



Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative



Suriname

EITI SURINAME WORK PLAN

2025 /2026



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Table of Contents

NARRATIVE	2
1. <i>Build the financial, operational and technical capacity of the EITI National Secretariat and the MSG to ensure EITI is effectively implemented;</i>	<i>4</i>
2. <i>Improve data management in the extractive Sector;</i>	<i>4</i>
3. <i>Increase Transparency, Public Awareness and Engagement;</i>	<i>4</i>
Strategic priority 1: Build the operational and technical capacity of the EITI National Secretariat and the MSG to ensure EITI is effectively implemented.	4
Strategic Priority 2: Improve Data Management in the Extractive Sector	6
Strategic priority 3: Increase Public Awareness and Engagement	7
Appendix : SUMMARY of the workplan activities	9

NARRATIVE

Background

The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) is a global Standard to promote understanding of natural resources management and to strengthen public and corporate accountability. This initiative seeks to address the risk of corruption and to strengthen the government and companies' systems, through providing more transparency and accessibility to the extractives sector data, the EITI standards and requirements defines the countries need to become first an EITI candidate till it reaches the compliance level.

Suriname committed to becoming an EITI implementing country in 2016 when officials sought to increase accountability in the country's most important economic sector, gold mining. Nearly ten years later, Suriname's EITI program continues to face significant challenges implementing transparency measures. These challenges include insufficient staff capacity, inadequate data management systems, and low public awareness of EITI initiatives.

The Suriname Multi Stakeholder Group (MSG) consisting of government, companies and civil society representatives is required to set out the activities in a workplan. This is the proposed refined work plan for 2025/2026 where the approach is based on the SMART principle Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timebound. The clear deadlines and targets are aligned with EITI Suriname's (EITISR) commitments while addressing local needs and challenges.

Core National objectives under the Multi Annual Development Plan 2022-2026 are:

Objectives
Enhance transparency in the extractive sector <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A.16.14. Organizing the informal gold sector.2. A.16.7. Phasing out of the use of toxic substances and simultaneous introduction of more environmentally friendly techniques for gold mining.3. A.16.14.3. Checking which concession rights have been issued and the possibility of withdrawing them in the event of inactivity.4. A.6.14.6. Amendment of Mining Act.5. A.6.8. Counter deforestation. Deforestation is found in mining, especially artisanal gold mining.6. Transitioning to environmentally friendly forms of electricity and power generation by the Energy Authority of Suriname (EAS).7. The EAS to prepare an Electricity Sector Plan (ESP) how further sustainability of the energy sector will be achieved.8. A.9. Communication in the broadest sense.

While EITISR strives to address and improve transparency, there were notable challenges with the elections in May 2025. As of the beginning of the year most of the government entities were focused on the elections. The recent elections have led to the formation of a new government, which will require time to thoroughly review both past and ongoing developments within the extractive industries, particularly in the gold mining sector. This transitional period may result in significant delays in the implementation of reforms aimed at enhancing transparency and addressing corruption within the sector.

With the latest elections in May 2025, the Government of Suriname established the Ministry of Oil, Gas and Environment (OGM) as part of the Simons Cabinet. The newly appointed Minister is Patrick Brunings. Previously, oil and gas matters were handled by the Ministry of Natural Resources, while environmental affairs fell under Spatial Planning and Environment.

OGM is mandated to oversee policy development, regulation, exploration, exploitation, trade, reporting, and international relations in the oil, gas, and environmental sectors. The ministry is also tasked with analyzing the structural impacts of the extractive industry, including effects on employment, inflation, and intersectoral linkages.

President Geerlings-Simons emphasized the importance of preparing for the global energy transition, urging the ministry to both capitalize on current opportunities and plan for long-term changes in energy demand. OGM will serve as a knowledge and policy hub, supporting Suriname's efforts to responsibly and sustainably develop its energy resources while addressing past gaps in sectoral planning.

The 2023 Fiscal Transparency Report (<https://www.state.gov/reports/2023-fiscal-transparency-report/suriname>) highlighted two related issues, including the government's failure to follow laws and regulations for contracting and licensing natural resource extraction and its reluctance to make information about those awards publicly available.

This includes environmental crimes like illegal logging and the uninhibited use of mercury and cyanide which leads to the destruction of river ecosystems. The lack of transparency around how mining concessions are awarded, and who controls them, facilitates these crimes which disproportionately affect Indigenous and Tribal populations in terms of their health, land rights and development.

The government of Suriname needs to continue its budgetary support to EITI Suriname, while the MSG will continue its efforts in resource mobilization from different sources. The MSG will also continue to address its commitment to an independent National Secretariat, which together with the MSG can strengthen EITI compliance and foster greater public awareness and engagement.. This will increase the likelihood that mining activities are conducted responsibly and sustainably, and that the public has access to information and a space to voice their concerns. This will help mitigate environmental damage and promote the well-being of affected communities. Strengthening EITI compliance will foster greater public awareness and engagement, increase national revenues, empowering local communities to hold the government, illegal small-scale miners, and mining companies accountable for their environmental and social impacts.

The MSG is keen through this workplan to address certain strategic areas that were highlighted by the last validation¹ carried out in 2023, bearing in mind the limited resources and capacity available within the current MSG. The crucial role of an effective MSG and National Secretariat for EITI implementation success, the MSG has prioritized the following strategic areas, which cover part of the last validation remarks, with respect to implementation of the requirements of the EITI Standard namely, strengthening transparency systems within government agencies and companies, as well as improving the performance of both the MSG and the National Secretariat.

The Suriname EITI strategic priorities:

The strategic priorities of the previous workplan 2023/2024 are the same as this workplan.

The specific proposed strategic priorities are as follows:

1. *Build the operational and technical capacity of the EITI National Secretariat and the MSG to ensure EITI is effectively implemented;*
2. *Improve data management in the extractive Sector for continued systematic disclosure;*
3. *Increase Public Awareness and Engagement;*

Within the strategic areas mentioned, the MSG proposes the following activities under each priority to facilitate its implementation:

Strategic priority 1: Build the operational and technical capacity of the EITI National Secretariat and the MSG to ensure EITI is effectively implemented.

Goal: Increase the proficiency of EITI Secretariat and MSG members in key EITI concepts and management skills by engaging in 5 training programs, resulting in a measurable improvement in staff and MSGs comprehension of EITI concepts. Prepare and publish EITI reports in a timely matter as required by the EITI standard.

- **Activity 1.1: Conduct training programs for EITI Secretariat staff and the MSG on key EITI concepts and skills for managing EITI activities.** Trainings include (virtual) courses on effective communication and engagement strategies.
- **Activity 1.2: Provide finances, essential equipment and software to support the Secretariat's operations and MSG activities.** For the National Secretariat this includes:
 - ✓ (2) laptop computers, (1) tablet, (1) advanced desktop computer for data management, (1) conference speaker with wireless mics, (1) external hard drive, (2) desktop printers, (1) camera, (4) headsets, (3) office desks, (4) office chairs, (1) projector with portable screen, (1) smart phone, (6) curtains, office supplies and (1) water dispenser for the EITI Secretariat.
 - ✓ Annual Subscription to the EITI.
 - ✓ Annual training retreat of the MSG and National Secretariat.
 - ✓ Also included the monthly allowance paid by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

¹ The validation is an assessment mechanism to assure the ability of the EITI implementing countries to meet the provisions of EITI standards.

- **Activity 1.3: Monitor and track progress on recommendations of the previous EITI Suriname reports.**

EITISR will organize the following in regard to above mentioned:

- ✓ Organize workshops within the MSG to address recommendations from previous years;
- ✓ Organize workshops for relevant institutions to address recommendations from previous years regarding their organizations;
- ✓ Organize dialogues on the energy transition policies, plans and commitments that are relevant to the extractive sector in Suriname. This can be done in partnership with, among others, the Energy Authority Suriname.
- ✓ Organize at least 1 retreat for the MSG and National Secretariat.

- **Activity 1.4: Prepare and publish the EITI reports covering the years 2021 & 2022, 2023 and 2024.** Publishing regular EITI reports are in line with the EITI standard requirements that promote the open and accountable management of oil, gas and mineral resources. Preparation and publishing of these reports will include:

- ✓ Develop and approve the ToRs for EITI reporting.
- ✓ Procure a certified auditing firm/ consultancy to conduct scoping studies, prepare inception reports, collect, analyze and reconcile the data and compile comprehensive reports.
- ✓ Arrange workshops to train the relevant companies and government agencies how to complete the data fillings and templates for the purpose of reporting payments and receipts in the reports.
- ✓ Together with the IA identify discrepancies.
- ✓ Arrange a presentation with the MSG to review and approve the draft inception reports submitted by the Independent Administrator.
- ✓ Arrange workshops to present and review the draft reports to the stakeholders.
- ✓ Arrange MSG meetings to approve the final draft reports.
- ✓ Launch the EITISR reports.
- ✓ Publish on the EITI (government) website.

- **Activity 1.5: Prepare and publish Annual Progress Reports**

- ✓ Develop Annual Progress Reports.
- ✓ Organize meetings to review and discuss the progress taking into account validation recommendations.
- ✓ Incorporate discussions in the Annual Progress Reports.
- ✓ Approve the Annual Progress Reports.
- ✓ Publish on the EITI (government)website

- **Activity 1.6: Prepare and or upgrade and publish Workplans**

- ✓ Prepare or upgrade workplans annually.
- ✓ Collaborate with Ministry of Natural Resources and CSO's for input.
- ✓ Organize at least 1 meeting per year with ±50 stakeholders to review, discuss and update workplans.

- ✓ Set up online surveys.
- ✓ Incorporate feedback into workplans.
- ✓ Approve the workplans.
- ✓ Publish on the EITI (government) website.

Activity 1.7: Integrate gender considerations in EITI activities

- ✓ Ensure that gender issues are considered in EITI reports and outreach. Identify and incorporate gender data.
- ✓ Ensure that gender analysis is integrated into all relevant reports.

Activity 1.8 : Publish Extractive Contracts and Licenses

- ✓ Disclose all extractive sector contracts and licenses that are in the public domain, including terms, conditions, and beneficial ownership information.
- ✓ Publish on the EITI website.

Expected Outcome: EITI Suriname has sufficient funds in a timely manner to at least start preparing and implementing the activities. Credible EITISR reports and Annual Progress reports published in a timely matter. Ensures the work plans reflect broad consultation, aligns with EITI requirements, and has clear goals. Extractive contracts and license that are in public domain are disclosed. By identifying discrepancies corruption in the extractive sector will be visible and can be properly addressed.

Strategic Priority 2: Improve Data Management in the Extractive Sector

Goal: Design, develop, and deploy a centralized data system that integrates data from multiple sources in the extractive sector, ensuring that relevant stakeholders are trained and able to submit data accurately and regularly. This includes related office hardware.

- **Activity 2.1: Design, develop, and deploy a centralized data system** that integrates data from multiple sources in the extractive sector.

- ✓ Check the internal capacity of the institution to gather the information and keep updating it.
- ✓ Agree upon a website or a government portal to include and disclose this information.
- ✓ Strengthen Data Collection on Small-Scale Mining.
- ✓ Include the importance of systematic disclosure in the engagement with stakeholders.

- **Activity 2.2: Train users and stakeholders** on the use of the new data management system to ensure regular and accurate data submission.

- ✓ Reaching out to public and private companies through a media campaign.
- ✓ Workshop with stakeholders about the gathering of information and privacy queries.
- ✓ Implement the approved open data policy.

Expected Outcome: Deployment of a operational data management system of relevant stakeholders and submitting data and regularly resulting in public disclosure of information. Awareness created among relevant stakeholders to systematically disclose information on their website/socials.

Strategic priority 3: Increase Public Awareness and Engagement

Goal: Develop and implement a communication strategy throughout the year to raise public awareness about the EITI initiative. Organize at least 5 workshops and seminars within 2 years to engage different stakeholders. Maintain and regularly update the EITI Suriname website.

- **Activity 3.1: Develop and implement a communication strategy** to raise public awareness about the EITI. This includes translating EITI material, messages and infomercials into at least 2 tribal and 1 indigenous language.
 - ✓ Publish information regularly on the EITISR website.
 - ✓ Introduce infomercials on the extractive sector on the website.
- **Activity 3.2: Organize information sessions in Suriname's remote interior** to engage different communities in the EITI implementation process. This must be done in the appropriate local languages.
- **Activity 3.3: Host various information sessions, debates or conferences in Paramaribo** for stakeholders to raise awareness on EITI the beneficial ownership concept and other relevant and required topics.
 - ✓ Define the legal instruments in which these two concepts will be included (beneficial ownership and political exposed person).
 - ✓ Conducting a workshop about the BO importance and the initiation of a register or a cadaster.
 - ✓ Define the level concept of beneficial ownership and political exposed person.
 - ✓ Define the details about the identity of these BO, meaning the detail of the information which is going to be disclosed.
 - ✓ Data verification process – Identify who shall verify this and how should they do it.
 - ✓ Define the institution that could best be suited to maintain BO data.
 - ✓ Define the period for the gathering of information and corroboration.
 - ✓ Define the reporting entities – Which companies must report and under which circumstances.
 - ✓ Define penalizations for false information and incomplete information.
 - ✓ Organize workshops on any relevant and required EITI topic from the 2023 Standard.

Engagements to support EITI implementations are:

- LAC (online) training sessions.
- Peer learning sessions with other EITI implementing countries.
- Participate in national, regional meetings and international conferences.
- Consultations with stakeholders.

Expected Outcome: Key groups in Suriname's interior have access to EITI reporting and demonstrate increased engagement with EITI initiatives. Stakeholders especially in the interior address corruption in the extractive sector. The engagement material is translated in at least 1 tribal and 1 indigenous language. The MSG and National Secretariat have engaged in various activities in the country, regionally and internationally.

Appendix : SUMMARY of the workplan activities

Strategic priority 1: Build the operational and technical capacity of the EITI National Secretariat and the MSG to ensure EITI is effectively implemented.							
Requirements	Activities	Outputs	Desired Outcomes	Timeline	Cost in USD	Source of funding	Responsible
Req. 1.4	Conduct training programs/ workshops for EITI Secretariat staff and the MSG on key EITI concepts and skills for managing EITI activities. Organize retreats for the MSG and NS	4 Trainings/ workshops held. At least one retreat held.	EITI Secretariat and the MSG will demonstrate an improvement in their understanding and application of EITI concepts and management skills.	Q3 2025- Q4 2026	5,000.00	Donor funding required. EITI budget 2025/2026	National Secr. MSG
Req 1.1 What is needed	Purchase of office equipment.	Office equipment purchased and support to MSG is provided.	The National Secretariat is equipped to carry out EITI office functions.	Q3 2025- Q4 2026	10,000.00	EITI National Budget 2025/2026 / NR budget/ donor funding	NS Min of NR
Req 1.4	Payment of allowance of EITI Suriname	Monthly allowances are paid.	Operational efficiency in EITI implementation.	Q3 2025 – Q4 2026	55,000.00	Ministry of Natural Resources National Budget 2025/2026	Min of NR NS
	Annual Subscription payment to EITI	Subscription annually paid.	Subscription payment 2024 Subscription payment 2025 Subscription payment 2026.	Q4 2025 Q1 2026 Q4 2026	10,000.00 10,000.00 10,000.00	EITI National Budget 2025 EITI National Budget 2026 EITI National Budget 2026	Min of NR NS

Req 7.1 Public debate Req 1.5	Organize workshops with stakeholders within and outside of the MSG on relevant and required topics within the 2023 Standard.	4 Workshops held.	Previous outcomes of validation recommendations are addressed with relevant stakeholders.	Q4 2025- Q4 2026	1,000.00	Donor funding required.	NS MSG
Req 4.1	Organize dialogues on the energy transition policies, plans and commitments that are relevant to the extractive sector in Suriname and disseminate the findings. This can be done in partnership with, among others, the Energy Authority Suriname.	At least 2 dialogues held	dialogues on the energy transition policies, plans and commitments undertaken.	Q1 2026- Q3 2026	500.00		MSG /NS
Req 4.8 req4.9 req7.2	Preparing and publication of EITI Suriname report 2021/2022.	Fourth report prepared and published. Discrepancies identified. 5 copies printed.	Credible EITISR reports published every year on time.	Q3 2025 Q4 2025	200,000.00 500.00	Via SCSD WB loan National Budget EITI Suriname / Funds from MSG org.	MSG NS BDO NS MSG

	Preparing and publication of EITI Suriname report 2023/2024	Fifth report prepared and published. Recommendations addressed properly.	Credible EITISR reports published every year on time.	Q4 2025	200,000.00	Via SCSD WB loan	MSG, NS Independent Consultancy
		5 copies printed		Q1 2026	500.00	National Budget EITI Suriname / Funds from MSG org.	NS MSG

Rq 4.8 en 4.9	Preparing and publication of Annual Progress Report 2024	APR 2024 prepared, approved and published.	Annual Progress reports published every year on time.	Q3 2025	No funds needed		NS MSG
	Preparing and publication of Annual Progress Report 2025	APR 2025 prepared, approved and published.		Q2 2026	No funds needed		
Req. 1.5	Preparing and or updating and publication of workplan 2025/2026	Workplan 2025 prepared, approved and published.	For the next WP broad consultation needed	Q3 2025	No funds needed		NS MSG
	Preparing and publication of workplan 2026/2027	Workplan 2026/2027 prepared, approved and published.	The work plans reflect broad consultation, aligns with EITI requirements, and has clear goals.	Q1 2026	1,500	Donor funding / MSG	NS MSG Relevant stakeholders

Req 7.4	Integrate gender considerations in EITI activities	At least 30% of outreach activities (workshops, reports) focused on women in mining.	Integrated gender considerations in EITI activities. Promotes gender equality in the extractive sector, addressing the needs of women in mining communities.	Q4 2025 - Q3 2026	No funds needed		NS MSG Relevant Stakeholders
Req 2.3 Req 2.4	Publication of the extractive contracts and licenses	Extractive contracts and licenses that are in public domain published online.	Supports transparency in extractive industry governance and public accountability.	Q3 2025 - Q4 2026	No funds needed		MSG stakeholders
Strategic Priority 2: Improve Data Management in the Extractive Sector							
Requirements	Activities	Outputs	Desired Outcomes	Timeline	Cost in USD	Source of funding	Responsible
Req 7.2 Open data policy	Design, develop, and deploy a centralized data system that integrates data from	A centralized data system designed, developed	A fully operational centralized data management system.	Q1 2026 – Q3 2026	20,000.00	Submitted to USAID for donor funding. On hold so other donor funding is required.	MSG

	multiple sources in the extractive sector.	and deployed.					
Req 4.9	Train users and stakeholders on the use of the new data management system to ensure regular and accurate data submission. Including: Encouragement of systematic disclosure on website/socials.	Users and relevant stakeholders trained. Stakeholders	Stakeholders trained and submitting data accurately and regularly resulting in public disclosure of information about the extractive sector in Suriname.	Q3 2026 - Q4 2026	1,000.00	Submitted to USAID for donor funding. On hold so other donor funding is required.	MSG
Req 4.7	Strengthen data collection on Small-Scale Mining by engaging small scale miners.	Report on small-scale mining activities published, covering at least 50% of the small scale mining sector.	Strengthens understanding of the small-scale mining sector and its economic contributions.	Q1 2026 Q3 2026	15.000	Ministry of Natural Resources National Budget 2026	Min NR NS MSG SHRM

Strategic priority 3: Increase Public Awareness and Engagement							
	Activities	Outputs	Desired Outcomes	Timeline	Cost in USD	Source of funding	Responsible
Req 1.1	<p>Develop and implement a communication strategy to raise public awareness about the EITI.</p> <p>Host information sessions for the media to raise awareness and gain knowledge about the EITI.</p>	<p>Communication strategy implemented. Material translated in at least 1 tribal and 1 indigenous language.</p> <p>2 media sessions held.</p>	<p>Widen awareness and understanding of EITI at national and subnational level.</p>	<p>Q4 2025 - Q4 2026 (procurement process through SCSP Projects starts in August 2025)</p> <p>Q4 2025 - Q2 2026</p>	100,000.00	<p>Via SCDS WB loan to Suriname.</p>	<p>NS MSG In support with other ministries</p>
	<p>Organize information sessions in Suriname's remote interior to engage different communities in the EITI implementation process.</p>	<p>2 awareness sessions held in the interior.</p>	<p>Key groups in Suriname's interior have access to EITI reporting and awareness is improved.</p> <p>Purchase promotion material.</p>	<p>Q1 2026 - Q4 2026</p>			

Req1 Awareness	Host various information sessions, debates or conferences in Paramaribo for stakeholders to raise awareness on the EITI beneficial ownership concept.	At least 1 beneficial ownership workshop has been conducted.	Awareness on beneficial ownership is increased	Q1 2026 - Q3 2026	5,000.00	EITI budget 2026/ Donor funding	NS MSG
Req 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LAC (online) training sessions; ▪ Peer learning sessions with other EITI implementing countries; ▪ Participate in national, regional activities and international conferences; ▪ Consultations with stakeholders. 	Engaged in at least 8 activities.	The MSG and National Secretariat have engaged in various activities in the country, regionally and internationally.	Q4 2025- Q4 2026	30,000.00	EITI budget 2025/2026 and donor funding	IS MSG NS NR Donor Organizations

	Encouraging disclosure of information related to social and economic expenditure.						
Requirements	Activities	Outputs	Desired Outcomes	Timeline	Cost in USD		Responsible
Req 5.3	MSG to agree on a reporting process and disclose this information (If expenditure is mandated by law).	Social and environmental expenditures by extractive companies is disclosed.	Improved transparency on environmental and expenditures by extractive companies.	Q3 2025 - Q4 2026	No funds needed		MSG
Req 6.2	MSG to develop a reporting process for the SOEs public social expenditure such as (payments for social services, public infrastructure, fuel subsidies, and national debt servicing). A two-part workshop to be organized: <ul style="list-style-type: none">First is Internal, to improve the understanding of the MSG members of this requirement, and its specific	Quasi fiscal expenditures is disclosed. Workshop is held	Suriname includes disclosures from SOEs on their quasi-fiscal expenditures.	Q3 2025 Q4 2025 – Q2 2026	No funds needed No funds needed		MSG Companies MSG NS

	<p>implementation conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second phase is to educate the main stakeholders over this requirement and their role and responsibilities 	2 workshops held	A pilot study trial of Social and Environmental reporting by a small subset of companies utilizing a special reporting template.	Q3 2026	1,500.00	EITI Budget 2026	MSG NS Relevant stakeholders
	<u>Total cost workplan activities 2025 /2026</u>					676,500.00	USD

See below short summary of the calculated cost in the WP 2025/2026

Short summary of the cost 2025/2026

No.	Activity	Amount	Status
1.	Publication report 2021/2022	200,000.00	Covered by WB through SCSD project. Report 2021/2022 already published on July 15th 2025.
2.	Publication report 2023/2024	200,000.00	Covered by WB through SCSD project. Procurement started, awaiting outcome of selected IA.
3.	Communication Strategy / Awareness	100,000.00	To be covered by WB through SCSD project Start August 2025.
4.	Monthly allowance MSG members (year 2024 and 2025)	55,000.00	Budget NR 1 st payments approx. around end of October 2025.
5.	Strengthen data collection	15,000.00	Budget NR
6.	Contribution EITI International (2024,2025,2026)	30,000.00(10,000.00 p/yr.)	From EITI budget 2025/2026
7.	Engagement peer learning, conferences	30,000.00	From EITI budget 2025/2026 and donor funding
8.	Pilot project environment	1,500.00	EITI budget 2026
9.	Training programs/ Workshops EITI SR	5,000.00	EITI budget 2025/2026 and donor funding

10.	Equipment	10,000.00	EITI budget 2025/2026 NR budget/ Donor funding
11.	Train users on such as systematic disclosure	1,000.00	Donor funding
12.	Organize dialogues on energy transition	500,00	Donor funding
13.	Preparation WP 2026/2027 with relevant stakeholders outside MSG	1,500.00	Donor funding / MSG org.
14.	Design, develop data system	20,000.00	Donor funding
15.	Train stakeholders to use data system	1,000.00	Donor funding
16.	Info session on esp. beneficial ownership	5,000.00	EITI budget 2026/ Donor Funding
17.	Printed copies of EITI reports 2021-2022 and 2023-2024	1,000.00	EITI budget 2025/2026 MSG Org.