the Cancun safeguards and its Delivery Partner UNDP suite of safeguards. Then, the Safeguards Information System (SIS) is planned to be developed in early 2018 considering SESA assessment and the ESMF (under review) within a dual set of safeguards to be chosen from World Bank and UNDP; although additional funding is requested to fully integrate SIS subcomponents into one System of Systems or MRV Hub such as FREL, Registry, NFMS, SESA, ESMF, FGRM.

The SESA, the DDFDB+ study and other participatory activities performed identified main social issues which are: ensuring a transparent and equitable benefit sharing mechanism; formalizing the land rights of Indigenous and Tribal communities; ensuring livelihood alternatives for local communities in case traditional agricultural and hunting practices will be restricted; and ensuring gender inclusiveness within the REDD+ activities (GoS 2017b; NIMOS et al. 2017; GoS 2017c; Smith 2016).

As noted before, the environmental concerns are more related to laxity of the current legal framework which is ambiguous regarding sustainable forest exploitation and is limited demanding environmental standards for mining activities. There is also additional work to do regarding land use planning and legislation (GoS 2017c).

#### **Indicator 24. REDD+ strategy design with respect to social and environmental impacts**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How were SESA results and the identification of social and environmental impacts (both positive and negative) used for prioritizing and designing REDD+ strategy options?</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required

Recognizing the uncertainty in future land use due to planning legislation strengthening among other factors, as part of the National REDD+ Strategy it was performed a future land use modelling exercise to assess potential scenarios. Three land use change scenarios were considered: Business as Usual (BAU), Development without REDD+ and Development with REDD+. The modelling results analysis allowed identification of some areas with the highest certainty of being deforested in the future. The strategy proposes prioritizing the PAMs implementation in these critical areas. On the other hand, in the results discussion with stakeholders some areas of improvement arose which were: demarcation of community lands and modelling it with different deforestation rates, increasing the gold mining area in the REDD+ scenario and considering the increase of urban zones. The modelling and feedback sessions about land use change will continue as a living FREL/NFMS system.

The National REDD+ strategy set four policy lines. The strategic line 1) *seek continuing being a HFLD and receive compensation for economic transition; the strategic line 2) promotes sustainable use of forest for development purposes; the strategic line 3) strives for sustainable land use; and the strategic line 4) looks for maintaining and enhancing the forest conservation and rehabilitation efforts to benefit the local communities and the overall socioeconomic development.*

Regarding the identified social issues, the National REDD+ Strategy recognizes that REDD+ will not solve the land rights issue. However, it recommends setting a path to solve the situation and keeping transparent and appropriate stakeholders engagement to manage the other social risks identified in the preparation phase.

### **Indicator 25. Environmental and Social Management Framework**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>What evidence is there that the ESMF is in place and managing environmental and social risks/potential impacts related to REDD+ activities?</li></ul>	Significant progress

The current ESMF draft describes two main limitations impacting the NRS and the SESA (GoS 2017a). The first one refers to short time to analyze the information which implied relying on the DDFDB+ analysis and postpone some analysis. The second one is related to geographic spread of local communities which limited the consultation opportunities to one round per community. It forced extremely concise meetings, requiring alternative communication and feedback mechanisms, and coordinating additional consultations.

The ESMF describes the PAMs implementation framework and the methodological approach. It also presents the considerations for the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples plan. The ESMF also provides guidelines regarding REDD+ benefits promotion, mitigation measures and dispute resolution. It also establishes some recommendations for Monitoring and Evaluation. Regarding stakeholder engagement, the ESMF recommends following the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy, the methodology for Indigenous and Tribal people engagement, and the WISE REDD+ project guidelines.

The ESMF draft still have some sections to be completed and integrated with key input from SESA. Among the pending topics are the identified benefits, risks and safeguards; the environmental management plan impacts and the further identified needs for REDD+ and ESMF implementation which was completed in the SESA.

## **3 – Forest Reference Emissions Level / Forest Reference Level**

### **Indicator 26. Demonstration of methodology**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Is the preliminary sub-national or national forest REL or RL presented (as part of the R-Package) using a clearly documented methodology, based on a step-wise approach, as appropriate?</li><li>Are plans for additional steps and data needs provided, and is the relationship between the sub-national and the evolving national reference level demonstrated (as appropriate)?</li></ul>	Progressing well, further development required

The submission of a Forest Reference (Emission) Level (FREL/FRL) before the UNFCCC is a requirement for completing the REDD+ readiness phase and will be used for obtaining results-based payments for REDD+ actions through implementation. Suriname developed the FREL/FRL, which is scheduled to be submitted to the UNFCCC for technical assessment in January 2018. Technical development of the FREL/FRL for Suriname is the responsibility of the Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB). Formal submission will be done through the Cabinet of the President as the National Focal Point for UNFCCC, via the National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (NIMOS) as national technical focal point for REDD+.

UNFCCC countries have agreed to a step-wise approach for developing the FREL/FRL. In that regard, Suriname will submit first the FREL/FRL based on best available data to-date, with a transparent analysis of uncertainty and remaining gaps. The country strives to constantly improve the availability of data and intends to submit an improved FREL/FRL including recommendations of the technical assessment of the

first submission. The first FREL/FRL for Suriname will be based on historical data for the period 2000-2015, with a reference period of 5 years into the future. The scale will be national, and an adjustment for national circumstances will be made that can be explained and justified with the results of the scenario modeling done for the national REDD+ strategy (see section 1 of NRS document). Due to the limited data available for other REDD+ activities, only deforestation, forest degradation due to logging and sustainable management of forests will be included in the calculation of this first FREL/FRL, with an aim to expand the scope in the second submission. Only CO<sub>2</sub> will be considered, and pools included are aboveground and belowground biomass, lying and standing dead wood. All data used is collected through the NFMS-roadmap in coordination by the SBB NFMS-unit. Following input data was used to establish the historic emissions level:

### **Emission Factors due to Deforestation (National carbon stocks)**

Data collected for the publication ‘Towards a carbon balance for forests in Suriname’ developed in 2011 supported the development and implementation of an adequate MRV system for forest carbon in Suriname. The project had contributors from Alterra, Wageningen UR; CELOS; Tropenbos International Suriname; Stichting voor Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht, Suriname; IBED, University of Amsterdam and The Netherlands Centre for Biodiversity, Naturalis/National Herbarium of the Netherlands, Leiden University; and the Laboratory of Tropical and Subtropical Agronomy and Ethnobotany, Ghent University.

Data collected during the Suriname Carbon Stock Assessment (CSA) process started with the project ‘Forest carbon stock assessment’ performed between 2010 and 2011 by the Ministry of Physical Planning, Land and Forest Management (RGB) with funding of WWF Guianas and TBI Suriname (CBN). The project was developed in coordination with SBB, the Forest Service Suriname, the CELOS, and BBS. Aidenvironment was contracted to aid in the development of a monitoring system and provide guidance to carry out CO<sub>2</sub> calculations in accordance to IPCC methodology. As a fundamental part of the process, the personnel from RGB, SBB, CELOS and BBS were involved in a capacity building program which included theoretical, lab and fieldwork training.

Data collected during 2013-2014 within a pilot project for a National Forest Inventory for Suriname. In collaboration with the Austrian consortium ANRICA and with financial support from Conservation International And WWF-Guianas. There was twenty-nine Sampling Units established within the country. This dataset has been further completed with information collected by the private sector and from NGO’s that applied the same methodology in other areas.

The tree species list, developed through the REDD+ for the Guiana Shield-project was further improved by the NFMS-unit at SBB and makes it possible to connect vernacular tree species names with scientific names. These names are linked to the Global Wood Density-database <http://db.worldagroforestry.org/wd> (Zanne, 2009).

Results from the report “State-of-the-art study: Best estimates for emission factors and carbon stocks for Suriname” bringing all data from the above-mentioned projects together and providing the best estimate based on existing data. This report was established in a collaboration between CATIE, SBB, CELOS and NZCS. It had a strong capacity building component and included a mission from Suriname experts to Costa Rica. Currently the NFMS-data analyst is trained to calculate emission factors and carbon stocks.



## Deforestation data for the periods 2000-2009 and 2009-2015

Activity data based on the area of deforestation were estimated based on the forest basemap of 2000 and the historical assessment of the deforestation for the periods 2000-2009, 2009-2013, 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. These maps have been developed by the SBB (Forest Cover Monitoring Unit) through the support of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) project “*Monitoring the Forest Cover of the Amazon region*” in collaboration with international experts (INPE, UN-REDD, ONFi, CI) and national stakeholders. For the years 2009, 2013 and 2015; the deforestation analysis has been further disintegrated by drivers in a multisectoral collaboration approach. Deforestation or conversion from forested land to another type of land is monitored in Suriname using IPCC Approach 3.

The stratified area estimates were calculated based on technical support from the UN-REDD programme, using the methodology of Olofsson (2014). This is a robust methodology and will continue to be used in the future.

### Timber production statistics

These statistics are used to assess the activity data for the degradation due to logging. The statistics are published on a yearly basis. Within the FREL/FRL project, the uncertainty of these data was estimated based on triangulation with ground-truth data and satellite images, consistency checks in the database and field work interviews.

### Emission factors (EF) due to logging

The methodology established by Griscom (2014) was used to assess the EF in ten locations widespread over the forest belt, covering different management regimes, during a field campaign carried out in the first half of 2017 by SBB in collaboration with CELOS and coordinated by the NFMS-unit with financial support of the Nature Conservancy (TNC). During COP23 some of the findings will be presented in the boot of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

### Indicator 27. Use of historical data, and adjusted for national circumstances

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How does the establishment of the REL/RL take into account historical data, and if adjusted for national circumstance, what is the rationale and supportive data that demonstrate that proposed adjustments are credible and defensible?</li><li>• Is sufficient data and documentation provided in a transparent fashion to allow for the reconstruction or independent cross-checking of the REL/RL?</li></ul>	Progressing well, further development required

The forest cover map for 2000 will be used as the benchmark map to assess historical deforestation for the FREL/FRL. This map was produced using semi-automatic classification procedures on Landsat 5 and 7 images. The final check of the land use/land cover classes was done manually in TerraAmazon, a software developed by FUNCATE. The Landsat-images were combined with high resolution imagery (Google Earth, Bing Maps); old maps (ecosystem map of the Northern part of the country, 1978 and CBL-maps based on a national aerial campaign in the 50-70s by KLM Aerocarto; field data; and expert knowledge.

Furthermore, the FCMU produced four maps to assess the national deforestation occurred in the following periods: 2000-2009, 2009-2013, 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. These maps provided the historic



assessment of the activity data required for the FREL/FRL. It has been identified that more research is required to monitor forest degradation (Crabbe et al. 2016).

Then, the first FREL/FRL for Suriname will be based on historical data for the period 2000-2015, with a future reference period of 5 years. The adjustment for national circumstances will be made in agreement with the scenario modeling done for the national REDD+ strategy. The FREL/FRL calculations will consider deforestation, forest degradation due to logging and sustainable management of forest only. The scope will be increased in future FREL/FRL submissions when more data is available. Only CO<sub>2</sub> will be considered, and the pools included are aboveground and belowground biomass, standing and lying dead wood (GoS 2017).

Currently Suriname is taking a development pathway focusing on mitigating the economic crisis, which will include increased mining, logging and agriculture. This will have a negative impact on the global and local environment. By participating to the international REDD+ mechanism, Suriname is exploring the possibility to access financial incentives for alternative development pathways seeking for a balance between national, local and global welfare and wellbeing for the current and future generations, resulting in forest based GHG emissions that will remain below an agreed level. To make it possible for the country to preserve its forests, even with the presence of the mineral resource richness, it will this agreed level, the Forest Reference Emission Level needs to reflect a realistic situation.

Possibilities to adjust the reference level by comparing it to the global deforestation level have been evaluated and compared with the scenario modeling carried out within the development of the National REDD+ strategy. Hereby it was found that the country will apply an adjustment of the FREL/FRL through a linear projection. This corresponds with the increasing trend of emissions comparing the periods 2000-2009 and 2009-2015 and is also in line with the *Multi-Annual Development Plan* (OP) 2017-2021.

### **Scenario modelling**

Within the process of developing the National REDD+ Strategy, SBB, in close collaboration with the consultant, led a participatory and national capacity strengthening process to develop three development scenarios. Within this process, the Planning Office and other ministries were closely involved, and a technical training was provided to the staff of partner institutions in the beginning of this process. The three scenarios that were developed were:

*Business as Usual (BAU) scenario:* the assumption in the BAU scenario is that there will be no major differences in economic, technological and political development. The deforestation rate will remain stable and there will be no REDD+ implementation;

*Conventional Development scenario:* the assumption here is that the development projects which are included in the Development Plan 2017-2021 will be carried out, except the projects with reforestation activities;

*Development with REDD+ scenario:* the assumption in this scenario is that the development projects which are included in the Development Plan 2017-2021 will be carried out, but considering the implementation of REDD+ and the National Strategy.

The deforestation in Suriname was simulated using a spatially-explicit, stochastic ‘cellular automata’ model called DINAMICA-EGO (Soares-Filho et al., 2002). In the calibration phase, the process of land use change is simulated based on explicit relationships between pixels with observed transitions

(deforestation) and information of a set of spatially-explicit factors that are supposed to explain these transitions over a historical period. The relationship between transition pixels and determinants (explicit factors) is measured by the calculation of “weights of evidence”, that is positive when the determinant encourages the land use change, and negative in the opposite case (Mas and Flamenco, 2011). DINAMICA-EGO also allows the calibration of the shapes and spatial distribution of areas with changes, and the analysis of the deforestation by regions, which become useful tools in the process of future simulation. In the validation phase, a land use map is simulated using the information of the calibration phase, and compared against the actual map, for the same year (2015). This process allows to display a percentage of correctly simulated pixels, in different scales, from social pixels to Neotropical landscapes.

**Indicator 28. Technical Feasibility of the methodological approach, and consistency with the UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the REL/RL (presented as part of the R-Package) based on transparent, complete and accurate information, consistent with UNFCCC guidance and the most recent IPCC guidance and guidelines, and allowing for technical assessment of the data sets, approaches, methods, models (if applicable) and assumptions used in the construction of the REL/RL?</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required

**Scenarios of deforestation**

Decision 12/CP.17 Annex states that information used to develop a RL should be guided by the most recent IPCC guidance and guidelines. Therefore IPCC (2003) and IPCC (2006) were used as a reference through the formulation of this FREL. AAE collaborated with SBB and the REDD+ PMU to determine the most suitable modelling tool and software such as GEOSiris, TerraSet Geospatial Monitoring and Modelling System based on Suriname’s current needs and the availability of information. Spatial information and data were critical inputs for any scenario modelling, especially to assess forest area coverage and changes over time, current and planned land-use activities. Time series data either in raster or vector were important to conduct time series scenarios assessment. AAE envisions maintaining continued collaboration with the Forest Cover Monitoring Unit and building on data produced from parallel processes such as the preparation of the national plan for forest cover monitoring to develop a national forest monitoring system, as well as earlier modeling efforts and results, to determine the most appropriate modelling tool. One of the preferred tools applicable to Suriname’s conditions is the DINAMICA-EGO software. This model is a "cellular automaton" used for the spatial modelling landscape dynamics based on transition probabilities of the pixels (Soares-Filho et al., 2002). Unlike other similar models, as for example CLUE-S, which defines the probabilities of state (of belonging to each of the classes of the land use map) of a pixel, DINAMICA-EGO (DINAMICA from now on) is based on the relations between the determinants of land use change and the pixels that had transitions between two dates of study (p.e. deforested pixels). After a training in DINAMICA was given by the AAE modeling expert to the national technical group led by FCMU, it was agreed that the first step will be done in collaboration with FCMU. For the following steps the group will be expanded to also include the trained national technical group.

Before describing the details of the proposed methodology for modelling it is key to point out that all scenarios resulting from the modelling process were reviewed in participatory processes and workshops. It is also key that the scenarios should be developed in line with the FREL/FRL process. This is part of calibrating the tool and the presence of experts in charge of the peer-reviewed analysis of drivers of

deforestation as well as other national forestry experts as key for the development of these scenarios. The process has five (5) general steps:

**Transparency:** all spatially explicit information on forest cover change is available through the open-access geoportal [www.gonini.org](http://www.gonini.org). All documents and reports presenting the results are published on the website of the National REDD+ Program ([www.surinamredd.org](http://www.surinamredd.org)) and the SBB website ([www.sbbsur.com](http://www.sbbsur.com))

**Accuracy:** area estimations based on remote sensing are generated using the methodology developed by Olofsson et al. (2014) based on the tools developed by FAO (2016). When new data on emissions factors was collected, field protocols were developed and followed in the field. Randomly the measurements were reassessed, and the teams were corrected if necessary.

**Completeness:** this first FREL/FRL for Suriname is developed on the national scale, for the historic time period was 2000-2015 and that the scope of activities are deforestation and forest degradation due to logging. The scope of activities might be expanded in a future submission since the only reason for this limit is the lack of data for other activities. Above ground biomass of trees and lianas, belowground biomass of trees and dead wood are the only carbon pools included, due to insufficient data available on the other pools. Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is the only greenhouse gas included in this FREL/FRL.

**Consistency:** Suriname's 1st National Communication was formally submitted to the UNFCCC on 27 March 2006 and the 2nd (based on 2008 data for the GHG inventory) was submitted on 15 March 2016. This FREL/FRL does not fully correspond with the National Communications GHG inventory, since the FREL/FRL builds on improved data and methodologies. One example is that the national forest definition has been updated in the FREL/FRL. The new forest definition will be used in a consistent manner for the Third National Communication and other forthcoming national documents. The newly established National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) will provide data to all forthcoming national submissions related to forest, such as the Second FREL/FRL and contributing to the AFOLU part of the next GHG inventory. The national staff, responsible for the NFMS and FREL/FRL developed strong capacity by building all the different data collection components and developing the methodologies and procedures in house with support from international partner organizations. This assures consistent application of the methodologies towards the future.

**Comparability:** Because Suriname started building its NFMS through regional collaboration projects, and regional mapping activities, the definitions and approaches used are comparable with other countries within the region.

## 4 – National Forest Monitoring System and Safeguards

### 4a. National Forest Monitoring System

*Indicator 29. Documentation of monitoring approach*

*Indicator 30. Demonstration of early system implementation*

*Indicator 31. Institutional arrangements and capacities*

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there clear rationale or analytic evidence supporting the selection of the used or proposed methodology (combination of remote sensing and ground-based forest carbon inventory approaches, systems)</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>resolution, coverage, accuracy, inclusions of carbon pools and gases) and improvement over time?</li> <li>Has the system been technically reviewed and nationally approved, and is it consistent with national and international existing and emerging guidance?</li> <li>Are potential sources of uncertainties identified to the extent possible?</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What evidence is there that the system has the capacity to monitor the specific REDD+ activities prioritized in the country's REDD+ strategy?</li> <li>How does the system identify and assess displacement of emissions (leakage), and what are the early results (if any)?</li> <li>How are key stakeholders involved (participating/ consulted) in the development and/or early implementation of the system, including data collection and any potential verification of its results?</li> <li>What evidence is there that the system allows for comparison of changes in forest area and carbon content (and associated GHG emissions) relative to the baseline estimates used for the REL/RL?</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are mandates to perform tasks related to forest monitoring clearly defined (e.g., satellite data processing, forest inventory, information sharing)?</li> <li>What evidence is there that a transparent means of publicly sharing forest and emissions data are presented and are in at least an early operational stage?</li> <li>Have associated resource needs been identified and estimated (e.g., required capacities, training, hardware/software, and budget)?</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required

The National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) is operational in Suriname and is constantly being improved, following an NFMS Roadmap developed in 2016 (Crabbe et al. 2016).

The Forest Cover Monitoring Unit has lately evolved towards the NFMS Coordination Unit which is hosted at the SBB. This unit is responsible for developing and maintaining the NFMS in Suriname in coordination with stakeholders. NIMOS-PMU, responsible for the REDD+ Readiness, will connect the NFMS with policy objectives and requirements, and will be the link between the NFMS and the Office of the President for international reporting. The REDD+ Project Board will keep providing direction on key issues and will supervise the achievement and maintenance of desired standards.

The NFMS is perceived as a multi-purpose system, inherently including the Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system. Its main components are : the Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS) providing estimates of the activity data related to deforestation and forest degradation; the National Forest Inventory (NFI) providing estimates on Carbon Stocks (and emission factors related to deforestation); the Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) monitoring component providing data on emission factors related to logging, timber production and the areas harvested; the Near Real Time Monitoring (NRTM) system that can provide timely alerts on unplanned changes in the forest, allowing for immediate action in the field; and Community-based monitoring, reporting and verification (C-MRV). This integration of subsystems is expected to be integrated and interoperable in One Hub, if additional funds are allocated for the closing phase of readiness. Figure 7 illustrates how NFMS subcomponents are related.



**Figure 7.** Visualization of how NFMS subcomponents are related and will be embedded into one System of Systems for REDD+

Source: NFMS Roadmap, 2016

South-South collaboration has been a key aspect in the development of the NFMS. Before the FCPF-project started, the NFMS was already being developed specifically with support of the following regional projects:

- KfW/CI-project: Guiana Shield Initiative/ Avoided deforestation through consolidation and creation of protected areas in the Guianan Region.
- ACTO-project: Monitoring the forest cover in the Amazon region.
- REDD+ for the Guiana Shield -project

The FCPF helped to bring all pieces together and to design the system, by the development of the NFMS-roadmap describing the status and the plans (SBB, 2017), but also making all data available by the establishment of the National Land Monitoring Systems “Gonini” for public dissemination ([www.gonini.org](http://www.gonini.org)).

The NFMS-staff were hired mostly through the *ACTO-project and GoS budgets*, and they have been trained in the period 2012-2017, acquiring a high level of technical expertise. It should be noted here, that when the R-PP was formulated, there were very few experts in the country in Remote Sensing, Biometry, GIS etc. Nowadays, this knowledge has been transferred to the public servants at SBB. Because of the capacity built, many of the technical activities to be carried out to be REDD+ could be implemented by the NFMS-unit, requiring only targeted international support. The additional funding requested could be possible whether FCPF funds become available to sustain the NFMS-unit, at least until the end of 2018. The following table describes the Status and Products related to each of the subsystems of the NFMU (Table 2).

**Table 2.** Subsystems developed by SBB-FMCU and state of the art of their outputs/outcomes developed by SBB-FMCU for the REDD+ readiness phase.

Subsystem	Status & Products
<b>SLMS</b>	<p><b>Deforestation monitoring</b> Multitemporal assessment done for 2000-2015 (2000-2009, 2009-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015). Methodology established for annual deforestation monitoring, including a QA/QC methodology in collaboration with UN-REDD. A first-year monitoring map for 2015-2016 finished including QA/QC (needs to be published).</p> <p><b>Land use and drivers of deforestation Monitoring</b> Multitemporal analyses about drivers of deforestation done for 2000-2009, 2009-2013, 2013-2015. An inter-sectoral technical platform established bringing together the relevant ministries and institutions to correlate historic socioeconomic events with deforestation rates and land use dynamics. A full Land Use map for 2015 is currently prepared by the technical platform. This activity links the National REDD+ program to the Cross-Cutting Capacity Development program also carried out by NIMOS. Participation to a regional study, assessing the impact of gold mining on the forest cover and the waterways within the Guiana Shield for 2014 and 2015.</p> <p><b>Forest Degradation monitoring based on Remote Sensing</b> Currently two commonly used methodologies are being tested: BFast, and Fragmenttool. The results are expected for 2018.</p> <p><b>Production of elements for a national base map</b> A village layer combining old maps, remote sensing knowledge from the NFMS and field knowledge of the Ministry of Regional Development was produced. A hydrology layer combining old maps, remote sensing knowledge from the NFMS and hydrology knowledge of the WLA (Ministry of Public Works) is being jointly produced. A road layer combining old maps, remote sensing knowledge from the NFMS, GIS data and field knowledge from MI-GLIS, SBB and the Ministry of Public Works was created.</p> <p><b>National Capacity &amp; Research</b> Within all SLMS related activities, the expertise of the NFMS unit was build. Besides this also remote sensing and GIS-capacity from other institutions and ministries was built. BSc. and MSc. - students have been graduated within SLMS (and broader the NFMS) related subjects, and many scientific articles and reports were published. This capacity and technical platform has been the basis for the scenario modelling exercise. It can also be the basis for dealing with Land Use planning related questions from a technical perspective.</p>
<b>NRTM</b>	<p>After Sentinel-2 satellite images with a 10m- spatial resolution became freely available, the NRTM-system to detect ‘unplanned’-logging was established. A follow up mechanism within SBB was developed. This needs further strengthening, also because of the institutional and financial challenges the SBB has been faced with. Technically this system could be easily expanded at low costs to detect unplanned mining, activities in the protected areas, the mangrove forest and the border areas of</p>

	<p>the country. Nevertheless, it is important that there is a follow up mechanism within the relevant institutions.</p>
<b>CBM/CMRV</b>	<p>C-MRV will be a component of the NFMS and will encourage an active role for forest-dependent communities. Depending on the specific drivers in the region and the needs of the communities, the C-MRV will be designed to support local and national forest monitoring, while at the same time enabling monitoring of other issues relevant to the communities. Work done on C-MRV will be closely linked with the development of the Safeguards Information System (SIS).</p> <p>Specifically, two concrete activities related to C-MRV have been carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building of the REDD+ assistants was provided by the NFMS-unit during the RAC-capacity strengthening and team building activity at Frederiksdorp beginning of October 2017.</li> <li>• Preparation of the first pilot C-MRV at Pusugrunu, in collaboration with Amazon Conservation Team-Suriname.</li> </ul>
<b>SFM</b>	<p>A baseline study was carried out in ten different locations to assess the carbon impact of logging activities in Suriname.</p> <p>Through a co-funding opportunity within another regional project managed by IDB/CATIE, SBB plans to upgrade its whole control system and related technology. Impact indicators will be embedded within the regular control mechanism and the log tracking database will be linked with the NFMS database. The project will have a strong capacity building component for the public and private sector and two communities. Within the next year this SFM- component will be built. Nevertheless, funding is still lacking for the technology upgrade (mobile instruments, computers for the field stations etc.).</p> <p>Another important component of this project is the awareness and the accessibility of information for decision-makers on all levels. Relevant tools will be developed.</p>
<b>NFI</b>	<p>A database was established bringing data together from 349 field plots. This database can be used for a first estimation of carbon stock estimates, tree species distributions and timber stocks.</p> <p>Within the workshop on 30-31 August 2016, <b><i>the stakeholders expressed the interest in a participatory and multipurpose NFI.</i></b> This because of the limited resources in Suriname and the high costs related to a NFI consultation. Currently the institutional arrangements are being developed.</p> <p>A TOR to assess the different pantropical allometric equations was developed by CELOS. A pilot NFI project was carried out in collaboration with the Austrian consortium ANRICA.</p> <p>A NFI project within the mangrove forest will be carried out in 2017-2018 with co-funding from the UNDP / GCCA+-project.</p> <p>A geomorphologic stratification is currently being prepared. This will be one of the basis for the further NFI design.</p> <p>Participation to regional initiatives to harmonize the implementation of a NFI within the Amazon region and the Guiana Shield.</p> <p>Capacity was built within the different institutions, the private sector and some communities to draft the next steps for an experimental design of NFI.</p>

	Currently within the remaining FCPF-funds, no funding is available for the implementation of a NFI (our parts of it). Nevertheless, to decrease the uncertainty of the carbon stock estimates, but also to provide a better planning and monitoring, carrying out a full NFI for Suriname would be required; at least at the experimental design level.
<b>Reporting</b>	Regarding GHG inventory and land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) reporting, financial resources have been guaranteed every four years to compose an ad hoc GHG inventory working group, bringing together relevant national experts to meet the reporting requirements under the UNFCCC. The establishment of a permanent unit at the Office of the President or at NIMOS is being analyzed in the context of the REDD+ Mechanism (GOS 2016).

The NFMS through its components demonstrates the capacity to monitor the REDD+ activities prioritized in the country's REDD+ strategy. Moreover, the historical maps allow comparison of changes in the forest area relative to a baseline map. However, it is not clear which of the subcomponents will be able to assess displaced emissions and there are not early leakage results. Regarding stakeholders' involvement, the C-MRV aims at increasing the engagement of forest-dependent communities.

#### 4b. Information System for multi-benefits, other impacts, management and safeguards

##### *Indicator 32. Identification of relevant non-carbon aspects, and social and environmental issues*

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How have relevant non-carbon aspects, and social and environmental safeguard issues of REDD+ preparations been identified? Are there any capacity building recommendations associated with these?</li> </ul>	Progressing well, further development required

In the indicators corresponding to the section 4a., it was described how the C-MRV will encourage an active role for forest-dependent communities. Moreover, the C-MRV will be able to support local and national forest monitoring, while at the same time enabling monitoring of other issues relevant to the communities depending on the environmental and social safeguard issues identified by themselves.

##### *Indicator 33. Monitoring, reporting and information sharing*

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What evidence is there that a transparent system for periodically sharing consistent information on non-carbon aspects and safeguards has been presented and is in at least an early operational stage?</li> <li>How is the following information being made available: key quantitative and qualitative variables about impacts on rural livelihoods, conservation of biodiversity, ecosystem services provision, key governance factors directly pertinent to REDD+ preparations, and the implementation of safeguards, paying attention to the specific provisions included in the ESMF?</li> </ul>	Further development required



The monitoring of non-carbon aspects will be mainly addressed by the C-MRV which is not yet operational, and the information is still not yet available.

**Indicator 34. Institutional arrangements and capacities**

Indicator criteria	Level of progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are mandates to perform tasks related to non-carbon aspects and safeguards clearly defined?</li> <li>Have associated resource needs been identified and estimated (e.g., required capacities, training, hardware/software, and budget)?</li> </ul>	Further development required

The C-MRV is one of the NFMS-unit's subsystems. Although it will be designed to support local and national forest monitoring, it will allow monitoring of other issues relevant to the communities. Two activities have been performed:

- Capacity building of the REDD+-assistants was provided by the NFMS-unit during the RAC-capacity strengthening and team building activity at Frederiksdorp beginning of October 2017.
- Preparation of the first pilot C-MRV at Pusugrunu, in collaboration with Amazon Conservation Team-Suriname.

**Table 3. Self-assessment summary table**

The indicator criteria presented in assessment made for indicators 1-34 could guide the self-assessment as well.

No.	Components, Sub components and Progress Indicators	Progress level
<b>1</b>	<b>Organization and Consultations for preparation</b>	
<b>1a</b>	<b>National REDD+ Management Arrangements</b>	
1	Transparency and accountability	
2	Operative mandate and budget	
3	Multisectoral coordination mechanisms and intersectoral collaboration	
4	Technical supervision capacity	
5	Fundraising capacity	
6	Mechanism for information exchange and grievance	
<b>1b</b>	<b>Consultation, Participation, and Outreach</b>	
7	Participation and involvement of key stakeholders	
8	Consultation processes	
9	Information Exchange and Access to information	
10	Implementation public disclosure of the results of the consultation	

<b>2</b>	<b>Preparation of the REDD+ strategy</b>	
<b>2a</b>	<b>Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance</b>	
11	Assessment and analysis	
12	Prioritization of direct and indirect drivers / barriers to increasing forest carbon stocks	
13	Relations among causal factors / barriers and REDD+ activities	
14	Action Plans to address rights to natural resources, land tenure and management	
15	Implications for forest laws and policies	
<b>2b</b>	<b>REDD+ Strategy options</b>	
16	Presentation and prioritization of REDD+ Strategy options	
17	Feasibility assessment	
18	Implications of strategy options on existing sectoral policies	
<b>2c</b>	<b>Implementation Framework</b>	
19	Adoption and implementation of legislation / regulations	
20	Guidelines for implementation	
21	Mechanism of benefit sharing	
22	National REDD+ registry and activities of the REDD+ Monitoring System	
<b>2d</b>	<b>Social and environmental impacts</b>	
23	Analysis of issues related to social and environmental Safeguards	
24	Design of the REDD+ strategy considering impacts	
25	Environmental and social management framework	
<b>3</b>	<b>Forest Reference Level</b>	
26	Demonstration of methodology	
27	Use of historical data and adjustment to national circumstances	
28	Technical feasibility of the methodological approach, and consistency with the guidance and guidelines of the UNFCCC / IPCC	
<b>4</b>	<b>Forest monitoring and information systems on safeguards</b>	
<b>4a</b>	<b>National Forest Monitoring System</b>	
29	Documentation of the follow-up approach	
30	Demonstration of the early execution of the System	
31	Institutional mechanisms and capacities	

4b	Information System for multi-benefits, other impacts, management and safeguards	
32	Identification of relevant non-carbon aspects and social and environmental issues	
33	Monitoring, reporting and information exchange	
34	Mechanism and institutional capacities	

Assessment	Meaning
	Significant progress
	Progressing well, further development required
	Further development required
	Not yet demonstrating

## II. Analysis of Progress Made in the Activities Financed by the FCPF's Preparation Grant

There are no expected delays in the implementation of the activities as planned through the Annual Working Plan (AWP) for 2018. Activities will be completed in 2018. Please find below the following table about progress made and state of the art of outputs/outcomes (**Table 4**).

**Table 4. Completeness status about Suriname REDD+ Readiness Phase**

Outputs/Outcomes	State of the Art **	Responsible Organization***	Funded by FCPF REDD+ Readiness Grant
<b>ORGANIZATION AND CONSULTATION</b>			
Methodology for National Strategy consultations with indigenous and tribal peoples (Lisa Best – 2016)	Completed	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Stakeholder Analysis for Engagement Plan REDD+ Suriname (Dec 2016)	Validated	NIMOS-PMU	Yes

Final Report Stakeholder Engagement Strategy for REDD+ Readiness in Suriname (Smith Dec 2016)	Validated	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Capacity Building Training and Working session for the REDD+ Assistants Collective (Report July 2016)	Completed	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
WISE-REDD+ Project Suriname Trainingsboek Community Engagement Strategie 29, 30, 31 maart 2016 Ballroom Torarica Paramaribo, Suriname	Validated	Conservation International, NIMOS	No
Gabili Krutu REDD+ readiness consultation report with indigenous people and tribal groups in 2016	Validated	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Kwintie Krutu REDD+ readiness consultation report with indigenous people and tribal groups in 2016	Validated	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Methodology for National Strategy consultations with indigenous and tribal peoples	Completed	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Policy Development Plan GoS 2017-2021 PART I and II (May 2017)	Adopted; Approved by Parliament	Stichting Planbureau Suriname, NIMOS- PMU, SBB	Yes
Promoting Industry Foresight - Towards an industrialization and innovation strategy for Suriname (Jan 2017)	Completed	Ministry of Trade and Industry of Suriname (MT&I), NIMOS-PMU, SBB, UNDP , UNIDO	No
REDD+ en Klimaatsverandering: Een handleiding voor binnenlandbewoners van Suriname (Smith & Best Tropenbos 2014)	Validated	NIMOS-PMU	No
Training and Guidance plan REDD+ Assistants Collective (April 2016, Tropenbos)	Validated	NIMOS-PMU, SBB	Yes

Widening Informed Stakeholder Engagement for REDD+ (WISEREDD+) Final Report	Completed	CI, NIMOS-PMU	No
National REDD+ Workshop about Building political awareness and support for the REDD+ vision	In progress	NIMOS-PMU, SBB, UNDP	Yes
VIDS & VSG and RAC Collectives in place for continued consultation	In progress	CI, NIMOS-PMU	No
<b>PREPARATION OF REDD+ STRATEGY</b>			
Suriname National REDD+ Strategy (Draft for final review Sep 2017)	Draft Completed; currently under review	NIMOS-PMU, SBB, UNDP	Yes
Development of a National Vision and Strategy for REDD+ in Suriname (Inception report v3 March 2017)	Draft Completed; currently under review	NIMOS-PMU, SBB	Yes
Suriname REDD+ Minutes Project Board Meeting Reports (Jan 2017)	Completed	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Development of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) protocols	Not yet started	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Support to GoS Planning Office on Vision 2035	In progress	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Capacity Development Plan about Corruption Risk Management for Suriname (Final deliverable May 2017)	Completed	UNDP, NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Corruption Risk Assessment for Suriname (Final Report Feb 2017)	Completed	UNDP, NIMOS-PMU	Yes
REDD+ Communication Strategy for the period September – December 2017 (Aug 2017)	Completed	NIMOS-PMU	NO

Fundraising for Readiness phase to continue implementation the programme	In progress Discussion in PB Management Meeting started to evolve	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Background study on Land Tenure and Land Rights in Suriname (June 2017)	In progress	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
International Conference on the impact of REDD+ for HFLD countries (Report May 2014)	Validated	NIMOS-PMU	No
Diplomatic cooperation with HFLD countries attending to COP, Bonn 2017	In progress	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Japan Caribbean Climate Change Partnership Program (2017)	Completed/In progress	UNDP	No
Feedback Grievance and Redress Mechanism (FGRM)	In progress	NIMOS-PMU, UNDP	Yes
HACT Audit Assessment	Validated	UNDP	Yes
MTR Evaluation Report	Adopted	UNDP	Yes
Sharing Benefit Mechanism	Expected to start in early 2018	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
<b>REFERENCE EMISSIONS LEVEL / FORESTS REFERENCE EMISSIONS LEVEL (REL/FREL) for MRV</b>			
Background study for REDD+ in Suriname: Multi-perspective analysis of drivers of deforestation, forest degradation and barriers to REDD+ activities (DDFDB+). Paramaribo, Suriname.	Completed	SBB, NIMOS-PMU	Yes

Forest cover monitoring in Suriname using remote sensing techniques for the period 2000-2015 (Technical Report SBB, 2017)	Completed	SBB	Yes
Stakeholder engagement and Capacity Building as part of the Emissions Factor Report along with CATIE	Validated	SBB, NIMOS-PMU, UNDP	Yes
Report Scenarios about FREL (Sep 2017)	Completed	SBB	Yes
Assessment of the forest cover and the deforestation rate in Suriname Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB) November 2015	Completed	SBB	Yes
Contributing towards the provision of new climate information and institutional governance to help support sustainable agriculture productivity and mangrove protection Program GCCA+. This program also contributed to the NFMS outcome	Completed	UNDP-GCCA+	No
Towards a Participatory Multi-Purpose National Forest Inventory for Suriname Workshop (Sep 2016)	Completed	NIMOS, SBB	Yes
State-of-the-art study: Best estimates for emission factors and carbon stocks for Suriname (Technical Report Feb 2017)	Completed	SBB	Yes
Development of the Emission Factors related to logging	In progress (field work finished, results incorporated in the first draft FREL)	SBB, TNC	No
Development of the first FREL for Suriname	In progress (first draft completed)	SBB	Yes
Validation of Pantropical allometric equations	In progress	SBB, CELOS	Yes
National Registry Establishment	In Progress	NIMOS-PMU, SBB	Yes



NATIONAL FOREST MONITORING SYSTEM (NFMS)			
NFMS Roadmap Status and plans for Suriname's National Forests Monitoring System (Dec 2016)	Completed	SBB	Yes
Suriname National Plan for Forest Cover Monitoring (FCM Plan) (June 2014)	Adopted	SBB	No
Towards a Participatory Multi-Purpose National Forest Inventory for Suriname Workshop	Completed	SBB	Yes
Development of the SFM-monitoring component, integrated in the NFMS	In progress	SBB, CATIE	No
Development of the methodology for the production of deforestation maps, Drivers of Deforestation and for Land Use and Land Use change maps (including QA/QC Data Science Protocol)	In progress	SBB in collaboration with the technical multisectoral platform	No (Until mid-2017) Yes (after mid 2017)
Monitoring of the deforestation year 2015-2016	Completed	SBB	No (Until mid-2017) Yes (after mid 2017)
Development of a web-based Geoportal Gonini	Completed	SBB-FCMU	Yes
Contributing towards the provision of new climate information and institutional governance to help support sustainable agriculture productivity and mangrove protection Program GCCA+	Completed	UNDP-GCCA+	No
Development of the procedures for a pilot NFI	Completed	SBB, UNDP	Yes
Institutionalization of the NFMS	In Progress	SBB, NIMOS	No

INTEGRATION OF SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS AND FGRM			
Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) - (Draft shared 29-08-2017)	In progress	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) (Draft Report shared Aug-2017)	Draft Completed; under review	NIMOS-PMU	Yes
National safeguard information system and Grievance Redress Mechanisms (GRM) are designed and fully operational	In progress to start in 2018	NIMOS-PMU	Yes

**State of the Art \*\* Not yet started:** Activity expected to be aligned with overarching outputs; **In progress:** output delivered by contractor but still not approved; **Completed:** output was delivered by the contractor and approved by PMU; **Validated:** output was validated by all stakeholders; **Adopted:** output was adopted by stakeholders through the readiness phase to become a blueprint outcome for further REDD+ implementation.

**Table 5. Summary of progress in FCPF funded activities**

Output 1: Suriname has a National REDD+ Strategy agreed upon with relevant stakeholders			
Activity	Status	Timeline	Responsible institution (Main/involved)
1.1 Establish an effective coordination and participation structure	Ongoing	12-2017	NIMOS-PMU
1.2 Create a mechanism to coordinate the different stakeholders involved in financing REDD+ readiness in Suriname	Ongoing	03-2018	NIMOS-PMU
1.3 Implement a strategy to position the forestry sector at a high-political level	Ongoing	12-2017	NIMOS-PMU
1.4 Establish a dissemination platform regarding the national REDD+ process	Completed		NIMOS-PMU, SBB-FCMU
1.5 Establish a robust grievance and redress mechanism	Yet to be undertaken	06-2018	NIMOS-PMU
1.6 Develop participation and consultation mechanism with indigenous peoples and tribal groups considering their rights	Ongoing	06-2018	NIMOS-PMU
1.7 Carry out a drivers of deforestation analysis	Completed		NIMOS-PMU/ SBB-FCMU

1.8 Develop inputs to identify REDD+ strategy options (policies and measures)	Ongoing	03-2018	NIMOS-PMU, GoS, SBB-FCMU
1.9 Develop the National REDD+ Strategy	Ongoing	12-2017	GoS
<b>Output 2: Enabling framework following international standards to implement the National REDD+ Strategy developed</b>			
2.1 Identifying and establishing a financial mechanism for REDD+	Yet to be undertaken	06-2018	GoS / NIMOS / Stakeholder Institutions
2.2 Implementing a National Forestry Registry	Ongoing	06-2018	NIMOS-PMU, SBB-FCMU
2.3 Support the development of the forest reference level for deforestation and forest degradation	Ongoing	01-2018	SBB-FCMU
2.4 Establish the National Forest Monitoring System	Ongoing	12-2017	SBB-FCMU, NIMOS-PMU
2.5 Strengthen capacities of the forest monitoring group	Completed		SBB-FCMU, NIMOS-PMU
2.6 Support the development of the National Safeguards System	Ongoing	02-2018	NIMOS-PMU
2.7 Develop the SESA	Ongoing	02-2018	NIMOS-PMU

### III. Assessment of the Country's Compliance with the Common Approach

The Common Approach of Suriname centers on the use of a strategic environmental and social assessment (SESA) already completed, particularly in relation to the overarching development of the National REDD+ Strategy. Suriname's SESA process consisted of many closely linked analytical and participatory elements. Consultation of all relevant REDD+ stakeholders played a major role in the assessment and even difficult to reach indigenous and tribal communities that had not been included in REDD+ related consultation before they were consulted as part of Suriname's SESA.

Suriname has been following the common approach guidelines to provide a collective platform for social and environmental risk management. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the delivery partner for REDD+ readiness activities funded by FCPF in Suriname. SESA safeguards processes and instruments are designed in accordance with the UNDP's standards to the extent they are compatible with the UNFCCC guidelines. For example, World Bank Operating Principles do not make explicit reference to the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), while UNDP applies the FPIC principles (FCPF, 2012). To learn more about UNDP social and environmental safeguards, please have a look at <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/corporate/Social-and-Environmental-Policies-and-Procedures/UNDPs-Social-and-Environmental-Standards-ENGLISH.pdf>

UN-REDD is considered as an important REDD+ partner in Suriname as well, and special attention is paid to ensure that activities are implemented in a way that is consistent with widely accepted practices. The

national REDD+ process has been very participatory, consultative, transparent, and inclusive to date. In close collaboration with all stakeholders, the PMU-REDD+ works to establish robust platforms that foster engagement between key stakeholders and sectors. At the national level, the REDD+ readiness was set up following an inclusive process to define the REDD+'s objectives. Members include various ministries, national and international NGOs, research institutions, academia, civil society, indigenous people and tribal groups. Suriname is complying with the requirements agreed under the Common Approach, and with UNDP rules and regulations.

SESA helped to ensure preparation of an environmental and social management framework (ESMF) which is already completed (under validation). Please find within this document above-referenced the specific indicators discussing the various aspects related to the common approach (e.g. 23- 25 for the SESA/ESMF; 7-8 for stakeholder engagement; 9-10 for information disclosure, 6 for FGRM). The development of the national REDD+ Vision and Strategy for Suriname and its accompanying SESA were conducted within a comparably short time frame of 10 months. This limited amount of time constrained the possibilities for in-depth analytical work as recommended by some sources on good practice for conducting a SESA. In addition, the country context of Suriname, where 65.000 Indigenous and Tribal Peoples are distributed across vast areas of forest, parts of which are only accessible by boat or air, meant that only one inclusive round of community consultations was feasible within the duration of the study. Therefore, Suriname is complying with the requirements agreed under the Common Approach, and with UNDP rules and regulations. The REDD+ Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) of the Republic of Suriname has the following main objectives to:

- provide an overview of pre-identified potential REDD+ benefits and risks;
- provide an overview of the extent to which pre-identified potential REDD+ benefits and risks are addressed by existing Policies, Laws and Regulations (PLRs);
- provide recommendations for how those pre-identified benefits and risks not addressed (sufficiently) by existing PLRs, as well as additional benefits and risks not identified to date, can be assessed, promoted (benefits) and avoided or at least mitigated (risks);
- provide guiding principles for producing environmental management/action plans, Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Plans and Community Development Plans;

#### **IV. An updated Funding Plan for REDD+ Readiness Activities, Included Dedicated Funds and a Brief Description of Activities Supported by Other Implementation Partners.**

##### **1. An updated financing plan for the overall Readiness preparation activities, including funds pledged by, and a brief description of activities supported by, other development partners**

Uses of Funds (in US\$ thousands)							
R-PP Component	Total needed (A) <sup>i</sup>	Funds pledged (B) <sup>ii</sup>	Funds used <sup>iii</sup>		Funds available (= B – C) <sup>iv</sup>	Financing gap (= A – B) <sup>v</sup>	Request to FCPF <sup>vi</sup> (if any)
			Funds Commit- ted (C)	Funds Disbur- sed			
Transition Phase to implement Suriname Readiness Proposal	200	200	183.75	183.75			
1A	1,677	886	841.60	824,59	44.40	791	1,050
1B	8,480	372	305.00	305.00	67.00	8,108	250
1C		416.00	27.62	27.62	388.38	(416.00)*	
1D		55.00	48.70	48.70	6.30	(55.00)*	
2A	863.00	465.00	96.88	96.73	368.12	398	
2B	1,810	182.00	163.39	163.39	18.61	1,628	
2C	1,225	208.00	190.92	190.92	17.08	1,017	
2D	1,955	74.00	-	-	74.00	1,881	
2E		45.00	-	-	45.00	(45.00)*	
2F		25.00	18.07	18.07	6.93	(25.00)*	
2G		92.00	16.33	16.33	75.67	(92.00)*	350
3A	3,673	230.00	182.25	182.25	47.75	3,443.00	
3B		173.00	141.34	141.34	31.66	(173.00)*	
3C		267.00	18.31	18.31	248.69	(267.00)*	1,000
3D		89.00	11.01	11.01	77.99	(89.00)	
3E		21.00	-	-	21.00	(21.00)	
4	1,192				-	1,192	
6	375				-	375	
<b>TOTAL</b>	21,450	3,800	2,245.16	2,228	1,538.58	17,650	2,650

Sources of Funds (in US\$ thousands)				
FCPF [specify activities being supported by the FCPF]	3,800	2,245	2,228	1,539
Government [specify activities being supported by the Government]	0	0	0	0
UN-REDD Programme (if applicable) [specify activities being supported by the UN-REDD]R-PP Design	0	0	0	0
Other Development Partner 1 (name) [specify activities being supported by the Development Partner]	0	0	0	0
Other Development Partner 2 (name) [specify activities being supported by the Development Partner]	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>2,245</b>	<b>2,228</b>	<b>1,539</b>

**\* Amounts in brackets occur due to the fact that the budget breakdown in the ProDoc was designed differently than in the RPP for implementation purposes (see Annex 3 REDD+ ProDoc).**

<sup>1</sup> Total needed is the amount of resources necessary to complete a given component. All numbers in this table should be the latest numbers, which may not necessarily match the numbers in the original R-PP that was presented to the PC.

<sup>1</sup> Funds pledged encompass the amount of funds promised by different donors and / or the national government to fund a specific component and available to the country.

<sup>1</sup> Funds used refer to the amount of funds committed in signed contracts, and the portion of the funds committed that has already been disbursed.

<sup>1</sup> Available funds equal pledges minus commitments.

<sup>1</sup> Financing gap equals total needed minus pledged funds.

<sup>1</sup> Request for additional funding from the FCPF (up to US\$ 5 million, subject to conditions set by Resolution PC/10/2011/1.rev being met).

## V. Grant Monitoring Report (GMR)



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

**FCPF project: Readiness support for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Suriname**

### **GRANT MONITORING REPORT**

**Mid-term Review**

**Atlas project ID: 00081326**



## FCPF REDD+ Readiness Project Suriname

### GRANT MONITORING REPORT

#### Purpose

- ☒ Review of the progress towards results
- ☒ Support to decision-making
- ☐ Problem-solving
- ☒ Learning
- ☐ Beneficiary satisfaction and feedback
- ☒ Accountability

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNTABILITY

Framework documentation in place	What to look for	YES/NO	Remarks
<b>Project Document</b>	Is the prodoc signed, attached in Atlas? Is it available on IATI?	<b>Yes</b>	The prodoc was signed by the Implementing Partner and UNDP in May 2014. Uploaded in the UNDP Atlas and is available in IATI.
<b>LOA</b>	Letter of Agreement signed? Implemented?	<b>Yes</b>	Signed LoA as of 2016 with the Office of the President, Coordination Environment and NIMOS
<b>LPAC minutes signed</b>	Attached in Atlas?	<b>Yes</b>	The approved LPAC minutes are available
<b>Minutes of the Project Board</b>	Documented?	<b>Yes</b>	Project board minutes are available. Last PB meeting held Aug 2017. Next PB scheduled for Nov 2017.
<b>Donor Reports</b>	On time?	<b>Yes</b>	Annual FCPF development partner report submitted Aug 2017. Bi-annual FCPF Country Progress report 15 March and 15 August 2017 submitted.
<b>Final Reports</b>	On time?	<b>No</b>	Not due. Project is ongoing.

<b>Finding on Project file</b>	Review the process of procurement and asset inventory	<b>No</b>	Not due. Project is ongoing.
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## MID TERM PROGRESS

This midterm progress report (MTR) highlights overall results achieved in creating the vision and the development of required knowledge, skills and institutional framework to enable Suriname to implement policies and measures to reduce deforestation and forest degradation and ensure improved conservation and divulgence of benefits. Capacities of critical national stakeholders have been built in the core areas of the program; The National REDD+ Strategy (NS), the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS); Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) and Safeguards Information System (SIS). Suriname will be presenting its NFMS and draft REDD+ NS at the UNFCCC conference of Parties in November 2017. The Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) is planned for completion in December 2017 and submission to the UNFCCC in January 2018. Based on the findings of the MTR report and considering the utilization of project funds, UNDP as Delivery partner of the project, qualifies Suriname progress as sufficiently significant.

In relation to governance, environmental and social safeguards, some progress in strengthening of capacities, skills and knowledge of individuals in key institutions such as NIMOS, SBB and PMU has been realized in the readiness phase. Improvement in institutional frameworks for coordination, data collection and analysis in core areas of REDD+ are also noted, however these need further support and organizational embedding, including financial sustainability. This improvement in data collection and analysis capacity will be engendered by recent legislation enacted in Suriname as Sept 2017 on Transparency and Anti-Corruption and general requirement to all state and private sector companies on disclosure and publication of Annual Reports. Suriname participation in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative is an example of this change in policy. Additional capacity strengthening actions identified under the REDD+ corruption risk report is to be undertaken, upon availability of critical resources.

Technical and a national consultation are carried out with all stakeholders, and the legal and institutional framework report in support of policies and measures to realize Suriname REDD+ strategy, including risks and benefits on safeguards will be validated in a National Workshop in November 2017. This legal and institutional work is complementary and integrated with the joint efforts by the Government of Suriname, Indigenous and Tribal Peoples on agreed roadmap, including timelines for the conclusion of the Land rights and Land tenure, ESMF, Grievance and Redress Mechanism for REDD+ implementation.

The National REDD Strategy is close to finalization, with validation and dissemination of final draft for November 2017. The REDD+ strategy is aligned to Suriname development plan 2017 – 2021, INDC and longer term development vision. This will further shape the implementation phase, the most relevant for Suriname, is laying the cornerstone for the establishment of the National REDD+ Trust Fund (NRFTF). This is the overarching goal is a means for Suriname to be able to fulfill, through implementation of the Policies and Measures, the National REDD+ Vision conceived. Suriname request for additional funding to complete its readiness phase would be aimed at developing activities for setting the financial sustainability policy, procedures, and safeguards to build its NRTF with all stakeholders included.

Forest reference emission level (FREL), based on best available data to-date, with a transparent analysis of uncertainty and remaining gaps, the Suriname team has recently completed a first draft of its FREL/FRL. The draft reference level has been shared with all stakeholders before submission, and throughout the process the staff involved with generating the FREL data was offered training to strengthen the technical capacity within the relevant institutions to determine the most suitable modelling tool and software such as GEOSiris, DINAMICA-EGO, TerraSet Geospatial Monitoring and Modelling System based on Suriname's current needs and the availability of information. This evolution will continue with the availability of new information, technology development and transfer and increase in the abilities of staff. The FREL/FRL is scheduled to be submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat for technical assessment in January 2018.

The NFMS Roadmap was produced by December 2016. It included the NFMS methodology design, a baseline study, expert consultation on gaps, validation with stakeholders, and roadmap adjustments. It also sets out the guidelines for how such activities will be continued, improved and institutionalized into a fully functional NFMS in the years to come. The roadmap also describes the institutional arrangements to meet the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory and LULUCF reporting requirements under the UNFCCC, initiating the technical development of Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS), and implementing the National Forest Inventory (NFI). Moreover, the roadmap reported the initiation of a NFMS geoportal with the support of the FAO/ UN-REDD remote sensing unit. This has been realized and is already available at: <http://www.gonini.org/portal/>. Critical to the realization of the NFMS roadmap has been the Forest Cover Monitoring Unit, established in 2012 inside the Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB – Dutch abbreviation).

The National Institute for Environment and Development (NIMOS) is entrusted with overall coordination of REDD+ programme implementation in Suriname, with critical support by the Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB).

The project is implemented under support to NIM modality, with the direct implementation support by UNDP, indicated in letter of agreement between NIMOS/PMU and the UNDP Country Office. Project oversight and monitoring is continuous as part of the delivery partner agreement with the FCPF.

## MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

<b>C.1 Management Arrangements</b>  Does the project structure exists? Roles clearly defined? Staff is clear about their responsibilities?	The project board is established with clear rules and procedures and meets regularly to review Annual Workplans. The PB is chaired by NIMOS.  The project management unit is operational and administrates the day to day project management per terms of references. Per Midterm Evaluation report of January 2017, two positions of M&E Officer and Communications Officer are being filled. In support of PMU, regular management meetings are held by Directors of the key institutions of NIMOS, Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB) and UNDP Suriname.
<b>C.2 RRF (AWP) revised? Input: initial RRF</b>  <i>AWP signed? Implementable? (Delivery rate etc.)</i>	The work plans and budgets have been approved by the project Board. As of 30 September 2017, cumulative US\$ <b>2,245,164.46</b> has been disbursed and committed. This accounts for 59 per cent of the total FCPF grant of \$3.8 million. Overall project progress is satisfactory. Annex 1 provides the status of funds utilization by component up to 30 September 2017.
<b>C.3 M&amp;E Plan?? Input: initial M&amp;E Plan</b>  <i>Revisions of the initial M&amp;E framework i.e. M&amp;E Plan prepared? Written track on decisions exist?</i>	The original M&E work plan per prodoc is available and still valid. The detailed M&E work plan is prepared by the PMU and will be updated when the replacement M&E officer is onboard. The best practice of reviewing M&E framework during PB meeting will be put forward for consideration to the PB.
<b>C.4 MoV&amp; Indicators exist? Input: Initial M&amp;E plan</b> <i>Are they still relevant? Are the indicators easily obtainable and SMART? Will they be monitored further? Is data collected as planned?</i>	The means of verification are still relevant, given the Results and Resource Framework remains as original approved. The progress per indicators is recorded and reported to the PB as well as in the country indicative plan of the United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (UNMSDF). The progress is also captured in the project management module and in the UNDP corporate monitoring system.
<b>C.5 Assessment dates Input: Initial M&amp;E plan</b>	The progress, challenges and delays are reported against workplan at PB meetings and captured in Annual and Bi-annual

<i>Adherence to assessment dates? Assessment results captured and communicated? Corrective actions taken (if needed)</i>	reporting. Corrective actions are discussed within the management meeting and put forward towards the PMU. Corrective actions as required are taken within UNDP project management module by adjustment of AWP based on realization.
<b>C.6 Management of risks</b> <i>Have the foreseen risks been managed?</i>	Risk and issues logs are updated on annual basis or as required.
<b>C.7 Evaluations</b> <i>Any planned evaluation? ToR developed? Follow up actions defined (Management Responses)? Any delays/overdue actions?</i>	Per project plan, an independent midterm evaluation took place in December 2016. The resulting recommendations to realize delayed project outputs and strengthen overall project management and M&E have mostly been accepted and implemented.
<b>C.8 Target Groups</b> <i>Is it clear who they are? Is the feedback regularly collected, stored and used? Data disaggregated?</i>	Yes, Feedback from Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITP), REDD+ Assistants Collective, high level government officials, private sector and other stakeholders are regularly collated through the stakeholder engagement
<b>C.9 Capacity Development</b> <i>Any capacity development activities? If yes, individual and institutional changes are observable? How?</i>	18 REDD+ Assistants trained, 582 people directly engaged from all indigenous and maroon tribes through the REDD+ Assistants Collective, supported by the PMU. Establishment in 2017 of collaboration on REDD+ with overarching Indigenous and Maroon organizations such as VIDS, KAMPOS, Trio organization, etc. This capacity development has also benefitted from the implementation of the CI WISE REDD project. International and national training, data gathering and analysis in the areas of FREL, NFI, NFMS, CMRV, scenario building and spatial planning to enhance understanding and local capacities in core institutions such as SBB, Planning Office, Mining Department, NIMOS and University of Suriname. In support of conceptualization of National Development strategy based on forest resources, Learning mission to Costa Rica (October 2016) with representatives of different ministries, UNDP, NIMOS (National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname), Tourism Institute, and members of Parliament. Capacities strengthening in Governance and safeguards matters, such as project related, broader land rights and land tenure and transparency and anti-corruption. The afore mentioned changes continue and will be compiled and reported in 2018.
<b>C.10 Sustainability</b> <i>Transition and phase-out arrangements, including a sustainability plan are in place? National ownership exists? Potentials for scaling up?</i>	
<b>Proposed actions</b>	

## PROJECT PERFORMANCE-IMPLEMENTATION RISKS AND ISSUES

Table 1 provides information on key risks and issues, including proposed dates of action and responsibilities.

**Table 1: Key Risks and Issues**

<b>Issues/risks</b>	<b>How to resolve it</b>	<b>Proposed date of action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Communication and visibility is not leading to broad support and leadership from key actors.	Communication needs to be improved for targeted and differentiated and key messages for different target groups with at this stage focus to high-level decision makers.	Ongoing	PMU, NIMOS
The ongoing national economic and fiscal crisis remains the primary focus and driver for government decisions, negatively impacting attention and decisions towards the environment.	NIMOS recognizes this as a risk but also as an opportunity to discuss how the country can use its natural resources including its forest and biodiversity towards sustainable development strategy, and be financially compensated for its efforts.	End 2017	NIMOS
Sustainability of the structures established and capacities built needs to be guaranteed beyond the funding flows from FCPF. For example, to implement the NFMS roadmap, to simply maintain the web portal Gonini will require additional funding beyond those of FCPF.	It is of crucial that the build NFMS and CMRV structures are cost effective and integrated into national monitoring frameworks. Providing for clear and direct link between the REDD+ needs, supporting practitioners and decision makers in their daily activities	End 2018	NIMOS, SBB, Ministries of Natural Resources, ROGB and Finance
The REDD+ Steering Committee as a high-level inter-ministerial policy coordination body responsible for the overall REDD+ related actions is not yet operational. .	NIMOS has initiated dialogues with the Cabinet of the President to have the Steering Committee established at the earliest convenience, taking into account national directives to limit the number of government established committees.	end of 2017	NIMOS, Coordination Environment Office of the President
Limited capacities in the operationalization of interim Grievance and Redress Mechanism	Capacity building, proactive stakeholder engagement and dialogue as integral part of interim Grievance and Redress Mechanism as well as participatory development of REDD+ implementation phase GRM.	Ongoing till end 2018	UNDP, PMU, NIMOS, PB

## LESSONS LEARNED DURING MONITORING SESSIONS

Critical is having adequate local technical, administrative and project management capacity to implement REDD+, with a appropriate system to deliver strong technical and administrative support from the beginning in order to prevent unnecessary delays and slow execution. Options are short term detailed assignments by national or international experts from countries more advanced or having experienced specific situations.

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## ANNEX 1

### FCPF Project Status of Funds Utilization

Component	Approved budget (A)	Cumulative Funds Used (up to 30 September 2017)			Funds available (=A-B)	Delivery rate
		Funds committed	Funds disbursed	Total (B)		
Transition Phase to implement Suriname Readiness Proposal	200,000	0.00	183,746.41	183,746.41	16,253.59	92%
OUTPUT 1 - Human capacities and stakeholders engagement	1,729,000	16,459	1,205,998.60	1,222,457.60	506,542.40	71%
OUTPUT 2 - REDD+ strategy	1,091,000	699.00	485,351.40	486,050.40	604,949.60	45%
OUTPUT 3 - Implementation Framework and tools	780,000	0.00	352,910.05	352,910.05	427,089.95	45%
<b>Total US\$</b>	<b>3,800,000.00</b>	<b>17,158.00</b>	<b>2,228,006.46</b>	<b>2,245,164.46</b>	<b>1,554,835.55</b>	<b>59%</b>

## VI. Summary Statement of the FCPF Additional Funds Request

**Table 5.** Explanation of the proposed activities to be financed by the additional funding requested to FCPF highlighted through above-described indicators 1-34.

***Proposed Table to be replaced with the one above:***

Component Number R-PP	Activities	On-going Projects	Required Additional Funds to FCPF	Matching Funds (In- Country)	Total funds required
<b>ORGANIZATION AND CONSULTATION</b>					
1	Strengthen dialogue with stakeholders about the structure of sharing benefit mechanism (i.e. REDD+ National Fiduciary Trust Fund, laying the foundation of the Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM).	GEF – Project title: Improving Environmental Management in Mining Sector of Sur. With emphasis on gold mining (2018-2022) (Main focus of this project is: biodiversity, climate change mitigation) and sustainable forest management)	\$250,000	500,000	\$750,000
2	Focalize efforts with the private sector about potential fundraising for continued future activities once REDD+ readiness grant making cycle is over (i.e. address large and small-scale mining, logging	GEF – Project title: Improving Environmental Management in Mining Sector of Sur. With emphasis on gold mining (2018-2022)	\$200,000	\$1,500,000 – Outcome: Uptake of more environmentally sustainable gold mining practices	\$1.7M



	corporations, roads construction through the framework of voluntary business biodiversity offsets and impact benefit agreements due to their commitments to shareholders and sustainability reports	(Main focus of this project is: biodiversity, climate change mitigation) and sustainable forest management)			
<b>PREPARATION OF REDD+ STRATEGY</b>					
1	Increase high level political engagement for REDD+ with government, parliament, and judiciary branches of the state (i.e. including REDD+ contribution to Suriname Vision 2035, follow up REDD+ keeps unfolding through the national policy development plan 2017-2021).	GEF – Project title: Improving Environmental Management in Mining Sector of Sur. With emphasis on gold mining (2018-2022) (Main focus of this project is: biodiversity, climate change mitigation) and sustainable forest management)	\$500,000	\$500,000 Strengthened Institutions, Inter-Institutional and Regional Cooperation	\$1.0M
1	Improve outreach based on the NIMOS communication plan and the stakeholder engagement strategy (i.e. Civil Society, NGOs, Private sector, IP, Tribal groups) and keystone products developed (i.e. walk ins schools, REDD+ in mainstream media, Initiate training on districts with representatives of communities and government	GEF – Project title: Improving Environmental Management in Mining Sector of Sur. With emphasis on gold mining (2018-2022) (Main focus of this project is: biodiversity, climate change mitigation) and sustainable forest management)	\$150,000	\$250,000	\$400,000

	deploying a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM).				
2	Host the II International REDD+ Conference with HFLD countries in Suriname to share lessons learned and provide a pathway for joint international negotiations in a future about REDD+ implementation.	GEF – Project title: Improving Environmental Management in Mining Sector of Sur. With emphasis on gold mining (2018-2022) (Approach about project is: biodiversity, climate change mitigation) and sustainable forest management)	\$150,000	\$250,000	\$400,000
1	Maintain capacity building to fine-tune outputs and outcomes from REDD+ readiness phase.	GEF – Project title: Improving Environmental Management in Mining Sector of Sur. With emphasis on gold mining (2018-2022) (Focus of this project is: biodiversity, climate change mitigation) and sustainable forest management)	\$100,000	\$300,000	\$400,000
<b>REFERENCE EMISSIONS LEVEL (REL/FREL) AND NATIONAL FOREST MONITORING SYSTEM (MRV)</b>					
3	Create the experimental design study about Suriname National Forest Inventory.		\$1,000,000		
<b>INTEGRATION OF SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS</b>					
1	Enhance the development of a Decision Support IT System	Cross Cutting Capacity Development Project:	\$300,000	1.1M (GEF grant amount: 601,000 USD)	\$1.4M

	to deliver dual online/offline REDD+ interoperability and integration while responding to user needs that would be built by input data and geoservices from FREL, REL, Emissions' Registry, NFMS, ESMF, GRM, SESA, safeguards and document management)	Outcome 1: <i>Increased capacity of decision makers and stakeholders to manage environmental planning and processes that lead to decisions aimed at increasing global environmental benefits through better use of information and knowledge.</i>		Co-financing amount: SUR Gov't in Kind 583,570 USD; FCPF - \$300,000	
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## Annex 1. Results Framework for REDD+ Readiness in Suriname

<b>Outcome 1: Suriname Leaders understand the potential of REDD+ for the country and engage all national and international partners into building the shared vision and the means to implement it, and key stakeholders and right holders have gained capacities, experience and confidence in the REDD+ process and understand its potential for the country's development</b>			
<b>Result</b>	<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Goal</b>
1A	Arrangement are made and allow for effective management of the REDD+ process in Suriname	1: Current capacity of NIMOS (staff, technical, financial) does not allow to carry over REDD+ readiness implementation 2: Current level of institutional arrangements and capacities does not allow to efficiently implement and secure the process 3: There is no mechanism in place officially to address REDD+ related conflicts in Suriname	Effective institutions in place, REDD+ Steering Committee and Project Board operational; Grievance and Redress Mechanism developed and operational
1B	General human capacities are built, information is shared and dialogue and participation is effective with key stakeholders groups	In spite of efforts during the R-PP formulation, there is a lack of trust between the GoS and communities, REDD+ capacities are weak and effective dialogue with stakeholders is insufficient	1. Early dialogue plan is fully deployed; participants rank the executive training programmes 'good', at least 80% of the training target set for executive programme are achieved 2. Participants rank the implementation of the awareness and engagement programme 'good'; REDD+ capacity assessment 'poll' ranks national understanding as 'moderate' or higher 3. stakeholders perception of the quality of engagement and of the REDD+ summer schools rank 'good'

1C	Indigenous and maroon people are specifically supported, engaged and ready for implementing REDD+	IP and maroon peoples are weakly organized, legitimacy of representations is debated. They are invited to engage with REDD+ but have little capacity to play an effective role	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthening IP capacities for coordination and engagement into REDD+</li> <li>2. Strengthening Maroon capacities for coordination and engagement into REDD+</li> <li>2. IP and Maroon map and plan for full participation in NFMS is finalized. Enabling plan to support local management plans is finalized. FPIC protocols are formulated for each tribe in Suriname. Joint mapping methodology and plan is finalized</li> <li>3. IP and Maroon appreciation of the REDD+ readiness process ranks 'good'. General REDD+ awareness and capacities of IP/Maroons is assessed 'good'. IP/Maroon appreciation of FPIC implementation ranks 'good'. IP/Maroon evaluation of implication in the NFMS ranks 'good'. Public IP and Maroon appreciation of their coordination platform performance ranks 'good'</li> </ol>
1D	The programme is suitably monitored and evaluated	Current level of institutional arrangements and capacities does not allow to efficiently implement and secure the process	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Project performance is documented through mid-year and annual progress report, and progress review, Mid-term evaluation and financial audits are formulated</li> <li>2. NIMOS' website provides clear roadmap and centralizes relevant material, stakeholders and right holders contribute to all periodic reports and evaluations</li> </ol>
<b>Outcome 2: REDD+ business model and strategy: An inspiring and credible business model for REDD+ in Suriname is formulated with active support from major national stakeholders and right holders</b>			
<b>Result</b>	<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Goal</b>
2A	Technical and human conditions to run REDD+ options analysis and SESA are built	There is moderate and recent national capacity and experience in strategic planning (OD) and environmental and social	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assessment of NIMOS' capacities is ranked 'good'</li> <li>2. RSC rank the strategy/SESA training programme 'good', private sector ranks their specific training programme 'good'</li> <li>3. RSC rank 'good' the level of engagement and</li> </ol>



		impact assessment (NIMOS), and no experience in the case of REDD+	contribution of the private sector, international peer-review ranks the REDD+ options of Suriname 'good'
2B	Background studies for strategic analysis and planning are developed	The R-PP offers a first overview of background situation, but remains incomplete for robust REDD+ strategic planning and impact assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Background reports policy, legal and institutional challenges for REDD+ implementation finalized</li> <li>2. Consensus report on drivers of deforestation and degradation is finished</li> <li>3. REDD+ options framework is upgraded</li> </ol>
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	A draft REDD+ option framework has been formulated during the R-PP, and general ESSP was carried out by UNDP as part of the PRODOC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. REDD+ options are finalized; REDD+ vision is formulated; REDD+ draft strategy is formulated and broadly supported; RSC appreciation of the draft strategy ranks 'good'</li> <li>2. RSC appreciation of the strategy, SESA and systemic conditions ranks 'good'; 100 debates on REDD+ strategy and SESA are reported at district levels; General public awareness about REDD+ is 60% or higher</li> <li>3. Suriname REDD+ compliant development scenario is modelled</li> </ol>
2D	SESA is completed	No national experience neither in SESA nor in ESMF	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Draft SESA report is available, social and environmental impacts are identified, international peer-review ranks the REDD+ SESA of Suriname 'good'</li> <li>2. ESMF are designed, maximizing synergies</li> </ol>
2E	National safeguard information system is designed	There are some experiences related to environmental impact assessments in Suriname but not related to system of information on social	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The RSC ranks the safeguards as key component of REDD+ in Suriname</li> <li>2. REDD+ safeguards for Suriname are agreed upon between the stakeholders and right holders</li> <li>3. A simple and robust SIS is designed and functional</li> </ol>

		and environmental safeguards.	
2F	REDD+ strategy is finalized and integrated into the post-2016 national development strategy	Some elements of the future REDD+ strategy detailed in the RPP. Coherence between OD2012-2016 and REDD+ is weak	1. REDD+ national strategy is finalized and endorsed by the Council of Ministers; Polls rank awareness of REDD+ by political leaders 'high' 2. National development plan post-2016 fully builds on REDD+
2G	International support is secured to assist and fund REDD+ investment plan	1: Precedent of Guyana, which is probably not directly replicable in Suriname. 2: Limited contribution of Suriname into international REDD+ process so far 3: No dialogue and no international commitment on international support for phases 2 and 3 of REDD+ in Suriname	1. Options for international HFLD REDD+ strategy assessed. Options for international HFLD REDD+ strategy technically and politically negotiated 2. Suriname REDD+ strategy is recognized through a high-level international forum; Suriname REDD+ RL is formally recognized by UNFCCC 3. International community expresses support and interest at a COP side event, international financial commitments are made during a high level reception
<b>Outcome 3 Technical and human conditions to set up an implementation framework are built</b>			
<b>Result</b>	<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Goal</b>
3A	Technical and human conditions to set up an implementation framework are built	Apart from a few projects related to forest monitoring and delayed processes to design an environmental law and a climate compatible development strategy, there are scarce capacities	1. Capacity of NIMOS to effectively coordinate implementation framework and tools assessed 'good' by RSC 2. Stakeholders to the implementation framework rank the training programme 'good' 3. RSC appreciation of deliverables from pillar 3 ranks 'good'

		in place to design a full implementation framework and related instruments for REDD+ implementation	
3B	A first iteration of a national forest REL/RL is developed	<p>1: Some historical data on deforestation and degradation are scattered and incomplete.</p> <p>2: Limited capacity to design scenarios through spatial modelling</p> <p>3: No experience and capacity in designing reference level. Existing collaboration with Guyana on related topics.</p>	<p>1. Definition of forests in Suriname is updated in legislation; Historical deforestation until 2010-2013 is mapped. Emission factors are assessed</p> <p>2. National circumstances are assessed</p> <p>3. National RL is formulated</p>
3C	A NFMS including a MRV is developed	<p>Forests are punctually monitored in a weakly coordinated and harmonized manner. Methods and data quality does not match international standards and lacks continuous run up.</p>	<p>1. Forest area and forest area change are measured on a national scale</p> <p>2. A forest pre-inventory for the assessment of forest carbon stocks has been undertaken and data analyzed</p> <p>3. A Greenhouse gas inventory including information on forests related to REDD+ is submitted as part of Suriname's next national communication</p> <p>4. The MRV system is an integral part of the NFMS</p> <p>5. A National REDD+ registry is designed</p> <p>6. An online NFMS platform is launched</p>
3D	Legal reforms are fully planned and progressively implemented	<p>Legislative branch has moderate awareness of REDD+, little understanding of potential</p>	<p>1. Parliamentarians rank their awareness of REDD+ 'good', capacity assessment of the group of REDD+ leaders ranks 'good'</p> <p>2. Capacity to advance the land rights issue ranked 'good'</p>

		legal implications, and complex reforms are expected to be required to implement REDD+ in Suriname	by IP and Maroon representatives 3. 80% of the qualified feasible reforms are passed
3E	Institutional and financial arrangements are made for full and effective REDD+ implementation	The institutional and financial arrangements needs for REDD+ implementation are roughly assessed	1. Capacity ranked 'good'. Option paper for REDD+ financial mechanism is formulated 2. Institutional arrangements for REDD+ implementation are designed

## Annex 2. EMT Self-assessment and socialization process

The preparation of the Mid-Term Evaluation Report of the Project “Strengthening national capacities of Suriname for the elaboration of the National REDD+ strategy and the design of its implementation framework, was a collective preparation process that included two fundamental elements: a) Self-assessment by NIMOS REDD+ PMU on the project implementation process; and b) socialization of the assessment with the main stakeholders involved in the REDD+ preparation process of the country.

### **Self-assessment by NIMOS REDD+ PMU on project progress.**

The self-assessment was implemented with staff from the REDD+ Project Management Unit, within NIMOS, as well as the UNDP, in charge of the delivery of the “Strengthening national capacities of Suriname for the elaboration of the National REDD+ strategy and the design of its implementation framework. A self-assessment of the progress of the project implementation was performed, reviewing the activities implemented by then and determining the actions needed to ensure that Suriname is prepared for the implementation of REDD+. The evaluation of the 34 criteria of the FCPF assessment framework was also implemented, as an integral part of the Midterm Report.

### **Socialization and feedback of the NIMOS REDD+ self-assessment, with the main stakeholders involved in the REDD+ process.**

This meeting aimed to inform the relevant stakeholders on the Mid-Term Evaluation Report of the Project “Strengthening national capacities of Suriname for the elaboration of the National REDD+ strategy and the design of its implementation framework which included the assessment of the criteria established in the FCPF Methodology Framework, as well as the activities to be financed with the possible extension of the preparation grant.

The MTR was conducted by means of desk top review of all relevant background documentation and Semi-structured interviews focus groups meetings with key informants from NIMOS REDD+ Project Management Unit, the Chief Technical Advisor, SBB and UNDP . The MTR was implemented through the following methodology:

- Desk review of all relevant background documentation, including:
- Management response to MTR Dec 2016
- Midterm review (MTR) December 2016
- The project document,
- The monthly, quarterly and annual reports,

- Annual work plans, procurement plans and budgets,
- HACT assessment,
- Audits,
- Main deliverables produced by the project,
- Minutes of Project Board meetings and of the meeting of the Project Management Unit,
- Back To Office Reports,
- Minutes of workshops and events,
- Laws or policies relevant to the project,
- National REDD+ website<sup>1</sup>,
- FCPF and UNDP websites<sup>2</sup>...

Semi-structured interviews focus groups meetings with key informants, stakeholders and participants, including representatives from:

Government, in particular from the Project Monitoring Unit, NIMOS, SBB, UNDP Suriname, regional and global;

1. with all participants were discuss the results of the self-assessment exercise, as well as the proposed activities to be implemented with the possible additional grant. Each of the groups focused in one of the four components.

The following materials were delivered for all participants: Project Results Framework (including goals), summary of implemented activities by component, assessment criteria and progress signals, summary of proposed activities to be implemented through the possible extension of the readiness grant.

2. All results were shared online through Google Docs, in order for each group/ participant to review and discuss in an effective and efficient manner, and feedback was provided immediately by the respective responsible institution or individual. The discussion was encouraged to address the following subjects:

Based on the results framework, discuss the progress of the implemented activities.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.surinameredd.org/nl/home-nl/9-frontpage/30-redd>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/suriname>, <http://www.sr.undp.org/>

Discuss the results of the assessment for each of the evaluation criteria.

Discuss whether the proposed activities for a possible extension of the grant are sufficient to complete the country's REDD+ readiness process (in the component under discussion).

3. The results of discussions were presented to all participants.

As a general remark, it is possible to emphasize that the participants generally agreed with the information presented, since all of them had been involved in the project's implemented activities. Despite the active involvement they have had in the readiness process, they requested more information, especially on technical aspects. They also requested to ensure the integration of their opinions and their worldview into the readiness process.

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<sup>i</sup> Total needed is the amount of resources necessary to complete a given component. All numbers in this table should be the latest numbers, which may not necessarily match the numbers in the original R-PP that was presented to the PC.

<sup>ii</sup> Funds pledged encompass the amount of funds promised by different donors and / or the national government to fund a specific component and available to the country.

<sup>iii</sup> Funds used refer to the amount of funds committed in signed contracts, and the portion of the funds committed that has already been disbursed.

<sup>iv</sup> Available funds equal pledges minus commitments.

<sup>v</sup> Financing gap equals total needed minus pledged funds.

<sup>vi</sup> Request for additional funding from the FCPF (up to US\$ 5 million, subject to conditions set by Resolution PC/10/2011/1.rev being met).