

TC Document

I. Basic Information for TC

▪ Country/Region:	SURINAME
▪ TC Name:	Spatial Planning Assessment and Development Support for Suriname
▪ TC Number:	SU-T1146
▪ Team Leader/Members:	Kopelman Martin, Tatiana Marie (CSD/HUD) Team Leader; Rajack, Robin Michael (CSD/HUD) Alternate Team Leader; Arcia, Diego Andres (CSD/HUD); Avila, Francy Dianela (CSD/HUD); Berlanda Custodio Da Silva, Cleide (VPC/FMP); Collins, Michael I. (CSD/RND); Grunwaldt, Alfred Hans (CSD/CCS); Guzmán Osorio, Jessica (CSD/HUD); Piedrafita, Carolina Marcela (CSD/HUD); Sendar, Tessa (CSD/HUD); Pérez, Silvia (CSD/HUD); Vila Saint-Etienne, Sara (LEG/SGO); Villota Coral, María Alejandra (CSD/HUD)
▪ Taxonomy:	Client Support
▪ Operation Supported by the TC:	Non-applicable
▪ Date of TC Abstract authorization:	06 Aug 2021
▪ Beneficiary:	Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment of Suriname
▪ Executing Agency and contact name:	Inter-American Development Bank
▪ Donors providing funding:	OC Strategic Development Program for Sustainability(SUS)
▪ IDB Funding Requested:	US\$300,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding, if any:	US\$0
▪ Disbursement period (which includes Execution period):	24 months
▪ Required start date:	December, 2021
▪ Types of consultants:	Individual Consultants and Consulting Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	CSD/HUD-Housing & Urban Development
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	CSD/HUD-Housing & Urban Development
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	Yes
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
▪ Alignment to the Second Update to the Institutional Strategy (UIS) 2020-2023:	Social inclusion and equality; Institutional capacity and rule of law; Environmental sustainability

II. Objectives and Justification of the TC

- 2.1 **Objectives.** This Technical Cooperation (TC) aims to support the government of Suriname in developing a cohesive and environmentally sound spatial planning legislation and make recommendations on the necessary institutional arrangements for its implementation. The specific objectives are: (i) assess the current context of spatial planning in Suriname, including existing instruments, agencies, and regulations; (ii) incorporate resiliency in Suriname's spatial planning framework; (iii) support and strengthen the development of spatial planning legislation and the necessary institutional arrangements for implementation; and (iv) raise awareness about the importance of spatial planning.

- 2.2 **Justification.** Spatial planning in Suriname has historically focused on designing infrastructure for urban and residential areas, primarily by the Ministry of Public Works. Its current legal framework lies in two outdated and limited acts: the Urban Planning Act¹ and the Planning law.²
- 2.3 The Ministry of Spatial Planning, Land and Forestry Management (ROGB, for its acronym in Dutch) was created in 2005 to address legal framework shortcomings. Despite this effort, Suriname's continued dispersed and chaotic territorial development lacked legislation, regulatory tools, and institutional capacity. As a result, the country's urban areas are dominated by low-density development (3.3 hab/km²) despite holding over 70% of the national population.³ A consequence of this low density in territories like Suriname lies in the high cost of urbanizing remote areas, the provision of infrastructure, goods, and services, which hinders equitable and sustainable development. In addition to this situation, the lack of a normative and legal framework restricts territorial ordering and adaptability to its context's previously identified needs.
- 2.4 Thus, The Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment (MSPE) was created in 2020 to formulate the country's legislative policy and coordinate spatial planning institutionally. At present, the MSPE aims to create a Spatial Planning Act, which should have a broad and updated scope on a national, regional, and local level, incorporating participative processes among public and private stakeholders. For that purpose, the MSPE established the Spatial Planning Committee (SPC), tasked with creating a unified vision for spatial planning in Suriname towards the elaboration of the Spatial Planning Act. While initial engagement with various government stakeholders has occurred, the SPC has identified significant gaps in the authorities' awareness, understanding, knowledge, and ultimately value given to spatial planning.
- 2.5 Furthermore, with over 90% of its population and much of its infrastructure and human activity located along the low-lying coastal strip, particularly, Suriname is vulnerable to the effects of climate change. The MSPE recognizes the impact of spatial planning on the environment to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Additionally, the current legislation lacks the inclusion of key actors in the national territory. This situation generates a break in the dynamics of urbanization and spatial development. The non-recognition of the native population, together with weak regulations, promotes economic development to focus on practices that threaten the inhabitants' quality of life. The natural wealth and biodiversity of the country allow it to explore other ways of economic development focused on the service and tourism industries. However, those must be accompanied by laws promoting urban development and spatial growth-oriented to such practices.
- 2.6 In this context, the Bank can play a vital role in supporting Suriname's effort to develop a robust legal framework that allows for sustainable land development accounting for environmental properties, risk and vulnerability, and the geographical growth of the country's natural resources. The provision of both economic and human capital will supply the necessary tools for constructing new normative and legal instruments that give rise to sustainable development. Furthermore, support in the development processes of these tools will provide the experience and knowledge necessary to face future challenges.

¹ *De Stedenbouwkundige Wet 1972.*

² *De Planwet 1973.*

³ *Country fiche SURINAME.*

- 2.7 **Strategic Alignment.** The TC is consistent with the Second Update to the Institutional Strategy UIS 2020-2023 (AB-3190-2). It will contribute to the Corporate Results Framework 2020-2023 CRF (GN-2727-12) through the following development challenges: (i) Social Inclusion and Equality, by promoting the recognition and inclusion of indigenous and tribal peoples land rights, as well as fostering a better understanding of the land demands for housing, social infrastructure, and mixed uses in cities, as well as demands for rural uses; (ii) Institutional Capacity and the Rule of Law, by improving the national government's capacities to implement efficient spatial planning; and (iii) Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change, by supporting regulatory the promotion of sustainable spatial planning practices such as compact urban growth patterns. The proposed operation is consistent with the IDB's Sector Strategy Institutions for Growth and Social Welfare (GN-2587-2) by promoting knowledge transfer related to institutional capacity and public management. This TC seeks to increase the technical capacity of the human capital present in the country's governmental spheres and explore the possibility of generating new key actors in decision-making to implement the developed instruments.
- 2.8 It is also consistent with the Sector Framework Document of Urban Development and Housing (GN-2732-11) by promoting urban forms that prevent an uncontrolled sprawl, economizing land consumption, and infrastructure demands through improved urban design. This operation will contribute to the Ordinary Capital Strategic Development Programs for Sustainability (OC-SDP) objectives by supporting the national governments to prepare for challenges related to rapid urban growth in a sustainable manner (GN-2819-1). This TC is also consistent with the IDB Integrated Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, and Sustainable Renewable Energy (GN-2609-1), with the "Climate Change Sector Framework Document" (GN-2835-5). This and with the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2020-2023 (GN-2933-1). By focusing on a comprehensive approach to current policies and laws on land regulation, this TC addresses challenges related to climate change and the environment. This approach will benefit the development of legislative and regulatory instruments that safeguard the environment and foster affordable housing and urban planning. Also, it will seek to strengthen the existing urban pyramid and explore the possibility of creating new actors and instruments with specific roles in development and strategic territorial planning.
- 2.9 This TC is aligned with the Suriname Country Strategy 2021-2025 under its priority area of establishing a climate for sustainable development. Through the development of a spatial planning framework and the accompanying instruments, the TC will allow the Government of Suriname the possibility to regulate their development and land occupancy, limiting extensive dispersed settlements and promoting increased sustainable patterns of land occupation. Additionally, this TC is aligned with The Country Department Caribbean (CCB) Build Forward Vision goals by incorporating concepts of resilience within the spatial planning legal framework. The TC will help guide future development to be built better and smarter, ultimately improving disaster response, and mitigating risks encountered by Climate Change.

III. Description of activities/components and budget

- 3.1 **Component I. Current Spatial Planning Assessment (US\$75,000).** This component's objective will support the MSPE by reviewing Suriname's current spatial planning context, identifying the gaps and weaknesses within the legal framework and its implementation, and providing recommendations to align the spatial planning framework towards the shared vision. As a result, it will finance consultancies for

(i) supporting stakeholder engagement processes to define a shared vision on the country's spatial planning; (ii) diagnostics of the current legislation, instruments, enforcement agencies, governance, and responsibilities; (iii) support the proposals for improvements to the legal framework based on the shared vision and best practices in the resilient spatial development and the inclusion of indigenous land rights; (iv) recommendations for supporting implementation instruments and regulatory norms; and (v) proposal of a draft spatial planning act.

- 3.2 **Component II. Spatial Planning Instrumentation (US\$155,000).** This component will be developed based on the findings and recommendations of Component I activities. Suriname is subject to the risks of climate change, including increases in sea level. This vulnerability is further exacerbated by competing interests of growing sectors such as forestry and mining. These interests have also led to accompanying human settlements, which lack adequate planning and regulations. Suriname must develop regulatory norms and instruments to effectively implement sound, resilient spatial planning to counteract the adverse effects. Accordingly, this component will be based on the results of the Spatial Planning Act assessment in Component I through the following activities: (i) propose a draft of the regulatory instruments needed to support adequate implementation of the draft spatial planning act and (ii) support the stakeholder consultations of the proposed law and the communication of its implications. It is important to note that all products of this component will share a crossing theme of climate change adaptation.
- 3.3 **Component III. Institutional Framework Development and Implementation (US\$70,000).** One of Suriname's most significant issues for implementing a spatial planning act is the need for a comprehensive coordinating government entity. Furthermore, the lack of awareness of the importance of spatial planning for the country's short, medium, and long -term development among the civil society presents a challenge for compliance and enforcement. This component aims to support (i) the development of an organizational manual to install the Spatial Planning Institute of Suriname, including its structural organization, vision, mission, tasks, responsibilities, budget, and operational rules.
- 3.4 The total project cost is US\$300,000 to be financed through the Strategic Development Program for Sustainability (OC-SUS). The TC will not have financing from the local counterpart.

Indicative Budget (US\$)

Component	Description	IDB	Total Financing
Component I	Current spatial Planning Assessment	75,000	75,000
Component II	Spatial Planning Instrumentation	155,000	155,000
Component III	Institutional framework development and implementation	70,000	70,000
Total:			300,000

IV. Executing agency and execution structure

- 4.1 The Bank through the division of Housing and Urban Development (CSD/HUD) will be the executing agency as requested by the Ministry of Spatial Planning through the Ministry of Finance, and due to the bank's substantial experience in executing technical assistant related to the proposed activities. The Housing and Urban

Development Division (CSD/HUD) will be responsible for this operation's technical supervision and administration, leveraging its housing, spatial planning, and sustainability expertise. Specifically, the execution and supervision of this TC's implementation, as well as the achievement of the established objectives, will be carried out by the Housing and Urban Development Specialist based in Suriname, with the support of the CSU/HUD team and the Suriname Country Office (CCB/CSU). This TC will coordinate with the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment, through the Spatial Planning Committee to designate specific focal points tasked with accompanying the development of this TC.

- 4.2 However, to address the sustainability of the long-term impact, this TC aims to support the Government of Suriname with providing the necessary institutional guidelines and organizational proposal to establish a sector-specific entity tasked with the regulation, implementation, and supervision of the country's Spatial Planning framework.
- 4.3 The activities to be carried out by this TC have been included in the Procurement Plan. The Bank will contract consulting services in accordance with current policies and procedures. The procurement process for consulting firms of intellectual nature will follow the Bank's Policy for the Selection and Contracting of Consulting Firms for Bank-executed Operational Work (GN-2765-4) and related Operational Guidelines (OP-1155-4). Non-consulting services will be following Bank's current procurement policies and procedures. The project will apply the policy GN-2303-28 for contracting logistic services. All knowledge products derived from this Technical Cooperation will be the Bank's intellectual property.
- 4.4 **Single Source Selection:** The TC's procurement plan includes the Single Source Selection for the completion of the activities within Component I. The firm selected is the Center for Urban Studies of the University of Amsterdam. Due to Suriname's legacy as a former Dutch colony, the firm tasked with carrying out the activities of Component I must have a thorough understanding of the constitutional legal framework derived from the colonial past. Particularly the firm must be well versed in the historical development of spatial planning regulation within the Dutch colony and understand the nuances of the Planning Law and the Urban Planning Act. The University of Amsterdam through its Center for Urban Studies has extensive experience in supporting the development of Spatial Planning legal framework in the Netherlands, from which the current Surinamese policies are derived from.
- 4.5 Furthermore, due to the need for a comprehensive approach to Spatial Planning within Suriname, the activities of Component I must consider issues of climate change and indigenous rights. By hiring the Center for Urban Studies at the University of Amsterdam, the bank can leverage the various areas of expertise the center offers to address these critical topics. Specifically, faculty from the Center for Urban Studies have conducted extensive research within Suriname, building strong relationships with key stakeholders such as the Anton de Kom University, the Spatial Planners Association Suriname as well as the local government institutions. This in field experience and strong relationship, particularly facing challenges of COVID-19 restrictions, provides a competitive advantage over other potential firms,

V. Major issues

- 5.1 The main potential risks are (i) limited cooperation among institutions. Spatial planning encompasses not only urban uses but also those related to rural settings. To successfully carry out a new spatial planning framework, the MSPE must coordinate with other involved ministries (i.e., agriculture, livestock and fisheries, natural

resources, land, and forest management, etc.); and (ii) the risk associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the current COVID-19 crisis, the Bank has limited travel. To hire consultancies, these restrictions, paired with limited technological developments in digital mapping and visualization, may hinder the effective implementation of this TC.

To mitigate these risks the TC will (i) finance an engagement and communication plan to increase awareness among the stakeholders and gather interest in the activity's carryout by this operation; (ii) work alongside the Spatial Planning Committee, leveraging the social capital they have built in coordinating multiple government agencies, private sector members, and academia; and (iii) prioritize firms with previous experience in Suriname, as well as those who include innovative approaches to data collection and consultancy execution. Furthermore, the TC will work closely with the Spatial Planning Committee to provide all necessary data relating to the local context to better inform the consultant individuals and firms.

VI. Exceptions to Bank policy

- 6.1 The project does not require exceptions to Bank policy.

VII. Environmental and Social Strategy

- 7.1 This Technical Cooperation is not intended to finance pre-feasibility or feasibility studies for specific investment projects or associated environmental and social studies; therefore, this TC does not meet the applicable requirements of the Bank's Environmental and Social Policy Framework (ESPF). This TC is not expected to have adverse environmental and social effects.

Required Annexes:

- Request from the client
- Results Matrix.
- Terms of Reference
- Procurement Plan