



Concept Environmental and Social Review
Summary
Concept Stage
(ESRS Concept Stage)

Date Prepared/Updated: 07/29/2024 | Report No: ESRSC04421



I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Operation Data

Operation ID	Product	Operation Acronym	Approval Fiscal Year
P504548	Investment Project Financing (IPF)	SuPER	2025
Operation Name	Suriname Preparedness and Enhancing Resilient Communities Project		
Country/Region Code	Beneficiary country/countries (borrower, recipient)	Region	Practice Area (Lead)
Suriname	Suriname	LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	Urban, Resilience and Land
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Republic of Suriname	Ministry of Public Works	16-Dec-2024	27-Feb-2025
Estimated Concept Review Date	Total Project Cost		
17-Jul-2024	22,000,000.00		

For Official Use Only

Proposed Development Objective

To (i) enhance climate adaptation and reduce flood risk in Greater Paramaribo, and (ii) increase access to resilience-enhancing community infrastructure and services.

B. Is the operation being prepared in a Situation of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints, as per Bank IPF Policy, para. 12?

No

C. Summary Description of Proposed Project Activities

[Description imported from the Concept Data Sheet in the Portal providing information about the key aspects and components/sub-components of the project]

The project will support: (i) priority investments in local/community-level flood management and secondary/tertiary drainage systems in Greater Paramaribo, to complement ongoing primary drainage infrastructure investments, (ii) improvements to the emergency preparedness and



response system, and (iii) community-led preparedness and resilience activities, such as maintenance of tertiary drainage infrastructure, among others.

D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1 Overview of Environmental and Social Project Settings

[Description of key features relevant to the operation's environmental and social risks and opportunities (e.g., whether the project is nationwide or regional in scope, urban/rural, in an FCV context, presence of Indigenous Peoples or other minorities, involves associated facilities, high-biodiversity settings, etc.) – Max. character limit 2,000]

Suriname is a small, natural-resource-rich, upper-middle-income country located in South America, bordering Brazil, French Guiana and Guyana. The project will support flood management investments in two prioritized areas of the Greater Paramaribo area (Paramaribo city center, Winti Wai/Rahemal) while other activities will be undertaken nationally.

Suriname is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and suffers from periodic flooding due to heavy rainfall. About 67% of the population lives in the capital city of Paramaribo and the neighboring Wanica District. Flood impacts are exacerbated by insufficient maintenance of the existing drainage system, combined with insufficient drainage capacity. Paramaribo Centrum and Winti Wai/Rahemal have been identified as high priority in the Urban Drainage Masterplan 2024. The city center experiences regular flooding affecting critical public services, businesses, and urban activities as well as damage to buildings, roads and infrastructure. The Winti Wai/Rahemal area is a low income urbanized locality affected by regular, long-duration flooding due to lack of drainage.

Suriname is inhabited by four Indigenous Peoples (IPs) groups and six Maroon tribes, in about 230 villages. Number of IPs is 20,344 (3.8% population) and 72,553 Maroons (14.7%). In recent years there have been tensions between IPs and the government related to land titling within legally unrecognized IP territories. Limited access to health and education contribute to the vulnerability of IPs and they have been traditionally excluded from participation or planning of projects that have significant impact on their communities.

Gender gaps persist in representation in planning processes for infrastructure design and investments. Women's voices and participation in community consultations are limited, with women rarely having roles in decision-making and technical matters resulting in lack of consideration of gender-sensitive needs in design.

D.2 Overview of Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Managing Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

[Description of Borrower's capacity (i.e., prior performance under the Safeguard Policies or ESF, experience applying E&S policies of IFIs, Environmental and social unit/staff already in place) and willingness to manage risks and impacts and of provisions planned or required to have capabilities in place, along with the needs for enhanced support to the Borrower – Max. character limit 2,000]

The Project will be implemented by the Ministry of Public Works' (MoPW) Saramacca Canal Unit (SCU), the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) for the ongoing Saramacca Canal System



Rehabilitation Project (SCSRP, P165973). The SCU has been performing satisfactorily, is compliant with all E&S, fiduciary and project management requirements and has built up experience in World Bank procedures and regulations. The SCU will have overall responsibility (across all Components) for: (i) monitoring, coordination, and supervision of project activities, (ii) procurement and FM, and (iii) reporting on fiduciary matters, E&S management, and overall project progress to the Ministry of Finance and the World Bank, in cooperation with key technical stakeholders such as the Ministry of Finance’s Bureau of Community Projects (BCP), and the Ministry of Regional Development (MRD).

The SCU has an environmental specialist and a social specialist. Both are competent and familiar with World Bank Policies and Standards. The SCSRP is under the safeguards policies but both specialists have attended the 5 day in person ESF training held in St Maarten as well as the online Incident Response and Reporting training and continue to benefit from continued engagement with the Bank.

The technical aspects of sub-component 2.1 would be led by the BCP, which is currently implementing a second round of the Caribbean Development Bank’s Basic Needs Trust Fund, as well as a GoS annual budget allocation for community subprojects. The BCP is the only government community grants mechanism targeting communities and districts nationwide, operating in both coastal areas and the hinterland. The BCP staff comprise technical, fiduciary and community officers that would oversee activities under this proposed Project. The technical aspects of sub-component 2.2 will be overseen by the MRD.

During project preparation, the adequacy of E&S staffing and capacity at the SCU and BCP will be assessed and strengthened as needed.

II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Moderate

A.1 Environmental Risk Rating

Moderate

[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating, in accordance with the ES Directive and the Technical Note on Screening and Risk Classification under the ESF - Max. character limit 2,000]

The Environmental Risk Rating is considered Moderate due to (i) the possible occupational and community health and safety risk during drainage upgrading works; (ii) traffic management issues related to transporting equipment and materials through residential areas; and (iii) waste management. The potential environmental, health and safety impacts related to the project activities (increasing drainage capacity of access channels/drains, removal of bottlenecks, improved connectivity, and rehabilitation of sluices and pumps in this area) include occupational health and safety; waste disposal of the waste cleared from the canals and possible traffic management if equipment or small machinery is required for the maintenance works. The impacts are likely to be short-term and reversible that would be addressed by incorporating mitigation measures into an Environmental and Social

For Official Use Only



Management Plan (ESMP)/E&S Guidance in line with good international industry practice (GIIP) delineated in the WB Group General Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines. The Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the TA activities will be reviewed to ensure environmental and social requirements are included, in line with the ESF. In addition, the Grant Manual to be developed for sub-component 2.1 will include E&S assessment steps as these are small scale and low-cost activities. An exclusion list will be prepared which for example will exclude substantial and high E&S risk activities. The environmental risk rating will be further assessed during preparation and will be reviewed periodically throughout project implementation to ensure it continues to accurately reflect the level of risk.

A.2 Social Risk Rating

Moderate

[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating, in accordance with the ES Directive and the Technical Note on Screening and Risk Classification under the ESF - Max. character limit 2,000]

Social Risk Rating is considered Moderate based on the information available at the Concept stage. Both components are anticipated to have a predominantly positive impacts on local communities, with no significant adverse effects expected. Under Component 1, both high priority drainage areas are vulnerable to recurrent and long-duration flooding and thus it's not foreseen that there will be disproportionate project-related negative impacts vis-à-vis vulnerable/non-vulnerable groups. However, among the main overall Project risks identified are elite capture and the exclusion of vulnerable populations from project design and benefits. The Project may inadvertently exclude certain groups, such as IPs & Maroons, women, and other marginalized populations, if their needs and perspectives are not adequately considered in planning and implementation. Also, tensions could arise or be exacerbated within communities, especially if there are disagreements over priorities, resource allocation, or decision-making processes. To mitigate these risks, it's crucial to carry out proper stakeholder engagement and inclusive and participatory planning processes that prioritize community voices and foster transparency. Beneficiary selection criteria need to be carefully elaborated to ensure inclusive access to the poorest and most disadvantaged communities, people with disabilities, equitable regional and ethnically balanced distribution of funds. For Component 2, the project team will conduct an assessment of community vulnerabilities during Preparation. The insights gained from the latter will feed into project design. Furthermore, the CDD approach will emphasize local communities at the center of design and decision-making to avoid risks of exclusion. The Social Risk Rating will be further assessed during Preparation and will be reviewed periodically throughout Project Implementation to ensure it continues to accurately reflect the level of risk.

[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating. This attribute is only for the internal version of the download document and not a part of the disclosable version - Max. character limit 2,000]

B. Relevance of Standards and Policies at Concept Stage

B.1 Relevance of Environmental and Social Standards



ESS1 - Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

Activities under the Project are anticipated to be local and small scale. During project implementation, once the specific activities and sites have been identified an E&S assessment of the interventions will be undertaken and mitigation measures developed. Under Component 2, the Grants manual will provide guidance on E&S aspects and all community activities will be screened for potential E&S impacts. The requirements set out in paragraphs 14–18 of ESS1 will be applied to TA activities as relevant and appropriate to the nature of the risks and impacts. All documents pertaining to TA activities will be reviewed to ensure consistency with ESS 1–10. The Project will build upon ongoing consultations undertaken through the SCSR and BCP’s engagement with communities including with IPs.

ESS10 - Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

Key stakeholders will be those benefiting from the Project, including municipalities, communities and households in the two prioritized areas (Paramaribo centrum, Winti Wai/Rahemal) and beyond as Component 2 is expected to be nation-wide. Other interested parties include, state agencies, municipal entities who may possibly influence and make decisions on project implementation and/or have an interest in the Project. Vulnerable and disadvantaged groups include, but not limited to, poor families, IPs, people with disabilities, women-headed households, and Youth. The Borrower will prepare a SEP to include: (i) stakeholder identification and analysis; (ii) planning for stakeholder engagement; (iii) consultations and information disclosure; (iv) GRM with channels to uptake SEASH related complaints; and monitoring and reporting. For Component 2, local communities will be at the center of decision-making and will actively participate to identify, prioritize, design and implement initiatives.

ESS2 - Labor and Working Conditions

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

The Project will hire Direct Workers as well as Contracted Workers (employees of contractors). During Preparation, use of Community Workers will be determined potentially for the implementation of the CDD component. A comprehensive Worker categorization will be documented in the A-ESRS and further refined in the LMP. The Borrower will develop and disclose the LMP after project Effectiveness in a timeframe to be determined in the ESCP. The LMP will include requirements for a Code of Conduct to address contractor behavior, especially related to SEA/SH, and pertinent training to be provided to all workers. A Worker Grievance Mechanism will be established for all Project workers. Site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs)/E&S Guidance will be prepared as applicable and proportionate to

For Official Use Only



the level of risk which will provide detailed guidance on the applicable Environmental, Social, Health and Safety (ESHS) regulations and arrangements for ensuring their due application.

ESS3 - Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

Pollution risks associated with the activities include inadequate disposal of waste. The canals are poorly maintained and drainage is affected due to sediment and (minimal) trash accumulation and vegetation growth. Extensive amount of waste is not anticipated and discussions will be held to find adequate methods and locations to dispose of the cleared materials. Current practices of the Ministry of Public Works will also be assessed. Procedures to be followed will be detailed in the ESMP/E&S Guidance and Grants manual.

ESS4 - Community Health and Safety

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

Disturbance to surrounding communities may occur while works are being undertaken although it is anticipated to be limited due to the nature and scale of the works. To address potential risks and adverse impacts that might affect community health and safety, measures including those related to SEA/SH, will be included in the ESMPs. The Grants manual to be developed for Component 2 will include Community Health and Safety considerations.

ESS5 - Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

Not Currently Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

Work will be limited to in-situ rehabilitation (or potentially limited construction on publicly owned land) of existing secondary and tertiary infrastructure, and no physical or economic displacement under ESS5 is envisaged. Also, under Component 2, activities which could lead to land acquisition will be excluded to ensure quick implementation of the envisioned small sub-projects. The Project exclusion list which will be part of the POM will exclude activities that could cause resettlement impacts.

ESS6 - Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

Not Currently Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

ESS6 is not relevant. Component 1 activities will not involve significant degradation or conversion of natural habitats since the works are limited to maintenance and rehabilitation of existing structures. Under Component 2, trainings for agro-forestry activities to enhance resilience of agricultural activities of small scale farmers will be undertaken.

For Official Use Only



ESS7 - Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

ESS7 is relevant due to the national scope of Component 2, which activities could benefit Indigenous Communities. A standalone Indigenous Peoples Plan will not be necessary; instead, the SEP will address the requirements of meaningful consultation in the context of IPs. The Grievance Mechanism of the SEP will be culturally appropriate and accessible to IPs. Site specific subprojects benefiting Indigenous Communities will also follow the requirements of ESS7. The BCP which has been managing the Caribbean Development Bank’s Basic Needs Trust Fund and other government programs have been interacting with IP communities and have existing networks and channels for IP consultations. BCP has been conducting dialogue in IP communities on their priorities and the types of activities that are envisioned under Component 2. The Project will benefit and build upon the existing tools of communications with IPs.

ESS8 - Cultural Heritage

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

ESS8 is relevant. Project activities could involve excavations and movement of earth, which could affect artifacts, human or ecological elements, located entirely beneath, partially above, or entirely above land or water surface. The encounter of unknown cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, may be impacted directly or indirectly by project-supported activities. Chance Find Procedures (CFP) as part of ESMPs and other E&S documents will be included considering national legislation and requirements under ESS8.

ESS9 - Financial Intermediaries

Not Currently Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

ESS9 is not relevant. FIs will not be involved in the Project.

B.2 Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Operations on International Waterways

No

OP 7.60 Operations in Disputed Areas

No

B.3 Other Salient Features

Use of Borrower Framework

No

For Official Use Only



[Optional explanation – Max. character limit 1,000]

Use of Common Approach

No

[Optional Explanation including list of possible financing partners – Max. character limit 1,000]

B.4 Summary of Assessment of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

[Description provided will not be disclosed but will flow as a one time flow to the Concept Stage PID – Max. character limit 5,000]

The Environmental Risk Rating is considered Moderate due to (i) the possible occupational and community health and safety risk during drainage maintenance works; (ii) traffic management issues related to transporting equipment and materials through residential areas; and (iii) waste management. The potential environmental, health and safety impacts related to the project activities (increasing drainage capacity of access channels/drains, removal of bottlenecks, improved connectivity, and rehabilitation of sluices and pumps in this area) include occupational health and safety; waste disposal of the waste cleared from the canals and possible traffic management if equipment or small machinery is required for the maintenance works. The impacts are likely to be short-term and reversible that would be addressed through including mitigation measures incorporated into an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)/E&S Guidance in line with good international industry practice (GIIP) delineated in the WB Group General Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines. The Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the TA activities will be reviewed to ensure environmental and social requirements are included in line with the ESF. In addition, the Grant Manual to be developed for sub-component 2.1 will include E&S assessment steps as these will be small scale and low-cost activities. An exclusion list will be prepared which for example will exclude substantial and high E&S risk activities. The environmental risk rating will be further assessed during preparation and will be reviewed periodically throughout project implementation to ensure it continues to accurately reflect the level of risk.

Social Risk Rating is considered Moderate based on the information available a the Concept stage. Both components are anticipated to have a predominantly positive impact on local communities, with no significant adverse effects expected. Under Component 1, both high priority drainage areas are vulnerable to recurrent and long-duration flooding and thus it’s not foreseen that there will be disproportionate project-related negative impacts vis-à-vis vulnerable/non-vulnerable groups. However, among the main overall Project risks identified are elite capture and the exclusion of vulnerable populations from project design and benefits. The Project may inadvertently exclude certain groups, such as IPs & Maroons, women, and other marginalized populations, if their needs and perspectives are not adequately considered in planning and implementation. Also, tensions could arise or be exacerbated within communities, especially if there are disagreements over priorities, resource allocation, or decision-making processes. To mitigate these risks, it's crucial to carry out proper stakeholder engagement and inclusive and participatory planning processes that prioritize community voices and foster transparency.

For Official Use Only



Beneficiary selection criteria need to be carefully elaborated to ensure inclusive access to the poorest and most disadvantaged communities, people with disabilities, equitable regional and ethnically balanced distribution of funds. For Component 2, the project team will conduct an assessment of community vulnerabilities during Preparation. The insights gained from the latter will feed into project design. Furthermore, the CDD approach will emphasize local communities at the center of design and decision-making to avoid risks of exclusion. The Social Risk Rating will be further assessed during preparation and will be reviewed periodically throughout Project implementation to ensure it continues to accurately reflect the level of risk.

C. Overview of Required Environmental and Social Risk Management Activities

C.1 What Borrower environmental and social analyses, instruments, plans and/or frameworks are planned or required by Appraisal?

[Description of expectations in terms of documents to be prepared to assess and manage the project’s environmental and social risks and by when (i.e., prior to Effectiveness, or during implementation), highlighted features of ESA documents, other project documents where environmental and social measures are to be included, and the related due diligence process planned to be carried out by the World Bank, including sources of information for the due diligence - Max. character limit 3,000]

Prior to project effectiveness the following will be prepared:

- Stakeholder Engagement Plan
- Environmental and Social Commitment Plan

During Implementation, once the exact locations of the activities are known under Component 1, an E&S Assessment will be undertaken based on which Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs)/E&S Guidance will be developed proportionate to the risks. A Grants Manual will be developed for Component 2. The Grants Manual will include a screening checklist, an exclusion list of activities, the E&S procedure to follow, potential impacts and mitigation measures proportionate to the E&S risks identified. Labor Management Procedures will also be prepared during Implementation and within the timeframe outlined in the ESCP.

The Bank team will closely monitor the implementation of the E&S instruments, review E&S reports by the client and carry out regular implementation support missions.

III. CONTACT POINT

Contact Point

Task Team Leader:	Artesa Saldivar-Sali	Title:	Senior Infrastructure Specialist
----------------------	----------------------	--------	-------------------------------------



Email: asaldivarsali@worldbank.org

TTL Contact: Bruce MacPhail

Job Title: Senior Social Development Specialist

Email: bmacphail@worldbank.org

IV. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

The World Bank
1818 H Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20433
Telephone: (202) 473-1000
Web: <http://www.worldbank.org/projects>

V. APPROVAL

Task Team Leader(s):	Artessa Saldivar-Sali, Bruce MacPhail
ADM Environmental Specialist:	Aradhna Mathur
ADM Social Specialist:	Ramon E. Anria

For Official Use Only