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Subject: Minutes Local Project Appraisal Committee Meeting: Improving Environmental Management in the Mining Sector of Suriname, with Emphasis on Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) project document.

Date: 16th March 2018

Time: 09.00 A.M.

Venue: UN House Gonggrijpstraat 25

Present: Abeleven, Dave (PS Ministry of Natural Resources)
Alexis, Armstrong (UNDP Deputy Resident Representative)
Doest, Rafaela (Jr. Legal Officer NIMOS)
Drakenstein, Bryan (UNDP Programme Specialist Energy and Environment)
Gomes, Laurens (Country Representative WWF Guianas)
Hausil, Farzia (Senior Policy Officer WWF Guianas)
Hubard, Meriam (UNDP Governance Programme Officer/Gender FP)
Joseph, Joan (Project Assistant Energy and Environment UNDP)
Khoenkhoen, Anuradha (UNDP Programme Assistant Environment)
Martoredjo, Ruben (UNDP Programme Associate/ HACT Focal Point)
Monorath, Angela (Environment Policy Coordinator Ministry of Natural Resources)
Nelom, Cedric (Acting General Director NIMOS)
Sunuwar Manorama (UNDP/UNV Gender Specialist)
Tirtosentono, Priscilia (GEF SGP PA)

Absent: Emanuels, Nathalie (MIA and NAP ASGM project coordinator)
Griffith, Gina (Legal Advisor NIMOS)
Legiman, Sharon (UNDP/JCCCP National Focal Point)
Lepelblad, Haidy (UNDP/GCCA+ Project Manager)
Refos - Lalji, Valerie (Deputy PS Ministry of Natural Resources)


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The Project document (Prodoc) and other relevant documentation were provided to attendees prior to meeting.

All the attendees have received the Project document, the CEO endorsement letter from the GEF, the PIF review sheet from the GEF Secretariat, the Social and environmental screening template and the Checklist for review of the project documents via e-mail on the 1st of March 2018, two weeks, prior to the LPAC meeting. The deadline for sending comments and remarks via e-mail was the 13th of March 2018.

Welcome and Opening:

The chair of the meeting Mr. Armstrong Alexis, DRR UNDP Suriname opened the meeting at 09.00 and welcomed the attendees.

The agenda was adopted without changes and was as follows:

- 1) Welcome and Opening
 - 2) Introduction
 - 3) Announcements and overview of the process
 - 4) Presentation of the Project
 - 5) Review of the PIF review sheet, the Social and environmental screening template and the checklist for review of the project documents
 - 6) Remarks and discussion
 - 7) Conclusion
 - 8) Closing
-

Introductions

Tour de table of brief introduction of attendees.

Announcements and overview of the process

Absent with notice: Mrs. Sharon Legiman, Mrs. Haidy Malone and Mrs. Gina Griffith are attending a workshop and will not be present. Dave Abeleven, PS Ministry of Natural Resources, will leave around 9:50. Cedric Nelom (NIMOS) will be late due to a prior engagement.

Dave Abeleven: Mrs. Valerie Refos – Lalji (Ministry of Natural Resources) is sick and unable to attend.

Bryan Drakenstein: Nathalie Emanuels (MIA and NAP ASGM project coordinator) is unable to attend the meeting.


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Armstrong Alexis: There were no written comments received regarding the Prodoc and other documentation which were sent via e-mail on the 1st of March 2018.

Armstrong Alexis:

- introduced and gave an overview of the LPAC process and explained that within the UNDP, the approval of a project must be followed by a LPAC meeting. This meeting will be the last opportunity to review the project and to adjust the project documents prior to signing.
- The meeting will be held according to the LPAC guidance and templates available.
- The minutes from this meeting should be signed by the attendees.

Presentation of the project

Dave Abeleven, PS Ministry of Natural Resources, indicates that he needs to leave at 09.15 for another meeting on cross border cooperation between Guyana and Suriname. The PS continued with the presentation of the project (see Annex 2):

Key points from the presentation:

- This project is timely and linked to Suriname development plan (OP) 2017-2021, that has increased emphasis on environment friendly mining techniques as part of Suriname measures to adapt to Climate Change and build resilience as well as improve the quality of life of its population.
- The shifting of ASGM sector from informal to formal, illegal to legal, from environment unfriendly and unsustainable practices to Environment Friendly Mining practices.
- This project and associated total project budget was also mentioned by the Minister of Natural Resources during the Parliament deliberations on ratification of the Minamata Convention.
- As you know the law on ratification of the Minamata Convention was subsequently approved in Parliament. We are currently preparing the instruments for submission to the convention.
- Looks forward to next steps and subsequent signing of the project document with the UNDP.



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Remarks and discussion:

Armstrong Alexis:

- Congratulated the government and parliament with ratification of the Minamata convention.
- Highlighted the importance of synchronization of our efforts with the Guianas due to the porosity of the borders.
- How can be dealt with knowledge versus actions because the small-scale goldminers are continuing to use mercury while aware of its harmful effects. The important question is: why are they still using mercury while being aware of its harmful effects?
- Unless the small-scale goldminers can be successfully transitioned from using mercury dependent - to non - mercury dependent machinery, increased knowledge will not enhance the effectiveness of the project.
- How can the small-scale goldminers be moved from the illegal sector to the legal sector and how they can contribute to the local income of the government (taxes)?

Dave Abeleven:

- The ministry of Natural resources wants to use this opportunity to move the small-scale miners from the illegal - to the legal sector.
- A Suriname – Guyana border counsel has been installed by the Presidents of Guyana and Suriname and the illegal import and transport of mercury between Suriname and Guyana has been put on the agenda for today's council meeting. Activities will be identified to reduce and eliminate the illegal import and trafficking of mercury.
- The policy of the Ministry of Natural Resources will also be updated: including New mining laws prohibiting the use of mercury will be put in place.
- There is support from the World Bank to aid with the restructuring of the Bauxite Institute, Geologic Mining Division into the Mineral Institute and the framework of the legislation. The assessment report will be shared when finalized. The ministry is considering in addition to an inter-ministerial committee working on the revision, to use expert support from a International or local consultant to expedite the process of updating the legislation. The ministry is looking for additional funding for this. Its is understood that policy and legislation alone will not bring an about face change, but it supports in realization of this change. With a potential of getting premium prize (green Gold) for Suriname gold.

Laurens Gomes:

- Also offered congratulations on the ratification of the Minamata convention.
- WWF Guyanas expects a decision from FFEM on status of her Co-financing on 23rd March 2018.
- Is there an option to improve the link between the Minamata trajectory and the results under the GEF Suriname FSP Goldmining project? Mercury reduction



targets (and funding) were omitted from the project design, however can we include results and report these under the project.

Armstrong Alexis: The ratification of the Minamata Convention was not put as a condition for approval of the project because the ratification was out of our control. Now that the convention has been ratified there are numerous opportunities for linking the Minamata convention implementation in Suriname with the project.

Ruben Martoredjo:

- Prodoc: Page 364: What report is available on the social implications of the small-scale goldmining on the communities and surrounding areas and what about the means regarding social provisions?
- Bryan Drakenstein responded: The indigenous and tribal peoples have been consulted. The report is available and part of it is included in the project documents. There was an explicit mission to get consent from the tribal leaders from the communities along Compagnie kreek and at Nieuw Koffiekamp. Snesi Kondre is not a Village and does not have a Traditional leadership.
- Prodoc: page 23: "On the other hand, the project will work through recognized and trusted non-governmental organisations to put in place Mining and Training Extension Centres (MTECs), to ensure that there is no perceived bias". What is meant with recognized? and trusted by whom? The way it is formulated is ambiguous. It should be defined more clearly.
- Bryan Drakenstein; We will review and revise the text accordingly.

Review of the project document Social and environmental screening template and the checklist for review of the project documents by Mr. Drakenstein

A. Presentation of the Environmental and Social Screening Template

Bryan Drakenstein informs participants on reasons of the SESP and Indicates assessment done by Regional Technical Advisor and approval by the Head of UNDP Suriname office.

There were no comments or suggestions from the LPAC members concerning the environmental and Social Screening Template.

Armstrong Alexis: suggested adoption of the Environmental and Social Screening template since there are no comments and no comments were received when the template was sent by email on the 1st of March. The LPAC members agreed and adopted of the Environmental and Screening template.

B. The Checklist for Review of the Project Documents

The checklist was reviewed per question by the LPAC members. It is understood that High is better (positive) than low. Specific questions that required clarification/ discussion are indicated hereunder.



Remarks and comments:

Question 3:

Laurens Gomes: Have draft responsible party agreements been prepared for responsible parties?

Bryan Drakenstein: Responsible party agreements Not yet but will take place prior to start of project activities

Question 4:

A. Has implementation capacity of the proposed implementing partner been assessed?

Bryan Drakenstein: Medium because this has been partially done during design. HACT assessment to be done within UN context as well as substantial capacity assessment. Mitigation measure is that in interim only direct payment as part of HACT will be implemented.

I. Has the HACT micro-assessment been carried out? Is the method for cash transfers (i.e. advances, reimbursement, and direct payment) clearly specified?

Bryan Drakenstein: HACT has not been done for the new cycle. It will be done by end of the second quarter of this year.

Armstrong Alexis: Suggested adoption of the checklist.

The LPAC member were all in agreement and approved of checklist with the additional wording.

Armstrong Alexis: requested if the LPAC is in favor for the approval of this Prodoc with the recommendation for signature by the CO with the understanding that the comments as discussed will be incorporated in the project document.

The LPAC members are all in favor and approved of the project.

4. Conclusion

- All members are in favor of advising the UNDP Resident Representative to sign the project document and all annexes, adoption of the Social and Environmental screening template and the checklist for review of the GEF Suriname FSP Goldmining project document.
- The minutes of the meetings will be send to all the members for review and remarks.
- The PMU must be established as soon as possible.



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5. Closing

- The minutes of the meetings will be send to all LPAC members.
- The DRR thanks everyone for attendance and participation in the LPAC.
- Closing at 11:10

Annexes:

1. LPAC agenda
2. PowerPoint presentation GEF Suriname FSP Goldmining project
3. Project document GEF Suriname FSP Goldmining
4. CEO endorsement letter from the GEF
5. Social and environmental screening template GEF Suriname FSP Goldmining project
6. Checklist for review of the GEF Suriname FSP Goldmining project document

 28/03/2018


29/03/2018
Daniel 11/04/2018

 13/04/2018

SIGNATURES

Minutes Local Project Appraisal Committee Meeting: Improving Environmental Management in the Mining Sector of Suriname, with Emphasis on Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) project document. (Date: March 16, 2018)

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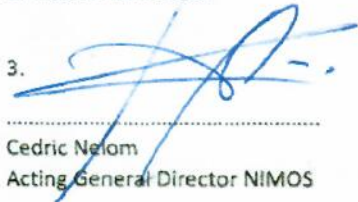
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Dave Abeleven
PS Ministry of Natural Resources

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Angela Monorath
Environment Policy Coordinator Ministry
of Natural Resources

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Cedric Nelom
Acting General Director NIMOS

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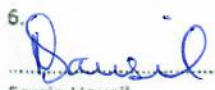
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Laurens Gomes
Country Representative WWF Guianas

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Farzia Hausil
Senior Policy Officer WWF Guianas

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Ruben Martoredjo
Programme Associate/HACT Focal Point UNDP

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Joan Joseph
Project Assistant Energy and Environment UNDP

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Anuradha Khoenkhoen
Programme Assistant Energy and Environment UNDP

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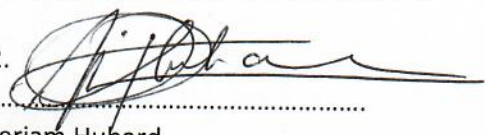
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Bryan Drakenstein
Programme Specialist Energy and Environment UNDP

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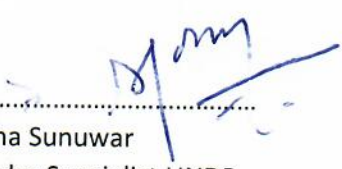
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Armstrong Alexis
Deputy Resident Representative UNDP

12.



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Meriam Hubbard
Governance Programme Officer/Gender FP UNDP

13.



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Manorama Sunuwar
UNV Gender Specialist UNDP

14.



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Priscilia Tirtosentono
PA GEF SGP