



UNITED NATIONS
SURINAME



DECADE
OF
ACTION

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Foreword

As we look back on 2020, a year which brought a myriad of challenges and a health crisis of unprecedented scale, Suriname's case was no exception. As the country recorded its first positive case of COVID-19 infection on March 13, 2020, the Surinamese Government took swift action to combat the pandemic, which included closing its borders and schools and stopping all travel to and from the interior of the country, among other measures.

A few weeks before, in early March 2020, the Government of Suriname, under the leadership of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Planning Bureau (SPS), and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) hosted the annual Evaluation of the Country Implementation Plan (CIP). The Government and the United Nations together reviewed the CIP which is anchored in the *UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (UN MSDF) 2017 – 2021*.

This CIP represents the UN's collective response in Suriname based on the UN system's comparative advantage in supporting the country's national priorities which are anchored in the Government's *Policy Development Plan 2017 – 2021* across four pillars: (1) Strengthening Development Capacity; (2) Economic Growth and diversification; (3) Social progress; and (4) Utilization and protection of the environment.

Within just two weeks of this 2019 Annual Review and 2020 CIP Planning Meeting, the UNCT faced the critical task of repurposing programmatic focus into the more immediate health crisis and ultimately, into COVID-19 recovery.

Like other Member States, the COVID-19 pandemic brought devastating effects on education, women and girls, the economy (particularly in the informal sector) and the health

system. While the Pandemic continues to challenge the country, it is important to reflect on the unique opportunity that 2020 brought to make structural changes for the future.

The Government's experience in preparing for COVID-19 created a unique opportunity to chart a new path for public health in the country to strengthen its capacities to prevent, detect and respond to future health emergencies. Opportunities have arisen in other areas as well: to transition towards digital education, to strengthen social protection systems and to structurally address violence against women and children.

In July 2020, the transition to a new National Administration took place as a four-party coalition Government headed by President Chandrikapersad "Chan" Santokhi of the Vooruistrevende Hervormings Partij (VHP) came to power. The Government, which took leadership, in the midst of a deepening health and economic crises, has the task of charting Suriname's recover path.

The United Nations Suriname stands ready to continue its partnership with the Government of Suriname and work together on the path to recovery. 2020 marked the beginning of the design of MSDF 2.0 process whereby the UN in Suriname completed the country's first Common Country Analysis in a decade.

It will be key in 2021 to continue to combine efforts with the Government of Suriname as it charts a path towards COVID-19 recovery and integrating Suriname's post-COVID priorities as it moves towards a new MSDF 2.0 in January 2022.

Marina Walter
United Nations Resident Coordinator

UN Country Team in Suriname

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Suriname consists of five Resident agencies (those with a physical presence in the country), and seven non-Resident agencies (those without a physical presence). The UNCT is composed of the following agencies.

During 2020, the UNCT identified an emerging priority among migrants and displaced persons

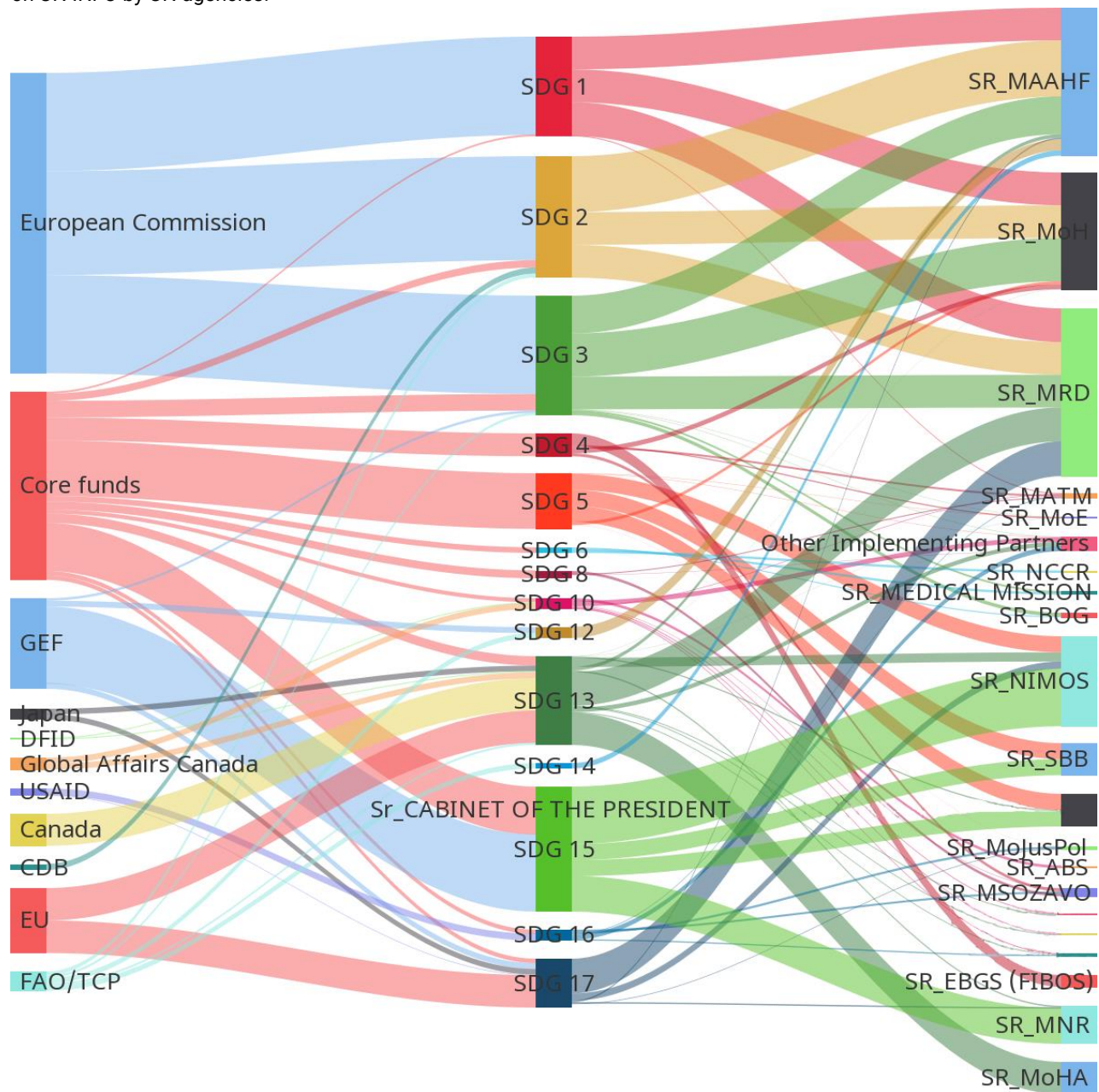
in the country, leading to an increased presence among IOM and UNHCR in Suriname UNCT meetings. By the end of 2020, discussions ensued to expand the UNHCR in-country presence for a finite period to assess the need for long-term in-country presence.

Resident Agencies based in Suriname	Non-Resident UN Agencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) ▪ United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) ▪ Pan American Health Organisation / World Health Organisation (PAHO/WHO) ▪ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) ▪ United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ International Labour Organisation (ILO) ▪ International Organisation for Migration (IOM) ▪ Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) ▪ United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) ▪ United Nations Education, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (UNESCO) ▪ United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (UN Women) ▪ The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)
	

Key development Partners of the UN development system in Suriname

Development Partners	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bilateral Donor (BDs) - International Financial Institution (IFIs) - Multilateral Donor (MDs) 	 <p>Canada</p> <p>USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE</p> <p>Government Of India</p> <p>From the People of Japan</p> <p>CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK</p> <p>IDB Inter-American Development Bank</p> <p>WORLD BANK GROUP</p> <p>IsDB البنك الإسلامي للتنمية Islamic Development Bank</p> <p>European Union</p>
Implementing and Collaboration Partners	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government Ministries - Civil society / Non-Governmental Organizations (CSOs/ NGOs) - Academia 	 <p>REPUBLIC SURINAME</p> <p>ABS</p> <p>NCCR</p> <p>NIMOS</p> <p>ONAFHANKELIJK KIESBUREAU SURINAME</p> <p>mz Primary Health Care Suriname</p> <p>Het Surinaamse Rode Kruis</p> <p>Stichting Lobi Health Center</p> <p>Amazon Conservation Team</p> <p>WWF</p> <p>STINASU</p> <p>TROPENBOS SURINAME</p> <p>CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL</p> <p>Suriname</p> <p>ANTON DE KROM UNIVERSITEIT VAN SURINAME</p> <p>VICIT AGNUS NOSTER EUM SEQUAMUR</p> <p>UNFPA</p> <p>Youth Advisory Group</p> <p>VIDS</p>

The figure 1 below depicts the Investment amount contributed to targeted SDGs during the 2019 -2020 period, as reported on UN INFO by UN agencies.



Overview: Cooperation Framework

Priority Areas (UN MSDF 2017 – 2021)

The UN's work in Suriname is anchored in and guided by the *UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDF) 2017-2021*, which was developed in the Caribbean through an inclusive and participatory process led by the Governments and representatives of eighteen Caribbean countries and territories and the United Nations (UN) in consultation with civil society and other development partners. The MSDF has four strategic areas of focus which respond to national needs in the Region which are:

Priority 1 **An inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Caribbean**

This Priority Area builds on the core Sustainable Development concept of equitable development for all and “leaving no one behind” as a prerequisite for prosperous and sustainable societies and is envisaged in two broad outcomes of:

1. Access to quality education and life-long learning for enhanced employability and sustainable economic development and;
2. Access to equitable social protection systems, quality services and sustainable economic opportunities.

Priority 2 **A Healthy Caribbean**

This Priority Area responds to the concern that health and nutrition are increasingly affecting the lives of the people in the Caribbean. Its outcomes are:

1. Universal Access to quality health care services and systems improved, and;
2. Laws, policies and systems introduced to support healthy lifestyles among all segments of the population.

Priority 3 **A Safe & Just Caribbean**

This Priority Area acknowledges that insufficient citizen security restricts the people to live full and productive lives. This has an impact especially on women, youth, children and other vulnerable groups. This Priority Area is envisaged in the following two broad outcomes:

1. Strengthen capacities of public policy and rule of law institutions and civil society organizations, and;
2. Reinforce equitable access to justice, protection, citizen security and safety.

Priority 4 **A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean**

This Priority Area is a call to support in addressing the effects of climate change on livelihoods, especially those who are most vulnerable. It focuses on UN System support to strengthening institutional and community resilience in terms of natural resources management, the protection and sustainable use of terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems, renewable energy systems, and inclusive and sustainable societies. The planned outcomes are:

1. Put policies and programs for climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and universal access to clean and sustainable energy in place, and;
2. Adopt inclusive and sustainable solutions for the conservation, restoration, and use of ecosystems and natural resources.

Chapter 1: Key Development in country and regional context



Special Parliament Meeting with the National Assembly of Suriname in commemoration of 75 years United Nations October 23 2020 at DNA – Parliament.

Suriname (population 586,632) is a small, upper middle-income country with a Gross National Product (GNP) per capita of \$11,933 (at 2011 PPP\$) in 2018 and in the Human Development Index (HDI) category at 0.724¹ (98 out of 189 countries and territories), placing it in the high human development category. In terms of gender equality, Suriname performs relatively well in certain areas, particularly in governance (women held 29.4% of Parliamentary seats in 2020) and in educational attainment.

ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

While Governments in the Caribbean have been relatively successful in curbing the spread of the pandemic in their countries, this has come at a severe economic cost. While Suriname does not share the same fate as other tourism-dependent economies in the region, the country's economic growth has been largely impacted by the (partial)

lockdown of the domestic economy as a result of the COVID-19 shock. Pre-COVID-19, Suriname was still struggling to recover from a financial and economic crisis resulting from a 2015 commodity price shock. The country's economy had grown at an average of 3.4% annually from 2001-2014, (well above the average of 2.1% growth rate for the Caribbean region) and this growth had initially contributed to a reduction in poverty rates. This positive trend was reversed in 2015 by a major drop in global commodity prices which drastically cut revenues and drove the country into heavy external debt.

Suriname's economy has long been dependent on extractive industries, namely the extraction, processing and export of gold, oil and bauxite (the last product until 2016) which have historically contributed to about 30% of GDP and 90% of exports. The impact of the 2015 price shock was further exacerbated by weaknesses in

¹ 2018.

macroeconomic policy, governance and internal political instability.

The services sector, including the large public sector, is dominated by retail, trade, infrastructure and transport. Agriculture is also an important sector accounting for about 10% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employing about 8% of the total labour force especially in the poorer population segments.

While the recent discovery of offshore oil fields has created optimism for the country's future socio-economic development, it risks reinforcing the country's dependence on extractives and weak institutions and governance remain risk factors for the future.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND LOSS OF INCOME

Pre-COVID-19, the country experienced a relatively low unemployment rate of 4% for people aged 15 to 60 but since COVID-19, unemployment has been increasing among specific groups i.e. youth unemployment is estimated at 11.3% and unemployment among young women at 9.9%. Additionally, a significant portion of Suriname's population works in the informal sector where income earning possibilities are also diminishing.

The impact of the pandemic on households and businesses has been devastating on the most vulnerable. According to a survey conducted by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in April 2020, the immediate impact of the pandemic translated to drastic reductions in income: 48% of households reported lost income with 47% attributing the loss to business closure. Worryingly, the share of households with incomes marginally above the national minimum wage declined between January 2020 and April 2020, suggesting that many vulnerable households could fall into poverty. Further exacerbating this impact are Suriname's high levels of informality which have limited the ability of the most vulnerable households to maintain sources of income as the type of policies to prevent the spread of the virus affects informal workers more.

SOCIAL RESPONSE

In April 2020, the Government passed the COVID-19 Exceptional Condition Act and a 400 million SRD Emergency Fund was established to finance social support measures including housing related expenses. In 2020, The government also

increased the allowance for child support, old age provision, retirees (for which no previous government support existed), persons with disabilities, unemployment benefits for persons who have lost their income of jobs due to Covid-19 restrictions and social assistance benefits. The Emergency Fund contributed approximately SRD 50 million SD to a Housing Fund.

A NEW GOVERNMENT

On 25 May 2020 the country held general elections and the Progressive Reform Party (Dutch acronym: VHP), led by Mr. Chandrikapersad "Chan" Santokhi won a majority (20 seats) of seats in the National Assembly. The National Assembly consist of 51 seats where 2/3 is needed to elect the president and vice-president. 26 seats are needed to form the coalition. The VHP together with the General Liberation and Development Party (Dutch acronym: ABOP) led by Mr. Ronnie Brunswijk (8 seats), The National Party Surname with 3 seats (Dutch acronym: NPS) and the Pertaiah Luhur (Dutch acronym: PL) with 2 seats form the new coalition bringing in a new leadership and administration after a decade. The new administration came into leadership amidst two parallel crises, the ongoing economic crisis compounded by the negative impacts of COVID-19 on public health and on the economy, The Government is currently working on completing its five-year *National Development Plan* as well as a *COVID-19 Response and Recovery Plan*. Various restructuring plans are currently ongoing within Ministries with staff changes to be completed in 2021.

Chapter 2: UN Socio-economic response to the COVID-19

IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC ON PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

During 2020, as with other Member States, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in Suriname, affected programme implementation in the country. Much of the planned activities for UN agencies were redirected to cope with the pandemic implications, with a focus on providing key support to Government in the form of PPE and equipment procurement, development of key SOPs, risk communication and community engagement, NGO coordination. The UN developed a Socio-Economic Impact Assessment with an eye beyond the immediate health response to provide support on building back better after COVID-19.

PAHO/WHO-led Health Response to COVID-19

In January 2020, when the world became aware of the threat of COVID-19, Suriname's Ministry of Health convened a *Public Health Response team* to begin developing standard operating procedures (SOPs) aligned with the country's *Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plan*. The PAHO Country office (PAHO-WHO) provided technical guidance and shared guidance documents received from the headquarters and WHO to inform the development of the SOPs using various scenarios for possible case detection. SOPs on laboratory diagnosis, screening, clinical management, infection prevention and control measures, quarantine management, monitoring ports of entry, and isolation were developed using these guidance documents as references.

By February 2020, all Surinamese hospitals conducted (with technical guidance from PAHO-WHO) a self-assessment of their readiness to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Each hospital identified gaps in several areas (such as infection prevention and control, human resource capacity, and other parameters); the hospitals were required to implement recommendations to improve their readiness. The clinics at the first level of care received training, equipment and supplies to prepare them to respond to COVID-19

and received guidance on how to reorganize services to respond to COVID-19 while maintaining essential health services.

The WHO-led Health Response in Suriname was framed by nine major areas of a public health response:

PILLAR 1: COUNTRY-LEVEL COORDINATION, PLANNING AND MONITORING

- > In March 2020, PAHO led the UNCT's **development of a *UN Preparedness and Response Plan*** in keeping with the *WHO's COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan and Operational Planning Guidelines*. PAHO-WHO, in collaboration with UNICEF and UN RCO, also provided technical guidance to the national consultant contracted by the Ministry of Health to **develop the *Comprehensive National Preparedness and Response Plan and Needs List* for COVID-19** in Suriname, which was launched in June 2020.
- > Technical support was also provided for the **establishment / functioning of an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)**; this support

included: equipping the EOC, providing staff training, supporting the development of the *National Situation Report*.

- > Finally, to improve the country's preparedness, PAHO-WHO and the Ministry of Health continuously used **forecasting tools** to estimate the essential supplies and human resources needed to effectively respond to COVID-19 and to **coordinate donor support** offered to the country.

PILLAR 2: RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- > The UN System supported the **development of a well-planned and evidence-based Risk Communication and Community Engagement Plan** to facilitate the wide dissemination of messaging on public health measures to protect persons against COVID-19 (PAHO-WHO was specifically requested by the Ministry of Health to coordinate this pillar of the response.)
- > RCCE activities were coordinated in partnership with the Ministry of Health throughout the country including in the interior through collaborations with various Indigenous and Tribal groups.
- > An array of materials was developed in multiple local dialects to communicate effectively with vulnerable groups (including those with non-communicable diseases and mental health disorders) and tailor-made as much as possible to the local context.
- > Risk communication and awareness material was produced in the form of **printed material** and **digital communication material** through **Television (Video Message)**, **Radio (Audio messages)** and **Social Media (images, audio and video messages)**. The products varied from public announcements, short videos, audio messages, posters, brochures and flyers, to social media campaigns. The messages produced stemmed out of the themes on infection prevention, hygiene and guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- > The most effective means to get the messages to the target audiences were also considered, using traditional media (radio and television) as well as more advanced

communication technology (websites, Facebook, Instagram etc.).

- > PAHO-WHO also worked with the Medical Mission to conduct **messaging through traditional means for indigenous and tribal communities in the interior, i.e. meetings with village Captains**.
- > PAHO-WHO also provided support in media briefings held by the Ministry of Health and National COVID-19 team.
- > The RCCE activities targeted specific groups such as health care workers (i.e. through training videos), cleaning personnel in schools, persons in vulnerable conditions, e.g. pregnant women, new mothers, Portuguese and Spanish-speaking migrant workers, indigenous and tribal peoples in the interior, and the general



public.

- > To support the COVID-19 communication promoting the non-pharmaceutical measures of prevention, PAHO developed the **MoHana** campaign (which in Dutch stands *for Mondkap op* (wear your mask), *Handen wassen* (wash your hands), *Afstand houden* (keep a safe distance)). Community leaders were also trained in strategies and activities to engage their communities using a manual developed to support them in this regard.
- > A comprehensive digital communication strategy was implemented by UNICEF to reach 150,000 young people, with a wide range of high-performing content on its digital platforms (Facebook, Twitter and ECM and the website). A partnership with key local influencers and new audiences was established and drove traffic to COVID-19 content on social media pages. Video series with local celebrities/ influencers on stay-at-home and on the COVID-19 copying mechanisms were developed. Posters/ messaging on COVID-19 safe schools reopening was produced
- > PAHO, UNICEF and the UN RCO developed a result monitoring tool for the evaluation of

the risk communication efforts which have been implemented.

- > UNFPA also supported the production and dissemination of messages aiming to prevent and address the secondary impact of the outbreak with the objective to minimize the human consequences of the outbreak for **adolescents, women (including pregnant women), LGBTQI and persons with disabilities**.

PILLAR 3: SURVEILLANCE, RAPID RESPONSE TEAMS, AND CASE INVESTIGATION

- > PAHO provided ongoing support to the *National Public Health Response Team* on strategies as well as on activities to strengthen epidemiological surveillance and quarantine.
- > Furthermore, PAHO provided ongoing support to the development and use of databases for the case detection and contact tracing, training for the Rapid Response Teams in case detection, investigation and contact tracing as well as for personnel working at the 178 hotline to educate and communicate with the public regarding risk, signs and symptoms of the disease and decision making regarding who needed further follow-up as possible cases.
- > Surveillance missions to the interior by the Medical Missions² and the Malaria programme were supported and the Malaria Service Delivery workers were sensitized to the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 to enhance their ability to assist with surveillance during their routine field work.
- > The Medical Mission was also provided with equipment and supplies to support their activities in the interior. Technical guidance was provided on strategies and procedures for enhancing surveillance at the points of entry including at land borders with neighboring countries.
- > Finally, PAHO in collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank supported the

establishment of data collection tools, equipment and supplies to strengthen surveillance for COVID-19, using the Go.Data tool³ while IDB procured computers and other supplies for support of using this database. For COVID-19, this system will support the Epidemiology Unit at the BOG and the contact tracing teams to provide the necessary follow-up care and linkage to health services when needed. The BOG's⁴ Epidemiology Unit and Contact Tracing team was trained and equipped to respond to suspect and probable cases and to enter this data into the Go. Data platform.

- > As the pandemic progressed to community transmission, at the country's request PAHO supported the development of a new database for documenting and analyzing the cases in Suriname.

PILLAR 4: POINTS OF ENTRY

- > PAHO-WHO provided technical support / guidance to the Ministry of Health for the development of standard operating procedures around points of entry.

PILLAR 5: NATIONAL LABORATORIES

- > In 2020, PAHO built the capacity of the Central Laboratory for the diagnosis of the SARS-CoV2 virus through training and the provision of reagents and from as early as 5 February 2020, Suriname became one of the first countries in the Region of the Americas to have the capacity to detect this virus using the PCR method. Ongoing support was provided for the reagents, probes and primers as well as other disposables needed to maintain the diagnostic capacity for the Central Laboratory. Training in the use of the antigen-based rapid diagnostic test was also provided for staff from the Central Laboratory as well as persons from the Malaria programme, the Medical Mission and the Regional Health Services.

² The Medical Mission has 51 clinics in the interior that largely services the indigenous and Maroon populations. Medical Mission employs 233 people: a small number of doctors, a single dentist, nurses and medical aides, in addition to auxiliary workers. Over 300 people per year are air-lifted from interior villages to hospitals in cities for medical treatment.

³ A digital outbreak Investigation Data Management System developed by WHO and GOARN. The application is available both online and offline and has an optional mobile app focused on contact tracing.

⁴ Bureau van Openbare Gezondheidszorg (BOG) is the Bureau of Public Health which houses the Central Laboratory.

- > By the end of 2020, 30,000 rapid diagnostic test kits had been provided to the country to facilitate the diagnosis of the disease.

PILLAR 6: INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

- > PAHO-WHO provided supplies of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for use in health care workers to protect them. Training was also done in Infection prevention and Control for health care workers.
- > Six online courses on COVID-19 developed by WHO were translated into Dutch to make them more accessible to all health workers in Suriname and to build their capacity in putting on and taking off PPE, infection prevention and control, and hand hygiene among others.
- > UNICEF procured 956 kilograms of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the front-line health care workers.
- > Partnering with Medical Mission, UNICEF provided water tanks and automatic chlorine dosage machines to 15 classified high-risk health care facilities in interior of Suriname. Supply (PPE, hygiene materials and kits) and financial support were provided to the ministry of education to facilitate the implementation of the safe re-opening protocols.
- > Provision of PPE and cleaning reagents were also provided for elderly care homes.
- > UNDP supported the awareness building / education on COVID-19, and mitigation through provision of water installation with portable hand washing stations complete with supplies to indigenous and tribal peoples in the hinterland and rural areas.

PILLAR 7: CASE MANAGEMENT

- > PAHO-WHO provided technical support / guidance to the Ministry of Health for the development of SOPs, as well as guidance on triage and surge capacity for care and the continuation of essential health services.
- > Technical guidance was provided for the hospital readiness assessment and the

determination of the surge capacity or cases.

- > Equipment necessary for the management of severe and critical cases were provided including invasive and non-invasive ventilators, oxygen concentrators and patient monitors.
- > Training was provided for General Practitioners on the management of COVID-19 cases in the community. Courses in this regard were translated into Dutch to expand access to persons.

PILLAR 8: OPERATIONAL SUPPORT AND LOGISTICS

- > PAHO-WHO, with support from UNRCO, provided technical support on the development of a *National PPE and Equipment Needs List*.
- > Technical guidance was provided to the *Donor Coordination sub-committee of the Outbreak Management Team* regarding processes for analysis of needs and coordination of donors. Technical cooperation was also provided to the national procurement organization for medicines, the BGVS, for the logistical management of donated supplies for the COVID-19 in terms of receipt, warehousing and distribution.
- > Equipment and IT support was also provided to the School of Nursing by PAHO to facilitate distance education of students.

PILLAR 9: MAINTAINING ESSENTIAL HEALTH SERVICES DURING AN OUTBREAK

- > UNICEF supported the Government to adapt current Early Childhood Development (ECD) services due to the COVID-19 and to continue to effectively support young children and their families, particularly those most in need:
 - Adaptation and continuity of existing ECD services to young children and their families, particularly those most in need
 - Provision of quality parenting and family support to ensure that all parents and families are empowered to support parents / caregivers as the first line responders to the COVID-19 pandemic

- > UNAIDS supported the Ministry of Health to maintain monitoring of treatment outcomes in persons living with HIV as well as data capture along the HIV service continuum to inform national estimates and projections.
- > Furthermore, PAHO-WHO supported the Ministry of Health with guidance both for healthcare professionals as well as for

pregnant women and new mothers on prenatal, intrapartum and postnatal care in the context of COVID-19 (including prenatal visits, delivery care and care for the mother and newborn).

- > **Support was also provided to facilitate maintenance of routine childhood immunization**

Socio-Economic Response

After launching the PAHO/WHO-led Emergency Health Response, the UNCT (with UNDP in the lead) developed a Socio-economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) and response plan for COVID-19 in Suriname. The SEIA's overall objective was to generate a snapshot of the macroeconomic and socioeconomic impact, policy options and response framework aligned with the UN MSDF 2017 - 2021, with a goal of strengthening Suriname's long-term resilience. Suriname's socio-economic impact assessment and recovery plan was aligned to the *Secretary-General's Framework Response to COVID-19* and anchored in the 5 key pillars:



⁵ This expenditure also captures UNICEF and UNFPA activities under the PAHO- led Health response, under Chapter 2. This expenditure does not reflect

1 - HEALTH FIRST

Agencies: UNICEF; UNFPA

Amount Spent: \$263,197⁵

In addition to the immediate COVID-19 health response, which is outlined in detail in the section above, the UN in Suriname also provided support to maintain essential health services in the country.

- > Technical cooperation was provided with strategies and communication material to maintain the routine immunization programme and to provide information to pregnant women on what to expect. Support was also provided for the monitoring of the essential services to determine the level of maintenance of these services.
- > UNFPA Suriname ensured the needs for PPE for the continued delivery of SRH services, information and commodities. UNFPA funds were also repurposed to allow risk communication interventions targeting vulnerable groups including pregnant women, adolescents and youth; PLWHIV and to allow for surveys on the impact of COVID-19 on adolescent and youth.
- > The Live Saved Tools (LiST) and Equitable Impact Sensitive tool (EQUIST) were introduced to determine the impact of the COVID-19 in child mortality and

the additional \$471,132 spent by PAHO/ WHO on the Health response.

maternal mortality rate and to determine the save lives interventions for children during the COVID-19 time. Partnering with Medical Mission, UNICEF supported the development of on essential health services continuity guidelines (with focus on IYCF and Immunization) for children.

2 – PROTECTING PEOPLE

Agencies: UNDP; UNFPA; UNEP

Amount Spent: \$296,440

- > As a response to rising levels of reports of Gender-Based Violence, UNDP, with partners UNFPA, Global Affairs Canada and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the United Kingdom developed a National GBV Referral Pathway which provides necessary support tools such as information guides. The GBV Referral Pathway initiative was launched with the Minister of Justice and Police and the Minister of Home Affairs, on December 9, 2020. This initiative has also supported the training and capacity building of first responders, duty bearers and other relevant service providers on GBV, through workshops on best practices and life-saving services during emergencies. The Gender Based Violence (GBV) Referral Pathway Programme will provide critical support to key service providers who respond to GBV cases, assist impacted persons and guide them to needed services.
- > Under the EnGenDER Project, UNDP also supported the publication of a *COVID-19 awareness Video book*, targeted at the hearing impaired and which was handed over by the First Lady of Suriname n December 3, 2020, the International Day for PWDs. On the 10th of December 2020, Human Rights Day, the COVID-19 Audiobook was presented to the students of the Louis Braille school for the visually impaired. The publication of the Audiobook targeted for the visual

impaired was also supported by UNDP through the EnGenDER project.

- > Under the CariSecure project, UNDP-made use of repurposed-funds to purchase COVID-19 PPEs for the police force to strengthen the monitoring and enforcement capacity required during lockdowns and curfews.
- > Under the EnGenDER Project UNDP also procured PPEs including masks, gowns, gloves, non-contact thermometers and hand sanitizers and these were distributed to nineteen social organizations including homes for the aged, orphanages and shelters and also to replenish the national stockpiles through the NCCR.
- > UNEP supported ⁶ globally distance education during COVID-19, through a collaboration with a coalition of over 30 organizations under the guidance of TED-Ed and UNEP and launched launch “The Earth School” for learners to discover, celebrate, and remain connected to nature at a time when it matters the most. The curated Earth School content features videos, reading materials and activities to help students gain an understanding of the environment while considering their role within it.
- > UNICEF supported the online learning and coaching of 100 social workers and corrections officer on GBV and VAC case management in emergency, to ensure the protection of women, girls, children, and vulnerable social groups including the COVID-19 recovered children, against violence’s, through a technical assistance and direct support to the victims.
- > UNICEF has supported the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) in the development and dissemination of messages on the prevention of violence against children and positive parenting programme in emergency. About 571 people (207 children / 364 adults) received mental health and psychosocial (MHPSS)

⁶ Project part of global technical assistance; budget at country level not available.

support through a combination of online learning, and online counseling support services (1-2-3 helpline). Hygiene kits have been distributed to 8 childcare institutions of MOSA, reaching 124 children (78 girls / 46 boys) with improved hygiene and safety kits.

- > Partnering with the Ministry of Education and FIBOS, UNICEF supported the elaboration of the COVID-19 Education Response Plan, the distance learning programme including guidance on on-line, TV-radio broadcasted services and the introduction of the UNICEF learning passport, reaching 55,214 students. To ensure continuing learning and built on the smart class-room initiative, UNICEF supported the developing of the safe school reopening protocol, by providing support on the elaboration of the off-line learning materials and establishment of Handwashing stations in 157 most at-risk targeted schools.

3 – ECONOMIC RESPONSE & RECOVERY

Agencies: UNICEF; FAO

Amount Spent: \$30,000

- > FAO initiated actions for the preparation of a technical support programme for USD 200, 000 to enhance food security in response to COVID-19⁷.
- > UNICEF supported the Ministry of Social affairs in establishing social protection shock responsiveness in emergency for increasing coverage and benefits of unconditional cash transfers and a poverty-focused child grant program during COVID-19. Partnering with the Amazon Conservation Team (ACT), UNICEF have developed a social protection programme to facilitate access to the social services and markets during the COVID-19 time, for 350 most deprived household living in interior (Sipaliwini district)

⁷ As of April 2021, the project document is being drafted in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture.

⁸ No activities took place under this pillar.

4 – MACROECONOMIC RESPONSE AND MULTILATERAL COLLABORATION

Agencies: PAHO/WHO; UNICEF; UNDP; FAO; UNFPA

Amount Spent: \$0⁸

- > UN Suriname engaged with the Donor community and Development Partners on a more frequent basis during 2020 to find areas of overlap in responding to COVID-19. UN Agencies regularly attended and participated in the monthly Donor Coordination Meetings which were held in person in January and February and then virtually during the pandemic. Meetings were held more frequently for a few months during the height of the first few months of the pandemic. UN Agencies contributed to these meetings with regular updates on agency responses to support the government during the pandemic.

5 – SOCIAL COHESION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Agencies: UNDP; UNEP; UNICEF

Amount Spent: \$23,000⁹

- > UNEP provided ¹⁰ at regional level to government, briefs and fact sheets articulating social and environmental policy for post-COVID-19 recovery recommending ways to build back better while leaving no one behind, and outlines how UNEP can support (subject to availability of resources) the country during the different stages of the COVID-19 response. The Policy briefs are on climate change, social protection and the environment, waste management, humanitarian response and environment, biodiversity, legislation and on green economy- greening fiscal stimulus and finance packages to achieve the SDGs etc.

⁹ UNDP also provided in-kind contribution such as software applications, training from UNDP crisis bureau and UNDP staff time.

¹⁰ Project part of regional technical assistance; budget at country level not available.

> In addition to the UNDP-led UN SEIA, UNDP conducted a specific Rapid Digital Socio-economic Impact Assessment (RD_SEIA) on 300 Households of Indigenous People. This was in response to the initial SEIA identification of vulnerable and at-risk groups and recognizing the need to obtain detailed information from this vulnerable group,

on the impacts of COVID-19 in remote rural areas. This RD-SEIA was the first such dedicated study on the impacts of COVID-19 Indigenous People in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Chapter 3: UN support to national development priorities through the UN MSDF

3.1. Overview of MSDF Results in 2020



Agencies: UNICEF; UNFPA; ILO; UNDP

In addition to the COVID-19 response, the UNCT continued to deliver on previously established commitments within the COVID-19 context. During 2020, the UNCT had put emphasis and effort in addressing the position and situation of the vulnerable segment of the society with special attention on indigenous communities mostly living in the interior who experience a myriad of challenges stemming from exclusion and inadequate provision of social services and goods. The pandemic has exacerbated these challenges and in response, the UNCT developed

interventions to mitigate the impact of the crisis on these groups.

Socio Economic Impact Assessment and Response Plan¹¹

Under UNDP leadership, the UNCT conducted a *Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA)* to help inform policy decisions and interventions. The SEIA identified twelve (12) vulnerable groups most impacted in Suriname which included Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs), Migrants, asylum-seekers, persons with disabilities; elderly persons; children and adolescents; women and girls; among others.

The SEIA and Response Plan (SERP) was the result of a rapid assessment of the COVID-19 impact in Suriname, which focused on the first six months of the pandemic (March to September 2020) and in accordance with the broad guidelines provided in the SG's Socio-economic Framework and consisted of policy recommendations to the Government of Suriname on inclusive, environmentally-sensitive and equitable socio-economic recovery programmes, for Suriname to build back better. To supplement initial desk research for the SEIA, the FAO in collaboration with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat completed

¹¹ Activities under the SEIA and SERP are not quantified under the UNMSDF CIP but are rather baked in the SERP in Chapter 2.

an Assessment of the COVID-19 Impacts on Food Security, Agricultural Production and Livelihoods, providing critical information on the differential impacts within the different food value chains and supply chain actors.

Strengthening evidence-based programming: addressing the data gap on indigenous communities

UNDP provided support to strengthen the response to vulnerable groups, in particular indigenous households. UNDP conducted a *COVID-19 Rapid Digital Socioeconomic Impact Assessment (RD-SEIA)* among 300 indigenous households in the period of July – September 2020. Leveraging from this output, a specific proposal was prepared which successfully resulted in the mobilization of resources to specifically respond to the needs of women, income generation, food security and COVID-19 mitigation, which will be implemented over 18 months (beginning in January 2021).

UNICEF collaborated with the Amazon Conservation Team as a response to COVID-19 in five (5) Indigenous villages targeting around 350 households and 1,000 children (<18) in ensuring safety and security, continuous access to health and education, water and hygiene during the pandemic, access to multimedia and connectivity with the rest of the villages and Paramaribo.

Education Intervention

COVID-19's disruption severely impacted the education sector, with a particularly impact on underprivileged children. The Ministry of Education received support from UNICEF to provide distance learning; this resulted in a total of 55,214 children in Suriname (56% girls and 44% boys) gaining access to school through distance learning.

Furthermore, disaster risk resilience and preparedness capacity were improved in 574 schools through school disaster management planning, training and COVID-19 safe-school reopening, creating structures to protect continued education for children.

UNICEF also supported with the establishment of two school cluster-based student care teams (remedial, diagnostic, socio-psychological,

speech therapy support) in two pilot districts. The support includes rehabilitating the teacher resource centers, capacity building decentralized support teams, protocols development, implementing first- and second-line support, and guidance to teachers and students.

W.A.S.H.

With respect to the water, sanitation and hygiene facility (W.A.S.H.) in schools, it also included menstrual hygiene management (MHM). UNICEF provided support to the Ministry of Education in the development of back-to-school protocols, including awareness material. As a result, 23,000 adolescent girls received safe, hygienic means to manage menstruation with reduced risk of school dropout.

Promoting labour market institutions and employment opportunity

In August 2020, the ILO collaborated with the tripartite in the installation of the Tripartite Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) Monitoring Committee. Besides the establishment of the Monitoring Committee, discussions are progressing between ILO and partners on the implementation of the Decent Work Country Programme including emerging priorities due to COVID-19 challenges and setbacks.

In line with the DWCP's Pillar 1, to support economic diversification and social progress, in 2020 the ILO supported the Ministry of Labour and the social partners to strengthen their knowledge, understanding and ability to provide an environment that is conducive for enterprises to be sustainable and productive. An Enabling Environment for Sustainable Enterprises (EESE) perception survey with a focus on productivity, was enhanced with secondary data and insights from key stakeholders on the impact of COVID-19. The findings were consolidated in a report which offered expert recommendations and plans to mitigate COVID-19's effect on the Surinamese private sector. The report was submitted to the constituents. The constituents are currently arranging with the ILO to validate and finalize the report.

Macro-Economic Modelling for Poverty and the Labour Market

The ILO supported the Government of Suriname, specifically the Planning Bureau (in collaboration with the National Statistical Office, and other relevant stakeholders (Central Bank, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Labour)) to create and utilize, for policy analysis and forecasting purposes, a new macroeconomic analysis tool based on Input-Output (I/O) modelling of the economy, a Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) and national and financial circumstances permitting a fully-fledged macro-economic model based on the previous two tools. The support consists of the creation and delivery of new analytical tools and training of national counterparts in how to use it for policy analysis, replicate and update it.

During 2020 the final I/O model and SAM tables were completed, and related capacity building conducted. A final presentation and capacity building are currently pending the alleviation of COVID-19 travel restrictions. The ILO is working with stakeholders on the incorporation of the tool's results into the 4-year national development plan which is currently being prepared.

Strengthen advocacy for increased access to SRH and Comprehensive Sexuality Education

UNFPA enable staff from the Ministry of Education of Suriname to attend a High-Level Dialogue on Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Trinidad and Tobago. This initiative continued to build on the existing capacity by facilitating technical exchange on good practices and know how between the regional countries in the implementation of a comprehensive sexuality education and health and family life education. In addition an indicative workplan to improve service delivery was developed, which the ministry and UNFPA is currently identifying resource mobilization opportunity to established national and international partnerships for

integrative implementation of the planned activities.

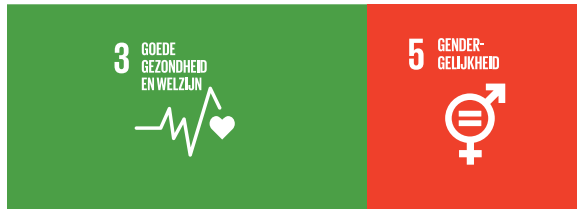
Strengthening capacity for evidence-based policy making

UNFPA continued to provide support to the government and other partners in the finalization of the population situation analysis (PSA). In 2020, the Ministry of Home Affairs, supported by UNFPA, with cooperation of the planning bureau of Suriname and the General Bureau of Statistics has finalized the analysis. As a result, the PSA has been validated by the government and further utilized as input for the development of population policy.

With respect to statistical capacity, UNFPA supported the General Statistic Bureau of Suriname to attend a Caribbean workshop for the census and the SDGs. The objectives of the workshop were, to present global and regional coordination mechanisms as well as UNFPA strategy for supporting the 2020 census round, to provide practical guidance on census planning and implementation, to share experiences on the use of new technologies in census taking. The focus on the workshop was on; census planning and procurement; managing census operations and use of technology; methods for evaluating data quality, data validation and processing; statistical disclosure control; demographic estimations- fertility, mortality and migration; national and subnational population estimates and projections. The result off this workshop include cooperation between the national statistic offices (NSO's) of Aruba, St. Maarten, Curacao and Suriname and the UNFPA for preparation and execution of the 2020 census round. Due to the covid-19 the census has been delayed or postponed, but all the aforementioned NSO's have submitted their technical assistance plans for the census to UNFPA for further collaboration.



PRIORITY 2: A HEALTHY SURINAME



Agencies: UNAIDS; PAHO; UNFPA; UNICEF

Infection Hazards Management (IHM)

In the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, the UNCT through PAHO leadership redirected activities to concentrate support to the preparedness and response to COVID-19. This support commenced in mid-January 2020, where the PAHO Suriname Country Office immediately commenced engagement with the Ministry of Health and BOG to support the preparation to develop the national response plan which initially took the form of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), to assess the risk of disease importation, enhance epidemiological surveillance for early detection and ensure health sector preparedness and response capacity. In this regard PAHO provided technical support on the country-level coordination, planning and monitoring; Risk Communication and community engagement (RCCE); Mental Health and Psychosocial support; Surveillance and Rapid response; Points of Entry Protocols; Support for National Laboratories; and Operational Support and logistics among other critical areas.

Immunization

UNICEF contributed to the implementation of governments plans on newborn and child healthcare through the establishment of the Baby Friendly hospital initiatives; promotion of the homebased newborn care and pneumonia and diarrhea management guidelines; support to the

vaccination system by providing 10,000 vaccination booklets and solar vaccination cold chain and Mother and Child Weeks. As a result, 9.4 thousand girls and boys (0-11 months) in Suriname were immunized against DPT3, and 13,196 sick children received care. UNICEF supported the government and COVAX partners to facilitate the development of a funding proposal for the introduction of the new COVID-19 vaccine. Social mobilization, community engagement and crisis communication contributed to ensure the continuity of essential health services and health facilities have the capacity to provide equitable access throughout the pandemic, limiting direct mortality, avoiding increased indirect mortality and reducing the health services access barriers by the most deprived population.

PAHO supported the development of the National COVID-19 Deployment and Vaccination Plan which included the budget. PAHO also supported the Ministry in finalizing their agreement with the COVAX Facility. The PAHO Revolving Fund for Vaccines is the designated entity in the region of the Americas to facilitate the procurement and delivery of the vaccines through the COVAX Facility to countries.

HIV/ AIDS Response

UNICEF provided technical support to the government to finalization of the HIV-TB sustainable and transition action plan. National AIDS Program's (NAP) efforts to progress toward reducing the transmission of HIV have been relatively successful as with the introduction of 'Test and Treat'. In 2020, an increasing number of diagnosed People Living with HIV (PLHIV) are on treatment (83.4%) and achieving an undetectable viral load (90.3%). However, there is still a need to improve testing strategies, as only 59.4% of those estimated to be living with HIV know their status, which translates into only average of 44% of PLHIV achieving viral suppression.

The government also received support from UNAIDS on the development of the National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2021-2025, which included the promotion of self-testing by the Ministry of Health. UNAIDS also provided technical support on the validation process and national consultation of the NSP. Human Right Stigma and discrimination are addressed within the new

NSP with measurement of stigma index reprogramming to provide nutritional support for PLHIV and key population in the context of COVID-19.

Increase access to SRH services

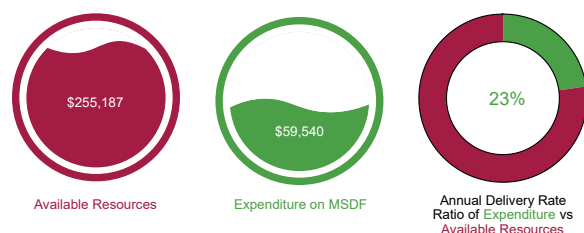
UNFPA supported with the development of the updated 2020-2030 SRH policy. New data and the socio-economic dynamic in the country also needed to be reviewed as it influences the enjoyment of SRHR. The main objective of this activity was to conduct a thorough review and revision of the former Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Policy taking into consideration the existing policy and the relevant global, regional and national commitments and action plans. It was also expected that the SRHR policy (2020-2030) will provide policy direction towards the mainstreaming of SRHR issues into programmes, budgets and planning processes of

the government of Suriname. The policy has been finalized and validated and utilized as input for the Maternal Health action plan.

UNFPA also provided technical support in conducting a desk review for SRH legislation. This review considers international, regional and national standards and obligations and national legislation relating to SRH to analyse the gaps in accessing SRH services and propose a regional approach for drafting key legislation to be adapted by each country according to their context. The government of Suriname, NGO's CSOs and academia as well as those of Aruba, Curacao and St. Maarten provided input during the desk review through meetings and online document repositories. The consultant is in the process of concluding the report the report in order for the findings to be utilized for future policies and action plans.



PRIORITY 3: A SAFE, COHESIVE AND JUST SURINAME



Agencies: UNICEF; UNFPA; UNDP

Institutional strengthening

The UNCT provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Home Affairs, to perform their core function for improved accountability, participation and representation. The Ministry of Home Affairs was able to plan more efficiently for the 2020 elections and the data collection feeding into the compilation of the voters list was more robust.

The Ministry was able to ensure that the voters list was complete; that the electoral cycle was safe, inclusive and fair for all. During the 2020 electoral cycle resources were focused on having strong engagement of women, youth and people with a disability. Given these contexts the UNCT undertook the following efforts to ensure a safe, cohesive and just Suriname.

UNDP also collaborated with the government and other partners to ensure that women and youth were represented in the ballots. Supported by this campaign, 29.41% women gained seats in Parliament after the 2020 election. In the 2015 elections this percentage stood at 25.4%.

The UNCT with UNDP in the lead provided support in strengthening and improving the Suriname Police Force data management and analysis capacity. During 2020, the country made progress to finalize stage one of the data system and is already engaged towards the start of the second phase, which will be the building of the PRMIS (Police Records Management Information System). The PRMIS uses standardized crime and violence data, geo-mapping and victim and offender profiling to foster evidence-based policy and programming and the aim is to enable more efficient policy making in the country and

between Suriname and the other Caribbean countries participating in the regional programme. The Police Force is working towards the establishment of a national crime analysis unit and in preparation of this, three police officers are currently enrolled in a regional training. In addition, UNDP has provided the Suriname police force with COVID-19 PPE in response to the pandemic. In total, 4,900 mask, 1330 gowns, 500 safety glasses and goggles and 2000 pair of gloves were procured for the police force.

Strengthen inclusive participatory decision making

UNDP collaborated with the government, civil society stakeholders and other partners to strengthen the Electoral planning process, and to introduce new approaches for every level of society ensuring responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels. Under this initiative women and youth were strengthened to make themselves seen and heard throughout the electoral cycle.

UNDP collaborated with Civil Society organizations to raise awareness amongst youth and mainly first-time voters on the importance of voting and the importance of making informed choices. Activities were also implemented aimed at ensuring that eligible voters with a hearing and visual disability were made aware of all the important electoral issue and information.

Women and youth were strengthened to make themselves seen and heard through talk shows and debates (around 34) and in registering as political candidates on the ballot. UNDP supported the Ministry of Home Affairs in the process to give access to voters to screen their personal information (“voorlopige ter inzage legging”) This process is crucial since persons are only eligible to vote once they are included on the voters list. In addition, 6500 local observers were trained, and the election handbook was updated to enable proper observance across the country.

Electoral Support

During 2020, UNDP supported the electoral processes in Suriname. The Electoral support project provided assistance and support to the Republic of Suriname ahead of, during, and after the 2020 elections. The project focused on capacity building for relevant institutions;

technical support in the administration and conduct of elections; encouraging the participation of women, the indigenous population and persons with disabilities; and a voter outreach education campaign. The project also aimed to educate Surinamese voters, especially first-time voters, about the voting process in order to ensure greater awareness.

UNDP provided technical support to STAS International for the organization of the Young Leaders Elections Debate. The purpose of the debate was to bring together young representatives of 8 political parties set to participate during the national elections, to discuss topics which are of crucial importance for all voters, but specifically for young voters/first-voters. Two topics debated by the young politicians included (1) Elections, Youth Involvement & the importance of Voting and (2) Education, Opportunities and Collective Futures. UNDP's support to this debate was part of the “Balans in 2020 campaign” under the framework of the Electoral Support Programme 2020.

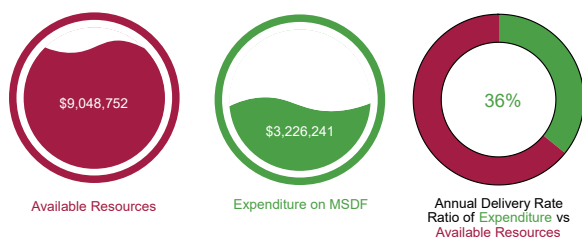
Capacity strengthening to end violence and Exploitation

The Government of Suriname received technical support from UNICEF to establish of a child protection case management, referral systems and strengthening capacities of social workers to respond effectively to build abuse cases, VAC and GBC. Legislative reform on child protection legislation is ongoing, where resources was allocated to scale up mental health and psychosocial support in response to the COVID-19 crisis. As a result, 115 children, parents and primary caregivers were provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support.

UNICEF continued to advocate to utilized MICS - 6 evidence to inform policy development and strategic programmatic intervention in support of eradicating the economic exploitation. This contributed to the development of minimum standards and a policy framework aligned to international standards on alternative care for children.



PRIORITY 4: A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT SURINAME



Agencies: UNDP; UNEP; FAO; UNFPA

Institutional Strengthening on Artisanal and Small-Scale Goldmining management

UNDP published the Minimata Initial Assessment Report in support to strengthening institutions, interinstitutional cooperation and regional cooperation on management of mining in particular Artisanal and Small-Scale Goldmining (ASMG). Suriname with UNDP assistance is accessing Global Environment Facility GOLD+ program funding to address challenges within the ASMG Goldmining value chain, including technologies and practices. Accessing the funding is expected in July 2021. UNDP provided support with stakeholders through consultation on drafting the environmental framework law, preparing the draft implementation regulations to be roll out by the end of 2021. This supportive legislative requirement increases.

Forest management and conservation

UNDP provided technical assistance to the Government to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and conservation. This was the result from the improved National Land Monitoring System in Suriname (Gonini Portal) and Sustainable Forestry Information System Suriname (SFISS) targeting logging companies. These efforts improved information to further sharpen REDD+

Readiness policies and strategies enabling enhanced benefits from the country's forest resources while maintaining its HFLD (High Forest Low Deforestation) Status.

Through the development of the Sustainable Information System Suriname (SFISS), the capacity of the National Authority of Foundation for Forest Production and Control (SBB) was strengthened; this information system enabled near real time monitoring of the national forest.

UNDP provided support to empower indigenous and tribal peoples and communities to plan and carry out sustainable livelihoods activities that improve conservation of biodiversity and / or combat the effects of climate change. A Capacity Assessment and Action Document was produced for the continuation of capacity strengthening of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples organizations, namely the Association of Indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname (VIDS) and the Organization of Maroon Tribes in Suriname (KAMPOS) to better respond to the Environmental Framework Conventions in general and particularly related to Forest Management, FPIC and on REDD+. This has led to the application of livelihoods strategies, technologies and practices focusing on Indigenous and Tribal villages, which targeted the village of Kwamalasumutu in the far south of Suriname where the focus was placed on herbal tea value-chains.

UNDP also partnered with Amazon Conservation Team, in the village of Apoera (bordering Guyana), to conduct an ecological study for management of Carapa tree populations near Apoera and on agroforestry at Marchallkreek. As results progress expansion from 1 HA to 2 HA in improve integrated Agroforestry was observed within the community.

Action on climate change adaptation and mitigation

The government supported by the UNDP has submitted its enhanced Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 2020, to the Paris Agreement

at the end of 2019. In conjunction, Suriname also finalized and submitted its National Adaptation Plan early 2020. The focus during 2020, given the general elections of 2020 with potential change in ruling coalition, policies and strategies has been to implement agreed program actions where UNDP has a comparative advantage. These areas of focus as part of scaling up Climate Action are Forest Management and Water Resource Management, which is part of delivered support on the commitments included in Suriname NDC 2020. In addition, UNDP provided further support on communication, advocacy and information dissemination of the Paris Agreement, NDC and its commitments and what we have promise our Climate.

Strengthened policy and regulatory frameworks for improved national food safety

FAO provided support to the relevant government bodies in the preparation of the "Gender Review of Pesticide Inspector Manual and Caribbean Model Pesticide Bill". This bill supports the efforts to mainstream gender in the implementation and results of the disposal of obsolete pesticides including persistent organic pollutants, promotion of alternatives and strengthening pesticides management in the Caribbean initiative.

In 2020, FAO also contributed to the formulation of a draft bill on "Rules for the establishment of the National Institute for Food Safety" which was passed on the 18th of December. FAO continued to advice and provide support for the generation and uptake of knowledge on policies, strategies, regulatory frameworks and investment plans. In this regard, support is being provided in the preparation of a policy instrument for transformation and operational arrangement for the establishment of a National Food Safety Agency (NFSA) to consolidate food safety oversight, compliance, enforcement and management in one singly agency.

Value Chain Development for strengthening food systems

FAO continued to provide support to the government in achieving agriculture and economic diversification and meeting of specific markets through the generation and uptake of knowledge on policies, strategies, regulatory

frameworks and investment plans for agriculture and food systems. In this regard, FAO support to improve through the Farmer Field School, the testing of cassava varieties and production systems.

FAO also provided support to the government through the Suriname Agriculture Market Access Project (SAMAP), in the continuous execution of the Matching Grant Facility. The process of procurement for production or processing equipment's has started for 47 grants (46 small grants and 1 large grant). This equipment's will support activities in the country's priority horticulture crops, or activities in agribusiness development supporting small-scale farmers.

Within this context FAO provided a refresher training in January 2020, on the Rural Invest Package, to enhance national stakeholder's investment planning & monitoring capacity. The participants were from the relevant government institutions, private sectors, NGO's, CSO's and other partners that are active within the sector. The Rural Invest Package will add to the assistance of farmers and processors to develop robust agriculture business plans, which increases the further possibility to market and finance access.

Natural Resource Management, Disaster Mitigation and Resilience

FAO supported the Fisheries Department (FD), Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries to adopt an ecosystem approach (ECA) to Fisheries Management. This resulted in a revised Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) which incorporates the guidelines of the ECA. The practices promoted under the Eco-system approach to Fisheries Management seek to reduce food loss and support sustainable livelihoods by improving the management bycatch and minimizing discards and seabed damage thereby transforming bottom trawl fisheries and facilitating responsible fisheries. With FAO support analytical studies and sector reviews were conducted that led to realization of two key outputs- an updated sea bob Fisheries Management plan; and a study on the role of women in the fisheries sector.

The aforementioned facilitates the country's efforts towards the implementation of the

International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction Discards and the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the context of food security and poverty eradication.

Launch of the Joint Programme "Development of a Roadmap for a Sustainable Financial System for Suriname"

On Friday 16th October 2020 the Government of Suriname and the United Nations in Suriname launched the development of a Roadmap for a Sustainable Financial System for Suriname Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the event occurred virtually with over 70 attendees representing stakeholders, from government, private sector, the banking and finance sector, international organizations, local Non-Government Organizations, Community Based Organizations, Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Organizations, and UN agencies. His Excellency, Minister Albert Ramdin, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation and His Excellency, Minister Silvano Tjong-Ahin, Minister of Spatial Planning and Environment, both joined the meeting and gave remarks on the importance of this initiative for Suriname.

Technology Needs Assessment for greenhouse gas emissions

UNEP has supported the government in completing the Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) report. This report was also disseminated through the TNA website. The barrier analysis and enabling frameworks (BAEF) is currently at an advance stage. This will allow the development of the Technology Action Plans (TAP) and move the project concept note for submission as a means of resource mobilisations.

3.2. Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes and outputs

PRIORITY AREA 1: INCLUSIVE, EQUITABLE AND PROSPEROUS CARIBBEAN					
Outcome 1: Access to quality education and life-long learning increased, for enhanced employability and sustainable economic development					
OUTPUT	PROJECT / PROGRAMME	Agency	Planned for 2020 or Completed in 2019	Implemented or Repurposed in 2020?	\$ Spent in 2020
Output 1.1: Strengthened national frameworks, policies, plans and standards to increase access to high-quality, equitable, inclusive, and holistic early childhood development, learning and care environments for girls and boys (ages 0-8) and their families by 2021, including in emergencies	▪ Maternal and Newborn Health and ECD	UNICEF	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$36,584
	▪ Disaster Risk Reduction	UNICEF	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$3,500
Output 1.2: Strengthened organizational capacity of key stakeholders to design and deliver equitable, inclusive and relevant education services, transitioning strategies and protective learning environments, including in emergencies, for all children and adolescents within rights based educational frameworks and principles by 2021	▪ Adolescent Development and Health	UNICEF	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$5,000
Output 1.3: National capacity is improved to achieve full and productive employment, decent work and equal pay for work of equal value for all women and men including youth and persons with disability	▪ Decent Work Country Programme	ILO	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$29,374
PRIORITY AREA 1: INCLUSIVE, EQUITABLE AND PROSPEROUS CARIBBEAN					
Outcome 2: Access to equitable social protection systems, quality services and sustainable economic opportunities Improved					
OUTPUT	PROJECT / PROGRAMME	Agency	Planned for 2020 or Completed in 2019	Implemented or Repurposed in 2020	\$ Spent in 2020
Output 1.4: Strengthened national and subnational human and institutional capacity to develop and deliver inclusive and equitable social protection systems to strengthen the resilience of and protect boys and girls from all forms of poverty and social exclusion	▪ Concluding Observations on CRC	UNICEF	Planned for 2020	Repurposed in 2020	\$20,300

Output 1.5: Strengthened national capacity to generate, analyse and utilize data and evidence for national policies and programmes linked to sustainable development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen capacity for evidenced based policy making 	UNFPA	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$7,500
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PRIORITY AREA 2: A HEALTHY CARIBBEAN					
Outcome 1: Universal access to quality health care services and systems improved					
OUTPUT	PROJECT / PROGRAMME	Agency	Planned for 2020 or Completed in 2019	Implemented or Repurposed in 2020	\$ Spent in 2020
Output 2.1: Leadership advocacy and communication enhanced to fast track the HIV/ AIDS response strengthened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HIV / AIDS Response 	UNAIDS	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$35,362
Output 2.2: Countries enabled to improve capacities for surveillance, preparedness, and response to epidemic and pandemic threats, with a specific focus on implementing the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infection Hazards Management (IHM) 	PAHO	Planned for 2020	Repurposed in 2020	\$52,000
Output 2.3: Improve the geographic coverage of services for leishmaniasis and leprosy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve Health Services Coverage 	PAHO	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$6,500
Output 2.4: Countries enabled to implement evidence-based malaria strategic plans, with a focus on effective coverage of vector control interventions and diagnostic testing and treatment, therapeutic efficacy, and insecticide resistance monitoring and surveillance through capacity strengthening for enhanced malaria reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elimination of Malaria 	PAHO	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$56,910
Output 2.5: Increased national capacity to strengthen enabling environments for integrated and reproductive health services targeting underserved populations, including in emergencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing unmet need, increase access to SRH Services 	UNFPA	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$150,040
PRIORITY AREA 2: A HEALTHY CARIBBEAN					
Outcome 2: Laws, policies, and systems introduced to support healthy lifestyles among all segments of the population					
OUTPUT	PROJECT / PROGRAMME	Agency	Planned for 2020 or Completed in 2019	Implemented or Repurposed in 2020	\$ Spent in 2020
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PRIORITY AREA 3: A COHESIVE, SAFE AND JUST CARIBBEAN					
Outcome 1: Capacities of public policy and rule-of-law institutions and civil society organisations strengthened					
OUTPUT	PROJECT / PROGRAMME	Agency	Planned for 2020 or Completed in 2019	Implemented or Repurposed in 2020	\$ Spent in 2020
Output 3.2: Strengthened political commitment to legislate a budget for strengthening interventions that prevent and respond to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect	▪ National Action Plan for Children 2019-2021	UNICEF	Planned for 2020	Repurposed in 2020	\$4,500
	▪ IkBen Programme	UNICEF	Planned for 2020	Repurposed in 2020	\$7,500
Output 3.3: Increased capacity of right-holders and duty bearers to foster positive practices and norms to protect children from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect	▪ Positive Parenting Programme	UNICEF	Planned for 2020	Repurposed in 2020	\$12,500
	▪ Social Workforce and CFS	UNICEF	Planned for 2020	Repurposed in 2020	\$10,250
PRIORITY AREA 3: A COHESIVE, SAFE AND JUST CARIBBEAN					
Outcome 2: Equitable access to justice, protection, citizen security and safety reinforced					
OUTPUT	PROJECT / PROGRAMME	Agency	Planned for 2020 or Completed in 2019	Implemented or Repurposed in 2020	\$ Spent in 2020
Output 3.4: Standardized and disaggregated crime data sources established to facilitate identification and measurement of youth risk and resilience factors;	▪ CariSecure	UNDP	Planned for 2020	Repurposed in 2020	\$10,680
Output 3.5: Institutional capacities on electoral conduct and assessment are enhanced	▪ TNA to Elections 2020	UNDP	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$37,900
Output 3.6: Citizens are educated on their rights, procedures and processes leading up to, during and after the elections					
Output 3.7: Civil society organizations role during electoral period, especially in terms of outreach, education and monitoring is enhanced					
Output 3.8: Political party funding laws are developed and implemented, and a code of conduct is agreed by all					

PRIORITY AREA 4: A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT CARIBBEAN					
Outcome 1: Policies and programmes for climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and universal access to clean and sustainable energy in place					
OUTPUT	PROJECT / PROGRAMME	Agency	Planned for 2020 or Completed in 2019	Implemented or Repurposed in 2020	\$ Spent in 2020
Output 4.1: Prioritized technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, support adaptation to climate change, and are consistent with Nationally Determined Contributions and national sustainable development objectives	▪ Preparation of TNA	UNEP	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$29,842
Output 4.2: Forest Management and Conservation under REDD+	▪ Strengthening Capacities for REDD+ UNDP	UNDP	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$727,522.12
Output 4.3: Enhanced Knowledge and understanding of Climate Change, Disaster Risk Management and or coping strategies through the Gender sensitive development of National Adaptation Plan and National Mitigation Actions and implementation of priority actions	▪ Suriname Global Climate Change Alliance Adaptation Actions (GCCA+)	UNDP	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$377,431.56
	▪ Engender ¹²	UNDP	Planned for 2020	Implemented & Repurposed	\$188,404.85
	▪ Japan Caribbean Climate Change Partnership	UNDP	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$3,500
Output 4.4: Increased national capacity to strengthen enabling environments for integrated sexual and reproductive health services targeting underserved populations including in emergencies	Enabling access to SRH services in emergencies	UNFPA	Planned for 2020	Repurposed in 2020 and	\$0 ¹³
Output 4.5: Increased national capacity to strengthen enabling environments for integrated implementation and verification of Ozon Action Compliance Assistance Programme targeting main sources of HCFC	Ozon Action Compliance Assistance Program	UNEP	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	*To be reported by government
PRIORITY AREA 4: A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT CARIBBEAN					
Outcome 2: Inclusive and sustainable solutions adopted for the conservation, restoration, and use of ecosystems and natural resources					
OUTPUT	PROJECT / PROGRAMME	Agency	Planned for 2020 or Completed in 2019	Implemented or Repurposed in 2020	\$ Spent in 2020

¹² Engender activities were also implemented in 2020, as part of the COVID-19 response (See Chapter 2, Pillar 2, accounted for \$100,000)

¹³ No-budget was allocated, because this activity was carried out as technical assistance.

Output 4.6: Well-planned, progressive transition to an ecosystem approach for the Caribbean spiny lobster fisheries (demonstration at the sub-regional level) as the governance arrangements for ecosystem-based management of reefs and associated habitats are enhanced (e.g. seagrass beds, mangroves, reef slopes and coastal lagoons)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem Project (CLME+) 	FAO	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$95,504
Output 4.7: Well-planned, progressive transition to an ecosystem approach for the shrimp and groundfish fisheries of the NBSLME to enhance the regional governance arrangements for the protection of the marine environment.					
Output 4.8: Well-planned, progressive transition to an ecosystem approach for the Eastern Caribbean flying fish fisheries					
Output 4.9: Modest small grants support for the implementation of C-SAP and/or P-SAP actions (see Output 2.2) that will contribute to Outputs 4.7-4.9 (with special attention to livelihoods)					
Output 4.10: Sustainable management of agriculture eco zones through promotion of responsible practices, livelihood enhancement and diversification					
Output 4.11: Strengthened institutions, interinstitutional cooperation and regional cooperation on management of mining in particular Artisanal and Small Scale Goldmining	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NAP ASGM Project 	UNDP	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$75,102.88
Output 4.12: Institutional and technical capacity of central and district government institutions to monitor ASGM, to promote environmentally responsible practices and to coordinate their actions increased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Management for Mining (EMSAGS) 	UNDP	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$127,394
Output 4.13: Improved integrated landscape management and conservation of ecosystems in targeted areas in the Amazon region ASL 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amazon Sustainable Landscape Suriname Project 	UNDP	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$59,458.17
Output 4.14: Sustainable management of agriculture eco zones through promotion of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable management of bycatch in Latin America and Caribbean trawl fisheries (FSP). 	FAO	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$140,399

responsible practices, livelihood enhancement and diversification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisting Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to Integrate the Agricultural Sectors into Climate Change Priorities and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) 	FAO	Planned for 2020	Repurposed in 2020	\$50,000
Output 4.15: Strengthened national policy and regulatory framework in food and nutrition security on national and community level	Suriname Agriculture Market Access Project (SAMAP)	FAO	Planned for 2020	Implemented in 2020	\$1,428,558
	Reduction of post-harvest losses in yard-long beans, papaya and other commodities in Suriname	FAO	Planned for 2020	Repurposed in 2020	\$23,124

3.3. Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

Financing the 2030 Agenda through the Joint SDG Fund

During 2020, the UNCT submitted three proposals for funding to the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat, of which one JP was awarded funding and a second was awarded prep-phase funding. The Joint SDG Fund which has the objective to support countries to accelerate their progress towards achieving the SDGs, will support the development of financing strategies and enabling frameworks for SDG investment in Suriname. The JP "Roadmap for a Sustainable Financial System for Suriname" was launched in October 2020 and implementation will last until September 2022.

Engagement with the Private Sector in the COVID-19 Response

The UNCT enhanced private sector engagement, acting as a catalyzing partner in bringing together the Bureau of Public Health and the private-sector-backed CSO SU4SU in enhancing health systems and logistics related to the COVID-19 response.

Leave no one behind in Emergencies: partnering with Civil Society

The UNCT support to the country centred on strategic partnerships aimed at leaving no one behind. The efforts were focused around reaching out to the vulnerable individuals or groups including, youth, women, elderly, members of the disabled community, tribal and indigenous people, community and marginalized groups including persons living with HIV and members of the LGBTIQ community. Through inter-agency and agency-specific programming, in the form of targeted health-related education and training and technical studies, the capacity of citizens, persons on the frontlines, and Governments to responsibly manage the COVID-19 pandemic, was also enhanced.

Leveraging Resources for sustainable development programmes for decade of action:

For the last decade before 2030, UNCT Suriname will establish the long-standing portfolio to mobilize and support the Government's resource mobilization efforts to recovery post-COVID-19, which will be further strengthened and diversified, with focus on the following revenue streams:

A) Public Sector

- **Traditional Government Resource Partners:** UNCT will strengthen relationships with traditional government resource partners to mobilize additional resources – especially thematic funds – and to bolster advocacy efforts to place SDGs at the heart of development aid and recovery post-COVID-19 agendas and national development agendas and budgets, informed by the COVID-19 social and economic impact framework.
- **New and Emerging Government Partners:** UNCT will continue to strengthen relationships with new and emerging government partners in international development and humanitarian cooperation. These include partnerships around mobilizing more resources for UNCT programmes (both financial and in-kind contributions), as well as South-South and Horizontal Cooperation, leveraging bilateral aid for results for the most left behind people, influencing ODA policies, and PPPs.
- **International Financial Institutions (IFIs)** are important partners for UNCT in developing new and more predictable financing solutions for longer-term response in key areas of the 2030 Agenda. The most prominent example is the World Bank Group (WBG) as well as development finance through its

International Development Assistance (IDA), including IADB and ECLAC.

- **UN Joint Programmes The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs**— founded on the principle of leaving no one behind – UN Agencies in Suriname are committed to meet the SDGs through improved financing mechanisms, pooling of resources and enhanced UN partnerships that will achieve results in line with national development plans/UNMSDF.

b) Private Sector

- **Business:** UNCT-Suriname will deepen its engagement and strengthen its ability to leverage the power of business and markets to benefit children. The technical support to the Government will contribute to the:
 - Optimization of the Government investment in the current business model influenced by

the COVID-19 pandemic for increasing of pledge, cash and legacy giving through know and proven techniques.

- Development and roll-out of inspirational and integrated fundraising, communications and advocacy campaigns, movements and events at the national, regional and CARICOM level.
- Ensuring that the UNCT offer for Business for Results is compelling and innovative, driven by the Business Principles, and based on data and insight to offer a comprehensive engagement funnel in the favour of the Government and participation and advocacy journeys for them.

3.4. Results of the UN working more and better together: UN coherence, effectiveness and efficiency

Better integrated support by the UN to the Government and civil society

2020 saw positive results of the UN Reform manifest in the COVID-19 response with communication to the Government and civil society partners streamlined through one coordinating mechanism. Building on the new forms, structures and procedures that the reform put in place, the United Nations Suriname was able to quickly move to a more collaborative and less bureaucratic way of working, speeding up processes and increasing collaboration between departments and entities.

Increased UN coherence was also evident through tailored UNCT configuration which has resulted in more relevant delivery in the country. UNHCR and IOM saw increased presence in Q3 – Q4 2020 as a response to emerging priorities.

Joint work plans for COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Through the UN Reform, the UNCT in Suriname addressed the COVID-19 crisis in Suriname in a joint fashion, through the initial Health Response and subsequently the SEIA.

Joint Resource Mobilization through the SDG Fund

To accelerate resource mobilization towards to the SDGs, the UNCT in Suriname submitted proposals to the Joint SDG Fund, of which two proposals – one for Component 1 (JP: Roadmap for a Sustainable Financial System for Suriname) and the other for Component 2 (3ADI+) - (focused on SDGs 5, 13, 15, 8, 1) were granted full funding and prep-phase funding, respectively, , amounting to \$762,000 in total with a possibility of full funding up to \$3.1 million in 2021.

Implementation of Business Operations Strategy

- > During 2020, UN Suriname successfully developed a Business Operations Strategy (BOS 2.0) through collaboration of the interagency Operations Management Team, chaired by UNDP.

Communicating and advocating Together

- > The interagency United Nations Communications Group (UNCG) jointly launched the Decade of Action in Suriname in January, marking the beginning of the last ten years to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.
- > In March 2020, the UNCG jointly operationalized the UNCG Risk Communications Group with an ancillary Risk Communication and Community Engagement plan. A situation analysis was conducted every 90 days to plan for adjustment's in the UNCG's RCCE Plan. In May 2020, the UNCT launched the UN75 Campaign, which ran from Q2 – Q4 2020. Through the UN75 campaign, the UNCT enhanced the space for participation in dialogue of multiple actors, including civil society, parliament, private sector and government. A survey about the future and the priority for actions was launched in May 2020 which reached over 2,000 respondents in Suriname. Ten (10) dialogues were held with civil society, government and the private sector discussing "the future we want and the UN we need." As part of the campaign, a UN75 video was launched where youth leaders, civil society leaders, government officials, ITPs, LGBTQI+ youth, people with a disability were represented and shared their ideas and hopes on achieving the future we want. Advocacy for the SDGs and the decade of action was a significant part of the campaign and that was reflected in the special parliament meeting held on October 23, 2020 where the President

and members of the National Assembly voiced out the importance of the SDGs and stated their commitment in making this framework a success within the next years.

- > Advocacy for achieving the SDGs was also reflected in the intergenerational dialogue organized on UN Day, October 24, 2020, between the government of Suriname, the private sector and Youth. The dialogue generated an outcome document in which point for concern regarding the development of youth is stated. Aside from that the document also includes possible solutions that youth sees suitable to solving these issues and achieving an equal future for all. This outcome document also informs the government of Suriname for the VNR process in which they will take part this year.



3.5. Evaluations and Lessons Learned

An Evaluation of 2020 with the Government of Suriname has yet to take place – the Government's Planning Bureau is currently undergoing a restructuring exercise which has delayed the date of the Annual Review for 2020.

Note: It is important to note that this UN Country Report will be used as a basis to review UN work in the mandatory Annual Review Meeting with the Government of Suriname.

3.6. Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

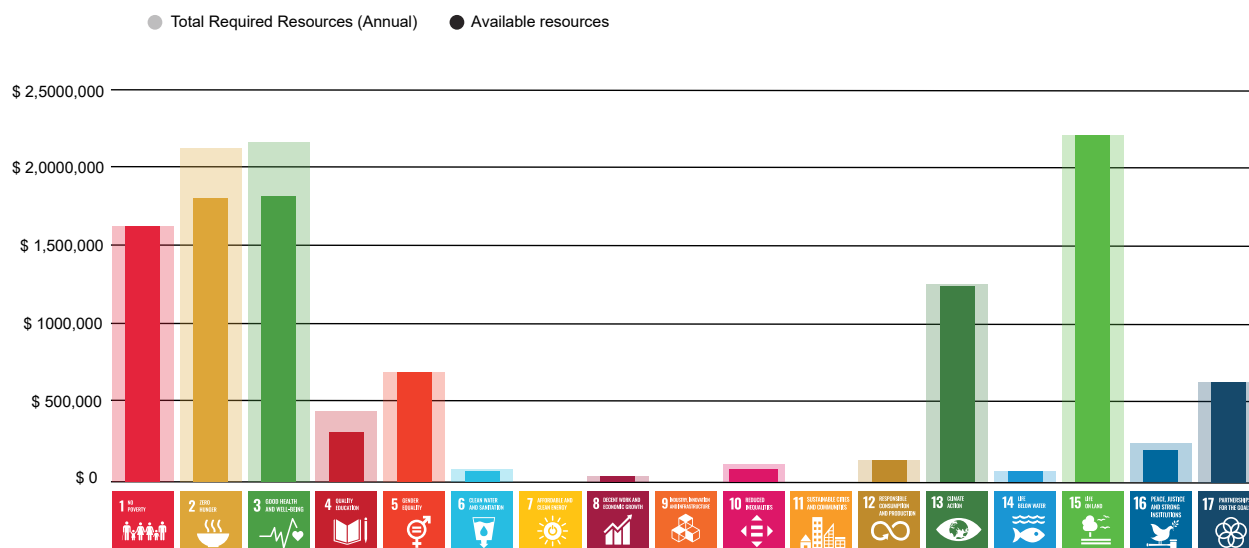
In 2020, the UNCT allocated resources across the breadth of Sustainable Development Goals. Figure 2 below depicts the distribution overview: 79.51% of the resource allocation was diverted to 5 SDGs; these resources were allocated to SDG 15 (Life on land, 19.70%), follow by SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being, 18.42%), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger, 17.99%), SDG 1 (No poverty 16.04%) and SDG 13 (Climate action, 7.36%). Most of these interventions have a multi-year time horizon.

Figure 2: Distribution of financial resources across the SDGs (2020)



Source: UN INFO platform.

Figure 3: The UNCT funding Gap by SDG (2020)



Note: Legend - The lightest colour in each bar represents required resources while the darkest colour in each bar represents available resources.

Figure 3 provides an overview of the financial gap on the UNCT contribution per SDG. In the following table 1, which also corresponds with Figure 4 which displays a summary of total activities and resources allocation per SDG. According to the data displayed in the table the UNCT have the majority of the resources available to adequately implement the projects / programmes.

Table 1: Total number of activities and resources allocation per SDG, 2020

SDG	# of activities	% of Resources	Available Resources	Total required
15.Life on land	9	19.70%	\$ 2,001,566	\$ 2,001,566
3.Good health and wellbeing	11	18.42%	\$ 1,871,526	\$ 2,219,026
2.Zero hunger	8	17.99%	\$ 1,827,652	\$ 2,147,152
1.No poverty	3	16.04%	\$ 1,629,270	\$ 1,629,270
13.Climate action	7	7.36%	\$ 748,054	\$ 753,054
17.Partnership for the goals	4	6.33%	\$ 643,417	\$ 643,417
5.Gender equality	9	4.83%	\$ 490,593	\$ 490,593
4.Quality education	9	3.11%	\$ 316,223	\$ 446,950
16.Peace, justice and strong institution	5	2.26%	\$ 230,104	\$ 238,465
12.Sustainable consumption and production	2	1.38%	\$ 139,874	\$ 139,874
10.Reduced inequality	2	0.81%	\$ 82,500	\$ 117,500
14.Life below water	2	0.74%	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
6.Clean water and sanitation	1	0.62%	\$ 62,974	\$ 75,891
8.Decent work	5	0.40%	\$ 41,134	\$ 41,134

Source: UN INFO platform

During 2020, the UNCT has continued their efforts in achieving the targets for the specific Sustainable Development Goals. Activities planned within the CIP can serve on reaching several SDGs targets¹⁴. Based on figure 4, most of the activities were centered around SDG 3 (Good health and wellbeing), SDG 15 (Life on land), 5 (Gender equality) and 4 (Quality education).

¹⁴ One activity may contribute to more than one SDG.

Throughout the fiscal year, the UNCT continued their commitment by implementing program actions aiming to achieve the current MSDF priority areas; outcomes and SDGs. In table 1, a summary is displayed as an overview of the UNCT contributions, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic challenges.

Figure 4: UN Activity by SDG



Figure 5: Delivery Rate by strategic Priority

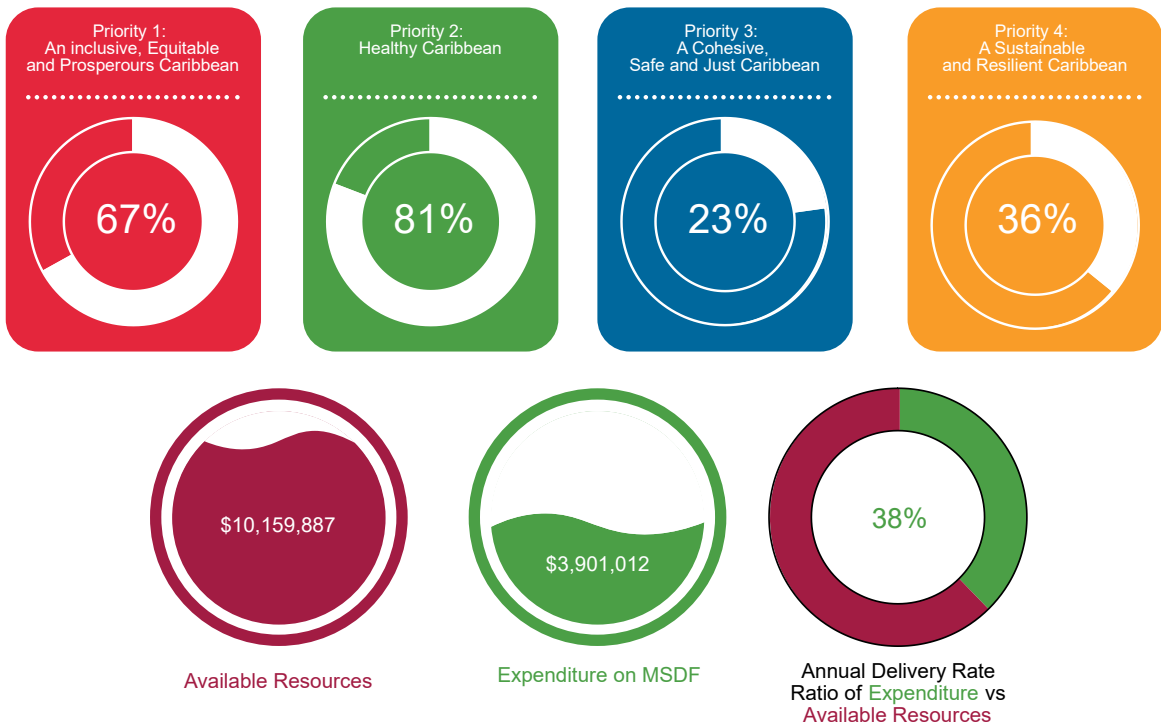


Table 2 a: Financial Resources (2020)

Available Resources			
MSDF Outcome/ Priority Area	Total Required Resources	Available Resources	Resource to be mobilized
Priority 1: An inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Caribbean	\$745,142	\$549,497	\$195,645
Priority 2: Healthy Caribbean	\$322,451	\$306,451	\$16,000
Priority 3: A Cohesive, Safe and Just Caribbean	\$263,547	\$255,187	\$8,360
Priority 4: A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean	\$9,687,752	\$9,048,752	\$639,000
Total	\$11,018,892	\$10,159,887	\$859,005

Table 2 b: MSDF projects expenditure (2020)

Delivery Rate on MSDF Projects				
MSDF Outcome/ Priority Area	Total Expenditure 2020	Repurposed to COVID-19	Expenditure on MSDF	Delivery Rate
Priority 1: An inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Caribbean	\$386,719	\$20,300	\$366,419	67%
Priority 2: Healthy Caribbean	\$300,812	\$52,000	\$248,812	81%
Priority 3: A Cohesive, Safe and Just Caribbean	\$104,970	\$45,430	\$59,540	23%
Priority 4: A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean	\$3,326,241	\$100,000	\$3,226,241	36%
Total	\$4,118,742	\$217,730	\$3,901,012	38%

Figure 5 provide an overview of the expenditure ratio based on the expenditure on MSDF over the total available resources. The UNCT had made repurpose their available resource to support the COVID-19 response. The funds repurposed was allocated either the first health plan and/ or to SERP. This allocation has affected the delivery rate on the MSDF.

Table 2 c: WHO/ PAHO expenditure on the Health Response during the pandemic

WHO-Funded	Amount
MSDF Implementation (non-COVID)	\$63,410
Repurposed to COVID-19	\$52,000
A. Total WHO-funded activities	\$115,410
WHO-funded (COVID, emergency funding)	\$471,132
B. Total WHO-funded activities	\$471,132
Total WHO Spent in 2020	\$586,542

**Note: the \$471,132 was spent on the COVID-19 Health response, across the 9 pillars with some related activities to maintaining essential health services under the SERP pillar 1*

Figure 6: Expenditure breakdown on the SERP



Resource Mobilization in 2020

In keeping with the principle of Delivering as One, the UNCT has taken steps on working collaboratively to mobilize resources towards the achievements of the SDGs by aligning interventions with national priorities. During 2020, the UNCT was able to mobilize resources through the Joint SDG Fund in a coordinated, transparent and participatory manner, drawing on UN technical expertise from multiples agencies (UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, and FAO). By Q2 2020, the UNCT was granted multiple sources of funding through joint efforts for the:

- **Joint SDG Fund Component 1 - Joint Programme:** A Roadmap for a Sustainable Financial System in Suriname
- **Joint SDG fund Component 2 – Prep-phase funding:** Accelerated for Agriculture and Agroindustry Development and Innovation Plus (3ADI+): Sustainable Pineapple Value Chain Development

Chapter 4: UNCT key focus for 2021

Winding up the current cycle of the Cooperation Framework

- > 2021 is the ultimate year of the MSDF 2017 – 2021 Cycle. Many agencies experience some level of programming redirection in 2020.
- > In order to ensure that the UNCT's offer is based on an updated CCA, the UNCT engaged in the design of the Common Country Assessment which was completed in Q4 2020. This included the engagement of both Government, as well as civil society actors. In 2021, the UNCT will update its CCA to ensure the UN offer is based on feedback from Government and civil society.
- > UNCT will engage with the Government of Suriname to complete the final Annual Review of the CIP under the 2017 – 2021 MSDF.

Preparation for the next cycle

- > During 2021, the Suriname UNCT, along with the UN System in the Caribbean, will be preparing its new Cooperation Framework for the 2022 – 2026 period. As this new Cooperation Framework will be the most important UN planning and implementation instrument at country level to support the 2030 Agenda, the UN system is working in full consultation with national Governments and other country stakeholders to ensure that the MSDF II defines the UN's *collective* response.
- > During 2021, the Peace and Development Advisor of the UNCT will lead the Conflict and Development Analysis, which was one of the key outcomes of the Regional Monthly Review.

Continued focus on COVID-19 Response, Recovery and Vaccination

- > Collective UNCT efforts will be aimed at dealing with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, above all in the socioeconomic sphere. The UNCT will continue to work on implementing the Socioeconomic Response Plan (SERP) that was developed in 2020. The UNCT will support the Government in the

development of its COVID-19 Response and Recovery Plan.

- > Equally importantly, the UN will support the vaccine rollout in Suriname during 2021.

Support to Government on Development Plan and integration of SDGs in national Development Plan

- > The United Nations will provide support to the Government on the integration of the SDGs into its national priorities, in a manner that supports the country's economic development.

Expected UNCT Configuration changes to achieve results

- > In 2020, it was decided that OHCHR would evaluate the establishment of the post of a Human Rights Adviser to focus on human rights issues in the country, including the situation of Indigenous Peoples. In 2021, the UNCT plans to complete the addition of a Human Rights Advisor to better support the Government of Suriname
- > During 2021, UNHCR will expand its capacity on the ground in Suriname to better support its target group.

Leaving No One Behind, Human Rights, and Gender Equality in 2030 Agenda

- > The United Nations will support the country's third Universal Periodic Review Cycle through support to the Government as well as civil society submissions.

Resource Mobilization

- > The UN in Suriname will focus on a modified Resource Mobilization Strategy for 2021. The UN also plans to coordinate with the Government of Suriname in the final phase of its preparation process to continue facilitate resources for the 3ADI+ project.
- > Continued donor engagement

Strategic Partnerships

- > The UNCT will continue to pursue partnerships with the private sector, in areas beyond the health sector.
- > The UNCT will also seek joint programmes and enhanced partnerships with International Financial Institutions to ensure coordinated response across the international donor

community. Relationships with IFIs will continue to be supported and prioritized as will the focus on strengthening cooperation.

- > Through a detailed CSO Capacity Assessment, the UNCT will expand its quality of partnerships across the civil society sector.

