In collaboration with VIDS, preparatory actions were undertaken, resulting in the handover of tools and equipment to the women of Apoera and Section.

Similar to Washabo, these women will receive training and technical guidance from a local expert in growing highland rice in June 2024.

This initiative, also under JP LNOB, will be led by FAO in collaboration with VIDS.

Through these efforts, the JP LNOB programme continues to empower Indigenous and Tribal women, fostering resilience and improving livelihoods in Suriname’s hinterland communities.

Picture 4: Village chief of Washabo, Captain Sri Sria, presented the rice mill to the women, witnessed by the Resident Representative, Mr. Gerardo Noto, and Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP, Mr. Berdi Berdiyev. Washabo, Suriname. Photo by: UNDP

Picture 6: Women showing their hand tools and equipment. In the picture from left to right: Lilian Biswane, Florance King. Apoera, Suriname. Photo by Marcia Jarmohamed
This initiative builds on UNDP’s previous project aimed at mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ITPs) in Suriname. The project created income-generating opportunities for ITP women to support economic recovery and effective crop production using new technologies & improved plot and crop management.

Four crop production pilots have been implemented in two Indigenous and two Tribal villages. In the Indigenous village of Washabo, the pilot focused on highland rice production. Women in Washabo received training, guidance, materials, equipment & hand tools to support their initiative.

Encouraged by Washabo's success, the women of Apoera and Section expressed their interest and requested support during a meeting with UNDP and GEF/SDG programme staff in November 2023.

This programme is a collaborative effort between the Government of Suriname, led by the Ministry of Regional Development and Sport, Indigenous and Tribal umbrella organizations VIDS and KAMPOS, and UN agencies including UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, FAO, and UN Women, coordinated by the UN Resident Coordinator with technical leadership from UNDP.