



Stakeholder Platform meeting Q1 2023

SUPPORTED BY:



**‘Improving Environmental Management in the Mining Sector of Suriname with Emphasis on Artisanal and Small- Scale Goldmining’ (EMSAGS) – Project
Stakeholder Platform meeting**
Date: 16 February 2023
Time: 09:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Location: Royal Ballroom, Royal Torarica

Participants

The SP meeting was attended by representatives of:

- Relevant Ministries,
- Private sector,
- Small and large-scale mining companies,
- NGOs, and
- The Anton de Kom University.



Agenda

AGENDA	
8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
BLOCK 1: STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM MEETING	
9:00 – 9:10 a.m.	Opening by Acting General Director NIMOS, Mr. Cedric Nelom
9:10 – 10:00 a.m.	Presentation and discussion: EMSAGS Engagement & Communication Plan 2023 and Indigenous & Tribal People Participation Plan By: C. Elliott, Engagement Specialist
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	Recap and Next meeting – EMSAGS PMU
BLOCK 2: TARGETED SCENARIO ANALYSIS WORKSHOP	
10:15 – 10:25	Opening by the Director of Mining of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Mrs. P. Simons
10:25 – 11:00 a.m.	Presentation: Introduction Targeted Scenario Analysis (TSA) study
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	Coffee break
11:15 – 13:00 p.m.	TSA Workshop: Outlines Business-As-Usual (BAU) en Sustainable Ecosystem Management (SEM) Scenario
13:00 - 13:45 p.m.	Lunch
13:45 - 15:00 p.m.	TSA Workshop continuation
15:00 p.m.	Closing TSA workshop

Note: this document reports the first block (Stakeholder Platform meeting) on the agenda.



Welcome and Opening

The Acting General Director of NIMOS, Mr. Cedric Nelom, opens the meeting and welcomes the participants.

Mr. Nelom states that compared to the previous meetings, this session has a special character, and the meeting is divided into 2 parts. In block 1, as usual information of the EMSAGS Project will be exchanged and in block 2 the focus will be on the workshop in which the scenarios that must be included in the implementation of this project will be discussed.

He mentions that the project will mostly be in the execution phase this year, and also announces that the project is currently busy with the purchase of equipment for operationalization and furnishing of the first Mining Training and Extension Center (MTEC) building in Brokopondo of which the opening hopefully will be soon (target is first quarter of 2023).

Mr. Nelom also request that the participants provide feedback/input on the EMSAGS Engagement & Communication Plan 2023 and Indigenous & Tribal People Participation Plan, because it will also be one of the interventions that will be executed under this project this year.

Lastly, Mr. Nelom once again emphasizes how important the involvement and inclusiveness of the stakeholders is during this meeting.

Presentation on EMSAGS Engagement & Communication Plan 2023 and Indigenous & Tribal People Participation Plan

In this presentation Mrs. Carmen Elliott, gives an overview of:

- the Target groups/ stakeholders that have been identified and included in the EMSAGS Engagement & Communication Plan 2023 and Indigenous & Tribal People Participation Plan (ITPPP),
- the Engagement and Communication tools that will be used during the execution of the EMSAGS Engagement & Communication Plan 2023 and ITPPP some of the key activities that are planned for 2023 to be executed under these plans.

See annex 1 for the presentation.



Questions/ comments and answers

No.	Questions / Comments	Answers
1.	<p>Suriname Conservation Foundation - Nathalie Emanuels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is the Local Advisory Committee for the MTEC already in place? b. The Advisory Committee will be set up to guide the process further, and will not be involved at the start of the MTEC? c. You spoke about the artisanal and small-scale minors, but the group of concessionaires is missing from the list of target groups. We know that within the artisanal and small-scale minors you have both concession holders who have exploration or exploitation rights. <p>They are Local, but most of them reside in Paramaribo. So, a critical note here is that this group should also be specifically mentioned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. I miss the role of the GMD as the Institute in charge of the actual operational side of the mining sector, especially in the research part. If you set up a center, all mining activities are preceded by research, and I miss this part with regard to the operationalization of the MTEC. 	<p>Carmen Elliott:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Local Advisory Committee is not yet in place since the MTEC is not yet operational. The implementing partners (NIMOS, MNR, PMU) are already at an advanced stage to set up the first MTEC at the Grassalco building at Brownsweg. As soon as this is formalized the Local Advisory Committee will be established. b. As soon as the MTEC is ready and legally everything is in place, we can proceed with establishing the Committee. c. They are included, but grouped under the local private sector. d. GMD has a very clear role in the project which is also described in the ProDoc, since they are an institute that is part of the MNR. . There is a partnership with GMD on institutional strengthening from the project, including training and equipment. and they will also participate in the regional cooperation and knowledge sharing. An example of this is the regional knowledge sharing visit in October in which they also participated.



<p>e. Who will manage the Regional Mercury Observatory?</p> <p>f. Proposal with regard to Alternative Livelihood projects, which I no longer see mentioned in the listing.</p> <p>They say gold is magical. In my experience, the people in the sector are only willing to look at other alternative options, if there is no other way out.</p> <p>At the very beginning of the EMSAGS project, a proposal was made to look at diversification within that chain of gold mining activities namely to find out which enterprises could be encouraged within the sector. For example, people who are very good at detecting gold, that those people are given the tools to further develop in that area. After all, not every mining operation needs to manage the entire chain. And if there is need, the project could look at diversifying and specializing.</p> <p>g. Closing statement: It is very important that we are now serious about organizing the sector and that is why strong institutions are necessary. You have already mentioned that the GMD has been strengthened, so I hope that we can also experience this in practice. Also, very</p>	<p>e. That is not yet known. Currently there are ongoing discussion between WWF Guyana and EMSAGS PMU on this topic, because it must have a regional character, and it also needs to be something that will be supported by the community and the government. The idea is that every country will have the ability to upload data.</p> <p>f. The idea of the EMSAGS PMU regarding this topic is to focus on the existing sustainable agricultural production.</p> <p>g. Thanks for your critical comments and advice. The implementing partners are here, and have heard you.</p> <p>h. Together with the coordinator we looked at the list and the suggestion is to invite the Suriname Conservation Foundation as an observer and for future meetings to also add SCF to the Stakeholder Platform list.</p>
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	<p>important in the implementation of this EMSAGS project is that we are all on the same page and that we work towards actual implementation. Furthermore, I would like to indicate that not all models abroad or in other countries with a mining sector are applicable in Suriname, because our ASGM sector is unique and it therefore requires a unique and different approach. Therefore, it is important to involve the right stakeholders in the successful implementation of this project.</p> <p>h. Can I conclude that the Suriname Conservation Foundation has been identified as a stakeholder. Because when the invitation came, it was sent to the secretariat and I was asked to attend the meeting because of my background. I want to be sure of this before I report to the organization.</p>	
<p>2.</p>	<p>National Zoological Collection Suriname (NZCS) / Environmental Research Center (CMO) - Gwendolyn Landburg: Regarding the Regional Mercury Observatory: We had several discussions with WWF and there is already a Surinamese Mercury Observatory that is linked to the Gonini portal. In the Gonini portal you will find the mercury observatory under the land use maps – gold mining. Under this tab you will find various data that has been collected over the last 10 years.</p>	<p>Carmen Elliott: We are familiar with the Gonini portal as it was created during the REDD+ program. Indeed, it has been indicated that the Gonini portal could be used as one of the platforms where several mining and forestry data is placed on. And during the discussions with WWF, they indeed mentioned that the AdeKUS is much more advanced regarding this due to the Gonini portal and that they are still busy setting up theirs, hence the idea of making it something regional.</p>



	<p>Compared to Brazil, Suriname has a lot more data that has been processed, which we discussed with WWF.</p> <p>So, we ask that if you wish to start over or continue with the observatory that you involve all partners, because a great deal of work has already been done on our part to get this going.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. We will take it into account and make sure your institute is included in the discussions.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>World Wildlife Fund – David Singh:</p> <p>a. Thanks for your presentation. I’m glad to see how far we have come since our last dialogue, so, congratulation on that.</p> <p>My observation is that we will need to look at how to link the Gonini portal to what is active in Brazil and in Colombia. So, that is something we will have to pay some more attention to. And indeed, Guyana is way behind and Suriname has so much more data available to the public.</p> <p>b. I was wondering with regard to the target groups in the coastal areas, in addition to the private sector, if we should also include the various stakeholders involved in the supply chain and also the jewelry industry. NIMOS did some really nice work, it came out in the media, by engaging the stakeholders who are involved in the melting (gold buying shops). I think, this will be a very important group of stakeholders to include in the project.</p>	



<p>4.</p>	<p>Alliance for Responsible Mining (ARM) – Johannes Abielie:</p> <p>a. What Mrs. Natalie mentioned earlier is correct. In each country, the sector has developed itself in its own way and this also applies to Suriname.</p> <p>A major impact on any project or activity that we try to carry out here requires a piece of the formal or legal framework. In Suriname, the small-scale mining has developed in a more formal context. There are no general standard laws that are enforced enough. It is therefore required that we do a lot of research so that we know exactly what the situation is and what special method we can apply to make improvements.</p> <p>In Suriname, for example, we started looking for more benefits in processing (processing more material), which means that the small-scale miners in Suriname are huge. So, when you have to buy equipment, you are already talking about amounts between \$100,000 & \$150,000. When we talk about small scale mining in Guyana or Peru, for example, they are really small, but in Suriname they are not that small. Here they already have 2 and 3 excavators and then there is also that traditional authority under which they reside, and who makes that bit of commitment even more complex. These are all things you experience and you have</p>	<p>Carmen Elliott:</p> <p>a. Thank you for your comment.</p> <p>b. As you know, in Brokopondo we have Mr. Naana and Mr. Plein as representatives of the SSM and from Pamaaka we have Mr. Van Geene and Mr. Kamil as representatives. They organizations are invited to all the meetings of the Stakeholder Platform.</p>
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	<p>to take it into account in your working method to avoid leaving at least the important stakeholders out of the process, otherwise you will get hiccups later in the process.</p> <p>Looking at the participants in the room, I would like to suggest/request, a bit more effort from the organization into getting the small scale miners to the meetings, so that we can hear directly from them what the field is saying, what the field wants and what their view is on all those plans we make during these meetings.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Private Sector – Glenn Gemerts:</p> <p>In response to what Mr. Abielie said, it is important in the context of small-scale gold mining to record that one of the biggest problems, regardless of the formal or informal character, is knowledge (the knowledge with regard to mining). And of course, people have experience in the field, but there is no systematic structure.</p> <p>A training center related to small scale mining is pre-eminently related to knowledge of mining and geology (that is the basis). Which has nothing to do with legislation and regulation, but with how can you get people to mine in a targeted manner and how can you increase people's level of knowledge with regard to what they want to mine.</p> <p>You will need to include this in your MTEC. In my opinion, you will have to recruit people who are mining and geology trained and have at least NATIN</p>	<p>Carmen Elliott:</p> <p>Thank you for your advice and comment. Within the ProDoc this has also been addressed, namely increasing knowledge of minors about the whole life of mine cycle.</p>



<p>degree. You have to understand mining and geology if you want to try to transform your minors, otherwise don't start with it. The point is that the knowledge level needs to be increased and that will have a spin-off effect on the rest of the activities. Then you can start looking at how you are going to organize the sector and bring it to manageable proportions.</p>	
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Recap and Next meeting

The date and time of the next meetings are not yet known, but the planning is for next quarter in the same setting or in the form of a field visit.

Mrs. Carmen Elliott, thanks all participants for their question, comments and advice which will be recorded in a report. The report, including the presentations, will be shared with the members of the Stakeholders Platform and will also be available on the EMSAGS website.



Annex 1

Presentation on EMSAGS Engagement & Communication Plan 2023 and Indigenous & Tribal People Participation Plan

The slide features the EMSAGS logo in the top left corner and a smaller version of the logo in the bottom left. The title 'Stakeholder Engagement & Communication Plan 2023' is centered in a large, bold font. The date '16 February 2023' is positioned in the bottom right corner. In the top right corner, there are small logos for the supporting organizations: NIMOS, GEF, and UNDP.



The slide is titled 'Target groups' and lists various stakeholder categories. It includes the EMSAGS logo in the top left and supporting organization logos in the top right. The content is organized into two columns under the heading 'Coastal Area:'.

Coastal Area:	Project area
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Key ministries and institutes/ organizations relevant for the project○ Stakeholder Platform○ Schools – youth (secondary/high school)○ ITP's Platform – KAMPOS, VIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Local government – District Commissioner (DC)○ Local communities and traditional authorities (living around demo sites/ MTECs- communities at risk)○ Women – women organization and/ or community-based organizations (CBO's)○ Youth – school / youth organization○ LAC – Local Advisory Committees of the MTECs○ Local private sector and artisanal, and small-scale goldminers / small scale goldminers groups



 **Engagement tools** 

- Information sessions/ Presentations
- Community meetings/ kuutu
- Awareness sessions
- Training / Capacity building sessions
- Consultation
- Field / site visits
- High level engagement

 **Communication tools** 

- **Broadcast:**
 - Radio: radio spots (awareness programs etc.) using national and local radio stations
 - TV: video spots
- **Written/ print media:**
 - News media:
 - EMSAGS newsletters: articles regarding implementation of EMSAGS activities
 - Articles in newspaper: articles regarding EMSAGS activities
- **Online: Media coverage of EMSAGS activities that are relevant for the public:**
 - Website: feed website with updated news items
 - Social media: Facebook page
- **Publications: research documents**
- **Informational material: brochures, posters, billboards**



EMSAGS **Some key activities for 2023. 1** SUPPORTED BY:

❖ **Stakeholder Platform (SP):**

- Field visits (to Demo site & MTEC) – Compagniekreek, Kraboedoin & Brownsweg
- Presentation by partners or third parties

❖ **Key ministries:**

- Have partnership regarding different work area
- Training on certain topic (TNA)
- Field visits (demo site & MTEC)

❖ **Ministry of Education:**

- Awareness activity for children & youth through radio program
- Partnership with NATIN / TVET- for institutional strengthening of the Mining stream

EMSAGS **Some key activities for 2023. 2** SUPPORTED BY:

❖ **Ministry of ROS & EZ:**

- Training programs will be carried out in collaboration with EZ - they will provide training (business model, cost price calculation) etc.)
- With ROS - collaboration will be in capacity building of communities - agriculture
- Support ministries in developing training materials & leaflets
- Support existing alternative livelihoods project (agriculture/ agroforestry)

❖ **ITPs (platforms):**

- Share knowledge & information on gendermainstreaming and human right, mercury and health and Environment
- Visits of Demo site & MTEC



EMSAGS **Some key activities for 2023. 3**

❖ District Commissioner (Brokoondo & Paamaka):

- Information sessions regarding progress of project
- Establishment of demo sites & MTEC
- Share knowledge and information on MTECs and pilot demo site

❖ Traditional authority & local communities (Brownsweg, Compagniekreek, Krabudoin & Snesikondre):

- Share knowledge and information on MTECs and pilot demo site
- Training and support on existing alternative livelihoods project – agriculture/ agro forestry, and other products. In collaboration with Iamgold, the Ministry of Regional Development and Sport & the Ministry, of Trade, Entrepreneurship, and Technology Innovation (EZ)

EMSAGS **Some key activities for 2023. 4**

• Women (organization) - Brokoondo-Brownsweg, Compagniekreek and Kraboedoin:

- Capacity building through training sessions
- Raise awareness of mercury free mining and the impact of mercury use on health and environment
- Share information on reproductive health
- Invite at the launch of the MTEC/ demo site



EMSAGS *LOBŪ YU LIŪI, WROKO KRIN GOWTU*

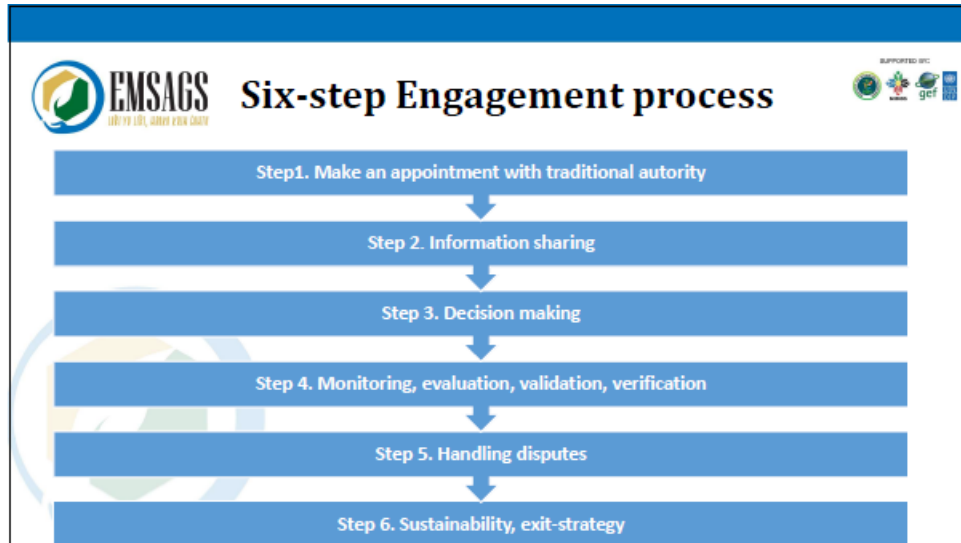
Some key activities for 2023. 5

- **Regional cooperation and knowledge sharing between WWF - EMSAGS Project:**
 - Regional Knowledge Sharing: Workshops and conferences Awareness exchange (materials, tools, methods)
 - In Suriname: 2 Day field visit to ERM pilot site.
- **Monitoring and enforcement: Country exchanges and sharing of experiences:**
 - interagency capacity sharing (EPA, NIMOS, GGMC, OGS) – at least 2 trips and 2 virtual calls between Suriname and Guyana
 - GIS/ monitoring of mining and deforestation from mining, near real-time monitoring etc.
- **Joint Research and monitoring, data sharing and shared protocols and programmes/ courses:**
 - Regional mercury observatory, and knowledge
 - Data sharing on mercury risk, research and analyses.
 - Collaborate on community/ engagement, forestry and forest monitoring experiences

EMSAGS *LOBŪ YU LIŪI, WROKO KRIN GOWTU*

Engagement process with Indigenous and Tribal people

- An Indigenous and Tribal People Participation Plan (ITPP plan) – developed



- Have a clear topic to discussed
- Proposed a date, time and place
- The among of participants expected
- Give the village leaders time to make themselves available
- Be specific how many people will be in the delegation visiting the community, and their professional positions.
- It is important to make clear that men and women are equally needed in the meeting.



Step 2. Information sharing



- First visit to the village is specifically for info sharing.
- Decisions do not take place immediately (only one info sharing session may not be enough) – have a follow-up info sharing (where clarification or details can be given)
- Give community members time to consider the initiative and/or discuss everything among themselves.



Step 3. Decision-making



- Decision must be made by the community
- Let communities also learn about potential disadvantages or risks
- Sometimes it's necessary to "push" it is not always a good idea to "rush" a decision
- Participating in decision-making is also an important aspect of empowerment.



Step 4. Monitoring, evaluation, verification, validation



- Include monitoring and evaluation in each intervention
- During the FPIC process, the intervention is discussed in a preliminary phase
- Inclusion of monitoring moments is useful to discuss issues that may arise and make adjustments
- The results of an intervention/project must be presented to the community to receive feedback
- Validation and verification should be planned within the intervention



Step 5. Handling disputes



- Make agreements in advance to discuss and resolve any differences, disputes or even conflicts
- Involve all parties or persons in such a dialogue.
- Let an external body or person mediate



Step 6. Sustainability, exit strategy


- Continuously monitor the sustainability of the project, from the conception of the idea to even long after the end of the project.
- Include an “exit strategy” when designing a project, to make sure that the project end in a good way.





Gender sensitive approach & Age and sensitive considerations

- Cultural appropriateness must be constantly taken into account - ITP
- Both men and women, boys and girls should take into consideration when carry out activities
- Make sure both men women have enough information and opportunity to discuss and evaluate the project
- Pay attention to the different roles and responsibilities that women and men have within the community - ITP
- To engage young people & old people may require different ways/ methods



 **Gender mainstreaming in Engagement activities** 

- Establish a baseline of gender participation in the ASGM sector in the project areas
- Identify a cohort of women miners in the project areas
- Establish a baseline of gender health care needs in the project areas and, develop short- and long-term health care delivery plans
- In consultation with mining communities, identify viable alternative income generating activities

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WROKO KRIN GOWTU**