

MSG meeting # 2

Location : Ministry of Finance and Planning/ Gompertstraat

Date : March 25th , 2025

Time : 12.20 – 15.00 hrs

MINUTES

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative MULTI STAKE HOLDERS GROUP SURINAME

EITI Suriname

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Tel.No: +597 8446612

Address: Mr. Jaggernath Lachmonstraat #81

AGENDA

1. Opening remarks
Certification of quorum
2. Approval Draft inception report FY 2021/2022
3. Approval updated planning report FY 2021/2022
4. Approval Templates reporting years 2021/2022
5. Workplan 2025/2026
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Approval
6. Annual Progress Report 2024
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Approval
7. Any other business
8. Adjournment

Upcoming events:

- ⊕ April 9th : Capacity Building session 2 (collection of data)
- ⊕ April 11th : Training workshop for reporting entities
- ⊕ April 25th : **DEADLINE** filled in reporting templates
- ⊕ Stakeholder Engagements
- ⊕ **Save the date** : May 7th Physical Meeting MSG
- ⊕ April 3rd 2025 Workshop ToR on EITI reporting

Invitation extended to: EITI Suriname

Dear participants,

We hope you are well.

As you may know, the EITI Board approved the new Terms of Reference for EITI reporting last November. Therefore, the Latin America and the Caribbean team of the EITI International Secretariat would like to invite you to a capacity building workshop to learn more about these (ToR) and address any questions you may have.

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Agenda:

1. Introduction
2. Presentation of [Terms of Reference \(ToRs\)](#) for EITI reporting
3. Questions

The workshop is intended for National Coordinators, MSG members and national secretariats.

Date: **Thursday 3 April, 2025** Time: **15:00 – 16:30 CEST**

Register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/LIOXO5j1SqSzSJs1MYHnw>

We kindly request that you share this invitation with your MSGs.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that the recordings of the latest session, including interpretation audio and presentations in both English and Spanish, are available on [Google Drive](#).

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or comments.

Kind regards,
LAC Team

Next proposed physical MSG meeting May 7th 2025

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Attendance:

Name	Organization	Present	Apologies	Absent without notice
Georgetine Tjalm	Ministry of Finance and Planning	X		
Sagita Jaggan	Ministry of Finance and Planning		X	
Preciosa Simons	Ministry of Natural Resources	X		
Rachele van de Scheur - Rijker	Ministry of Natural Resources		X	
Henk Deel	Ministry of Regional Development and Sport	X		
Rafiq Ilahi	Ministry of Economic Affairs		X	
Michiel Raafenberg	RGM	X		
Bernadette Sabajo-Cederboom	Newmont	X		
Kathleen Blom	SHMR	X		
Vanessa Breidel	Grassalco	X		
Adriaan Asodanoe	Grassalco			X
Andrew Hepburn	Shell		X	
Daniel Herkul	Staatsolie	X		
Rayah Bhattacharji	Projekta	X		
Monique Essed-Fernandes	Projekta	X		
Rene Artist	VIDS	X		
Roy Caupain	SWOS		X	
Tosca Pinas	KAMPOS		X	
National Secretariat				
Novella Alcantra-Majana	Nat.Coord.	X		
Jenusah Sanné	Adm. Ass.	X		
Varsha Jhagroe	Techn.	X		
Mark Regis	Advisor	X		

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1. Opening remarks

Certification of quorum

The meeting started at 12.20 hrs. At this time there was quorum. Kathleen welcomed the members to this meeting and hoped for a very productive meeting.

2. Approval Draft inception report FY 2021/2022

The working group, including Bernadette, Kathleen, Rayah, Rachelle and Novella reviewed the draft inception report for the fiscal year 2021-2022. They made minor comments and notes addressing gaps in data and reconciliation issues. The draft inception report was approved by the members present. Novella mentioned that the IA asked if MSG members could participate in weekly meetings with the secretariat to ensure timely completion of the report. The MSG agreed to take turns attending these meetings to maintain consistency and avoid overburdening specific individuals.

3. Approval updated planning report FY 2021/2022

The updated planning sent to the MSG by the IA was approved by the members present. The team agreed to send a draft letter via the National Coordinator to the SCSD/PIU confirming the approval of the draft inception report and the updated planning.

4. Approval Templates reporting years 2021/2022

Novella noted that there are different templates for each entity, and some people are still reviewing them and some have already approved. The team decided to set a deadline for template approval by email, aiming for April 1st, to ensure timely reporting. Novella noted that there would be a training workshop to help fill in the templates. The team agreed that starting to fill out the templates early would be beneficial.

5. Workplan 2025/2026

a. Discussion

Members highlighted the lack of oversight, regulation, and accountability in the small-scale gold mining sector, which leads to corruption and money laundering. The team discussed the need to rephrase certain paragraphs to better reflect the issues and their impact on state income.

Members mentioned the government's efforts to draft a new mining law and establish the Minerals Authority to address these issues. The team discussed the importance of these efforts in improving oversight and regulation.

Impact on Indigenous Populations: Monique and Rayah discussed the disproportionate impact of mining activities on indigenous and tribal populations, including health, land rights, and development issues. The MSG agreed to include these specific issues in the work plan.

Members discussed the need to identify and incorporate gender data in EITI reports and outreach. They emphasized the importance of conducting on-site gender analysis and gathering information on women actively involved in mining. Rayah mentioned that there have been some gender studies in the extractive sector, but no recent in-depth analysis. The team agreed to look for existing data and conduct further analysis.

Preciosa mentioned the National Development Plan of the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment. She will share this plan with the NS. Also mentioned within the EMSAGS project there is data on gender. Collaboration is needed.

The team discussed the challenges of securing funding and budget allocation for EITI activities. They emphasized the need to prioritize activities based on available funds and to seek additional funding from external sources. Novella mentioned that budget cuts were made due to the Ministry of Finance's directives, affecting the funds available for EITI activities. The team discussed the need to adjust the work plan accordingly.

Bernadette suggested seeking additional funding from external sources, such as the World Bank and IDB, to support EITI activities. The team agreed to draft letters and proposals to request funding and will arrange a meeting with the representative of WB, mr. Ricardo Labo. This meeting with Ricardo should focus on how much funding is allocated for EITI Suriname, for which projects and how to request these funds.

Members highlighted the importance of engaging with OKGS to address their operational costs and subsidies. The team agreed to discuss this issue in the upcoming engagement meeting. Members also highlighted the importance to engage with the Foreign Exchange Commission, gold exporters, gold buyers and the informal mining sector. A suggestion is to hold a 3 day workshop with participation of the above mentioned entities. This should be a clear focus to have these entities on board for the next EITI report since we are now headed towards the elections.

Members suggested forming working groups to work on the annual progress report and the revised work plan. The team agreed to set deadlines for these tasks and approve via email. The members volunteered to take part in the workplan working group are Rachele, Bernadette and Mark.

Members emphasized the importance of setting deadlines for the working groups to ensure timely completion of tasks. The team agreed to review the work plan and prioritize activities based on available funding. The team also agreed to focus on achievable tasks and seek additional funding for larger projects.

b. Approval

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The workplan was not approved. As mentioned before the working group will revise and reword the workplan and the members will review, comment and approve via email.

6. Annual Progress Report 2024

- a. Discussion
- b. Approval

Members suggested forming working groups to work on the Annual Progress Report. The team suggested to meet physically in order to get the work done in a timely matter.

7. Any other business

Members were asked to save the date for the physical meeting on May 7th, since 8 years of EITI in Suriname will be commemorated.

8. Adjournment

See follow up points below:

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Follow up points:

No.	Action points	Responsible	Remarks	Status
1.	Letter to the SCSD PIU confirming inception report and updated planning by BDO	Nat.Coord.	Letter was sent. SCSD PIU Coordinator did not accept letter written by the NC on behalf of the MSG. Letter was signed by the lead members of the constituencies and resent to the PIU.	Executed successfully
2.	Approval of data templates	Reporting entities	Approved in the meeting Approved via email	Executed successfully
3.	Review Workplan 2025/2026 Revise and reword and approve	Bernadette Mark Rachelle Novella MSG	The workplan was reviewed MSG still to comment on Andrews suggestions made	Pending
4.	Annual Progress report	MSG		Pending
5.	Draft letters and proposals to request additional funding for activities	MSG		Pending
6.	National Development Plan of the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment.	Preciosa		Pending
7.	Identify and incorporate gender data in EITI reports and outreach.	MSG		Pending
8.	Arrange a meeting with Ricardo Labo	Nat. Secr.		Executed successfully
9	Participation in weekly BDO meetings with the NS	MSG	The MSG agreed to take turns to maintain consistency and avoid overburdening specific individuals.	Ongoing

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