WOMEN’S AUTONOMY IN CHANGING ECONOMIC SCENARIOS

SURINAME, 31 July 2018
Gender Mechanisms for the advancement of women

- The Bureau Gender Affairs (BGA Paramaribo - an auxiliary branch of the bureau in district Nickerie)
- The Gender Management System
- The Bureau for Women and Children within the Ministry of Justice and Police
- The Institute for Women, Gender and Development Studies of the Anton de Kom University of Suriname
- Collaboration between the government and NGOs
- The National Committee on Gender Legislation
- The Steering Committee Domestic Violence
Bureau Gender Affairs (BGA)

- Bureau Gender Affairs (BGA), was established as part of the Ministry of Home Affairs and which is responsible for formulation, coordination, evaluation and monitoring of the gender policy;

- an auxiliary branch of the bureau was opened in the district Nickerie in 2006 and revitalized in March 2016.

- In the planning is also to open a auxiliary branch of the bureau in the district Brokopondo.
Gender Management System

Het Gender Management Systeem

BIZA/BGA

Contact persoon BGA

GFPs op verschillende Ministeries en andere overheids instanties

Contact persoon BGA

Partnerschappen met CSOs (NGO, CBO en FBO)
• The Bureau for Women and Children within the Ministry of Justice and Police
• The Institute for Women, Gender and Development Studies of the Anton de Kom University of Suriname
• Collaboration between the government and NGOs
National Committees

• The National Committee on Gender Legislation

• The National Steering Group on Domestic Violence (2008)

• A National Platform Domestic Violence (2010)
National Gender Policy

• Integrated gender action plans 2000-2005 en 2006-2010
• Gender work plan 2013
• Preparation are being made for the formulation of gender policy 2018 – 2022
• (Included)Gender sensitization.
Gender sensitization

• Distribution;
• Yearly brochures;
• Yearly newspaper articles;
• An introductory presentation on gender;
• Training.
Economic Empowerment of women

- The Ministry of Labour

In addition, some important activities
- The Ministry of Justice and Police
- The Ministry of Education
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Harmonization of national legislation

The adoption of national laws:
- Adoption of the Law to Combat Domestic Violence (2009)
- Adoption of the law on stalking (2012)
- Adoption of the law on National Basic Health Insurance (2014)
- Adoption of the law on General Pension (2014)
- Adoption of the law on Minimum Hourly Wage (2014)
- Adoption of the revision of the Act on the Regulation of the Legal Status of Civil Servants (‘Personeelswet’) 
- Adoption of the Elections Act revision
- Decree C11 on the Removal of the Legal Incapacity of Married Women
The main factors of hindrance

Organizational:
- The current position of gender focal points
- Lack of gender-based database to take informed decisions and to sensitize policy-makers.

Community:
- Fear/Shame for the ladies. Solved by bringing real life stories to the media.
- Economic resources.
- Request for safe houses.
- Low education
The Montevideo strategy

1. Normative framework ➔
   - Convention no. 100 en 111
   - formulation of the national gender policy 2018-2022
   - a working group amendment Personnel Act

2. Institutional architecture ➔
   - The branch office of the Bureau Gender Affairs in Nickerie
   - The Institute for Women, Gender and Development Studies
   - Institutional strengthening of the BGA
   - Gender trainer corps
The Montevideo strategy

3. Popular and citizen participation→
   - NGO’s
   - Financial support

4. State capacity-building and strengthening→
   - Training
   - Educational courses
   - Station Race

5. Financing→
   - Government budget/resources from different UN agencies such as UNDP, UNFPA, PAHO and UNWOMEN.
The Montevideo strategy

6. Communication
- Dissemination of international / regional agreements
- Facebook page
- The department Communication Unit
- To raise awareness

7. Technology
- Website (www.gov.sr)

8. Cooperation
- One year Initiation Plan with the UNDP
- A Letter of Agreement with the UNWOMEN
The Montevideo strategy

9. Information systems
   - The CARICOM Gender Equality Indicators (GEI)

10. Monitoring, evaluation and accountability
    • A reporting sheet for the GFP
    • International and regional commitments
THANK YOU!