

# SURINAME

## and the Paris Agreement



### Sectors

Energy, Forestry and  
Crosscutting adaptation



### National Implementing Agency

Office of the President of  
the Republic of Suriname  
(OPRS), National Institute for  
Environment and Development  
in Suriname (NIMOS)



### Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) submitted

October 28, 2015

### Paris Agreement signed

April 22, 2016

### Paris Agreement ratified

February 13, 2019

## Background

Suriname is a negative carbon-emitting country; yet is committed to playing its part in the global fight against climate change. It provides a key ecosystem service to the world. About 94% of Suriname's territory remains forested, storing about 11 gigatons of carbon and absorbing more than 8.8 million tons of forest carbon annually. Suriname is also a country with a low-lying coast where over 80% of the population resides, and where the major economic activities and infrastructure are concentrated. These areas are suffering extensive losses and damages from the effects of climate change. Despite its limited budget, the country has made progress towards climate-resilient and compatible development through a number of green policies and initiatives – in particular, actions to protect and use its forests sustainably, included in its INDC.



### About the INDC Project

The UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme was launched in January 2011 as part of a joint collaboration between the European Union, the Governments of Germany and Australia and UNDP. In the run up to the historic Paris Agreement, the European Commission and others provided financial and technical support specifically to advance the preparation of countries' INDCs. This support, in the context of the larger global LECB Programme called the INDC Project, continued post-Paris and has enabled advances in implementation and country-driven action.



# ACTIONS & IMPACTS

## INDC drafting guided by a preparation outline

Suriname's INDC process began by convening key institutional stakeholders including OPRS, NIMOS, Anton de Kom University of Suriname, the Foundation for Forest Management and Forest Control, and the ministry of Foreign Affairs, to sensitize them on the background, nature, implication and need for an INDC. Second, World Resources Institute (WRI) and the UNDP team undertook a stocktake of information and data collection and analysis that contributed to a desk review and included the revision of national policies and regulations such as the **National Climate Change Policy Strategy and Action Plan, National Energy Policy 2013-2033**, and Suriname REDD+ project, among others. The INDC drafting followed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) accepted guidelines, and the document was shared for review and feedback prior to OPRS' approval and submission.

## Information sharing on the INDC, COP21 and global climate change governance

The INDC Project also supported information-sharing related to the INDC national implications of the Conference of the Parties (COP 21) outcomes related to INDCs. As an example, Suriname hosted a climate change conference facilitated by UNDP at the training facility of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Suriname to explain the INDC process to government officials and other stakeholders in November 2015. UNDP facilitated a webinar and supported the participation of the government in events regarding adaptation in INDCs.

## Synergies with ongoing projects

INDC preparation and elaboration synergies were explored with ongoing UNDP-supported projects, such as the Suriname Global Climate Change Alliance Adaptation project, the Japan Caribbean Climate Change Partnership and Suriname REDD+ project.



## Contribution to strengthen government engagement towards the Paris Agreement ratification

Under leadership by NIMOS, the government received technical inputs from the INDC Project to better understand climate change policy dynamics (including priorities, sense of urgency and inter-linkages with sectoral plans and goals). In the post-Paris era, government officials were capacitated to engage in the effective implementation of the NDC once the INDC was submitted. Institutional architecture was also reinforced by incorporating climate change discussions into public policy planning and design processes.



## Alignment of country policies and regulations

Existing national policies for the forest and energy sectors were reviewed taking into account alignment with and the concerted efforts of other initiatives regarding climate change, such as baseline assessments, REDD+ readiness and a Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) in renewable energy access.

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