

GUYANA & SURINAME - Forest Partnership

#GLOBALGATEWAY

#TEAMEUROPE

TEAM EUROPE PROPOSAL



Improved governance

- Transparency/accountability for the management of forest resources
- Recognition of indigenous people land rights
- Minimise the risk of deforestation
- Business environment
- Enabling private investments
- Mangroves institutional framework conditions

Eco-tourism

- Nature-based recovery solutions
- Protection of biodiversity hotspots
- Job creation for local communities

Livelihood development

- Improving sustainable forestry value chains
- Work opportunities for indigenous people

Mangrove rehabilitation and conservation

- Sustainable value chains

Forest carbon offsetting projects

- Carbon-neutrality goals

MODALITIES/ TOOLS

Inter-sectoral dialogue

3 Oceans' strategy (French overseas) (AFD)

Capacity building

Grants

Access to credit

Blending

Financial incentives

Guarantees

Technical assistance (NL)

TRANSFORMATIONAL POTENTIAL

- Transition towards circular economy
- Social improvements: poverty alleviation, good governance, human rights
- Economic diversification

KEY DELIVERABLES

The Global Gateway partnership with Guyana and Suriname will focus on Green Transition through the development of a Forest Partnership with the two countries, strengthening among other forest governance, sustainable livelihoods and natural coastal defence, through the following key deliverables:

1. Voluntary Partnership Agreement under FLEGT (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade) - Development and implementation of the EU-Guyana VPA FLEGT, which will help ensure the possibility of licensed export of timber to the EU. It is the first VPA in the Amazon region and aims at promoting natural resource management by improving legislative clarity, accountability, participation in decision-making and transparency, providing the Government of Guyana with FLEGT Licensing rights. This includes among other the development and implementation of the Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS), which will be instrumental in demonstrating compliance with the VPA.
2. The Memorandum of Understanding on Forest Partnership signifies apolitical commitment taken at the highest level between the Government of Guyana and the European Union on the preservation of the Amazon and the forest cover of Guyana.
3. Restoring and rehabilitating mangrove forests to work as naturally developed infrastructure and coastal defence, providing biodiversity habitat and resource for sustainable economic development.
4. Supporting the indigenous and forest communities in the development of sustainable livelihoods, promoting the sustainable exploitation of the forest, as a natural resource, through capacity building and supporting the value-chains.
5. Improvement of the quality and reliability of the electricity in the hinterland of Suriname, through support to improved sustainability of the electricity service with completion of the installation of solar photovoltaic systems in 10 villages in the hinterland (Upper Suriname river) by June 2024.
6. In a coordination effort among Team Europe with FR and NL, strengthening the criminal justice system in Suriname by building the capacity of the judiciary, prosecution and police, with a key focus on forest governance and cross-border criminality in the forest sector.

*This Team Europe Initiative is work in progress

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NATIONAL CONTEXT

Politically: Caribbean region

Geographically: Amazon region

Recent political developments towards democracy and peaceful resolutions

No-mass scale deforestation in both countries

Weak governance

Structural inequalities

No recognition of indigenous lands rights

COVID-19

Policy context:

- Green transition
- Part of the Paris Agreement
- SDGs commitments
- National Development Plans (Low Carbon Development Strategy, National Policy Development Plan)

Oil boom risks

- "Dutch disease"
- Deforestation (mining, road construction)

Climate change

- Pressure on mangrove forests
- Impact on coastal and fertile land (80-90% of the population)

GEOPOLITICAL CONTEXT AND RELEVANT SDGs

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



13 CLIMATE ACTION



15 LIFE ON LAND



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Amazon

- Largest forest in the world
- Key to climate change mitigation
- Crucial for biodiversity
- Crucial for indigenous people

ILO

Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention: no ratification from Suriname and Guyana

Leticia Pact

EU neighbourhood

Suriname shares a border with French Guiana

Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization

REDD+4

**SDGs included based on a new JRC electronic text mining tool, which identifies SDGs (targets)