

SBF

SURINAME BUSINESS FORUM



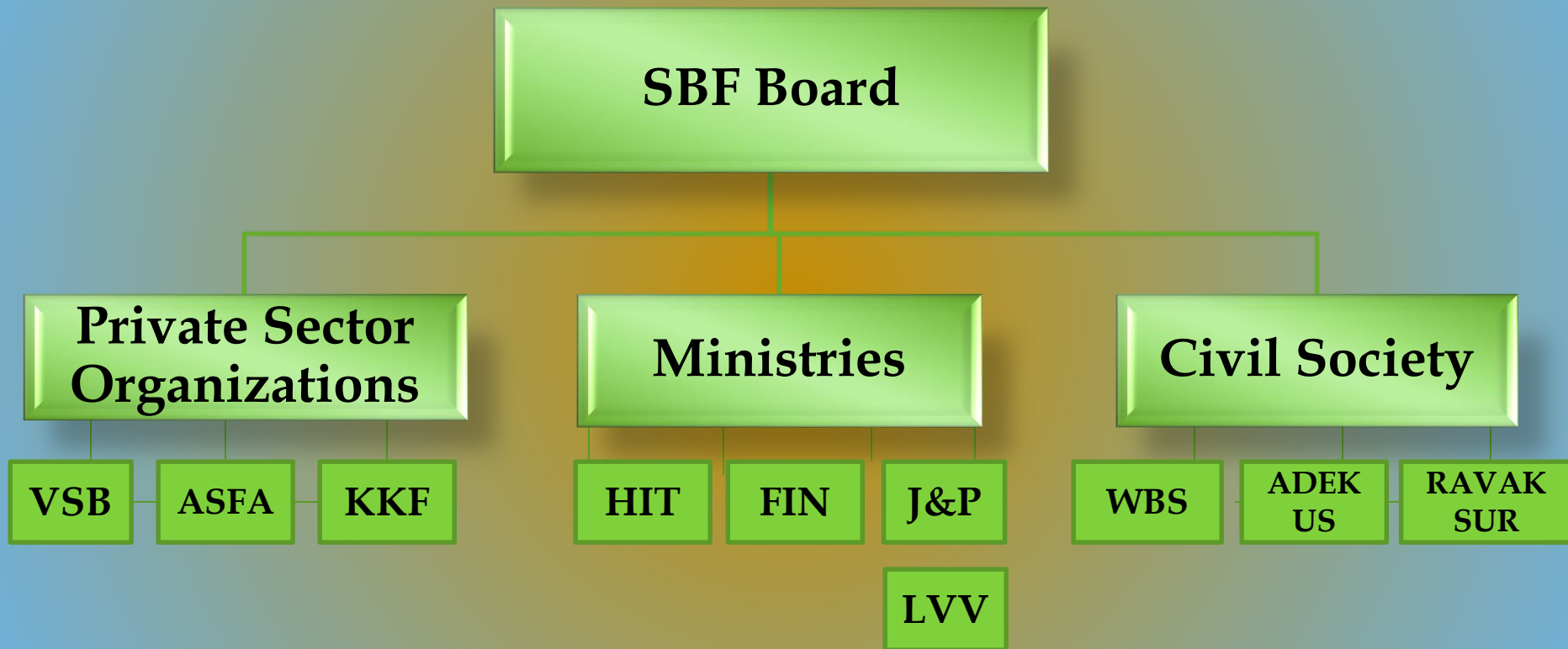
**For Sustainable & Innovative Development of
the Local Private Sector**

Citation (from Development Plan/OP)

Suriname Business Forum (SBF) and her executive office, the Suriname Business Development Center (SBC), then also to enhance sustainably, so that it also increasingly can support the Government, in its endeavor towards innovative development of the private sector, as the motor of the economy.”

SBF is a Dialogue platform

SBF Members



Law of 18 October 2006, (Wet Suriname Business Forum)

Article 1: The Minister of Trade, Industry & Tourism

Short History

- ▣ In 2005 from the EU under the 9th European Development Fund (EDF) resources were allocated for the "Public Private Partnership - Support to the Domestic Private Sector - Suriname Business Forum (SBF)" project (Reference no.: 09 ACP SUR 07, Agreement no. 9333/SUR)
- ▣ In 2006 the SBF was instituted by law
- ▣ Project implementation, after tenders in 2007, started in January 2008

Goal and Tasks

Goal

- ▣ Development of the Local Private Sector (LPS) through
 - dialogue (PPD)
 - Public Private Partnership (PPP)
 - Strategies that jointly formulate, execute and monitor.

Law of 18 October 2006, (Wet Suriname Business Forum)

Goal and Tasks (cont'd)

Tasks:

- ▣ Set up a permanent platform
- ▣ In **dialogue/cooperation** with government and the actors
- ▣ Set up Suriname Business Development Center; (executive office/agency of the SBF)
- ▣ Create requirements
 1. **Formulate National Strategy**
 2. Co-ordinate at implementation
 3. Identification of priority sectors

Execution tasks

Current status:

- ▣ Set up permanent platform (completed)
- ▣ Set up **Suriname Business Development Center** (completed)
- ▣ Formulate “National Strategy”* (completed, actualisation on-going)
- ▣ Identification of priority sectors (completed)
- ▣ Co-ordination at the execution (on-going)

*substantial part formulated in Development Plan 2012-2016

Organogram SBF/SBC

***Daily Board SBF = Board of SBC:**

Mrs. Marion Stekkel-Vroom – Chair
(Chair of Women Business Group Suriname. WBS)

Mr. Steven MacAndrew – Secretary
(Director Trade & Industry Association. VSB)

Mr. Wilgo Bilkerdijk – Treasurer
(Chair of Manufacturers' Association. ASFA)

The Importance of Dialogue

Dialogue with regard to PD Bottlenecks

Bottlenecks	Stakeholder Org.	Gov. Institutions	Results
MKV issue and procedures (Permit Short Stay)	Agr. Coop. Kwatta (LCK), VEAPS	Min. BuZa, Min. ATM, Min. JusPol	Intervened Through Dialogue
SGS issue	KKF, ASFA, VSB, AKMOS	Min. Fin., Min. HI, Customs	Intervened Through Dialogue
Exemption of duties	KKF, ASFA, VSB, AKMOS	Min. Fin., Customs	Intervened Through Dialogue
Liberalization of total bread sector	Sur. Bakery Association (Sur. Bakkers Vereniging)	Min. HI, SSB	Intervened Through Dialogue
Regulation Indian "Trade Fairs"	Stakeholders trade fairs (15)	Min. HI	Intervened Through Dialogue
SME KMO fund / Warranty fund - guaranty issue	NOB, ASFA, KKF VSB	Min. Fin.	Intervened Through Dialogue

Dialogue with regard to PD Bottlenecks

Bottlenecks	Stakeholder org.	Gov. Institutions	Results
Law Permit Businesses (Vergunning Bedrijven en Beroepen) (liberalization permit system)	KKF, VSB, ASFA	Min. HI	Intervened Through Dialogue
Set up LLC - NV - ease procedures	KKF, VSB, ASFA	Min. HI	Intervened Through Dialogue
Raise Forestry Concession rights	PHS, ASHU, BHP, KKF	Min. ROGB, Vice Pres.	Intervened Through Dialogue
(Renewable) Energy Issue	ASFA, VSB, KKF, UNDP, IICA	EBS, Min. NH	On-going dialogue

National Strategy (2011-2020)

- ▣ National Strategic Action Plan (2011-2015)
- ▣ Draft NSAP 2016-2020

- ▣ 6 Key areas:
 - KI – Law and regulation for the Local Private Sector
 - KII – Direct local and foreign investments
 - KIII – Competitiveness of the LPS
 - KIV – Sustainable growth sectors
 - KV – Business services
 - KVI – Public and Private Dialogue (PPD)

Comprises 88 actions related to different stakeholders and relevant Ministries + Institutions

National Strategic Action Plan IN Execution

Programs/Projects in relation to NSAP executed or in execution in 2019...

Programmes/Projects	Stakeholder Org.	Gov. Institutions	Key Areas NSAP	Results
Workshops Export Readiness program for tier 1 & tier 2 companies	SBC, HI, ASFA, LVV	Min. HI, LVV	III, IV	Executed in 2016 and 2017
Workshops Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in Suriname - Moving towards implementation (SEITI)	SBC, NGO's, other stake holders	Min. NH, BIS	III, IV	Preparation of SEITI through representation by the Multi Stakeholders Group, Part of working group, applied/ membership EITI granted
Train-the-trainer program SME Training for Entrepreneurs by Ministry of TCT/CBVS	SBC, total tourism sector	Min. TCT, STS, CBVS	III, IV, V	Trainings executed; trainees trained and trainers executed courses for new groups in 2016
Training programme and Certificate ceremony Green-houses project	SBF, WBS, UNDP Suriname	Min. LVV	III, IV, V	Farmers trained in the in's and out's of greenhouses and agro management
SBF/CDB Workshop Managing for Development Results (MFDR)	SBC, CDB	Min. HI a.o.	III, V	Conducted in 2016, 30 trainees trained in logical framework model
Management International Study Trips Univ. of T&T	SBF/SBC, UTT, various org. &	Min. HIT	II, III, IV, V, VI	In 2012 and 2017 executed study trips by Master

Programmes/Projects in relation to NSAP executed or in execution in 2019...

Programmes/Projects	Stakeholder Org.	Gov. Institutions	Key areas NSAP	Results
United Business Trade Fairs	SBF/SBC, KKF, United Magazine, different companies & organizations	Min. TCT, STS, Min. HI	III, IV, V	Co-organized first 3 professional Business trade fairs between 2011 and 2014 with Connect Suriname seminars
National Rice Conference 2016 - Rice workshop	SBF/SBC, NRC, initiative group, PUM, total rice sector	Min. LVV, NOB	III, IV	Workshop and training conducted in Paramaribo and Nickerie; recently the HIT minister advised concerning issues in the sector
Survey Mission Export Readiness Programme	SBC, ASFA, NexConneX	Min. HI, Min. LVV	III, IV	Conducted in Trinidad & Barbados (2016), result: market opportunities for companies in the progr.
Company visits Export Readiness Programme	SBC & total agro sector	Min. HI, Min. LVV, CBVS	III, IV, V	Company Diagnostic reports (2016)
Study tour to Aruba, Columbia & Chile	SBF/SBC, KKF, ASFA, VSB	Min. HI, Min. RO, Min. FIN	I - VI	Orientation of 42 Sur. delegation members in various fields (2009)

Programs/Projects in relation to NSAP executed or in execution in 2019

Programmes/Projects	Stakeholder Org.	Gov. Institutions	Key areas NSAP	Results
Export Readiness Programme	SBF/SBC, CDB, ASFA, PUM, 31 companies	Min. HI, Min. LVV	III, IV	Companies export ready to Trinidad, Barbados, EU/ MOU with BIDC signed
Caribbean Technological Consultancy Services (CTCS)	SBF/SBC, CDB, STC, experts, 17 satellite organizations a.o.	Min. HIT, Min. Fin.	III, IV	Registration of experts/ consultants in database, organizations/experts trained for assistance in project proposal writing
FINPYME ExportPlus Technical Assistance scheme	SBC, IIC-IDB, several sector organizations	Min. HI, Min. LVV	III, IV	Project conducted for 2 years as agency (2010-2013), follow-up in preparation
Training "Corporate Social Responsibility" (MVO)	SBF/SBC, VSB, the Netherlands embassy, MVO the Netherlands	Min. HIT	III, IV	Training conducted for 17 participants/13 companies by 2 trainers from the Dutch now in phase of forming of a structure for Suriname
Cluster programme: Pilot Agro and Tourism sector	SBF/SBC, IDB, total Agro & Tourism sector	Min. HI	III, IV	Pilot conducted (2011-2012) with spin-off, set up of sector management clusters
Agro Food programme	SBF/SBC, CBI	Min. LVV	III, IV	25 Agro mentors trained & coached and deployed at farmers
National Certification Programme 2012 & 2014	SBF/SBC, SSB, diff. sector	Min. HI	III, V	About 60 companies & org. trained/inter-certified

Programs/Projects in relation to NSAP executed or in execution in 2019

Programmes/Projects	Stakeholder Org.	Gov. Institutions	Key areas NSAP	Results
Suriname Coalition of Service Industries (SCSI)	SBC, CNSC, CEDA, all sectors	Min. HI	II, III, IV, V, VI	SCSI launched in 2015; project on-hold by Ministry (in 2016)
Suriname Rainforest Experience & Cultural Tourism Project (2014-2016)	SBF/SBC, LBS, UNDP Suriname, Compete Caribbean, STS, CBI, PUM	Min. HI, Min. TCT	III, IV, VI	About 30 lodges, several villages a.o. in the Upper-Suriname river area benefitted from the activities and trainings; Lodge hopping tours developed and firm participation in the Utrecht/Jaarbeurs Vacation Fair in 2015
Study on the contribution of copy-rights and related rights - based industries to the national economy of Suriname	SBF, WIPO, total creative sector, IDB	Min. JusPol, Min. HI, Directorate Culture (Dir. Cultuur)	III, IV	Stakeholders meetings engaged/ Study not finished, because of lack of funding; proposal at IDB for co-funding and follow-up
Doing Business with India seminars/ meetings	SBF/SBC, Emb. of India; agro/ different sectors	Min. HI, Min. BUZA	II, IV, V	Fostering of trade relations, export and import possibilities
Doing Business with Canada seminar	SBF/SBC, CESO, SSB, Honorary	Min. HI, Min. Min. LVV, Min.	II, IV, V	Fostering of trade relations, export and

Programs/Projects in relation to NSAP executed or in execution in 2019

Programmes/Projects	Stakeholder Org.	Gov. Institutions	Key areas NSAP	Results
Assessment of the MSME in the Agriculture sector of Suriname	SBF/SBC, SITPO, Indian Embassy in Suriname	Min. RO, District Commissioners	II, III, IV, V	A study conducted of 5 sectors in 4 districts (2017-2018)
Assessment of priority sectors for technical assistance through the region (2015-2016)	SBF/SBC, ASFA, CDB	Min. HI	II, III, IV, V	Report with 8 priority sectors of Suriname listed; also used for the CTCS scheme
Business meeting with Indian delegation	SBF/SBC, SITPO, AKMOS, KKF, ASFA, VEAPS, LCK a.o., Indian Embassy in Sur., WAPCOS	Min. HIT, JusPol, Min. FIN, a.o.	II, III, IV, V	Lunch meeting with information session and match-making
Strict appraisal procedure Basic Need Trust Fund (BNTF)	SBF/SBC, CDB, Independent consultants	Min. Education, Min. HIT, FIN, BUZA	I, II, III, IV, V, VI	In final stage of appraisal by the consultants for the CDB in order to place the Fund in Sur. to become functional/operational
Direct Grant Assistance Scheme (DAGS)	SBF/SBC, CEDA, ASFA, Exporters/ companies	Min. HIT	II, III, IV, V	2 country advisors trained in order to assist businesses to apply for this grant/sensitizing

List of MOU's

- ▣ Anton de Kom University of Suriname (2009)
- ▣ Suriname Bureau of Standards (SSB) (2009)
- ▣ National Statistics Office (ABS) (2009)
- ▣ China Chamber of Commerce (2013)
- ▣ Suriname Planning Office (SPS) (2014)
- ▣ Foundation for Lodge Holders Upper-Suriname (LBS) (2014)
- ▣ Ministry of Trade, Industry & Tourism (HIT) (2015)
- ▣ Barbados Industrial Development Cooperation (BIDC) (2016)

Projects in relation to the Formalize MSME

- ▣ Continuation of the Export Readiness project (New sectors + New target countries for export – in negotiation with the CDB)
- ▣ Feasibility study for the set up of storage facilities for export of agricultural products/flowers/meat and fish products and live animals
- ▣ Follow-up on the greenhouses stimulation project

Projects in relation to the Formalize MSME

- ▣ Set up of Knowledge Centre (KC) under the SBC: for Cocoa, Cassava and Podosirie (Acai)
- ▣ Creation of a National export mark or extension of the 'Made in Suriname' trademark to a export warranty mark issued by the Ministry of Trade, Industry & Tourism in cooperation with the business community.

Measures that strengthen institutional capacities to promote Formalization

- ▣ SBF and BSO (stakeholder organization)
- ▣ Promote formalization by increasing the awareness of the business environment to the target group.
- ▣ During activities of the organization , participant or members received information of different services, such as tax , Chamber of Commerce , Suriname Bureau of Standards , Basic Medical Care , Pension fund and Credit Guarantee Fund.

Measures that strengthen institutional capacities to promote Formalization

- ▣ COMMERCIAL REGISTRATION; The Trade Register . Every company in our country is obliged by law to register for / on the Trade Register. Exceptions to this are Government Companies that or not public limited , companies in the agricultural sector that are not limited , associations or foundations and companies that belong to minors who do not have manual guidance

Measures that strengthen institutional capacities to promote Formalization

- ▣ This information is necessary for every entrepreneur to make the choice to switch to the formal economy.
- ▣ With the One Stop Window one can, for example, go for the drafting of license applications, which saves a lot of running time for entrepreneurs.
 - Requesting new permits or extensions is simplified.
- ▣ Build networks between all the stakeholders and promote and enhance the exchange of knowledge

Obstacles

- ▣ No MSME institution
- ▣ No specific policy yet in place for MSME's
- ▣ No formalization policy for MSME's
- ▣ De-politization of government agencies to help MSME's and formulate clear policy on MSME's
- ▣ The business service organizations together with the Government are busy to formulate a national definition based on a combination of different indicators: employment, annual turnover, organization structure and type of the sector / industry

Recommendations

- ▣ Access to finance with lower interest rates
- ▣ Tax facilities: tax holidays, decreasing taxes (income tax, government take, etc.)
- ▣ Assistance in market intelligence with optimal product and market combination to explore export markets for primary agricultural products and processed products

Recommendations based on best practices

- ▣ Because of the unique structure of our Forum, the SBF makes more use of it by co-funding programs/ schemes/ projects & activities
- ▣ Incorporate the National Strategy of the SBF into policy; update the NSAP 2017-2020
- ▣ Strengthen the SBC and other BSO's to use them in the implementation of these

Questions ???

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THANK YOU !



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