

UN SURINAME ANNUAL REPORT



2024



DECADE
OF >>>>
ACTION



Contents

4

Foreword by the UN Resident Coordinator

6

United Nations Country Team

8

Key Development Partners in Suriname

10

Chapter 1: Key Developments in Suriname and Regional Context

14

Chapter 2: UN Development System Support to National Development Priorities through the MSDCF 2022 - 2026

2.1 Overview Of MSDCF Results in 2024

2.2 MSDCF Priorities, Outcomes and Outputs

- **Priority 1:** Economic Resilience and Shared Prosperity
- **Priority 2:** Equality, Well-being and Leaving No One Behind
- **Priority 3:** Resilience to Climate Change and Shocks and Sustainable Resource Management
- **Priority 4:** Peace, Safety, Justice and Rule of Law

2.3 Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

2.4 Results of the UN Working More and Better Together: UN Coherence, Effectiveness and Efficiency

2.5 Lessons Learned And Evaluations

2.6 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilisation

92

Chapter 3: Into the future - UNCT key focus for 2025

94

Acronyms

Foreword

by the UN Resident Coordinator

In 2024, the United Nations system reinforced its role as a trusted and dedicated partner of the Government of the Republic of Suriname, supporting the nation's steadfast progress on its sustainable development journey.

Our joint priorities derived from the Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (2022–2026) have continued guide to collaboration in key areas such as strengthening democratic governance, promoting human rights, addressing the impact of climate change and fostering inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

As Suriname moves forward, the country stands at a pivotal moment in its development trajectory. With just five years remaining to achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** by 2030, the potential for transformative progress has never been greater. Notably, the prospect of an energy windfall could unlock vital resources for infrastructure, healthcare, and education. At the same time, Suriname has demonstrated commendable leadership in implementing economic reforms under the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Extended Fund Facility (EFF). The IMF's seventh and eighth reviews recognized the country's achievements in restoring financial stability, curbing inflation, and reinforcing structural reforms—milestones that pave the way for long-term economic resilience.

Suriname's proactive engagement on the global stage in 2024 underscored the significance of these efforts. As a vocal advocate of the needs of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), the country played an important role at the **Fourth International Conference on SIDS (SIDS4)**, contributing to the adoption of the **Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS)**. This visionary action plan, alongside the UN General Assembly **Pact for the Future adopted also in 2024**, is designed to address pressing challenges such as climate resilience, economic diversification, and human capital investment. By championing equitable climate action and financial support for vulnerable economies, Suriname has reinforced its commitment to sustainable and inclusive development.

Also in July 2024, the **United Nations Human Rights Committee (HRC)** conducted its review of Suriname's implementation of the **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)**, with the concluding observations published in August 2024. This review, the first since 2015, marked a significant milestone in examining Suriname's human rights record and an opportunity to focus on implementation of human rights commitments ahead of the Universal Periodic Review of the human rights situation planned for 2026.

Further demonstrating its leadership in climate action, Suriname played an active role at the **29th UN Climate Change Conference (COP29)** in Azerbaijan. As one of the world's few net carbon-negative countries—alongside Bhutan, Madagascar, and Panama—Suriname continues to urge global counterparts to intensify their commitments to maintaining the 1.5°C target.

Amid these achievements, the UN system remains steadfast in its support for Suriname's national priorities. A defining feature of our work in 2024 was our commitment to **Delivering as One**—an approach that maximizes impact through coordinated action. By leveraging the expertise of multiple UN agencies, we ensured a more comprehensive and strategic response to Suriname's development priorities. Notably, the UN system actively supported the Government's SDG mechanisms, including the **National SDG Commission** and the **SDG Platform**, fostering progress in health, education, climate action, and governance.

As review the achievements of 2024, I extend my deepest appreciation to the Government, civil society, the indigenous and tribal communities, the private sector partners in Suriname as well as the international development partners and donors. I thank all our stakeholders for close collaboration throughout 2024. Our achievements would not be possible without your leadership, engagement and hands-on cooperation in the many local initiatives.

I am also very grateful for the dedication of UN staff whose commitment to the **Common Agenda**—rooted in solidarity, human rights, and sustainable development—continues to drive our collective mission forward.

Suriname stands at the threshold of remarkable opportunities. With emerging economic prospects, particularly in the energy sector, the UN system remains a steadfast advocate for sustainable growth and social equity. While the private sector and business enterprises will lead creation of economic opportunities, the Government's responsibility is to prioritize, protect and invest in Suriname's public goods: education, health and environment. In this way, no one will be left behind in the period of rapid change and development.

Our shared focus remains on accelerating SDG progress—ensuring that investments in environmental protection and in the health and education infrastructure translate into a brighter and more prosperous future for all.

I invite you to explore this report, celebrate our shared achievements, and join us in shaping a sustainable and inclusive future for Suriname.

Joanna Kazana
United Nations
Resident Coordinator



“Our initiatives in 2024 aimed to empower society, enhance governance, and ensure equitable growth.”

UN Country Team

The work of the United Nations is implemented by a dynamic team of sixteen (16) agencies, funds, and programmes working under the leadership and coordination of the United Nations Resident Coordinator, the Secretary General's designated representative for development operations in the Republic of Suriname.

10

UN Agencies Working in Suriname from Regional and International Offices



UN Agencies Working in Suriname

6





Key Development Partners of the UN Development System in Suriname



INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS



GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME

- Cabinet of the President
- Office of the First Lady
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation
- Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment
- Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries
- Ministry of Education, Science and Culture
- Ministry of Finance & Planning
- General Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Home Affairs
- Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs
- Ministry of Public Works
- Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Housing
- Bureau of Gender Affairs
- Bureau of Public Health (BOG)
- Regional Health Service (RGD)
- Chamber of Commerce (KKF)

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

- Association of Village Leaders in Suriname (VIDS)
- Organization of Cooperating Indigenous Villages in Para (OSIP)
- Centrale Opleiding voor Verpleegkundigen en beoefenaren van Aanverwante Beroepen (COVAB)
- KAMPOS
- Medical Mission
- Stichting Projekta
- Stichting LOBI
- Stichting Postacademisch Onderwijs Geneeskunde
- Women's Rights Centre
- De Associatie van Surinaamse Fabrikanten (ASFA)
- De Raad van Vakcentrales in Suriname (RAVAKSUR)

YOUTH & ACADEMIA

- UNFPA Youth Advisory Group
- Youth Parliament
- Anton de Kom University of Suriname (AdeKUS)
- Centre for Agricultural Research in Suriname (CELOS)
- PolyTechnic College Suriname (PTC)
- Wageningen University and Research

LOCAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

- National Development Bank
- Trust Amanah Bank

MULTI-LATERAL PARTNERS

- CARICOM (Caribbean Community)
- European Union (EU)
- Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)

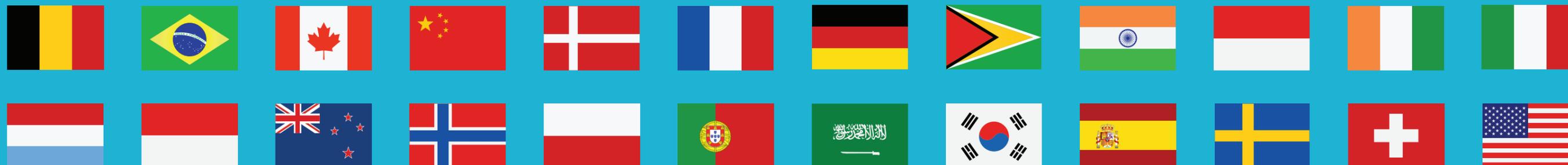
PRIVATE SECTOR

- Suriname Private Sector Association (VSB)
- Telesur
- The Backlot

SDG STRUCTURES

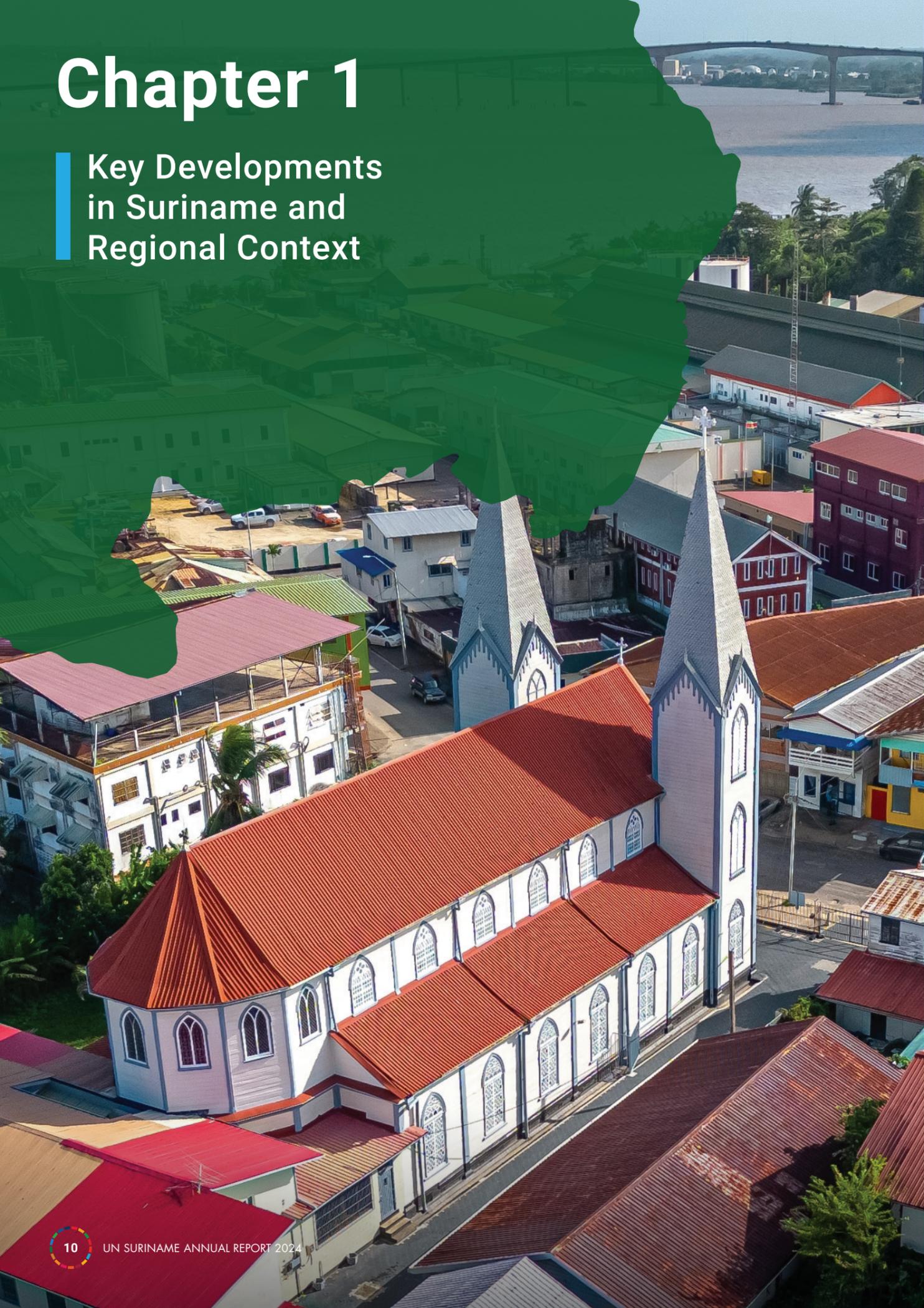
- National SDG Commission
- SDG Platform

BILATERAL PARTNERS



Chapter 1

Key Developments in Suriname and Regional Context



In 2024, Suriname navigated significant economic developments, marked by major investments and policy shifts. The most notable milestone was the launch of a \$10 billion offshore oil extraction project by TotalEnergies and APA Corporation—the largest investment in Suriname’s history. This project, set to begin production in 2028, is expected to drive economic growth and strengthen state revenues. To ensure long-term benefits from the energy sector, the government also operationalized the Sovereign Wealth Fund, aimed at managing future revenues for sustainable development.

MACROECONOMIC RECALIBRATION

Further enhancing economic prospects, Suriname became the 175th member of the World Bank’s International Development Association (IDA) in October 2024. This membership provides access to concessional financing and technical assistance, supporting investments in infrastructure, disaster risk management, and economic diversification. Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) continued to play a role in Suriname’s economic recovery, with the country successfully completing its eighth (8th) review under the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) arrangement. This resulted in USD 61M disbursement, reinforcing fiscal stability and ongoing reform efforts.

International credit rating agencies recognized these improvements. Moody’s upgraded Suriname’s credit rating to Caa1, reflecting growing confidence in the country’s economic trajectory, particularly in the oil sector. Standard & Poor’s Global Ratings also affirmed a stable outlook. Inflation showed a downward trend, averaging 16.2% by the end of the year, while debt-to-GDP levels improved from 92% in November to 78%, reflecting strengthened fiscal management.

As Suriname moves into 2025, its economic trajectory will be shaped by strategic national policy decisions and global economic conditions. The IMF projects a 3% GDP growth rate, with inflation expected to remain at 12.8%. To sustain progress, Suriname will need to focus on economic

diversification, ensuring that growth is not overly dependent on the oil sector. Investments in infrastructure, education, and digital transformation will also be crucial for long-term resilience.

REGIONAL DYNAMICS

Suriname’s economic progress took place within a broader regional context of political and economic change. Elections in key Latin American and Caribbean nations, including Mexico, Venezuela, El Salvador, Panama, the Dominican Republic, and Uruguay, influenced regional dynamics. While these elections brought both continuity and shifts in leadership, Suriname maintained its focus on strengthening economic and diplomatic ties across the region.

Trade and investment partnerships remained a priority, with Suriname engaging in discussions on energy cooperation, infrastructure projects, and financial agreements with neighboring countries. Regional organizations such as the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) continued to serve as platforms for economic collaboration and policy coordination.

Guyana’s rapid economic growth, primarily driven by its burgeoning oil industry, has significant implications for neighboring Suriname. In 2022, Guyana’s GDP grew by 62.3%, marking the highest real GDP growth globally for that year. Guyana’s per capita GDP exceeded Suriname’s for the first time in 2020. By 2021, Guyana’s per capita GDP was \$10,857, while Suriname’s stood at \$7,008. Recognizing the potential benefits of regional cooperation, both nations have initiated efforts to integrate their economies. The Suriname-Guyana Chamber of Commerce was established in 2024 to facilitate trade and investment flows between the two countries. Plans are under way for joint infrastructure projects. Engaging in bilateral exchanges can facilitate the sharing of best practices and collaborative efforts toward sustainable development in the region.

HUMAN CAPITAL

As a relatively small nation of about 620,000 people, Suriname faces significant labor shortages due to skills mismatches, emigration, and inadequate vocational training. While 30.2% of private sector jobs require vocational or university qualifications, only 9.4% of the workforce meets this standard. High emigration rates, particularly among skilled professionals, exacerbate the issue, while local education and training programs fail to align with industry needs. Employers emphasize the need for improved labor migration policies to attract skilled workers. Additionally, despite higher educational attainment among women, their labor force participation remains low, representing an untapped workforce. Addressing these challenges requires better education-to-employment alignment, vocational training, and inclusive labor policies.

HUMAN RIGHTS

In July 2024, the United Nations Human Rights Committee (HRC) conducted its review of Suriname's implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), with the concluding observations published in August 2024. This review, the first since 2015, marked a significant milestone in Suriname's human rights commitments, with the next review expected in 2030 or later. In its concluding observations, the Committee acknowledged Suriname's progress, including the establishment of an Anti-Corruption Commission, the ratification of key international conventions such as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the abolition of the death penalty in the military penal code. However, the HRC also identified critical areas requiring further action, making recommendations to strengthen legislative frameworks, governance structures, and law enforcement practices. Key areas of focus included the governance and operations of the Human Rights Bureau, anti-corruption measures, accountability, gender equality, and the prevention of violence against

women. Recommendations also addressed the rights of the child—emphasizing the prohibition of corporal punishment—along with Indigenous and minority rights, the prevention of torture and impunity, liberty and security concerns, trafficking and migrant protections, and improvements in birth registration and child rights. Moving forward, Suriname has an opportunity to build upon these conclusions and advance its human rights commitments in alignment with international standards.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Suriname has advanced women's rights through legal reforms, yet challenges persist. Laws ensure equal access to education, employment, and property, with protections against domestic violence and rape. Women hold 31.4% of parliamentary seats, reflecting progress in political participation. However, gender wage gaps, workplace discrimination, and high rates of domestic violence remain concerns. While laws criminalize sexual abuse, Suriname lacks specific legislation on sexual harassment.

Furthermore, Suriname has made progress in protecting children's rights, aligning with international standards and formulating new policies in the sphere of education. Health and education improvements include eliminating malaria-related child deaths and increasing preschool enrollment. However, challenges remain, including high rates of child abuse (88% experience violent discipline), trafficking risks, and gaps in child protection laws, such as the absence of a full corporal punishment ban. A proposed Child Ombudsman Institute aims to enhance access to justice. The ongoing drought threatens food security and healthcare, putting children in interior regions at risk. Continued efforts are needed to address these challenges effectively.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

Beyond economic and regional developments, Suriname remains distinguished by its rich natural and cultural heritage. With 92% of its land covered by forest, Suriname plays a crucial role in the preservation of the Amazon biome. As part of the Guiana Shield, the country holds vast biodiversity, making environmental conservation a key priority.

At the same time, Suriname's multicultural society—comprising Indigenous, Afro-Surinamese, East Indian, Javanese, European, Lebanese, and Chinese communities—continues to be a defining strength. Cultural diversity remains a pillar of national identity, shaping Suriname's social landscape and fostering a unique blend of traditions.

However, challenges such as climate change, deforestation, and environmental degradation necessitate continued efforts toward sustainable development. Policies aimed at balancing economic growth with conservation will be critical to ensuring that future generations benefit from both prosperity and a well-preserved natural environment.

Regional cooperation, particularly within CARICOM, ACS and OAS will continue to play a role in Suriname's development strategy. Strengthening trade agreements, enhancing financial partnerships, and addressing shared challenges such as climate resilience and security will be key areas of focus.

Suriname's Green Development Strategy (GDS), prepared in 2024 with the support of UN and other international partners and donors, and launched in February 2025, aims to balance economic growth, environmental sustainability, and social equity. It aligns with both the Multi-Annual Development Plan (2022–2026) and the UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2022 – 2026) to integrate environmental considerations into national policies. Key components include strengthening institutions with a US\$30

million IDB-backed project, developing a just transition policy for green jobs, and enhancing biodiversity conservation through protected areas and monitoring systems. The GDS also introduces sovereign carbon credits (ITMOs) to finance forest conservation. These efforts reflect Suriname's commitment to sustainable development and ecological integrity.

With strong fiscal management, continued investment in key sectors, and a commitment to sustainable development, Suriname is positioned to turn this period of economic transformation into a foundation for long-term stability and inclusive growth.



Chapter 2

UN Support to National Development Priorities through the MSDCF 2022 – 2026



2.1

Overview of MSDCF Results in 2024

The MSDCF 2022 – 2026 remains aligned to Suriname’s national priorities as laid out in the Multi-Annual Development Plan 2022 – 2026 (MOP). Structured around four priorities, the MSDCF is operationalized through a biannual Country Implementation Plan (CIP), ensuring coherence with both national and global commitments, including the 2030 Agenda.

UN MSDCF 2022-2026

-  **ECONOMIC RESILIENCE AND SHARED PROSPERITY**
-  **EQUALITY, WELL-BEING AND LEAVING NOBODY BEHIND**
-  **RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE & SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**
-  **PEACE, SAFETY, JUSTICE, AND THE RULE OF LAW**

The governance of the MSDCF 2022 – 2026 and CIP is jointly led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation and the UN Resident Coordinator's Office through the Joint National Steering Committee. This structure underscores the UN Country Team's (UNCT) commitment to national ownership and facilitates regular reviews of the CIP, allowing for agile responses to emerging risks and opportunities.

The UNCT's portfolio expanded by 22%, reflecting increased investment across key development areas including agriculture and climate adaptation. These results were grounded in the Common Country Analysis, which identified critical risks and opportunities for UN programming. Programming was further guided by MSDCF's core principles, including Leave No One Behind, human rights, and gender equality. UN Suriname's cumulative progress in delivery since 2022 demonstrates growing impact, particularly in agro-economic initiatives, service delivery, and climate efforts.

In 2024, UN agencies operating in Suriname reported a wide range of achievements across multiple thematic areas, reflecting a strong commitment to joint action and national development priorities.

In the health sector, Suriname is on track to receive certification for malaria elimination, marking a significant public health milestone. PAHO-WHO supported the integration of cardiovascular, hypertension, and diabetes care into primary healthcare services and introduced a digital health transformation initiative, including the rollout of a digital death certification system and telehealth services to improve specialist access in remote areas. Mental health saw major progress through partnerships between PAHO-WHO, UNICEF, and other stakeholders, with system strengthening, awareness efforts, and advocacy reaching national and international audiences. Suicide prevention work continued through joint programming, and efforts to improve medical procurement resumed with Suriname's renewed use of the PAHO Revolving Fund.

UNICEF and UNFPA advanced the health and rights of children and young people, with UNFPA initiating a national census project and expanding access to family planning services. This included the development of a roadmap to diversify contraceptive options and build provider capacity for long-acting methods.

UNFPA and UNICEF collaborated on comprehensive sexuality education, with two organizations now equipped to deliver out-of-school programs. Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention and response remained a priority for UNFPA, with upcoming training for frontline workers and a new referral pathway to be launched on Human Rights Day.

In education, UNICEF supported the adoption of a national policy addressing curriculum reform, teacher development, rural education needs, and investment in the sector. Plans for the country's first Children's Ombudsman are nearing completion, and a multi-sectoral early childhood development policy is also close to finalization. UNICEF contributed to improvements in immunization, water and sanitation, and early childhood health, while advocating for mental health through partnerships such as with Telesur and the First Lady of Suriname.

IOM worked to advance Suriname's migration governance framework with the finalization of national migration and diaspora engagement policies, now under validation. These efforts align with and contribute to the broader CARICOM migration strategy. IOM supported the reintegration of returning migrants, including housing and employment assistance, and is preparing a new project to strengthen post-arrival support and mental health services. An innovative labor mobility partnership was established with Belgium, enabling Surinamese nurses to work abroad while supporting domestic health institutions. Despite some challenges in the Afghan resettlement initiative, IOM continued its collaboration with local anti-trafficking units and began work on border management. Technical assistance for the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration is ongoing, with a review planned for 2025.

UNAIDS, in collaboration with PAHO-WHO, UNICEF, and UNFPA helped the Government with application to the Global Fund and worked on a proposal and emphasized the importance of civil society in leading the national HIV response.

UN Women supported gender mainstreaming through a webinar that engaged stakeholders from government and civil society. It contributed to the joint SDG Fund program by supporting the development of an M&E plan and building the capacity of government officers and women entrepreneurs, particularly within Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITP) communities. Despite being a non-resident agency, UN Women effectively leveraged local partnerships with support from the Resident Coordinator's Office.

Environmental sustainability was a central theme for UNDP, UNEP and FAO. UNEP addressed challenges in Suriname's compliance with UNFCCC reporting by facilitating participation in a regional project to strengthen transparency systems. The National Ozone Office continued its work under the Montreal Protocol to phase out harmful substances, although limited national capacity has caused delays. Suriname also signaled interest in joining the Cartagena Convention, with UNEP offering support if a formal request is made.

UNDP and FAO supported Suriname in developing a green development strategy and advancing GCF readiness for agricultural investments. FAO worked with the Ministry of Agriculture on an innovation hub focused on enhancing pineapple production and progressed a regional rice project. Suriname also contributed to global FAO initiatives on sustainable soil and fisheries management.

UNDP played a key role in electoral assistance, addressing gaps related to women's political participation, inclusion of vulnerable groups, and accessibility for remote communities. It continued to advance the "Leave No One Behind" agenda through projects focused on ITP communities, biodiversity, and sustainable development. Recently completed initiatives such as GCCA+ and

gender equality programs demonstrated long-term impact, while technical inputs from UNDP supported national green planning strategies and the ongoing NDC 3.0 process.

WFP deepened its engagement with Suriname through logistical cooperation and initiated a dialogue on food systems in the Amazon region, further enhancing the UN's contribution to inclusive and sustainable development in the country.

Collectively, these efforts not only reinforced Suriname's national development priorities but also delivered meaningful progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals and the broader 2030 Agenda.



2.2

Achieving MSDCF priorities, outcomes, and outputs

PRIORITY AREA 1



Shared Prosperity & Economic Resilience



OUTCOME 1:

MORE PRODUCTIVE AND COMPETITIVE BUSINESS ECOSYSTEM DESIGNED TO IMPROVE PEOPLE'S STANDARDS OF LIVING

These initiatives demonstrate the UN's efforts in advancing Suriname's green economy through sustainable agriculture and business formalization, directly supporting Outcome 1.

Strategic investments in agro-processing and improved farming techniques have driven progress on SDG 2 and SDG 12. The Agrifood Systems Transformation Accelerator (ASTA) has empowered small-scale farmers by strengthening processing capabilities and developing infrastructure to enhance access to finance (SDG 9) while also addressing gender challenges (SDG 5). Complementing this,

ILO-led initiatives aim to foster a sustainable business ecosystems by supporting MSMEs in transitioning to greener models (SDG 13) and expanding access to financial resources and markets (SDG 9).

ILO's formalization efforts contribute to a more inclusive formal economy (SDG 8, 10) designed to promote sustainable economic growth (SDG 1).

GOALS



6 PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES



\$6.8M

REQUIRED BUDGET



\$6.7M

AVAILABLE BUDGET



4.5M

EXPENDITURE



66%

DELIVERY RATE

OUTPUT 1.1:

SUPPORT PROVIDED TO PROMOTE INCLUSIVE, COMPETITIVE, AND RESILIENT BUSINESS ECOSYSTEMS

ADVANCING SURINAME'S GREEN ECONOMY THROUGH SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

As Suriname advances its transition to a green economy, there is significant opportunity to promote inclusive, competitive and resilient business ecosystems by expanding sustainable agriculture and prioritizing agro-processing. This strategic shift can boost rural employment, enhance food security, reduce dependence on imports, strengthen market competitiveness, and diversify the economy beyond extractive industries. The Government of Suriname recognizes agricultural development as a national priority and a key engine for economic growth.

UN agencies took joint action in laying the groundwork for sustainable agricultural growth through the Agrifood Systems Transformation Accelerator (ASTA) programme. Co-led by FAO and UNIDO, and supported by UNFPA and ILO, the ASTA joint programme aims to upgrade pineapple cultivation practices, while seeking to address gender and labor challenges and establish Suriname as one of the major pineapple producers in the Caribbean in the future.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024 UNDER ASTA PROGRAMME



\$300,000 grant from the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) funded crucial agronomic field trials, providing insights into Surinamese pineapple varieties under different conditions.



3 trial farms were established in Redi Doti, Matta, and Moengo, with over 3,000 pineapple plants grown.

Trial farms serve as living laboratories, testing traditional and modern cultivation techniques. Strong female participation in Matta and Moengo highlighted women's growing leadership in the sector.



Establishment of the Pineapple Innovation Hub, a multi-stakeholder platform designed to provide long-term support to agricultural producers. This is a pivotal milestone, with its first Board of Directors appointed.



Instead of building a new processing plant, the project strengthened existing enterprises like AMEA Pineapples and Cooperative Asajaka Weno, providing business consulting on finance, membership, and marketing.



140 ITP farmers—~70% women—received training in improved pineapple production models, demonstrating the economic benefits of enhanced agricultural practices.



A major breakthrough occurred when Massey Supermarket Chain (Barbados) visited Suriname to assess the potential for importing organic Surinamese pineapples, opening doors for regional market expansion.



174 farmers received gender capacity strengthening, equipping both men and women with skills in leadership, decision-making, conflict resolution, business management, and gender equity.



Formation of a women's farmer network and specialized gender-based training for cooperative groups, were the direct results of stakeholder engagement efforts.



1 business model for the Pineapple Cooperative Development (PCD) Company was developed by Wageningen University, awaiting market insights before launching.



1 Digital Platform for Pineapple Farmers, funded from a \$110,000 grant from the ELEVATE Initiative, is being developed in partnership with Dimitra. The Dutch-language app is planned to provide key information on the indigenous producers behind each pineapple through a traceability system and access to agronomic information for the farmers. The engagement of field agents, serving as community coordinators, is crucial in advancing digitalization within ITP communities.

The Suriname Agriculture Market Access Project (SAMAP) project concluded in 2024, but not before key consultations that brought together farmers, experts, and stakeholders to reflect on its impact.

Key lessons emerged: while ambitious export goals and gaps in baseline data posed challenges, the project's adaptability and strategic partnerships

drove success. A standout initiative was the Matching Grant Facility, which directly enhanced production and market access. These closing insights will guide the UN's future agricultural efforts.

SAMAP RESULTS



4,000

small farmers and agro-processors

~40%

of Suriname's small-scale farmers



received Training, Equipment and / or Grants aimed at increasing farmers' agricultural acreage, mechanization of farming systems.

Led to:



Increased productivity



Access to new local markets



Preparation to access export markets

Efforts through South - South Cooperation continued under the Response and recovery to the impact of COVID-19 on rural livelihoods and food systems in countries of the CELAC project. The FAO-led project completed a review of the existing agricultural data collection methods and data management systems at the Ministry of Agriculture. Based on a needs assessment completed at the Ministry, an optimum ICT solution

for the collection and management of agriculture production data was implemented. The project successfully strengthened the Ministry's capacity in moving data collection from paper-based to digital with the conversion of six digital forms, training of staff and the provision of ICT equipment. This capacity development will allow the Ministry to make evidence-based policy decisions and to provide improved services to farmers.



ACHIEVING A DOUBLE TRANSITION TO A JUST AND FORMAL ECONOMY

Through the Environmentally Focused Value-Chain Development project, ILO supported Just Transition and Formalization, both of which support a business ecosystem that is sustainable, well-regulated, and adaptable to economic and environmental changes, and are designed to improve people's standards of living.

Just Transition presents a major opportunity for Suriname's business ecosystem by fostering a shift toward sustainable economic models. By promoting green enterprise development, the ILO can support Surinamese MSMEs in adopting environmentally friendly, safer, and more productive business practices. The potential

impact is substantial: of the approximately 31,000 registered Surinamese businesses, 58% are MSMEs, which are key to economic diversification, job creation, and innovation.

Formalization presents another key opportunity given Suriname's large informal economy. ILO, in its role as a technical partner of the Decent Work Country Programme, supported the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs to develop pathways for businesses in the Tourism and Wood-Processing sectors, two industries highly vulnerable to informality, to enter the formal economy.

On both thematical areas, the government, by Ministry of Labour, has set up two committees to give further follow-up to these working areas:

PROMOTING JUST TRANSITION

Ensures that shifts toward environmentally sustainable economies are fair and inclusive, promoting green entrepreneurship, workforce reskilling, and social protection to enhance business resilience.

Results



ILO led the **MyGreenEnterprise** Methodology, which involves the greening of existing enterprises, focusing on the production process, and the promotion of green enterprises in the production of environmental goods and services.



20

new trainers (70% female) from the public, civil and private sectors trained in MyGreenEnterprise Methodology Train-the-trainer course.



1

Digital platform developed for VSB, including training in its usage with information on MyGreenEnterprise.



11

Enterprise representatives trained (6 female) on integration of MyGreen into their Action Plan.



1

Report on the study on Skills for green jobs for Suriname finalized.



FORMALIZATION

Strengthens business competitiveness and inclusion by helping informal enterprises transition into the formal economy.

Results



2 Sector assessments conducted

highlighting barriers and opportunities for enterprise formalization.



50+ Officials

contributed to insights and recommendations on pervasive informality. Participants included government, local enterprises, employers and business membership organizations, workers organizations, IOs, and civil society.



20 potential ITP entrepreneurs (70% female)

in Piere Kondre, Pokin Gron and Pikin Slee, and Matta engaged in awareness sessions, covering topics related to Formalization and Access to Finance. The incidence of informal work is high in these villages, particularly as the informal economy provides a primary source of livelihood. Key stakeholders involved in the sessions included KKF, Taxation, National Development Bank, and Labour Inspection were involved.

ILO ALSO EXECUTED CAPACITY STRENGTHENING ON BOTH TOPICS, JUST TRANSITION AND FORMALIZATION, ESSENTIALLY THE “DOUBLE TRANSITION.” AS PART OF THIS INITIATIVE, THE FOLLOWING RESULTS WERE ACHIEVED:

2 Tripartite Committees established (Just Transition and Formalization)

6 social dialogues and workshops completed with government, and employers to raise awareness on the Double Transition, engaging:



50 Municipal and government representatives trained in applying Just Transition principles in planning & budgeting.

Increased capacity for access to finance for small businesses together with the National Development Bank (NDB). NDB finance facilities were promoted, and potential entrepreneurs were prepared to apply. Efforts to increase financial access for small businesses were supported by discussions with the NDB, while municipal and village leaders were prepared to apply JT principles in planning, and local business were trained with MyGreenEnterprise Methodology.

OUTPUT 1.2:

STRENGTHENED INSTITUTIONS PROMOTE SOCIAL POLICY FOR DECENT WORK

ENHANCING CAPACITY FOR SOCIAL DIALOGUE

Social dialogue is essential for inclusive policymaking in the transition to a green and formal economy. To support this, ILO, through the SIVIS Labour College, helped trade unions strengthen their engagement with EMBOs, governments, and decision-makers, enabling them to negotiate and influence policies more effectively.



ILO also contributed to the update of the SIVIS negotiation module with two modules on Formalization and Just Transition, leading to enhanced training that will strengthen the capacity of social partners to engage in social dialogue and to contribute more effectively to developing and implementing policies.



PRIORITY AREA 2



Equality, Well-being and Leaving No One Behind

OUTCOME 3:

NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS USE RELEVANT DATA AND INFORMATION TO DESIGN AND ADOPT LAWS AND POLICIES TO ELIMINATE DISCRIMINATION, ADDRESS STRUCTURAL INEQUALITIES AND ENSURE THE ADVANCEMENT OF THOSE AT RISK OF BEING LEFT FURTHEST BEHIND

The initiatives outlined demonstrate the UN's progress in increasing national capacity to produce and utilize disaggregated data for evidence-based policymaking in Suriname, directly supporting Outcome 3. These efforts align with international standards for data-driven governance, advancing SDG 16 and SDG 17. Strengthened evidence generation has been a key focus, with research and analysis driving policy formulation across various sectors. Studies on mental health (SDG 3), education (SDG 4), social inclusion (SDG 10,

17), W.A.S.H. (SDG 6) and migration (SDG 10, 17) provide critical insights to guide targeted interventions and enhance national development planning. These efforts directly support Suriname's national priorities and the broader objectives of the 2030 Agenda, enabling Suriname to design and adopt laws that foster equality and inclusion, particularly for marginalized groups at risk of being left behind.

GOALS



30 PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES



\$3.9M
REQUIRED BUDGET

\$2.5M
AVAILABLE BUDGET

2.3M
EXPENDITURE

92%
DELIVERY RATE

OUTPUT 3.1:

INCREASED CAPACITY TO PRODUCE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DATA AND USE IT FOR EVIDENCE-INFORMED POLICYMAKING AND LEGISLATION

STRENGTHENING EVIDENCE GENERATION FOR INFORMED POLICYMAKING

Generating evidence for informed policy development is vital to fostering an inclusive society that upholds equality and human dignity. UNICEF's efforts focused on comprehensive studies on mental health, children with disabilities, and the impact of climate change on vulnerable populations, providing critical data to guide effective policymaking and improve service delivery.



STRENGTHENING DATA SYSTEMS FOR SMARTER POLICIES

Robust data systems are the backbone of sustainable development, enabling stakeholders to make informed, strategic decisions that address environmental, social, and economic challenges. Well-integrated systems ensure that accurate, timely, and interoperable data – such as insights from the 2024 census – can be effectively collected, analyzed, and shared to track progress, assess policy impact, and identify priority areas for intervention.

UNFPA provided comprehensive support for the coordination, planning, organization, execution and management of Suriname's ninth population and housing census, the first one in 12 years. The initiative, financed through a loan by the Inter-American Development Bank, is expected to contribute to the modernization of the General Bureau of Statistics (ABS) by strengthening the agency's capacity to collect, analyze, manage, and disseminate reliable and accurate socio-economic and environmental statistics for effective policymaking and broader public use.

In the health sector, PAHO/WHO has been working with the Ministry of Health to strengthen the Information System for Health (IS4H) and health surveillance. More than fifty (50) health care personnel, including General Practitioners, Hospital Coders and Staff from the BOG, were trained in the use of the Electronic Death Certificate that was developed to support and strengthen civil registration and vital public health statistics.

The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the Information Systems for Health (IS4H) team and the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) from the Netherlands, successfully launched the Digital Death Certificate System in August 2024, signifying an important step towards the digitization of health records in Suriname. The launch was complemented by a comprehensive training program on ICD-11 mortality coding, conducted by RIVM, aimed at enhancing the accuracy and standardization of mortality data.

Furthermore, in the agriculture sector, FAO advanced the Agricultural Census to provide reliable data on crops and livestock, supporting government policy and decision-making in the agriculture sector. Key achievements included developing census methodology, instruments, and a tabulation plan. FAO also trained government officials on census methodology, data collection using Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI), and data analysis with modern statistical tools, ensuring effective data management for future agricultural planning.



MENTAL HEALTH

1 MENTAL HEALTH STUDY COMPLETED

Results utilized to increase awareness around mental health, advocate for more resources and (free of costs) services for children and young people as well as the further shaping of UNICEF's mental wellbeing program in Nickerie.



CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

1 SITUATION ANALYSIS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Results are essential for understanding the current state of children with disabilities, will help UNICEF identify barriers and challenges that children with disabilities face in accessing education, healthcare, social services, and participation in the community.



CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

FIRST CLIMATE LANDSCAPE FOR CHILDREN ANALYSIS (CLAC)

Analysis of the Climate, Environment and Emergencies and how these adversely affect children, their rights and their access to services such as health, education, water supply and sanitation, and social policy. The findings of the CLAC will be used by UNICEF to advocate for the integration of climate resilience into child-focused policies and programs.

STRENGTHENING MIGRATION INFORMATION AND DATA ANALYSIS

Effective migration management requires robust data collection and analysis to inform policymaking and management strategies. In context of Suriname, IOM collaborated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to complete the Rapid Border Assessment and presented its Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS). This will enable the Government to address operational and technical challenges at Border Crossing Points (BCPs). The findings provide recommendations for improving safety, efficiency, national and international data sharing, and coordination between ministries.

Additionally, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with IOM support, strengthened its ability to collect and analyze migration data for better policymaking, building on the Situational Analysis and Profile of Foreign Nationals in Suriname and the Diaspora Engagement Policy. These studies identify data gaps, evaluate migrant tracking mechanisms, and offer insights into migrants' living conditions, economic activities, and needs. This groundwork will inform the National Migration Policy 2024-2030.



OUTCOME 4:

PEOPLE IN THE CARIBBEAN EQUITABLY ACCESS AND UTILIZE UNIVERSAL, QUALITY AND SHOCK-RESPONSIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION, EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE SERVICES

Initiatives under Outcome 4 strengthened Suriname's health, social protection, and education systems. In health, key advancements included strengthening human resources for health (SDG 3, 8), enhancing non-communicable disease management, and expanding digital health infrastructure. Mental health services expanded, and immunization efforts reached underserved communities. In social protection, Suriname advanced the development of the National Social Protection Strategy (SDG 10) and introduced a comprehensive policy framework for Indigenous and Tribal communities (SDG 1, 2, 5, 16, 17). In education, the National Education Policy ensured inclusive, quality learning (SDG 4). Climate-resilient W.A.S.H. programs improved school infrastructure, benefiting rural and Indigenous communities (SDG 6). These systemic reforms strengthen Suriname's ability to deliver equitable, shock-responsive services, ensuring long-term sustainability and inclusive national development, with an emphasis on Suriname's most vulnerable groups.



OUTPUT 4.1:

NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS HAVE IMPROVED CAPACITY TO PROVIDE ACCESS AND DELIVER SHOCK RESILIENT AND COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES

STRENGTHENED HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HEALTH (HRH)

Human resources for health (HRH) are crucial to ensure that Suriname's health system has a robust workforce to improve overall health delivery. PAHO/WHO played a key role in strengthening Suriname's HRH capacity through initiatives such as the training of Ministry of Health representatives to prepare for the Health Labour Market Assessment and the initiation of an occupational mapping exercise to assess HRH capacity and generate evidence that could inform integrated service delivery and workforce planning. Other activities included professional development for healthcare providers across multiple disciplines and an internship seminar showcasing public health career opportunities for young professionals.

ADDRESSING RISK FACTORS FOR NCDs AND ROAD SAFETY

Addressing Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and Road Safety is a priority for Suriname's public health agenda, as they impact both health and economic stability. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, PAHO/WHO has focused its efforts on combating NCDs and improving road safety, contributing to the advancement of SDG 3. Through strengthened legal frameworks, healthcare capacity, and targeted interventions, these initiatives are building greater health resilience across the country.

TOBACCO USE



PAHO/WHO emphasizes that tobacco use is a major risk factor for non-communicable diseases and advocates for initiatives to reduce tobacco consumption and promote healthy lifestyles. PAHO/WHO supported the Tobacco Control Legislation to align with the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) best practices.

OBESITY



PAHO/WHO tackled childhood obesity through food assessments and promoting healthy dietary guidelines and established the Health Promotion Strategic Plan and Unit within the Ministry of Health.

ROAD SAFETY



PAHO's Department of Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health (NMH) recognizes the importance of road safety as a public health issue. Strategic consultations on road safety have resulted in a comprehensive plan to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries.



PAHO

Health, our
most precious
resource
Bringing Health to
Every Corner of
the Americas



STRENGTHENED NATIONAL CAPACITY FOR NCDs

Enhancing the country's capacity to provide quality care for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) at the primary health care level is essential for improving health outcomes and ensuring sustainable healthcare systems. By focusing on evidence-based and integrated interventions, Suriname is better equipped to tackle the growing burden of NCDs.



CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH

PAHO/WHO supported the implementation of HEARTS in Americas initiative to tackle cardiovascular disease at primary health care level. This initiative enhanced the capacity of health authorities to plan and implement comprehensive NCD services in various primary care facilities throughout Suriname.



HYPERTENSION AND DIABETES

PAHO/WHO supported capacity building for the delivery of comprehensive quality Hypertension and Diabetes screening, diagnosis, treatment, and continuous follow-up care, including referral and counter-referral services using standardized protocols, medications, measurement devices, training tools. As result, more people diagnosed with Hypertension and Diabetes have access to quality care and control of the diseases.



CERVICAL CANCER

With PAHO/WHO support, the Ministry of Health launched the HPV vaccination campaign and established a technical group to accelerate the screening and precancer treatment towards implementation of the elimination roadmap.



STRENGTHENING OF ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH FUNCTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH STRATEGIES

Strengthening Essential Public Health Functions (EPHF) is crucial to improving Suriname's health system and achieving better health outcomes. By focusing on key areas such as surveillance, health promotion, and workforce development, PAHO/WHO is helping to build a resilient and responsive health infrastructure.

Through training for health personnel on epidemiological practices and emergency response, as well as supporting the development of health policies and the implementation of digital health tools, PAHO/WHO is enhancing data-driven decision-making. This technical support strengthens Suriname's health infrastructure, ensuring that public health services are more resilient, accessible, and sustainable across both urban and rural areas.

In parallel, PAHO/WHO has been working with the Ministry of Health and other relevant ministries to develop a strategy for 'Healthy Ageing' to

foster a comprehensive approach to aging and elderly health in Suriname. Although the strategy is yet to be finalized, progress has been made in strengthening the policy environment, especially after Suriname ratified the OAS Convention on the Rights of Older People.

MALARIA ELIMINATION PROGRESS

Eliminating malaria is a critical step toward achieving global health goals and fostering sustainable development. Malaria remains one of the most significant health challenges in many parts of the world, affecting communities and hampering progress on SDG 3.

PAHO/WHO provided technical support to the Government in preparation for certification as malaria-free by 2025, with an emphasis on eliminating local transmission and maintaining a fully functional service program to prevent re-establishment of transmission. These efforts contribute to strengthening the country's ability to prevent malaria, and other communicable diseases, ensuring long-term health improvements for its population.



STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL HIV RESPONSE

Combating HIV is essential to achieving global health targets and reducing the burden of communicable diseases. The newly approved Global Fund request for HIV, amounting to USD 3.4 million, including the Prioritized Above Allocation Request (PAAR), covers the period 2025–2027 and marks a significant step forward in national efforts to fight the epidemic. The development of this proposal was led and technically supported by PAHO/WHO, UNICEF and UNAIDS, ensuring alignment with international best practices and national priorities. The grant will enable the country to scale up prevention, treatment, and care services, reinforcing its commitment to ending HIV as a public health threat.

STRENGTHENING JOINT MEDICINE AND HEALTH COMMODITIES PROCUREMENT

Joint medicine and health commodities procurement is a vital initiative for ensuring equitable and timely access to essential medicines and health technologies. PAHO/WHO, together with UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP, IOM, and the Ministry of Health, completed a joint mission and workshop to strengthen Suriname's procurement practices, resulting in the development of a Plan of Action to streamline and fortify technical cooperation in the country's healthcare system.

Furthermore, the collaboration extends to addressing gaps in commodity security, particularly in Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH). In partnership with PAHO/WHO, UNFPA improved access to long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs) and modern contraceptives, addressing the unmet need for family planning. Through discussions, workshops, and practical sessions, healthcare professionals gained critical skills in the provision of contraceptive services, ensuring that families can make informed decisions to improve maternal and newborn health outcomes. A post-training support plan has been designed to continue capacity building, ensuring that the healthcare workforce is well-equipped to provide high-quality services.

IMMUNIZATION SUPPORT

Ensuring equitable access to healthcare, particularly in remote areas, remains a priority in Suriname, prompting collaborative efforts to strengthen immunization coverage and healthcare delivery across Suriname. With support from USAID, UNICEF procured a medical boat—allowing health services, including life-saving vaccinations, to reach isolated communities in West Suriname. Nearly 100 children and 350 adults in these hard-to-reach areas received essential healthcare, closing critical gaps in immunization coverage.

During the Vaccination Week in the Americas, UNICEF partnered with the Ministry of Health, Regional Health Service (RGD), and Medical Mission (MZ) to vaccinate 7,500 children — a major milestone in protecting young lives. The campaign also marked a breakthrough in gender-inclusive immunization, introducing the HPV vaccine for boys to ensure broader protection for all children.

Additionally, PAHO/WHO provided technical support provided to the National Immunization Plan 2024 –2027 to reduce the risk of vaccine preventable diseases in Suriname. PAHO/WHO provided further technical support provided to Suriname's ESAVI surveillance system through updates of the competencies of local staff, improvement in monitoring, management, reporting of ESAVI cases.

PAHO/WHO and UNICEF's efforts strengthened Suriname's immunization ecosystem, deepening collaboration with the National Immunization Program, Regional Health Services, and the Medical Mission. Together, they are making vaccine equity a reality.

STRENGTHENING MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY

Investing in maternal and child health is foundational to the development of both individuals and societies. Recognizing this, UNICEF has supported the launch of a digital Baby and Toddler Booklet, offering parents and caregivers accessible guidance on child development for children aged 0 – 5. This innovative resource empowers caregivers with the information needed to provide informed, responsive care, ultimately enhancing early childhood outcomes. In parallel, UNICEF has strengthened gender-responsive approaches to undernutrition and obesity by fostering supportive breastfeeding environments. This included community engagement efforts reaching 153 members, as well as the equipping of breastfeeding rooms in two hospitals to provide mothers with the support they need. Strategic high-level advocacy has also been pivotal in driving national policy development for improved breastfeeding support.

PAHO/WHO strengthened maternal and child health services through technical support to

the National Maternal and Newborn Health Strategy 2021 – 2025 and the National Adolescent Health Strategy 2023-2030. A key milestone in this effort was the pilot implementation of the Perinatal Information System (SIP) across five health facilities, including hospitals and health centers. The SIP strengthens the monitoring of maternal and perinatal health care quality, ensuring better health outcomes for mothers and newborns in Suriname.

ADVOCACY FOR ADOLESCENT SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS (ASRHR)

Advocacy for ASRHR is essential to ensure that adolescents have access to sexual and reproductive health services, empowering them to make informed decisions about their bodies and futures. To advance this cause, UNFPA led two (2) awareness sessions with members of the Standing Committees for Health and Youth in Parliament on topics related to Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health, and Gender Equality. By presenting relevant data, policy frameworks, including the MILENA Findings, the MC@10, and the ICPD@30, the sessions equipped members with the knowledge and tools to actively participate in national, regional, and international dialogues on these critical issues.



EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH ADOLESCENT SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH EDUCATION

For many young people in Suriname, conversations about sexual health, HIV, and STI prevention remain shrouded in stigma. UNFPA and the UNFPA Youth Advisory Group organized several awareness sessions on the topic of Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health:



95 Young participants (Aged 15-24)

The event included discussions on HIV testing, treatment, and prevention information as well as sexual and reproductive rights. It included demonstrations on condom use. Organized by the Stichting Postacademisch Onderwijs Geneeskunde Suriname (Foundation for Postgraduate Medical Education Suriname), in collaboration with youth advocates from the Women's Rights Centre, the UNFPA Youth Advisory Group, Stichting Lobi, and The Backlot.

HIV Youth Symposium: Su Youth Village on Sexual Wellness (Nov 2024)



50 young people (Aged 15-24)

Held at Stibula in Latour, the event hosted dynamic activities aimed at raising awareness and advocating for the importance of combating gender-based violence. The event fostered an environment that encouraged further learning, advocacy, and peer-to-peer awareness-building.

"Watch for Change" Event



9th Grade Students (Aged 12-16)

Held at an LBO school in collaboration with Medical Mission, students were engaged with information and data on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), gender-based violence (GBV), human rights, and family planning.

School Visit to Brokopondo

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION (CSE) IN-SCHOOL

Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) is essential for equipping young people with the knowledge, skills, and values needed to make informed decisions about their health, relationships, and future. It plays a crucial role in promoting gender equality, reducing adolescent pregnancies, preventing sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and upholding human rights. In Suriname, efforts to integrate CSE into the national education system are ongoing. UNFPA has fostered open dialogues between educational institutions, parents, and students, embedding sexuality education within Suriname's Basic Life Skills program. To support the delivery of CSE in schools, parent awareness materials—including a brochure, a print-ready poster, and a video—were developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Education's Basic Life Skills Education Unit.

Aligned with international standards, these CSE in-school materials emphasize the importance of providing young people with accurate, age-appropriate information to strengthen their decision-making, communication, and critical thinking skills. Recognizing the vital role of parents and caregivers, the materials also highlight their importance as trusted figures with whom children can discuss topics related to their bodies, relationships, and values. By empowering parents to serve as accessible and reliable sources of guidance, CSE fosters a supportive environment that enhances young people's overall health, well-being, and survival.

Through these efforts, UNFPA contributes directly to the goals outlined in Suriname's National Education Policy 2024 – 2031, particularly in the integration of Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) into the curricula of basic education, high schools, and vocational schools across Suriname.



ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND AWARENES

Mental health is a critical yet often overlooked component of overall well-being, particularly among adolescents who face increasing pressures and challenges. A recent UNICEF study revealed that 36% of adolescents (10-18 years) have contemplated suicide. An alarming group of 76% have indicated that they have experienced serious stress and or depression in the past 12 months, with Nickerie having the highest suicide rates nationally compared to other districts.

In response, UNICEF expanded its mental health education program with the Ministry of Education, whereby counselors use a mental health video series (12 videos) and learning plans to conduct sessions, enabling them to conduct mental health education and information sessions in their schools.

In addition, UNICEF also developed and piloted a comprehensive Mental Health Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) strategy to improve children's mental well-being in Nickerie, together with the Ministry of Health and the District Commissioner of Nickerie. This resulted in mental health awareness campaigns reaching over 30,000 individuals, capacity strengthening on community-based mental health services in 110 frontline professionals, and MH coping skills development in 206 adolescents and 445 caregivers. The piloted program strategy demonstrated the valuable impact of MHPSS strategies, gaining high-level commitment and paving the way for expansion to other districts, contingent on resource availability.



SIGNIFICANT RESULTS WERE ACHIEVED IN THE AREA OF MENTAL HEALTH ACROSS THREE (3) PILLARS:



ADAPTING HEALTH SYSTEM TO CLIMATE CHANGE

As climate change intensifies, its effect on human health is undeniable. In a groundbreaking consultation in Paramaribo, experts from multiple sectors – healthcare, agriculture, finance, environment, indigenous and tribal groups – convened with a shared purpose: to assess and adapt to the health challenges posed by climate change. Led by the Ministry of Health with technical support from PAHO/WHO, this cross-sectoral dialogue marked a crucial step in strengthening Suriname’s healthcare resilience. During the consultation, experts examined existing data, response systems, and gaps that must be addressed to protect public health. Discussions centered on how climate change is disrupting access to healthcare, complicating disease prevention efforts, and increasing risks for vulnerable populations.

OUTPUT 4.2: SOCIAL PROTECTION INSTITUTIONS HAVE INCREASED CAPACITY AND STRENGTHENED SYSTEMS TO IMPROVE ADAPTIVE RESPONSES, REDUCE POVERTY AND ENHANCE RESILIENCE, WITH UN SUPPORT



IMPROVE INCLUSION AND RESILIENCE OF ITPs BY LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

The principle of leaving no one behind lies at the core of the United Nations’ work, ensuring that vulnerable communities – such as Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs) living in Suriname – are meaningfully included in the journey toward a more equitable and resilient future. In 2024, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, and FAO jointly supported the development of a comprehensive policy framework for ITP communities. The framework was validated through an extensive

participatory process that adhered to Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) protocols, and was consolidated into a practical policy handbook. In parallel, a targeted mechanism for the delivery of social services was developed through consultation and needs assessments ensuring alignment with the specific needs, requirements and priorities of populations living in remote rural and hinterland areas as outlined below:



Addressing adolescent pregnancy among ITPs

- 14 healthcare providers (12 female) from the Medical Mission, AWJ, and Suriname Red Cross received a CSE Train the Trainers course by UNFPA and Stichting Lobi. 4 facilitators/observers participated in the training, bringing the total number of participants to 18.
- 14 ITP participants and 34 women of reproductive age received follow-up CSE sessions after the ToT course.
- 25 participants (80% female) received Out of school CSE training targeting young mothers and adolescents in Brokopondo, Marowijne, and Para.
- 10 mothers of diverse ages from Matta were engaged in discussions about the impact of social media and gender norms on the SRH choices of adolescents.
- On International Youth Day, a dialogue was conducted with ITP youth representatives, with a focus on CSE and ASRH, two components of the Action Plan of the National Strategy on Adolescent Health. The aim was to validate complementary actions to ensure the achievement of milestones and performance indicators, particularly within ITP communities. The developed knowledge products, training materials, and materials guiding the dialogue sessions serve to further strengthen adolescents’ sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) and empower them to make informed decisions.



Agricultural Practices (FAO)

- 17 government officials from the Ministry of Regional Development and Sport received training on Good Agricultural Practices, helping to facilitate inclusive and resilient agricultural development in ITP communities.
- 25 women and 10 men in three communities received training on training on Highland Rice production (soil management, seeding and network building) to improve farming practices. The training equipped farmers with the knowledge, a good practice manual, and small tools to share and implement best practices across neighboring villages, ensuring lasting sustainability beyond the UNJP timelines.



Support for Female Entrepreneurs (UN Women)

- 27 female ITP entrepreneurs received capacity building in producing business and communication plans, budgets, marketing strategies and customer service policies. The training was informed by a gender-transformative and inclusive needs assessment which integrated FPIC principles, and was organized in collaboration with VIDS, Chamber of Commerce and Ministry of Economic Affairs.



Results Based Management Training for ITP Initiatives (UN Women, UNFPA)

- 10 government officers received RBM training on M&E plans, tools, reporting to aid in improving the design and implementation of future LNOB initiatives and reporting to donors and stakeholders.
- 56 stakeholders attended a gender mainstreaming webinar on integrating gender perspectives into policies to create enabling environments for ITP female entrepreneurs.
- 12 Medical Mission participants and 13 Government representatives were trained in data literacy skills to enhance M&E capabilities regarding SDG indicators. The training covered qualitative and quantitative analysis, as well as SPSS skills for effective data gathering. Following the training, a data literacy protocol was developed for government partners.



Skills Development for ITP women (UNDP)

- 48 Indigenous women from various villages in East Suriname were trained in micro-entrepreneurship and textile production, equipping them with the skills to generate sustainable incomes.

PATH TOWARDS A COMPREHENSIVE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM

Social protection strategies play a critical role in fostering inclusive growth, reducing inequalities, and building resilient societies. Comprehensive social protection systems not only safeguard vulnerable populations against economic shocks and poverty but also stimulate economic activity by enhancing human capital and productivity. Suriname has made progress in improving its social protection although its coverage remains far from universal. As of 2024, only 33.6% of its population are covered by at least one social protection benefit, excluding health, leaving approximately two thirds of the population without any form of protection.

Nevertheless, with ILO support, the Government of Suriname reached a consensus to move forward with the development of a National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS)—a game-changer in ensuring broader social security coverage for all Surinamese citizens. The NSPS links the legislative reform to tangible social security outcomes – it is more than a policy document. It is a commitment to building a stronger, more inclusive future where no one is left behind.

The process, which began in 2022 with a Comprehensive Review of the Social Protection System of Suriname, engaged more than 25 different State institutions, including key Ministries (Labour and Youth Affairs, Social Affairs and Public Housing, Health, Home Affairs, Finance and Planning), as well as workers’ and employers’ organizations, and international development partners, such as IDB and IMF.

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Housing is working on the submission of an Inter-Ministerial Working Group for the implementation of the NSPS to the Council of Ministers and the National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS) will be submitted to Parliament in 2025. This landmark reform of Suriname’s social protection system also contributes to successful implementation of ILO’s current Decent Work Country Programme of Suriname (DWCP) 2023 – 2026, and the ILO Flagship Programme on Social Protection, which supports 50 countries worldwide.

With ILO support, Suriname took a historic step toward strengthening social protection and workers’ rights by becoming the 67th country to ratify ILO Convention No. 102—the global benchmark for social security standards. On November 28, 2024, the Government of Suriname formally submitted its ratification of four key ILO conventions:



No.102

(Social Security – Minimum Standards, 1952)

Strengthens workplace oversight and ensures fair labor conditions in the agricultural sector.



No.129

(Labour Inspection in Agriculture, 1969)

Strengthens workplace oversight and ensures fair labor conditions in the agricultural sector.



No.131

(Minimum Wage Fixing, 1970)

Strengthens workplace oversight and ensures fair labor conditions in the agricultural sector.



No.183

(Maternity Protection, 2000)

Strengthens workplace oversight and ensures fair labor conditions in the agricultural sector.

These ratifications reinforce Suriname’s commitment to decent work, social justice, and workers’ rights, aligning with its Decent Work Programme. “Ratifying Convention No. 102 is a major step forward,” said Minister of Labour Steven MacAndrew. “It will guide us in implementing the National Social Protection Strategy and ensuring

comprehensive support for our people.” With this move, Suriname is laying the foundation for a stronger, fairer future where workers are protected, wages are fair, and social security is a right for all.

ADVANCING DISABILITY INCLUSION IN SURINAME

Disability inclusion is a fundamental pillar of human rights, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of ability, have equal access to opportunities, dignity, and meaningful participation in society. Advancing disability inclusion in Suriname is a crucial step toward building a more inclusive world, where every child can fully participate and thrive. With UNICEF's support, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Housing developed the Minimum Standards for Engaging Children with Disabilities – a groundbreaking framework promoting dignity, respect, and equal opportunities for children with disabilities. Launched on the 2024 International Day of People with Disabilities, these standards set clear principles and expectations for all individuals and institutions working with children with disabilities, reinforcing a national commitment to inclusion and rights protection.

To further strengthen this effort, UNICEF conducted a deep-dive study of the social protection system, analyzing district profiles and the roles of the District Commissioners' Offices. Supported by disaggregated data, this study has enhanced understanding of how social protection impacts children at national and sub-national levels, enabling more effective policy and decision-making.

Furthermore, a UNICEF-supported Situation Analyses for children with disabilities, provided up-to-date information, including data, on the lived experiences of children with disabilities in Suriname. This report uncovers critical systemic gaps and identified opportunities for further collaboration to improve services. By integrating these findings into policy and program development, Government will be better equipped to address the needs of children with disabilities and ensure more inclusive services.



DATA-DRIVEN INSIGHTS FOR FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

Understanding and addressing food insecurity is essential to safeguarding vulnerable communities and fostering resilience in the face of systemic shocks. The seventh round of the Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) survey, launched by the WFP, provided critical insights into regional and national food security dynamics, highlighting both progress and persistent challenges:

Survey Insights



Reduction in Food Insecurity:

The survey reported a 17% decline in food insecurity levels compared to 2023, signaling that strategic interventions are beginning to yield results.



Persistent Challenges:

Despite these improvements, approximately three million individuals – 78% more than pre-pandemic levels – continue to experience moderate to severe food insecurity, highlighting the lingering impact of systemic shocks, including the COVID-19 pandemic.



Vulnerability Hotspots:

Low-income households, individuals with disabilities, and those with chronic illnesses remain disproportionately affected. Alarming, one-third of respondents reported low resilience to natural hazards, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions in these communities.

OUTPUT 4.3:

NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENED TO DELIVER SHOCK-RESILIENT EDUCATION AND LEARNING.

STRENGTHENING EDUCATION IN SURINAME

Prioritizing education is crucial for advancing progress toward the SDGs, particularly SDG 4, by ensuring inclusive, high-quality education for all. UNICEF has been instrumental in the development of the National Education Policy 2024 – 2031, which serves as a strategic roadmap to achieve inclusive education across Suriname.

This policy focuses on system and curriculum reforms, innovative teaching methods and capacity, as well as the creation of safe and inclusive learning environments. It aims to strengthen human capital and institutional capacity, thereby improving student well-being, fostering talents, and enhancing skills and employability to prepare students for future challenges.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

In early childhood development, UNICEF has made significant strides by rolling out the “Play, Discover & Learn” curriculum to strengthen early learning, including for children with special needs.



13,500

views on social media for early stimulation and learning content, raising awareness and engaging caregivers.



150 children and 15 daycare workers

annually benefited from the expansion of the “Play, Discover & Learn” curriculum to 10 additional daycares in 2024.



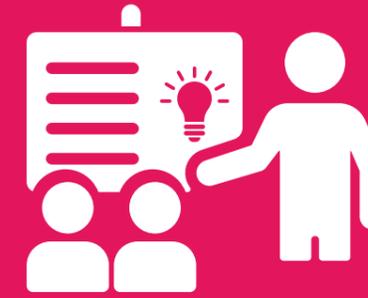
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National ECD policy was officially launched in 2024

Its early stimulation and learning content reached a wide audience through social media, raising awareness and engaging caregivers. In parallel, the national Early Childhood Development (ECD) policy was officially launched with UNICEF’s support, marking a major milestone in intersectoral collaboration, with the Ministry of Education leading the coordination efforts.

STRENGTHENING FOUNDATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS OF CHILDREN

Strengthening foundational literacy, numeracy, and multilingual education is critical to ensuring equitable access to quality education and empowering children with essential skills for lifelong learning. UNICEF supported a Teacher Professional Development Program focused on emergent literacy instruction, aligned with Suriname’s commitment to foundational learning.



Teacher Professional Development Program



30 Schools



Paramaribo, Nickerie and Brokopondo



115 teachers in a 2-year program



Directly benefiting 900 students



Reading Skill Improvement in Grades 2 and 3

This initiative aims to improve reading skills in Grades 2 and 3 across several schools in Paramaribo, Nickerie, and Brokopondo. Additionally, capacity-building efforts focused on enhancing French proficiency for 40 teachers in 10 border schools, where French is used as a supportive language of instruction. To ensure sustainability, 17 master trainers, 5 lecturers, and 19 students from the Teacher Training Institute for Higher Education (IOL) are receiving ongoing French language training, with the long-term goal of increasing the pool of qualified French teachers in Suriname.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN SCHOOLS VULNERABLE TO NATURAL DISASTERS AND CLIMATE-RESILIENT W.A.S.H. SERVICES

Enhancing emergency response in schools is essential for building resilience against climate challenges such as floods and droughts. In collaboration with the Ministry of the Spatial Planning & Environment, UNICEF launched the Climate Landscape Analysis for RR) on children, guiding future programs.

To strengthen adaptive capacity, UNICEF also conducted a W.A.S.H. in Emergencies training, equipping key sector participants with the skills needed to address sanitation challenges during crises. Additionally, sustainable water access solutions were proposed through the review of Household Water Treatment Systems. These initiatives foster resilience and safeguarding the well-being of vulnerable communities, particularly children, across Suriname.

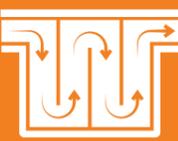
Furthermore, in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources, UNICEF has enhanced W.A.S.H. services in vulnerable hinterland schools and remote Indigenous communities. Improvements include upgraded water supply systems, handwashing facilities, and sanitation in schools, alongside hygiene campaigns benefiting thousands of students and community members. A solar-powered water pump and filters now provide clean water to an Indigenous community, while trained community members ensure long-term system maintenance.



1 Climate Landscape Analysis for Children completed.



27 Strategic partners empowered in W.A.S.H in Emergencies Training



1,000 students and teachers
benefitted from improved water supply systems, handwashing sinks, and sanitary bins in vulnerable hinterland schools.



1,000 students directly
reached through hygiene promotion campaigns, with over 5,000 people indirectly impacted.



500 students
benefitted from the rehabilitation of sanitation facilities.



>120 People
gained improved water access in a remote Indigenous community through the installation of a solar-powered water pump and filters.



PRIORITY AREA 3



Resilience to Climate Change and Shocks and Sustainable Resource Management



OUTCOME 5:

CARIBBEAN PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES, AND INSTITUTIONS ENHANCE THEIR ADAPTIVE CAPACITY FOR INCLUSIVE, GENDER RESPONSIVE DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION.

The Outputs outlined demonstrate the UN's progress in climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable resource management initiatives directly supporting Outcome 5. Gender-responsive adaptation actions align with the principles of the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, further advancing SDG 5 and SDG 13. In 2024, a strong focus on disaster preparedness, humanitarian logistics (SDG 2), and climate education (SDG 4), reinforced long-term resilience. Efforts in water resource management (SDG 6) and early warning

systems (SDG 13) strengthened community resilience. The intersectionality of health and climate change is an important consideration for building resilient health systems, as climate-related challenges such as extreme weather, food and water insecurity, and the spread of infectious diseases disproportionately impact vulnerable populations and require integrated, adaptive solutions (SDG 3).

GOALS



26 PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES



\$8.1M

REQUIRED BUDGET



\$6.6M

AVAILABLE BUDGET



4.9M

EXPENDITURE



74%

DELIVERY RATE

OUTPUT 5.1:

STRENGTHENED INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY FOR GENDER-INCLUSIVE ADAPTATION AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT



GENDER-INCLUSIVE ADAPTATION

Climate change and its impacts are not gender neutral and nor are its policies and actions. Recognizing the need for inclusive adaptation and disaster management, and in alignment with Suriname's Gender Vision Policy Document 2021-2035, UNDP trained 26 individuals in the development of Gender-Responsive and Gender-Inclusive Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) systems and capacities of the Water Resources Sector for Gender Responsive Monitoring, with the goal of strengthening institutional capacity.

HEALTH ADAPTATION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

The intersection of health and climate change highlights how environmental can impact human health through various mechanisms – extreme weather events, food and water insecurity, and the spread of infectious diseases – posing a significant threat to global health and development. In alignment with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 13 (Climate Action), PAHO/WHO provided technical support to the Bureau of Public Health (BOG) in developing a Health National Adaptation Plan (HNAP). This plan strengthens the resilience of health systems, ensuring they can anticipate, absorb, and adapt to climate-related challenges while safeguarding population health.



OUTPUT 5.2:

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS HAVE CAPACITY, ACCESS TO FINANCE AND CAN APPLY TECHNOLOGIES TO DELIVER ON GENDER RESPONSIVE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION



INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY FOR INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Strengthening water resource management is essential for mitigating climate risks, ensuring sustainability, and protecting livelihoods and ecosystems in Suriname. Through the UNDP Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) Phase 2 project, implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources, and the Ministry of Public Works, UNDP enhanced institutional capacity for hydrological and meteorological data collection and monitoring.

As part of strengthening institutional capacity, staff at the Meteorological Service Suriname (MDS) and the Hydraulic Research Division (WLA) of Ministry of Public Works were trained on the

installation, maintenance, and use of the HydroMet instruments, improving long-term data reliability.



39

Hydro-Met Instruments installed

KEY INTERVENTIONS IN THE COASTAL AREA FURTHER BOLSTERED NATIONAL RESILIENCE AND ENHANCED CAPACITY, INCLUDING:

- Restoration of the Bigi Pan Slipway and Nature Conservation Division (LBB) Building
- Construction of two field posts in Nickerie and Coronie
- Development of a Communications and Education Strategy for NCD



Additional actions included the completion of a water quality assessment and the development of recommendations for surface water quality standards, the endorsement of draft legislation on surface water, and a capacity needs assessment for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) professionals. A report on surface water quality was finalized, alongside three research reports on mangroves prepared for publication.

Additionally, in the area of disaster risk reduction included preparation of Districts Disaster Management plans and capacity building at the local government level and communities.



BUILDING A CLIMATE-RESILIENT FUTURE

In a landmark effort to drive sustainable development while balancing economic growth with environmental conservation, the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment, with support from UNDP and FAO, developed the Green Development Strategy (GDS). The process integrates technical analysis, scenario planning, and nationwide stakeholder consultations to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive approach. The GDS, set to be reviewed in Parliament in 2025, marks a significant step toward Suriname's commitment to a greener, more resilient future.

In 2024, the UNDP secured a €3 million grant from the European Union for mangrove restoration, an investment which underscores the EU's continued

partnership in protecting Suriname's coastal ecosystems, which serve as natural barriers against rising sea levels.

Additionally, GCCA+ also made possible an extensive renovation, expansion, and modernization of the Nature Conservation Division (NCD) office in Nickerie. This is a game-changer for conservation efforts in Suriname. By strengthening the operational capacity of the NCD, this upgrade enables more effective management of coastal ecosystems, enhance conservation research, and environmental protection efforts. With this enhanced infrastructure, Suriname is reinforcing its commitment to safeguarding natural resources, supporting biodiversity, and ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come.

UNDP supported the further elaboration of the Extended Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) for Southeast Suriname, designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through renewable energy while addressing poverty alleviation, access to clean energy, potable water, telecommunications, and income generation as well as reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

In addition, the UNDP co-funded water provision systems for Indigenous and Tribal communities in Pelelutepu and Curuni, located in the Deep South of Suriname, further advancing inclusive and sustainable development in the region.

EARLY WARNING SERVICES DELIVERY

As climate change heightens flood and drought risks in Suriname's interior, equipping at-risk populations with early warning tools is paramount. In partnership with the Ministry of Public Works and financed by the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, UNDP launched the "Enhanced Early Warning Services Delivery to Communities of

Suriname" project, to mitigate extreme rainfall and flooding.

The \$246,000 investment from the Government of India's \$1 million commitment under the India-UN partnership fund, supported the purchase and installation of Hydro-Met equipment and ArcGIS equipment and training. These tools enable:

- Real-time weather and flood monitoring through Hydro-Met systems;
- Data-driven decision-making via ArcGIS, a digital platform that analyzes spatial patterns and infrastructure vulnerabilities;
- Interactive maps and Visualizations, including maps have been developed to better understand spatial patterns and infrastructure challenges.

As part of the India-UN Development Partnership Fund's broader mission, this project contributes to climate adaptation efforts across CARICOM member states, helping communities build long-term resilience.



STRENGTHENING HUMANITARIAN SUPPLY CHAIN AND LOGISTICS CAPACITIES TO PROTECT ACCESS TO FOOD AND LIVELIHOODS

Strengthening disaster response capabilities is key to building resilience. In partnership with CDEMA, WFP developed the Supply Chain Maturity Model to assess and enhance logistics performance, enabling disaster management agencies like National Coordination Center for Disaster Management (NCCR) to evaluate national capacities and target areas for improvement. Suriname (NCCR) was the first country to roll out the SCAN (Supply Chain Assessment Navigator) tool. Furthermore, a major milestone was the completion of the Regional Logistics Hub in Barbados, a key component of WFP's strategy to strengthen the capacity of CDEMA and participating states in all areas of emergency supply chain management. The hub will centralize disaster response coordination, improve logistics efficiency, and provide warehousing and training to bolster regional preparedness and resilience.

ENHANCING DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION

Climate change and natural disasters threaten cultural heritage, vital for preserving national identity and supporting sustainable development. To address this, UNESCO launched the Cultural Emergency Response (CER) to bolster cultural heritage protection in the Caribbean. At Suriname's request, a UNESCO-ICOMOS mission evaluated the impact of constructing the new National Assembly Hall in Paramaribo's Historic Inner City, providing recommendations to safeguard its heritage, reinforcing UNESCO's commitment to integrating cultural heritage with disaster risk management.

CLIMATE EDUCATION FOR YOUTH AND CHILD-INCLUSIVE DISASTER RISK PROGRAMMING

Climate education remains a key pillar for the United Nations, ensuring that future generations are equipped to lead Suriname's fight against climate change.



300 students
in Nickerie

benefited from an interactive expo, where they engaged with hands-on learning experiences about climate change, sustainability, and conservation, under UNDP's GCCA+ initiative.



35
Youth

were trained in climate priorities, resilience strategies, advocacy skills and in the development of campaign materials under UNICEF's Young Climate Leaders Programmes, which took place in partnership with The BackLot.

UNICEF collaborated with the Ministry of the Environment to initiate the Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC), a baseline study to inform future climate-related programmes affecting children, set for completion in 2025.



FAMILY PLANNING AND SRH IN EMERGENCIES

Access to family planning and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services in emergencies is a critical component of disaster preparedness and response. The Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) is a set of essential actions to be implemented within the first 48 hours of a crisis to reduce mortality and morbidity related to sexual and reproductive health. Under UNDP-led EnGenDer project, UN Women and UNFPA strengthened disaster preparedness and response capacity when it comes to sexual and reproductive health and the prevention of Gender Based Violence in emergencies. Dedicated MISP training sessions were conducted for district disaster preparedness teams.

Led by UNFPA, 23 health care professionals from key Primary Health Care Providers (including the Medical Mission, the Regional Health Service and national hospitals) received first responder training, not only enhanced their crisis response capabilities but also addressing the important issue of preventing sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (PSEAH), which is a crucial aspect of humanitarian efforts. The participants identified important steps for integrating MISP into national health and disaster preparedness frameworks, strengthening the country's resilience in the face of future crises.



OUTPUT 5.3:

POPULATIONS IMPACTED BY SHOCKS AND DISASTERS RECEIVE ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO MEET ESSENTIAL NEEDS, PROTECT LIVELIHOODS AND PRESERVE THEIR NUTRITION STATUS.

EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN FOOD SYSTEMS THROUGH THE SCHOOL MEALS COALITION

Extreme weather disrupts education and worsens food security, making school meals crucial for maintaining school attendance and ensuring that children receive necessary nutrition. Following an overview of school feeding activities in Suriname, WFP shared several recommendations to the Ministry of Education, prompting the Ministry of Education to commit to the School Meals Coalition. To implement these commitments, the Ministry of Education proposed an Inter-Ministerial Task Force to develop a school feeding policy and pilot program focused on indigenous food systems. WFP also convened stakeholders to explore Amazon food systems, reinforcing food security and community resilience.



OUTCOME 6:

CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES MANAGE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS TO STRENGTHEN THEIR RESILIENCE AND ENHANCE THE RESILIENCE AND PROSPERITY OF THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES THAT DEPEND ON THEM.

The initiatives below demonstrate significant progress in strengthening environmental governance, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources, directly supporting Outcome 6. The UN's efforts in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) sector improved environmental management, reduced deforestation, and enhanced biodiversity through strengthened institutional capacity and advanced monitoring technologies, accelerating SDGs 13, 14, and 15. Climate-smart agriculture initiatives improved soil management and agricultural resilience (SDG 2). Additionally, fisheries management and marine biodiversity benefited from improved governance frameworks, targeted training, and bycatch reduction efforts, aligning directly with SDG 14 and supporting the long-term sustainability of marine resources and fishing communities.

OUTCOME 6.1:

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENED FOR SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT.

IMPROVING ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF THE ASGM SECTOR

UNDP, in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources, is addressing environment challenges in Suriname's Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) sector, including deforestation, water contamination, and biodiversity loss.

Through the EMSAGS project, UNDP has strengthened institutional capacity and inter-institutional coordination and increased availability of funding for ASGM management. In 2024, foundational mining training programs expanded to include advanced mining, gender training and Near Real Time Monitoring (NRTM) / drone training, enhancing key government institutions capacity for sustainable natural

resource management. As a direct result of the training, the Geological Mining Department (GMD) established its own drone department.

Baseline studies, including forest mapping, forest carbon mapping and biodiversity assessments, have enhanced the management of ASGM's environmental impacts. UNDP worked on the policy and planning framework for the management of the environmental impacts of ASGM. Key policies and guidelines for the management of ASGM were developed, including: the National Action Plan (NAP) for ASGM and the revised Mining Law. Furthermore, sustainable mining practices were promoted through the Mining Training and Extension Centre (MTEC) in Brokopondo and an environmentally responsible mining (ERM) demonstration site is active.

Through these efforts to strengthen environmental management institutions and promote sustainable ASGM practices, UNDP contributes to the long-term resilience of natural resources, ultimately enhancing the prosperity and well-being of the communities that depend on them.



Additionally, 2024 saw further upscaling of the efforts through the GOLD+ project with the Project Management Unit is on board and visiting 3 additional locations for demonstration for environmentally responsible mining.

South - South and triangular exchanges are an integral part of building knowledge and skills on environmentally responsible mining (ERM) including visits to Brazil, Philippines and to Suriname by Dutch based Foundation on mined out areas land restoration.

STRENGTHENING BIODIVERSITY ACTION

Protecting Suriname's nature and promoting sustainable land use are key to preserving important ecosystems and wildlife. These efforts help build a stronger future by involving local communities and encouraging cooperation between public and private sectors. Key biodiversity initiatives led by UNDP's includes a Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) assessments at Brownsberg and Brinckheuvel Nature Parks, and preparation made for assessments in two additional areas. Regional ranger training launched and focus group sessions completed. Suriname's Jaguar Management Plan with monitoring framework drafted. Public-private partnership (PPP) gap analysis at Brownsberg Nature Park conducted and a life plan for communities in Coeroeni-Paroe Landscape developed.

UNDP supported the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning in updating the country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) under the Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (GBF-EAS) project. Funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the GBF-EAS project is designed to mobilize funding and support so that countries can meet new biodiversity targets. Suriname's NBSAP emphasizes increased funding for conservation and restoration. The updated strategy also focuses on expanding protected areas, enhancing biodiversity data collection, and improving monitoring systems.

BOOSTING CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE

Prioritizing climate-smart agriculture is crucial for securing food systems and adapting to climate change. By adopting sustainable and efficient methods, Suriname can mitigate the environmental impact of farming while promoting economic growth. Since 2016, FAO and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) have been scaling up investment in projects that make the agriculture sectors more efficient, inclusive, sustainable and resilient to climate change – and Suriname is no exception. In 2024, 25 government officers were trained in soil monitoring techniques, carbon sequestration, and soil fertility, building their capacity to develop a National Soil Monitoring System for climate reporting and action.



Trainings at Fisheries Department at Ministry of Agriculture in gear trial data analysis

Contributed to participants ability to define measures to improve pre-catch survival of ETP species, moving Suriname one step closer to reducing adverse fisheries impacts.



Trainings to improve data collection methodologies

This will contribute to enhanced fisheries data.



Completed a draft assessment of the National Fisheries Management Framework

This will contribute towards updated fisheries policy and regulatory frameworks associated with target fisheries, further strengthening governance and management frameworks as well as enforcement measures.

ADVANCING BYCATCH MANAGEMENT AND PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

Marine conservation efforts and fisheries management reforms aim to reduce bycatch and support ecosystem-based fisheries management. FAO's CLME+ project, funded in part by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) strengthens sustainable fisheries in the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems, thereby providing economic opportunities while ensuring the conservation of marine living resources. By improving marine habitats and fisheries governance, the project enhances biodiversity conservation, and the long-term sustainability of fishing communities.

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY TO COMPLY WITH MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS & CONVENTIONS

As a signatory to the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement, Suriname has completed initial technology needs assessments and related SDG 13 reporting. Through UNEP's GEF-funded Biosafety Project, the country enhanced stakeholder capacity by updating Biosafety Clearing House (BCH) training materials and protocols, ensuring access for NGOs, scientists, industry groups, and border control agencies.

Suriname also made progress in eliminating persistent organic pollutants (POPs) under UNEP's regional GEF-funded ISLANDS Child Project, which prevents the accumulation of POPs, mercury, and other hazardous chemicals while strengthening national expertise and regional collaboration.

Additionally, under UNEP's PROMAR Project—implemented by the Cartagena Convention Secretariat—Suriname continues to benefit from capacity-building initiatives on marine litter prevention, supporting its ongoing efforts toward adopting the Cartagena Convention and its three protocols on oil spills, land-based pollution, and protected areas.

PRIORITY AREA 4



Peace, Safety, Justice and Rule of Law

OUTCOME 7: REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LAWS, POLICIES, SYSTEMS, AND INSTITUTIONS IMPROVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND PROMOTE PEACE, SOCIAL COHESION, AND SECURITY

The Outputs reflect significant progress in institutional strengthening to reduce gender-based violence, violence against women and children, enhance child protection, and advance human rights and good governance, directly supporting Outcome 7.

These efforts advance SDG 16 by promoting accountability and legal protection, SDG 5 by addressing violence and discrimination, and SDG 10 by ensuring inclusive access to justice and governance.

GOALS



13 PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES



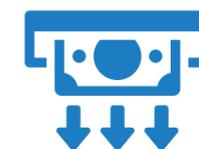
\$2.4M

REQUIRED BUDGET



\$1.5M

AVAILABLE BUDGET



1.5M

EXPENDITURE



100%

DELIVERY RATE

OUTPUT 7.1:

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY STRENGTHENED TO REDUCE GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND/OR ABUSE



ADVANCEMENTS IN CHILD PROTECTION

Improving child protection is essential for building an inclusive society that prioritizes children's rights. In 2024, with UNICEF's support, Parliament approved legislation to establish the Child Ombudsperson Institute, and four (4) HCCH child protection conventions were submitted for ratification – critical steps toward aligning national policies with international standards. UNICEF also advanced legislation to introduce alternative measures for children in conflict with the law, reducing the number of children in detention and promoting their reintegration into society. Another major achievement was the establishment of a child-friendly pre-detention facility in Nickerie, allowing children and adolescents to stay in a familiar environment during judicial procedures while maintaining connecting with their families.

Additionally, UNICEF supported the creation of a data system to provide comprehensive guidance and support for children navigating judicial processes. Collectively, these initiatives have strengthened Suriname's institutions, enhanced access to justice, and upheld children's rights consistent with SDG 16, fostering a more just, inclusive, and child-friendly society.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN

A functioning justice system for children safeguards their rights and strengthens societal stability. In alignment with this vision, UNICEF facilitated consultations with 124 children, including those with disabilities, from schools, childcare facilities, and (pre-)detention centers, to capture their experiences and assess their access to justice. The consultations provided valuable insights into their lived experiences and concerns; they also assessed the children's ability to exercise their right to access justice and seek remedies for rights violations.

Additional consultations were conducted with 34 stakeholders, including government, NGOs, and the judiciary, resulting in critical insights that helped verify whether States Parties are taking the necessary legislative, administrative, and other procedural measures to ensure children's right to access justice and effective remedies are fully realized.

SUPPORT TO CHILDREN IN NEED OF SPECIAL PROTECTION

Supporting children in need of special protection is essential for safeguarding their safety, well-being, and long-term development. With UNICEF's support, the Ministry of Education enhanced the capacities of 264 care coordinators and school principals to reduce various forms of Violence Against Children (VAC) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV). This was achieved through training in behavior management and providing Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS). UNICEF also facilitated a Train the Trainers program, implemented by the Office of the Prosecutor, focused on grooming laws, child pornography prevention, as well as strategies for building children's resilience and understanding the consequences for victims and perpetrators.

These initiatives promoted positive behavioral changes and strengthened social norms around violence, gender-based violence, and domestic violence. They also enhanced resilience by educating children and adolescents on how to prevent and cope with violence, while ensuring their safety, well-being, and rights, with a focus on MHPSS.



OUTPUT 7.2:

GOVERNANCE MECHANISMS STRENGTHENED TO PROTECT AND ADVANCE HUMAN RIGHTS, COMBAT CORRUPTION, REDUCE CRIME AND CURB VIOLENCE

STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE MECHANISMS TO ADVANCE HUMAN RIGHTS

The completion of the “Operationalization of the National Human Rights Institute” project marks a key milestone in Suriname’s human rights commitments. With UNDP support, the Ministry of Justice and Police enhanced its capacity to meet reporting obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. A dialogue with authorities and CSOs gathered input on treaty obligations, identified policy gaps, and assessed the status of treaty compliance. To further align with international human rights standards, an assessment of civic space practices was conducted to evaluate alignment with international human rights standards and promote civic engagement.

To support effective, inclusive, and accountable institutions and processes capable of sustaining peace, ensuring respect for human rights and the rule of law, UNDP also supported Parliament in updating regulations to improve democratic processes and ensure more efficient execution of constitutional functions. Additionally, the Ministry of Justice and Police and UNDP analyzed climate security issues in the forestry and gold mining sectors, addressing governance challenges. This analysis helps to identify gaps and design policies that mitigate and prevent conflict situations between the Indigenous and Tribal communities and concession holders.

ELECTORAL SUPPORT IN ADVANCE OF THE 2025 GENERAL ELECTIONS

Fair and credible elections are essential for strong democracies and inclusive governance, where all groups in society have a voice and are fairly represented in decision-making. Ahead of the 2025 general elections, UNDP strengthened capacity of Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) in the process of organizing fair and credible elections, by facilitating discussions on public engagement and civil society partnerships, emphasizing women’s rights and women’s participation in decision-making and leadership. Six (6) training sessions engaged a broad set of stakeholders (including EMB staff and political parties) to encourage political organizations to work on gender-balanced participation. Participants were trained on integrating gender-inclusive policies, strengthening women’s political representation, and gathering qualitative data on threats and opportunities for women’s participation in decision making.

UNDP also provided technical expertise to Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) to align election training manuals and curricula with international standards, incorporating human rights and gender perspectives, ensuring polling station staff are fully prepared to guide the process of voting on the day of the elections. Furthermore, voter education emphasized inclusivity, focusing on women and minority groups such as Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs), and informed stakeholders of the procedural changes as part of the electoral reform. Support included seventeen (17) dialogues and knowledge exchange events on electoral procedures, stakeholder responsibilities, legal requirements and communication channels.



6

TRAINING SESSIONS

encouraging gender-balanced participation in the 2025 elections



415

OFFICIALS

trained in gender inclusivity and ethical leadership,



262
of which were women



17

DIALOGUES AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE EVENTS

on electoral procedures, responsibilities, legal requirements & communication lines



ENHANCING MIGRATION PROTECTION IN SURINAME

Enhancing migration and refugee protection contributes to safeguarding the rights and dignity of displaced communities. In this context, UNHCR supported the participation of two (2) Surinamese government officials in the Cartagena Convention, enabling the officials to engage with regional partners, exchange best practices on migration and refugee protection, and enhance national capacity for addressing humanitarian challenges.

UNHCR facilitated capacity strengthening and fostered international cooperation by supporting specialized training for government officials at the Sanremo International Humanitarian Institute, where they enhanced their expertise on asylum, protection, and mixed migration. UNHCR also issued approximately 1,100 certificates to asylum seekers and refugees covering both new applicants and renewals, facilitating their access to critical services and protection measures.

Furthermore, IOM supported the integration and re-integration of 36 migrants (32 male, 4 female) in Suriname by assisting them in becoming self-sufficient. The support included legal assistance, vocational training, (transitional) accommodation, health, mental health, income support and community engagement.



COMBATting TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Suriname made great progress in addressing Trafficking in Persons resulting in achieving Tier 1 in the US Annual Trafficking in Persons (TiP) Report. In partnership with the Government of Suriname and law enforcement agencies, IOM supported efforts to combat human trafficking and supported a group of 14 trafficked persons with medical, shelter, food and non-food.

These efforts contributed to improved victim protection services, increased law enforcement capacity, and greater awareness and coordination on anti-trafficking measures, ultimately strengthening Suriname's overall response to human trafficking.



OUTCOME 8:

PEOPLE IN THE CARIBBEAN AND COMMUNITIES ACTIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO AND BENEFIT FROM BUILDING & MAINTAINING SAFER, FAIRER, MORE INCLUSIVE, AND EQUITABLE SOCIETIES

The initiatives reflect the UN's progress in strengthening government and civil society capacities to challenge harmful social norms and promote safer, fairer, and more inclusive societies, directly supporting Outcome 8. These efforts address Gender-Based Violence (SDG 5) and promote access to Comprehensive Sexuality Education (SDG 10), fostering social inclusion and empowering marginalized groups. Key UN efforts focused on equipping communities with tools to uphold human rights and ethical governance (SDG 16).



OUTPUT 8.1:

GOVERNMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITIES ARE STRENGTHENED TO ADVOCATE FOR, IMPLEMENT AND MONITOR EFFORTS TO CHALLENGE HARMFUL SOCIAL NORMS, AND BUILD AND MAINTAIN SAFER, FAIRER, MORE INCLUSIVE, AND EQUITABLE SOCIETIES

CAPACITY BUILDING ON COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) empowers youth to make informed decisions, reduces unintended pregnancies, STIs, and gender-based violence, empowering gender equality and supporting. UNFPA spearheaded the delivery of CSE training sessions to key populations, including healthcare providers, through a “Train the Trainers” program conducted by Stichting Lobi Health Center. As a result, several national government and civil society organizations strengthened capacities and mechanisms to deliver CSE to combat gender-based violence and harmful practices and enhance the ability of individuals to exercise their sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES PACKAGES: ADVOCACY TO UPDATE THE REFERRAL PATHWAY

A series of impactful sessions addressing GBV were conducted as part of a ToT, focusing on both GBV awareness and updating the current referral pathway for survivors. These sessions were organized in collaboration with 14 female trainees from a wide range of government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The training was led by a team of three trainers / facilitators (2/3 female), ensuring a diverse and inclusive learning environment.

The training materials used were initially adapted from the GBV in Emergency training that had been developed during the COVID-19 pandemic, following further adaptation and deepening during the Train of Trainers session, by the 14 trainees themselves. This hands-on, collaborative approach allowed the trainees to adjust and update the content to better suit the current needs of their respective organizations and communities.

Following this process, three interactive one-day sessions were conducted, facilitated by the trainees themselves, and attended by 60 participants representing government agencies, civil society organizations, and religious institutions. These sessions focused on using a human rights-based approach and framework, and on utilizing the updated referral pathway addressing needs identified from the assessment of essential services in the health, social, justice and police sector.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND HARMFUL PRACTICES

Empowering communities to address Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and harmful practices, is critical for building a safer society. UNFPA also oversaw a series of initiatives.



60

PARTICIPANTS

from government, Medical Mission, civil society, and religious organizations attended interactive sessions on addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV), focusing on updated referral pathways and human rights-based service provision.



156

PARTICIPANTS

including members of ITP communities attended Gender & Abuse trainings, which equipped them to address violence in personal and professional contexts. Participants learned how to apply knowledge their personal lives and in situations where someone they know may be a victim of violence or abuse.



18

STAKEHOLDERS

from various government sectors, the private sector, traditional leaders, and CSOs (14 female, more than three quarters female) Received training on integrating Gender and SDGs into agricultural cooperatives, with the goal of fostering societal change in the agricultural sector. Participants learned how to integrate these concepts into agricultural cooperatives and associations.

PROMOTING INCLUSIVE AND ETHICAL DIGITAL PROMOTION

In an era where digital technologies are reshaping societies, UNESCO is leading efforts to ensure a digitally resilient and informed Caribbean. Central to these efforts are the CARICOM-endorsed Caribbean AI Policy Roadmap for ethical AI governance, the Media and Information Literacy Program, which equips youth with skills to combat disinformation, and the Open Educational Resources Initiative, enhancing access to culturally relevant content and lifelong learning.

SHAPING FUTURE LEADERS THROUGH MODEL UNITED NATIONS

In June 2024, young minds in Suriname stepped into the world of diplomacy and international relations at the Suriname Model United Nations (SUMUN). Supported by UNDP and the Rotary Club in partnership with Anton de Kom University, the event immersed students in real-world negotiations under the theme “Border Dispute.” Participants debated territorial conflicts, sharpening their diplomacy, leadership, and problem-solving skills. More than a conference, SUMUN empowers young leaders to think critically, collaborate, and prepare for futures in global governance.



2.3 Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

In advancing the Sustainable Development Goals and mobilizing resources for the 2030 Agenda, the United Nations in Suriname played a pivotal role in forging strategic partnerships that drive transformative change. Through innovative collaborations, multi-stakeholder engagement, and south-south cooperation, UN Suriname facilitated an enabling environment for sustainable development while unlocking new financing opportunities in 2024.

Key partnerships that have contributed to SDG acceleration



TRANSFORMATIVE EFFORTS FOR SDG ACCELERATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

UNICEF Suriname and telecommunications company Telesur joined forces in 2024 to enhance the well-being of children in Suriname. Through a newly signed Memorandum of Understanding, UNICEF and Telesur worked together to promote child-friendly workplace policies, advance skills development, and drive awareness campaigns addressing mental health.



SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION: ADVANCING THE SDGS IN SURINAME'S HINTERLAND

The UN-India Development Fund is advancing Suriname's SDG efforts with a \$1 million grant from India, announced by Prime Minister Modi in 2019. This funding supported climate resilience in Suriname, namely the "Enhanced Early Warning Services Delivery" initiative, which strengthens flood prediction and response in Surinamese villages.



FINANCING THE 2030 AGENDA TOGETHER WITH THE JOINT SDG FUND

In 2024, the Joint SDG Fund continued to co-finance impactful joint programmes, including Leaving No One Behind and ASTA. Led by the UN Resident Coordinator and implemented collaboratively by the UN Country Team in Suriname, these initiatives streamline resources, reduce transaction costs, and maximize impact.

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

In 2024, UN agencies in Suriname continued working together as 'one', under the Delivering as One approach. This allowed for more efficient and effective delivery, more coordinated joint programming, reduced transaction costs, and a more integrated and impactful approach to development cooperation. Implementation of the UN Reform has aligned individual agency programs with the MSDCF 2022 – 2026, leading to streamlined service delivery, policy coherence, and operational efficiency. Under leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator, the UN portfolio has benefited from enhanced strategic coordination, allowing the UN to work better together in advancing national priorities.

JOINT PROGRAMMES TO INCREASE COHERENCE AND REDUCE TRANSACTION COSTS

Key initiatives, such as the Agrifood Systems Transformation Accelerator (ASTA), illustrate how cross-sectoral joint programming can leverage strengths and resources of various UN agencies in supporting the needs of key vulnerable groups such as Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs), rural women, and youth. Similarly, the Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) Resilience and Livelihoods Joint Programme shows the UN's capacity for cross-sectoral policy development and capacity building while reducing transaction costs. Meanwhile, the EnGenDER project, extended in 2024, integrates gender equality and human rights into climate resilience efforts across nine Caribbean countries, ensuring efficient disaster recovery planning while reducing costs through synergized systems.

ENHANCING EFFICIENCY THROUGH JOINT MEDICAL PROCUREMENT

In 2024, the United Nations successfully conducted a joint mission and workshop led by PAHO/WHO with support from UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP, and IOM. This initiative was part of a broader effort to strengthen Suriname's procurement of medicines and health commodities, improving healthcare delivery while reducing transaction costs. The workshop brought together key stakeholders to highlight the importance of efficient medical procurement systems in achieving better health outcomes. A central focus was on enhancing the national procurement mechanism and promoting the adoption of UN procurement systems, particularly the PAHO Strategic Fund. The Fund is a strategic mechanism that allows countries to jointly procure vaccines, medicines, and essential medical supplies at lower costs and with greater efficiency. It operates as a pooled procurement system where PAHO negotiates with manufacturers on behalf of participating countries, ensuring a reliable, cost-effective, and equitable supply of critical health products. By leveraging these joint procurement mechanisms, Suriname can optimize resource allocation, enhance medical supply availability, and ultimately strengthen its healthcare system to save more lives.

EFFICIENCY GAINS THROUGH THE BUSINESS OPERATIONS STRATEGY

The United Nations in Suriname continued its implementation of the Business Operations Strategy (BOS), a framework designed to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of UN operations at the country level. By streamlining business practices and promoting collaboration among UN agencies, the UN's joint Operations Management Team works collaboratively to reduce operational costs in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In 2024, the United Nations in Suriname saw total savings of \$122,769, nearing the initial target of \$130,000. These efficiency gains were primarily driven by:



Among UN entities, UNICEF and UNDP realized the most significant cost avoidance, achieving savings of \$47,300 and \$22,651, respectively. These efforts underscore the UN's commitment to operational efficiency and resource optimization.



COMMUNICATION AS ONE

In 2024, the inter-agency UN Communication Group, chaired by UNICEF, continued to work to enhance coherence and effectiveness of UN communications at the national level, ensuring consistent and unified messaging.

United Nations agencies in Suriname harnessed the power of storytelling to foster dialogue, raise awareness, promote human rights, and deepen public understanding of critical social issues. In 2024, two key film events exemplified this commitment.

In February 2024, the UN hosted the Human Rights 75 Film Tour in Paramaribo, marking the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Organized in partnership with the International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights (FIFDH) and UN Human Rights (OHCHR), the event featured a documentary screening followed by a panel discussion on

discrimination and women's empowerment. Drawing 63 participants (45 women) from UN agencies, embassies, government, civil society, the private sector, and youth groups, the discussion explored pressing human rights challenges.

Building on this momentum, Suriname participated in the Global Migration Film Festival (GMFF), showcasing four compelling films that captured the complexities of migration, culture, and identity the power of film to humanize migration. Hosted in Paramaribo by IOM, with support from the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM), the festival hosted discussions that delved into irregular migration, cultural heritage, and the emotional impact of displacement, encouraging attendees to reflect on identity, belonging, and the contributions of migrants to their new communities.

2.5 Lesson Learned and Evaluations

Strategic learning remains a priority for the UN country team in Suriname, utilizing lessons learned to improve program delivery and policy coherence and thereby ensuring that interventions remain responsive to evolving national priorities and global challenges.

LEVERAGING DATA FOR INFORMED COLLABORATION

Recognizing the importance of evidence-based decision-making, the UNCT has reinforced the use of UN INFO to track progress on the MSDCF 2022-2026. The platform enables real-time monitoring, evaluation, and risk assessment, allowing the UNCT to adapt programming based on emerging trends and lessons learned. This data-driven approach has improved coordination across agencies and enhanced the ability to measure the impact of UN interventions, ensuring that resources are allocated efficiently and effectively.

CONTINUED SUPPORT TO SDG MECHANISMS

The UN has supported efforts of the National SDG Commission and SDG Platform, both of which play a key role in Suriname's advancement of the Sustainable Development. By supporting these mechanisms, the UN facilitates alignment between global commitments and national sustainable development efforts, ensuring that policies and programs are effectively integrated to drive progress. Continued engagement can help streamline resources, foster cross-sector collaboration, and strengthen Suriname's ability to meet its development objectives in line with international best practices.

JOINT POLICY ADVICE TO THE GOVERNMENT IS CRITICAL GIVEN THE UPCOMING ENERGY WINDFALL

The United Nations remains committed to Suriname's sustainable development, providing joint policy advice on the strategic management of future energy revenues. Recognizing the transformative potential of these funds, the UN continues to advocate for timely investments in health, education, infrastructure, and social protection to ensure long-term, inclusive growth and reaffirms its dedication to strengthening Suriname's acceleration of the SDGs.

EVALUATION OF THE SAMAP PROJECT

As the Suriname Agriculture Market Access Project (SAMAP) neared completion in 2024, FAO conducted a qualitative evaluation using the Most Significant Change (MSC) methodology, capturing firsthand accounts from beneficiaries of the Matching Grant Facility (MGF) and revealing key successes such as reduced labor burdens, increased efficiency, improved product quality, and expanded cultivation. The evaluation also highlighted SAMAP's achievements in market access, food safety, and capacity building, including the establishment of three value chain platforms. In leveraging SAMAP results and achievements, a framework to guide agrifood investments in Suriname was developed creating a comprehensive strategy outlining key goals, priority policies, and investment areas to boost agrifood sector productivity and trade.



PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR LED TO INNOVATIVE WAYS OF ACCESSING THE COMMUNITY

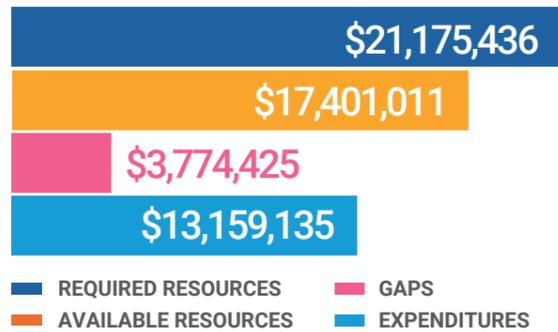
The UN deepened partnerships with the private sector to drive innovation, mobilize resources, and scale up development initiatives. Collaborative projects, such as UNICEF's partnership with telecom provider Telesur have demonstrated the potential of leveraging private sector expertise to reach a broader group of an estimated 350,000 beneficiaries.

2.6 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

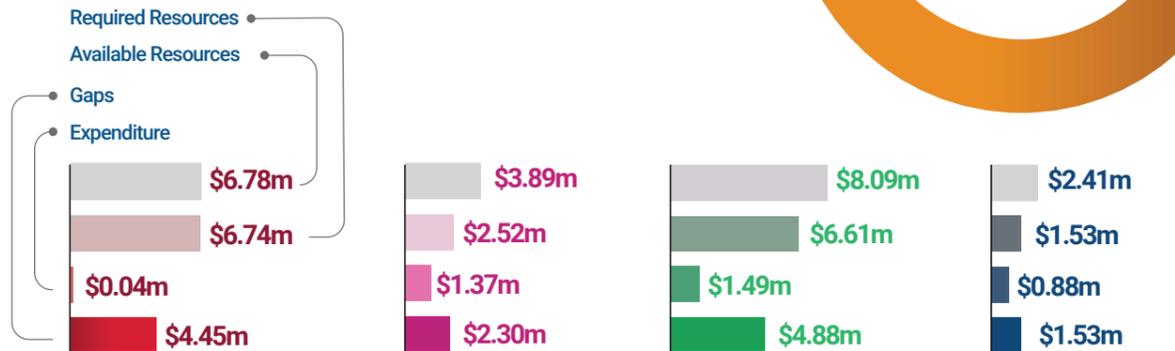
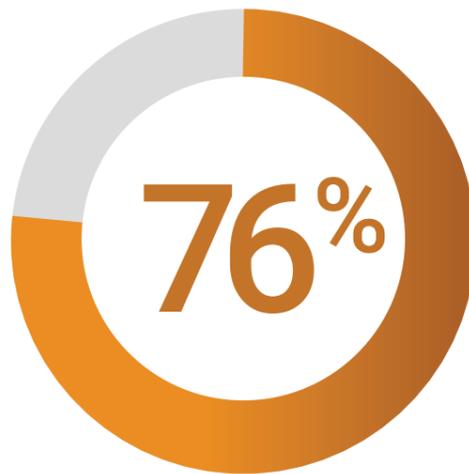
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

In 2024, the third year of implementing the MSDCF 2022 – 2026 in Suriname, the UN's required budget was \$21.2 million. The total expenditure was \$13.2 million, translating to a delivery rate of 76% across the four priority areas. The remaining available resources are rolled over to the 2025 Country Implementation Plan.

MSDCF



DELIVERY RATE



TOP 7 SDG GOALS BY INVESTMENT

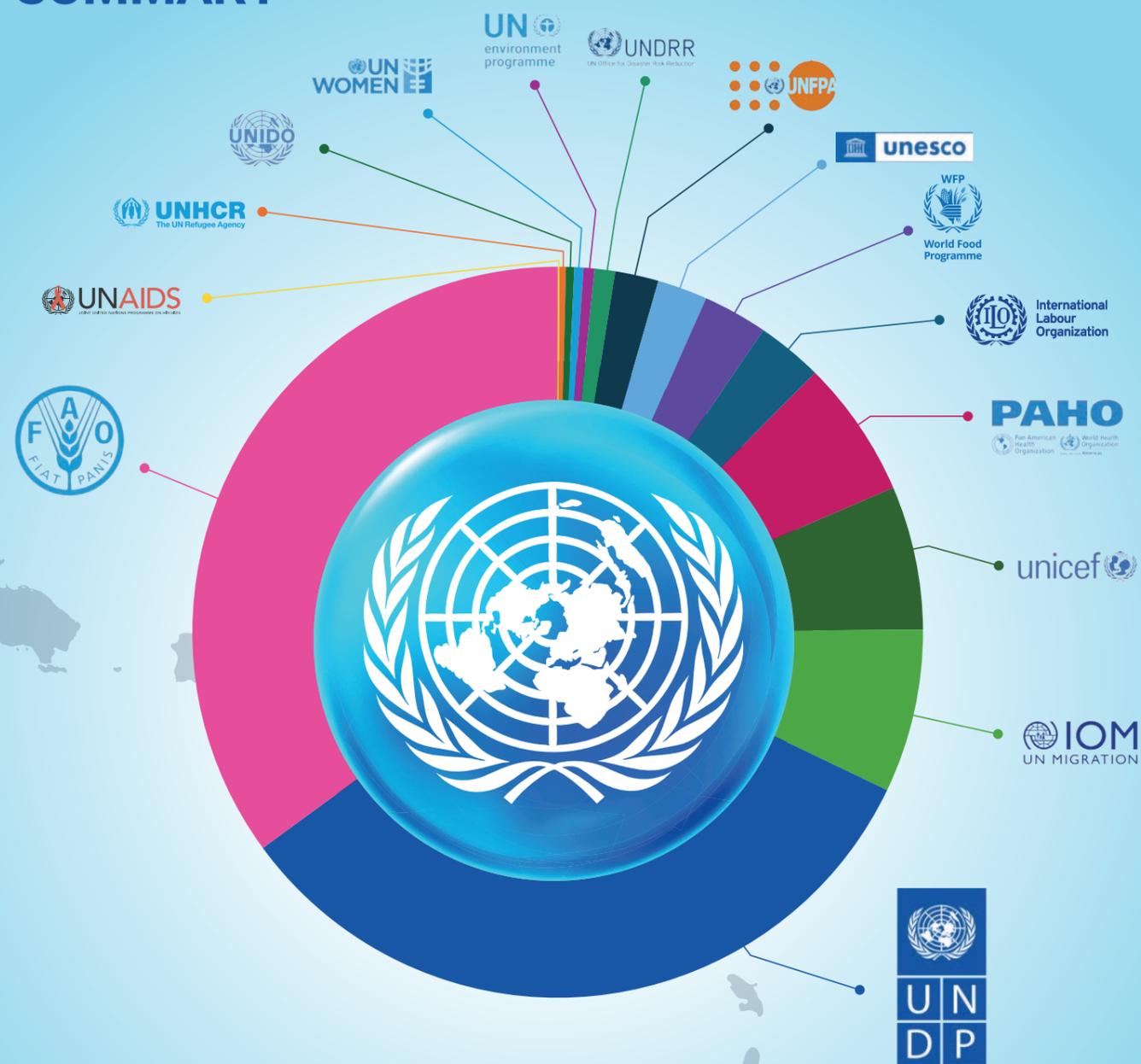


CONTRIBUTION OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES TO THE SDGS



AGENCY EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

\$13,159,135



2.6.2 Resource Mobilization and Quality of Funding

Resource mobilization at the country level is closely aligned with the principles of the UN Funding Compact, ensuring more predictable, flexible, and transparent financing for sustainable development.

This approach promotes pooled funding mechanisms, joint programming, and multi-stakeholder engagement, aligning financial resources with national priorities and the 2030 Agenda. By adhering to the Funding Compact's commitments, the UN fosters greater accountability, efficiency, and impact in delivering results that drive long-term, sustainable development.

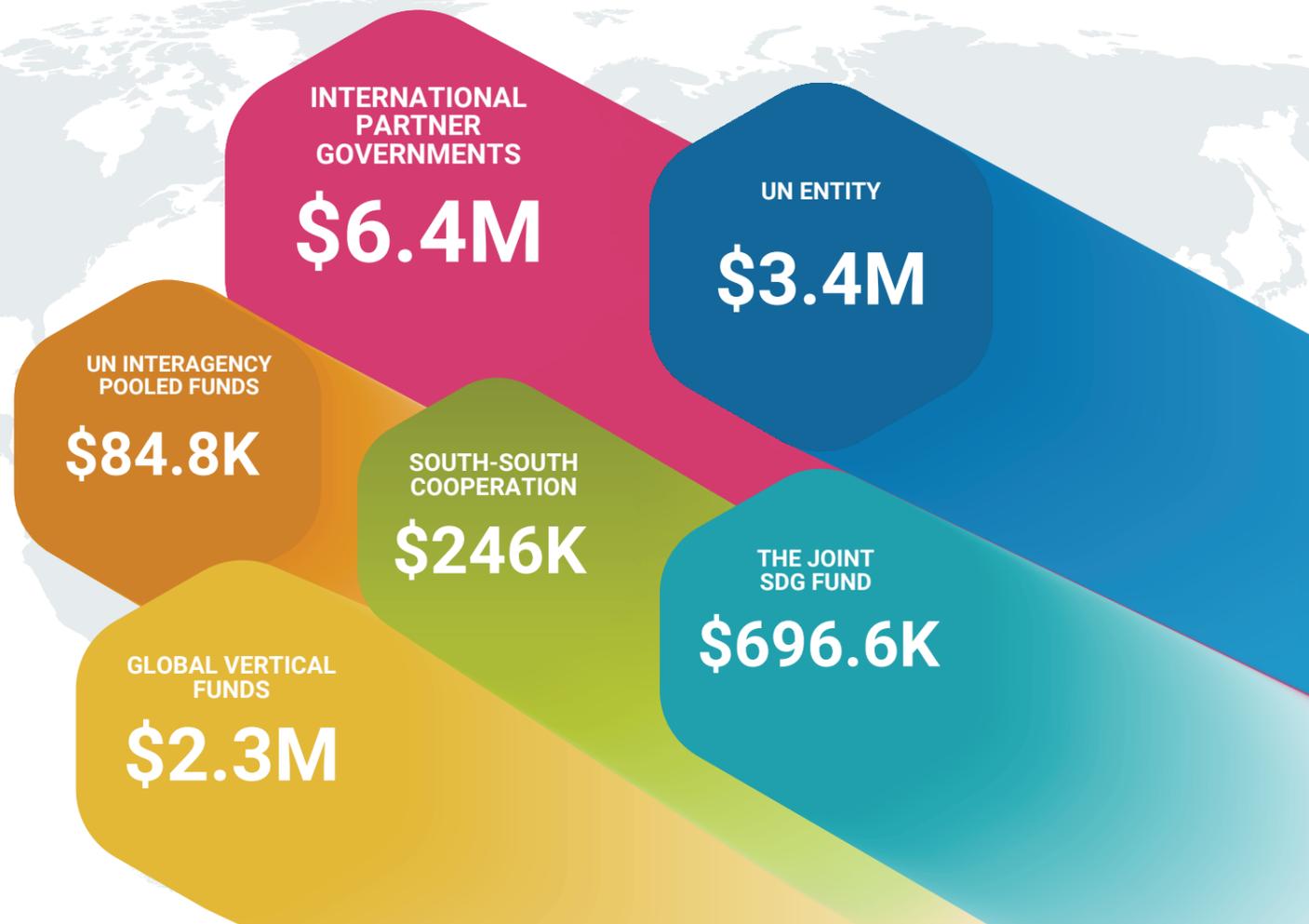
EXPENDITURE

FAO	\$4,612,899	UNESCO	\$252,864
UNDP	\$4,320,257	UNDRR	\$120,000
IOM	\$951,000	UNEP	\$62,560
UNICEF	\$836,287	UN WOMEN	\$53,500
PAHO; WHO	\$801,336	UNIDO	\$48,324
ILO	\$384,414	UNHCR	\$37,604
WFP	\$376,300	UNAIDS	\$10,000
UNFPA	\$291,790	Total	\$13,159,135



FUNDING BY TYPE/SOURCE

2024 TOTAL EXPENDITURE
\$13,159,135 USD



UNITED NATIONS ENTITY

UNICEF	\$836,287
ILO	\$384,414
WFP	\$376,300
PAHO/WHO	\$780,917
UNDP	\$283,500
UNESCO	\$252,864
FAO	\$188,443
UNFPA	\$182,036
UNHCR	\$37,604
UNEP	\$31,300
UNAIDS	\$10,000

INTERNATIONAL PARTNER GOVERNMENTS

EU	\$5,165,201
USA	\$866,000
Germany	\$151,260
New Zealand	\$97,006
China	\$68,900
Netherlands	\$64,000
Belgium	\$21,000

SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

India-UN Fund	\$246,000
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UN INTERAGENCY POOLED FUNDS

Green Climate Fund	\$84,805
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THE JOINT SDG FUND

Joint SDG Fund	\$696,570
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GLOBAL VERTICAL FUNDS

The Global Environment Facility	\$2,314,309
Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria	\$20,419

JOINT RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Joint resource mobilization remained a key focus in 2024. UNDP and WFP were successful in receiving seed funding from the Joint SDG Fund to support Suriname in its just, green and equitable energy transition journey. This seed funding envelope of \$250,000 will allow for the development of market-ready bankable pipeline projects for the Just Energy transition. This will open up opportunities to attract additional financing and scale up investments in the Energy sector.

PAHO, UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP jointly collaborated with the Country Coordinating Mechanism to provide technical assistance in securing Global Fund funding for HIV/AIDS interventions in Suriname. UN agencies supported the development of the HIV Global Fund Proposal (\$ 2,322,717) for the 2025 – 2027 funding cycle. The proposal received positive feedback from the Technical Review Panel (TRP) and is now at an advance stage of final grant negotiations with the Global Fund Secretariat. This progress lays a strong foundation for expanding combination HIV prevention care, treatment and support programs in Suriname.

INDIVIDUAL AGENCY RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

In addition to joint resource mobilization efforts, UN agencies actively pursued individual grant opportunities aligned with their specialized mandates. For example, UNDP successfully finalized the project document for the “Sustainable and Inclusive Development of West Suriname (SID-WS)” initiative, subsequently securing approval from the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

Similarly, FAO completed a Green Climate Fund (GCF) concept note for a large-scale rice production project, which is now with the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment. These targeted agency-specific approaches complement joint initiatives and contribute significantly to resource diversification and overall development impact.



 **KEY FUNDING PARTNERS OF UNITED NATIONS SURINAME**

FUNDING PARTNER

PARTICIPATING UN AGENCIES



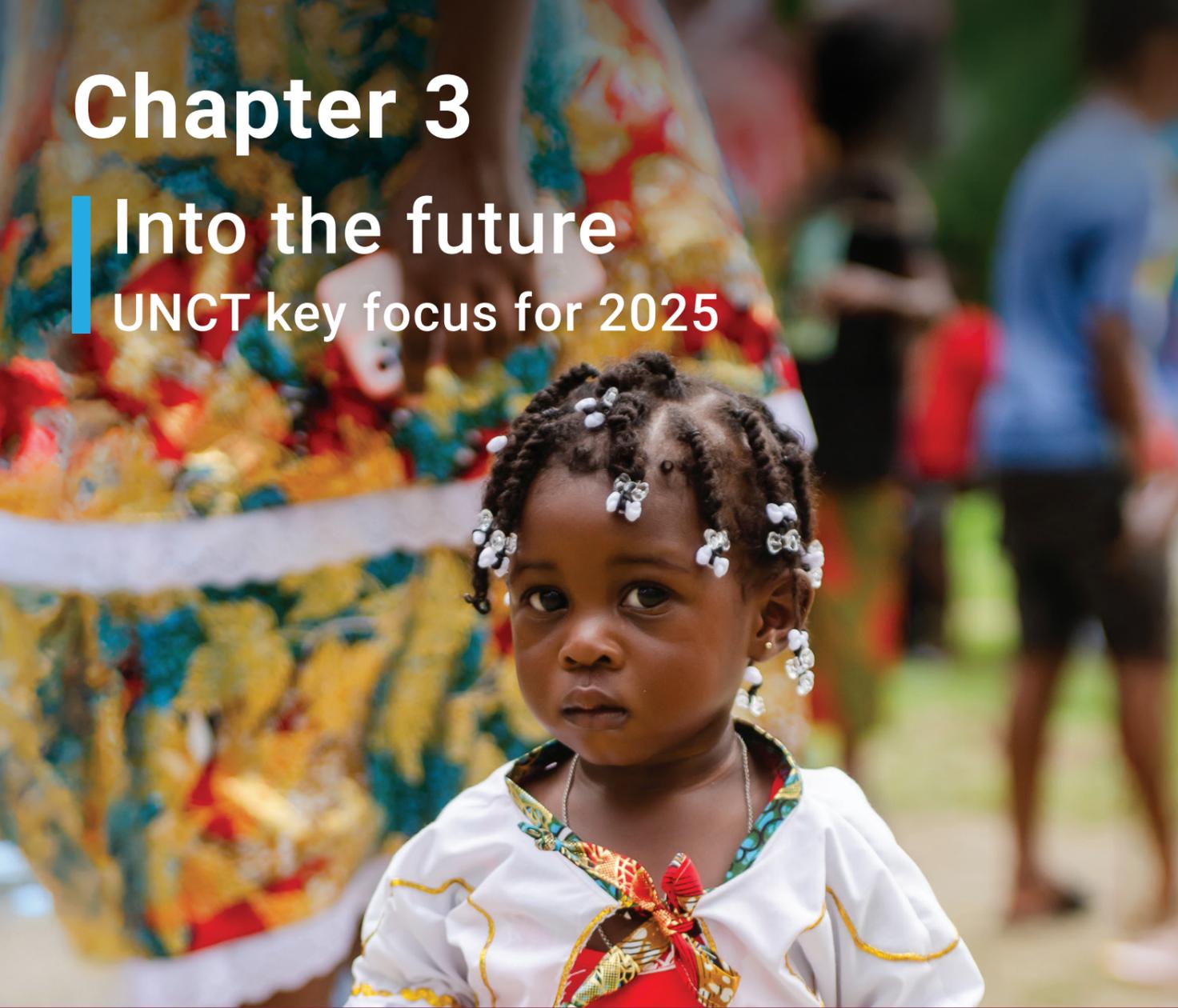
The Joint SDG Fund includes contributions from the European Union and Governments of Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.



Chapter 3

Into the future

UNCT key focus for 2025



In 2025, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Suriname will continue collaborative implementation of the MSDCF 2022–2026.

As the penultimate year of the current Cooperation Framework cycle, 2025 represents a critical juncture for evaluation, strategic adjustment, and enhanced resource mobilization.

The UNCT will focus on supporting national processes, strengthening inclusive governance and human rights, accelerating climate action, and mobilizing partnerships for impactful delivery.

1

SUPPORTING SURINAME'S 2ND VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW (VNR)

Suriname will present its second Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development in July 2025. The UNCT will provide support to ensure that a comprehensive and data-driven review highlights national achievements, identifies challenges, and outlines strategies for accelerating progress towards Agenda 2030.

2

ACCELERATING CLIMATE ACTION: NDC 3.0 SUBMISSION

With COP30 fast approaching, Suriname must update and submit its third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) to the Paris Agreement. Building on the Green Development Strategy, the UNCT will intensify technical assistance and financial mobilization efforts under the Climate Promise 2025 and support the Government in its NDC 3.0 process, with a focus on ambitious and actionable climate commitments.

3

CONTINUED FOCUS ON LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

The UNCT commits to continuing its support for vulnerable groups including Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. Priorities will include enhanced access to basic services and social protection, particularly in remote areas, and the adaptation of programmes to the needs of marginalized populations. The UNCT will support mechanisms that ensure Indigenous and Tribal voices are reflected in national policy dialogues and planning processes.

4

SUPPORT TO THE 2025 ELECTORAL PROCESS

Elections are a vital part of democratic processes. For Suriname's 2025 elections, UNDP, in collaboration with the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), will provide technical assistance, with a particular focus on women's participation, the inclusion of vulnerable groups and ensuring electoral accessibility for remote communities.

5

MOBILIZE RESOURCES IN LINE WITH THE 6 TRANSITIONS AND PACT OF THE FUTURE

As Suriname anticipates energy revenues, 2025 presents a historic opportunity to unlock investments in critical infrastructure and social services. Joint resource mobilization will be approached in a systematic and coordinated manner, aligned with the Six Transitions and the Pact for the Future. Mapping donor priorities and leveraging innovative financing tools will be key.

6

EVALUATION OF THE MSDCF 2022 – 2026

In 2025, the UNCT will participate in a Common Multi-Country Analysis and embark on an Evaluation of the MSDCF. This exercise is a critical assessment that measures the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and sustainability of the UN's collective work in the country. The Evaluation will ensure accountability, inform decision-making, and shape the next Cooperation Framework.

7

STRENGTHENING HUMAN RIGHTS: UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR)

Suriname's next Universal Periodic Review (UPR) by the United Nations Human Rights Council is scheduled for 2026, during the UPR Working Group's 49th session. In preparation, United Nations Suriname will support the Government of Suriname in the preparation of key reporting.

Acronyms

ABAS	Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS	EPHF	Essential Public Health Functions	LARCs	Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives	SIDS	Small Island Developing States
ABS	Algemene Bureau voor de Statistiek / General Bureau of Statistics	EU	European Union	LNOB	Leaving No One Behind	SIDS4	Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States
ACS	Association of Caribbean States	FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization	MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
ACP-EU	African, Caribbean, and Pacific – European Union	FCTC	Framework Convention on Tobacco Control	MIDAS	Migration Information and Data Analysis System	UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
AMEA	Agricultural Market and Enterprise Analysis	FPIC	Free, Prior, and Informed Consent	MISP	Minimum Initial Service Package	UNCG	United Nations Communication Group
ASTA	Agrifood Systems Transformation Accelerator	GAP	Good Agricultural Practices	MSMEs	Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
ASGM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining	GCCA+	Global Climate Change Alliance Plus	NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
BOS	Business Operations Strategy	GBV	Gender-Based Violence	NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan	UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
BOG	Bureau of Public Health	GCF	Green Climate Fund	NCCR	Nationaal Coördinatie Centrum voor Rampenbeheersing / National Coordination Center for Disaster Management	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
CARICOM	Caribbean Community	GDS	Green Development Strategy	NCD	Non-Communicable Diseases	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
CCA	Common Country Analysis	GEF	Global Environment Facility	NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency	HCCH	Hague Conference on Private International Law	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
CELAC	Community of Latin American and Caribbean States	ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	OAS	Organization of American States	UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
CIP	Country Implementation Plan	ICD-11	International Classification of Diseases, 11th Edition	OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
CLAC	Climate Landscape Analysis for Children	IDB	Inter-American Development Bank	OMT	United Nations Operations and Management Team	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
CLME+	Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem Project	IDA	International Development Association	PAHO/WHO	Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization	UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
COP29	29th UN Climate Change Conference	ILO	International Labour Organization	PSEAH	Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment	VNR	Voluntary National Review
CSO	Civil Society Organization	IMF	International Monetary Fund	RIVM	National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (Netherlands)	WFP	World Food Programme
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	IOM	International Organization for Migration	SAMAP	Suriname Agriculture Market Access Project	WB	World Bank
ECD	Early Childhood Development	IS4H	Information Systems for Health				
EMSAGS	Environmental Management of the Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector	ITP	Indigenous and Tribal Peoples				
		KKF	Chamber of Commerce of Suriname				



**UNITED NATIONS
SURINAME**



UNITED NATIONS SURINAME ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT 2024

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