




SDG implementation in Suriname

Presenter

Juan Pawiroredjo
Deputy Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
International Business and
Cooperation
Republic of Suriname





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01 Country profile



Low-lying coastal state

Vulnerability to climate impacts

Suriname's low-lying coastal areas are highly susceptible to sea level rise, extreme weather events, and changing climate patterns, necessitating robust adaptation strategies to protect infrastructure, ecosystems, and communities.

Ecosystem services

The coastal ecosystems, including mangroves and wetlands, provide critical services such as storm buffering, biodiversity habitats, and carbon sequestration, which are vital for the country's resilience and sustainable development.



Integrated coastal zone management

Effective management of coastal zones is essential to balance economic activities like fishing and tourism with environmental protection, ensuring long-term sustainability and community well-being.

Community-based adaptation

Engaging local communities in adaptation planning ensures that strategies are culturally appropriate, socially inclusive, and tailored to the specific needs and knowledge of coastal residents.



High forest cover



Biodiversity conservation

- Suriname's extensive forest cover, among the highest globally, serves as a critical habitat for diverse species, supporting global biodiversity and ecosystem health through conservation efforts.

Carbon sequestration

- The dense forests act as a significant carbon sink, absorbing more greenhouse gases than the country emits, thereby contributing to global climate mitigation and reinforcing Suriname's carbon-negative status.



Carbon-negative country

Climate leadership

- Suriname's status as a net carbon absorber exemplifies climate leadership, demonstrating that developing countries can achieve significant carbon reduction through natural forest management and sustainable practices.

International commitments

- This carbon-negative position aligns Suriname closely with international climate goals, such as the Paris Agreement, enhancing its credibility and potential for global climate partnerships and funding.



Balanced development



Economic growth and environmental protection

Suriname's development pathway harmonizes economic growth with environmental stewardship, ensuring that progress in sectors like agriculture, mining, and tourism is sustainable and does not compromise ecological integrity.



02 Mechanisms



SDG Commission



National Coordination

- The National SDG Commission in Suriname coordinates the implementation of SDGs across government, ensuring alignment with national development plans and fostering a unified approach to sustainable development goals.

Multi-stakeholder Engagement

- The commission facilitates collaboration among various stakeholders, including civil society, private sector, and academia, to promote effective policy dialogue and sustainable development practices.



SDG Platform

Policy Dialogue

- The SDG Platform Suriname serves as a crucial space for multi-stakeholder policy dialogue, enabling effective monitoring, reporting, and continuous improvement of SDG implementation strategies.

Monitoring and Reporting

- The platform ensures comprehensive monitoring and reporting mechanisms for SDG progress, fostering transparency and accountability in the implementation process.

Community Involvement

- It actively involves local communities in the SDG process, enhancing local ownership and ensuring that development initiatives are inclusive and sustainable.

Knowledge Sharing

- The platform promotes knowledge sharing among stakeholders, facilitating the exchange of best practices and innovative solutions for SDG achievement.



Youth Ambassadors

Youth Advocacy

The SDG Youth Ambassadors Programme empowers young leaders to advocate for SDGs, fostering a sense of ownership and active participation in sustainable development initiatives.

Local Initiatives

The programme encourages youth-led local initiatives, promoting grassroots engagement and ensuring that SDG efforts are responsive to community needs.



Education and Awareness

It focuses on educating and raising awareness among the younger generation about SDGs, ensuring the next generation is well-equipped to contribute to sustainable development.

Skill Development

The programme offers skill development opportunities for youth, enhancing their capacity to participate effectively in SDG-related activities and future careers.



Multi-stakeholder engagement

Inter-ministerial Coordination

Multi-stakeholder engagement ensures effective coordination across various ministries, minimizing overlaps in mandates and improving the efficiency of ABAS implementation efforts.





03 Challenges



Data limitations



Inadequate data infrastructure

- The current data infrastructure in Suriname is insufficient to support comprehensive ABAS implementation, leading to gaps in monitoring and evaluation.



Outdated data collection

- Data collection methods are outdated, resulting in limited accuracy and relevance for current ABAS objectives and decision-making processes.



Lack of data disaggregation

- Data is not adequately disaggregated to capture the diverse needs and impacts of ABAS on different communities and sectors within Suriname.



Constraints



Budgetary limitations

Budget constraints significantly limit the sustainability of ABAS programs, hindering long-term implementation and impact.

Overlapping mandates

Multiple ministries and agencies have overlapping mandates, reducing efficiency and coordination in ABAS implementation efforts.

Public knowledge gaps

Low public awareness and limited communication efforts result in gaps in knowledge about ABAS and its importance for Suriname's development.



04 Partnerships



National coordination

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs leads inter-ministerial coordination for ABAS, ensuring inclusive engagement of local communities, Indigenous & Tribal peoples, and civil society to foster national unity and effective implementation.

Inter-ministerial collaboration

- Various ministries work together under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' guidance, ensuring that ABAS initiatives are aligned with national development plans and SDG goals, enhancing overall efficiency and impact.

Community engagement

- Active participation of local communities and civil society organizations ensures that ABAS projects are culturally sensitive, locally relevant, and sustainable in the long term.



Regional engagement

CARICOM cooperation

- Suriname collaborates with CARICOM to share best practices, resources, and knowledge, strengthening regional climate resilience and sustainable development efforts.

UN agencies partnership

- Partnerships with UN agencies provide technical assistance, capacity building, and funding to support ABAS initiatives and align them with global climate goals and SDGs.



South-South cooperation

- Engaging with South-South partners allows Suriname to leverage shared experiences and innovative solutions from other developing countries, enhancing the effectiveness of ABAS actions.



Global cooperation



Paris Agreement alignment

- Suriname's ABAS actions are strongly aligned with Paris Agreement commitments, demonstrating climate leadership and contributing to global efforts to mitigate climate change.



SDG integration

- ABAS initiatives are integrated with SDG goals, ensuring that climate actions also address poverty, inequality, and sustainable development challenges, fostering holistic progress.



International knowledge sharing

- Suriname actively participates in international forums to share its carbon-negative strategies and learn from global best practices, enhancing its ABAS implementation.



Early implementation



National SDG Commission

- The National SDG Commission coordinates ABAS implementation, ensuring alignment with national development plans and facilitating effective monitoring and reporting.

SDG Platform Suriname

- The multi-stakeholder SDG Platform supports policy dialogue, monitoring, and reporting on SDGs, fostering collaboration among civil society, private sector, and academia.

SDG Youth Ambassadors Programme

- The Youth Ambassadors Programme engages young people in SDG advocacy, promoting awareness, ownership, and participation in sustainable development initiatives.

Pilot projects

- Pilot projects in forestry, climate, and social sectors provide early results and lessons learned, helping to refine ABAS strategies and ensure long-term sustainability.





From SDGs to ABAS: Suriname's Climate Experience

SDG implementation approach:

- Climate action mainstreamed across national policies (SDG 13, 15)
- Coordinated through Ministry of Foreign Affairs and sector ministries

Concrete Suriname policy example:

- Forest-based climate policy to maintain High Forest Cover / Low Deforestation (HFLD)
- Protection of ~93% forest cover as part of national development strategy
- Result: Suriname remains a carbon-negative country

Value for ABAS implementation:

- Existing climate and forest governance structures can be used for ABAS
- Nature-based solutions already embedded in policy and practice
- Enables early implementation and reporting without new institutions

Key lesson:

- Leveraging existing climate policies accelerates delivery of new global commitments like ABAS.





**Thank you,
For your Attention.**

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