

10/4/2010



UN Development Programme Suriname - Cty Pgmm

Award ID: 00060617
Award Title: Capacity Strengthening Support to
Suriname Parliament
Start Year: 2010
End Year: 2011

Implementing Partner
(Executing Agency): UNDP

Responsible Party
(Implementing Agent): Government of Suriname

Revision Type:

Brief Description:

At the request of the Parliament of Suriname, UNDP is assisting with the implementation of a programme aimed at institutional strengthening of its functioning, so as to be able to effectively exercise its oversight and law making functions. This Initiation Plan (IP) is implemented to cover preliminary activities that need to be undertaken while the full project document is being discussed and subsequently finalized for signature with the Government of Suriname.
Activities under this IP include: (1) Assistance through Briefing/Learning sessions for the Members of Parliament on topical issues (2) Procurement of equipment and (3) Finalizing the full project document on the basis of which the cooperation between the Parliament of Suriname and the UN will be strengthened.

Budget (US\$) as of Last Revision on 01-October-2010		
Donor	Fund	Amount
UNDP	04000 TRAC (Lines 1.1.1 and 1.1.2)	50,000.00
Total Budget		50,000.00
Total Expenditure		0.00
Award Total		0.00
Unprogrammed/Unfunded		-50,000.00

Agreed by: UNDP



Country Director



Annual Work Plan

Suriname - Cty Pgram

Award Id: 00060617

Award Title: Capacity Strengthening Support to Suriname Parliament

Year: 2010

Report Date: 10/4/2010

Project ID	Expected Outputs	Key Activities	Timeframe		Responsible Party	Planned Budget				
			Start	End		Fund	Donor	Budget Descr	Amount	
00076396	Capacity Strengthening Support	Finalize project document			TRI-Government of Suriname	04000	UNDP	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	10,000
		Learning/Briefing			TRI-Government of Suriname	04000	UNDP	71200	International Consultants	15,000
		Strengthening Office			TRI-Government of Suriname	04000	UNDP	71300	Local Consultants	15,000
TOTAL										50,000
GRAND TOTAL										50,000



Initiation Plan

Government of the Republic of Suriname

and

United Nations Development Programme

Support for Capacity Strengthening of the Parliament of Suriname to Undertake its Functions regarding Law-Making and Oversight

1. Introduction and Background:

Suriname is a democracy based on a Constitution which was established in 1987. After two military coups, the first one in 1980 (with the military's rule lasting up until 1987) and the second one in 1990 (with the military rule lasting one year), the country has fully returned to the democratic fold. Most recently, elections were held in Suriname on 25 May 2010 and according to reports from the Electoral Observation Mission of the Organization of American States and the local media, elections were conducted in a peaceful and harmonious manner.

An efficient, effective, knowledgeable and productive parliament is critical to the existence of a viable democracy and an open society. Such institutions are critical to the establishment and consolidation of democracy because they empower ordinary people to participate in the policies that shape their lives. Parliaments are fundamental to establishing the rule of law, protecting human rights, overseeing transparent governance processes, and ensuring national compliance with international obligations¹. Parliaments are established to guide and critically follow the work of the Government.

It is therefore that the parliament would like to implement a programme aimed at institutional strengthening of its functioning, so as to be able to effectively exercise its oversight and governance

¹ Parliamentary Development – UNDP Strategy Note May 2009

functions, but also to strengthen its capacity to guide the government based on international developments.

The Parliament of Suriname and UNDP have worked together in the past and with that fruitful collaboration in mind, UNDP engaged in discussions with the Speaker of the recently-elected Parliament on the framework for a full, multi-year project for strengthening the capacity of Parliament to undertake its law-making functions. This project which aims to strengthen one of the critical governance institutions in Suriname is fully consistent with the Government's Multi-Annual Plan and is critical for achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Suriname.

This Initiation Plan and the full project to be formulated are in line with the current United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2008 - 2011) signed between the Government of Suriname and the United Nations and will contribute to UNDAF Outcome 2: *By the end of 2011, good governance through decentralized participatory planning and monitoring, legal reform and effective protection.*

This Initiation Plan is implemented to cover preliminary activities that need to be undertaken while the full project document is being discussed and subsequently finalized for signature with the Government of Suriname.

2. Activities to be implemented under this Initiation Plan

1. Assist the Parliament with the organization of a series of briefing/learning sessions on a wide range of topics which are critical in the development of Suriname. The Parliament and UNDP have already agreed on topics such as Climate Change, Housing, and Entrepreneurship, and others will be identified for implementation in 2011 to build the substantive capacity of the Members of Parliament and inform their deliberative functions. UNDP's assistance in this regard entails partnering with the Parliament to design a programme for the briefing/learning sessions, making use of the UNDP's network of local and international expertise and knowledge products to inform the Parliamentarians; and also providing financial assistance if requested for the organization of these sessions.
2. Preparation of policy briefs on topical issues for use by Parliamentarians on external missions; ad hoc briefings to groups of Parliamentarians; technical assistance to support ratification of International Conventions and other legal instruments; technical inputs for drafting key legislation to be voted on by Parliament.
3. Training of Officers and the Staff of Parliament inter alia, in information technology, strategic planning, parliamentary reporting, legislative drafting, English and Dutch language skills, and support for capacity building of Officers and Staff of Parliament through external training and study visits.
4. Finalize formulation and signature of the full Project Document.

3. Duration of the Initiation Plan

As indicated in the POPP, the Initiation Plan will not exceed one year. The above activities will be implemented during the initiation phase which will end 90 days (or earlier) after signature of the document. These activities will be included within the full project document for implementing the project which will commence as soon as all parties have agreed and signed the project document.

4. Budget

The budget for this IP is set at USD 50,000

Project Title					Award ID	Date
Support for Capacity Strengthening of the Parliament of Suriname to Undertake its Law-making Functions						2010
Project ID Expected Outputs	Key Activities	Timeframe		Responsible party	Planned Budget	
		Start	End		Donor	US\$
Capacity of the Parliament strengthened to undertake its functions	Briefing/learning sessions and Sharing of information on topical issues for the 51 members of Parliament Language training/IT training for members and staff	August 2010	August 2011	UNDP Parliament of Suriname	UNDP	30,000
Strengthening the office of Parliament	Procurement of equipment to strengthen the information department of parliament	September 2010	August 2011	UNDP Parliament of Suriname	UNDP	10,000
Project document formulated	Design of a comprehensive Project Document	November 2010	January 2011	UNDP Parliament of Suriname	UNDP	10,000
TOTAL US\$						50,000

5. Management and Implementation Arrangements

The activities under this project fall under Annual Work Plan (AWP) 1 – Policy Planning and Monitoring, signed between the Government of Suriname and the UN agencies on 22nd March 2010. Activities under this IP phase will be funded out of UNDP/TRAC resources. The activities will be implemented by UNDP in close collaboration with the Parliament of Suriname according to UNDP implementation guidelines. UNDP will undertake actions such as identification, recruitment and payment of consultants; organize briefing sessions; prepare briefing documents; organize training for Officers and staff of Parliament; and undertake other agreed capacity strengthening activities based on requests from the Parliament. UNDP with inputs from the Parliament, will prepare a Substantive and Financial report on the activities undertaken and expenditures incurred within thirty (30) days of the close of this IP.