SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

**UNDP Strategic Plan Outcome:** Leaving no one behind

**MSDCF Outcome:** People in the Caribbean equitably access and utilize universal, quality and shock-responsive, social protection, education, health, and care services

**Country Programme Document Outcome:** People in the Caribbean equitably access and utilize universal, quality and shock-responsive, social protection, education, health, and care services

**National Priority or Goal:** Equality, Well-Being and Leaving No One Behind

*Project Title: Mitigating Impact of COVID-19 on Indigenous and Tribal People in Suriname*

**Time Frame:** 2020-2022

**Financial Envelope:** USD $200,000.00

**Donor:** UNDP- Rapid Financing Facility

**Partners:** Ministry of Regional Development and Sport, VIDS, KAMPOS, and Medical Mission

**Summary:** This project supports the prevention and mitigation of spread of COVID-19 among the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs) by improving the provision of sanitation and hygiene facilities to these vulnerable populations and adopting a strategy of Information, education, and communication which is culturally sensitive and in the appropriate language comes along with the provision of facilities.

Ms. Loreen Jubitana (left) Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Regional Development and Sport and Ms. Margaret Jones Williams (second left), UNDP Deputy Resident Representative inspecting the face masks presented by the Village Chief of Matta Captain Wendeline Sabajo,(right), the trainer Ms. Margaretha Ligori (middle) and a trainee/producer of the face masks (second right) at the closure of the Training Session for the Production of Face Masks on 06 May 2022 at Matta Village (Photo by: RM/UNDP, 6/05/2022)

The project is meant to design strategies to mitigate the social and economic impact of COVID-19 among the ITPs and pilot interventions to stimulate resilience by building back stronger and greener informed by the result of the Digital Rapid Socioeconomic Impact Assessment (RD SEIA), with special focus on developing opportunities for women.

*Indigenous Women of the Wayambo Region (Konomerume (Donderskamp), Corneliskonde and Kalebaskreek) and Nickerie (Tapoeripa and Post Utrecht) completed their training in production of Face Mask on 07 March 2022 (Photo by DDOI, 7/03/2022)
**Outputs:**

1. Provision of water installations (through RWHs/water tank system) with portable hand washing stations and supplies (such as soap and dispensers)
   a. Stand-alone hand wash stations installed at Bronsweg (2); Atjoni (2).
   b. Handwashing station connected to water supply network: Matta (1), Donderskamp (2), New Aurora (2), Pipin-Slee (2), and Sara Creek (2).

2. Awareness building, education and mitigation of COVID-19 among ITPs; X villages provided with information/prevention of COVID-19 taking into account language and culture
   - COVID-19 awareness and information sessions held in various Indigenous and Tribal village taking into account local languages and culture.

3. Income generating opportunities for ITP women to promote economic recovery:
   - 50 Indigenous women from 30 villages and 28 Tribal women from 22 villages in Suriname received skills training towards improving their livelihoods as part of recovery.
   The women were trained in face mask production and also received sewing machines and related materials for production of face masks.
   - A total of 15 indigenous women from Washabo and Piking Poika and 29 Tribal women from the villages Nieuw Ganze and Birudu matu village in Suriname received support to pilot crop production towards improving their livelihoods as part of recovery from the pandemic.
Project Title: TA to Ministry of Social Affairs in the Roll out and test Beneficiary Information System and Prepare for Financial

**Time Frame:** 2021-2022

**Financial Envelope:** USD 75,000.00

**Donor:** UNDP Core Funding (TRAC I and II)

**Summary:** UNDP supports the Ministry of Social Affairs in launching/testing its Beneficiary Information System (BIS), its process of digitalization and preparation towards financial inclusion. The aim is to improve the services to the beneficiaries, especially to those living in the rural districts and interior.
Project Title: Joint Programme - Leaving No One Behind, Building Resilience, and Improving Livelihoods of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs) in Suriname

Time Frame: 2022-2024

Financial Envelope: USD 280,000.00

Donor: Joint SDG Fund

Partners: Ministry of Regional Development and Sport, Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Housing, VIDS, KAMPOS, and UN Agencies, UNICEF, UNFPA, FAO and UNWomen

Summary: This Joint Programme (JP) is aimed at integrated policy solutions to enable inclusion, build resilience, and improve livelihoods among Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs) in Suriname. This JP aims to address the multi-dimensional vulnerabilities of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Suriname through an overarching, integrated policy framework aimed at improving the quality of life for ITPs and a series of small Integrated Rural Development Initiatives (focused on essential services and employment) to test these policy interventions in a participatory manner.

Outputs:

- BIS system tested and rolled out.
- Internal process mapped for Financial Inclusion and SOP/Guidelines Prepared
- Communication plan and materials for promoting Financial Inclusion developed and disseminated.
The integrated policy is in alignment with the International Conventions, Treaties and Agreements on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples such as the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of 2007 (UNDRIP), and the outcome document of the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. This is all in-line with the “Leave No One Behind” principle and contributes to the achievement and acceleration of SDGs 1, 2, 5, 16 and 17. This Joint Programme is aligned with Priority Area 2 of the UN MSDCF 2022-2026 – “Equality, Well-being and Leaving No One Behind”.

When successfully implemented, the Programme will result in: a. Strengthened policy and regulatory framework to improve inclusion and resilience of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs); b. Improved coverage Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (W.A.S.H.); c. Improved livelihoods and enhanced food security of female farmer networks in targeted ITPs communities.

**Outputs:**
- Strengthened policy and regulatory framework to improve inclusion and resilience of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs);
- Improved coverage Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (W.A.S.H.);
- Improved livelihoods and enhanced food security of female farmer networks in targeted ITPs communities.
**Project Title: Digital Readiness Assessment**

**Time Frame:** November 2021 – May 2022

**Financial Envelope:** In Kind Technical Assistance

**Donor:** UNDP

**Partners:** E-Gov Department

**Summary:** This initiative is launched in partnership with the E-Gov Department and technical assistance from UNDP’s Accelerator Lab. The objective of this initiative is to assist the government of Suriname to undertake an assessment to status of the country’s digital readiness.

The UNDP Digital Readiness Assessment is a survey-based tool to provide rapid, high-level insights into a country’s digital strengths and opportunities. It is intended to serve as an “entry point” for increased engagement between governments, UNDP Country Offices, a broad range of UNDP experts, and other international development partners. The Digital Readiness Assessment also aims to improve coordination and clarity to drive a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to digital transformation. This is crucial in achieving digital inclusion, ensuring that no one is left behind from the potential of digital, and enabling countries to leverage digital to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

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**Outputs:**

- Status of the country’s digital readiness.
- Setting a strategic and long-term direction for digitalization in Suriname.

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**Cover and contents of the Digital Readiness Assessment. Photo by: UNDP Suriname, October 2022**

**Group photo at presentation of the Digital Readiness Assessment Report to H.E. Chandrikapersad Santokhi, President of Suriname, on 13 October 2022 at Cabinet of the President (Photo by: UNDP, 13/10/2022)**

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**Ms. Margaret Jones Williams, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative presented the Digital Readiness Assessment Report to H.E. Chandrikapersad Santokhi, President of Suriname, on 13 October 2022 at Cabinet of the President (Photo by: RM/UNDP, 13/10/2022)**
Project Title: National Digital Strategy Roadmap and Implementation Plan

Time Frame: July – December 2022

Financial Envelope: USD 50,000

Donor: UNDP Strategic Plan Enablers

Partners: E-Gov Department

This project provides technical and financial support to the development of a National Digital Strategy Roadmap and Implementation Plan. This includes broad-based, cross-sectoral stakeholder engagement, mapping of internal and external funding opportunities to drive digital transformation and to prepare the strategy and implementation plan that will address the recommendations set out in the DRA Tool Final Report.

Focus is given to shaping and implementing strategies – to provide coherence and direction across key digital transformation priorities (including digital infrastructure, a national data governance strategy, and a digital skills strategy). A number of related strategic initiatives within government - including improving monitoring, learning, and evaluation capacities to strengthen the country’s existing digital foundations; and working to break down siloes between departments and delivery teams are also supported.

Outputs:

- An inventory of internal and external funding opportunities to drive digital transformation in Suriname.

![Sustainable Development Goals](image)

Participants in the three days’ workshop for the development of a National Digital Strategy Roadmap and Implementation Plan. (Photo by: UNDP, December 2022)

Mrs. Laura Hildelbrandt, from the UNDP Small Island Developing States (SIDSS) team, giving a presentation during the workshop. (Photo by: UNDP, December 2022)