



UNITED NATIONS
SURINAME



DECENNIO
VAN
ACTIE

UN SURINAME

Annual Report

2021



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MESSAGE BY THE UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR

I am pleased to present the 2021 Country Results Report for Suriname, which details the work of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Suriname in its commitment to Suriname's development and to ensuring that no one is left behind.

2021 marked the second year of an unprecedented, debilitating pandemic that continued to present health, social and economic challenges to the region and to Suriname. In addition to an ongoing pandemic, in March 2021, Suriname began experiencing extraordinary and heavy rainfall following the usual 'wet' and short dry seasons, adding further strain to the efforts and attention in addressing the fall-out of COVID-19. Despite tumultuous, unprecedented times, the United Nations' commitment to Suriname remained unwavering.

The UNCT supported efforts in response to the pandemic and floods whilst continuing simultaneously with ongoing development work and activities towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. This annual report illustrates the collective effort of the UN system in Suriname and showcases accountability and progress made on the four results areas of the inaugural UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDF) 2017 - 2021.

Given that the year 2021 marked the end of the first regional development framework, this report highlights the key achievements of that final year of the MSDF 2017 - 2021. It was especially encouraging to see the substantive and proactive participation of the Government of Suriname in the process to develop the new generation cooperation framework, the UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF) 2022 - 2026.

Furthermore, the UN's focus on SDG Financing remained steadfast with increased support from development partners and significant increases in financial resources particularly on activities directed to vulnerable groups – i.e., indigenous and tribal communities – and key activities – i.e., development of the agricultural sector.

I wish to congratulate the Government of Suriname on its unwavering efforts to stabilize the economy. In December 2021, Suriname received approval for an IMF arrangement which stands as a promising enabler of Suriname's economic plan and promises to restore fiscal sustainability while protecting the vulnerable, restoring public debt levels, and expanding the fiscal space.

Finally, I also wish to salute the leadership and guidance of my predecessor, Ms. Marina Walter, who steered the UNCT safely and dutifully during these challenging times. I look forward to continuing the fruitful collaboration and cooperation with all of you in 2022 under the new MSDCF 2022 - 2026 arrangement as we work towards "building back stronger together."

Dennis Zulu
Resident Coordinator ad interim
Director, ILO Caribbean

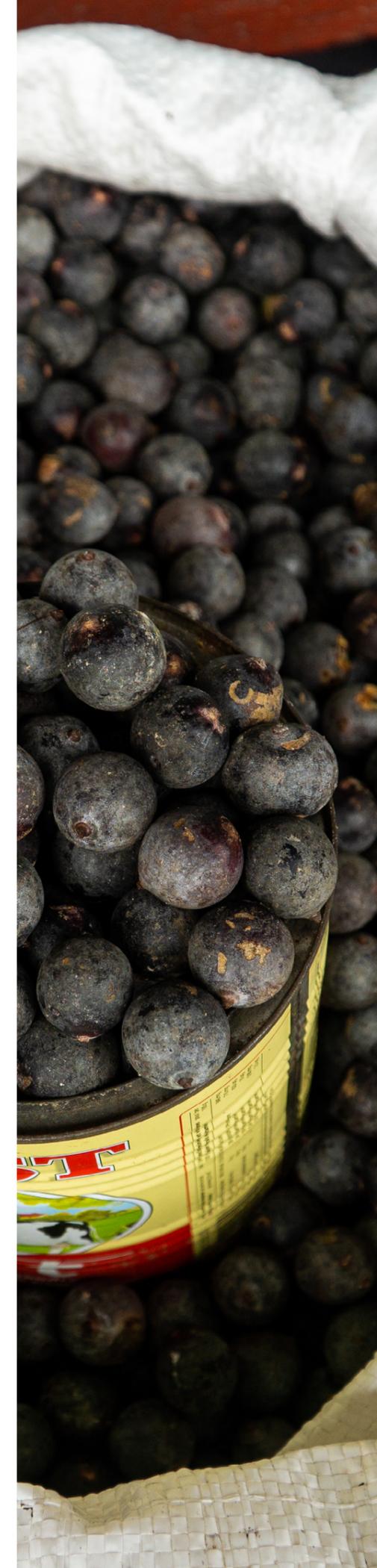
UN COUNTRY TEAM IN SURINAME

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).

2021 saw increased national presence among IOM and UNHCR in Suriname as both agencies enhanced on-the-ground support to the Government of Suriname.



THE UN FAMILY SURINAME



KEY PARTNERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN SURINAME



The success of United Nations Suriname relies on collaborative exchanges and transparent partnerships. The key development partners of the UN System in Suriname are the Government of Suriname, international development organizations, international financial institutions, donor governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, academia, the media, and the people of Suriname.

Government of Suriname

The UN is especially grateful to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business, and International Cooperation, which co-leads the **Joint National Steering Committee** (JNSC) consisting of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Planning Bureau ¹ (Stichting Planbureau Suriname), and the Bureau of Statistics ² (Algemeen Bureau voor de Statistiek in Suriname). The JNSC is responsible for monitoring the overall results of the Cooperation Framework (MSDF 2017 – 2021) and outlining programmatic priorities in accordance with the national Multi-Year Development Plan 2022 - 2026.

Civil Society and Youth

Civil society organizations continue to be a critical partner of United Nations Suriname across all four priority areas of the MSDF. Among key examples, are the UN's work with youth through the Youth Advisory Group of the UNFPA and UNICEF volunteers. The UN in Suriname, through leadership of the RC, furthered SDG advocacy efforts with the Anton de Kom University in Q4 2021.

Joint National Steering Committee



DONORS

The contributions of financing partners, including bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as global funds, are essential for the implementation of the United Nations in the country. In 2021, the UN continued engaging in regular donor coordination meetings with donor governments and international organizations to ensure a coordinated effort.



- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Australia | Honduras | Samoa |
| Bandladesh | Italy | Spain |
| Bolivia | Netherlands | Sri Lanka |
| Canada | Norway | Schweden |
| Columbia | Paraguay | Tanzania |
| Côte d'Ivoire | Perú | United Kingdom / DFID |
| El Salvador | Portugal | USA / USAID |
| European Commision | Philippines | Viet Nam |
| Guatemala | Principality Of Monaco | India |
| | | Japan |

¹ <https://www.planningofficesuriname.com>
² <https://statistics-suriname.org>

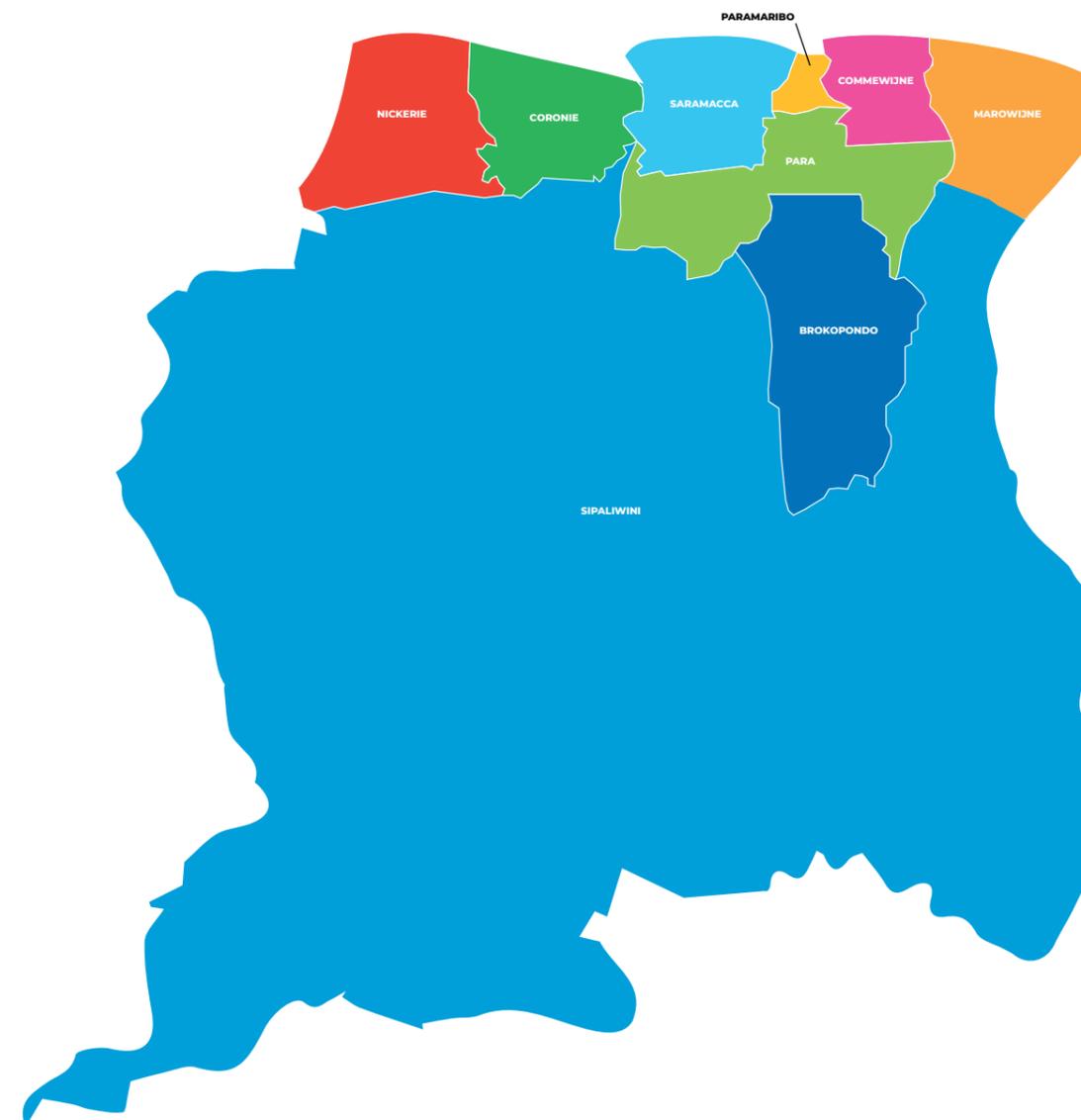
KEY DEVELOPMENT TRENDS



Suriname is a small, upper middle-income country with one of the most ethnically diversified populations in the LAC¹ region with population groups originating from African, Amerindian, Indian, Javanese, Chinese, European and multiracial backgrounds.

Suriname has an open, commodity-based economy that 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 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)² and employing about 8% of the total labour force³ especially in the poorer population segments.

1 Latin America and Caribbean
 2 World Bank, 'Performance and Learning Review of the Country Partnership Strategy for Republic of Suriname' [2018] (World Bank Performance and Learning Review 2018)
 3 fao.org



Suriname experienced a severe macroeconomic shock following the 2015 commodity shock, which was exacerbated by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, Suriname confronted an unprecedented pandemic with little fiscal space and high debt levels, leading to a reduced quality of life for vulnerable citizens. The Government responded with a plan to stabilize the economy and restore fiscal sustainability (Recovery Plan 2020 - 2022), and by December 2021, the IMF approved a new arrangement under the Extended Fund Facility, which enables support towards Suriname's economic plan.

Suriname's Gross National Income (GNI) per capita in 2020 was recorded at PPP US\$14,030.⁴ By the end of 2021, public debt was estimated to have fallen from 148 percent of GDP at end-2020 to 125 percent of GDP due to the authorities' fiscal measures and an appreciation in the real exchange rate⁵.

4 World Bank, International Comparison Program| World Development Indicators database, World Bank | Eurostat-OECD PPP Programme.
 5 IMF End-of-mission press release – February 2022 ,14.

UN SUPPORT TO NATIONAL PRIORITIES THROUGH THE MSDF 2017 - 2021



The UN's work needs, first and foremost, to be people-centric and respond to national priorities. The UN projects and programmes in 2021 were guided by the UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDF) 2017-2021. This Cooperation Framework, in its ultimate year, defines how the UN jointly achieves development results in partnership with eighteen (18) Caribbean countries and territories, including Suriname.

The MSDF 2017 - 2021, which is anchored in the UN Reform agenda, has four strategic Priority Areas of focus which respond to national needs in the Region.



PRIORITY 1: AN INCLUSIVE EQUITABLE AND PROSPEROUS SURINAME

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.**
- 2. Access to equitable social protection systems, quality services and sustainable economic opportunities.**

PRIORITY 3: A SAFE AND JUST SURINAME

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.**
- 2. Reinforce equitable access to justice, protection, citizen security and safety.**

PRIORITY 2: A HEALTHY SURINAME

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.**
- 2. Laws, policies and systems introduced to support healthy lifestyles among all segments of the population.**

PRIORITY 4: A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT SURINAME

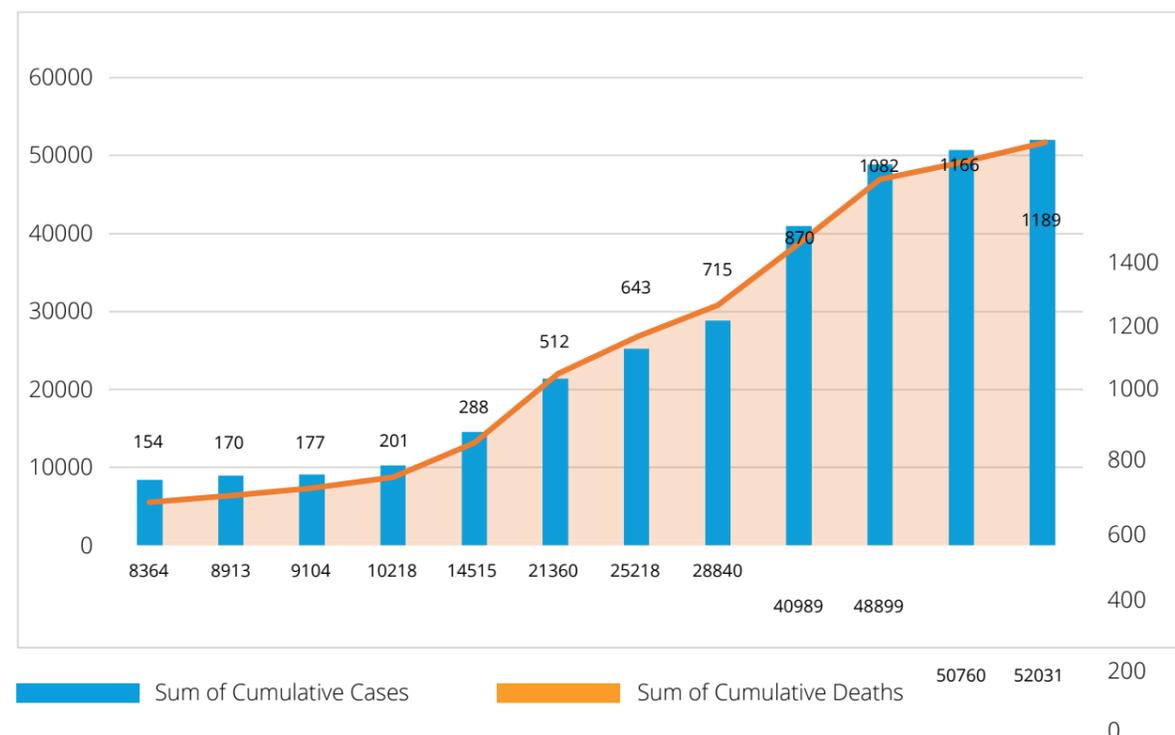
This Priority Area is a call to support in addressing the effects of climate change on livelihoods, especially those who are most vulnerable. It focuses on UN System support to strengthening institutional and community resilience in terms of natural resources management, the protection and sustainable 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.**
- 2. Adopt inclusive and sustainable solutions for the conservation, restoration, and use of ecosystems and natural resources.**

SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

During 2021, there was a significant increase in confirmed cases and deaths, due to COVID-19 in the country. Based on the WHO-COVID 19 global data, the year ended with a cumulative 52,031 confirmed cases and 1,189 deaths for Suriname.

Figure 1: Cumulative confirm cases & deaths 2021



The joint UN response to the COVID-19 pandemic was built on the PAHO-WHO-led Emergency Health Response which was complemented by the Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA), led by UNDP and jointly supported by the UNCT. The SEIA is directly aligned with the 5 key pillars of the Secretary-General's framework for a Comprehensive Response to COVID-19. Utilizing this framework, UN agencies continued to repurpose resources within their workplans to contribute to the response ensuring that the most vulnerable received necessary supplies and support to cope with the situation. Furthermore, the response focused on continuation of key services for the population especially those living in the hinterland.

During 2021, UNDP in collaboration with VIDS¹, KAMPOS², Medical Mission³ and the Ministry of Regional Development and Sport, continued the implementation of the project 'Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19 on the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Suriname'. Information and awareness sessions on COVID-19 were held, taking into account local cultural traditions and language. Training in production of face masks were conducted among ITP women with the goal of providing skills development and creating economic opportunities, while addressing the needs for protection against COVID-19. This project will continue in 2022 and will address the training in improved crop production and provision of handwashing facilities as well as water provision in identified communities.

1 Vereniging van Inheemse Dorpschoufden in Suriname (VIDS).
 2 KAMPOS is the collective name for all tribal populations in Suriname (Kwinti, Alukus, Matawai, Paamaca, Okanisi and Samaaca).
 3 Medical Mission Primary Healthcare is one of the government-subsidized NGOs which is responsible for over 50 clinics across the Surinamese hinterland.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RESPONSE PLAN (SERP) RESULTS

Pillar 1: HEALTH FIRST

Protecting health services and systems during the crisis



7,876
 persons accessed
 essential (non-COVID-19)
 health services

UNICEF and PAHO-WHO jointly supported the vaccine service continuity and strengthened the vaccination system in emergency and recovery by providing vaccination booklets and 5 solar refrigerators for vaccines in support to the cold chain system. Furthermore, PAHO-WHO supported the expansion of the electronic patient information system of the Medical Mission as well as training in Mental Health and Psychosocial Support to improve access to care.



52
 health facilities received
 UN support to maintain
 essential immunization
 services since COVID-19
 disruptions

Materials were developed and adopted to local circumstances and training was provided to health professionals to provide essential immunization services in the context of COVID-19. Furthermore, childhood vaccination booklets and cold chain equipment for vaccines were also provided to the National Immunization Program by PAHO-WHO.



YES
 Whether the country
 is protecting health
 services and systems

PAHO-WHO supported the Ministry of Health to complete a Frontline Service Readiness survey in the effort to identify the country's capacity to deliver essential services to be maintained during the pandemic. The government also put several measures in place to protect ongoing health services such as activating WhatsApp services, putting up tents outside of the clinics in order not to have many persons in the clinics. For general health issues, patients were asked to contact their doctors as much as possible through WhatsApp and phone calls. The counters were protected by closing them with glass or thick plastic material.



4000
 health workers received
 UN support to maintain
 essential services since
 COVID-19 disruptions

Additionally, PAHO-WHO provided access to ten (10) online courses on the Open WHO platform, translated into Dutch in various areas of health. Furthermore, UNDP provided more than 11,000 PPE items to hospitals; this support comprised of disinfectants, disposable mouth and nose masks, gloves, medical gowns, medical coveralls, 70% rubbing alcohol, liquid hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies.

Pillar 2: PROTECTING PEOPLE

Social protection and basis services



40,000

people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services

Wash supplies were distributed to a target population of five (5) indigenous villages.



150,000

children supported with distance / home-based learning

UNICEF supported distance learning benefiting students from the pre-primary, primary, and lower secondary levels. This also led to support on the safe reopening of schools including support on safety protocols and the promotion of handwashing.



YES

Whether the country has measures in place to address gender-based violence (GBV) during the COVID-19 pandemic

UNFPA, UN Women and UNDP collaborated with the government to establish the National Referral Pathway for reducing Gender Based Violence (GBV). Training was also provided to hotline workers in utilizing the referral pathway. Furthermore, UNICEF ensured improved access to helplines and services through the Child Protection Network.



57,000

beneficiaries of social protection schemes and services related to the COVID-19 pandemic

UNICEF supported households with packages containing food supplies, hygiene items, and education material. The discussion is ongoing, and support will be provided to the efforts to the adjustment and design of the national social protection system to make it more shock responsive, sensitive to children and better focused on the most vulnerable population. The government increased the financial contributions to poor households, allowance for persons with a disability as well as other social programs.

Pillar 4: MACROECONOMIC RESPONDED AND MULTILATERAL COLLABORATION



YES

Whether the country undertook socio-economic impact assessment in response to the COVID-19 crisis, with a focus on vulnerable groups, directed at-risk populations

UNDP conducted a Rapid Digital Socio-economic Impact Assessment of 300 indigenous households with a multi-dimensional poverty analysis. This created much-needed baseline data on the vulnerability of indigenous populations and helped to position the UNCT to raise additional resources to specifically address these issues in 2022.



1

AN INCLUSIVE, EQUITABLE AND PROSPEROUS SURINAME



AVAILABLE : \$1,855,600
SPENT : \$912,234
EXPENDITURE RATE : 49%



EDUCATION INTERVENTIONS AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT



50
 Masters trainers were equipped to provide training and support to classroom teachers to implement digital learning strategies on how to utilize ICT



1000
 laptops with internet were provided to include and facilitate greater access to learning for marginalized children



143,000
 students benefited from improved enrolment, learning and progression



574
 primary and secondary schools received support to reopen safely

In 2021, the UN continued to support the Government through its socio-economic response to COVID-19. Specifically, UN support strengthened the resilience of Suriname's education system in the wake of COVID-19; UNICEF worked closely with the Ministry of Education to ensure the continuity of learning during school closures by enabling the education sector to employ digital learning strategies. One key method of support included the nation-wide trainings of key individuals' ("Train the Trainer") to support these strategies. Furthermore, ICT equipment was provided to facilitate access to distance learning, especially for marginalized children in hard-to-reach areas. Throughout 2021, the Ministry of Education's enrollment, learning and progression, and reopening of schools was improved. These efforts were accompanied by the reinforcement of hygiene and safety measures (W.A.S.H. services) and by the development of protocols and hygiene campaigns for returning to schools and childcare centers.

Furthermore, Suriname established a National Early Childhood Development (ECD) Network to have a coordinated intersectoral approach for nurturing care. The COVID-19 context made it more evident that there was an increased need for an integral and coordinated approach to Early Childhood Development (ECD) in emergency responses and UNICEF's ongoing advocacy resulted in the establishment of the network. All these efforts will further contribute to improving awareness, inclusion and services-delivery based on the needs and challenges of children and persons with disabilities and special needs to enjoy life to the fullest.

DECENT WORK



1 Year
 signed re-established commitment to joint efforts for social safety net, advancing entrepreneurship and employment



1
 Adopted tripartite action plan for improving national business landscape and increasing productivity

The Ministry of Labour, Employment Opportunity and Youth Affairs; the Vereniging Surinaams Bedrijfsleven (VSB) / Suriname Trade and Industry Association (STIA); and Raad van Vakcentrales / Council of Trade Unions in Suriname (RAVAKSUR) adopted a tripartite action plan aimed at improving the national business landscape and increasing productivity. The Plan has four pillars: (1) adequate social protection, (2) social dialogue, (3) education training and learning for life, and (4) information communication and technology. The document is based on findings that capture the tripartite constituents' general perceptions of the business environment and its potential effect on productivity in Suriname. It also explores the initial impact of the pandemic on the business environment and possible future impacts.

Furthermore, ILO provided technical support to the Planning Bureau (Stichting Planbureau Suriname) and the Bureau of Statistics (Algemeen Bureau voor de Statistiek) to develop a new macroeconomic modelling tool. The findings of this tool were utilized as inputs for the design of the new National Multi-Year Development Plan 2022 – 2026 and part of the data collected fed into the analytical part of the Plan itself. ILO guidance included the adaptation of the model to the analysis required by the Plan and interpretation of model results for policy making purposes, specifically those linked to rural development strategies and to the promotion of decent work in the agro-food and other rural economy sectors (which were included in the National Multi-Year Development Plan as direct application of model findings).

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SUPPORT TO ITPS



1

**Pilot Beneficiary Information System
launched and tested**

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Housing collaborated with UNDP to launch and test its Beneficiary Information System (BIS). This system enabled the Government to expand on its socio-economic emergency response, specifically in reaching out to the most vulnerable. The aim is to improve the services to the beneficiaries, especially for those living in rural districts and the interior. This system is intended to make the transfer of social protection funds more efficient and timelier and to expand financial inclusion. Furthermore, during 2021, the UNCT engaged in sessions with the Ministry of Regional Development and Sport as well as VIDS, Kampos and Medical Mission to structure a plan for achieving integrated policy solutions enabling inclusion, build resilience and improve livelihoods among indigenous and tribal communities in Suriname. By Q4 2021, the UNCT was awarded funding for the "Leave No One Behind" joint programme which will begin implementation in 2022.



5

**most marginalized indigenous
communities received direct support**



> 3000

**people received food parcels,
education package and hygiene
packages**



> 1000

**indigenous children ensured for
continuity of learning and sufficient
nutrition in emergency time**



**MODA roll out for sustainable social
protection floor mapping**

To establish a sustainable social protection floor, UNICEF reached an agreement to implement the Multidimensional Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA). The MODA will serve as a policy advocacy tool to highlight major gaps in social protection investments in children, define policy recommendations to address child poverty, and advocate for those most marginalized in high-level meetings.

With regards to COVID-19 support to ITPs, in partnership with the Amazon Conversation Team (ACT), five (5) of the most marginalized indigenous communities in south Suriname were supported with COVID-19 emergency packages. UNICEF and ACT developed and disseminated COVID-19 communication and awareness materials in the local indigenous languages. Furthermore, food parcels, education materials and hygiene packages were distributed within the communities. In addition, a media center with digital material was made operational to reach communities and make information digitally accessible. The work also focused on hand washing and hygiene ensuring installation of water tanks and wash bins in several indigenous communities and schools.

2

A HEALTHY SURINAME

KEY SDGs



Available : \$92,230
Spent : \$53,095
Expenditure rate : 58%



2021 saw UNCT efforts focused on the health emergency responses from the COVID-19 pandemic. The UN contributed with interventions in improving the primary health care, integrated health care and investment in health infrastructure, placing the Ministry of Health and its main service delivery partners in a better position to continue the national response to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as to maintain essential health services. Alongside the population from the coastal area, specific focus was placed on target groups such as indigenous and tribal peoples, and mobile migrants.

INFECTION HAZARDS MANAGEMENT



4

Ministries (Health, Agriculture, Regional Development, and Education) strengthened "One Health Approach to event-based Surveillance" national reporting mechanisms



Indigenous and tribal communities as well as migrants in the hinterland benefitted from medical equipment, supplies, PPE, and essential medicines



1

Series of webinars held to discuss and review the performance of the SARI sentinel sites with the aim to improve data and sample sharing for completeness of national reporting mechanisms

In keeping with the focus on Infectious Hazards Management, technical cooperation was provided to the Ministry of Health and its main service delivery partners. Technical cooperation was also provided for the development and dissemination of public awareness messages to generate demand for the COVID-19 vaccination with a targeted approach to health care workers, the elderly, pregnant women, and the adolescents / youth.

Technical support was also provided for the comprehensive analysis of existing structures, resources and activities related to Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and Antimicrobial Resistance stewardship including surveillance. In this regard, IPC protocols for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit were revised and the methodology for collecting blood for culture and the protocol for training were standardized. The UN also drafted Terms of References for the National Infection Prevention and Control and National Antibiotic Committees for consideration by the Ministry of Health.

Following the designation of the Central Laboratory as a WHO-recognized National Influenza Centre (NIC) and to strengthen the capacities in keeping with global standards for a NIC, technical cooperation was provided through an international consultant for a general assessment of the laboratory operations using the WHO Laboratory Assessment Tool, the review and updating of standard operational procedures, re-training of laboratory technologists in PCR and immunofluorescence assay diagnostic techniques with focus on the respiratory viruses, strengthening of laboratory stock management system using an electronic database. Ongoing provision of reagents and supplies to sustain testing for SARS-CoV-2, influenza and other respiratory viruses was also implemented. Re-sensitization of the importance of surveillance for Severe Acute Respiratory Illnesses and the SARI network was conducted through a series of webinars with the aim of improving the performance of the SARI sentinel sites to improve data and sample sharing for completeness of national reporting mechanisms.

ENHANCED SUPPORT FOR HEALTH SERVICES COVERAGE



20,000

face masks were provided to frontline workers in rural areas



52

clinics in rural areas with oxygen concentrators to provide swift support in hard-to-reach communities



Utilized updated National Leprosy guidelines and data systems

The Ministry of Health was enabled to ensure the continuity of essential health services, including key interventions related to COVID-19 in rural areas. UNICEF supported the Medical Mission in increasing vaccination rates in the hinterland; tents, solar refrigerators, and generators were procured to facilitate the COVID-19 vaccination drive. Face masks were provided to frontline workers and clinics in rural areas were provided with oxygen concentrators to execute swift support in hard-to-reach communities

The government is in a better position to respond and provide support to the community through updated guidelines and service delivery network. PAHO-WHO supported in updating and in the implementation of the National Leprosy Guidelines. Also, government and other partners are utilizing systems such as the Leishmaniasis Regional Database, in which data entry has been completed and submitted to the WHO. Additionally, health workers are benefitting from newly developed training materials on leprosy.

ELIMINATION OF MALARIA



1

Malaria Stratification Risk Assessment Exercise conducted with the Malaria Program



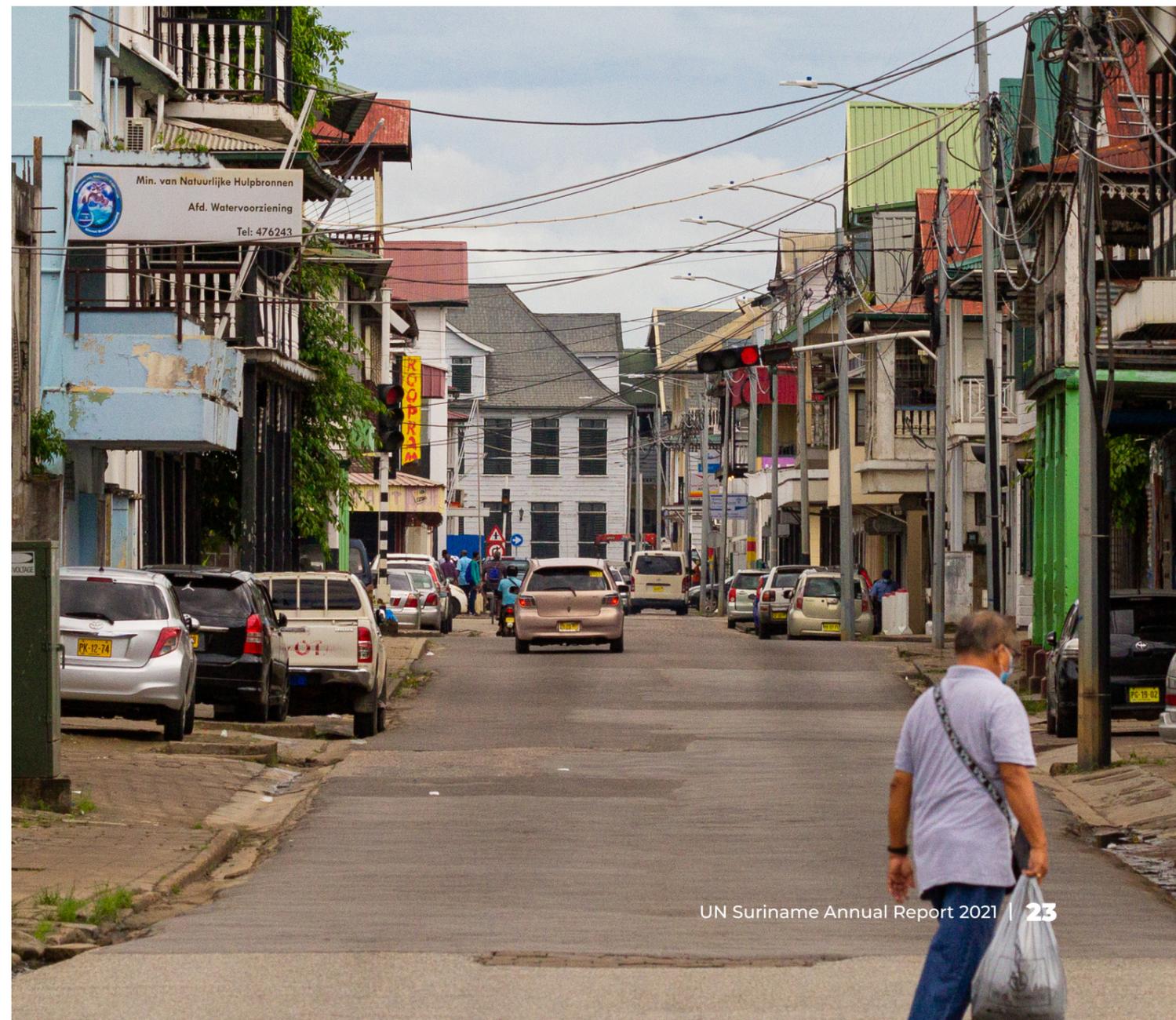
4

malaria foci were visited and characterized using a new focus register tool

With the goal of elimination of Malaria by 2025, timely detection and response to cases of indigenous and imported malaria is critical. In this regard, PAHO-WHO provided technical and logistical support for the investigation and management of twenty-one (21) indigenous and forty-eight (48) imported cases of Malaria in 2021 as well as the stratification risk assessment and characterization of foci of transmission. The technical guidelines were also reviewed and updated to close the gaps to elimination. With assistance of the WHO Global Malaria Program, the country received a consultant to support the activities in the field and to assist with closing the gaps as part of the STOP Malaria initiative. The Malaria Service Delivery Network was supported with communication materials, transportation, and PPE for COVID-19 surveillance and vaccination missions to the goldmining camps in the interior to facilitate inter-programmatic work with Malaria.

HIV/ AIDS RESPONSE

Technical cooperation was provided by PAHO-WHO for the writing of the concept note to respond to COVID-19 and the review of the HIV proposal to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. In addition, UNAIDS supported with the development of Suriname's Country Coordinating Mechanism request to the Global Fund 2022 - 2024.



3

A SAFE, COHESIVE AND JUST SURINAME

KEY SDGs



Available : \$306,535
Spent : \$306,087
Expenditure rate : 100%

LEAD AGENCIES



ENHANCED INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY ON ELECTORAL CONDUCT AND ASSESSMENT



6 Desktops

14 Laptops

12 Tablets

procured for the Electoral department of the Ministry of Home Affairs



1

2020 Electoral Process Report finalized and disseminated

The Ministry of Home Affairs was enabled to function more efficiently in wrapping up the 2020 electoral cycle activities; UNDP extended technical support to the government of Suriname for the preparation phase, implementation phase and the post-electoral phase of the 2020 elections. In this regard, an evaluation process was rolled out in 2021 together with main elections stakeholders with the objective to evaluate both the electoral planning and the election itself. However, it is critical to note that there was limited opportunity to meet in person due to COVID-19 measures in terms of gathering and mobility. A virtual modality was employed as a solution, but with limited participation from groups who do not have easy access to internet.

The Electoral department of the Ministry of Home Affairs finalized the reporting on the 2020 electoral process; this report was translated in English and shared with the public through placement on the Ministry's website. At the end of 2021, the Ministry of Home Affairs requested the support of UNDP to efficiently prepare for the 2025 electoral cycle. Consultations with the Ministry and all relevant stakeholders (government, civil society and development partners) are projected for 2022 to create the needed buy-in.

IMPROVE JUSTICE AND CITIZEN SECURITY



1

Next stage transition of Police data digitalization into PRMIS



15

practitioners were trained (5 police and 10 technical persons) in ICCS (international Classification of Crime and statistics)

The Ministry of Justice and Police was further empowered to respond effectively, due to their increased capacity for evidence-based policymaking. During 2021, the UNDP continued its support to the government of Suriname to improve their capacity to tackle crime, violence and insecurity. This was executed by: (1) entering in the next stage of digitalization of the police data into the Police Records Management Information systems (PRMIS), and (2) providing capacity training in ICCS (international Classification of Crime and Statistics). These developments enhanced the Ministry of Justice and Police's ability to prevent and reduce crime by using measures such as geo-mapping, and victim and offender profiling. It is important to note that the mapping of the national penal code to the ICCS was completed by the Ministry of Justice and Police.



In addition, the Court of Justice was reinforced to continue court cases and hearings; UNDP donated a complete audio and video system set to the Court of Justice. This system made it possible for the Court of Justice to provide services again, taking the COVID-19 social distancing measures into consideration and allowing for the hearings to be conducted in a COVID-19 safe fashion. In that manner the justice process was able to cope with the abrupt effects of the pandemic. Further support was also provided to the police and prison system.

PROTECTION FROM VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION



Multiple laws, legislation and policies have been revised and developed in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and optional protocols to ensure protection from violence



Approximately
15,000
followers and
12,000
interactions monthly, due to the establishment of youth police Child-Friendly room for virtual interaction.

Several laws, legislation and policies have been revised and developed in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and optional protocols to ensure protection from violence. This result was based on UNICEF's ongoing capacity-strengthening support to service providers for children in need of special protection. UNICEF worked on strengthening of the child protection systems and coordination mechanisms, such as the Integrated Child Protection Network, Juvenile Justice system, legislations, and programs to reduce child labour. Continued support was also provided to the development of strong families and better parenting. Finally, the UN supported a media campaign to build children's resilience to violence, gender-based violence, and domestic violence in 2021.

During 2021, UNICEF also supported the establishment of child-friendly spaces with different services providers; the establishment of safe and responsive environments that protect children and adolescents from violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation is a key focus on the UN. Support was also provided to the Youth Police to establish a child-friendly meeting room for hearing out child victims, ensuring they feel safe and comfortable when being listened to about specific cases. In addition, a virtual discussion group with children and adolescents was created to facilitate discussion on topics such as violence against children, gender-based violence and mental health. On a monthly basis, there are approximately 15,000 followers, with about 1,200 interactions and feedback.

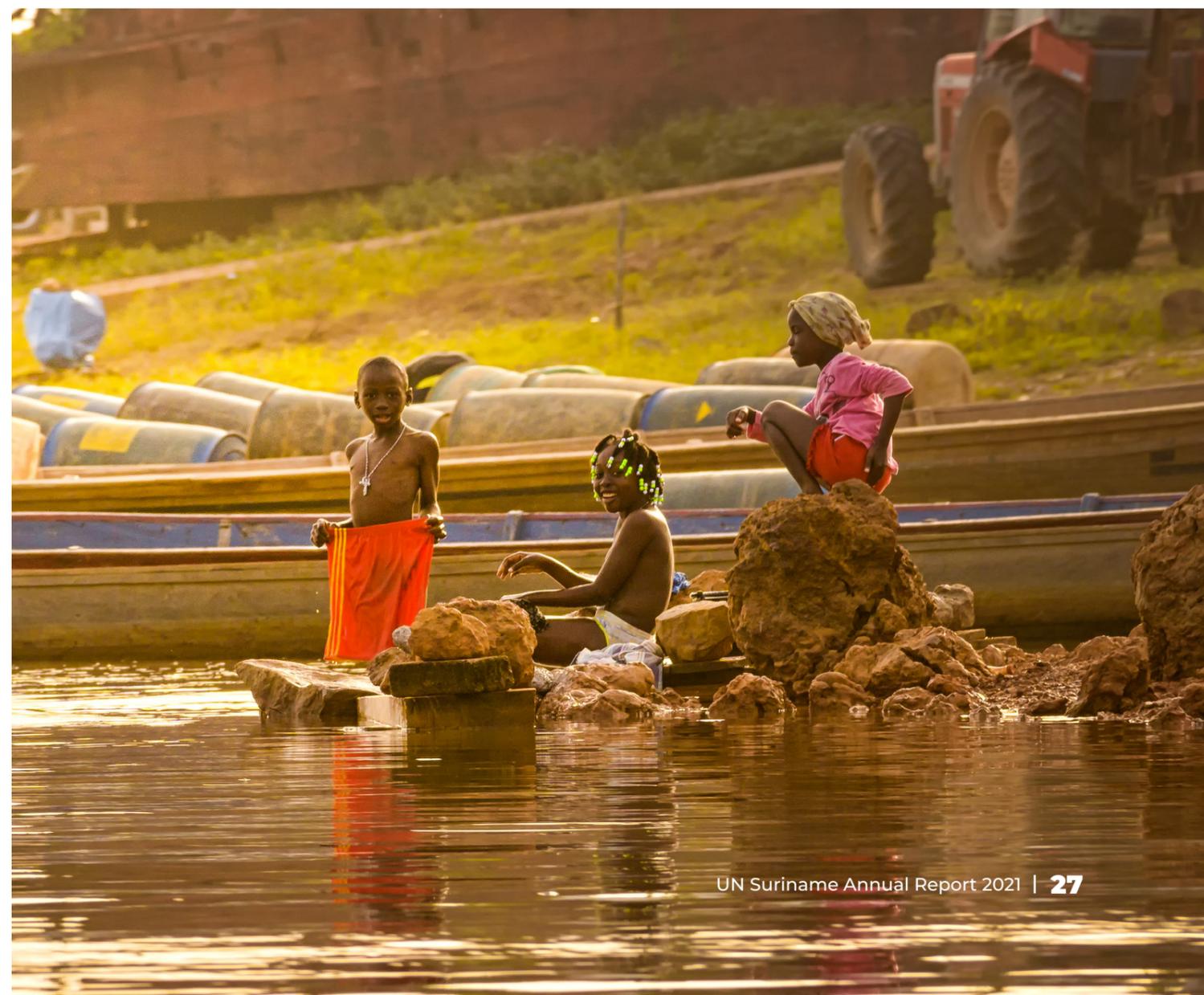
GENDER



1

Successful roll out of the country's GBV referral pathway

During the year, the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) referral pathway was successfully rolled out through a joint effort between UNDP, UNFPA and UN Women. This process started in 2020 and was a major step towards ensuring that victims of GBV receive the necessary assistance. This achievement was possible through the collaboration of the Bureau of Gender Affairs (Ministry of Home Affairs) with the UN and other stakeholders in terms of strengthening gender equality in Suriname. Moreover, a gender analysis was conducted, as part of the joint programme "Roadmap to a Sustainable Financial System in Suriname" under the Joint SDG Fund, with the aim of mapping opportunities and bottlenecks for SDG-enabling investments. Based upon the findings of the report, a Gender Capacity Strengthening course is being developed and will be executed in 2022.



4

A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT SURINAME

KEY SDGs



Available : \$6,363,235
Spent : \$4,743,674
Expenditure rate : 75%

LEAD AGENCIES



CLIMATE CHANGE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND GOVERNANCE



3

environmental information systems were improved and utilized



1

transition supported of the National Institute Environment and Development Suriname (NIMOS) into the National Environmental Management Authority (NMA)

In the fight against climate change, national agencies were better enabled to inform policy makers (at sectoral level) as well as the public on the weather and climate events, mercury emission levels, deforestation and forest degradation rates and identification of key actions. During the year, UNDP supported with the National Forest Management Systems and investment in Hydrological and Meteorological automatic data collection. This enhanced the data collection and analytical capacity for monitoring and informed decision-making on Forest Management and Biodiversity conservation. In addition, strategies and action plans such as the National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small-Scale Goldmining (NAP ASGM), Gender Responsive and Budgeted Sectorial Adaptation Strategies and Action Plan (GRB SASAP), and analytical work on the sustainable financing for the realization of the SDGs, were key results and part of solutions that impacted individual lives in Suriname. The utilization of these capacities and strategies was encapsulated in the second Forest Emission Level (FREL), adding Forestry statistics data sources. From the data, it became evident that Suriname's forest coverage had dropped slightly below 93%, and that terrestrial areas that are protected remain unchanged, as well as that the Coastal Mangrove Ecosystem is still under increased treat.

Data analysis and management of the Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB) information systems have improved in part through UNDP-supported initiatives. This resulted in increased transparency and access to environmental information that benefited the public and other users such as indigenous and tribal community organizations, students, famers and academia. In total three (3) information systems were improved and utilized, including: the Sustainable Forestry Information System Suriname (SFISS), the production control and transparency through the statistical platform KOPI, and the geo-referenced platform of GONINI.

The National Institute for Environment and Development Suriname (NIMOS) transitioned into the National Environmental Management Authority (NMA) in 2021; this transition was facilitated through the UNDP and included technical advice on long-term financing in terms of NMA sustainability and organizational processes. The organizational process also included a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment, and an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Grievance & Redress Mechanism (GRM). Furthermore, extended support was given in detailing operational arrangements such as critical human resources, staffing, and institutional set-up.

FOOD SAFETY, QUALITY AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS



2000

farmers, exporters, food processors participated in food safety activities



> 100

extension officers, customs officials and exporters received training in food safety protocol

 **\$ 663,116**
in food safety laboratory and analytical equipment were procured and delivered

 **56**
(44 male, 12 female) farmers, exporters and fresh-cut producers sensitized in post-harvest technologies and practices

The National Food Safety Institute (NIVS) law was approved by the President of Suriname in January 2021. FAO's programme of support included the introduction of innovative practices, capacity building and facilitating the development and / or revisions to legislative and regulatory frameworks. FAO's support continues for a functional governance structure, a proposed food regulatory structure and a cost structure to facilitate inception operations.

FAO supported capacity building in food safety to enable stakeholders to adopt specified national standards. The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries collaborated with FAO to complete an assessment for the establishment of a certification body. As a result, 2,000 farmers, exporters, food processors participated in food safety activities, and over 100 extension officers, customs officials and exporters received training in food safety protocol. Customs and border control officials participated in sensitization sessions on the handling of fruits and vegetables in compliance with the Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary protocols. Furthermore, FAO trained laboratory operators and procured food safety laboratory and analytical equipment at a value of \$663,116.

VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT TO STRENGTHEN FOOD SYSTEMS

 **55**
grantees received equipment and services to increase production and quality

 **177**
grant applications were approved and endorsed to receive equipment and services for production and quality increases

 **136**
exporters, processors and fruit and vegetable farmers trained on techniques to prevent pre- and post-harvest losses

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries received capacity strengthening support to reduce food losses and waste in selected crops. FAO supported with "Training of Trainers" in post-harvest technologies and officers (including extension officers, researchers and plant protection officers) are now equipped to train other stakeholders on suitable pre-and post-harvest techniques. Moreover, farmers, exporters and fresh-cut producers were sensitized in post-harvest technologies and practices. Recipients have confirmed improvements to their post-harvest operations, and quality of products for specific markets, as well a reduction of losses. To sustain efforts, communication materials were also developed such as factsheets on post-harvest technologies and best practices to reduce loss and improve food quality. These materials were translated into Dutch for seven common commodities such as yard long beans, papaya, cassava, bitter melon, African eggplant, mango, and açai.

Moreover, small scale farmers, family farmers and agribusinesses supported to increase their production and productivity. A total of 55 of 61 grantees received equipment's and services, which was valued at The USD 117,132.20. The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries will continue to collaborate with the FAO to complete the delivery in the following year. Concurrent, 177 grants project (157 small & large) were approved and endorsed at the second call for proposal. This will benefit mostly full-time farmers (95%) and agribusinesses in partnership with out growers (40%) across the country. Almost 60% of the small grants would benefit projects in the hinterland and initiatives led by women (43%).

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT, DISASTER MITIGATION AND BUILDING RESILIENCE

 **69**
technicians from 17 Caribbean countries were trained on the bioremediation of pesticide contaminated soils

 **1**
site selected for remediation activities

 **1**
Approved Suriname Fisheries Management Plan

A draft guidance manual for pesticide contaminated soil characterization and remediation was prepared, as part of FAO's regional effort to improve government capacity to identify and remediate contaminated sites. Additionally, 69 technicians from 17 Caribbean countries were trained on the Bioremediation of pesticide contaminated soils. As a follow-up, one site named Mariënborg, located in Suriname was selected for remediation activities. The contaminant levels are being monitored by collecting and analyzing the samples of the soil.

In addition, the Suriname Fisheries Management Plan was officially approved among stakeholders and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries. During 2021, a two-day validation workshop took place to approve the Fisheries Management Plan. The Minister and fisheries representatives jointly signed the declaration approving the content of the Plan and committing to its implementation.

CLIMATE FINANCING SUPPORT

Launched in 2020, the joint programme "Roadmap to a Sustainable Financial System" (funded by the Joint SDG Fund) continued implementation in 2021. The programme (UNDP, UNEP, FAO and UNFPA) works to jointly raise awareness, advance technical knowledge on climate financing, build capacity, and convene key stakeholders to work towards aligning financing with objectives under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. The joint programme is a priority for the Government as evidenced by the close working relationships with the Ministry of Spatial Planning & Environment (ROM) and their leadership with other Ministry partners (Finance and Planning, Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation (BIBIS), Land & Forest Management (GMB), Natural Resources, Home Affairs- Bureau of Gender Affairs, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries. The programme has built important partnerships with

key stakeholders e.g., the Central Bank, the Suriname Business Association (VSB), Suriname, Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control (SBB) and Suriname Hospitality & Tourism Association (SHATA) to ensure a whole-of-society approach to building a green economy. In 2021, an initial framework was developed for the components of a 'green agreement', which in 2022 will serve as a tool for building consensus among stakeholders for the sustainable financing strategy.

SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND FINANCING THE 2030 AGENDA



In addition to engaging in the implementation of the MSDF 2017 – 2021, United Nations Suriname began preparation of a new regional Cooperation Framework, the MSDCF 2022 – 2026, as early as 2020 and continuing into 2021. Building upon processes carried out in 2020, the UN drafted and finalized the Common Multi-Country Assessment (CMCA) as well as the final Multi-Country Development Cooperation Framework 2022 – 2026, which was formulated through strategic consultations with the Government of Suriname.

Furthermore, in 2021 the UN Resident Coordinator's Office carried out a study to analyze and map the Civil Society landscape in Suriname. The findings of the analysis provided a support tool enabling UN agencies to expand their reach to Surinamese citizens and formed an important building block for the development of the Country Implementation Plan under the new MSDCF 2022 – 2026.

2021 also saw progress in building partnerships with the private sector and academia. The UN collaborated with academia to further SDG advocacy by bringing the Butterfly Effect Campaign to Suriname. The Butterfly Effect mural was launched in partnership with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation and the Board of the Anton de Kom University (AdeKUS). The Campaign sparked follow-up actions within the University's curriculum: through the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, a guest lecture series was executed to the students of AdeKUS in the LL.B program of the School of Law, culminating in an SDG-focused final exam at the end of the academic year. Furthermore, a partnership with the ICT Association culminated in the 4-week webinar series "Digital Inclusion for Sustainable Development" covering ICT Policy, the SDGs, Education and ICT and the contribution of the private sector to the SDGs in Suriname.

The UN also collaborated with NGO Waka Pasi to craft and host an open-air outdoor SDG exhibition to increase the public awareness around the UN's work in Suriname.

Finally, the United Nations agencies with support from the UN Resident Coordinator's Office avidly pursued opportunities to finance the 2030 agenda, which resulted in the achievement of two additional Joint SDG Fund programmes, ASTA (FAO, UNIDO, ILO, UNFPA) and Leaving No One Behind (UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, UN Women and UNFPA).



RESULT OF THE UN WORKING TOGETHER: COHERENCE, EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY

As one of the pilot countries with the Delivering as One agenda, the UNCT members of United Nations Suriname enjoy a close and positive working relationship under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator. The effective collaboration of the UNCT is evident in the volume of joint resources mobilized during the period 2020 – 2021 towards the achievement of the SDGs.

ONE UN COOPERATION FRAMEWORK AND GOVERNANCE MECHANISMS

The UNCT's primary modality of working together is through the Cooperation Framework, MSDF 2017 - 2021. Under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator, the UNCT supported the development of the New Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF) 2022 – 2026 in 2021. Together with the Joint National Steering Committee and the Programme Coordination Group (chaired by UNICEF), four (4) Results Groups were established for each MSDCF pillar in 2021. These Results Groups, consisting of government leads and UN leads, will ensure integrated planning and effective coordination for achieving country-level accomplishments under the new cooperation framework, MSDCF 2022 – 2026 in the coming years, and will allow for better alignment with the National Multi-Year Development plan 2022 - 2026.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUSINESS OPERATIONS STRATEGY

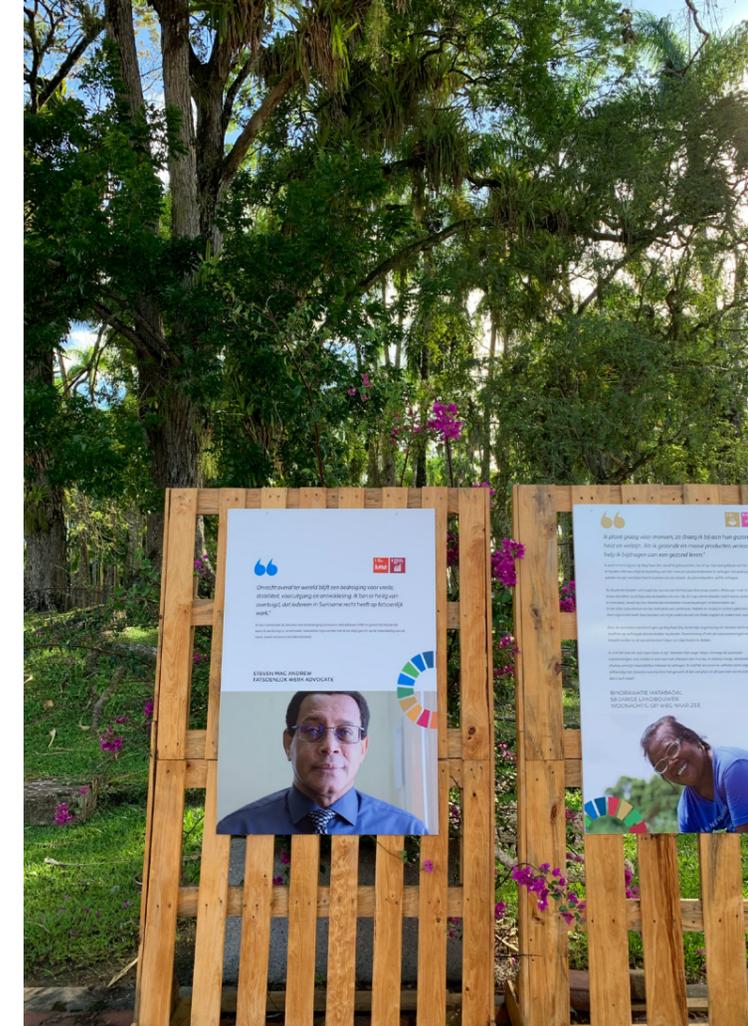
The Operations Management Team (OMT) continued effective collaboration in the areas of procurement, finance, recruitment, and common services. The first ever Business Operations Strategy was signed in 2021 to achieve operational efficiencies; the UNCT seeks to realize \$1.37 million in cumulative cost savings in operations between 2021-2025. In 2022, the OMT will explore opportunities for more joint operations under the BOS.

COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCATING AS ONE

In 2021, the UN Communications Group (UNCG) focused on how to promote the messaging to drive conversation, initiative, and action around UNCT priorities and on increasing the visibility and raising awareness on the SDGs as well as on the work executed by United Nations Suriname. A digital media repository was developed in which all digital media created and owned by UN organizations is now easily accessible. Resources were used to strengthen SDG advocacy and visibility across the country, i.e., the development of Butterfly Effect Campaign Mural at the Anton de Kom University (AdeKUS) to localize, showcase and promote the SDGs through art; development of an open-air SDG exhibition at the Waka Pasi to showcase the work done by the UN agencies in Suriname.

EVALUATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

During Q2 2021, the UNCT collaborated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Planning Bureau Suriname to evaluate the Country Implementation Plan implemented in 2020. Although the COVID-19 crisis impacted implementation, UN agencies remained on the ground and active. During 2021, the UN conducted an Evaluation of the MSDF in its ultimate year to better inform the creation of the MSDCF 2022 – 2026.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

In 2021, the final year of the implementation of the MSDF 2017 – 2021 in Suriname, the UN's required budget was \$10.4 million. Of this, \$8.6 million was obtained, reflecting a funding gap of \$1.8 million. Total expenditure was \$6.0 million, reflecting a strong delivery rate of 70% across the four priority areas of the MSDF. The remaining available resources are rolled over to the 2022 - 2023 Country Implementation Plan.



DISTRIBUTION OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES ACROSS THE SDGs

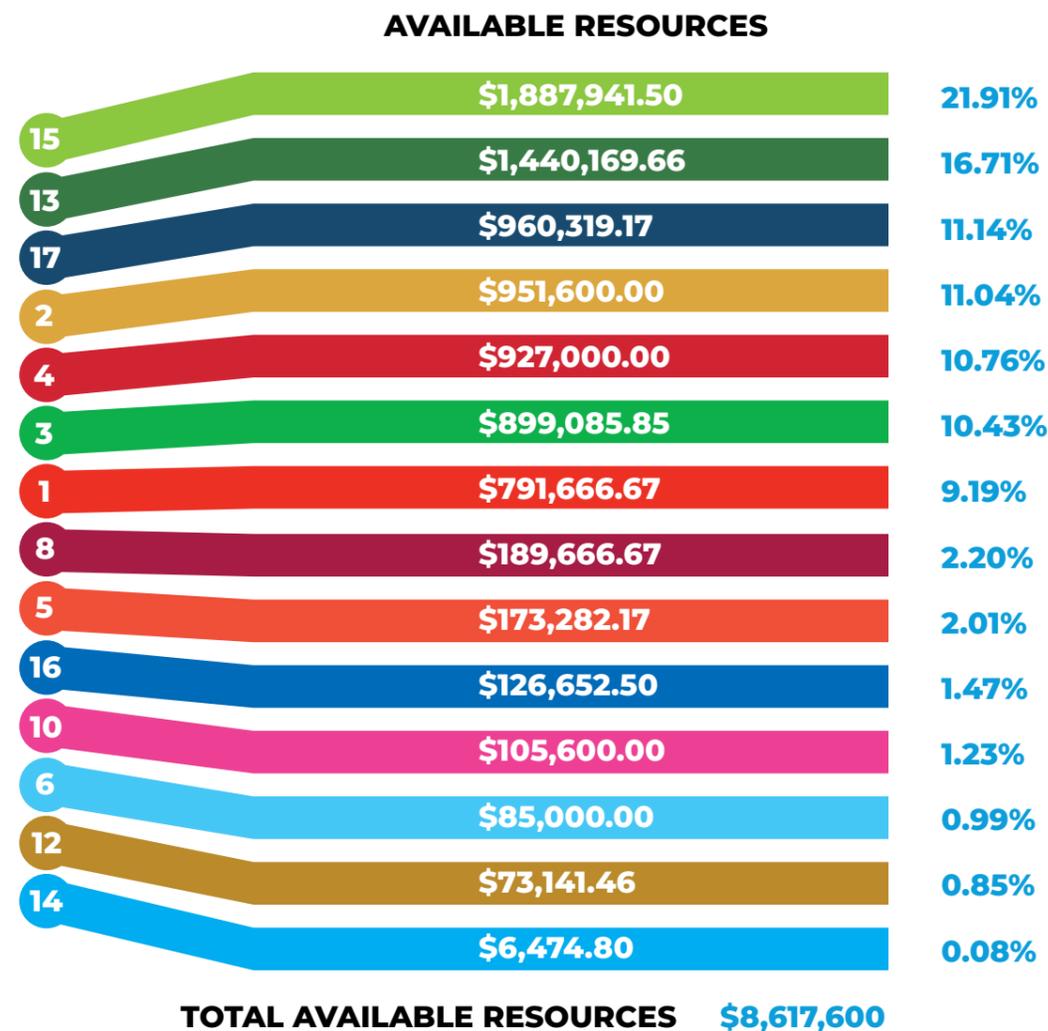


FUNDING GAP BY SDG - 2021



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

FUNDING GAP BY SDG - 2021



Note: PAHO/ WHO financials were not available for this analysis. This affected the SDG 3, which does not reflect all UNCT efforts based on budget expenditure.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW BY PRIORITY AREA - 2021

PRIORITY 1 AN INCLUSIVE EQUITABLE AND PROSPEROUS SURINAME



PRIORITY 2 A HEALTHY SURINAME



PRIORITY 3 A SAFE AND JUST SURINAME



PRIORITY 4 A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT CARIBBEAN



Note: PAHO/ WHO financials were not available for this analysis. This affected the Priority 2, which does not reflect all efforts for this pillar.

54

ACTIVITIES IN THE UN SURINAME IN 2021 (BY SDG)



- 1. NO POVERTY**
1 activity (2.16%)
- 2. ZERO HUNGER**
4 activities (8.02%)
- 3. GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**
4 activities (7.10%)
- 4. QUALITY EDUCATION**
13 activities (24.07%)
- 5. GENDER EQUALITY**
2 activities (4.32%)
- 6. CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**
2 activities (3.70%)
- 7. AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY**
0 activities (0%)
- 8. DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**
3 activities (4.94%)
- 9. INDUSTRY INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**
0 activities (0%)
- 10. REDUCED INEQUALITIES**
4 activities (7.10%)
- 11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**
0 activities (0%)
- 12. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION**
2 activities (2.78%)
- 13. CLIMATE ACTION**
4 activities (6.48%)
- 14. LIFE BELOW WATER**
1 activity (0.93%)
- 15. LIFE ON LAND**
6 activities (10.19%)
- 16. PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS**
8 activities (13.89%)
- 17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**
2 activities (4.32%)

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

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. The UNCT has progressively increased its portfolio of joint programmes over the last two (2) years, particularly through financing support from the Joint SDG Fund. The UNCT received two additional grants in the areas pineapple value chain development (ILO, FAO, UNIDO, UNFPA) and policy integration for indigenous and tribal communities (UNDP, FAO, UN Women, UNICEF, UNFPA). By Q4, the UNCT was granted additional funding, bringing the number of joint programming in the country up to four (4).



ASTA: Agrifood Systems Transformation Accelerator

Leaving No One Behind

Roadmap to a Sustainable Financial System in Suriname



ASTA was approved in 2021 for implementation to commence in 2022. ASTA is a global programme led by UNIDO and FAO where countries are assisted with accelerating investments in food system transformation to achieve the SDGs, including through the development of value chains, market systems and business models. In Suriname, ASTA will focus on the advancement of the pineapple value chains through a holistic, context-specific approach (i.e., focusing on a mix of financing solutions to address financial constraints, by providing tailored agronomic and business support to farmers)

The 'Leaving No One Behind' joint programme was provisionally approved in 2021 for implementation to commence in 2022. The programme focuses building resilience and an integrated policy framework for indigenous and tribal communities in Suriname, in collaboration with VIDS, KAMPOS and the Medical Mission.

The 'Roadmap to a Sustainable Financial System' joint programme was developed as a direct response to the government's request for capacity strengthening on climate financing back in February 2019. The programme, which launched in Q4 2020, focuses on jointly raising awareness, advancing technical knowledge on climate financing, building capacity, and convening key stakeholders to work towards aligning financing with objectives under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

\$2,193,055 plus in-kind co-financing from UN agencies

\$714,000 plus in-kind co-financing from UN agencies

\$662,000 plus in-kind co-financing from UN agencies



UNCT FOCUS FOR 2022



SDG IMPLEMENTATION AND POLICY INTEGRATION

In 2022, the UNCT in Suriname will begin implementation of the next generation cooperation framework, the Multi-Country Sustainable Cooperation Framework (MSDCF) 2022-2026. This will be executed in collaboration with the Government of Suriname and other partners to ensure that the framework is evidence-based and focused on vulnerable populations. Importantly, aligning the Country Implementation Plan 2022-2023 with Suriname's national development priorities as outlined in the National Multi-Year Development Plan 2022 – 2026 is of utmost importance. Finally, the UNCT, through coordination with the Joint National Steering Committee, will support the Government in contributing to the SDGs through strengthening of national data capacities and through policy integration with line ministries supporting vulnerable populations.



FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

The UNCT Suriname will continue its health response to the COVID-19 crises, with a specific focus on the improvement of the position and living conditions of indigenous and tribal communities whose vulnerability has been further exacerbated by minimal social infrastructure and services. Furthermore, national and local authorities will be supported to improve policies and quality-of-service delivery towards vulnerable groups. In line with the COVID-19 response, the UN will focus on continued advocacy for the inclusion of vulnerable populations in the process of legislation, policy formulation and programmatic interventions, with the aim of strengthening social protection and improvement of social services.



OPERATIONALIZING THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S PREVENTION VISION

The UNCT Suriname will work to enhance national human rights capacities and institutions, especially as related to vulnerable groups such as migrants and indigenous and tribal communities. Furthermore, the UNCT's work will be supported by an ongoing assessment by the Peace and Development Advisor (PDA), and it will continue implement the recommendations from the PDA Monthly reviews in 2022.



STRATEGIC FINANCING AND PARTNERSHIP

The UNCT will continue to pursue joint resource mobilization opportunities and a joint resource mobilization strategy will be finalized in 2022. The UNCT will continue engagement and partnerships with International Financial Institutions to ensure a coordinated international response to the Government's needs; relationships with IFIs will continue to be prioritized, through regular donor coordination meetings. The UNCT will continue to pursue partnerships with the private sector (in areas beyond the health sector) and will work to expand its quality and breadth of partnership with civil society.



LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND, HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY IN THE 2030 AGENDA

The UNCT will onboard a Human Rights Advisor to better promote and advocate for fundamental rights values, standards and principles, to focus on human rights issues, and to support indigenous and tribal people communities in the hinterland. Human rights and gender equality will continue to be mainstreamed in all plans, policies and activities.



BUSINESS INNOVATION

The UNCT will continue to implement, monitor and report on the Business Operation Strategy. Furthermore, the UNCT will further work on developing country-specific measures to promote and enable common operations, premises and back offices.





UNITED NATIONS
SURINAME



2021 UN COUNTRY ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT

SURINAME

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