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Development, content and management of Suriname's REDD+ Safeguards Information System (SIS)

December 2019



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Acronyms

AAE	Asesoramiento Ambiental Estratégico; Strategic Environmental Advice
ABS	Algemeen Bureau voor de Statistiek; General Bureau of Statistics
BGA	Bureau Gender Aangelegenheden; Bureau Gender Affairs, located in Ministry of Home Affairs
CAS	Country Approach to Safeguards
CAST	Country Approach to Safeguards Tool
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CERD	International Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination
CI Suriname	Conservation International Suriname
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna
CLAD	Centrale Landsaccountantsdienst; Central National Accountant Service
CLP	Climate, Law and Policy
COP	Conference of the Parties
DNA	De Nationale Assemblee; The National Assembly
DPLP	Decree on the Principles of Land Policy
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FML	Forest Management Law
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent/Consultation
FRL/FREL	Forest Reference Levels/Forest Reference Emission Levels
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GLIS	Grondregistratie en Land Informatie Systeem; Land registration and Land Information System
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
IA Court	Inter-American Court of Human Rights
IACAC	Inter-American Convention against Corruption
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICHR	Inter-American Court of Human Rights



IFC	International Finance Corporation
ITPs	Indigenous and Tribal Peoples
KAMPOS	Collaboration of Tribal Peoples in Suriname consisting of the Kwinti, Aluku, Matawai, Paamaka, Okanisi and Saamaka (tribal communities) (Samenwerkingsverband van Tribale volkeren in Suriname bestaande uit de Kwinti, Aluku, Matawai, Paamaka, Okanisi en Saamaka (tribale gemeenschappen))
LBB	Dienst 's Lands Bosbeheer, Forest Service
LVV	Ministerie van Landbouw, Veeteelt en Visserij; Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries
NBAP	National Biodiversity Action Plan
NBS	National Biodiversity Strategy
NFMS	National Forest Monitoring System
NFP	National Forest Policy
NII	National Information Institute
NIMOS	Nationaal Instituut voor Milieu en Ontwikkeling in Suriname; National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname
NS	National REDD+ Strategy
OIS	Organization of Indigenous People in Suriname; Organisatie van Inheemsen in Suriname
OP	Nationaal Ontwikkelings Plan 2017 – 2021; National Development Plan 2017-2021)
PAMs	Policies and Measures
PLRs	Policies, Laws and Regulations
PMU	Project Management Unit
RAC	REDD+ Assistants Collective
RBP	Results Based Payments
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation in developing countries, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
RGB	Ministerie van Ruimtelijke ordening, Grond- en Bosbeheer, Ministry of Spatial Planning, Land and Forest Management
RO	Ministry of Regional Development
SBB	Stichting Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht, Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals

SES	Social and Environmental Standards (UNDP)
SESA	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
SESP	Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (UNDP)
SFISS	Sustainable Forestry Information System of Suriname
SIS	Safeguard Information System
SOI	Summary of Information
UN	United Nations
UN Development	United Nations Development Programme (formerly UNDP)
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-REDD Programme	United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation in Developing Countries
VIDS	Vereniging van Inheemse Dorpschoufden in Suriname; Association of Indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname
VSG	Vereniging van Saramaccaanse Gezagsdragers; Association of Saamaka Traditional Authorities

1. Introduction

The Republic of Suriname is a developing country Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and aims to receive results-based finance for REDD+. According to the UNFCCC Warsaw Framework, which was adopted at the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) 19 in December 2013, in order to receive such finance, countries must establish four essential elements¹:

1. A National REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan;
2. A National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS);
3. A Forest Reference (Emission) Level (FRL/FREL); and
4. A Safeguards Information System (SIS) for providing information on how the UNFCCC Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected.

In addition to establishing a SIS, countries are also requested to address and respect safeguards throughout the implementation of REDD+ and to provide a summary of information (SOI) on how all of the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected (Decision 12/CP.17, paragraph 3). Suriname is at an advanced stage in getting REDD+ Ready. The development of Suriname's SIS and plans for generating the SOI will mark some of the final steps before Suriname enters the implementation phase of REDD+ and can access results-based payments.

The present report describes the design of Suriname's REDD+ Safeguards Information System, including its development process and the content of its first official version. The report outlines its aims and contents, describes the organization and management of information included in the SIS and identifies capacity needs that will need to be filled for its implementation. It also includes cost considerations and an assessment of the potential of the SIS to serve the country of Suriname in a broader governance context and beyond REDD+.

The development of Suriname's SIS was a highly participatory process. A summary description of stakeholder input into the SIS is included in Annex 1. A summary of the insights gained from local community consultations can be found in Annex 2.

2. SIS development process

The development of Suriname's SIS has followed the UN-REDD Programme's suggested Country Approach to Safeguards (see figure 1) in order to help meet the UNFCCC safeguards requirements with consideration for country needs and context.

¹ UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16 paragraph 71

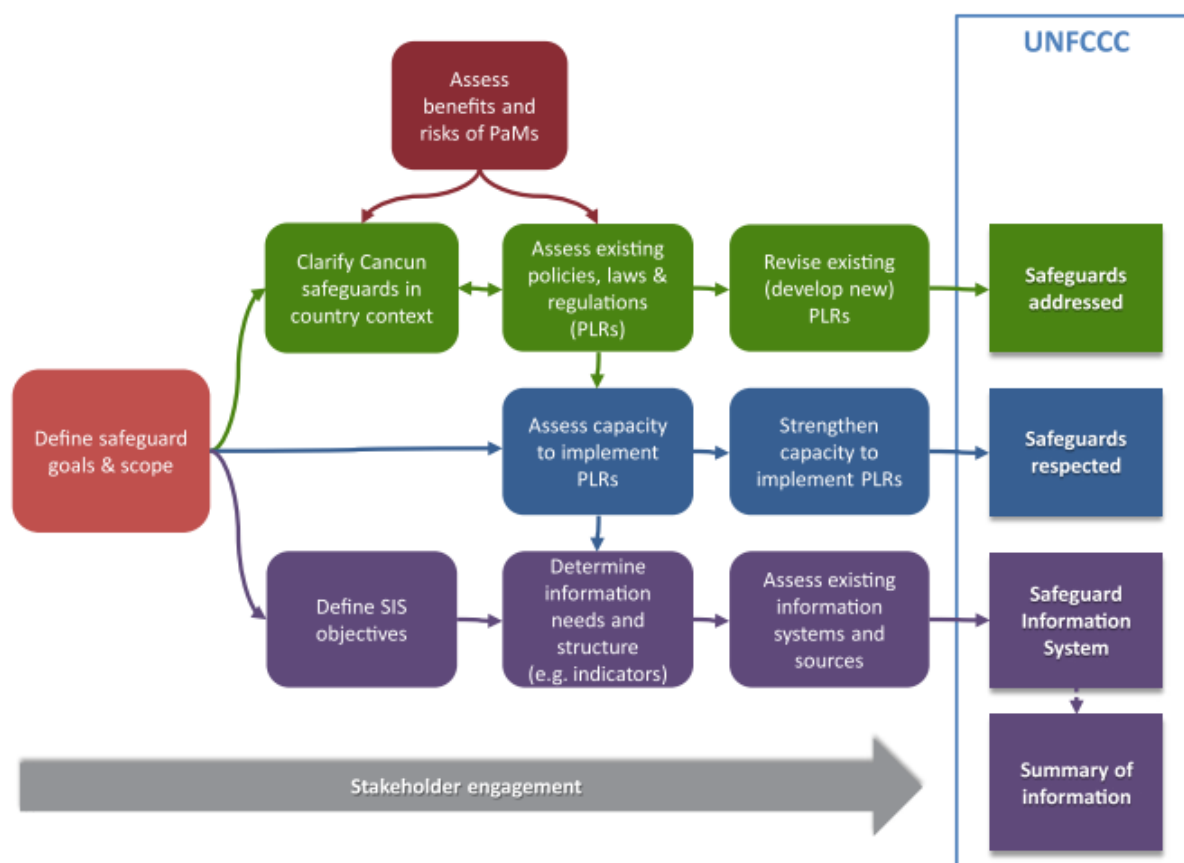


Figure 1: Conceptual framework for country approaches to safeguards²

3. SIS objectives and functions

One of the first steps of setting up a SIS for REDD+ is to identify its objectives and functions. The terms “objectives” and “functions” are directly linked, responding to two interrelated questions:



Objectives: What domestic and international policy goals will the system contribute to?

Functions: What will the system need to do to meet these objectives?

The identification of SIS objectives and functions was undertaken in a participatory manner, involving a wide range of stakeholders at the National SIS Roadmap workshop that took place on 01 March 2019 in Paramaribo.

² UN-REDD Programme Safeguards Coordination Group. 2016. Summaries of Information: How to Demonstrate REDD+ Safeguards Are Being Addressed and Respected. Geneva, Switzerland: UN/REDD Programme Secretariat.

The objectives and functions identified at the workshop were reviewed alongside the reports from the community consultations, but no further amendments were considered necessary.

The following table (table 1) presents the consolidated results of stakeholder consultation and internal review and discussion.

Table 1: Objectives and functions of Suriname's Safeguards Information System for REDD+

Objectives - what national and international policy goals will the system contribute to?	Functions - what will the system need to do to meet these objectives?
Meet Warsaw framework requirements to ensure that the country can receive results-based payments for REDD+	Provide information on addressing and respecting safeguards, which can also feed into the preparation of the Summary of Information (SOI) for the UNFCCC
Foster improved and more streamlined national policies in the forest and other relevant sectors	Provide information with regards to social and environmental aspects of the implementation of existing policies or enforcement of existing laws and regulations, including those that are part of the National REDD+ Strategy Provide information on a range of social and environmental topics that can inform land use planning
Allow for the adaptive management of the National REDD+ Strategy	Record information on the challenges, successes and lessons learned in implementing the National REDD+ strategy
Promote support of REDD+ at the national level and ensure local community ownership and engagement	Provide access to updated information on the social and environmental benefits of REDD+
Create a suitable investment climate for REDD+ by ensuring appropriate engagement of local communities and preventing conflicts that could emerge from implementation	Establish a public record of consultations and involvement of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in the REDD+ process

The rationale for the production of these objectives and functions can be found in Annex 3.

4. SIS content and structure

4.1. Introduction

In order to identify suitable content for the SIS, international requirements for information included in the SIS must be understood. The UNFCCC distinguishes between information that demonstrates how relevant safeguards are “addressed” and how they are “respected”, which is defined as follows (UN-REDD Programme Safeguards Coordination Group 2016, see footnote 2):

Safeguards are addressed is understood to mean that the body of Policies, Laws and Regulations (PLRs), and associated institutional arrangements are in place on paper to deal with the potential benefits and risks associated with REDD+ actions.

Safeguards are respected is understood to mean that these Policies, Laws and Regulations (PLRs), through the associated institutional arrangements, are implemented and enforced in practice, and that this implementation affects real and positive outcomes on the ground, in line with the Cancun safeguards.

This distinction can be translated into the need for three different types of information:

- 1) Information on how existing PLRs address aspects of importance under each safeguard;
- 2) Information on how safeguards are respected through provisions and/or activities at national level; and
- 3) Information on how safeguards are respected through provisions and/or activities at local level, i.e. as part of REDD+ implementation on the ground.

Type 1 information results from a thorough review of safeguard requirements against existing PLRs (see section 4.3). This information is unlikely to change frequently, so that monitoring efforts are limited. Type 2 and Type 3 information can be more difficult to identify and gather, for example, as it will result from REDD+ implementation over time, and require monitoring and follow-up. However, this information is crucial to understand the actual efforts made by countries to respect the safeguards, above and beyond the existence of PLRs.

While for the information of types 2 and 3 it would be desirable to identify metric indicators that can be measured over time, it is important to consider the effort of monitoring such indicators in terms of capacity and resources. Consideration of feasibility can result in the identification of qualitative indicators (descriptive information) instead of quantitative indicators (numerical information).

Before providing more detail on the identified information and indicators, the following section introduces the national interpretation of the safeguards. This provides the basis for the identification of information and indicators, ensuring that most important safeguards aspects in the Surinamese context can be taken into account (section 4.2).

4.2. Safeguards interpretation

In order to ensure that identified information sources and indicators are appropriate in the specific context of Suriname the Cancun safeguards were discussed with national stakeholders. This was done in a step-wise approach:

- Draft proposal of a preliminary interpretation based on PLR analysis and background knowledge on the Suriname's context;
- Gathering of stakeholder input in dedicated group work during the National SIS Roadmap workshop in March 2019;
- Further refinement of resulting interpretations with input from the SIS Counterpart Group;
- Further refinement using insights gained in local level community consultations;
- Approval of the final interpretation at the SIS Validation Workshop in November 2019.

Table 2 shows the final version of the interpretation.

Table 2: National interpretation of Cancun Safeguards in the context of Suriname

Cancun Safeguard	National Interpretation
(a) That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements	That actions complement and are consistent with the objectives of national programmes for forest and rural development and all those international conventions and agreements that are ratified by Suriname and deal with forests, climate change and human rights.
(b) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty	<p>Institutions involved with REDD+ implementation are in a position (in terms of personnel, skills and resources) to implement transparent and effective national forest governance structures. Transparency and effectiveness can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing understandable information, based on reliable data collected at different levels, at regular intervals; - consideration of local and traditional rules and national legislation; - fair benefit sharing³; - consideration of all stakeholder input as of equal importance in developing /revising legal/institutional frameworks; - gender equity and equality⁴; - absence of corruption; - land use, including land tenure; - equal access to justice, including a specific Grievance Redress Mechanism⁵ for REDD+.
(c) Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)	Respect for the knowledge and rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, which includes protecting their traditional ways of life, by taking into account relevant international obligations, such as resulting from the ICHR rulings and Suriname's ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), and the international Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

³ Context: In the discussions group members mentioned that when developing the legal and institutional framework for a benefit sharing mechanism it should be based on fair (equitable) participation and distribution of the national income, including well-being and prosperity of all interested stakeholders. Involvement should be ensured throughout the process, from development to the approval of the mechanism.

⁴ The terms equity and equality are different in that equity refers to a process while equality refers to the outcome. Equity is based on considering differences in circumstances and interventions appropriate for different needs, while equality in gender refers to everyone e.g. having equal rights and access to resources. Gender equity is the tool and gender equality is the goal.

⁵ For the definition of this, see the Development of a REDD+ Grievance Redress Mechanism for Suriname (2019) report.

<p>(d) The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities</p>	<p>The full and effective participation of relevant rights holders and stakeholders, in particular Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and local communities⁶, whereby "full and effective" is understood to be considered as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understandable (simple language) and transparent; - meaningful (i.e. input gets used and results are visible) and goal-oriented; - gender sensitive- and inclusive and culturally appropriate; - based on information made available in a timely manner; - including traditional authorities, community organizations and platforms; - to the extent possible aiming for a high level of engagement that considers traditional and community structures, is fair and based on the principle of equality; - fully respecting FPIC principles.
<p>(e) That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that the actions referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits</p>	<p>That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests, as defined in Suriname's FREL, and biological diversity, ensuring that REDD+ actions are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of nature as a whole, and especially natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits.</p>
<p>(f) Actions to address the risks of reversals</p>	<p>Actions to address the risks of reversals, including through, among other actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - monitoring (e.g. through implementation of the NFMS), including community monitoring; - effective law enforcement; - continuity of incentives for alternative livelihood options and enhancement of living conditions (e.g. education, public health); - income diversification; - equitable benefit sharing mechanisms to avoid the capture of benefits by a small elite; - ensuring the sustainable use of forests and forest resources; - transparency on different uses of land, including land tenure.

⁶ Local communities that are not considered ITPs, live in and around the forest areas of Suriname and can be influenced by REDD+ / development activities.

(g) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions

Actions to reduce displacement of emissions, including through, among other actions:

- monitoring (e.g. through implementation of the NFMS), including community monitoring;
- effective law enforcement;
- continuity of incentives for alternative livelihood options and enhancement of living conditions (e.g. education, public health);
- income diversification;
- equitable benefit sharing mechanisms to avoid the capture of benefits by a small elite;
- ensuring the sustainable use of forests and forest resources;
- design and implement REDD+ Policies and Measures to address the drivers of deforestation;
- transparency on different uses of land, including land tenure.

4.3. Information on how existing PLRs address aspects of importance under each safeguard

As outlined in the introductory section to this chapter (4.1), three types of information are required for the Safeguards Information System in Suriname. This section refers to the first of the three: Information on how existing Policies, Laws and Regulations (PLRs) cover aspects of importance under each safeguard. In order to identify this information, an in-depth legal analysis has been conducted.

The legal matrix that was used for the analysis was developed by Climate, Law and Policy (CLP) and was adapted for UNDP in 2018⁷. Its use demonstrates consistency with both Cancun and UNDP Safeguards. Both these sets of safeguards are relevant for Suriname, because:

- The country is aiming to qualify for REDD+ results-based payments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); and
- UNDP is the delivery partner of World Bank funding for REDD+ readiness in Suriname.

The following table (table 3) summarizes the number of criteria, sub-criteria, diagnostic questions and indicators included in the legal matrix by safeguard.

Table 3: Number of criteria, sub-criteria, diagnostic questions and indicators included in the legal matrix by safeguard

Safeguard	Criteria	Sub-Criteria	Diagnostic questions	Indicators
A	2	0	2	4
B	2	9	6	24
C	3	5	7	12
D	3	6	7	18

⁷ UNDP (2018) Legal Matrix - Demonstrating consistency with Cancun and UNDP Safeguards. Available from https://info.undp.org/sites/bpps/SES_Toolkit/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/sites/bpps/SES_Toolkit/SES%20Document%20Library/Uploaded%20October%202016/Legal%20Matrix%20-%20Demonstrating%20consistency%20with%20Cancun%20and%20UNDP%20Safeguards.docx&action=default, accessed on 20/09/2019.

E	2	7	7	24
F&G ⁸	2	0	2	10
Total	14	27	31	92

The Legal Matrix includes information on PLRs applicable in Suriname. Box 1 clarifies the definition of PLRs that was applied for the analysis.

Box 1: Definition of Policies, Laws and Regulations in the present analysis

Policies are the policy documents that are either adopted by a Minister or the Council of Ministers or the Parliament of Suriname. These are the National Development Plan (OP), National Forest Policy (NFP), Interim Strategic Action Plan for the Forest Sector in Suriname, the National Biodiversity Strategy (NBS), the National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) and the National REDD+ Strategy (NS).

Laws and Regulations are all the approved and draft laws and regulations, international conventions, and court rulings that are mentioned in the matrix.

Reference is not only made to adopted and approved PLRs but also to draft PLRs, where they fill important gaps in the currently existing PLRs, and information from studies (reports) of relevance for the Safeguards Information System. The matrix also includes information from Suriname's National REDD+ Strategy (NS) and will include information from its' REDD+ Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), as both the NS and the ESMF respond to gaps or weaknesses in existing PLRs in the context of REDD+.

The purpose of the analysis is twofold:

- It serves as the basis for identifying information for inclusion in the SIS regarding how safeguards are addressed;
- It can serve as background information to prove that the requirements of relevant safeguards and standards have been considered.

Overall, the existing PLRs do cover a number of aspects under each safeguards quite well, while other safeguards are insufficiently covered by existing PLRs. In the following paragraphs a summary of the key findings of the safeguards is presented. The same text is provided on the SIS portal for each safeguard, always with a link to the complete PLR analysis for further detail, which is attached to this document in Annex 4.

Safeguard A: Consistency with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international agreements that Suriname is Party to.

The national forest programme is clearly defined in several PLRs. National actions complement and are consistent with the objectives of these PLRs.

⁸ The legal matrix in its version provided online by UNDP deals with safeguards f and g jointly as topics of importance under the two safeguards overlap to a large degree. The same can be seen from the national interpretation.



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According to the Constitution, the provisions of international human rights agreements, which may be directly binding on anyone, shall become effective upon promulgation, i.e. do not require the amendment or development of national law before they are applicable. Other international agreements (law) shall be ratified and come into effect (national) after approval by the National Assembly. Legal regulations in force in the Republic of Suriname shall not apply if such application should be incompatible with provisions of international agreements which are directly binding on anyone and which were concluded either before or after the enactment of the regulations. This means that national regulations should be in accordance with international agreements/laws.

The government is making an effort to implement the rulings of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. For example, a draft Law Collective Rights ITPs 2019, addressing several key points from the IACHR rulings, is currently being considered for approval.

Safeguard B: Transparent and effective national forest governance.

PLRs recognize the **right to access of information**, the government is obliged to make information accessible (proactive information disclosure) and the public has the right to request information from public authorities (reactive information disclosure). However, no clear procedures are in place for the public to request and access information. Government institutions for distribution of information are in place, e.g. for REDD+ NIMOS/PMU and the RAC (to inform communities on REDD+ activities). In addition, several websites are operational, www.gov.sr, www.surinameredd.org, www.gonini.org and the REDD+ PMU produces radio programs in local languages.

The Forest Management Law recognizes the existence of a system of **traditional rights** among indigenous and tribal peoples. It provides that the customary rights of the indigenous and tribal peoples in their villages and on their vegetable gardens have to be respected 'as much as possible'. However, neither the Forest Management Law nor the legal framework define the term "customary rights".

The Draft Law Collective Rights ITPs 2019, in Article 3, states that the ITPs in Suriname have legal status as a collective and have **collective rights** as defined in the law. Article 4 states that the ITPs have collective property rights on their traditional living areas including the natural resources they traditionally use for their self-sufficiency, their culture or religious activities.

PLRs recognize the right to fair distribution and the need to develop an adequate **benefit sharing** mechanism. At the moment, benefit sharing arrangements are not in place but are planned by the Government.

PLRs also promote **gender equity** and guarantee adequate access to justice. They also support and encourage the coordination among various agencies that play a role in forest management.

PLRs promote **fiscal transparency** in the forest sector and the Parliament approves and monitors the financial and political policy of the government. The **Anti-Corruption Law** 2017 sets rules to prevent and combat corruption in the whole public sector, including the forest sector. Several laws include penalties towards corruption.

PLRs do recognize different types of **forest tenure** and provide for procedures to apply for a forest concession and a piece of domain land. Although the majority of forested lands in the interior are inhabited by ITPs, 97% of forested land, i.e. most of the traditionally occupied land in the country, is

owned by the State. The National REDD+ Strategy addresses this issue under Policy Line 3.A: Land Tenure and the four measures included therein.

REDD+ implementation in Suriname does not intend to lead to **forced eviction or physical displacement**. Suriname has ratified the UNDRIP, which states in article 10: “No relocation shall take place without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples concerned and after agreement on just and fair compensation and, where possible, with the option of return”. The National REDD+ Strategy includes several measures that jointly aim at empowering ITPs by engaging them in law- and decision-making processes, clarifying land rights and fostering the principles of FPIC, which can help avoid forced eviction or displacement.

A REDD+ specific **Grievance Redress Mechanism** is under development.

Safeguard C: Respect for knowledge and rights of ITPs in accordance with international law.

Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs) are mentioned in existing PLRs, but not specifically defined: The Forest Management Law (FML) mentions “forests peoples living in villages and settlement in tribal societies” and the Decree on the Principles of Land Policy (DPLP) “Maroons and Indigenous People”. In the Draft Law for the Protection of Residential and Living Areas the term “Indigenous and Tribal Peoples” (ITPs) is introduced. The Draft Law Collective Rights ITPs 2019, in Article 1n, includes a clear definition of “Indigenous Peoples” and of “Tribal nations”.

Traditional knowledge of ITPs or local communities is not specifically defined. However, the Draft Law Collective Rights ITPs 2019, in Article 4g, states: “The Indigenous and Tribal Peoples have the collective property rights over their traditional knowledge and their collective intellectual and /or cultural property.” While there is no single PLR that protects/regulates all aspects of traditional knowledge of ITPs, separate aspects are addressed in different PLRs. For example, the Copyrights Law addresses the aspect of Intellectual Property Rights.

Suriname has ratified **human rights** treaties and declarations, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, under which Suriname has substantial obligations to recognize and respect the rights of the ITPs. PLRs do recognize the **right to non-discrimination of ITPs, self-determination and protection of customary rights** of ITPs. Suriname’s Constitution in Article 8 states that “No one shall be discriminated against on the grounds of birth, sex, race, language, religious origin, education, political beliefs, economic position or any other status.” The Decree on Land Policy Principle, L-1, Article 4, recognizes the “respect for traditional rights.” The Forest Management Law, Article 41, states that “the customary laws of the tribal inhabitants of the interior (...) shall be respected”. The Draft Law Collective Rights ITPs 2019, in Article 4a, states that the ITPs have the right to full enjoyment and legal protection, as a collective or as individuals, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Safeguard D: Full and effective participation of rights- and stakeholders.

Existing PLRs recognize the right to public **participation in decision-making**. For example, a key element of the implementation strategy for the National Development Plan 2017-2021 is to enhance participation of stakeholders in policy formulation and implementation. According to the Plan, “the adoption of a new Planning Act and the establishment of new procedures and institutions should enable active participation in both the sectoral and regional planning”.

The main policy objective of the National Forest Policy is the participation of ITPs in activities in and around their lands, on the basis of **full information** and sharing in the benefits and proceeds thereof. However, PLRs do not define a clear process for public authorities to carry out consultations, including the process for addressing inputs received from the consultations.

The NIMOS ESIA Guidelines⁹ include **concrete levels of public participation** and addresses consultation and public participation. With the adoption of the Environmental Framework Law these guidelines will have a legally mandatory basis. The Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) State Order 2019 also includes a clear process to carry out consultations as well as a process to address inputs received from consultations.

The **National REDD+ Strategy** includes several measures on engaging ITPs in law- and decision-making processes, clarifying land rights and fostering the principles of FPIC. For example, measure 2.A.2 Preparation and Approval of an Environmental Framework Act with Environmental Impact Assessment procedures as part thereof and 2.A.4, which aims at strengthening capacity of indigenous and tribal peoples (ITPs) in forest governance. Other relevant measures in the context are 2.A.3 and 2.B.2.

The Draft Law Collective Rights ITPs 2019, in Article 4, states that ITPs have the **right to full participation in decision-making processes** concerning projects, programs, administrative measures, policies or other measures that significantly affect their life and / or their rights.

In Article 13, the Draft Law Collective Rights ITPs 2019, states that **FPIC** is required at each stage of a proposed project, program, policy or other measure that may affect the living conditions/ the rights of ITPs. The procedure for obtaining FPIC and objection options against the decision will be further detailed by the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples themselves in an FPIC Protocol that will be established within 12 months of the entry into force of the law.

There is currently no PLR that defines/creates a Grievance Redress Mechanism (**GRM**); however, development of a REDD+ specific GRM is underway.

Safeguard E: Conservation of natural forests and biological diversity

The term “forest” is clearly defined in Suriname’s PLRs, however, while palm tree plantations and trees planted for agricultural purposes are excluded from this definition, other plantation forest is not (e.g. for pulp and paper). Shifting cultivation is included in the forest definition, as long as it is done in a traditional way. As this forest definition is not in line with the UNFCCC and IPCC requirements, the national interpretation refers to the forest definition used specifically in the context of REDD+.

The Forest Law does not prohibit the conversion of forest but provides for some criteria to convert forest for purposes other than forestry. PLRs do promote or require the identification/mapping and protection of natural forests and biological diversity. The National REDD+ Strategy aims to conserve Suriname’s forest by addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in line with the country’s agreed Development Plan. Once the Draft Environmental Law is adopted, as promoted in the National REDD+ Strategy, an Environmental Impact Assessment will be mandatory for specific activities, including forest concessions for timber harvesting, agriculture and aquaculture projects. The

⁹ NIMOS. 2009. Environmental Assessment Guidelines Volume I: Generic. Paramaribo, Suriname: National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (NIMOS).

resulting EIA report should include an Environmental Management Plan and the project proponent is obliged to conduct regular monitoring.

Suriname is party to the CBD and the CITES Convention. The term Biodiversity is defined in line with the CBD's definition. Endangered species are regulated through the Game legislation. The Nature Conservation Law promotes research for science-based biodiversity conservation. Several PLRs promote the economic, social and cultural development of natural resources, including the Development Plan (OP), Forest Management Law (FML), and National REDD+ Strategy (NS).

The National REDD+ Strategy specifically addresses the topic of sustainable forest management under Policy line D.2 Promotion of Sustainable Forest Management and the measures included therein.

Safeguard F and G: Risks of reversals and displacement

The sustainable utilisation and conservation of forests and other relevant resources is promoted through several existing PLRs.

The vision of Suriname's National Forest Management System (NFMS) is that "Suriname monitors forest cover changes in the whole country in close collaboration with multiple stakeholders, using modern technologies and local community participation in a system that provides the national and international community with the most updated and reliable information about forest cover, which is used to enforce governance on deforestation, forest degradation, land tenure and land use (changes), to sustainably manage the forest resources while maintaining resilience of forest ecosystems."

By now, Suriname's NFMS is largely operational, including the gathering and analysis of Near-Real-Time Monitoring Data. In addition, the included Sustainable Forest Information System of Suriname (SFISS) allows to trace back every piece of wood that gets cut from its origin to a harbour or sawmill.

The National REDD+ Strategy supports the country's capacities to monitor and regulate forest-based activities under policy line 2.B: Enforcement, control and monitoring. However, monitoring of social impacts of forest programmes is not currently mandatory. This could change if the existing EIA procedures became mandatory, as requested by the National REDD+ Strategy.

4.4. Information on how safeguards are respected through provisions and/or activities at national level

In order to identify such information, a list of example information and indicators was derived from a review of indicators used by other countries. This list was presented to Suriname's SIS Counterpart Group to discuss the suitability of indicators or information sources, important issues to consider and the use of existing data. The results of this discussion were used to generate a further refined set of national-level information sources and indicators, which was again reviewed and eventually approved as final. The following table (table 4) presents the indicators and the information that currently exists on each of the indicators.

Table 4: National level indicators and existing information for each indicator

Safe - guard	National level indicators	Information on indicators
(a)	1. Description of how the implementation of the REDD+ strategy ensured consistency with the objectives of national programmes for forest and rural development.	<p>Suriname's National REDD+ Strategy includes four strategic lines. In developing the strategy, it was ensured that each of the strategic lines, as well as the policy lines and measures underneath, align with national forest and rural development programmes. Its implementation should thus be consistent with objectives of these programmes. Example:</p> <p>Strategic line 1: Continue being a High Forest cover and Low Deforestation country (HFLD) and receive compensation to invest in economic transition</p> <p>This strategic line is consistent with the assertion of the National Development Plan 2017-2021 that <i>"the compensation for conserving Suriname's pristine tropical forest is part of the international climate change programme, under which REDD+ is inserted, and contributes to the growth and development through a programmatic approach for conserving and where necessary restoring Surinamese forest."</i> It also aligns with the National Biodiversity Plan, which establishes the <i>"Conservation of biodiversity and the crucial ecological functions by a responsible expansion and sustainable management of a network of protected areas, which is representative for the biological diversity of the forests in Suriname"</i>. Furthermore, it aligns with the Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) for REDD+ (GOS 2013), which identifies co-benefits such as the creation of alternative livelihoods.</p>
	2. Description of how the implementation of the REDD+ strategy is consistent with the objectives of the various international agreements to which Suriname is a Party.	<p>REDD+ in Suriname will be implemented applying an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) that was specifically developed for this purpose. This ESMF considers aspects of importance under identified potential REDD+ benefits and risks as well as relevant environmental and social safeguards, hereby supporting the objectives of international agreements.</p>
	3. Types of contribution of REDD+ to the objectives of national programmes for forest and rural development and international agreements.	<p>Identified potential REDD+ benefits can contribute to a number of national PLRs and international agreements, see http://www.sis.surinameredd.org/files/How_REDD_benefits_support_PLRs_and_conventions.pdf</p>
(b)	1. Number of culturally appropriate assemblies by community, such as krutu's (village meetings), held in regular intervals to	<p>A number of culturally appropriate assemblies held as part of REDD+ implementation by community is not yet available.</p> <p>However, the ESMF includes provisions to ensure culturally appropriate engagement in different ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To restore trust between ITPs and the government, the ESMF requests to "Complete establishment of PAMs regarding community forests/HKV regulations and land tenure rights, always engaging ITPs in a culturally appropriate way".

	<p>provide information and progress updates (held by NIMOS/PMU); in the absence of such data, this could be a description of provisions included in the ESMF for how to ensure culturally appropriate engagement throughout REDD+ implementation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ESMF requests to incorporate cultural and gender aspects into the REDD+ community engagement strategy referred to under measure 2.A.3 of the National REDD+ Strategy, including reference to FPIC and ensuring that community engagement in legal revision processes provides sufficient time for consideration of proposals. • The ESMF states that for each and any of interaction with stakeholders, “and specifically with ITPs, it is recommended to refer to the following documents and guidance in the development of consultation methodologies and to consider culturally appropriate approaches to consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ FCPF and UN-REDD Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+ Readiness (FCPF and UN-REDD 2012); ○ The UN-REDD Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (UN-REDD Programme 2013); ○ The UN-REDD Methodological Brief on Gender (UN-REDD Programme 2017); ○ The Stakeholder Engagement Strategy for REDD+ Readiness in Suriname (Smith 2016); and <p>The Community Engagement Strategy for the Government (VIDS and VSG 2016).”</p>
	<p>2. Number of separate meetings held by sex (M/F) and across different age groups to ensure all voices are being heard¹⁰.</p>	<p>This information is not yet available</p>
	<p>3. Description of gender specific provisions included in the ESMF and efforts taken to achieve gender equality.</p>	<p>The ESMF includes the following gender specific provisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Action Matrix that resulted from the SESA process includes a separate priority on the topic (section 4.3, Table 8, page 44): Priority 4: Strengthening of gender inclusive REDD+ implementation, which includes actions on continued gender capacity building, gender literacy education, an increased role of the Bureau Gender Affairs and the development of gender specific processes, such as gender checklists and gender specific budgeting. • The Matrix also includes an action to incorporate cultural and gender aspects into the community engagement strategy referred to under measure 2.A.3 of the National REDD+ Strategy (see priority 3 of table 8 in the ESMF, page 44). • The Framework for implementing the Policies and Measures included in the National REDD+ Strategy considers gender in different places: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project proposals need to include a description on how gender-specific issues are addressed by planned activities and of gender-sensitive approaches as part of stakeholder consultation before, during and subsequent to project implementation and information disclosure, using gender checklists adjusted to the context of Suriname. They should also include information on gender-specific budget allocation. (ESMF section 5.1, pages 48/49) ○ Where a social assessment has to be conducted to feed into an Indigenous and Tribal Peoples’ Plan, it should be done in a gender-sensitive manner. (ESMF section 5.4, page 53)

¹⁰ It should be noted that age groups may need to be classified according to cultural context, i.e. age groups used in the context of ITP representation may differ from those used in the context of national level stakeholder representation.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where a Resettlement Plan is required, it needs to consider gender equality. (ESMF section 5.7, page 56) <p>Where REDD+ implementing (sub-) projects aim to create income opportunities, the issues of gender and income equality need to be addressed in the proposal and during implementation. (ESMF section 5.9, page 57)</p>
	4. Gender tools developed as requested in ESMF, including check-lists, surveys and analyses: yes/no/pending; if yes: percentage of REDD+ projects that have used gender tools and include gender-specific budget.	This information is not yet available.
	5.a Number of grievances received on land use (including land tenure), disregard of traditional rights, etc. under REDD+ implementation, and 5.b Percentage of grievances (%) resolved.	This information is not yet available.
	6. Progress made with implementation of Policies and Measures included in National REDD+ Strategy that refer to transparency of land tenure (descriptive).	<p>This information is not yet available but the indicator refers to the National REDD+ Strategy, policy line 3.A: Land use, and the four measures included herein:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure 3.A.1: Support the process towards the legal recognition of land tenure rights of indigenous and tribal peoples in Suriname. Support the establishment of a roadmap among different stakeholders. Measure 3.A.2: Strengthen the capacities and knowledge of the judiciary and government officers on the rights of ITPs, including those in international declarations, conventions and guidelines on land tenure. Measure 3.A.3: Make information on traditional land ownership publicly available in a central registry. Measure 3.A.4: Follow a prior step to establish a code of conduct on how to take into account land rights before implementing new development or REDD+ activities in the vicinity of ITPs' communities.

7. Descriptive text on ESMF provisions to avoid corruption.	The ESMF includes the following provision to avoid corruption: The Action Matrix that resulted from the SESA process under priority 6 requests to assess the content of Suriname's Anti-Corruption Bill against REDD+ specific recommendations from the Corruption Risk Assessment that was conducted in 2017 and to initiate adjustment of the Bill, if needed. (ESMF section 4.3, Table 8, page 46)
8. Description of awareness raising/training measures undertaken on REDD+, also including on the REDD+ GRM	This information is not yet available. Suriname's REDD+ Grievance Redress Mechanism is currently under development.
9. Benefits tracker in place, number of projects providing different benefits (table format): biodiversity, livelihoods, land use and land tenure, capacity/training	This information is not yet available.
10. Number of projects with an ITP plan, developed in line with FPIC principles, that includes an action plan of measures to ensure that ITPs receive social and economic benefits that are "culturally appropriate" (ESMF p.55 point 5).	This information is not yet available.
11. Results from institutional REDD+ implementation needs assessment.	This information is not yet available. The indicator refers to the action matrix included in the ESMF (section 4.3, table 8) under priority 3 Institutional and governance strengthening recommends to conduct an institutional REDD+ implementation needs assessment, looking at functions and tasks required and existing capacities for REDD+ implementation. It was found that the National REDD+ Strategy in parts addresses current gaps/shortcomings but that further strengthening will be needed for long-term REDD+ success. The needs assessment should cover (a) knowledge and skills, (b) staffing and (c) financial resources. (see ESMF section 4.3, Table 8, page 46)
12. Description of cases where	This information is not yet available.

	REDD+-related government information was contested by non-governmental bodies.	
	13. Number and type of non-governmental institutions engaging in REDD+ readiness (later implementation).	This information is not yet available.
	14. Ways in which PMU keeps stakeholders informed about REDD+.	<p>The PMU is using a variety of communication channels to keep stakeholders informed about progress with REDD+:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The website www.surinameredd.org, which specifically informs about activities taken as part of REDD+ readiness and any REDD+ relevant news. • A facebook site, https://www.facebook.com/reddplussuriname/, to spread relevant REDD+ news via social media • Regular REDD+ newsletters • Radio programs in tribal languages • Video productions • REDD+ Information sessions at schools, government and business organizations • REDD+ awareness and public outreach events in the districts and the ITP communities • Regular interaction with the REDD+ Assistants Collective (RAC), which are representatives of the Indigenous and Tribal Communities and communicate back to the local level.
(c)	1. Description of how traditional knowledge and rights are considered in the process of implementation of the REDD+ NS and in the ESMF.	<p>The ESMF includes several provisions to help ensure that ITP knowledge and rights are respected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Priority 1 of the action matrix on “Clarification of topics currently unclear and causing mistrust and confusion” recommends, at national level, to agree on an official government position with regards to ITP rights (beyond land rights), “in line with stakeholder expectations, SESA findings and international commitments” and to develop a communication plan to inform stakeholders accordingly. It is further recommended that “traditional rights are documented and used as reference in processes to amend legislation. Existing land use maps are used in addition. (see table 8, page 41) - Priority 6 of the action matrix (section 4.3, Table 8, page 50/51) suggests “Documentation of traditional knowledge, uses, stories, crafts and skills, which can serve as a reference to be used where REDD+ implementing (sub-) projects establish alternative livelihood opportunities that make use of such knowledge and intellectual property rights may be at stake. (potentially relevant information for the SIS and Summary of Information to be submitted to UNFCCC)” and in other places. - Section 5.9 Mitigation Measures specifies that “Where REDD+ implementing (sub-) projects aim to use traditional knowledge in promoting alternative livelihoods, proposals and implementation need to address the issues of protecting intellectual property rights and fair sharing of benefits derived from the use of traditional knowledge.” (page 57)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional screening questions included in Annex 1, Table 13, page 74 include specific questions to ensure that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Potential effects of REDD+ (sub-) projects on “cultural heritage of indigenous peoples and/or local communities, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices” is duly considered in the screening of projects. o Opportunities are recognised where REDD+ (sub-) projects are “particularly suited to promote respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and local communities”. - In the context of stakeholder engagement, the ESMF highlights that any and all stakeholder engagement in the course of (sub-) project screening, scoping, assessment, review and implementation should consider the FCPF and UN-REDD guidelines on stakeholder engagement, which prescribe that “Special emphasis should be given to the issues of land tenure, resource use rights, customary rights, and property rights” (among other principles)
	2. Number of documented traditional rights and rules or percentage (%) of ITP communities with documented traditional rights and rules that are to be taken into consideration in processes to amend legislation. ¹¹	
	3. Provisions included in the ESMF to ensure application of FPIC and percentage (%) of REDD+ projects that demonstrate compliance with FPIC.	<p>The ESMF includes several provisions covering FPIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Priority 1 of the action matrix on “Clarification of topics currently unclear and causing mistrust and confusion” recommends, at national level, to agree on an official government position with regards to FPIC, “in line with stakeholder expectations, SESA findings and international commitments” and to develop a communication plan to inform stakeholders accordingly. It is further recommended to develop and implement official guidelines for seeking and obtaining FPIC, in line with UN-REDD Programme (2013) (see section 4.3, table 8, page 41). (It should be noted that Suriname’s R-PP included some indicative elements that should be included in the process of obtaining FPIC, see Republic of Suriname (2013), page 81 and 82.) - Priority 3 of the action matrix on “Institutional and governance strengthening” requests under priority reform area “Coordination and communication” to “Incorporate cultural and gender aspects into the REDD+ community engagement strategy referred to under measure 2.A.3 (of the National REDD+ Strategy), including reference to FPIC (see section 4.3, table 8, page 44) - Under section 5.1 Proposal preparation it is requested that the topic of FPIC gets covered as part of the description of Stakeholder consultation before,

¹¹ The community consultation reports show (and the counterpart group confirmed) that there is a trend to document traditional rights so that they can be considered in processes to amend legislation, as included in some of the measures of the National REDD+ Strategy.

		<p>during and subsequent to implementation and information disclosure, including gender-sensitive approaches” (page 49).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Section 5.2 Screening re-emphasises that “Provisions regarding FPIC and the applicable grievance redress mechanism (see respective sections in the ESMF) apply to all REDD+ implementing (sub-) projects” - In section 5.3 Scoping, table 9 on pages 50 and 51 specifies that FPIC applies for category A, B and C projects that are happening in or near ITP areas. - Section 5.4 Assessment prescribes that a social assessment should include, as needed: (a) an assessment of the potential negative and positive impacts of the project with the affected ITPs’ communities based on principles of FPIC; and (b) Based on principles of FPIC and together with affected ITPs’ communities, the identification and evaluation of measures necessary to avoid adverse effects or if such measures are not feasible, the identification of measures to minimize, mitigate, or compensate for such effects, and to ensure that the Indigenous Peoples receive culturally appropriate benefits under the project (page 53). - Section 5.6 Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Plan specifies that, where an ITP plan is generated, it needs to include a summary of the results of the FPIC process and a framework for ensuring FPIC during project implementation (page 55). - The need for FPIC is emphasised in section 5.10 Stakeholder engagement (page 60). - Section 6 Institutional arrangements and capacity building for ESMF implementation highlights the likely need for capacity building of actors involved in the implementation of the ESMF on different topics, including FPIC. - The additional screening questions in Annex 1 include specific questions to cover FPIC (Annex 1, table 13, page 75). <p>Information on percentages of projects applying FPIC would have to be created over time.</p>
	4. Percentage (%) of REDD+ projects where community organizations and platforms, as well as knowledgeable ITP platforms and traditional authorities have been involved at some stage.	This information is not yet available.
	5. Progress on implementing the reparations requested in the Saamaka Judgement and the Kaliña and Lokono Judgement.	This information is not yet available.

(d)	1. Description of how culturally appropriate assemblies are being promoted and conducted in the interior under REDD+ and how district hearings are promoted and conducted in coastal areas under REDD+.	This information is not yet available.								
	2. Types of engagement of stakeholders facilitated by projects (being informed, consulted, co-design/management, mechanisms for joint decision-making).	<p>This is a cumulative indicator that will be compiled from analysing REDD+ implementing projects by type of engagement. The result could be presented as a graph:</p> <div><p>Number of projects applying different levels of stakeholder engagement</p><table><thead><tr><th>Level of engagement</th><th>Number of projects</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>stakeholders informed</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>stakeholders informed and consulted</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>stakeholders informed, consulted and project co-managed</td><td>5</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Level of engagement	Number of projects	stakeholders informed	2	stakeholders informed and consulted	6	stakeholders informed, consulted and project co-managed	5
	Level of engagement	Number of projects								
	stakeholders informed	2								
stakeholders informed and consulted	6									
stakeholders informed, consulted and project co-managed	5									
3.a Number of grievances and complaints received regarding engagement activities undertaken, participation, information sharing, gender-inclusiveness of participatory events, FPIC processes. 3.b Percentage of grievances concluded.	This is a cumulative indicator that will be compiled from analysing grievances received by topic.									
4. Description of gender specific provisions included in the	<p>The ESMF includes the following gender specific provisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Action Matrix that resulted from the SESA process includes a separate priority on the topic (section 4.3, Table 8, page 44): Priority 4: Strengthening of gender inclusive REDD+ implementation, which includes actions on									

	<p>ESMF and efforts taken to achieve gender equality.</p>	<p>continued gender capacity building, gender literacy education, an increased role of the Bureau Gender Affairs and the development of gender specific processes, such as gender checklists and gender specific budgeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Matrix also includes an action to incorporate cultural and gender aspects into the community engagement strategy referred to under measure 2.A.3 of the National REDD+ Strategy (see priority 3 of table 8 in the ESMF, page 44) • The Framework for implementing the Policies and Measures included in the National REDD+ Strategy considers gender in different places: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project proposals need to include a description on how gender-specific issues are addressed by planned activities and of gender-sensitive approaches as part of stakeholder consultation before, during and subsequent to project implementation and information disclosure, using gender checklists adjusted to the context of Suriname. They should also include information on gender-specific budget allocation. (ESMF section 5.1, pages 48/49) ○ Where a social assessment has to be conducted to feed into an Indigenous and Tribal Peoples' Plan, it should be done in a gender-sensitive manner. (ESMF section 5.4, page 53) ○ Where a Resettlement Plan is required, it needs to consider gender equality. (ESMF section 5.7, page 56) <p>Where REDD+ implementing (sub-) projects aim to create income opportunities, the issues of gender and income equality need to be addressed in the proposal and during implementation. (ESMF section 5.9, page 57)</p>
	<p>5. Gender tools developed as requested in ESMF, including check-lists, surveys and analyses: yes/no/pending; if yes: percentage of REDD+ projects that have used gender tools and include gender-specific budget.</p>	<p>This information is not yet available.</p>
	<p>6. Provisions included in the ESMF to ensure application of FPIC and percentage (%) of REDD+ projects that demonstrate compliance with FPIC</p>	<p>The ESMF includes several provisions covering FPIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Priority 1 of the action matrix on "Clarification of topics currently unclear and causing mistrust and confusion" recommends, at national level, to agree on an official government position with regards to FPIC, "in line with stakeholder expectations, SESA findings and international commitments" and to develop a communication plan to inform stakeholders accordingly. It is further recommended to develop and implement official guidelines for seeking and obtaining FPIC, in line with UN-REDD Programme (2013) (see section 4.3, table 8, page 41). (It should be noted that Suriname's R-PP included some indicative elements that should be included in the process of obtaining FPIC, see Republic of Suriname (2013), page 81 and 82.) - Priority 3 of the action matrix on "Institutional and governance strengthening" requests under priority reform area "Coordination and communication" to "Incorporate cultural and gender aspects into the REDD+ community engagement strategy referred to under measure 2.A.3 (of the

		<p>National REDD+ Strategy), including reference to FPIC (see section 4.3, table 8, page 44)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under section 5.1 Proposal preparation it is requested that the topic of FPIC gets covered as part of the description of Stakeholder consultation before, during and subsequent to implementation and information disclosure, including gender-sensitive approaches” (page 49). - Section 5.2 Screening re-emphasises that “Provisions regarding FPIC and the applicable grievance redress mechanism (see respective sections in the ESMF) apply to all REDD+ implementing (sub-) projects” - In section 5.3 Scoping, table 9 on pages 50 and 51 specifies that FPIC applies for category A, B and C projects that are happening in or near ITP areas. - Section 5.4 Assessment prescribes that a social assessment should include, as needed: (a) an assessment of the potential negative and positive impacts of the project with the affected ITPs’ communities based on principles of FPIC; and (b) Based on principles of FPIC and together with affected ITPs’ communities, the identification and evaluation of measures necessary to avoid adverse effects or if such measures are not feasible, the identification of measures to minimize, mitigate, or compensate for such effects, and to ensure that the Indigenous Peoples receive culturally appropriate benefits under the project (page 53). - Section 5.6 Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Plan specifies that, where an ITP plan is generated, it needs to include a summary of the results of the FPIC process and a framework for ensuring FPIC during project implementation (page 55). - The need for FPIC is emphasised in section 5.10 Stakeholder engagement (page 60). - Section 6 Institutional arrangements and capacity building for ESMF implementation highlights the likely need for capacity building of actors involved in the implementation of the ESMF on different topics, including FPIC. - The additional screening questions in Annex 1 include a specific questions to cover FPIC (Annex 1, table 13, page 75). <p>Information on percentages of projects applying FPIC will be created over time.</p>
	7. Number of separate meetings held by sex (M/F) and across different age groups to ensure all voices are being heard ¹² .	This information is not yet available.
	8. Ways in which PMU promotes stakeholder engagement in REDD+.	PMU prepares an Annual Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Communication plan as part of its annual work plan, which are setting out how stakeholders will be engaged in any REDD+ related activities in the course of the year.

¹² It should be noted that age groups may need to be classified according to cultural context, i.e. age groups used in the context of ITP representation may differ from those used in the context of national level stakeholder representation.

(e)	<p>1.a Area (ha) of land where deforestation and/or degradation (apart from "normal" impact from traditional shifting cultivation) has been detected within and around REDD+ project areas.</p> <p>1.b Degree of disturbance where degradation has been detected (from remote sensing data and field checks)</p>	<p>This indicator will be calculated from data included in Suriname's National Forest Monitoring System, e.g. using Near-Real-Time Monitoring Data at regular intervals (interval to be determined).</p>
	<p>2. Overview of social and environmental benefits created by REDD+ projects.</p>	<p>This is an accumulated indicator that will be calculated from project-level information. Until such information exists, it may be of interest to look at the potential social and environmental benefits identified during the SESA process and how they might contribute to different national Policies, Laws and Regulations as well as relevant international conventions and agreements, see http://www.sis.surinameredd.org/files/How REDD benefits support PLRs and conventions.pdf.</p>
	<p>3. Description of provisions to reduce environmental risks and promote social and environmental benefits.</p>	<p>Suriname's Environmental and Social Management Framework for REDD+, in its entirety, aims to minimise and manage social and environmental risks and promote social and environmental benefits. It does so through two major instruments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Action Matrix: it includes actions derived from the SESA process that engaged about 800 stakeholders, of which more than 600 were representatives of ITP communities. These actions address social and environmental as well as governance issues to create an enabling environment for sustainable REDD+ implementation, such as the re-establishment of trust between key stakeholders, capacity building at national and local level, and gender specific actions, among others. • The framework for REDD+ project implementation: this framework is closely aligned with the existing NIMOS Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines and describes what needs to be considering in screening, scoping, assessment, review and final decision about REDD+ projects, in order for those to indeed minimise and manage potential remaining risks and promote social and environmental benefits. <p>In conclusion, the ESMF, and especially the included action matrix and project implementation framework, can be considered a strong shield against potential REDD+ risks and proactive support of social and environmental REDD+ benefits. In addition, the development of a REDD+ specific Grievance Redress Mechanism is underway, which should allow for adaptive management of REDD+ implementation as needed.</p>

(f)	1. Percentage (%) of REDD+ projects addressing drivers of deforestation on the long term.	This is an accumulated indicator that will be calculated from project-level information.
	2. Number of REDD+ grievances regarding: illegal activities in the forest and unsustainable use of forest resources, unequal benefit sharing, and issues around transparency of land tenure.	This is an accumulated indicator that will be calculated from project-level information.
	3. Description of ESMF provisions to ensure continuity.	<p>The ESMF includes provisions to ensure continuity in several places:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The action matrix (section 4.3, page 40, Table 8) in the ESMF includes long-term actions to ensure sustainability of REDD+ at national level, addressing topics such as institutional strengthening and monitoring. • The framework for implementation of REDD+ at project level requests in section 5.1, page 48 that proposals include a description of long-term ecological, social and financial sustainability of the REDD+ (sub-) project. <p>The point is re-emphasised under section 5.9, page 57, in the context of non-permanence.</p>
(g)	1. Percentage (%) of REDD+ projects addressing drivers of deforestation.	This information is not yet available.
	2. Description of monitoring conducted to track displacement (including community monitoring if applicable).	Within the National Development Plan there are already planned activities that will cause deforestation. Within the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) any additional deforestation can be tracked. Communities are also involved in reporting alerts regarding deforestation activities to the NFMS unit.
	3. Area (ha) of forest lost or degraded at national level and not in line with activities included in the National Development Plan.	The NFMS is currently producing annual deforestation maps and bi-annual Post-deforestation Land Use Land Cover maps. The NFMS is also monitoring Near Real Time forest degradation due to unplanned logging. In addition, SBB is exploring ways to also detect and monitor degradation due to other human activities in the future. From this data, the number of hectares as requested in the indicator can be calculated and a trend will become visible over time.

4.a Number of REDD+ implementing (sub-) projects that have identified the risk of displacement; and	This information is not yet available.
4.b Percentage of those projects that are addressing the risk through adequate mitigation measures.	

4.5. Information on how safeguards are respected through provisions and/or activities at project level

The following table (table 5) presents the final list of identified project level information/indicators¹³ on the extent to which safeguards are respected. They have mainly been derived from provisions included in the ESMF.

Table 5: Project level information and indicators

Safeguard	National Interpretation	Project level information/indicators
(a)	That actions complement and are consistent with the objectives of national programmes for forest and rural development and all international conventions and agreements that are ratified by Suriname and deal with forests, climate change and human rights.	1. Information on how projects align with programmes, conventions and agreements.
(b)	Institutions involved with REDD+ implementation are in a position (in terms of personnel, skills and resources) to implement transparent and effective national forest governance structures. Transparency and effectiveness can include: - providing understandable information, based on reliable data collected at different levels, at regular intervals; - consideration of local and traditional rules and national legislation; - fair benefit sharing; - consideration of all stakeholder input as of equal	1. Information on how stakeholders are effectively engaged in planning and implementation, in conformity with their customs and traditions.
		2. Information on how ITP traditional rules are incorporated in project planning and implementation.
		3. Gender-sensitive and -inclusive approach applied throughout project planning and implementation.

¹³ The information will become available on a project by project basis. It is possible that several projects are targeting the same community.

	<p>importance in developing /revising legal/institutional frameworks;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - gender equity and equality; - absence of corruption; - land use, including land tenure; - equal access to justice, including a specific Grievance Redress Mechanism for REDD+. 	<p>4. Information on how benefits will be shared.</p> <p>5. Information on grievances received.</p>
(c)	<p>Respect for the knowledge and rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, which includes protecting their traditional ways of life, by taking into account relevant international obligations, such as resulting from the ICHR rulings and Suriname's ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), and the international Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).</p>	<p>1. Description of how traditional knowledge and rights are incorporated in the project.</p> <p>2. Information on how stakeholders are effectively engaged in planning and implementation, in conformity with their customs and traditions.</p> <p>3. Benefits ITPs will receive from the project in line with benefits distribution system.</p> <p>4. How FPIC has been obtained applying culturally appropriate principles.</p> <p>5. Information on grievances received.</p>
(d)	<p>The full and effective participation of relevant rights holders and stakeholders, in particular Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and local communities, whereby "full and effective" is understood to be considered as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understandable (simple language) and transparent; - meaningful (i.e. input gets used and results are visible) and goal-oriented; - gender sensitive- and inclusive and culturally appropriate; - based on information made available in a timely manner; - including traditional authorities, community organizations and platforms; - to the extent possible aiming for a high level of engagement that considers traditional and community structures, is fair and based on the principle of equality; - fully respecting FPIC principles. 	<p>1. Information on how stakeholders are effectively engaged in planning and implementation, in conformity with their customs and traditions.</p> <p>2. Description of gender-sensitive and - inclusive approaches applied in engagement activities.</p> <p>3. Involvement in engagement activities of community organizations and platforms, as well as traditional authorities and knowledgeable working arms of ITPs.</p> <p>4. How FPIC has been obtained applying culturally appropriate principles.</p> <p>5. Information on grievances received.</p>
(e)	<p>That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests, as defined in Suriname's FREL, and biological diversity, ensuring that REDD+ actions are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of nature as a whole, and especially natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits.</p>	<p>1. Environmental risks and mitigation measures identified for the project.</p> <p>2. Top 3 social and top 3 environmental benefits envisaged by the project (non-monetary).</p> <p>3. Change in natural forest cover and the incidence of forest degradation inside the project area since project start/during project runtime.</p>

(f)	<p>Actions to address the risks of reversals, including through, among other actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - monitoring (e.g. through implementation of the NFMS), including community monitoring; - effective law enforcement; - continuity of incentives for alternative livelihood options and enhancement of living conditions (e.g. education, public health); - income diversification; - equitable benefit sharing mechanisms to avoid the capture of benefits by a small elite; - ensuring the sustainable use of forests and forest resources; - transparency on different uses of land, including land tenure. 	1. Change in natural forest cover and the incidence of forest degradation inside the project area since project start/during project runtime.
		2. Persistence of drivers of land-use change and forest degradation despite REDD+ action.
		3. Description of provisions for long-term ecological, social and financial sustainability of the (sub-) project.
		4. Grievances.
		5. Land tenure situation.
(g)	<p>Actions to reduce displacement of emissions, including through, among other actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - monitoring (e.g. through implementation of the NFMS), including community monitoring; - effective law enforcement; - continuity of incentives for alternative livelihood options and enhancement of living conditions (e.g. education, public health); - income diversification; - equitable benefit sharing mechanisms to avoid the capture of benefits by a small elite; - ensuring the sustainable use of forests and forest resources; - design and implement REDD+ Policies and Measures to address the drivers of deforestation; - transparency on different uses of land, including land tenure 	1. Persistence of drivers of land-use change and forest degradation despite REDD+ action.
		2. Description of monitoring efforts.

Since the same indicators are suggested for some of the safeguards, it was considered preferable for the presentation of the information on the SIS portal to create a logical order leading to a concise project description while indicating to which indicator (one or more) the description refers, as presented below (table 6).

Table 6: Suggestion for how project-level information could be presented on the SIS portal

Topic	Description	Safeguard
Project alignment with programs, conventions and agreements		a
Land tenure situation		f
Engagement of stakeholders in project planning and implementation, in conformity with their customs and traditions		b, c, d
Involvement in engagement activities of community organizations and platforms, as well as traditional authorities and knowledgeable working arms of ITPs		d

Incorporation of ITP traditional rules in project planning and implementation		b
Incorporation of traditional knowledge and rights in the project		c
Gender-sensitive and -inclusive approaches applied throughout project planning and implementation		b, d
Benefits ITPs will receive from the project in line with benefits distribution system		c
How benefits will be shared		b
How FPIC has been obtained applying culturally appropriate protocols		c, d
Grievances received by safeguards relevant topic		b-g
Environmental risks and mitigation measures identified for the project		e
Top 3 social and top 3 environmental benefits envisaged by the project (non-monetary)		e
Change in natural forest cover and the incidence of forest degradation inside the project area since project start/during project runtime		e, f
Persistence of drivers of land-use change and forest degradation despite REDD+ action		f, g
Description of provisions for long-term ecological, social and financial sustainability of the project		f
Description of monitoring efforts		f, g

4.6. The role of the ESMF in Suriname's SIS

As can be seen from the previous two chapters, the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) that was developed as part of the development of Suriname's National REDD+ Strategy played a special role in the identification and selection of indicators for Suriname's SIS.

The backbone of the ESMF consists of two pillars:

- The Action Matrix, which includes actions at national level to address a number of issues of importance to ensuring that REDD+ safeguards can be met; and
- The framework for REDD+ (sub-) project implementation, which prescribes the process of REDD+ project preparation, review, assessment, approval and implementation, in line with safeguards requirements.

The Action Matrix includes suggested indicators to measure progress towards completion of the included actions and their impacts. The framework for project implementation requests project developers/implementers to make sure that safeguards are being taken into consideration from the start and throughout REDD+ projects, and that monitoring is conducted, especially where risks are identified. As a consequence, and because the ESMF was specifically developed for REDD+

implementation in Suriname, such information in the context of REDD+ safeguards is of direct relevance to Suriname's SIS. The assumption is that implementation of the ESMF will automatically generate information that can be attributed to REDD+ activities, which for many other types of national level information is difficult to ensure. This makes information coming from ESMF implementation particularly suitable for inclusion in the SIS.

4.7. Required additional monitoring

Monitoring at regular intervals can be very time and resource intensive. The identification of information and indicators for inclusion in the SIS has been done aiming to keep additional monitoring at a minimum. The setup of the ESMF supports this effort by handing a substantive part of the monitoring of REDD+ implementing (sub-) projects over to the project implementing agencies. Some additional monitoring, however, will be needed, especially of national-level information and indicators that present a summary of local-level information. At best, such summary information would come from a database in which all REDD+ implementing (sub-) projects are registered, including such information of relevance for the SIS, so that a simple analysis within that database will deliver the required information/indicator. The following small template excerpt (table 7) provides an example for how this could be done.

Table 7: Example excerpt for template to record indicator information by project and produce accumulated indicators (brackets include reference to the national level indicator the column refers to)

Project ID	Grievances on FPIC processes (d.3.a)	Grievances concluded (d.3.b)
001	1	1
002	0	0
003	2	2
Total	3	100%

Such a table could include columns referring to all the necessary information for the SIS and thus serve for calculating regular updates of indicators. Column headings could be coded to directly refer back to the respective SIS indicator. While this would require some effort at the beginning, once established it would substantially facilitate the maintenance of the SIS. It could also be explored whether such a matrix could be merged with the planned REDD+ registry.

Some of the data included in the SIS will originate from the NFMS. Here, it will be important to make the responsible personnel at SBB aware of the required information, the format in which it is needed and the frequency of necessary updates, so that the information can be provided in due time and in the right format (especially for the production of the SOI).

4.8. Quality control and validation

The need for, and level of, quality control and validation depend on the sources of information for inclusion into the SIS. In some cases, the information will already be quality controlled by the time it is received (e.g. where it comes from the NFMS). In other cases, it will be important to ensure that information is provided in a standardised way and that irregularities can be detected and followed up.

This could be the case for information coming out of ESMF implementation and feeding into the SIS. For the standardisation, the ESMF can help in that it prescribes the kind of information that should be provided already at the stage of project planning. Again, establishing a matrix as the exemplary table shown in the previous section, can also help standardise the information. Beyond that, for quality control of information coming from project implementation, it is important to highlight that the existence of a REDD+ specific grievance redress mechanism should allow to detect where information provided does not match the reality on the ground.

5. SIS operational and institutional arrangements

5.1. SIS operational arrangements

Running the SIS will require that responsible personnel provide detailed knowledge of and familiarity with the portal, its management and its information needs. The skills involved with operating the SIS differ somewhat for the three different types of information included in the system:

- 1) Information on how existing PLRs address aspects of importance under each safeguard: The information is sourced from the PLR analysis. While not many changes are to be expected over time, it would be useful to have the information from the analysis that is included in the SIS reviewed by a legal expert at determined intervals to ensure that updates in Suriname's PLR framework are reflected.
- 2) Information on how safeguards are respected through provisions and/or activities at national level: This information may be qualitative or quantitative. Qualitative information here may refer to progress updates on the implementation of specific Policies and Measures included in the National REDD+ Strategy. Quantitative information may result from a summary analysis of project-level information. Personnel in charge with maintaining such data needs to be familiar with the methodology for producing such summary analyses.
- 3) Information on how safeguards are respected through provisions and/or activities at project level, i.e. as part of REDD+ implementation on the ground: This information would likely be contributed and maintained from personnel in charge with overseeing the implementation of REDD+ projects, which require the application of the ESMF.

Certain indicators may require input from other agencies, e.g. SBB on deforestation and degradation data (see institutional arrangements).

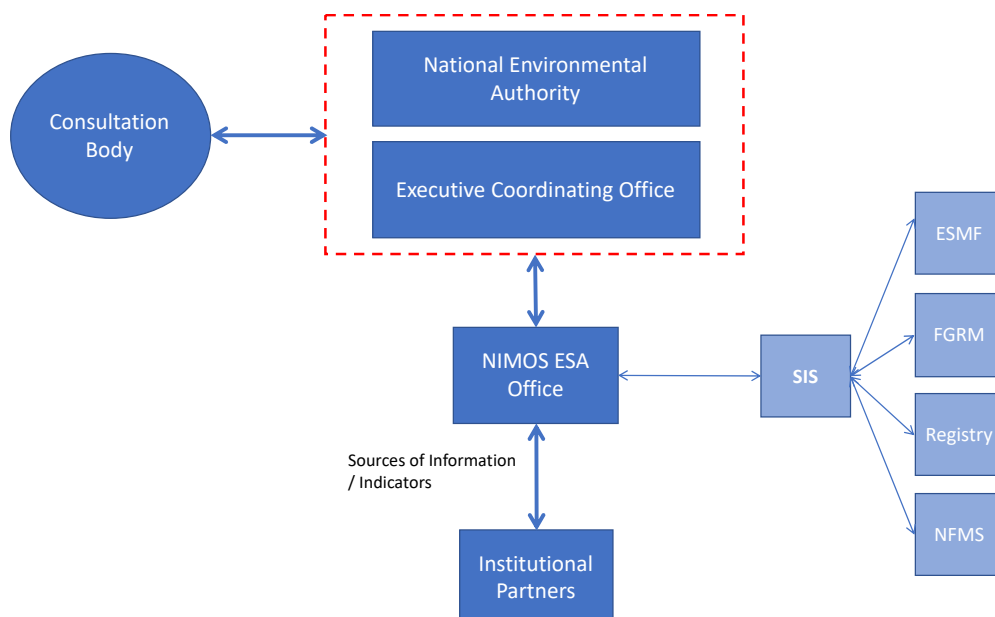
5.2. SIS institutional arrangements

Under the institutional arrangements that came forth from the National REDD+ Strategy, the following entities are considered:

1. The policy direction of the program will be led by the National Environmental Authority. In accordance with the draft Environmental Framework Act, the National Environmental Authority is the consultative body charged with compiling and coordinating environmental policy in Suriname, as well as monitoring its implementation.
2. The National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (NIMOS) as Executive Coordinating Office will act under the National Environmental Authority. This is the executive body that will manage the program administratively.

3. A Consultation Body will advise the Executive Coordinating Office and the National Environmental Authority; disseminate information to its multi-stakeholder group of members and monitor the implementation of the REDD+ Program. It will contribute to select, define and control REDD+ projects and activities.

Building upon those arrangements, the day to day management of the SIS will be done by the Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) Office within NIMOS:



ESA Office

Within the Executive Coordinating Office, the ESA Office will be responsible for managing an effective and operational SIS.

It is advisable that the SIS is maintained by the same team as the team maintaining at least the ESMF, to ensure good coordination and integration.

Institutional Partners

Institutional Partners are (government) stakeholders who are: a) responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the PLRs relevant to the Safeguards; and b) managing existing information sources/systems. The initial assessment of government stakeholders was done under the Legal Matrix (Annex 4).

SIS generic functions

For the functions of Suriname's SIS mentioned in Chapter 3, four basic tasks are relevant:

1. *Information collection and management*
This task is about determining what information will be included, where it comes from and how it will be brought together. This task focusses on the management of the indicators and sources of information.
2. *Information analysis and interpretation*

For the different purposes of the SIS, information and data will have to be interpreted and analyzed to ensure the different outputs (including preparing the SOI).

3. *Information quality control and assurance*

Information verification at point of collection, which would be making sure that the information is accurate. And information validation post interpretation, making sure the interpretation is accurate. This will be especially relevant when different parties are involved in the chain of process.

4. *Information dissemination and use*

This task is aimed at communicating the information to different target audiences, making it available through the web portal.

A phased approach to the functioning of Suriname's SIS

In the initial phase (0-3 years), the SIS unit will have a leading role in the four tasks, leaving a supporting role for the Institutional Partners. For the national level, the ESA Office will be collaborating with the Institutional Partners in the form of working groups. This can be done per safeguard. The SIS unit will collect and interpret the 'raw' data from, and with the support of, the Institutional Partners.

→ During this initial phase capacity building will be a key aspect in order to help institutions strengthen their understanding of REDD+ safeguards and the SIS.

For the project level, the system can be set-up in a way that organizations from government, private sector, civil society and academia, who are implementing REDD+ activities and projects, can be co-responsible for the collection of information. In addition, project level information can be collected through the ESMF, FGRM, Registry, NFMS and the use of templates can fast track the process. The ESA Office can also use a collection of the project-level information to summarize how that translates to the national level in respecting the safeguards.

On the longer term, the SIS can be built out to be an automated decentralized system, where the ESA Office will only oversee the process and outputs (task 3).

6. SIS technological system's requirements

The following are the basic technological requirements for hosting the website:

- Operating System: Windows Server 2003 or higher
- Web Server: IIS 7 or higher
- Database: Microsoft SQL Server 2012 or higher
- Development Libraries: .NET 4 or higher
- File permissions: FULL
- Disk Space: 2GB or more

Suriname's SIS is going to be hosted by Adept at an external hosting party (Webecs), so further detail on those requirements can be provided by their hosting party, if needed. Adept will be responsible for the communication with Webecs and for renewing or changing the hosting package.

7. SIS online portal

Suriname's SIS portal has been designed by Adept, a Surinamese company providing IT solutions, in close collaboration with the lead consultants and in line with the expectations of NIMOS/ REDD+ PMU.

The SIS portal is a custom-built web application using *Umbraco* as Content Management System. This allows NIMOS/ REDD+ PMU to manage the website after it is delivered. For the graphic design of the website, a template from the “themeforest” website has been purchased and customized.

The design process consisted of the following steps:

- A basic structure for the portal was suggested to NIMOS/ REDD+ PMU by the consultancy team (see figure 2) for comments and approval;
- This basic structure was used to create a presentation, introducing to the main pages of the portal and exemplifying the functions, links and material that will have to be incorporated;
- Adept used this presentation together with the basic input from NIMOS/ REDD+ PMU about the expected look and feel of the portal and a website template (purchased from <https://themeforest.net/category/site-templates>) to produce a mock-up;
- AAE team provided initial content to be fed into the portal;
- NIMOS/ REDD+ PMU provided feedback throughout the design process, which was incorporated until a final version was reached.

Once the English version of the portal was agreed, a Dutch version was prepared.

After the technical release of the website, Adept provided NIMOS/ REDD+ PMU with a training in *Umbraco* and assisted them in the initial content management of the portal. The basic set-up of the online portal is presented in the following figure (figure 2).

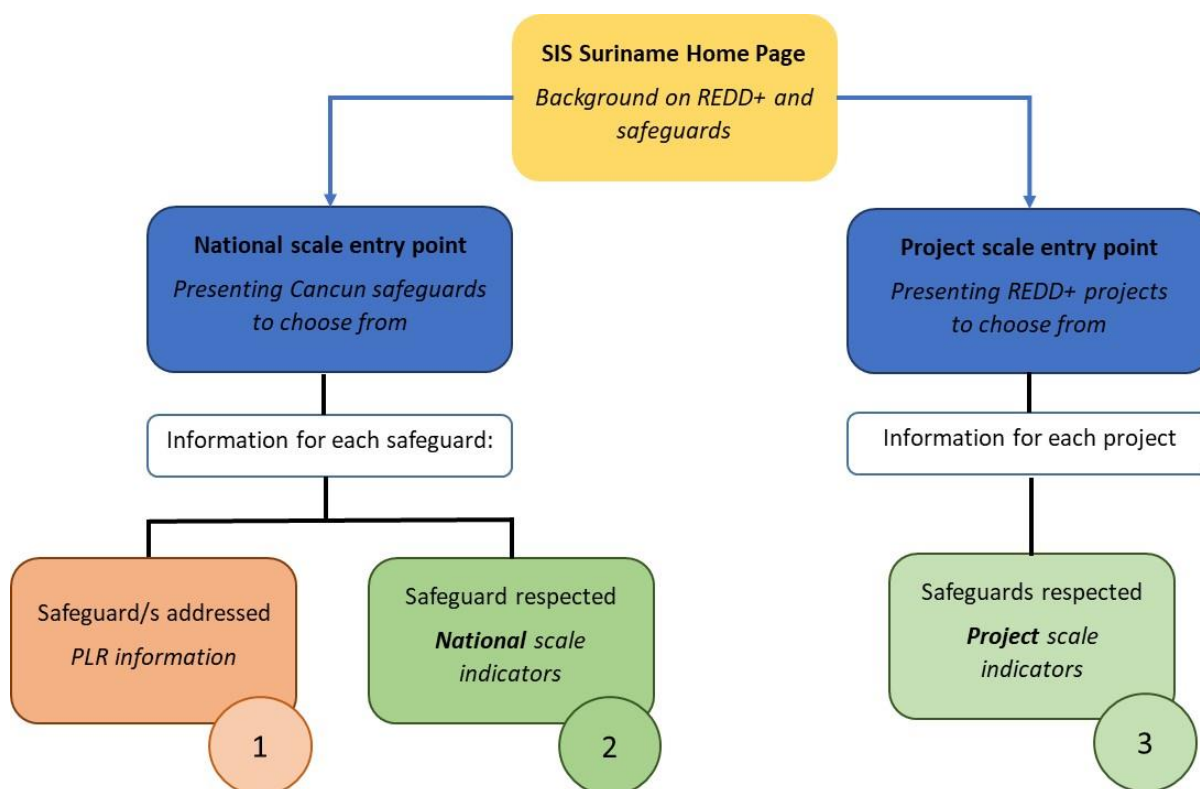


Figure 2: Basic set-up of Suriname's SIS online portal

The figure reflects the three types of information introduced in section 4.1 and builds on the same logic, distinguishing between a national and a project scale entry point.

Envisioned audiences of the portal include national-level stakeholders actively involved in REDD+, international stakeholders (e.g. potential funding agencies interested to see the status of work on safeguards in the country) and local-level stakeholders. For local-level stakeholders, especially ITP representatives, the project-level information is likely going to be of particular interest.

The final portal is available at sis.surinameredd.org.

8. SIS capacity strengthening and sustainability

Implementing and maintaining the SIS over time will require certain capacities, resources and skills. These range from the capacity to use *Umbraco* and feed information into the system to handling the information as it comes in from different information sources and gathering the information in the first place. Section 5 on SIS operational and institutional arrangements clarifies the key tasks and responsibilities that the implementation and maintenance of the SIS requires. The consultancy team delivered training in the use of *Umbraco* as well as a training on how to produce the country's Summary of Information (SOI) using information from the SIS as part of the current assignment.

The SIS Counterpart Group Meetings, involving several of the people who will in the future be somehow involved in SIS maintenance, can also be considered as capacity building towards a complete understanding of the thinking behind developing the SIS and its information needs.

For the sustainability of the SIS on the long run it is important to highlight that the SIS is not “cut in stone” but that experience with its use and maintenance can and should lead to adjustments over time. Such adjustments may refer to the amount or nature of information included in the system. At the time of its development, information was not yet available on a number of indicators included in the SIS. Although feasibility as a criterion for indicator selection has been taken into consideration, only the practice will demonstrate whether it is indeed possible to gather all of the suggestion information.

It is possible that implementation of the SIS over time will lead to adjustments in the suggested indicators. This can be of advantage as it may help gather more relevant information or add clarity to what information exactly is gathered. However, it also needs to be considered that substantial changes to indicators will lead to interruptions in the gathering of information over time and therefore make it impossible to see trends. Indicators can only show trends over time if in essence they remain the same (i.e. very minor changes to the wording for greater clarity may not make a difference). Where an indicator gets changed substantially, information will have to be gathered again for a certain amount of time before a trend in the indicator becomes visible. In order to avoid this, where a change is necessary, it could be explored whether further specification rather than a substantial change of the indicator is an option. For example, indicator X could be maintained in its original form, but a specification added as X.a underneath.

Another change that may be considered useful over time is the change from a qualitative to a quantitative indicator. In this case, the above point does not apply in the same way, as qualitative information is much harder to interpret in terms of trends over time. Here, turning the indicator into a quantitative one, or adding an accompanying quantitative indicator to an existing qualitative one, will add another valuable layer of information that over time can be displayed as a trend.

9. SIS establishment and operational cost

For the operation of the SIS, the following indicative assessment is made regarding the cost:

Cost	Cost Description	US\$ Y1	US\$ Y2	US\$ Y3	US\$ Y4	US\$ Y5
Office cost						
Domain name	Cost for the domain name for the SIS portal, which is outsourced and initially paid to Adept. This is based on the rate outside of Suriname	25	25	25	25	25
Web hosting	Cost for web hosting of the SIS portal, which is outsourced and initially paid to Adept. This is based on the rate within Suriname	195	195	195	195	195
Internet		100	100	100	100	100
Hardware and furniture	Working computer and space for 2 staff members responsible for SIS within the ESA office.	4000	250	250	250	250
Personnel						
Executive Coordinating Office - staff salaries	For day-to-day management of the REDD+ program, a key amount of time will be allocated for maintaining the SIS and producing the SOI, as well as ensuring the coordination and streamlining of the SIS with other elements like the ESMF, Registry and MRV. For this, an average of 1 day a month for a senior representative with a daily fee of US\$ 100 for the overall management of the SIS and 1 day a week for a junior representative with a daily fee of US\$ 75 to manage the information.	5100	5100	5100	5100	5100
Consultation Body	As part of the larger REDD+ institutional framework, the Consultative Body can take shape as the Counterpart group did in the development of the SIS. For this, relevant representatives of the Government, academia, civil society and private sector can be consulted on topic specific information and sources. For this, a quarterly meeting with 15 persons, compensated for US\$ 15 per meeting is considered.	900	900	900	900	900
National and international expertise	For any additional support if and when needed, from capacity building to support in consultations and SOI preparations.	10000	10000	5000	5000	5000
Process						

Stakeholder consultation	It is assumed that the institutional partners with the relevant information, will mostly overlap with the consultative body. To create the facilities to accommodate consultation and collaboration in groupwork, a venue should be covered for once per quarter. During the first year, this will be considered under capacity building.		2000	2000	2000	2000
Capacity building Institutional Partners	See above. In addition to the cost for working group meetings, during the first year, the capacity building cost also include the cost for organizing/attending workshops, seminar and trainings.	10000	5000	5000	5000	5000
Output						
Preparation and submission of SOI	For the submission of the first and second SOI, it is considered to incorporate support from consultants when necessary.	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000
Awareness and Communication	To communicate the results, progress and effectiveness of the SOI, a communication and awareness budget is considered to cover workshops or communication products.	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000
Miscellaneous		2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Total per year		40320	31570	26570	26570	26570
Total		151600				

The Environmental Fund, responsible for the financial management of the REDD+ fund and which will be established in accordance with the draft Environmental Framework Act, will be responsible for financing the SIS operation.

The fund is expected to receive resources from different sources, including international and national investment and potentially results-based payments in the future. This financial mechanism will include a review of sinking fund arrangements as a mechanism to distribute resources from a variety of sources to cover the costs of implementing the National REDD+ strategy and prioritized policies and measures (PAMs).

10. SIS in the broader governance system

The development of a SIS can help support a range of national objectives, beyond REDD+. Experiences from some other countries show how the objectives they have selected for their SIS, and SIS design, have been developed to meet other national objectives. For example:

- Vietnam's SIS objectives after 2020 include supporting wider monitoring of aspects of its forestry sector, such as Payments for Forest Environmental Services, policy implementation, and law enforcement.
- Zambia's SIS objectives include that reporting requirements under different international conventions could benefit from information produced by a functional SIS.
- Malaysia's proposed SIS aims to support sustainable forest management, utilizing existing forestry information systems, as well as link to its national CBD Aichi targets.
- Mexico's SIS objectives refer to providing information to support adequate decision-making for rural areas and territories, as well as reporting on safeguards.

The SIS may support improved, wider forest governance in a number of ways. These include monitoring the implementation and outcomes of forest sector and related policies, and bringing together this information in a way that supports decision-making (e.g. can provide information on policy questions that may be of interest to multiple sectors, such as 'what are the socio-economic conditions for ethnic minority peoples in forest areas?', 'what is the economic contribution of the forestry sector to GDP and/or local incomes?'). In addition, the SIS can help improve data sharing between government (and potentially non-government) organizations, through building relationships between organizations providing and receiving data and/or formalizing data sharing processes. This is especially relevant in cases where very few transparent, integrated information systems exist (e.g. SIS can be a test case for improved data sharing).

The SIS can also help to strengthen other information systems, which provide information on safeguards. For example, there may be additional packaging/processing of data to make it useful for SIS needs – such as new data combinations or adding spatial layers – and these can add value to the information system in question. Another example is forest inventories – countries may add parameters to their inventories, improve methodologies or further disaggregate data to ensure their utility for SIS and other REDD+ systems.

The SIS can also help improve the sharing of information with stakeholders. In a number of countries, official information on forestry, environmental and rural development factors may not be regularly shared or accessible to all relevant stakeholders, especially outside of government. SIS and other related REDD+ systems (e.g. NFMS) may make this information more accessible and in some cases, offers opportunities for stakeholder engagement (e.g. review of safeguards information).

There are also ways in which the SIS can be linked to other reporting systems of interest to countries, for example for international environmental conventions, such as CBD, UNCCD and Ramsar. This can work both ways – the SIS can make use of information reported under these conventions, if available, as well as provide information for convention reporting. For example, reporting to the CBD on biodiversity protection measures and outcomes is likely relevant to REDD+ Cancun safeguard E. At the same time, information collected for the SIS on REDD+ outcomes (e.g. hectares of forest restored, area of flooded forest protected) will be relevant to reporting to other environmental conventions.

SIS reporting can also contribute to reporting needs for international human rights conventions, such as the UN Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), supporting unified periodic reporting. Again, this can work both ways, with reporting for these conventions contributing to SIS and vice-versa. In addition, when countries report on human rights activities and outcomes in particular fields, the SIS may contribute (e.g. special reports on land/forest rights or environmental justice).

The SIS can also be an important source of information for reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Many countries are currently developing national indicators and reporting processes for the SDGs. This provides opportunities to link SDG data with the SIS. For example, information from the SIS could contribute to reporting against SDGs on Life on Land, Climate Action, Good Jobs & Economic Growth, and vice-versa. In addition, the process for the development of national SDG reporting can contribute to SIS development and vice-versa (e.g. information/indicator assessments for national SDGs will explore data availability, as will information systems assessments for SIS).

As these examples set out, there is great potential for Suriname's SIS to be useful beyond REDD+. This becomes already noticeable in the course of its development: by reviewing existing information systems and sources as well as reporting requirements under different conventions (see inception report) it can be regarded as a small test project towards a potentially much bigger effort to develop a "system of systems", which could take the form of a big database where all information is being stored that is required for the reporting requirements of different international conventions and from which such information can be extracted with minor effort to produce such regular reports. To some extent, the SIS by the end of its development process will already link several instruments and information sources, such as the NFMS, ESMF, REDD+ NS and likely Suriname's REDD+ Registry.

Especially the ESMF is going to be a contributor of safeguards relevant information to Suriname's SIS.

One envisaged function of the SIS makes the system directly useful to monitoring the success of NS implementation: at community level, it is suggested to colour code REDD+ activities in line with the NS PAMs that they contribute to, so that progress on implementation of the PAMs can be monitored, at least to some extent, through the SIS.

Finally, it should also be noted that Suriname's SIS does not have to be considered as cut in stone once it has been established. Instead, the possibility to incorporate further functions could be explored in the future, such as the inclusion of symbols flagging where information is relevant for CBD Aichi targets.

11. Framework for the Summary of Information

In addition to establishing a SIS, countries are also requested to address and respect safeguards throughout the implementation of REDD+ and to provide a Summary of Information (SOI) on how all of the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected (Decision 12/CP.17, paragraph 3). UNFCCC Decision 17/CP.21 provides some guidance on how to elaborate the SOI, however, the level of detail countries choose to reflect in their SOI can vary. Following discussion with PMU and the participants of the SOI training, the following structure was agreed:

- 1 Introduction
 - 1.1 REDD+ in Suriname
 - 1.1.1 Forest cover and forest trends in Suriname
 - 1.1.2 Milestones of the REDD+ readiness process of Suriname
 - 1.1.3 Vision and main orientations of the National REDD+ Strategy

- 1.2 Safeguards requirements (UNFCCC and linkages with other frameworks)
- 1.3 Scope of this first summary of information
- 1.4 Process for developing the first SOI of Suriname
- 2 Safeguards Information System (SIS) of Suriname
 - 2.1 Process for the analysis of the potential environmental and social REDD+ risks and development of a national interpretation of safeguards
 - 2.2 Objectives and functions of the SIS
 - 2.3 Structure of the SIS
 - 2.4 Responsibilities for the operation of the SIS and the production of the SOI
 - 2.5 Process for the national interpretation of each safeguard and identification of relevant indicators and information
 - 2.6 The role of the ESMF in Suriname's SIS
 - 2.7 FPIC Procedure and mechanism for managing complaints
 - 2.8 Future steps for the development of the SIS
- 3 Addressing and respecting the Cancun safeguards
 - 3.1 Safeguard A
 - 3.1.1 Narrative interpretation of the safeguard in the national context
 - 3.1.2 Information on how the safeguard is addressed
 - 3.1.3 Information on how the safeguard is respected at national level
 - 3.1.4 Conclusion on how the safeguard is addressed and respected
 - 3.2 Safeguard B
 - 3.2.1 Narrative interpretation of the safeguard in the national context
 - 3.2.2 Information on how the safeguard is addressed
 - 3.2.3 Information on how the safeguard is respected at national level
 - 3.2.4 Conclusion on how the safeguard is addressed and respected, based on both project level and national level information, and next steps to further improve respect, if necessary
 - 3.3 Safeguard C
 - 3.3.1 Narrative interpretation of the safeguard in the national context
 - 3.3.2 Information on how the safeguard is addressed
 - 3.3.3 Information on how the safeguard is respected at national level
 - 3.3.4 Conclusion on how the safeguard is addressed and respected, based on both project level and national level information, and next steps to further improve respect, if necessary
 - 3.4 Safeguard D

- 3.4.1 Narrative interpretation of the safeguard in the national context
 - 3.4.2 Information on how the safeguard is addressed
 - 3.4.3 Information on how the safeguard is respected at national level
 - 3.4.4 Conclusion on how the safeguard is addressed and respected, based on both project level and national level information, and next steps to further improve respect, if necessary
- 3.5 Safeguard E
 - 3.5.1 Narrative interpretation of the safeguard in the national context
 - 3.5.2 Information on how the safeguard is addressed
 - 3.5.3 Information on how the safeguard is respected at national level
 - 3.5.4 Conclusion on how the safeguard is addressed and respected, based on both project level and national level information, and next steps to further improve respect, if necessary
- 3.6 Safeguard F
 - 3.6.1 Narrative interpretation of the safeguard in the national context
 - 3.6.2 Information on how the safeguard is addressed
 - 3.6.3 Information on how the safeguard is respected at national level
 - 3.6.4 Conclusion on how the safeguard is addressed and respected, based on both project level and national level information, and next steps to further improve respect, if necessary
- 3.7 Safeguard G
 - 3.7.1 Narrative interpretation of the safeguard in the national context
 - 3.7.2 Information on how the safeguard is addressed
 - 3.7.3 Information on how the safeguard is respected at national level
 - 3.7.4 Conclusion on how the safeguard is addressed and respected, based on both project level and national level information, and next steps to further improve respect, if necessary
- 3.8 Summary of information available at project scale
- 4 Conclusion

While this structure has been approved by PMU and the Counterpart Group but may evolve further as and when Suriname's first SOI gets prepared. Based on this structure, a SOI manual was produced that includes instructions for how to fill the different sections as well as some exemplary text for potential inclusion in a first complete SOI.

Annex 1: Stakeholder input into SIS development

In order to ensure inclusive engagement of all relevant stakeholders, different groupings of stakeholders have been identified and are involved in different ways in the development of the SIS, tailored to their background, knowledge and roles:

1. The National SIS Counterpart Group;
2. National SIS Workshops (Roadmap and validation workshop);
3. SIS and SOI Training;
4. Local Community Consultations.

National SIS Counterpart Group

The national SIS Counterpart group functions as an advisor of the AAE consortium and NIMOS REDD+ PMU due to their knowledge on REDD+, and combined backgrounds which cover both the technical as well as the social sides of the SIS. The members of the group are in the position to provide input via e-mail and to participate in meetings.

The role of the group as a whole is to:

- Provide input into separate steps of SIS development, starting from a basic point of defining safeguard goals and scope to advanced one, e.g. as and when we arrive at identification of suitable indicators;
- Participate in national level workshops (roadmap and validation workshop);
- Participate in periodic meetings of SIS counterpart group (e.g. 1 – 2 per quarter);
- Review interim and final outputs.

Four meetings with the Counterpart Group have taken place. At the first, input was gathered into the draft narrative interpretation of the safeguards, at the second, possible information and indicators were discussed based on the interpretation. Both the narrative interpretations and indicators have been validated with the SIS Counterpart Group at the third meeting in early October. The last meeting, which took place in mid-November, aimed at reviewing the Dutch translation of the interpretations and indicators.

SIS counterpart group members:

Institute/Organization	Contact	Expertise
Bureau Gender Aangelegenheden	Sharon Tjokro	Knowledge on gender
Cabinet of the President/ Coordination Environment	Safyra Duurham	National policies and decision-making
AdeKUS – Sustainable Management of Natural Resources	Usha Satnarain	Knowledge on forest management
SBB	Cindyrella Kasanpawiro	Knowledge on forest management and familiarity with institutional capacities to handle information
NIMOS Legal office	Gina Griffith	Knowledge on legal issues (national laws + international conventions)

ABS (Bureau of Statistics)	Anjali Kisoensingh	Familiarity with institutional capacities to handle information
NIMOS ESA office	Quan Tjon-Akon	Familiarity with institutional capacities to handle information
NIMOS EPI office (Environmental Planning and Information system)	Donovan Bogor	Knowledge on information systems
VIDS	Josee Artist Ricardo Pane	Knowledge on ITP rights (including land tenure), representing the interests of indigenous peoples
OIS	Sirito Aloema	Knowledge on ITP rights (including land tenure), representing the interests of indigenous peoples
KAMPOS	Renatha Simson	Knowledge on ITP rights (including land tenure), representing the interests of tribal peoples

National SIS Workshops

Over the course of the SIS development, two national-level workshops have taken place, the SIS Roadmap Workshop and the SIS Validation Workshop.

SIS Roadmap Workshop

On 01 March 2019 a 1-day National SIS Roadmap workshop was held at the Royal Torarica Hotel, Paramaribo. The workshop was preceded by a half-day session on 27 February to prepare the REDD+ Assistants Collective and representatives of the hinterland communities for the content of the workshop.

The workshop had three objectives: i) to create broad understanding of safeguards requirements for REDD+, ii) to review progress and planning to meet REDD+ safeguards requirements in Suriname, and iii) to generate understanding about the steps needed to develop a safeguard information system (SIS) and identify key priorities and functions for Suriname.

Excluding people from NIMOS REDD+, the facilitator and the documenter, there were 71 people present (35 female; 36 male) representing a wide array of stakeholders from the government, NGO's, Academia, Civil Society and the hinterland. The safeguards were discussed in 6 groups since safeguard f and g which are somewhat similar were combined.

The majority of the interventions were from people from the hinterland. The workshop counted with the presence of Diego Martino (AAE), Judith Walcott (WCMC) and national members of the consortium.

The workshop was opened by the REDD+ Project Coordinator, Mrs. Sandra Bihari, and was closed by the Acting General Director of NIMOS Mr. Cedric Nelom.

SIS Validation Workshop

The national SIS validation workshop was held on November 21st, 2019. The purpose of the workshop was to present the structure and content of Suriname's SIS for REDD+ to a wide range of stakeholders, validate it and gather final feedback for incorporation subsequently. The aim was to have stakeholders understand what Suriname's SIS is, what information it gathers and how to navigate it.

A similar set of stakeholders was involved as in the previous workshop (to the extent possible) to ensure continued communication of progress and inspire a feeling of ownership for the final products. The workshop covered one day and included the REDD+ assistants and several ITP community representatives. A day prior to the workshop, a pre-meeting with ITPs was held in order for them to be better able to participate during the workshop the next day.

During the validation workshop, five presentations were given on the basics of a SIS, the process through which Suriname developed its SIS, the national safeguards interpretation, the legal matrix, and the SIS indicators. At the end of the workshop the SIS portal was shown to participants via a temporary web link. Participants were able to provide feedback at this first glance of the portal.

The main concerns raised during the workshop were by ITP participants regarding the assurance the SIS can or cannot provide them in dealing with well-known issues of land tenure, environmental pollution and their customary rights.

A SIS portal rating sheet had been prepared in advance and was offered to participants as a print out or to be filled in online. Results were assembled and included in the SIS Validation Workshop Report.

SIS and SOI Training

The purpose of these training events was to ensure knowledge transfer between the consortium of consultants and those people who will be involved in running the SIS in the country and producing the SOI. It was divided to serve different audiences as summarised in the following table.

Training objective	Target audience
Inform and train about the maintenance and use of the SIS online portal	NIMOS and PMU
Show the structure of the SOI and how it can be completed towards an SOI	NIMOS, PMU, SBB

The SOI training took place on 22 November 2019 and was attended by 7 participants, two from SBB and 5 from NIMOS/PMU. For the SOI training, a manual had been prepared that included the agreed structure for the SOI as well as instructions for how to fill the different sections and some exemplary text for potential inclusion in Suriname's first SOI.

The SIS portal training took place on 26 November 2019 and was attended by 5 participants from NIMOS/PMU. For the SIS portal training, a manual on the use of the *Umbraco content management system* was prepared by consortium partner Adept, covering all aspects needed to understand how information included in the SIS can be updated and the system maintained over time. The training manual was handed over to NIMOS/ PMU.

Local Community Consultations

In line with the aim to develop the SIS in an inclusive and comprehensive manner, all ten ITP communities in the Surinamese hinterland are consulted as part of the SIS development. The ten

communities consist of: four Indigenous tribes (Kaliña, Lokono, Trio, and Wayana) and six Maroon tribes (Ndyuka, Saamaka, Paamaka, Kwinti, Aluku, and Matawai).

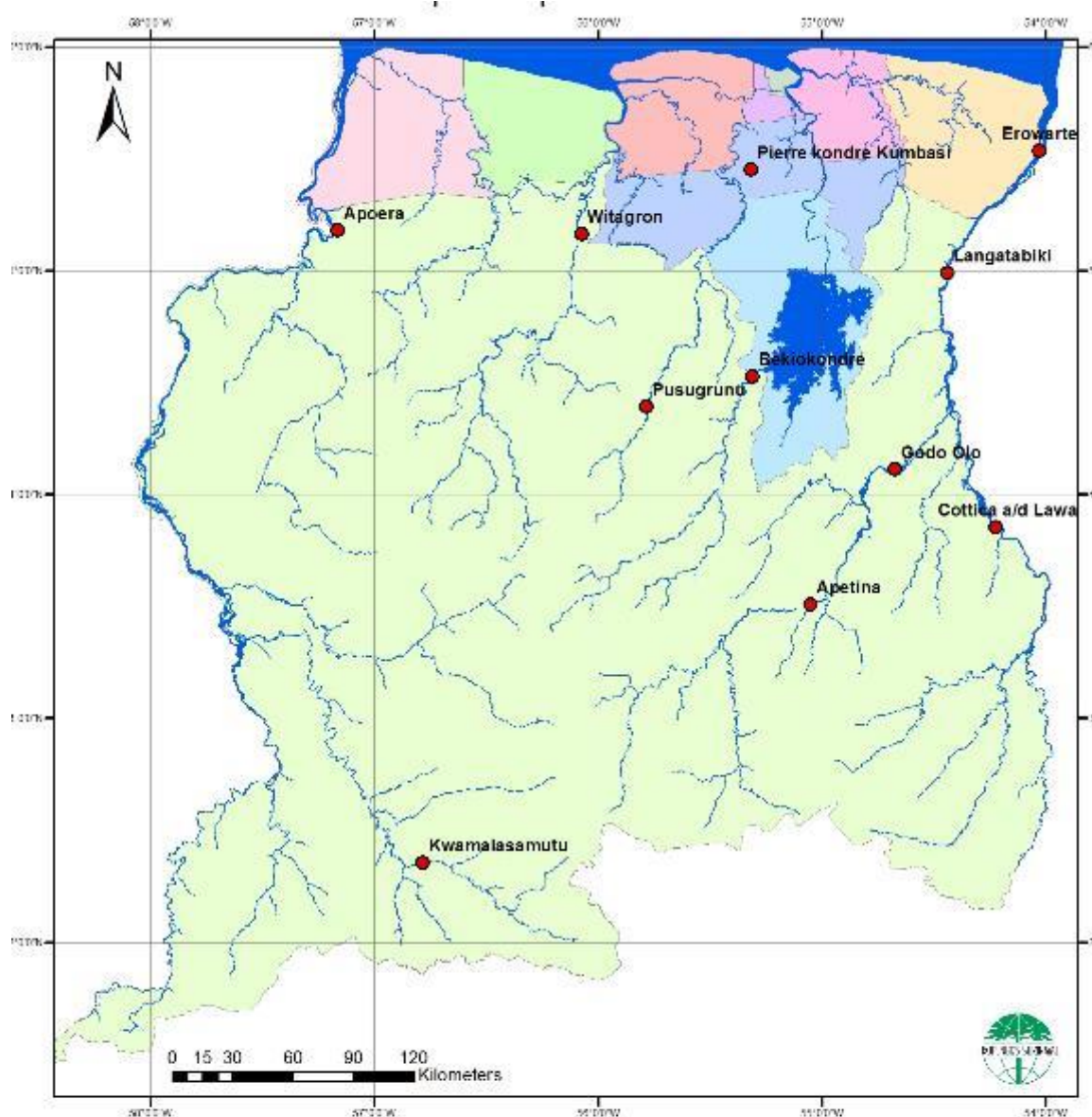
The main objectives of the ITP consultations as part of the SIS development are threefold:

1. **Generate awareness on and understanding of safeguards:** While the consultations as part of the National Strategy and SESA process focused on identifying possible risks from the implementation of REDD+ measures included in the strategy, safeguards as a means to avoiding such risks were not discussed in detail. Such awareness and understanding is needed as a basis for gaining insights specifically for the development of the SIS.
2. **Get input on the meaning of most relevant safeguards in local context:** Members of Suriname's ITP communities will probably not relate directly to each of the seven Cancun safeguards. However, some will be of immediate relevance. For those, it will be interesting to better understand what they mean or how they can be understood at the local level. Such understanding could be used to further refine the interpretation of safeguards at national level.
3. **Get input on how it could be shown that a local-level project is implemented in line with safeguards:** The roadmap workshop touched on the topic of suitable information for inclusion in Suriname's SIS. However, local realities may lead to additional interesting thoughts regarding the identification of suitable information.

In total, eleven consultations took place with all ten communities. The table below provides an overview of the consultations.

Period	Community / Location	Participating villages	Female	Male	Main issues
3 – 6 April	Matawai community, Pusugrunu	Pusugrunu, Sukibaka, Tevreden, Betel, Boslanti, Padua, Pijeti, Vertrouw	15	12	Need for REDD+ projects and income generating activities
7-9 May	Wayana community, Apetina	Apetina, Tutu kampu, Halala kampu, Akani kampu	21 (14)	19 (24)	Know how to manage the forest and need concrete actions
9-11 May	Ndyuka community, Godo-holo	Godo Olo, Gaan boli, Polokaba, Diitabiki, Poeketi	10	22	Need more information
22 May	Kaliña community, Erowarte	Erowarte, Alfonsdorp, Bigi ston, Marijkedorp	8	11	Feel that the Government is neglecting the area
12 June	Kaliña and Lokono communities, Pierre Kondre Kumbasi	Pierre Kondre Kumbasi, Redi Doti, Cassipora, Philipusdorp	11	14	Want a REDD+ Assistant specifically for the area
26 June	Saamaka community, Bekiokondre	Duwatra, Bekiokondre, Baikutu, Banafookondre	8	13	Need direct contact with SBB regarding issuance of logging concessions in their area
16 July	Aluku community,	Cottica aan de Lawa, Agode	15	11	Severe conflicts with gold mining and

	Cottica aan de Lawa				neglect by authorities. Need for an additional, younger RAC is expressed
17 July	Trio community, Kwamalasamutu	Kwamalasamutu	17	36	Perception of Kwamalasamutu area as the last remaining 'island' of unharmed biodiversity. Destructive activities towards all directions. Interest in using Gonini to monitor area.
15 August	Lokono community, Apura	Apura, Section, Washabo, (Sandlanding)	11	7	People are well-informed about REDD+, but need more continuity of activities
7 September	Kwinti community, Witagron. Indigenous community, Tibiti	Witagron, Tibiti	7	9	Many land use conflicts with logging concessions and consequences of the road. Gold mining encroaching from Upper Saramacca river area. Communities are interested in REDD+ corruption study (UNDP).
27 September	Paamaka community, Langatabiki	Langatabiki	4	4	Severe land use conflict with gold mining. Weak governance and erosion of strength of traditional authority is a big issue.
Total			127	163	



Legende

- Lokaties SIS Consultaties
- Rivieren
- Briskopondo
- Commewijne
- Coronie
- Marowijne
- Nickeroni
- Pera
- Paramaribo
- Saramacca
- Sipaliwini
- Wanica

Deze kaart geeft de lokaties weer waar er consultaties met inheemse en tribale gemeenschappen hebben plaatsgevonden in het kader van het ontwikkelen van een Safeguard Informatie Systeem. De kaart toont niet alle dorpen waarvan bewoners hebben deelgenomen in de consultaties.

The main findings from the community consultations and how insights were integrated into the SIS can be found in Annex 2.

Annex 2: Methodological notes and main findings from community consultations as part of the development of Suriname's SIS for REDD+ and their integration in the current version of the SIS

Community consultations were held in 11 locations across the country from April to September 2019. The community consultations were facilitated by Tropenbos and held in Dutch and local languages, with the help of interpreters. To the extent possible, materials were translated to local languages prior to the meeting.

Reports of the consultation were then compiled by Tropenbos in English and shared with the team of consultants supporting the development of the SIS. Each report was reviewed to extract input to the following elements of the SIS Report:

- (i) Objectives and functions of the SIS
- (ii) Narrative interpretation of the safeguards
- (iii) Indicators to demonstrate that the safeguards have been addressed and respected

Observations from the community reports relevant under each of these elements were first compiled in a summary table to provide an overview of the consultation outcomes under each of them and highlight observations shared between several of the communities consulted.

Based on this compilation, key messages were extracted for consideration by the main editor of the SIS report and inclusion in the corresponding sections of the report.

General observations on the limitations of the consultation process

One limitation of the consultations is that the themes covered by the safeguards, especially governance concepts and REDD+-specific ones, sometimes appear very remote from the communities' livelihoods. As a result, the feedback provided by the community on the safeguards provides useful context for how REDD+ could be implemented. However, many times the reflections provided by the communities could not be directly translated into recommendations for the national interpretation of the safeguards or for the design of indicators¹⁴.

The concepts of permanence and displacement, for example, are often taken out of their REDD+ context and their signification discussed in broader terms that may not be useful for the purpose of developing indicators for the SIS.

Other times the responses are relevant to the concepts discussed but the actors concerned might not be those that the safeguards are concerned with. The responsibility of REDD+ implementation, and therefore of addressing and respecting the safeguards, ultimately lies with Surinamese government. The communities consulted, when asked about 'enforcement', discuss their own internal enforcement mechanisms but, as they also point out, that's not where the problems lie but rather with companies or the government itself.

¹⁴ This was foreseen and mentioned as concern in the early negotiation phase.

Many communities also decry the loss of interest of younger generations for traditional knowledge and the erosion of traditional forms of authority. However, the provisions of safeguard C “respect for the knowledge [...] of indigenous peoples” should be interpreted in the context of REDD+ implementation: addressing and respecting that safeguard does not mean that intergenerational loss of indigenous knowledge is something that REDD+ should be expected to resolve. However, there may be ways in which REDD+ actions could be designed to promote traditional indigenous knowledge with younger generations.

Despite these issues, a number of key messages clearly emerge from the consultation process that are summarized below. There is sometimes overlap between the themes covered under different safeguards and the recommendations made have been reorganized and consolidated to avoid repetition and ensure their relevance to each safeguard.

Many of these recommendations are not only relevant to the design of the SIS but more broadly to the design of REDD+ policies and projects. The following paragraphs summarize the key messages, categorized into different topics. The red text explains how these key messages were used to inform the content of the SIS. Where issues raised go beyond the scope of the SIS for REDD+, red text was phrased as recommendations to PMU.

Key messages and their integration into the current version of the SIS

Objectives: Nearly all communities expressed through the consultation their wish that REDD+ and the application of the safeguards contributes positively to the recognition of traditional rules of communities. This would go beyond what is necessary to demonstrate that safeguard C is addressed and respected. However, REDD+ and the operation of the SIS in particular do present an opportunity for the Surinamese government to give further recognition to ITPs’ traditional rules. That objective is perhaps more relevant to the choice and design of REDD+ actions than to the SIS. Nevertheless, if that objective is included in the strategy, the SIS could help collect data on progress towards it.

Integration: The recognition of traditional rules of communities is well covered under different indicators included in the SIS. This has been done despite the fact that is not generally a primary objective of the SIS. Examples of how it has been covered can be seen under the below safeguards’ recommendations, specifically under recommendations for safeguard C.

Functions: The role of young people as potential brokers of information to the rest of the community was highlighted in several consultations. Young people are described as more skilled with information technologies such as mobile phones and internet applications, and in some cases are also more literate in Dutch or Sranan Tongo. In line with the objective of ensuring “local communities’ ownership and engagement” the SIS could incorporate functions that disseminate information on REDD+ through social networks and mobile applications. Several communities note that their only access to information is through local radio stations. These radio stations will likely continue to play a crucial role and could also be used to disseminate information collected through the SIS. However, they are only a one-way conduit for information while mobile and internet-based applications would present the significant advantage of allowing communities, via their youth, to react to and comment.

Integration: The PMU is making efforts to disseminate REDD+ -relevant information through newsletters, social media and radio programs in local languages, and this information is reflected in the SIS under national level indicator B.14. Strengthening the role of young people in communicating REDD+ news within their communities would be great to achieve but falls outside the scope of the SIS and could be addressed instead as part of the information and communication efforts of PMU. For example, the opportunity to include a respective indicator in the SIS in the future would arise if PMU could include a “Youth training on REDD+ and SIS” in the engagement plan for the upcoming year. The resulting indicator could be phrased “Number of youths by community trained on REDD+ communication and SIS”. The scope for a feedback mechanism would have to be assessed by PMU.

Some Communities also suggested that remote sensing data platforms could be used for the monitoring of degradation on their own territory. The platform www.gonini.org already appears to provide georeferenced information on the allocation of licenses for logging and mining, and at least two communities report using it. One of them notes that the names of the concession holders have been removed from the Gonini.org webpage, therefore limiting its usefulness for communities to enter in contact with the license holder in case of any issues. The platform could also provide an opportunity to present information collected through the SIS in a spatially explicit fashion, making it easier for communities to access and understand information of relevance to their area.

Integration: Information on deforestation and degradation within REDD+ project areas is covered by a project-level indicator entitled “Change in natural forest cover and the incidence of forest degradation inside the project area since project start/during project runtime”. In addition, Suriname’s NFMS is producing annual deforestation maps and bi-annual Post-deforestation Land Use Land Cover maps. The NFMS is also monitoring Near Real Time forest degradation due to unplanned logging and SBB is exploring ways to also detect and monitor degradation due to other human activities in the future (see national level indicator G.3). The Gonini platform is the main platform through which spatial information is/will be visible, including on logging and mining licenses. Whether the names of concession holders can be provided again will have to be decided by the government.

Safeguard A: One of the points for discussion under this safeguard was the existence of traditional laws and rules for forest management, with which REDD+ should be consistent¹⁵. Most communities insisted that REDD+ should not only respect these traditional rules but also enhance their application (see also ‘Objectives’). Many of the communities appear to be in the process of developing written codes of conducts/codifying traditional rules, in a bid to ensure that they are better respected by external actors. As some of the communities note, it should be observed that this process of formalization in itself may affect the way traditional systems work (e.g. formal demarcation leading to conflict whereas traditional knowledge of respective of territories currently ensures a level of fluidity

¹⁵ Considering the topics of importance under each safeguard, this discussion would fit better under safeguard C, which is explicitly about indigenous knowledge and rights. However, the topics was raised here, as communities feel that their own laws and regulations are as important as national laws, and that this safeguard should include that.

(Wayana, Apetina)). This may be true for other traditional rules beyond demarcation that may modify the community's dynamics once they are settled into written rules.

Potential indicator:

- *Number of communities for which a written record of traditional rules is available*

Integration: See national level indicator C.2: Number of documented traditional rights and rules or percentage (%) of ITP communities with documented traditional rights and rules that are to be taken into consideration in processes to amend legislation.

In order to address concerns regarding potential effects of the documentation of traditional rights on indigenous peoples (e.g. increased conflict potential as described above), monitoring or research opportunities in this context could be explored. In addition, grievances raised through the REDD+ - specific Grievance Redress Mechanism, which is currently under development, may help understand the nature of potential issues, so that adequate responses/project-management adjustments can be identified. The SIS will be providing information on grievances raised under different safeguards and in the context of different potential issues.

Safeguard B: Many communities underline the stark contrast between local/traditional laws that are adequately enforced through traditional authorities and national ones, perceived to be regularly flouted by governmental authorities and the private sector. For other communities, the lack of enforcement of national regulations and poor environmental governance compound a sense of degradation of the respect once observed for traditional rules and community leaders.

With regards to transparency of forest governance, several communities complained of the lack of transparency in the process for awarding government licenses for resource exploitation (mining, logging, gold washing). Several communities complain of a failure of the Government /SBB to communicate adequately on the topic and to regulate the exploitation that derives from these licenses. This raises valid concerns for the future licensing of carbon sequestration under private or public REDD+ schemes.

With regards to the provision of understandable information, the channel preferred by most communities remain the use of *krutus*, held at regular intervals to inform the community members.

With regards to mechanisms for grievance and redress, many communities seem to be unable to communicate to the District Commissioner¹⁶/SBB about their grievances and occurrences of environmental degradation of illegal exploitation on their territory that results from either illegal or licensed exploitation, especially gold washing. Some of the solutions proposed include a direct phone contact at SBB that the communities know they can use and relying on the ability of younger generations to use social media to communicate on these grievances.

¹⁶ In some places, the DC is easier to reach and involve. However, the problem is that they often do not have the means or power to take appropriate action, other than further alerting relevant government institutions.

Potential indicators:

- *Number of Krutus held every year to communicate on REDD+ with the communities*
- *Number of representatives from ITPs at REDD+-related meetings (nominated by the communities themselves)*
- *Number of self-determined community representatives as liaison with REDD+ projects implemented in their area*
- *Number of communities reporting effective direct phone access to SBB officers or district commissioners to report any grievances related to resource exploitation by licensed or illegal actors*
- *Establishment of an open online platform geo-referencing all resource exploitation licenses, including REDD+ projects*
- *'Engagement score' of youth from ITPs on REDD+ social media platforms*

Integration: Based on the issues brought forward and the indicators suggested, a new list of indicators is being proposed that, to a large extent, addresses the issues and covers the suggested indicators:

- National level indicator B.1: 1. Number of culturally appropriate assemblies by community, such as krutu's (village meetings), held in regular intervals to provide information and progress updates (held by NIMOS/PMU).
- National level indicators B.5.a. Number of grievances received on land use (including land tenure), disregard of traditional rights, etc. under REDD+ implementation, and B.5.b Percentage of grievances (%) resolved.
- Project level indicator B.1: Information on how stakeholders are effectively engaged in project planning and implementation, in conformity with their customs and traditions.
- Project level indicator B.5: Information on grievances received.

The Gonini portal is the government's official portal showing all available information regarding resource exploitation licenses. The SIS itself will, as and when REDD+ implementation starts, also include information on REDD+ project areas.

An additional suggestion to address the issues raised would be to consider for the Gonini portal that communities can select a concession based on its location and send a complaint related to it right through the feedback function of the portal. The scope for establishing a hotline number provided on the Gonini platform to communicate urgent issues could be explored as well.

Safeguard C: The consultation process was an occasion for the communities to voice what seems like recurrent concerns with the lack of progress on behalf of the government with regards to the recognition of their collective land tenure rights. This process for recognition and formalization of land tenure rights and the formalization process should also include the documentation and application of traditional norms regarding environmental management. The delay in compliance of the government with the verdict of the IACHR in the *Saamaka* case also seems to be regarded as an indicator that indigenous rights are not fully respected.

It was suggested that all agreements with communities with regards to licensing or exploitation should be available in written form and that REDD+ projects' objectives and documents include an explicit commitment to protect indigenous rights¹⁷.

With regards to grievance and redress mechanisms, communities emphasized that priority should be given to traditional rather than judicial means of dispute resolution. However, it is unclear whether that only regards issues arising within the community only or if traditional means of dispute resolution could also be used to deal with grievances regarding external actors.

Potential indicators:

- *Compliance of the Surinamese governments with the IACHR decision in the Saamaka case*
- *Repository of agreements with communities in the context of REDD+ projects is set up*
- *Number of agreements with communities in the context of REDD+ projects*
- *Proportion of REDD+ project that include an explicit commitment to protect indigenous rights*
- *Documentation of FPIC protocol followed*
- *Proportion of grievances and disputes resolved through traditional means*

Integration: The Draft Law Collective Rights ITPs 2019 has been included in the detailed analysis of Policies, Laws and Regulations that was conducted as part of the SIS development and is mentioned in the SIS portal in the context of different safeguards at the national level under "How the safeguard is addressed. In addition, the following indicators reflect the extent to which the above recommendations are incorporated in the current version of the SIS:

- National level indicator C.1: Description of how traditional knowledge and rights are considered in the process of implementation of the REDD+ NS and in the ESMF.
- National level indicator C.3: Provisions included in the ESMF to ensure application of FPIC and percentage (%) of REDD+ projects that demonstrate compliance with FPIC.
- National level indicator C.5: Progress on implementing the reparations requested in the Saamaka Judgment and the Kaliña and Lokono Judgement;
- Project level indicator C.1: Description of how traditional knowledge and rights are incorporated in the project.
- Project-level indicator C.4: How FPIC has been obtained applying culturally appropriate principles.
- Project-level indicator C.5: Information on grievances received.

Safeguard D: Full and effective participation bears a cost and finances should be made available to enable effective participation throughout the REDD+ process. Some communities suggested that REDD+ project revenues could go to a fund to which community members can submit project proposals¹⁸ for the development of the community.

¹⁷ It is important to note the role of FPIC protocols in this context as there have been cases where 'agreements' are made and signed by community leaders without them understanding what exactly they contain and what the implications are.

¹⁸ The term "project proposals" should be interpreted with caution in this context. Communities often do not have the capacity to prepare project proposals as they are required internationally and therefore never get to

Visible proof of the consultations should be kept at all times, in the forms of reports but also photos and even videos whenever possible. Reading materials should be provided well in advance of the meeting in appropriate languages and there should be the opportunity for feedback after the meeting. A small booklet on safeguards would also be useful to sum up key issues in accessible language.

In cases when consultation meetings happen outside of the communities, they should be able to nominate their own representative rather than it being chosen by governmental authorities. Participation processes should always involve the traditional authorities¹⁹. Surveys of communities on specific topics are also recommended to ensure effective participation. (in order not to contradict the requirement to always go through traditional authorities, this would need to be done with their explicit approval on the survey design).

For the transmission of information, vehicles such as radio but also mobile and internet-based platforms could be used (see also above 'Functions'). However, some communities also mention that physical delivery of mail and hard copies of documents is preferred when possible.

Potential indicators:

- *Records of consultations with communities in a variety of media (written minutes, photos, videos) are available online*
- *Communication materials REDD+ are available in a language accessible to ITPs*
- *Number of community representatives appointed by the traditional authorities as liaison with REDD+ projects implemented in their area'*
- *Proportion of REDD+ projects with a community fund*

Integration: Based on the issues brought forward and the indicators suggested, a new list of indicators is being proposed that, to a large extent, addresses the issues and covers the suggested indicators:

- **National level indicator D.1: Description of how culturally appropriate assemblies are being promoted and conducted in the interior under REDD+ and how district hearings are promoted and conducted in coastal areas under REDD+.**
- **National level indicator A.14: Ways in which PMU keeps stakeholder informed about REDD+ (information on the indicator includes social media channels and radio programs in local languages).**
- **Project-level indicator D.1: Information on how stakeholders are effectively engaged in planning and implementation, in conformity with their customs and traditions.**
- **Project-level indicator D. 3: Involvement in engagement activities of community organizations and platforms, as well as traditional authorities and knowledgeable working arms of ITPs.**
- **Project-level indicator D.4: How FPIC has been obtained applying culturally appropriate principles.**

access certain funds. Therefore, the term here should be understood to mean the concept/idea of a proposed activity to be funded or a very simple format project proposal.

¹⁹ The common approach is that at first contact with a community, approval for the planned activity at project level has to be obtained from the authorities. Subsequent project activities, however, may not all need separate approval, but do require traditional authorities to remain informed and/or involved.

Especially project-level indicator D.4 addresses the suggestion to record consultations, as part of obtaining FPIC should be to record resulting ‘agreements’. Whether it will be necessary, appropriate and feasible to create additional indicators, e.g. to ensure ‘visual records’ of consultations will have to be discussed. For example, it could be questioned whether a higher number of community representatives as liaison with REDD+ projects is always an indicator for better engagement. Also, in order for the indicator to be feasible, it would have to be a requirement for all REDD+ projects that representatives for each project get appointed by traditional authorities at the beginning of activities. This would need further discussion with PMU.

Safeguard E: Discussions under this safeguard highlighted the many functions and services of the forest to the communities. The forest provides for every need but is also a home and a ‘way of living’. This reliance should be considered for the definition of ‘natural forests’ in the national context of Suriname. The provision of safeguard E that REDD+ should be consistent with the “conservation of natural forests” could be interpreted to include the conservation of indigenous forest-based livelihoods²⁰.

From the standpoint of the communities, their livelihoods and traditional use of the forest are all part of a natural system that includes them. By contrast, gold washing, logging and mining operations are seen as factors of degradation that undermine the balance of forest-based livelihoods. Pollution of watercourses appear to be a particularly widespread issue, with severe and long-lasting effects on forest resources (diminution of fish but also inability to go on long hunts without carrying a provision of drinking water). Noise pollution is also regularly cited as a factor of impact on wildlife.

Potential indicators:

- *Water quality and pollutants levels in and around communities*
- *Fish stocks abundance and diversity*
- *Wild meat consumption index (through surveys)*

Integration: The suggested indicators could be very appropriate to measure the environmental impact of certain REDD+ projects, but may not be suitable for others. In addition, it may be difficult to clearly attribute changes in these indicators to REDD+ projects (i.e. changes could also be caused by non-REDD+ related development activities in the surroundings). The current list of indicators tries to address the comprehensiveness of the safeguards interpretation by including:

- National level indicator E.1.a: Area (ha) of land where deforestation and/or degradation (apart from "normal" impact from traditional shifting cultivation) has been detected within and around REDD+ project areas. And 1.b Degree of disturbance where degradation has been detected (from remote sensing data and field checks)
- National level indicator E.2: Overview of social and environmental benefits created by REDD+ projects.
- National level indicator E.3: Description of ESMF provisions to reduce environmental risks and promote social and environmental benefits.

²⁰ The national interpretation of the safeguard expanded the original phrasing to “That actions are... used to incentivize the protection and conservation of nature as a whole, and especially natural forests and their ecosystem services” thereby addressing this point.

- Project-level indicator E.1: Environmental risks and mitigation measures identified for the project.
- Project-level indicator E.2: Top 3 social and top 3 environmental benefits envisaged by the project (non-monetary)
- Project-level indicator E.3: Change in natural forest cover and the incidence of forest degradation inside the project area since project start/during project runtime.

In this context, it should also be noted that each project will have to monitor identified benefits and risks of the project, so that such information should become available over time. Once REDD+ implementation is under way, it could be discussed whether an additional project-level indicator could be included providing such information from monitoring of the main risks and benefits of each project in order to address the issue more individually. The feasibility of including such an indicator should be considered here as well.

Safeguard F and G: With regards to the risks of reversals, permanence or sustainability in the context of a (development) project is understood by some communities to mean the production and sale of agricultural products/commercialization of game meat. This highlights the importance for REDD+ projects to include the development of value chains for forest products that can stabilize community stewardship of the forest in the long term.

The discussion on displacement of drivers of forest degradation highlighted the importance of developing means of communication not just between the communities and the government but also amongst the communities. If communities are able to keep each other informed about factors of forest degradation, these factors are less likely to be merely displaced from one community to the next.

Potential indicators:

- *Number of REDD+ projects with activities to develop forest products value chains*

Integration: Sustainability of a REDD+ project may not always depend on value chains. Therefore, current indicators address the issue in a more general way by including:

- National level indicator F.1: Percentage (%) of REDD+ projects addressing drivers of deforestation on the long term.
- National level indicator F.2: Number of REDD+ grievances regarding: illegal activities in the forest and unsustainable use of forest resources, unequal benefit sharing, and issues around transparency of land tenure.
- National level indicator F.3: Description of ESMF provisions to ensure continuity.
- Project level indicator F.1: Change in natural forest cover and the incidence of forest degradation inside the project area since project start/during project runtime.
- Project level indicator F.2: Persistence of drivers of land-use change and forest degradation despite REDD+ action.
- Project level indicator F.3: Description of provisions for long-term ecological, social and financial sustainability of the (sub-) project.
- Project level indicator F.4: Grievances in the context of permanence.
- Project level indicator F.5: Land tenure situation

Especially under project level indicator F.3, the topic of developing value chains to ensure sustainability can get addressed.

Displacement may not only happen from one community to a neighbouring community but can happen nation-wide and even beyond national boundaries. Therefore, the current indicators for this safeguard go beyond communication between communities by including:

- National level indicator G.1: Percentage (%) of REDD+ projects addressing drivers of deforestation.
- National level indicator G.2: Description of monitoring conducted to track displacement (including community monitoring if applicable).
- National level indicator G.3: Area (ha) of forest lost or degraded at national level and not in line with activities included in the National Development Plan
- National level indicator G.4.a: Number of REDD+ implementing (sub-) projects that have identified the risk of displacement; and 4.b Percentage of those projects that are addressing the risk through adequate mitigation measures.
- Project level indicator G.1: Persistence of drivers of land-use change and forest degradation despite REDD+ action.
- Project level indicator G.2: Description of monitoring efforts.

The description of monitoring, where community monitoring is taking place, could include an element of communication between communities.

Annex 3: Rationale for the production of the objectives and functions of Suriname's SIS

The draft objectives and functions of Suriname's SIS were produced from stakeholder input gathered at the first national workshop specifically on the topic of objectives and functions.

The table included in the main text is the result of analysing and categorising the received input, as can be seen in the following table.

These draft objectives can be further refined using further stakeholder input, including through community consultations.

Text from the workshop report	Consolidated version
Group 1 objectives	
Generating information for the SOI (summary of Information)	Feed into the preparation of the Summary of Information for the UNFCCC
(National, international, local) better policy	Provide feedback for the design/improvement of relevant national policies
Integrated information system	<i>Unclear</i>
Group 1 uses	
Better decision making at local and national level	<i>Unclear decision-making on what?</i>
Integrated information system	<i>Unclear</i>
Improvement of strategic planning e.g. national development plan	Provide feedback for the design/improvement of relevant national policies
Group 2 goals:	
Goal: Access to funds. Should also be possible sub-nationally.	Meet Warsaw framework requirements to ensure that the country can receive results-based payments for REDD+ (objective) <i>The part about subnational funds is unclear (but could be a function, like allocating REDD+ funds based on performance against the safeguards at the sub-national scale?)</i>
Goal: Improve NS implementation and design	Allow adaptive management of the National REDD+ Strategy and its implementation
Goal: Informing decision-making on land use planning in rural areas	Provide feedback for the design/improvement of relevant national policies Generate spatially explicit information that can inform land use planning
Goal: Inform changes in policy, laws, regulations and strengthen implementation	Provide feedback for the design/improvement of relevant national policies Provide feedback on the implementation of existing policies or enforcement of existing laws and regulations and help streamline them
Goal: Report to UNFCCC	Feed into the preparation of the Summary of Information for the UNFCCC
Goal: Reporting to national stakeholders	Keep national stakeholders informed by allowing access to updated information on how the safeguards are addressed and respected throughout the implementation of the REDD+ strategy

Goal: Contributing to law enforcement and governance	Provide feedback on the implementation of existing policies or enforcement of existing laws and regulations and help streamline them
Goal: Contributing to monitoring of priority activities and policy implementation for improving governance in the forest sector	Provide feedback on the implementation of existing policies or enforcement of existing laws and regulations and help streamline them
Goal: Promote validity of REDD +	<i>Make the case for REDD+ (to whom?)</i>
Goal: Generate information about social and environmental benefits	Generate information about social and environmental benefits
Group 2 functions:	
Function: Guarantee for impact on sector / region / business plans. This especially for the purpose of investments (creating a suitable investment climate)	Create a suitable investment climate for REDD+
Function: Checking different objectives (plans for area development). This to streamline different initiatives, government private sector etc. and different sectors.	Provide feedback on the implementation of existing policies or enforcement of existing laws and regulations and help streamline them <i>Not sure how the SIS would streamline REDD+ with private and other sectors</i>
Function: Use figures for awareness (of alternative income).	<i>Unclear – Make the case for REDD+?</i>
Convince communities	<i>Unclear – convince them of what?</i> <i>Make the case for REDD+ to local communities?</i>
Create a good investment climate	Create a suitable investment climate for REDD+
material and sustainable land use planning	<i>Unclear – Generate spatially explicit information that can inform land use planning</i>
Group 3 objectives	
Access to funding	Meet Warsaw framework requirements to ensure that the country can receive results-based payments for REDD+ (objective)
Informing and Improving NS implementation and design	Allow for the adaptive management of the National REDD+ Strategy
Contribute to monitoring of priority activities and policy implementation for improvement of governance in the forest sector	Provide information with regards to potential issues with the implementation of existing policies or enforcement of existing laws and regulations
Contribute to law enforcement and governance	Provide information with regards to potential issues with the implementation of existing policies or enforcement of existing laws and regulations
Generate information on social and environmental benefits (assumed to be inherent to the SIS)	Keep national stakeholders informed by allowing access to updated information on the social and environmental benefits of REDD+
Report SOI to the UNFCCC and to national stakeholders (assumed to be inherent to the SIS)	Feed into the preparation of the Summary of Information for the UNFCCC
Group 4	



Asesoramiento
Ambiental
Estratégico



adept



WCMC
40 years

Goal: healthy communities with ownership to be able to support projects in solidarity and in full understanding.	Keep national stakeholders informed by allowing access to updated information on the social and environmental benefits of REDD+
Gather information on:	
Initiators and partners history of a project	<i>Unclear</i>
Impact studies in the system	<i>Unclear</i>
Info / substantiation of involvement of ITPs and L	Establish a public record of consultations and involvement of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in the REDD+ process
Info projects: bottlenecks, developments, suggestions, solutions, risks, benefits and drawbacks, environmental consequences for people, culture and communities	Keep national stakeholders informed by allowing access to updated information on the social and environmental benefits of REDD+

Annex 4: Complete analysis of existing PLRs against safeguards requirements

Please see separate pdf document