

SURINAME COUNTRY ASSESSMENT REPORT

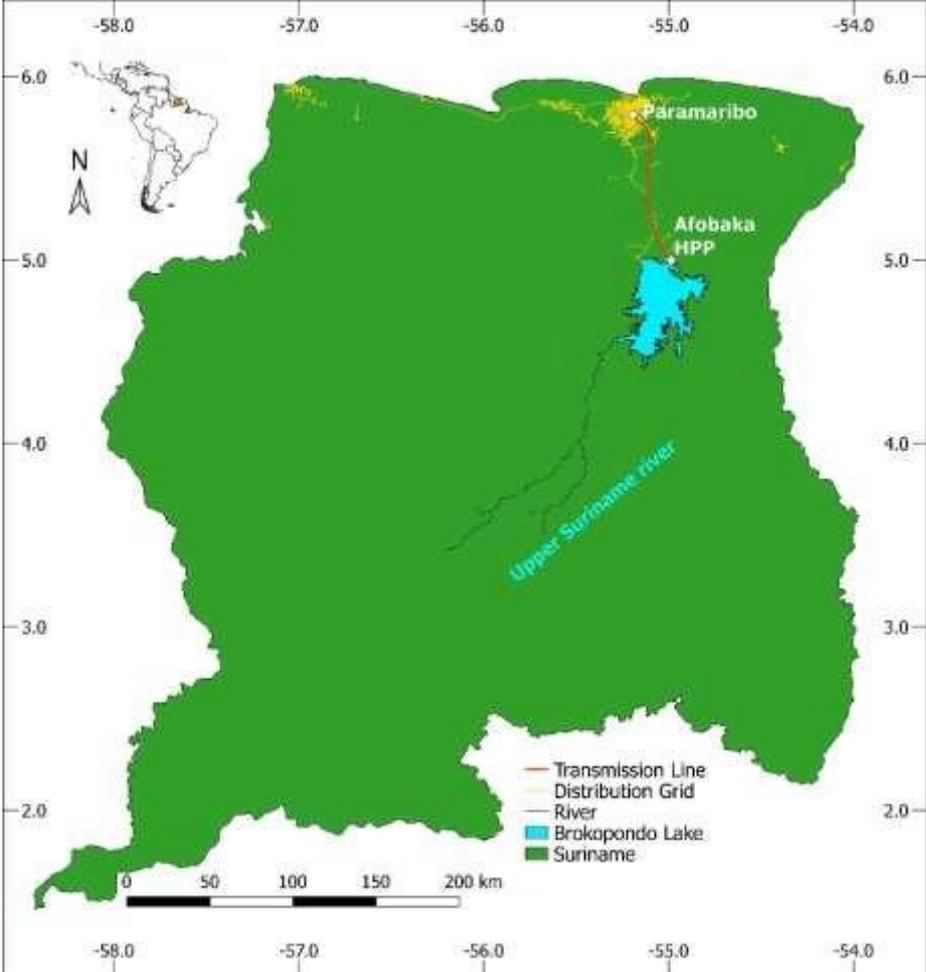
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1.1 Country Assessment Report Template

Country Name	Suriname
Introduction	<p>Suriname is situated at the northern coast of South-America, bordered by Guyana, French-Guyana and Brazil. It has a population of about 600 thousand and a GDP worth of US\$ 2.9 Billion growing at a rate of -2.7 % (reported in 2021).</p> <p>The following figure highlights the major elements of the power system of Suriname.</p> 

1.2 Electrical Generation and Demand

Generation	Technology	Capacity (MW)
	Wind	
	Hydro	189
	Fossil/Thermal	300
	Biomass	
	Solar	8
	Total	497
Demand	Sector	Demand (GWh)

	Residential	875
	Commercial/Service/Public Sector	175
	Transport	
	Industrial	700
	Primary Activities	
	Total	1750

1.3 Electrical Interconnection and Import/Export

Connected country	Capacity (MW)	Annual import from country (GWh)	Annual export to country (GWh)
Additional information	...		

1.4 Market Structure

The government of Suriname, through the Ministry of Natural Resources (NH), plays a very prominent role in the power sector, in the policy, planning and regulatory areas. The National Power Utility, N.V. Energiebedrijven Suriname (EBS) is a public entity, and is the sole concession holder for power distribution and retail, and operates all transmission and distribution grids. Power generation capacity expansion is being regulated by the Energy Authority of Suriname (EAS), through the electricity law (issued by the government in 2016), and allows only public entities, i.e., the EBS and the State Oil Company of Suriname (the latter operates the Afobaka hydropower plant), to invest in major capacity expansion (hydro and thermal power). Intermittent RE investments by independent power producers (IPPs), considering utility scale, requires policy (yet to be developed) regarding planning and investments, and grid-connection (e.g. a distribution code). Distributed generation (e.g. residential PV systems) is allowed at the end-user level, considering a net-billing approach.

Existing/Planned energy legislation:

- The electricity law (issued by the government in 2016).
- Distributed Code for connection of Distributed Generation.

The only mechanism for trading renewable energy attributes in Suriname applied so far is I-REC(E), under the I-TRACK standard.

1.5 Responsible Government Department

As stated in section 1.4, the government of Suriname, through the Ministry of Natural Resources (NH), plays a very prominent role in the power sector, in the policy, planning and regulatory areas. The National Power Utility, N.V. Energiebedrijven Suriname (EBS) is a public entity, and is the sole concession holder for power distribution and retail, and operates all transmission and distribution grids. Power generation capacity expansion is being regulated by the Energy Authority of Suriname (EAS), through the electricity law (issued by the government in 2016). The Suriname Energy Chamber (SEC) is the approved entity to act as the I-REC(E) local issuer.

Institutional Framework

See above

Regulatory Framework

See above

1.6 Existing/Planned Legislation

The I-TRACK standard is adopted without regulatory restrictions. The Suriname Energy Chamber (SEC) is the approved entity to act as the I-REC(E) local issuer. The SEC currently established a basis, in collaboration with the EBS (public-private initiative), to promote Energy Management at the end-user level, especially considering the commercial and Industrial end-users (key-accounts), through the implementation of Energy Management Systems (e.g. following the ISO 50001 principles), thus including monitoring systems for power balance assessments. This would serve as a vehicle for eligibility for “green funding” for RE investments, and green certification. Thus, information to verify registration, installed RE capacity and generated RE volumes of RE installations will be made publicly available on annual basis through energy balance assessments (energy monitoring and management).

1.7 Environmental and Renewable Electricity Legislation

In terms of NDCs, Suriname aims to keep RE potential at 35% or greater towards 2030. Currently the electricity law is the only (high-level) legislative framework which could sustain RE policy. However, adequate policy has yet to be developed to facilitate further RE development (especially intermittent RE, such as solar and wind). Apart from utility scale solar projects (a major hurdle is land use), recent wind assessments and studies have shown that Suriname has potential for at least 20% up to 30% wind contribution in the energy matrix, thus potentially replacing thermal generation to equal extent.

1.8 Existing/Planned Certificate or Support Systems

The I-TRACK standard is adopted without regulatory restrictions and is the sole mechanism applied in Suriname.

1.9 Extent of Engagement with Government

So far there is close collaboration (based on MoU) with the Energy Authority of Suriname (EAS) which mandated the Suriname Energy Chamber (SEC) for approval and adoption of the I-TRACK standard.

1.10 Expected Response from Government

None

1.11 Proposed Restrictions

None

1.12 Any Other Relevant Information

RE Market Potential:

Currently there is no Renewable Energy market mechanism. The EBS has the monopoly for power distribution and as a state owned company (along with the state oil company, Staatsolie) is the only eligible party for large scale investment regarding power generation. The latter especially concerns thermal capacity expansion and large scale hydropower projects. However, the energy act issued in 2016 allows independent power producers (IPP's) to invest in renewable energy whereas the EBS could purchase the generated electricity based on a power purchase agreement (PPA).

Demand side efforts, e.g. rooftop solar, are also allowed, but under strict regulation of the EBS, which allows net billing.

1.13 Author

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