



# **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)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> low population density per Km<sup>2</sup>
  - 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):

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1.7	2.4	2.1	1,7	1.6



# 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 and 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) 1<sup>st</sup> 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
- Successful integration of the UN/Suriname (MSDF) Country Implementation Programme 2019/2020 (CIP 2019/2020) in the annual plan Government budget. Active participation of ministries and local government
- 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 **H**igh **F**orest cover and **L**ow **D**eforestation Countries (HFLD-countries)
- Progress with REDD+ readiness (capacity of the Forest Cover Monitoring Unit, using remote sensing techniques)

