

Country Report of the Republic of Suriname

55th Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional
Conference on Women in Latin America and the
Caribbean

25- 26th May 2017

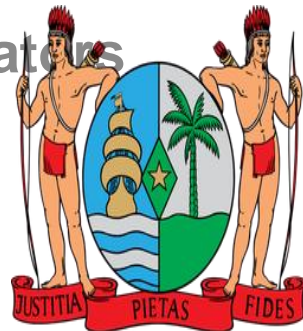
Santiago, Chile



Introduction

Achievements on the implementation Of the Montevideo Strategy:

- Normative framework
- Institutional architecture
- State capacity-building and –strengthening
- Communication: access to information and cultural change
- Information systems: Qualitative and quantitative gender statistics and indicators



The Economic Empowerment of Women

No existing law specifically promotes the economic autonomy of women, but the constitutional principle of equality of sexes and non-discrimination is taken into account in the drafting of new laws, promoting women to participate and to be treated equally.



Normative framework: equality and the rule of law

- Ratification of ILO Convention 100 & 111
- Preparation of the National Gender Policy 2017-2021 in collaboration with key actors within the government and NGOs, bearing in mind the evaluation of our Gender Work Plan 2013.
- Elimination of gender discriminatory provisions within e.g the Personnel Act.



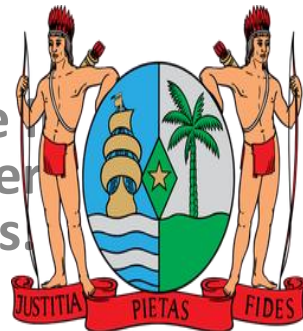
Institutional architecture: multidimensional and comprehensive gender equality policies

- Revitalization of the branch office of the Bureau Gender Affairs in the district Nickerie due to the high prevalence of domestic violence.
- Establishment of the Program Coordination Group (PCG) with the main objective of gender mainstreaming through sensitization and the monitoring of programs and projects of the government and its various sectors.



Institutional architecture: multidimensional and comprehensive gender equality policies

- The appointment of “Ambassadors for domestic violence” in association with the Institute for Women, Gender and Development Studies of the University. The ambassadors have the task to implement activities which contribute to the prevention of violence against women, and are being supported by the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Institutional strengthening of the Bureau Gender Affairs through training and appointment of more personnel.
- The increasement and creation of a gender balance the existing gender trainers corps by training Gender Focal Points and other officials government officials.



State capacity-building and – strengthening: public administration based on equality and non- discrimination

- Various training sessions for government personnel:
 - Different concepts of gender and domestic violence
 - Train the trainers in gender
- Incorporation of a module gender in the curriculum of the educational courses to civil servants of the Ministry of Home Affairs



Communication: access to information and cultural change

- Dissemination of international / regional agreements, commitments under the Gender Focal Points of the different ministries, relevant institutions and the NGO's.
- The BGA has an intensive cooperation with the department Communication Unit of the ministry of Home Affairs. Through this department the information regarding gender related issues are channeled to the community.
- Regarding the engagement of boys and men as strategic allies in achieving gender equality the minister of Home Affairs in collaboration with the Bureau Gender Affairs has launched the HeforShe and Orangeday campaign.
- Masculinity Training: Men with different social backgrounds and different occupations have been trained. The purpose of this training was to stimulate discussions regarding masculinity in relation to gender base violence.



Information systems: Qualitative and quantitative gender statistics and indicators

Currently conducting the CARICOM Gender Equality Indicators(GEI) in collaboration with CARICOM/ UNWOMEN.

Purpose model: achieve gender equality in the CARICOM region and the formulation of national gender-sensitive policies and programs

5 identified areas: Economic Activity, Education, Health, Public Participation, and Human Rights.



Challenges

- Inadequate national support and commitment for gender mainstreaming
- Lack of gender disaggregated data
- Financial resources



The way forward further implementation of the Montevideo strategy

- Continuing policies to achieve gender equality
- Continuing the eradication of violence against women and girls through policies.
- Continuing the economic empowerment of women
- Inclusion of all international and regional commitments regarding gender in the formulation of policy, plans and programs



We finally would like to reiterate that it is critical that we continue in the spirit of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and therefore strongly reaffirm our political will to the objectives of the Montevideo Strategy



Thank you

