JOINT SDG FUND

DEVELOPMENT EMERGENCY MODALITY

Joint Programme 2022 Annual Progress Report

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UNCT/MCO: Suriname (Trinidad and Tobago MCO)

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2022

JP title: Emergency Modalities in response to the Flooding Crisis

Thematic SDG Areas: Climate action & energy transformation;

PUNOS:FAO, PAHO, UNDP

Stakeholder partner: National Government;Disaster Risk Management actors;Private sector;Civil Society Organizations;Humanitarian actors;

Gender Marker: Gender-sensitive (for example, the JP acknowledged and aimed to address gender to enhance the policy/programme, such as undertaking gender analysis to ensure policies/programmes do no harm)

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Annual Progress

Overall JP self-assessment of 2022 progress:

Satisfactory (majority of annual expected results achieved; 1 to 3 months delay in implementation)

Overall Progress

In the aftermath of the flood emergency in March-April 2022 in the project area and based on the documented benefits of rainwater as a safe source of drinking water and the experiences of previous rainwater harvesting projects, PAHO/WHO contracted consultancy services to undertake an assessment of the drinking water systems in the project area, collaborate with local authorities for the identification of beneficiaries and provide technical guidance for the installation of rainwater harvesting tanks to improve access to safe drinking water in the Amerindian and Maroon villages of the interior of Suriname. A total of 118 rainwater harvesting tanks were installed in 57 villages along the Upper Suriname and Tapanahony Rivers providing access to safe drinking water to 4,385 persons - thereby contributing to SDG 6 target 6.2 and MSDCF 2022 - 2026 Priority Area 2 Outcome 4. The impact on the villages of the rainwater harvesting tanks was immediate as in many villages, the rains which occurred shortly after installation were able to fill the tanks and residents were able to make use of the systems by filling water bottles and other small household containers for their drinking and cooking purposes. The residents also expressed their gratitude for the tanks and provision of adequate drinking water. To facilitate sustainability and cultural acceptance of drinking rainwater from the harvesting tanks provided, educational sessions with the residents and leaders of the villages in water, sanitation and hygiene as well as the maintenance and use of the tanks were also conducted. Culturally, the drinking of rainwater is accepted in the villages.

As its contribution to the use of data to support policy, FAO completed a rapid status assessment of meteorological and hydrological data in Suriname based on available datasets and relevant reports. The assessment detailed the type of meteorological and hydrological data in Suriname and the location of data collection stations: many data-gaps exist due to time series and data limitations. The review noted that the Meteorological Service Suriname (MDS) has experienced a decrease in service and staff over the last twenty years. However, in recent years there have been attempts to digitize data with funding from the Japan Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (J-CCCP) project implemented by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Even though most

of the data are digitized, not all is structured and ready for analysis. Furthermore, the MDS needs additional training and human resources to effectively improve programs, to look for patterns and to analyze results towards SDG 2 target 2.4

Limited availability of hydrological data for water resources is considered an important gap required to adapt to the impacts of climate change. This is mainly due to a lack in financial, instrumental and human resources. Field observations (e.g. river water levels, water quality of rivers and groundwater, river discharges, groundwater levels) are scarce, not up-to-date and not fully processed in a digital format. Most observations in, especially, the interior of Suriname, date back to 1985 or before. Around 2000, initiatives were taken by the different water-related institutions in Suriname such as WLA, MDS and the MAS to make several observation stations, including some in the interior, operational again.

To support the national flood response system UNDP procured equipment for Early Warning Systems to strengthen the national capacity for hydro meteorological monitoring and data collection, which will be key in future flooding disasters thereby addressing SDG 13 target 13.1 and MSDCF 2022 - 2026 Priority Area 3 Outcome 5. Procurement of 3 Automatic Water Level (AWL) measuring instruments was completed. Delivery was expected in December 2022. Preparatory actions towards Standard Operating Procedures for National Early Warning Systems were initiated.

SDG Acceleration progress towards the SDGs, focusing on the main SDG targets

Project interventions directly contribute to the CF(MSDCF 2022 - 2026's) outcomes four (4) and five (5), and address SDGs 2 (Zero Hunger), 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) through rainwater harvesting systems, and 13 (Climate Action) through data assessments and management to support climate actions.

The JP provided cross sectoral expertise, technical assistance and outputs to support the Government authorities to strengthen national policy in the areas of WASH and early warning systems.

Constraints that were encountered and any adjustments that were made to strengthen the relevance and effectiveness of the JP and the coherence and coordination of UN system support.

At the time of implementation, the declining economic situation in the country and the instability of the exchange rate and decline in the value of the currency resulted in increased costs for the rainwater harvesting tanks, materials and supplies, as well as the costs for transportation and construction of these units in the villages. Given that the project area was in the interior in communities not accessible by road also added to the cost of transportation. Two communities included in the original list of beneficiaries (Kwamalasemutu and Curuni) could not be provided with the rainwater harvesting systems as the cost and logistics to move the tanks and materials to these areas was prohibitive. Transport to these communities required the use of small airplanes, which could not hold the size of tanks procured. A decision was therefore taken to increase the number of tanks for other villages based on needs. Of the planned 200 tanks to be installed, only 118 could be installed.

Participating UN agencies have different internal review processes that require endorsement at various levels. The time for the drafting and submission of this proposal was short as it was required to support emergency interventions. However, some agencies could not work within the specified timeframe. Further, 6 months of implementation time did not take into consideration the national support processes. Implementation time should have ideally been a minimum of nine months to a year.

Next steps, scaling and sustainability [up to half a page]

-FAO is completing this support through another project activity that would allow for the continued assessment of affected areas and the identification of livelihood risk management options.

-The PUNOs have requested an extension on the project as other components of the overall project have not been completed. If the extension is granted, PAHO seeks to use the remaining allocated budget for the rainwater harvesting component will be used to install a couple additional systems in one of the villages closest to Paramaribo and more accessible by road.

-UNDP seeks to ensure a sustainable follow up to the project through installation of Automatic Water Level measuring equipment and integration into Early Warning System (EWS). They also seek to draft EWS Standard Operating Procedure, validation and testing.

Strategic Partnerships and Communications

Explain how diverse stakeholders were engaged with the JP

The Medical Mission Primary Care Suriname (humanitarian actor/civil society organizations) and the National Coordination Center for Disaster Relief (government partner and Disaster Risk Management actor) in the selection of villages for the tanks as well as the

leaders and residents of the villages in the selection of the locations of the tanks in their villages. Furthermore, the UN engaged with the Meteorological Services Division (government partner) on data availability.

Key meetings and events organized

JP steering committee/ programme board meeting	Strategic partners/ donors event	Kick-off meeting

Priority Cross-cutting Issues

Cross-cutting results/issues

Project inputs addressed at least three cross-cutting themes. The rainwater harvesting tanks improves access to safe drinking water for all residents of the villages and eases the burden on women and girls to collect water from the river for drinking and cooking purposes for the family. This support was provided in vulnerable communities in the hinterland of the country where the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples reside.

The project also examined the status of data to support climate change actions and its use for decision making. The rapid data assessment contributes to SDG 2 (target 2.4) by detailing the types of meteorological and hydrological data in Suriname.

How did the JP apply the Gender Marker

The JP is Gender-sensitive (for example, the JP acknowledged and aimed to address gender to enhance the policy/programme, such as undertaking gender analysis to ensure policies/programmes do no harm). Increased rainwater harvesting will help to alleviate the challenges faced by women and adolescent girls especially when it comes to their ablutions and reproductive cycles. At all locations where the water tanks were installed instructions were given to the beneficiaries, especially the women on the cleanliness of the tank, its maintenance and regular cleaning.;

JP address the below cross-cutting issues and principles of leaving no one behind

Human Rights	Persons with disabilities	Youth	Environmental and social standards
No	No	No	Yes

Contribution to enhancing SDG Financing

Drafted a bill, strategy, and/or approved a law increasing the fiscal space for the policy in focus	Produced financing, costing, diagnostic and feasibility analyses as a basis to invest or increase spending on the SDGs	Improved efficiency (cost savings) in the management of programmes/schemes	Improved effectiveness (value for money; i.e. social impact of $1 spent) of spending	Drafted policies/regulatory frameworks or developed tools to incentivize private sector investment on the SDGs	Structured new financial instruments (public, private or blended) to leverage additional funding
No	No	No	No	No	No

How and in which area your JP contributed to enhancing SDG financing