



# Readiness Fund REDD+ Country Participants Progress Report

COUNTRY: Suriname  
REPORTING PERIOD: July 2020 – June 2021



## FCPF Readiness Fund: REDD+ Country Participant Annual Progress Report

### About this document

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

### Report preparation

Reports cover progress through 30<sup>th</sup> June of each year.

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

### Reporting schedule

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

## SECTION A: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

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

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

Suriname's R-PP was approved by the FCPF in 2013. Currently, the country is in the final stages of completing its REDD+ Readiness Project. To realize the remaining project outputs, the National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (NIMOS), as the implementing partner of the REDD+ Project, submitted a formal request for a no-cost extension until December 2021. The UNDP has granted the approval to this request. The operational closure of the Suriname REDD+ Project is 15 December 2021.

During the reporting period, Suriname made significant progress in reaching the outputs as outlined in the project's Multi-Year Annual Work Plan 2020 – 2021 and the Annual Work Plan 2021.

As reported in the previous Annual Report, Suriname has achieved the required key components of REDD+ Readiness:

- The National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname (NS) has been developed.
- Suriname's Safeguards Information System (SIS) is developed, and the Summary of Information (SOI) has been finalized and officially submitted to the UNFCCC.

- The National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) is developed and is being strengthened continuously.
- Suriname submitted its first Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) to the UNFCCC in 2019 and the second FREL in January 2021.

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

***Submission of the National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname (NS) and the background document to the UNFCCC***

After an extensive multi-stakeholder consultation process, which started early 2017, the National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname was developed and endorsed by the Government in Suriname in October 2019.

In July 2020, the NS and background document was submitted to the UNFCCC and has been posted on the website of the REDD+ Web Platform of the UNFCCC: <https://redd.unfccc.int/submissions.html?country=sur>

***Submission of the Summary of Information (SOI) to the UNFCCC***

Through a broad multi-stakeholder consultation process, the Summary of Information, which started in January 2020, was finalized in June 2020. In April 2021, Suriname officially submitted the SOI to the UNFCCC. The SOI has been published on the REDD+ Web Platform of the UNFCCC: <https://redd.unfccc.int/submissions.html?country=sur>

***Feedback, Grievance and Redress Mechanism (FGRM)***

The Final Design Report of Suriname's FGRM was completed and approved in January 2019. A draft Terms of Reference (ToR) regarding the hiring of a Grievance Redress Office (GRO) Director has been prepared and discussions between NIMOS and UNDP on operationalizing of the GRO took place. The FGRM will be established within the structure of the National Environmental Authority (NMA). In accordance with the Framework Environmental Law adopted in 2020, the NIMOS will transition into the NMA. The NMA will be responsible for the operationalization of the FGRM.

***Development of a REDD+ Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM)***

Despite several procurement rounds to contract a consultancy team for developing the BSM, coordinated by the UNDP Country Office in Suriname, no suitable consultancy team has been identified. Given the challenges to recruit a consultancy team and the lack of sufficient time to complete the development of the BSM, this activity has been re-designed: A report drawing on experiences from countries that have developed a BSM, will be developed outlining/ assessing the approach and steps towards developing a BSM.

***Implementation of ground-truth projects on sustainable economic development opportunities***

In December 2019, four projects were selected as "REDD+ Ground-truth projects". The main objectives of the Ground-truth projects are: strengthening and fine-tuning the policies and measures (PAMs) of the National REDD+ Strategy, make the potential results of REDD+ more tangible, show more concretely what REDD+ can mean to stakeholders regarding capacity building, and prepare (potential) partner's on implementing activities on the ground.

The status of the four projects is as follows:

- *Project: "Strengthening and expanding a herbal tea value-chain pilot project in Kwamalasamutu village – diverse inputs for diverse benefits and the replication of a successful model (Capacity building for a livelihood product)"*

This project, coordinated by the Amazon Conservation Team (ACT)- Suriname and supported by the indigenous women organization of Kwamalasamutu, enables these women to produce locally grown herbal tea, which offers the opportunity to a sustainable income generation to more than forty women in the village. The REDD+ grant provided the means for upgrading activities, including improved production in accordance with international hygiene and quality standards, purchase of PPE, set-up and design of a tea production facility that complies with international standards, drafting and recording of standards / procedures, as well as the development of communication equipment. Furthermore, the participating women have successfully completed several capacity-building training courses, all for the purpose of improving the work. Progress was also made in establishing a women's cooperative whose objective is to manage the project to the benefit of the entire community of Kwamalasamutu.

The project was completed on December 15, 2020, with the addition of a media centre that enables participants to improve their competences and skills through online training.

- *Project “Dissemination and sustaining of the Marchall Creek Agroforestry initiative”*

This project is a follow-up of a previous project supported by the Small Grants Programme Suriname, coordinated by the local organisation “Stichting Ma-sosie”, and implemented in collaboration with the Centre for Agricultural Research in Suriname (CELOS). The following activities have been implemented:

- Expansion of the Marchall Creek Agroforestry area, from 1 ha to 2 ha. An agroforestry plot is set up and agroforestry research was carried out in the area.
- Promotion of the Marchall Creek Agroforestry Initiative which seeks to share the knowledge and experience with other communities in Brokopondo through a multifunctional Agroforestry Unit in Marchall Creek.
- Development of a sustainable agroforestry management plan. This concerns the transformation of Stichting Masosie into a Forest User Group capable of managing the agroforestry plan.

This project was finalized in June 2021.

- *Project “Ecological study for management of carapa tree (*Carapa Guianensis*) populations in Apura and Vicinity”*

This project is implemented by the local women organization “Ujema” in collaboration with the Centre for Agricultural Research in Suriname (CELOS). During the last years, the number of carapace oil producers and the volume they produced have increased in Apura and neighbouring communities. This project strives to assess the current harvest pattern and its effect on sustainability, increasing the information on this matter for the community of Apura. Maps of four main concentrations blocks and exact locating of the carapa trees, distribution patterns of the fruiting trees and production volume per tree, estimate harvested volumes per producer group, awareness on sustainable use and the effects of carapa oil production from the forests are raised through information sessions, production and distribution of publications to the community and policy makers. This project is finalized on June 30, 2021.

- *Project “Improving the capacity for practical training in forest and nature education at the Institute for Natural Resources and Engineering studies (NATIN)”*

The objective is to make NATIN capable for offering practical training in forestry, nature management ,and ecotourism (B.N.E. section) to students, providing the school with an appropriate program for teaching practical skills with the necessary tools, material, measuring, and instruments. As part of this project, a training programme has been developed, the necessary forestry field material and equipment have been purchased. Due to COVID-19 and closing of the school, the practical trainings of the students of NATIN were cancelled and the project was not fully implemented in accordance with the approved project document. However, a basis has been set to improve the capacity for practical training in forest and nature education at NATIN. This project is finalized as per June 30, 2021.

### ***Development of the second FREL***

In January 2021, the second FREL for Suriname was submitted. This went through a technical assessment process of the UNFCCC, where Suriname was given the opportunity to analyse the feedback and submit an improved FREL at the end of June 2021. In this report the FREL was projected for 2020-2024 using the historical period 2000-2019. The REDD+ activities that were considered are deforestation and forest degradation. For deforestation the Activity Data (AD) consisting the conversion of forest and shifting cultivation to non-forest, were used. Regarding the AD of forest degradation logging (roundwood and fuelwood production) and the conversion of forest to shifting cultivation were used. Besides CO<sub>2</sub> gas, non- CO<sub>2</sub> gasses were estimated for those activities where forest fires occurred. The modified FREL that was sent to the Assessment Team of the UNFCCC can be viewed online at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/14Jdk0Xq8mKzw0WIqiLq3zokG0dPSTDU4/view?usp=sharing>

### ***Further Strengthening of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)***

- *Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS):*
  - A new information portal was built, named KOPI ([SBB \(gonini.org\)](http://SBB.gonini.org)), where all numerical and tabular information is shared, and all reports and publications are published. This was built, using in house expertise.
  - The deforestation map for 2018-2019 was finalized, using Sentinel-2 images with a 10 m spatial resolution. It indicated deforestation of 10243,41±0.002 ha. The higher resolution images will make it possible to measure smaller real changes. This deforestation map is published on [www.gonini.org](http://www.gonini.org) for visualisation purposes but can also be downloaded from there as a shapefile.

- Inclusion of mining data: An updated layer of gold mining, the largest driver of deforestation, was finalized for the year 2018. There was also a regular update of the mining concession layer made available by the Geological Mining Division in March 2020. This gold mining map is published on [www.gonini.org](http://www.gonini.org) for visualisation purposes but can also be downloaded from there as a shapefile. The input was also included in a regional study on goldmining in the Guiana Shield.
  - The historic change analysis of mangrove forest cover for the period 1988 and 2018 was conducted in 2019. Additionally, a map showing the distribution of the two mangrove species (*Avicennia* and *Rhizophora*) was finalized. This mangrove change map is published on [www.gonini.org](http://www.gonini.org) for visualisation purposes but can also be downloaded from there as a shapefile.
  - The production of a LULC map for 2019 using Sentinel-1 images has been initiated. This is not finished yet but will be before the end of the REDD+ Readiness process. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has not yet been possible to validate the maps with the local populations, but this will be carried out in the second semester of the year.
  - Within the SLMS team further capacity was built on the use of Google Earth Engine (GEE) during a training in Guyana, but also through the production of the mangrove data. These techniques are used to improve the existing methodologies. The processing in GEE is outsourced to Google servers, leading to faster computation speed than on the local computer. Furthermore, there is an archive of images on the cloud in GEE and the possibility to process a batch of images makes it easier and less manual. This also leads to faster processing time.
  - The geospatial platform [www.gonini.org](http://www.gonini.org) was further updated.
  - The capacity of the NRTM specialist and the SLMS team was built in the use of drone technology.
  - The SLMS team has also actively participated in a regional Ecosystem Services assessment using the ENCA-methodology. The publication is currently being prepared for publication.
- *National Forest Inventory (NFI):*
    - Data was collected to validate the pantropical allometric equations. In total 31 trees were harvested and weighed from different regions and with dbh's between 13,8 and 70,3 cm.
    - This data was further processed, and the conclusion was that pantropical equation of Chave (2014) provides more realistic results than the earlier used Chave (2005). The results of this study were produced in October 2020.
- *Sustainable Forestry Information System Suriname (SFISS):*
    - SFISS [www.sfiss.sbb.sr](http://www.sfiss.sbb.sr) was launched on July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Since that date, the following results were achieved:
      - 676 external users from the forestry sector and 237 internal users from SBB are using the system for the daily activities related to the tracking of logs.
      - 542 entities (companies, natural persons, and communities) were registered
      - 1,366 harvest plans were entered into the system
      - 4249 cutting registered were entered
      - 55,158 barcode labels are circulating, from which 310515 are already having registered log data.
      - 85 confiscations were registered, including 14825 logs.
      - 87,725 logs were exported through the system
    - In general, the Sustainable Forestry Information System Suriname (SFISS) has made the registration of forestry operations more transparent for the public as well as the private sector. This could be illustrated through the following examples:
      - Exporting companies checking the status of logs in the system and verifying if all information is correct (and if the logs are legal).
      - Difficulties to enter logs with an unknown origin in the system- this has resulted initially in a higher number of unregistered logs, which is currently intensively assessed.
      - Alerts when potential illegal logs are entered into the system.

### Case study

One of the activities that was recently carried out, is an assessment of all log yards. All logs that were collected there have been assessed. Unfortunately, a lot of illegal logs have been found there which were immediately confiscated. Due to the mobile application, it was easy to immediately see the status of all encountered logs on the spot. This has resulted in a meeting of the export companies agreeing that they will not acquire illegal logs anymore. These companies have access to the system and can immediately check if the logs being sold to them are registered and legally harvested.

- Four mobile SFISS-applications were developed, to guarantee an easy access to the information by the forest guards:
  - Log tracking- this has been operational for 1 year now
  - Assessment during cutting register- still in development
  - Grading- currently tested
  - Log loading for export- currently tested
- SFISS has been a useful starting point to discuss all internal procedures at the Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB). The whole operation flow was conceptualized, and 14 procedures are formulated in a participatory approach: 1- registration of entities, 2- registration of licenses-3- harvest plan, 4- cutting register, 5- label sale, 6- transport, 7- CNB, 8- log yard inspections, 9-Sawmill inspection, 10- Grading, 11- Export license, 12a- loading logs for export in a container, 12b- loading logs for export in a vessel, 13- Confiscation. This process is currently being finalized and will be the basis for certification of the SBB. It will also be the basis for an intensive training program of all staff.
- Additionally, five user manuals (profiles, harvest plan, cutting register, CNB, export) have been produced for the external users. All documentation can be found through: <https://sbbsur.com/sfiss/>
- The SFISS-training program has been focusing more on bilateral guidance, because the COVID-19 pandemic made physical group sessions impossible
- 9 modules were improved and implemented (with REDD+ and BioAmazon funding):
  - Improved: Cutting register, CNB, Export (grading and loading), confiscation, log tracking
  - New: Transport, Mobile grading and loading logs for export
- A study is currently being carried out to establish the recovery rate between round wood and processed wood. This is the first step to include processed wood in SFISS.
- New planned developments of SFISS: Management reports, internal audit, inclusion of processed wood, better implementation of SFISS in SBB's daily work.
- SFISS is the first step towards a fully sustainable and legal forestry sector as it provides a backbone to make all actions in the forestry sector auditable and transparent. Nevertheless, to achieve this completely many more investments are needed. Nevertheless, with SFISS SBB aims to measure the degree of sustainability and due diligence of the forestry operation through the collection of big data within the normal operations of the SBB. Further work is being planned to through co-funding implement research studies to optimize this and to investigate the cost efficiency of this model.
- *Community Based Monitoring (CBM):*
  - Because of the COVID-19 pandemic very little activities were carried out on CBM.
    - Input was delivered for the Baseline report on CBM developed by Amazon Conservation Team.
    - A 5-days training between 15-18 September 2020 was held in the village of Cassipora with 10 villagers in the use of SFISS.
    - A technical student from IOL will conduct research as to how SFISS can be better used and/or strengthened to support the management of community forests (800,000 ha out of 2,000,000 ha forestry licences.)
  - Currently we are preparing for a new community program which will start in September 2021.
- *Near Real Time Monitoring (NRTM):*
  - Within NRTM more recent satellite images are used to track the activity within the forest. Currently the focus is on cross checking the logging activities registered in SFISS with Sentinel-2 images.

This seems to be an effective approach to immediately identify unplanned or illegal activities. This is being embedded now in the standard operational procedures of the SBB.

- An ongoing investigation is being carried out to develop an automatic detection of forest degradation using Sentinel-1 images in collaboration with SARVision within the Early Warning System-Project. The results seem very promising and if this can be implemented complementary to SFISS, it will provide a nearly waterproof legality check. There is work to institutionalise the systems in place for the long term.
- *Reporting*
  - Suriname is currently developing its Third National Communication for UNFCCC. This will be coordinated by the National Environmental Authority, but the AFOLU sector will be coordinated by the NFMS team in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries (Min. of LVV). This will be prepared in parallel with the next version of the FREL.
  - Additionally, input was provided within the reporting to UNFF, Environmental Statistics, Reporting on Land Degradation, and the yearly forest sector analysis.

### ***Strengthening Indigenous and Tribal People’s capacities for coordination and engagement in REDD+***

- Supporting/strengthening Tribal Peoples platform KAMPOS: activities for supporting capacity building of KAMPOS for coordination and engagement in REDD+ started in June 2018, and continued till December 2020. In the reporting period, the remaining activities, including institutional strengthening of Bureau KAMPOS (an Office coordinating the activities of KAMPOS) and consultation sessions of KAMPOS with the different tribes were carried out.
- The project “*Development of FPIC protocols for ITP and short-term capacity strengthening VIDS*”, which is being implemented by the Tribal Peoples Platform KAMPOS, and the Indigenous Peoples Platform VIDS, started in April 2021. The project will strengthen Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITP) in their involvement in national environment processes. Main activities include development of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) protocols for Suriname, short-term capacity strengthening of VIDS, and continuing the initiative “*Planning of Our Future*” for selected communities West Suriname, Donderskamp and Kawemhakan. The end date of the project is October 30, 2021.
- Within the NFMS activities to strengthen communities have also been carried out. See earlier section on community monitoring.

### ***Training REDD+ institutions***

- On April 29, 2021, NIMOS, with the technical support of the UNDP, organized a webinar on Experience Sharing on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). The presenter was Dr. Cathal Doyle, a Senior Lecturer and Master of Laws Programme Leader at Middlesex University London School of Law. The target audience included Government officials from relevant Ministries, Members of Parliament, and staff from relevant Governmental Technical Institutes. A total of 46 persons participated in the webinar.
- NFMS team have participated in training and webinars to build capacity in several topics such as:
  - Geoprocessing training;
  - Training Gonini portal and geoserver management and control;
  - CfRN webinar about carbon credit markets;
  - Geovisor training;
  - Training about Forest and transparency under the Paris Agreement.

### ***Stakeholder Consultation and Participation***

During the reporting period, the Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Plans for 2020 and 2021 have been continuously adapted to the applicable national COVID-19 measures. Since mass gatherings were prohibited, activities mostly included online activities and in-person sessions with smaller groups.

During the reporting period the following activities regarding stakeholder consultation and participation were carried out:

- A REDD+ information session was organized for children of the orphanage home “*Stichting Prasoro voor het kind in nood*” on Sep. 23, 2020, about REDD+ and the importance of forests in combatting climate change, with a total of 21 participating youngsters (M/F: 6/15).
- A follow-up session focusing on global warming, climate change and conservation of biodiversity was organized on Dec. 12, 2020, attended by 21 participants (M/F: 6/15).

- A REDD+ information session for children of the orphanage home “*Huize Tytyl*” on REDD+, climate change and forestry was organized on Nov. 21, 2020, for 22 youngsters (M/F: 14:8).
- A REDD+ information session was organized for the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Entrepreneurship and Technological Innovation on April 20, 2021. Attendees included the Minister and 3 staff members (M/F: 2/2)
- Since physical presentations for schools were not allowed, power point presentations were prepared and shared with 4 schools on Higher Education, including the Suriname Hospitality and Tourism Training Centre (SHTTC); ABC Education & Training; Institute for the Education of Teachers (IOL); Suriname Pedagogical Institute (SPI). Total number of students: 195.
- On Sep. 28, 2020, the award ceremony for the “We are the Forest Spoken Word Challenge” was organized for all participants, with a total of 23 participants: (M/F: 9/14)
- A training on forest recognition and monitoring was organized for Boys Scout Suriname with the aim to provide education on forest recognition and ecosystems. Total participants: 29 (M/F: 14/15).
- On Dec. 14, 2020, the (online) validation workshop of the second FREL of Suriname and products of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) was held, with a total of 75 participants.
- Regular meetings have been held with the VSB (Association of the Surinamese Private Sector) on the current situation in the forestry sector, the use of SFISS.
- A MOU was signed with the representatives of the small logger’s group, to overcome their hesitation and capacity needs in order to use SFISS effectively. Within the MOU a grace period of a year is provided, considering an intensive training program.

#### ***Public outreach and awareness raising activities***

The following public outreach and awareness raising activities have been organized in compliance with the nationally applicable COVID-19 measures:

- To increase public awareness regarding Sustainable Forest Management, a series of documentaries were produced. These documentaries were widely broadcasted through television stations in October 2020, March and May 2021.
- A series of five children’s environmental awareness films, produced early 2019, were broadcasted widely through television channels on several occasions, including World Environment Day, June 5, 2021.
- To raise awareness on forests amongst the youth between 16- 21 years, a REDD+ “Wi Na Busi” (We are the Forest) Spoken Word Challenge was organized in September 2020, with a total of 15 submissions.
- On World Forest Day on March 21, 2021, an article was published in the daily newspaper *de Ware Tijd* and the online news website United News, see the link: [ONTBOSSING TOEGENOMEN DOOR DRUK ECONOMISCHE ACTIVITEITEN - United News](#);
- On the occasion of World Forest Day on March 21, 2021, World Biodiversity Day on May 22, 2021 and World Environment Day on June 5, 2021, articles were published on the REDD+ Facebook page.
- Publication of an extension article on the status of REDD+ in Suriname on April 26, 2021, in the newspaper *de Ware Tijd*, see the link - [DWTonline.com](#)
- On World Forest Day 2021, a writing competition was organized for the age group 15 – 24 years. The writing competition was widely promoted through articles in newspapers, television programs and social media. A total of 50 submissions were received. The best stories will be published in book form and distributed to schools and public libraries.
- Finalization of the production of audio productions in six indigenous and tribal languages on the topics of the Suriname SIS, gender in relation with environment and climate change, sustainable forestry information system, community forest monitoring in October 2020. These programs were broadcasted on local radio stations during March – May 2021.
- Production and distribution of communication material, including REDD+ newsletters (July and October 2020 and February 2021), and REDD+ calendar 2021.
- Public outreach through internet: the REDD+ project website: <http://www.surinameredd.org> and social media outreach through the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/reddplussuriname/> and the geospatial Gateway: [www.gonini.org](http://www.gonini.org)



- During the reporting period, the Suriname REDD+ Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/reddplussuriname/> reached a total number of 104,022 visitors.
- In the context of International Day of Forests, March 21, the Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB) had planned several activities among which a Press conference held on Friday, March 19, 2021. During this event the role of the SBB forest guards was presented, besides the update of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) and the Forest sector analysis report 2019. Furthermore, the statistical platform with forest-related data has been launched, which the SBB has been working on recently. Due to COVID-19 measures, the invitation for this event has been kept limited, but in order to still involve the relevant stakeholders, a zoom meeting and live streaming on Facebook were organized. A total of about 30 participants have participated virtually.
- An internal quiz is organized for the SBB employees in order to create more awareness internally among the different departments, and provide the possibility to gain more information about the Tools for Sustainable forest management, REDD+ and NFMS.

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

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

### • **REDD+ Project delay due to COVID-19**

COVID-19 and the nationally applicable measures since mid-March 2020 until now, including curfew, lockdown, limited persons per gathering, impacted the execution of the REDD+ project activities.

The stakeholder engagement and communication activities were continuously adjusted. Engagement and outreach activities for ITP-communities in the Interior were cancelled. For these regions online activities are not an option due to the limited internet access of the communities.

The REDD+ Ground-truth projects were delayed since scheduled workshops and planned trips to the Interior could not be organized. Where possible project activities were adjusted and the duration of the Ground-Truth projects was extended until June 30, 2021.

Project Board Meetings could not be organized. Since the Project Board also consists of members of the Interior with limited internet access, organizing an online meeting has not been a viable option. Where approval of the Project Board was needed, this was sought through email and WhatsApp.

### • **Difficulties contracting expertise developing Benefit Sharing Mechanism**

Although the procurement process for the development of the BSM started in 2019 through several rounds by the UNDP, no qualified consultancy team have reflected. Since the available project time will not be sufficient for development of a BSM, this activity has been adjusted and a BSM- assessment will be performed.

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

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

The Suriname REDD+ Project will be finalized by December 2021. In accordance with the Annual Work Plan and the Operational Closure Plan 2021, the following activities will be implemented:

- A successful and full implementation of the REDD+ Ground-truth projects on sustainable economic development opportunities.
- Performing an assessment of the REDD+ Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM) for Suriname.
- Finalizing the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).
- Implementation of the Project "Development of FPIC Protocols for ITP and short-term capacity building VIDS".
- Design of the Human Resources Management System and development of the Financial Strategy of the National Environmental Authority.
- Stakeholder engagement and outreach activities through public outreach and awareness activities.
- Terminal Project Evaluation of the REDD+ Project.
- Finalization of the modified FREL 2020 – 2024 and submission to the UNFCCC.

- Continuation in sustaining the consistent integration of the NFMS with the GHG-reporting and other international reporting the country is responsible for.
- Review the existing MRV system in SBB and improve this according to international requirements with guidance and support from international experts. Implement and improve the MRV system within Voluntary or compliance market carbon project.
- Prepare the implementation of a pilot project on Climate Smart Forestry in three forestry licenses (2 community forests and 1 private concession)
- Institutionalization of the NFMS within the structure of SBB.
- Continue providing the necessary support and guidance to both internal users (SBB). and the sector in the use of the system. Newly developed modules/ apps within SFISS will be transferred and implemented in relevant departments in SBB.
- Include processed wood in the SFISS flows of processing, transport, export and confiscation.
- Finalize the Code of Practice for Sustainable Forest Management.
- Finalize the Standard Operational Procedures for all forestry checks and train new forest guards or provide refreshment training for the current forest guards in all SOPs.
- Implement an awareness program in the communities on SFM and strengthen the network of the trainees which were trained in 2019.
- Finalize the different maps produced within the SLMS such as: the deforestation map 2020, one post deforestation Land Use/ Land Cover map 2019, Basemap 2019 and National LULC 2019.
- Organize a validation workshop of LULC map 2019 with relevant stakeholders. Depending on the Covid19 situation in the country field activities, including district sessions to validate the maps, will be executed.
- Organize training for SLMS team and Region managers within SBB in the use of Drone technology.
- Develop Standard Operational Procedures (SOP's) for deforestation monitoring, post deforestation Land Use/ Land Cover monitoring and forest degradation.
- Further development of the NFMS- database; which provides a platform for sharing all NFMS data with the public but also between partners. Efficient information flows supporting online platforms and mobile data collection apps will be developed. Execution of continued maintenance of geoportaal Gonini and the statistical platform KOPI, where all information produced about forests (and could be broader) is centralized.
- Promotion of new products from NFMS/ SLMS (Deforestation map, new basemap, LULC maps), Technical report etc. including SFISS new developed module/ apps and sustainable forest management. Prepare a communication strategy plan.

## SECTION B: READINESS PROGRESS

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

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

#### Progress rating key:

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

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

National REDD+ Management Arrangements	3	Progressing well, further development required		communication, community engagement, technical, administration and logistical organization. At the implementing partner SBB/ FCMU, 9 staff members are in charge of REDD+ implementation. This team is sufficient for adequate project realization towards the project end. The work contracts of the REDD+ Assistants with the National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (NIMOS) will be extended till the project end date. The HACT audit over FY20 was completed in Q1 2021.
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Outreach	5	Completed		The REDD+ Stakeholder Engagement & Communication Plans 2020 and 2021, were developed and (are being) implemented. For information on the specific activities implemented, see sections above: <i>“Stakeholder Consultation and Participation”</i> . <i>“Public outreach and awareness raising activities”</i> .
	4	Significant progress	X	
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
<b>R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation</b>				
Sub-component 2: REDD+ Strategy	5	Completed	X	The National REDD+ Strategy of Suriname was approved by the Government of Suriname after due consultations with all relevant national stakeholders, including governmental institutions, Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs), the private sector, and civil society. The official documents can be downloaded through the website: <a href="http://www.surinameredd.org">www.surinameredd.org</a>
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	5	Completed	X	Within the background study of the REDD+ National Strategy for Suriname, historical analyses were executed, completed by further modelling and scenario analyses. An assessment of the drivers of deforestation is updated on a biannual basis with the post deforestation land use land cover maps.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options	5	Completed		N/A
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A	X	
Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework	5	Completed		As part of the National REDD+ Strategy a REDD+ Implementation Framework has been developed. Institutional and legal arrangements are currently being established for operationalization of the REDD+ Implementation Framework, including the establishment of the National Environmental Authority, which will give policy directions on REDD+ in Suriname and will be responsible for the establishment of the Grievance Redress Mechanism and the Environmental Fund, which will also include REDD+ funds.
	4	Significant progress	X	
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 2d:	5	Completed	X	Potential environmental and social REDD+ risks were assessed as part of the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) that took place in 2017
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		

Social and Environmental Impacts	2	Further development required		alongside the development of Suriname’s National REDD+ Strategy. The social and environmental considerations are incorporated in the National REDD+ Strategy. The SIS, which was developed in 2019, also considers social and environmental impacts.
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
<b>R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels</b>				
Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	5	Completed	X	Suriname’s first FREL was completed and submitted to the UNFCCC in January 2018. The FREL 2020- 2024 was developed and submitted to the UNFCCC in January 2021 and is currently being modified based on the recommendations of the UNFCCC Technical Review Commission.
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
<b>R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards</b>				
Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System	5	Completed		Satellite monitoring is well implemented and is providing recurrent results, SFISS is up and running, but will be further strengthened resulting in daily measurements of the impact of forest degradation as a tool for guiding the private sector companies, NFI data was collected within the mangrove forest, but the methodology still needs further development, Reporting frameworks need to be developed to result in more streamlined reporting from the NFMS to the different conventions. NRTM is up and running, but the method will be further improved resulting in better detection of unplanned activities.
	4	Significant progress	X	
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		
Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	5	Completed	X	<p>Suriname’s Safeguards Information System (SIS), which was developed in 2019 and provides three different types of information: 1) Information on how existing PLRs address aspects of importance under each safeguard; 2) Information on how safeguards are respected through provisions and/or activities at national level; and 3) Information on how safeguards are respected through provisions and/or activities at local level, i.e. as part of REDD+ implementation on the ground.</p> <p>All information channelled into the SIS is available on an online portal available at <a href="http://www.sis.surinamredd.org">www.sis.surinamredd.org</a> where information can be accessed on how safeguards are addressed and respected at both national and project scale of REDD+ implementation.</p> <p>Suriname’s first SOI contains further information on the safeguards in the national context, including the national interpretation as well as information on how the safeguard is addressed and how it is respected, as well as conclusions that can be drawn from the current status of information on the extent to which the Cancun Safeguards are addressed and respected. Suriname officially submitted the SOI to the UNFCCC in April 2021.</p> <p>Suriname’s Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) includes a number of provisions to ensure that safeguards are respected. Currently, the ESMF is being reviewed and aligned with the UNDP SES standards.</p> <p>An analysis of existing Policies, Laws and Regulations (PLRs) responding to the requirements of the Cancun</p>
	4	Significant progress		
	3	Progressing well, further development required		
	2	Further development required		
	1	Not yet demonstrating progress		
	0	N/A		

		Safeguards has been conducted as part of the development of the SIS.
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## SECTION C: NON-CARBON BENEFITS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Policy 3.D: Participatory community development**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Policy line 4.A: Protected areas**

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

Measure 4.A.2: Protection of mangrove areas

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

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

**SECTION D: FINANCE**

(Please complete in US\$ ONLY)

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

(Indicator 1.B: Amount of finance received to support the REDD+ Readiness process (disaggregated by public, private, grants, loans))

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

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

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

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

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

\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other
\$		Public / Private	Grant / Loan / Other

## SECTION E: FCPF PERFORMANCE

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

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

Mark 'X' as appropriate

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

**Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:**

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

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

Mark 'X' as appropriate

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

**Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:**

## SECTION F: FINAL COMMENTS

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