**TC ABSTRACT**

**I. Basic Project Data**

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| ▪ Country/Region: | SURINAME/CCB - Caribbean Group |
| ▪ TC Name: | Support to State Asset Surveillance Management System |
| ▪ TC Number: | SU-T1156 |
| ▪ Team Leader/Members: | Wilks, Jason Malcolm (IFD/ICS) Team Leader; Mejia-Guerra, Jose Antonio (IFD/ICS) Alternate Team Leader; Michelle Manzur Madariaga (IFD/ICS); Berlanda Custodio Da Silva, Cleide (VPC/FMP); Acevedo Calle, Daniela (LEG/SGO); Jackson, Moreno Randal (CCB/CSU); Mariana Catano Jorgenson (IFD/ICS) |
| ▪ Taxonomy: | Client Support |
| ▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC: | N/A |
| ▪ Date of TC Abstract: | 04 Oct 2022 |
| ▪ Beneficiary: | Government of Suriname |
| ▪ Executing Agency: | INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK |
| ▪ IDB funding requested: | US$100,000.00 |
| ▪ Local counterpart funding: | US$0.00 |
| ▪ Disbursement period: | 24 months |
| ▪ Types of consultants: | Individuals; Firms |
| ▪ Prepared by Unit: | IFD/ICS - Innovation in Citizen Services Division |
| ▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility: | CCB/CSU - Country Office Suriname |
| ▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):  ▪ TC included in CPD (y/n): | No  No |
| ▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020: | Institutional capacity and rule of law; Environmental sustainability |
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**II. Objective and Justification**

2.1 The objective of this Technical Cooperation (TC) is to support the coordination of digital solutions for geospatial data analysis and the protection of state assets at the national level in Suriname. By conducting diagnostic evaluations of organisational capacities for the surveillance of the country's territorial domain and supporting redress of knowledge gaps in the use of the state’s geospatial information registry, this TC will provide key recommendations to combat illicit use of natural resources through institutional strengthening and the improvement of multi-institutional coordination mechanisms.

2.2 Through collaboration between the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and the Islamic Development Bank Institute, this TC will support the Government of Suriname in the design and use of innovative tools for geospatial analysis towards improving the monitoring, interpretation, and timely dissemination of earth observation data for effective environmental policing. More broadly, the TC will see Suriname contributing in an effort to improve the knowledge base on environmental monitoring in the Amazon region, situated at the nexus of key regional issues such as climate change, digital transformation and the fight against transnational crime.

2.3 Almost 95% of the Republic of Suriname is covered by rainforest, earning it the informal title of greenest country on earth. However, the country’s deforestation rate is among the highest globally and is expected to exceed 0.5% by 2025. The increasing rate of forest coverage is due in large part to the illicit outflows of natural resources through activities such as illegal logging and informal gold mining using labor-intensive, low-technology techniques called Artisanal and small-scale goldmining (ASM).

2.4 Over the past five years, the Government of Suriname initiated a series of reforms to regularise ASM and minimise its harmful socio-environmental impacts. However, recent evaluations of these initiatives commonly cite the inadequacy of baseline geospatial data -a critical tool in environmental policing. Earth observation data and information, which include satellite, airborne, land and marine-based data can provide real-time insights to inform decisions on how and where environmental management assets can be deployed. Earth observation data systems are also cost-effective, with multiple country case studies illustrating significant contributions to national economies. Utilising earth observation data for environmental policing in Suriname is constrained by the multiplicity of state actors who maintain geospatial databases within a suboptimal governance framework.

2.5 In 2021, the Ministry of Defense (MoD) requested the Bank’s support in strengthening the state’s surveillance capacity mitigation of illegal economic activities on land and in the waters of Suriname by strengthening the government’s surveillance capabilities using digital solutions and services. In servicing this request, the MoD and IDB convened critical stakeholders on geospatial data for a series of consultations to discuss the governance framework. The agencies represented throughout these consultations include MI-GLIS, MNR, the General Bureau of Statistics, the Ministry of Justice and Police and the Ministry of Spatial Planning and the Environment. These agencies reached consensus that a modern, centralised environmental surveillance system must be devised to consolidate national geospatial data management. Owing to previous data management coordination efforts being less than successful, coupled with the keen interest to use digital solutions that are novel to the context, it is prudent to gauge the viability of such a system within the current regulatory framework.Arising from the series of consultations with government stakeholders, capacity building in geospatial data analysis was highlighted as a second constraining factor to effective environmental policing. The value of an improved supply of geospatial information would be diminished given the lack of technical capacity among personnel in stakeholder agencies to use the data to guide policy and operational responses.

2.6 Through support from the Islamic Development Bank Institute, the Government of Suriname is now receiving support from the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data to train government personnel on using earth observation data and methodologies for environmental monitoring. Building on this initiative to develop a pilot for these trained personnel to apply their knowledge in a multi-agency surveilling exercise of illegal gold mining and its socioenvironmental impact was therefore proposed as an important demonstration of enhanced national surveillance capabilities for environmental policing.

**III. Description of Activities and Outputs**

3.1 **Component I: Pilot Study of Earth Observation Applications for Environmental Policing.** Support a pilot exercise to ensure the transfer of technical skills to undertake earth observation data analysis for environmental policing. The study will be based on the series of customised training sessions for relevant technical personnel being undertaken by GPSDD. The activity advance on those efforts through application of more advanced geospatial methodologies and production of a use case report detailing good practices in monitoring ASM in Suriname using geospatial data applications.

3.2 **Component II: Feasibility Analysis of an Environmental Surveillance System.** Provide financing to assess the viability of existing law enforcement capacities and governance arrangements for developing a comprehensive environmental surveillance system housed on a digital platform. At a minimum, this activity will involve: (i) conduct of a requirement’s analysis examining legislative, institutional, and technological factors; (ii) design of a costed roadmap for creating the most feasible centralised monitoring system based; and (iii) facilitation of fora for stakeholders.

**IV. Budget**

**Indicative Budget**

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| **Activity/Component** | **IDB/Fund Funding** | **Counterpart Funding** | **Total Funding** |
| Pilot Study of Earth Observation Applications for Environmental Policing | US$65,000.00 | US$0.00 | US$65,000.00 |
| Feasibility Analysis of an Environmental Surveillance System | US$35,000.00 | US$0.00 | US$35,000.00 |
| **Total** | **US$100,000.00** | **US$0.00** | **US$100,000.00** |

**V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure**

5.1 As there is presently no national authority with the legal capacity to both coordinate and execute capacity-building activities for geospatial data management, the overall coordination and technical supervision of the operation will be the responsibility of the Bank's Innovation to Serve the Citizen Division (IFD / ICS), in close coordination with the Country Office. This justification is in keeping with conditions set out the Bank’s GN‑2629 Guidelines - Annex 10, Section 2 (d). The TC will be implemented over   
24 months, with execution expected over an eighteen-month period.

5.2 The Innovation for Citizen Services Division is well equipped to manage this operation and to assure the coordination needed, owing to similar experiences supporting multi‑agency digital government reform initiatives currently being implemented in the sub‑region, including BA-L1046 (Public Sector Efficiency Program);   
RG-T3898 (Advancing Digital States in the Caribbean); and TT-L1042 (Implementation of the Integrated Financial Management Information System).

5.3 The activities to be executed under this operation will be included in the Procurement Plan and carried out in accordance with the Bank's established procurement methods, namely: (a) Hiring of individual consultants, as established in the regulations AM-650; and (b) Hiring of consulting firms for services of an intellectual nature according to GN‑2765-4 and its associated operating guides (OP-1155-4).

**VI. Project Risks and Issues**

6.1 There are two attendant risks for this project. The first risk relates to concerns over data sharing and unintended disclosures potentially limiting the scope of cooperation among the partner agencies benefitting from the process. The second risk involves the selection of officers for training who may not have the competency or interest for undertaking advanced geospatial data analysis. Both risks can be mitigated by an effective project coordination mechanism. Specifically, the agencies represented in the stakeholder group will be invited to nominate representatives for a Steering Committee that will ensure clarity in intern-agency communication, standardization of data sharing protocols where necessary and suitable selection criteria for personnel involved in the pilot study. This Steering Committee will also seek membership from non-government actors in the private sector and civil society, towards ensuring transparency in decision making and participation for those communities most affected by environmental crimes locally.

**VII. Environmental and Social Classification**

7.1 The ESG classification for this operation is "undefined".