

Suriname, 2023

MSG review of the outcomes and impact of the EITI

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Introduction

Regular disclosure of extractive industry data is of little practical use without public awareness, understanding of what the figures mean, and public debate about how resource revenues can be used effectively. The EITI Requirements related to outcomes and impact seek to ensure that stakeholders are engaged in dialogue about natural resource revenue management. EITI disclosures lead to the fulfilment of the EITI Principles by contributing to wider public debate. It is also vital that lessons learnt during implementation are acted upon, that recommendations from EITI implementations are considered and acted on where appropriate and that EITI implementation is on a stable, sustainable footing.

The multi-stakeholder group may use this template to monitor the outcomes and impact of EITI implementation. Where information is already available elsewhere, it is sufficient to include a link to other publicly available documentation. The scope of this template reflects EITI Requirement 1.5 on work plan and Requirements 7.1 to 7.4 on outcomes and impact.

The MSG is required to review the outcomes and impact of EITI implementation annually (Requirement 7.4). The MSG is encouraged to update this document annually to monitor progress, keep track of efforts to improve data accessibility and inform work planning.

To inform Validation, the MSG is required to submit the completed form to the International Secretariat Validation team by the Validation commencement date. The period captured in this review may be the period since the previous Validation or the previous calendar/fiscal year. The MSG should clearly indicate the period covered by its review.

The MSG's annual review of the outcomes and impact of EITI implementation should be publicly available, and stakeholders beyond MSG members should have an opportunity to provide feedback on the EITI process (Requirement 7.4).

Part I: Relevance of EITI implementation

Work plan (Requirement 1.5)

The objective of this [requirement](#) is to ensure that the annual planning for EITI implementation supports implementation of national priorities for the extractive industries while laying out realistic activities that are the outcome of consultations with the broader government, industry and civil society constituencies. The annual EITI work plan should be a key accountability document for the MSG vis-à-vis broader constituencies and the public.

MSG's self-assessment:

Not applicable / Not met /
Partly met / **Mostly met** /
Fully met / Exceeded

Justification: *Workplan prepared and approved 2023-2024 and including the estimated budget agreed*

1. Basic information about the current EITI work plan.

Period covered by the current EITI work plan	2023-2024
Information on how the public can access the work plan.	https://eitipuriname.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Workplan-EITISR-2023-2024.pdf
Process for producing the current EITI work plan	Working group sessions held by MSG sub-committees with support from external consultants established to develop workplan and budget respectively. Draft workplan and budget was submitted to the larger MSG in the meeting of April 5, 2023 for consideration and approval. Final approval was granted to the workplan and budget at the meeting June 28, 2023.
MSG approval of the work plan	[June 28, 2023]

2. Explain how the work plan’s objectives reflect national priorities for the extractive industry. Provide links to supporting documentation, such as studies or national development plans, if available.

The EITISR multi-stakeholder group (MSG) is keen through this workplan to address certain strategic areas that were highlighted by the last validation carried out in 2021. Bearing in mind the limited resources and capacity available within the current MSG, and 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:

1. Strengthening the institutional structure of both the MSG and the national secretariat
2. Systematic information disclosure and accessibility
3. Communication and Engagement strategy
4. Strengthening Social and Environmental expenditure reporting

These four strategic priorities broadly align with the work being done by the Government to strengthen extractive sector governance. The Government is committed to enhancing the existing institutional framework and creating new institutions to strengthen governance. The Government plans to follow-up on the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)’s recommendations to

reform the mining law, especially on aspects that deal with mining titles and establishing the obligation for companies to disclose beneficial ownership.

From an institutional strengthening perspective, The Government of Suriname, has embarked on various initiatives to improve and strengthen the legal and regulatory framework for both the Oil and Gas as well as the Mining sector. Many of these initiatives have, or are currently being supported by the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank and other international organizations. Key examples of this include:

In the Oil and Gas sector

- Establishment of the Staatsolie Hydrocarbon Institute in 2022 as the semi-autonomous regulator of the oil and gas sector
- Amendment of the Petroleum Act to enshrine in law, the fiscal incentives eligible to oil and gas companies and the extension of the state's legal jurisdiction over its maritime boundaries in accordance with the law of the Sea

In the Mining sector

- Preparation of a new draft mining law
- Preparation of a draft Model mining project Agreement
- Preparation of a draft Act on Establishment of the Minerals Authority Suriname (DAS)
- Capacity building for the DAS
- Assessment of the current framework and alternatives for adjustment based on outcomes
- Project financed by the IDB on restructuring of the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment and establishment of the Environmental Authority Suriname (NMA).

The various stakeholders have been asked to provide their input and comments on the new draft Mining sector legislation.

The Government has also pursued other institutional strengthening projects via multilateral financing from the IDB and the World Bank such as, the restructuring of the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment and establishment of National Environmental Authority (NMA) to replace NIMOS (the environmental regulator).

In the sphere of systematic disclosure and accessibility the EITISR MSG adopted a definition of Beneficial Owners (BO), Politically Exposed Persons and a beneficial ownership threshold in keeping with its initiative to enhance transparency with respect to the ownership of the country's extractive resources. This definition which was signed on August 6th 2021, is in alignment with Government's commitment to enhance transparency around the ownership of extractive industry licenses/contracts.

[Statement on Definition Beneficial Ownership By MSG EITI Suriname - EITI Suriname](#)

3. *Optional question: Has the MSG developed a theory of change on how EITI implementation will address the identified challenges of the sector in your country? If yes, please reference the corresponding document here.*

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Monitoring progress

4. Provide an overview of activities undertaken in the period under review and progress in achieving the objectives of the previous work plan. The MSG is encouraged to provide a summary here and to document progress in more detail in the work plan itself.

Overview of activities undertaken in the period under review and progress in achieving the objectives of the previous work plan:

1. Prepare and submit the 2nd and 3rd EITISR Reports covering 2017 and 2018 respectively

Status: 2nd, 3rd reports completed and published since last workplan.

LINK: https://eitipuriname.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/EITI_SR_Report_2017.pdf

LINK: https://eitipuriname.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/EITI-SURINAME-REPORT-FINAL-Report-FY2018-2019-2020-SIGNED-RF_22.12.2022-1.pdf

2. Execute the Communication Plan to disseminate key information from EITISR Reports, educate the general public on EITISR, and create public debate regarding governance of natural resources and sector revenues

Status: The Communication Plan was not fully executed, because the deliverables were not fully met. Funding the Communication plan was a challenge, previous funding came from the Work Bank loan.

When the MSG looked at the previous ToR and coming up with the new Terms of Reference, we took the learnings that were shared with us about the previous exercise and why it failed and determined that instead of looking for a single firm which is probably impractical because of the mix of different communication support that we need, that we instead seek to hire a consultant who would then contract the various types of services and products needed. So the consultant would give us the overarching plan and then seek expertise from different firms or entities.

3. Take actions towards implementation of the Beneficial Ownership Roadmap

Status:

The MSG on August 6, 2021 approved the following with respect to Beneficial Ownership:

- *Established a definition of Beneficial Ownership*
- *Established Beneficial Ownership threshold of 20%*
- *Established a definition of Politically Exposed Person*

This issue was raised by CS repeatedly with the previous secretariat, but no follow-up actions were taken.

Source: Statement on Definition Beneficial Ownership, by MSG EITI Suriname signed August 6, 2021

[Statement on Definition Beneficial Ownership By MSG EITI Suriname - EITI Suriname](#)

Recommendations from EITI implementation (Requirement 7.3)

The objective of this [requirement](#) is to ensure that EITI implementation is a continuous learning process that contributes to policy-making, based on the MSG regularly considering findings and recommendations from the EITI process and acting on those recommendations it deems are priorities.

MSG's self-assessment:

Not applicable / Not met / **Partly met** / Mostly met / Fully met / Exceeded

Justification: From previous workplan, beneficial ownership, gap analysis based on recommendations

5. Provide an overview of the multi-stakeholder group's responses to and progress made in addressing the recommendations from EITI reporting and Validation and gaps in information in accordance with Requirement 7.3.

The multi-stakeholder group is required to list each recommendation and the corresponding activities that have been undertaken to address the recommendations and the level of progress in implementing each recommendation. Where the government or the multi-stakeholder group has decided not to implement a recommendation, it is required that the multi-stakeholder group documents the rationale.

Recommendation:	Status/progress:
1. The government engaged in the EITI process	<p>Government appointed from April 3rd 2023 a new National Coordinator (full time), an Administrative Officer (full time) and Communication Officer (part time) during the period under review.</p> <p>In April 2023 the Suriname EITISR submitted budget estimates for fiscal year 2024 to the finance department of the Ministry of Natural Resources (please see attachments). This regards funding for 1 year (2024) for office costs and EITI contribution costs for 2022 and 2023. In total SRD 1,300,000 (USD 33,333) Once approved, the EITISR will have its own line item in the national budget, thereby reducing the level of dependence on multilateral and bilateral loans and grant funds to finance EITI implementation.</p>

<p>2. The industry engaged in the EITI process:</p>	<p>Industry provided all necessary payment and other data requested for reports.</p> <p>Staatsolie provided financial assistance (USD 36,000) for a consultant to create sustainable single point data collection.</p> <p>Industry participated in recent EITI global conference, MSG meetings</p> <p>Industry assisted in working out substantive issues regarding EITI reporting.</p> <p>These included the provision of the time and expert knowledge of Shell's responsible business division employees to assist with the drafting of the 2023-2024 work plan in the absence of full time Secretariat staff, the assessment and development of a ToR for the hiring of a communications consultant to conceptualize and deliver a multi-channel communications and outreach strategy and action plan. This ToR takes into consideration the learnings from the unsuccessful contracting of a communications consultant via the 2020 – 2021 Work Plan.</p>
<p>3. The MSG procedures for nomination of MSG members:</p>	<p>in 2016 the MSG established a ToR which guided the functioning and governance of the MSG and National Secretariat. The ToR was comprehensively reviewed and approved by the MSG in September 2023.</p>
<p>4. MSG agree to an updated, revised and fully costed work plans</p>	<p>MSG developed and costed work plans for periods 2019, 2020, 2023, 2024. Due to staffing changes in the Secretariat and the difficulties of working during Covid, no work plans were made for 2021 – 2022.</p>
<p>Suriname ensuring accessible comprehensive information about the award of extractive licenses/ contracts.</p>	<p>A detailed description has been included in the EITI report from report 3.</p> <p>Confirmation of payments is made available by the Paymaster and is included in the government finance statistics.</p>
<p>6. Suriname to maintain a publicly available register or cadastre system on all mining, oil and gas licenses including license-holder information</p>	<p>For the mining sector this is still a work in progress. A cadaster has been established and is being updated with assistance of World Bank funded consultant prior to it being put online. Update of the cadaster, forms part of the reorganization (GMD, Bauxite Institute Suriname, OGS) and consolidation into to the Mineral Authority Suriname.</p> <p>GMD: Geologisch Mijnbouw Dienst/Geological Mining Department</p> <p>OGS: Commissie Ordening Goudsector/ Commission Order Gold Sector</p> <p>For the oil and gas sector Staatsolie Hydrocarbon Institute publishes on its website a model PSC contracts:</p> <p>Link: Overview PSCs 1957-now (staatsolie.com)</p>

<p>7. Suriname to document the government's policy on disclosure of contracts and licenses.</p>	<p>For the mining sector an update is being made to have publicly available cadastre.</p> <p>The 2021 draft amended mining act is currently out for review/comments.</p> <p>This law is also in line with the national objective of Suriname-EITI. The goal of the (phased) implementation of the EITI Standard by Suriname includes, among other things, the Surinamese society with transparent and verified information about the financial flows between the mineral industry and the government to contribute to an informed debate on the value chain of the mineral industry Suriname.</p> <p>In accordance with the EITI system, the value chain of the mineral industry comprises the following links:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the mining permits and contracts;- the production;- the collection of proceeds;- the allocation of revenues in government budgets; and- the financial and socio-economic contribution of the national mineral sector. <p>Source: Explanatory note of the 2021 draft amended mining act. https://eitipuriname.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/CONCEPT-Memorie-van-Toelichting-Mijnbouwwet-Aug-2021.pdf</p> <p>For the oil and gas sector Staatsolie Hydrocarbon Institute publishes on its website model PSC contracts. Link:</p> <p>Link: model-psc.pdf (staatsolie.com)</p> <p>Staatsolie has contracted a consultant to review the contractual regime and advise on further disclosure of licenses and contracts.</p>
<p>8. Suriname to disclose the beneficial owners of all companies holding or applying for extractive licenses.</p>	<p>There is no single beneficial owner register for companies operating in Suriname.</p> <p>The EITISR MSG published a statement on Beneficial Ownership, on August 6, 2021. The statement includes a definition of beneficial ownership, establishes a beneficial ownership threshold and defines a Politically Exposed Person (PEP).</p> <p>The MSG will undertake a pilot exercise to collect the beneficial ownership information of all multinational companies operating in Suriname in its 4th report covering 2021 – 2022.</p> <p>Link: Statement on Definition Beneficial Ownership By MSG EITI Suriname - EITI Suriname</p>

<p>9. Suriname to ensure that a comprehensive overview of Grassalco is publicly disclosed</p>	<p>EITISR is currently in discussions with Grassalco’s senior management with respect to this recommendation.</p> <p>Grassalco wrote a letter on September 28th 2023 that they are willing to share information but they are in need of more time and they will also take their seat in the MSG.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Grassalco on invitation of the National Secretariat participated in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the consultation of the pre validation consultations in August (3 staff members). 2. the workshop on Improved Governance Frameworks for Extractive Industries on September 20th 2023 (2 staff members). 3. the MSG meeting on September 27th 2023 (2 staff members)
<p>10. Suriname to demonstrate that all material payments and revenues are comprehensively disclosed by government entities and extractive companies.</p>	<p>In the publication tables (monthly publish on the website of the Ministry Finance and Planning), data are disclosed by segment, by currency and by revenue streams.</p> <p>With regard to the EITI reports, the data is disclosed by segment, by currency, by revenue streams, by company and government entity. The Ministry of Finance and Planning does not receive data by project. The Ministry is unaware if data can be disclosed outside of the MOU on the agreed process for the disclosure payment information for the purposes of EITI reporting.</p>
<p>11. MSG to agree whether the sale of the state’s share of production or other revenues collected in kind is material.</p>	<p>Staatsolie, the State Oil Company has a share in the productions in RGM and Newmont and because Staatsolie is a 100% SOE, the State receive revenues. The government did not sell any.</p>
<p>12. Suriname to ensure that the EITI reporting process comprehensively includes material payments to SOEs from oil, gas and mining companies, and transfers between SOEs and other government agencies.</p>	<p>For the mining sector: For Newmont Suriname LLC the information is in “Suriname Gold Project C.V. Financial Statements” which is in the public domain. Financial information was disclosed upon request of the consultant. Financial Statement attached. Newmont has only one project in Suriname.</p> <p>For the oil and gas sector: Material payments to Staatsolie are disclosed in the annual report.</p> <p>Link: Staatsolie - Suriname's National Energy, Oil & Gas Company - Annual Report 2022</p>
<p>13. Suriname to ensure that future EITI Reports include a clear assessment of the IA on the</p>	<p>For audit purposes, data has been shared with the Supreme Audit Office, but up till now, the Ministry of Finance and Planning have not received any comments. Please see attachments of email correspondence with Supreme Audit Office. Action Suriname EITI Secretariat: The National Coordinator has</p>

<p>comprehensiveness and data reliability.</p>	<p>been requested to seek a convenient date and time for the MSG to meet with the Supreme Audit Office to discuss their role in EITI.</p>
<p>14. Suriname to ensure that a clear definition of any mandatory social expenditures mandated by law or contract is publicly provided and assess the materiality of such expenditures in the period under review.</p>	<p>For the mining sector (Rosebel Gold Mines):</p> <p>Under the mineral agreement of 7 April, 1994, a new entity, the Suriname Environmental and Mining Foundation (Semif), was established. The primary purpose of Semif is to collect from all licensed companies, 0.025% of royalties in kind from their production.</p> <p>Financial statements (from the period 2009-2020) from Semif can be found on SEMIF – Suriname Environmental Mining Foundation; 2020-FINANCIËEL-VERSLAG-SEMIF.pdf</p> <p>The Act Merian Gold project (Newmont) has the mineral agreement as attachment. According to Art 19.5 of the mineral agreement of 22 november 2013 a community development has been set up. A separate cooperations agreement was drafted between Newmont and the traditional Authority that sets out the with commitments on setting up this fund, preferential procurement and recruitment of Pamakans. Art 3.1 of a Funding agreement sets out terms and conditions under which Newmont shall fund projects; 1 US\$ for every ounce of gold produced and sold by Newmont through Quarterly payments for prior calendar quarters. To date US\$ 3 million has been transferred to this fund.</p> <p>https://www.newmont.com/investors/news-release/news-details/2016/Surgold-and-the-Pamakan-Community-Solidify-Cooperation/default.aspx</p> <p>https://www.newmont.com/blog-stories/blog-stories-details/2019/Newmont-Goldcorp-Suriname--Project-WET-Program-Update/default.aspx</p> <p>https://s24.q4cdn.com/382246808/files/document_library/press_release/news-release-social-involvement-final.pdf</p> <p>For the oil and gas sector based on the active Production Sharing Contracts, the contractor annually allocates an agreed amount for Social Responsibility projects and activities to contribute to the sustainable development, health, and welfare of Suriname’s society.</p> <p>The report(s) provide an overview of the Social Responsibility commitments and investments made by the contractors.</p> <p>Link: Social Responsibility Projects from Production Sharing Contracts (staatsolie.com)</p>

<p>15. Undertake a comprehensive review of all expenditures undertaken by extractives SOEs that could be considered quasi-fiscal expenditures.</p>	<p>A study will be undertaken as part of the workplan 2023-2024. Staatsolie does not subsidize fuels it delivers to the public.</p>
<p>16. Suriname to disclose employment in the extractive industries in absolute terms and as a percentage of the total employment.</p>	<p>Action completed. Included in report 3.</p>
<p>17. Suriname to ensure that EITI reports are comprehensible, actively promoted, publicly accessible and contribute to public debate.</p>	<p>A new TOR has been developed for the communication and engagement consultancy. At this moment the ToR for hiring a specialist firm was approved on June 28th 2023 by the MSG and sent to the SCSD PIU procurement specialist. A request has been made of the World Bank to procure the services of a managing consultant who will in turn, develop an overarching communications strategy and engagement/implementation plan for the MSG's approval. The consultant will also be responsible for the development and production of communications materials. This should commence between Q4 of 2023 – Q1 2023</p>
<p>18. Suriname is required to take steps to act upon lessons learnt with a view to strengthen the impact of EITI implementation on natural resource governance.</p>	<p>In order to strengthen the impact of EITI implementation on natural resource governance, the National Secretariat in collaboration with TTEITI and collaboration and financing from IaDB hosted a 3 day workshop EITI Suriname on Improved Governance Frameworks for Extractive Industries. https://gov.sr/eiti-trinidad-tobago-verzorgt-workshop-aan-stakeholders/ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKqwlOahJ3</p>
<p>19. Suriname is required to review the outcomes and impact of EITI implementation on natural resource governance.</p>	<p>Ensure that all stakeholders are able to participate. Plan for achieving this to be part of the mandate of the communication and outreach consultant.</p>
<p>20. As reported in 2016 recommendation (point 9.1) gold exporters should have a license. For reasons of comprehensiveness we</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSG should consider installing a representative of the gold exporters in the MSG - To be acted on. • All licenses with gold exporters should be disclosed publicly or should be available for SR-EITI reporting - To be acted on.

<p>therefore recommend the following to be executed for the year-end reporting December 31, 2018.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and or procedures for the license application should be made publicly available - To be acted on. • Bid-rounds, if any, should have a documented track- record in order for the IA to test the accurate application of the approval for an export license for gold - To be acted on.
<p>21. Institutional/organizational improvements for EITI purposes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EITI secretariat function should be further developed through standard working procedures. Completed. In the TOR for the MSG is a description of the secretariat with profiles. New profiles were developed in 2021, in collaboration with the IS and TTEITI. https://eitipuriname.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Revised-ToR-MSG-EITISR.pdf • The implementation of EITI in Suriname should be further improved through a clear process with milestones and deadlines. These processes and milestones should be effectively monitored by the secretariat of EITI in Suriname. Work in progress.
<p>22. Legal and regulatory framework for extractive industry</p>	<p>There are several laws and regulations for the extractive industry of which the majority is old and/or not integrated. The MSG should assess applicable specific laws for the oil and mining sector and make recommendations to the Government for integrating and updating the overall legal and regulatory framework for the extractive industry.</p> <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government has prepared a draft Law on establishment of the Mineral Authority Suriname (DAS). The draft law has been sent to stakeholders for review, comments, input and feedback to the Government. Action Suriname EITI Secretariat: Request a presentation from the Ministry NR in near future and to have discussion with MSG. The MSG has participated in the first consultations of the revised mining law on September 1st 2023. There were members present from all constituencies. In the consultation all the members mentioned that the consultant should include more of the EITI requirements in the law in accordance with the new standard 2023. <p>In addition, the Government has prepared A Model Mine Development Agreement, which will serve as a guideline for negotiations and agreements on mining projects in the future. The draft Mine Development Agreement was sent by the Government to stakeholders for review, comments, input and feedback. Action Suriname EITI Secretariat: Request a presentation regarding this topic in an MSG wear future as not involved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government has hired consultants to work on a framework for a cadaster, wherein all mining licenses will be placed.

- A new draft Mining Law has been prepared and circulated under stakeholders for review, comments and input. The Government intends to submit this draft law to Parliament for debate and adoption in Q4-2023 or Q-1 2024 at the latest.
- With respect to the oil and gas sector, the Petroleum Act was amended in 2022 to give the force of law to fiscal incentives for exploration and production activity, previously only covered by Presidential decree/edict.

More attention should be given to the general aspects of the small and medium scale mining in the current laws. The MSG should assess the need for specific laws and, or regulations with the purpose of improving the regulations for small and medium mining companies.

Status:

- This is being addressed in the 2021 draft amended mining law

There is no legal framework dealing with the safeguarding of the environment. The large mining companies adhere to international standards, i.e. ISO 14001 2004. It is recommended that the current draft law on safeguarding of the environment should be reviewed and enacted as soon as possible.

Status:

- Parliament adopted an Environmental Framework Law in 2019. Specific legislation emanating from the framework Act must be adopted in order to address specific areas on the environment.

The Government has embarked on a project financed by the IDB on restructuring of the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment and the transition from NIMOS to the Environmental Authority

The draft Mining Code 2004 needs to be formalized.

Status: The 2021 draft amended mining law is currently the basis for the new mining law which is currently being discussed.

23. Gold exports, royalties for ores and quarrying materials (building)

Gold exporters nor buyers of gold are included in EITI reporting for 2016. For the next reporting it should be reassessed and formalized by the MSG how, and to what extent possible, to engage Gold exporters and buyers in the EITI reporting and other service providers within the small and medium scale gold mining.

Status: The status of this point remains the same.

Small and medium scale gold miners do not get an appropriate authentic document or invoice for their payment of 6.25%, segmented per component paid in relation to the quantity of gold. This requirement should be enforced upon the buyers of gold since lack of proper invoices jeopardizes the accounting system.

Status: The status of this point remains the same.

As informed by the small and medium scale gold miners associated with the SHMR and part of EITISR reporting 2016, they reluctantly do not report their production or other data to GMD due to experiencing loss of their technical data after submitting their period information, ending up in serving competitors at the expense of their invested know how. Irrespective of the extent to which this phenomenon occurs, it undermines regulation and monitoring the sector and, as a result, the intended transparency and assessment of flows of gold in general and within the scope of EITI. We recommend enforcing this process of data collection by GMD and creating a path of assurance and protection for data provided.

Status: The status of this point remains the same.

Based on the findings 9.2- 9.4 and on SB 1989/40 and SB 2016/2 (regarding royalty fee small scale mining and building materials) and the special licenses provided to the exporters by the Foreign Exchange Commission we suggest imposing rules on the buyers and exporters of gold to submit monthly a detailed report with:

- The quantity of gold bought per small and medium scale gold miner monthly in volume and value paid;
- The volume and value of exported gold and the royalty fee paid and the paid statistic rights and consent fees as well;
- The royalty fee withheld by the gold buyer and paid to the Tax Authority regarding the non-exported quantity of gold;
- The refinery loss if refined gold is exported;
- Amount of gold sold to CBoS by the exporters of gold.

Status: The status of this point remains the same.

We strongly recommend enforcing reporting from the Foreign Exchange Commission, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism and CBoS and the Tax Authority of the volume of gold exported and not exported, overview of exporters and buyers of gold and royalty paid by the buyers of gold to Government regarding the not exported quantity of gold as EITI supporting documents.

Status: The status of this point remains the same.

As outlined in the revenue flows the companies with licenses for quarrying materials and other ores are not included in the 2016 EITI report. This is due to the materiality threshold. It is however recommended that MSG should determine how and if engagement of the companies with licenses for quarrying materials, other ores and small mining (limited to 200 ha), should be engaged in future EITI reporting.

Status: The status of this point remains the same.

24. Revenue allocation

Separate from allocation of funds to SEMiF it is recommended that a certain part of the revenues from the oil and mining sectors are allocated to the sustainable development of the mining industry to support amongst others:

1. Regulatory functions
2. EITI (MSG)
3. GMD / GLIS
4. Establishment of a Mineral Institute and sustainable existence of the sector
5. Funding small and medium size miners in certain cases

Status:

The 2021 draft mining act contain conditions to partially fund the Mineral Authority Suriname (DAS).

<https://eitipuriname.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/CONCEPT-Memorie-van-Toelichting-Mijnbouwwet-Aug-2021.pdf>

6. How have lessons learned from EITI implementation informed the current work plan?

The MSG in various meetings identified the lack of a full time Secretariat team as a critical factor in the challenges faced in implementing the last work plan as well as the gap in the preparation of work plans. Noting that the issue of permanent staffing for the Secretariat could not be resolved solely by its action, the MSG, in the preparation of the 2023 – 2024 Work Plan, focused on at setting more realistic targets and better defining measures of success and intermediate outcomes, especially as it related to reporting, mainstreaming and increasing outreach and public awareness. A greater focus will be placed on communications and getting civil society buy-in to ensure the sustainability of EITI implementation. The MSG will also explore the inclusion of Quasi Fiscal Expenditure reporting by both State Owned Enterprises as well as Multinational Corporations given the perceived significant role it plays in off budget fiscal expenditure.

Innovations and impact

7. Summarise any steps taken by the MSG to exceed EITI Requirements in a way that addresses national or local extractive sector governance priorities.

Mainstreaming: The MSG has advocated successfully for the establishment of a centralized database into which extractive industry company payment data from all government agencies is collected and reconciled. The development of this centralized database aligns with Government intention as stated in its 2022-2026 Multi-Annual Development Plan [meerjaren-ontwikkelingsplan-2022-populaire-versie.pdf \(gov.sr\)](#), to promote Open Government through the automation and digitization of government services to improve transparency and governance and reduce corruption. Staatsolie has contracted the services of a consultant to develop the database.

8. What kind of outcomes and impact have these measures resulted during the period under review?

[Explain how the MSG tracks outputs, outcomes and impact and include link(s) to any relevant documents. Summarise the outcomes and impact of efforts to ensure that EITI implementation addresses national or local extractive sector priorities. If the MSG has documented this elsewhere, please provide a link to relevant documents. Outcomes and impact can be disaggregated by constituency or beneficiary group, if relevant.]

In the Oil and Gas sector

- Establishment of the Staatsolie Hydrocarbon Institute in 2022 as the semi-autonomous regulator of the oil and gas sector

In the Mining sector

- Preparation of a new draft mining law
- Preparation of a draft Model mining project Agreement
- Preparation of a draft Act on Establishment of the Minerals Authority Suriname (DAS)
- Capacity building for the DAS
- Assessment of the current framework and alternatives for adjustment based on outcomes
- Project financed by the IDB on restructuring of the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment and establishment of the Environmental Authority Suriname (NMA).

9. If the MSG has plans to include new issues or approaches to EITI implementation, please describe these.

The MSG proposes to undertake a scoping study to determine whether the Quasi fiscal expenditure undertaken by Staatsolie and Grassalco, the main State Owned Enterprises in the oil and gas and mining sectors respectively is material enough to be reported as a separate government revenue stream. The Ministry of Finance and Planning confirm no QFEs found in the period 2018-2020.

Similar quasi fiscal expenditure is undertaken by the Multinational mining companies at the request of the government. This expenditure is not recoverable and is not captured under corporate social expenditure. These are not barter agreements.

10. What kind of outcomes and impact are these plans expected to result in?

As the EITI's Guidance Note states the undertaking of "Quasi fiscal expenditure presents... greater risks of fraud, lack of auditing of expenditures... and expenditures undertaken at a loss or below the usual rate of profit." Identification and quantification of these so called "off budget" expenditures will bring greater transparency to the government's fiscal expenditure.

11. Summarise the MSG's efforts to strengthen the impact of EITI implementation in the period under review, including any actions to extend the detail and scope of EITI reporting or to increase engagement with stakeholders. The MSG is encouraged to document how it has taken gender considerations and inclusiveness into account.

The MSG has focused its attention in the period under review on the strengthening of the National Secretariat, as the main implementing organ of the SEITISR. In that regard, the MSG collectively and as individual constituency organization, successfully advocated with the Minister of Natural Resources to identify and hire a full time National Coordinator, assisted by one team member (full time) as administrative officer and one part time team member as Communication officer. The appointment of full time Secretariat staff in April has slowly begun to bear fruit, as the speed at

which decisions taken by the MSG can be implemented is no longer dependent on MSG members having to find time to follow through.

In terms of Gender inclusiveness, 50% of the current MSG is comprised of women.

Part II: Public debate

Open data (Requirement 7.2)

The objective of this requirement is to enable the broader use and analysis of information on the extractive industries, through the publication of information in open data and interoperable formats.

MSG's self-assessment

Not applicable / Not met / **Partly met** / Mostly met / Fully met / Exceeded

Justification: Work in progress on an Open Data policy. Collaboration between institutions to be improved for better quality of the statistics.

11. Open data policy and disclosures

Provide a link to the open data policy agreed by the MSG (Requirement 7.2.a)	<i>[Add link(s) to relevant open data policy(ies) and any commentary.]</i> Work in progress on an Open Data policy.
Is EITI data available in open data format and publicised? (Requirement 7.2.b)	EITI data is not yet available in open data format such as excel format. MoFP has no objection to publish in excel format and will do so.
Has the MSG identified gaps in the availability of EITI data in open format? If yes, what kind of gaps? (Requirement 7.2.b)	Work in progress, collaboration between institutions is improving for better quality of the statistics. The MSG will try to have discussions with the Central Bank, Ministry of NR, Ministry of FP etc. to have them to disclose information at

	the source. IaDB is willing to help to via IaDB investmap.
Has the MSG undertaken efforts to improve the availability of data in open format? If yes, please describe these. (Requirement 7.2.b)	Yes. Work in progress, collaboration between institutions is improving for better quality of the statistics. Availability of data in excel format will be done.
Have summary data files been completed for each fiscal year for which data has been disclosed? (Requirement 7.2.c)	The Summary Data Templates of year 2018 2019 and 2020 have been received on the 18 th of September by the IA BDO.
What systematically disclosed data that is in the scope of EITI disclosures is machine readable and inter-operable? (Requirement 7.2.d)	Not ready yet

Outreach and communications (Requirement 7.1)

<p>The objective of this <u>requirement</u> is to enable evidence-based public debate on extractive industry governance through active communication of relevant data to key stakeholders in ways that are accessible and reflect stakeholders' needs.</p>	<p>MSG's self-assessment</p> <p>Not applicable / Not met / Partly met / Mostly met / Fully met / Exceeded</p> <p>Justification: New TOR was made for a Communication and Outreach consultant and to be contracted</p>
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12. Describe the MSG's efforts in the period under review to ensure that information published about the extractive sector is comprehensible and available in appropriate languages.

<p>At the moment EITI documentation is primarily in English. According to the IA ToR, the 2018 – 2020 report will be in both languages (Dutch and English). Documentation on the Suriname EITI website is both in English and Dutch.</p>
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13. Describe examples of use of EITI data.

News articles:

<https://dagbladdewest.com/2023/06/25/laatse-rapport-eiti-tot-2020/>

<https://dagbladdewest.com/2023/06/18/publicatie-eiti-rapport-suriname/>

14. Provide information about outreach events organised to spread awareness of and facilitate dialogue about governance of extractive resources, building on EITI disclosures.

Event name	Brief description of the event	Date	Location	Organiser	Number and type of attendees	Links to further information
Presentation to report to Minister	Audit report EITISR report for fiscal years 2018-2020 was presented to Minister of Natural Resources	December 27, 2022	Ministry of Natural Resources office	MSG	6 attendees including the Minister of Natural Resources. Representation of all 3 constituencies	Minister Abiamfofo ontvangt SEITISR rapport 2018-2020 - Overheid van de Republiek Suriname (gov.sr)
Launch of reports 2018-2020	Launch of EITISR reports for fiscal years 2018-2020 by the Minister of Natural Resources, presentation given by Independent Administrator BDO	June 9, 2023	Royal Torarica Ballroom	Ministry of Natural Resources	34 Industry, Diplomatic Corps, Civil Society, Government, Media representatives in attendance	https://eitipuriname.org/en/news/eiti-sr-report-for-fiscal-years-2018-2019-and-2020/

Meeting with the Supreme Audit Institution of Suriname (Rekenkamer)	The EITISR secretariat discussed the status and developments of Suriname EITI and also how the Supreme Audit can contribute	September 28, 2022	Ministry of Natural Resources office	The EITISR secretariat	4 attendees (2 from EITISR secretariat and 2 from Supreme Audit Institution)	Meeting Rekenkamer en Suriname EITI - Overheid van de Republiek Suriname (gov.sr)
Presentation on sustainable reporting	Members of MSG presented to the Minister of Natural Resources sustainable methods to collect data for the annual EITISR reporting	January 12, 2023	Ministry of Natural Resources office	Ministry of Natural Resources	6 attendees including the Minister of Natural Resources	Voorstellen SEITI Secretariaat gepresenteerd (gov.sr)
Mineral Authority Suriname progresses	Installation of Interim Change Management Team presented by Minister of Natural Resources to support the setup of the Mineral Authority	November 18, 2022	Jacana Wellness Resort	Ministry of Natural Resources	Representatives from GMD, Ministry Natural Resources, COKGS, Bauxite Institute	Delfstoffen instituut (Autoriteit) geniet progressie - Overheid van de Republiek Suriname (gov.sr)

Information session regarding the setup of a Grievance Redress Mechanism	The Grievance Mechanism is part of the Suriname Competitiveness and Sector Diversification (SCSD) project, which objective is to improve governance and increase the competitiveness in the mining, agribusiness sectors	May 23, 2023	xx	Ministry of Natural Resources	Attendance from Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Entrepreneurship and Technological Innovation, District Commissioners and staff	Informatiebijeenkomst rond op te zetten klachten afhandelingsstelsel - Overheid van de Republiek Suriname (gov.sr)
Panel discussion presented by Stichting Projekta: Extractive Industries, Democracy and Environment	The discussion is part of a series of activities titles: Suriname, now or never, the opportunities and challenges for our future and the role of civil society	June 9, 2023	Marriott Hotel	Stichting Projekta	45 participants In attendance members of Parliament, civil society, companies, government officials	Extractieve Industrieën, Democratie en Milieu: Kansen en Bedreigingen - KEY NEWS SURINAME
Official start Mineral institute reform	The Competitiveness and Sector Diversification	March 11, 2022	Marriott Hotel	Ministry of Natural Resources	In attendance representatives from Ministry	Starnieuws - Abiamfo geeft startsein voor delfstoffenhervorming

ion Project (SCDS-Project), which is part of the development process of the Mineral institute Suriname makes re-start				NR, Bauxite Institute, GMD, OGS
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15. Describe the MSG efforts in the period under review to consider access challenges and information needs of data users, including different genders and subgroups of citizens.

In the design phase of the ToR for the Communications Specialist (2023), the MSG discussed that the specialist would gather input from the CS MSG Members about information needs and challenges, when designing the communication strategy and/or products.

16. Describe other efforts by the MSG in the period under review to ensure that information is widely accessible and distributed.

These activities will be advised on by the Communication and Outreach consultant who will be hired in keeping with the 2023-2024 workplan under the section outreach and communication.

17. How could the MSG improve the accessibility and distribution of information, considering the needs of different subgroups of citizens?

These activities will be advised on by the Communication and Outreach consultant who will be hired in keeping with the 2023-2024 workplan under the section outreach and communication.

Bespoke communication methods have been adopted or used with indigenous and tribal communities and have been proven in outreach and communication engagements conducted with such communities by extractive companies.

<https://gov.sr/emsags-presentatie-biedt-inzichten-in-effectieve-monitoring-extractieve-industrie/>

Part III: Sustainability and effectiveness

Outcomes and impact of EITI implementation on natural resource governance (Requirement 7.4)

The objective of this [requirement](#) is to ensure regular public monitoring and evaluation of implementation, including evaluation of whether the EITI is delivering on its objectives, with a view to ensuring the EITI's own public accountability.

MSG's self-assessment

Not applicable / Not met /
Partly met / Mostly met /
Fully met / Exceeded

Justification: Institutional and covid related challenges have retarded progress in the period 2021-2022. MSG and permanent secretary re-establishing the work and outreach of the EITI in Suriname.

18. The MSG is requested to present any additional information and evidence related to the indicators for assessing the sustainability and effectiveness of EITI implementation.

Each indicator will be assigned 0, 0.5 or 1 points by the EITI Board. The points will be added to the Outcomes and impact component score. The assessment of performance on the indicators will draw on information provided by the MSG, publicly available sources, stakeholder consultations and disclosures by the implementing country and companies. Please see the EITI Validation Guide for further information about how performance on these indicators will be assessed.

- I. EITI implementation addresses nationally relevant extractive sector governance challenges. This indicator also recognises efforts beyond the EITI Standard.

The EITISR MSG adopted a definition of Beneficial Owners (BO), Politically Exposed Persons and a beneficial ownership threshold in keeping with its initiative to enhance transparency with respect to the ownership of the country's extractive resources.

- II. Extractive sector data is disclosed systematically through routine government and corporate reporting.

Several companies routinely disclosed through to several mechanism EG sustainable and Tax reports.

III. There is an enabling environment for citizen participation in extractive sector governance, including participation by affected communities.

All large extractive companies (state owned or private) regularly have public engagements as mandated by the Environmental and other permitting processes (e.g. ESIA (Environmental Socio Impact Assessment) permitting process).

https://s24.q4cdn.com/382246808/files/doc_downloads/operations_projects/south_america/documents/Merian-Project-Final-ESIA-Volume-I_0.pdf Link to EIA reports: [NIMOS EIA Repository \(google.com\)](#)

Public engagement meetings often provide lip service, as communities provide input but this input is often not included or even mentioned in the final versions of the Assessments and is not taken into account in decision-making.

Traditional land rights are not recognized, and licences are regularly granted without Free, full, prior and informed consent by local communities. Companies use coercion and bribery to gain permission from traditional authorities for extractives activities near villages.

See recent events from Pikin Saron and statement of MSG/Civil Society.

See statement attached in underlying documents and link on EITI website:

<https://eitipuriname.org/en/news/statement-on-incident-on-behalf-of-the-civil-society-msg-members-eitistr/>

IV. Extractive sector data is accessible and used for analysis, research and advocacy.

Extractive sector data accessible through Suriname EITI website and through the international extractive companies working in Suriname.

V. EITI has informed changes in extractive sector policies or practices.

1. In the draft mineral law stated in the explanatory note (page 3).

The draft law is also in line with the national objective of Suriname-EITI. The objective of the (phased) implementation of the EITI Standard by Suriname is, among other things, to provide Surinamese society with transparent and verified information about the financial flows between the mineral industry and the government in order to contribute to a well-informed debate about the value chain of the mineral industry in Suriname.

In accordance with the EITI system, the value chain of the mineral industry comprises the following links:

- mining licences and contracts;
- production,
- the collection of revenues,
- the allocation of revenue in public budgets; and
- the financial and socio-economic contribution of the national mineral sector

2. The transition of the GMD into the Mineral Authority Suriname (DAS).

The implementation of the mineral law will be conducted by the Mineral Authority Suriname (DAS) (page 6 draft mineral law).

Part IV: Stakeholder feedback and MSG approval

19. Describe opportunities provided to stakeholders beyond MSG members to give feedback on the EITI process, including the EITI work plan.

The annual meeting of oil and gas companies conducted by the regulator Staatsolie Hydrocarbon Institute provides an opportunity for the oil and gas constintunties members to inform and engage with oil and gas companies which are not members of the MSG on issues of EITI and extractive governance.

Enclosed is the Minutes and Actions from the 9th annual Suriname Oil & Gas Forum_for EITISR.

20. Describe how any feedback from stakeholders beyond MSG members have been considered in the review of the outcomes and impact of EITI implementation.

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21. Date of MSG approval of this submission and information on how the public can access it, e.g. link to national EITI website.

September 27th, 2023

<https://eitipuriname.org/>