

SUSTAINABLE OCEANSCAPE (S.O.S) PROGRAM

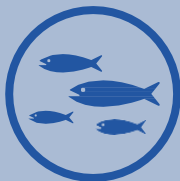
Ocean Conservation at Scale

CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL
Suriname



Fisheries

A significant proportion of Suriname's population depends on fisheries for its livelihood and source of protein. Fisheries has the largest GDP contribution to Suriname's economy.



S.O.S

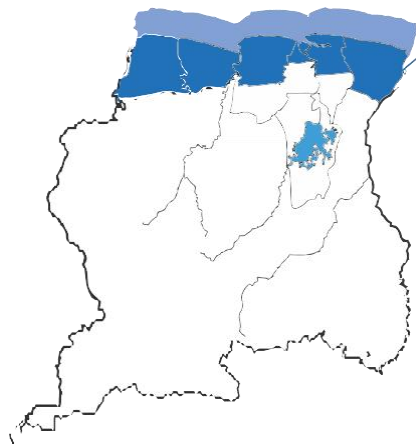
Mangroves

Mangroves act as green buffer against flooding along Suriname's dynamic shoreline.



Strategies and outcome by 2025

Healthy oceans, coastal and freshwater ecosystems are crucial for economic growth, food production, livelihoods and well-being of humans. The coast of Suriname is a globally important biodiversity refuge, safeguarding significant coastal biodiversity hosted by mangroves and mud banks. Several endangered, threatened, or protected species occur in Suriname waters, including whales, sharks and sea turtles. However, Suriname's marine and coastal ecosystems are adversely affected by coastline degradation, urbanization, agriculture, pollution, overfishing and are subjected to rapid environmental change.



- 1.** Protected mangrove and coastal ecosystems.
- 2.** Fostering effective governance by contributing to scientific data collection on fisheries and mangrove conservation.
- 3.** Promoting sustainable production of small-scale fisheries.

By 2025, 60 % of small-scale driftnet fisheries is brought to sustainable MSC+ level and no net loss of mangrove forest cover is achieved.

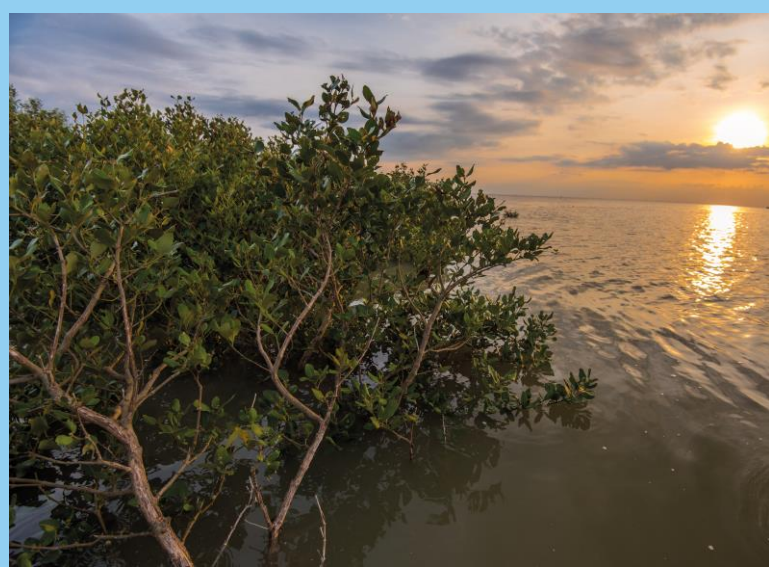
Project activities until 2025:

- By 2025, CIS will bring the **Building with Nature (BwN)** flagship project at Weg naar Zee to a successful finish. With this project CIS will demonstrate an innovative funding model for mangrove protection and restoration and for green-gray projects that will function as a showcase for innovative and sustainable solutions to save deltas globally.
- **North Brazil Shelf (NBS) Mangrove Scape:** aims to protect coastal and marine ecosystems through trans-boundary collaboration and alignment with regional policies and plans. Hence a North Brazil Shelf regional mangrove coordination body will be established to enable regional knowledge sharing, shared policy goals and inter-governmental cooperation across the Guiana Shield/ North Brazil Shelf LME.
- **Community Fisheries Improvement Project (CFIP)** aims to strengthen the local small-scale fishing community, who face several environmental and social challenges. Also, this project is initiated to establish sustainable fishing methods, by for example data collection of the life cycle of the target fish (bang bang (*Cynoscion acoupa*) and kandratiki (*C. virescens*)) as well as research on the catch profile of the driftnet fisheries and bycatch of endangered, threatened and protected marine species. Research conducted in 2019 and 2020 showed >13.000 rays (different species) and 3 different marine turtle species (n = 17) were captured in 35 fishing trips. Trials were also conducted to measure effectiveness of different bycatch reduction devices.

Climate change

Mangrove forests and carbon storage capabilities of the coastline are of extreme importance with regards to climate change. The estuarine zone with its mangroves is the backbone of the fisheries sector, providing conditions for a wealthy fish stock. At least 80% of all fish found on the Surinamese market have at least one life cycle in the mangroves.

Despite its importance, mangroves and other coastal ecosystems are being destroyed and degraded by poorly planned urban and agriculture development activities, thereby reducing food security and income-generating opportunities, destroying coastal water quality, coastal land stability and coastal resilience. Fish stocks, and the supporting marine ecosystem on which these depend, are being depleted by unsustainable fishing exacerbated by stressors stemming from climate change that jeopardizes food security and jobs in fishing and tourism.



Conservation International Suriname

For over 25 years, we have worked across Suriname to protect nature for the benefit of all Surinamese people and the rest of the world. Being the greenest country in the world, Suriname harbors unrivaled natural resources and globally significant biodiversity. We work to conserve natural capital, the foundation of socio-economic development. We work together with the Surinamese government, local communities, civil society, the University of Suriname and public and private owned companies through (multi-stakeholder) partnership.

Our Mission

Building upon a strong foundation of science, partnership and field demonstration, CIS empowers societies to responsibility and sustainably care for nature, our global biodiversity, for the well-being of humanity.



Our Vision

We imagine a healthy, prosperous world in which societies are forever committed to caring for and valuing nature, our global biodiversity, for the long-term benefit of people and all life on Earth.



Will you join us?

We welcome discussions with potential donors, civil society groups and governments about opportunities to collaborate and multiply our conservation efforts in Suriname.



Learn more at www.conservation.org/suriname



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