Producing Climate Data for SDG monitoring in Suriname

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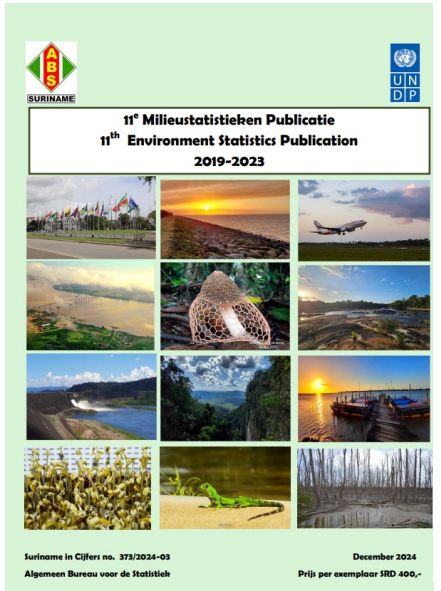
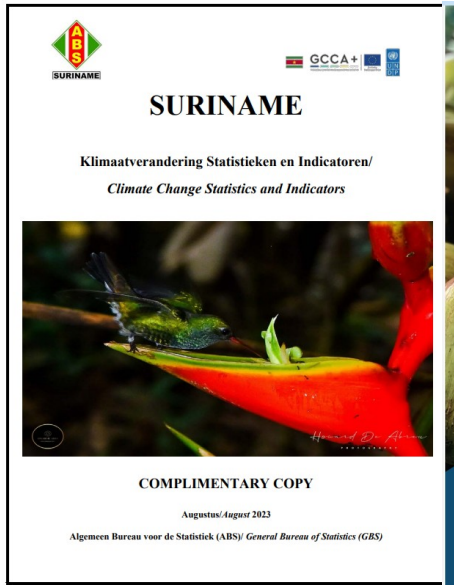
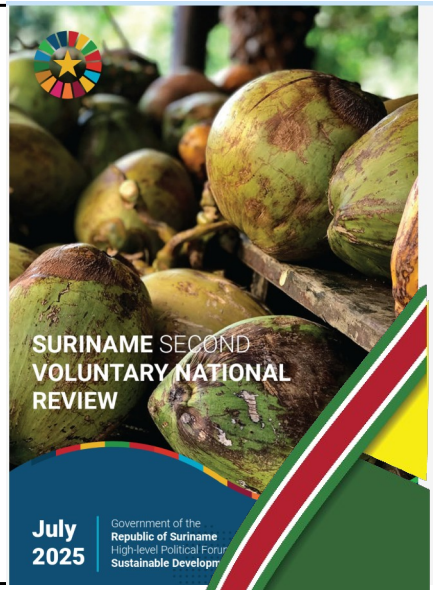
: 17 July 2025







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1. Suriname's Climate Change Statistics

- It was a **milestone** for Suriname to publish its first Climate Change Report in August 2023, following in the footsteps of Jamaica and Tanzania. (https://statistics-suriname.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/First-Suriname-CC-report_21-aug23-Climate-Change-Statistics-and-Indicators.pdf)

- The Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment, which is the Climate Change focal point of Suriname, acknowledges the importance of having a Climate Change Statistics and Indicators report, which is very crucial for Climate Change Policy for all IPCC areas, but mostly for **Mitigation and Adaptation processes**.

- Having a **separate Climate Change statistical** publication makes it easier to **link** with the existing Climate Change projects and UNFCCC submissions (NDC, NAP, National Communications), whereas having an Environment Statistics Report is much broader and does not contain some of the social indicators and GHG data. (https://unfccc.int/documents/627964)

GBS contributed to SDG 13 " Climate Action" in Suriname's First VNR report of Jul 2022 and provided data for their Second VNR that was submitted in July 2025. https://[illegible].org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2025/VNR%202025%20Suriname%20Report.pdf

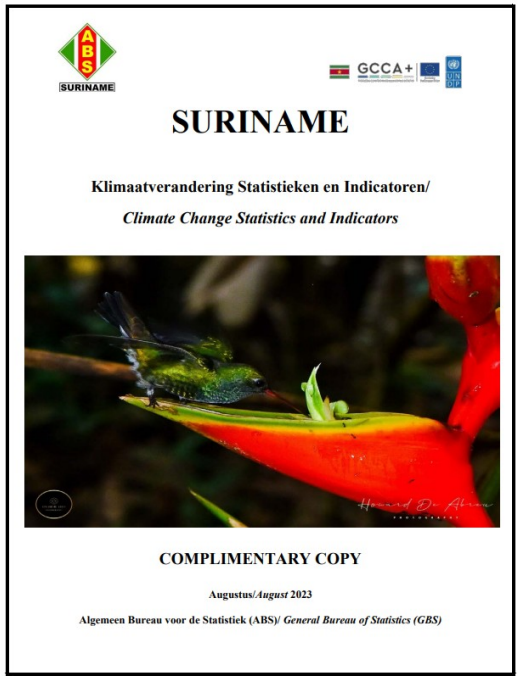
2. Data collection Process

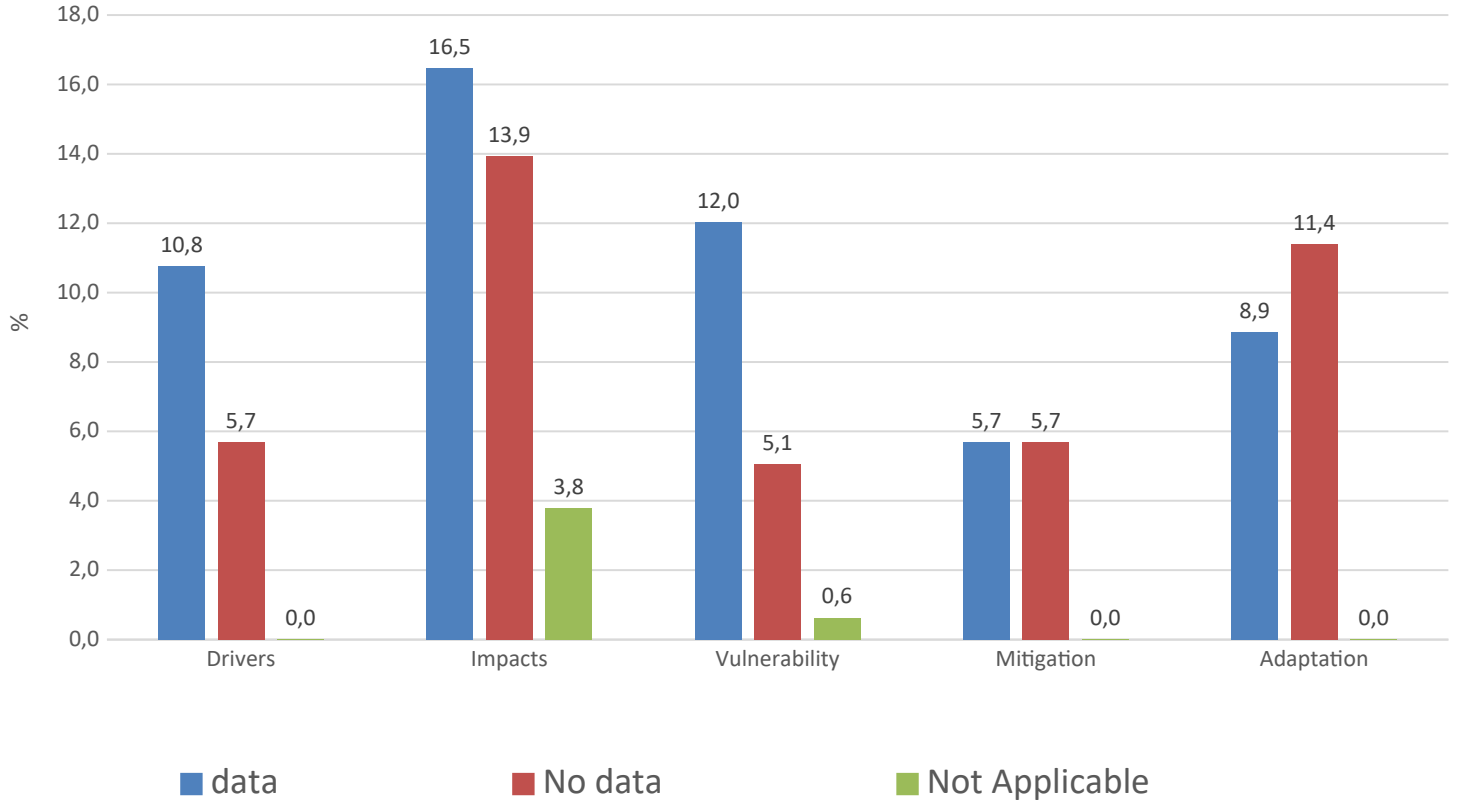
- It took more than 2 years to produce the Climate Change Report. In the first quarter of 2022, data request letters are sent to the stakeholders (circa 50), whereas in the second quarter the zero draft report is prepared to be presented in the Environment and Climate Change Workshop (August 2022), that was launched in August 2023 (workshop & launch funded by UNDP). The Climate Change and Environment Statistics reports are available on the GBS and UNSD websites.

The following guidelines were used:

- **UNSD: FDES 2013 Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics** (6 components, 21 subcomponents, and 458 indicators). (52%)
- **UN: Sustainable Development Goals (SDG**). (37%) from 84 Environment-related SDGs (selected indicators from SDG 2,3,8,9, and all from SDG 6,7,11,12,13,14 & 15).
- **UNSD: Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators** (Adopted in March 2022) (5 IPCC areas with 158 Indicators)

3. Data availability status by IPCC area





https://statistics-suriname.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/First-Suriname-CC-report_21-aug23-Climate-Change-Statistics-and-Indicators.pdf

4. Data Collection Sources

- Administrative data (received mostly in Excel or Word via email, more than 80% of the data compiled is administrative data).
- Census and Survey data (Indicators for the IPCC area Vulnerability (2024 PHC and 2025 Agricultural Census data for AFOLU sector)
- Environment Policy reports, conventions, regulations, and Acts.
- Academic papers/journals and websites/databases.
- **GIS data**. For Indicators regarding deforestation, Land degradation, etc, we use GIS data that we get from SBB (see next slide with some graphs/maps).

SDG Target 15.1:
By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreement.[51]

SDG Indicator 15.1.1:
- Forest area as a proportion of total land area.

Definition:
Forest area as a proportion of total land area.

In the period 2019-2023 Suriname's forest area decreased by 0.2% (see table 8.1).

With a 93% forest cover Suriname has the highest forest cover and therefore is **on track** to achieve SDG target 15.1

Tabel 8.1: Landoppervlakte en bosgebied, 2019-2023
Table 8.1: Land Area and Forest Area, 2019-2023

Jaar/ *Year*	Totale land oppervlakte/ *Total land area*	Totaal Bosgebied/ *Total Forest area #*	
	km²	%	km²
2019#	163,820	92.75	151,950
2020#	163,820	92.70	151,859
2021#	163,820	92.65	151,785
2022	163,820	92.61	151,707
2023	163,820	92.56	151,631

r Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht/Source: Foundation for Forest Management and P

SDG Target 15.1:
By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements[47].

SDG Indicator 15.1.2:
- Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type

Tabel 8.3a: Beschermde oppervlakte als % van het totale landoppervlak, 2019-2023
Table 8.3a: Protected Area as a % of the Total Land Area, 2019-2023

Jaar/ *Year*	Beschermd Bosgebied/ *Protected Forest area*	Beschermd Gebied/ *Protected area*
	km²	%
2019	22,650	14
2020	22,650	14
2021	22,650	14
2022	22,650	14
2023	22,650	14

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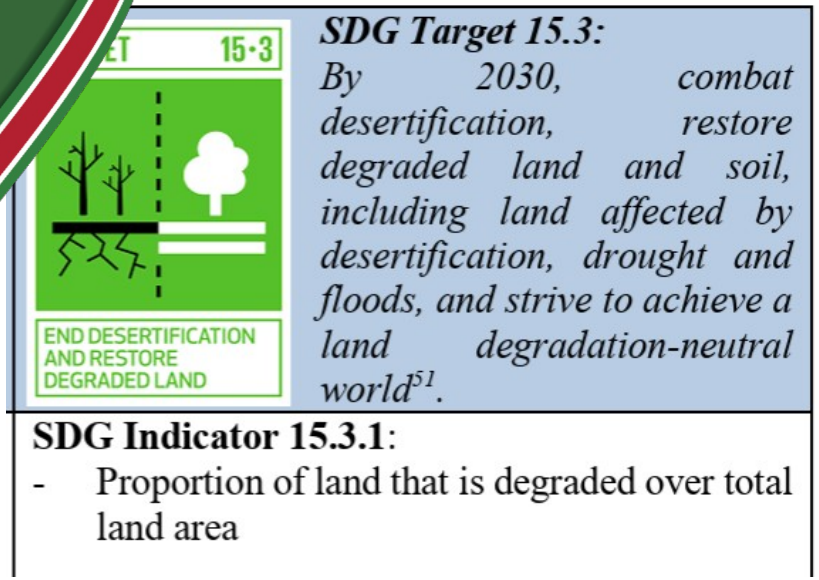


SDG Target 15.3:
By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world[51].

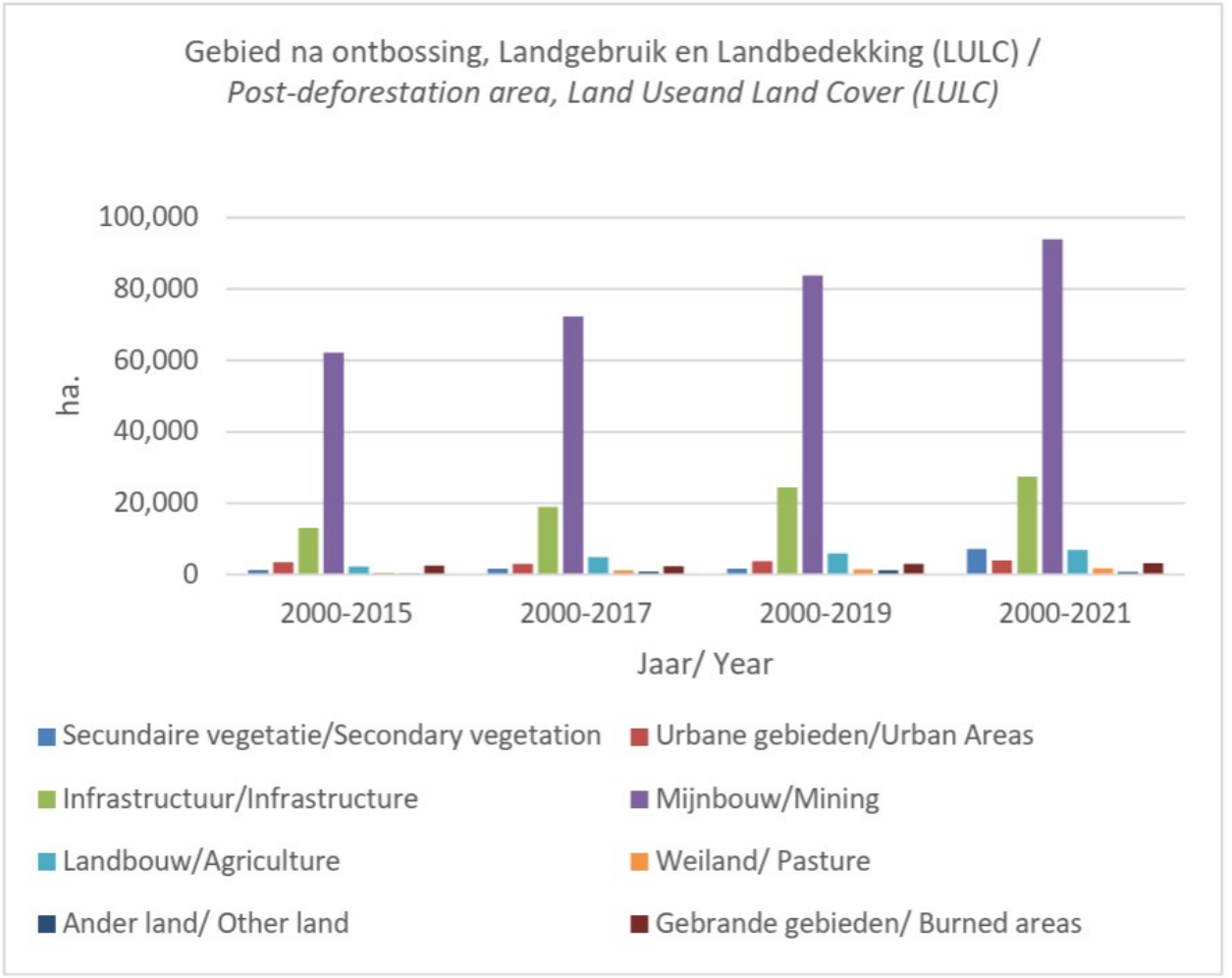
SDG Indicator 15.3.1:
- Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area

Tabel 8.5: Totaal gebied na ontbossing, Landgebruik en Landbedekking (LULC) (klassen in ha.), 2000-2015, 2000-2017, 2000-2019 en 2000-2021
Table 8.5: Total Post-deforestation area, Land Use and Land Cover (LULC) (classes in ha.), 2000-2015, 2000-2017and 2000-2019 and 2000-2021

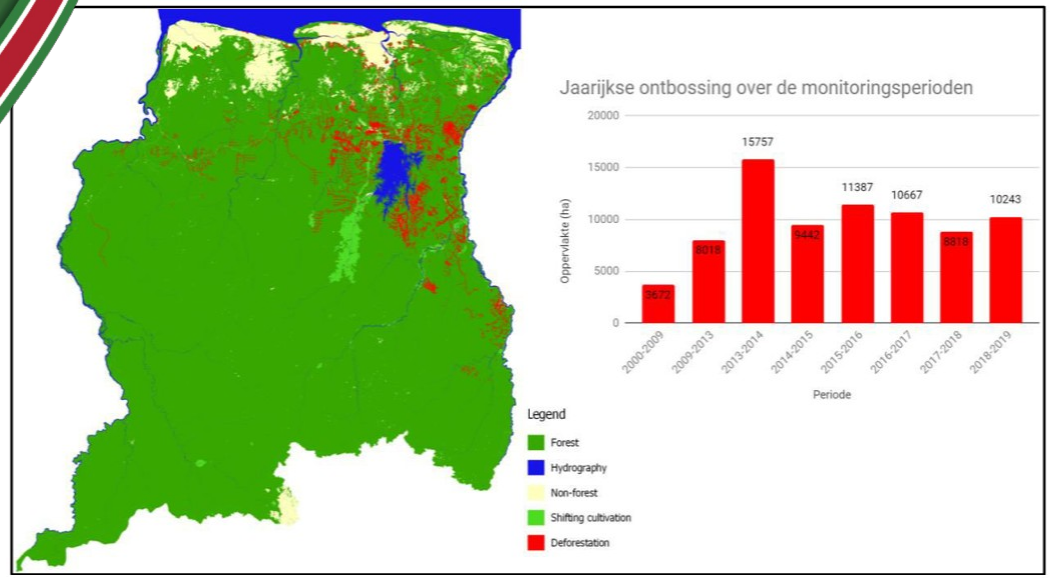
LULC klassen/ *LULC classes*	Gebied/*Area* (ha)			
	2000-2015	2000-2017	2000-2019	2000-2021
Secundaire vegetatie/ *Secondary vegetation*	1,205	1,642	1,642	7,160
Urbane gebieden/ *Urban Areas*	3,424	2,931	3,807	3,867
Infrastructuur/ *Infrastructure*	12,964	18,843	24,400	27,409
Mijnbouw/*Mining*	62,102	72,261	83,739	93,904
Landbouw/*Agriculture*	2,213	4,956	5,932	6,834
Weiland/ *Pasture*	455	1,114	1,495	1,664
Ander land/*Other Land*	281	769	1,124	714
Gebrande gebieden/*Burned areas*	2,502	2,302	2,922	3,161

Bron: Stichting voor Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht/Source: Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control

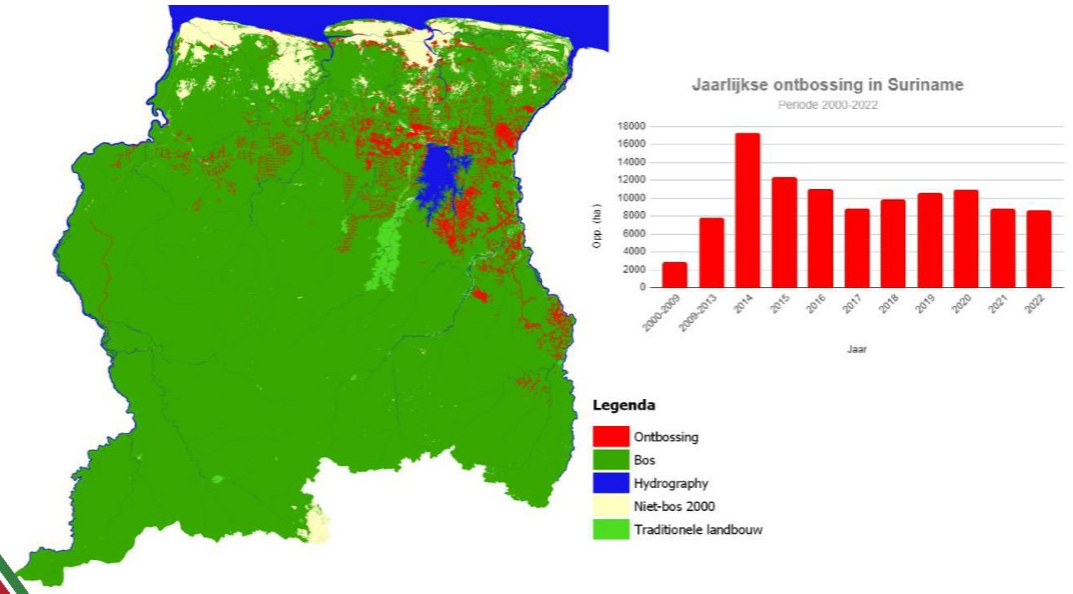
erking/ *Remark*:
ervlakte van weiland houdt ook in verlaten gebieden waar niet perse veeteelt plaatsvindt/ *The area of so includes abandoned areas which are not necessarily pasture areas.*
0 geldt als basisjaar/ *The year 2000 is used as the base year.*



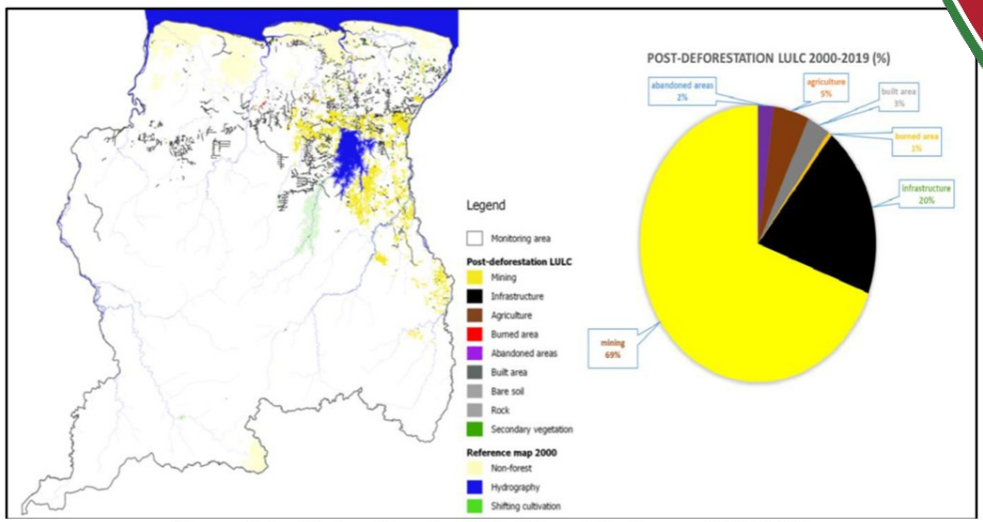
Grafiek 8.1: Totaal gebied na ontbossing, Landgebruik en Landbedekking (LULC) (klassen in ha.), 2000-2015, 2000-2017, 2000-2019 en 2000-2021
Graph 8.1: Total Post-deforestation area, Land Use and Land Cover (LULC) (classes in ha.), 2000-2015, 2000-2017, 2000-2019 and 2000-2021



Figuur 8.3a: Ontbossingsgraad (%) over de monitoringsperioden 2000-2019
Figure 8.3a: Deforestation rate (%) over the monitoring periods 2000-2019
(Bron: Stichting voor Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht/Source: Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control)

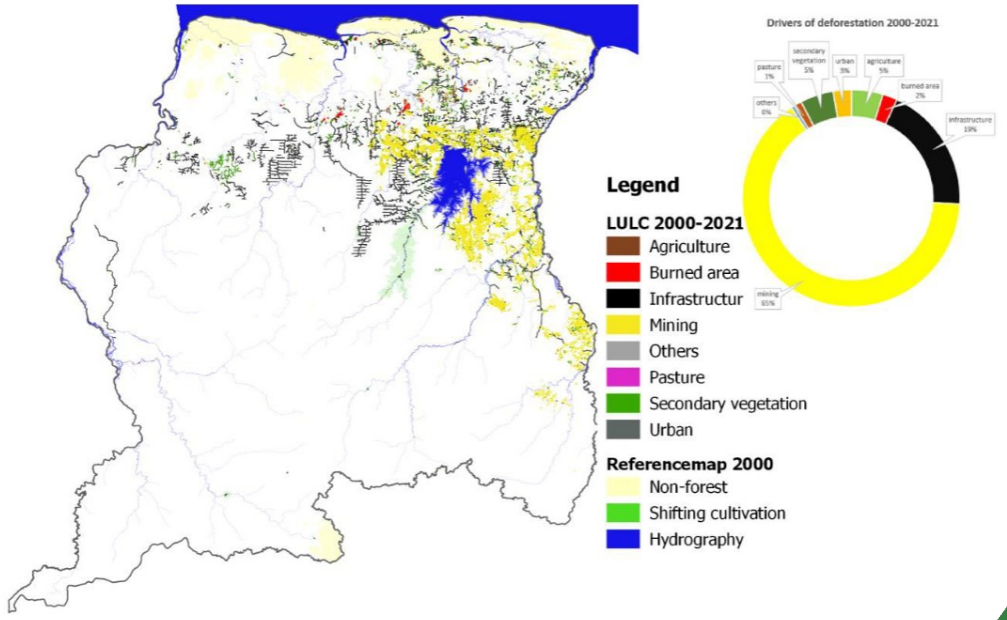


Figuur 8.3b: Ontbossingsgraad (%) over de monitoringsperioden 2000-2022
Figure 8.3b: Deforestation rate (%) over the monitoring periods 2000-2022



Figuur 8.4a: Post-ontbossing LULC kaart Suriname, 2000-2019
Figure 8.4a: Post-deforestation LULC Map Suriname, 2000-2019

(Bron: Stichting voor Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht/Source: Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control)



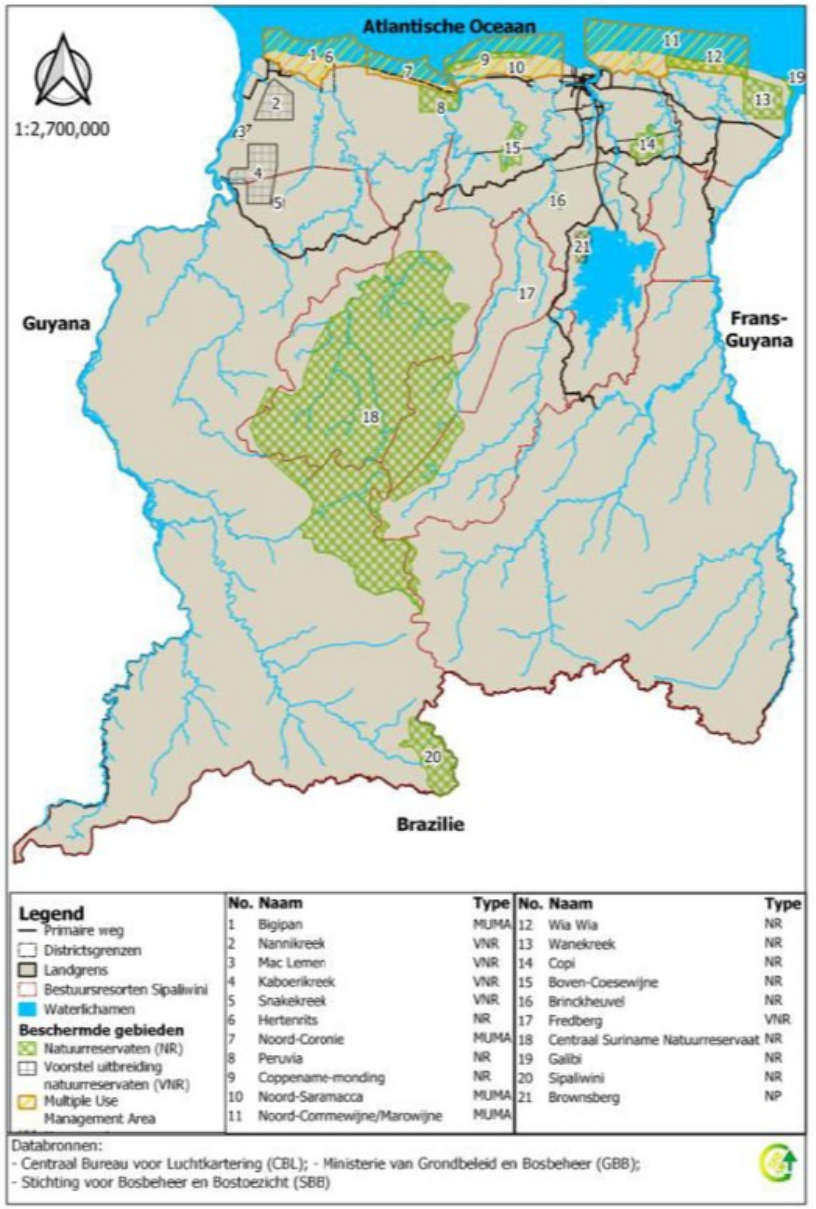
Figuur 8.4b: Post-ontbossing LULC kaart Suriname, 2000-2021
Figure 8.4b: Post-deforestation LULC Map Suriname, 2000-2021

SDG Target 15.4:
By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development.[49]

SDG Indicator 15.4.1:

- Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity

Definition:
The indicator Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity shows temporal trends in the mean percentage of each important site for mountain biodiversity (i.e., those that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity) that is covered by designated protected areas and Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) (see table 8.3b.)



Figuur 8.1: Kaart met de beschermde gebieden in Suriname, 2023
Figure 8.1: Map with the Protected Areas of Suriname, 2023

5.Challenges / Weaknesses

- The GBS relies on administrative data, which can result in lower data quality or even no data for some years due to staff turnover.
- The statistical capacity of the government needs to be enhanced/increased through more training, especially in the metadata, to understand better the FDES 2013, Climate Change, and SDG indicators, and to be able to calculate the indicators themselves.
- Data collection is time-consuming. Stakeholders need to be reminded constantly via email/phone or even through personal visits. This situation worsened significantly with the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Some of the national data is not processed in the required format, or is not disaggregated, or is out of date (lack of data by Gender & District).
- Suriname does not have a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) yet.

Due to a lack of financial and human resources, specialized surveys cannot be conducted.

6. Opportunities /Strengths (1)

GBS has a good collaboration with the government, private sector, and international organizations (UNDP) and participates in many (national, regional (CARICOM & ECLAC), and international (UNSD/UN/ FAO/Global partnership, etc.) Environment and Climate Change Statistics and SDG workshops and meetings.

2016:

- GBS is a member of the Expert group of **Environment and Climate Change Statistics** (EG-ECCS) and contributed actively to the Global set on Climate Change Statistics and Indicators since 2020 and on other topics as well.

2017:

- GBS is a member of the CARICOM Technical Working Group (TWG) on Environment Statistics and the SDGs and contributed to the CARICOM CORE SET of SDGS.

2018:

- GBS conducted the 6th Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), which provided a lot of data for the SDG indicators.

2019-2021

- GBS published its 9th Environment Statistics Report in 2020.

2022:

- GBS contributed to the chapter on SDG 13 “Climate Change” in their first VNR report and provided data for the second VNR (July 2025) for all 17 SDGs.
- GBS introduced the Global set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators at the 10th and 11th Environment Statistics Publication Workshop. GBS has experience with the SDGs and has been collecting data since 2016.
- GBS contributed to their Climate Change knowledge Database for Suriname. https://dondru.sr/ (needs to be updated).

6. Opportunities /Strengths (2)

2023:

- **GBS** published their first Climate Change Statistics Report; GBS/Suriname became the vice-chair of the EG-ECCS

2024:

- **South-South cooperation through CARICOM.** GBS, in collaboration with CARICOM, provided in-country Technical Assistance activities (3-day workshop). They were held in Saint Lucia (February 2024), the Bahamas (March 2024), and Dominica (July 2024) under the Centre of Excellence project of CARICOM, funded by the 11th EDF project. **Objective**: to exchange experiences, improve the capacity of the NSO to fill data gaps using the FDES, the Global Set of Climate Change statistics and Indicators, using the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment tool (ESSAT), and the CISAT.
- GBS published their 11th Environment Statistics report in December 2024.
- GBS conducted their 9th Census in October 2024 (still ongoing), which will provide updates for some of the indicators of the UNSD Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators and SDGs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8,9, 10,16, and 17.

2025:

- The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries conducted its 6th Agriculture Census in the first quarter of 2025 after 17 years, which will provide updates for some of the indicators of the UNSD Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators and SDGs 2, 5, 8 and 13.
- Suriname submitted its second VNR. https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2025/VNR%202025%20Suriname%20Report.pdf
- GBS is working together with the Ministry of Environment and other core ministries on their first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR). For the Third National Communication, the NAP and the NDC GBS provided data (Environment statistics report).

7: Lessons learned

- Quality and availability of data are the most critical issues.
- Human, Technical, and Financial resources are scarce.
- Environment Statistics and Climate Change statistics should be a priority issue for the Government; otherwise, reporting will remain an ad hoc action.
- There is a need for more technical capacity (training in the metadata & data collection process) for the FDES Environment statistics, Climate Change Indicators, and SDG indicators.
- Strengthen collaboration between NSOs and Authorities responsible for Environment and Climate change to enhance data production, dissemination, and use.
- Strengthening Institutional collaboration in administrative data collection and sharing will be a sustainable means of data supply to climate change-related policies and programmes.

BEDANKT

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Thank You

Gracias

Merci Beaucoup