SURINAME: COUNTRY BRIEF

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

- Mainland of South America (smallest independent nation) also part of the Caribbean/SIDS
  - Strikingly diverse population
  - Mid-Population: 579,005 (2017)
  - 3rd low population density per Km²
  - 93% forest coverage (world’s greenest country)

- Mining (gold/oil) dominated economy
- GDP per Capita (SPS-projection): USD 7,082 (2019)
- Monthly Minimum wage: SRD1,428/USD190
- GDP growth % (SPS-projection):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>GDP Growth %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2.4</td>
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<td>2019</td>
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<td>2020</td>
<td>1.7</td>
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<td>2021</td>
<td>1.6</td>
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Development Capacity, Planning and SDGs (1)

- Planning Office established in 1950
- Development capacity and particularly for long term planning eroded:
  - Very small natural resource based economy
  - End of cheap reserves for bauxite, alumina an aluminium industry
  - Protracted decolonisation process
- Four Pillars of the 2017-2021 Development Plan:
  - Adopting concept of SD --- SDGs mainstreamed
  - Strengthening development capacity (with focus on planning) 1st priority
  - Suriname Vision 2035
Development Capacity, Planning and SDGs (2)

- Placing people at the centre of planning/policy design
- Economic planning and policy;
  - Establishing buffer mechanisms
  - Diversifying the economy (includes developing a greener economy)
- Social policy establishing a more equitable society and integrating social policies and delivery
- Environment:
  - Diversification of the economy away from mining
  - Adaptation to rising sea levels (projections?)
ADVANCING THE SDGS IN SURINAME (1)

- Close collaboration with United Nations Agencies
- Integrating the Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework and Suriname’s 2017-2021 Development Plan:
  - Building the mechanism for consultation, planning, implementation and M&E
  - Joint action plan on SDGs
  - Building capacity for planning, policy design, project management and M&E capacity at the national, ministerial and local government level
ADVANCING THE SDGS IN SURINAME (2)

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

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