

SURINAME: COUNTRY BRIEF

**Presented at the
Regional workshop
“Integrated policies and policy coherence for
the SDGs”
13-15 November 2019, Port of Spain**

BASIC INFO

- Mainland of South America (smallest independent nation) also part of the Caribbean/SIDS
 - Strikingly diverse population
 - Mid-Population: 579.005 (2017)
 - 3rd low population density per Km²
 - 93% forest coverage (world's greenest country)
- Mining (gold/oil) dominated economy
- GDP per Capita (SPS-projection): USD 7.082 (2019)
- Monthly Minimum wage: SRD1,428/USD190
- GDP growth % (SPS-projection):

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1.7	2.4	2.1	1,7	1.6



DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY, PLANNING AND SDGs (1)

- Planning Office established in 1950
- Development capacity and particularly for long term planning eroded:
 - Very small natural resource based economy
 - End of cheap reserves for bauxite, alumina an aluminium industry
 - Protracted decolonisation process
- Four Pillars of the 2017-2021 Development Plan:
 - Adopting concept of SD --- SDGs mainstreamed
 - Strengthening development capacity (with focus on planning) 1st priority
 - Suriname Vision 2035



DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY, PLANNING AND SDGs (2)

- Placing people at the centre of planning/policy design
- Economic planning and policy;
 - Establishing buffer mechanisms
 - Diversifying the economy (includes developing a greener economy)
- Social policy establishing a more equitable society and integrating social policies ad delivery
- Environment:
 - Diversification of the economy away from mining
 - Adaptation to rising sea levels (projections?)



ADVANCING THE SDGS IN SURINAME (1)

- **Close collaboration with United Nations Agencies**
- **Integrating the Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework and Suriname's 2017-2021 Development Plan:**
 - **Building the mechanism for consultation, planning, implementation and M&E**
 - **Joint action plan on SDGs**
 - **Building capacity for planning, policy design, project management and M&E capacity at the national, ministerial and local government level**



ADVANCING THE SDGS IN SURINAME (2)

- **Re-introducing/strengthening formal planning institutions and processes (communication, consensus and coordination)**
- **Integrated SDG and national reporting (M&E) mechanism**
 - **Strengthening Suriname's capacity to report on its 2017-2021 Development Plan**
 - **Preparing Suriname's Voluntary National report on the 2030 SDG agenda to be delivered in 2021**



HIGHLIGHTS

- Establishment, re-activating and strengthening key planning institutions
- Successful integration of the UN/Suriname (MSDF) Country Implementation Programme 2019/2020 (CIP 2019/2020) in the annual plan Government budget. Active participation of ministries and local government
- Consensus on and inclusion of the national household survey programme (2020/2021) in the Cip 2019/21. Will support; i) evidence based planning/policy design and ii) M&E
- ILO decent Work Country Programme
- Strengthening the econometric modelling capacity with a focus on monitoring poverty and employment
- Intensifying the international collaboration on the **High Forest cover and Low Deforestation Countries (HFLD-countries)**
- Progress with REDD+ readiness (capacity of the Forest Cover Monitoring Unit, using remote sensing techniques)