



Annual report 2019 and 2020



About Us

Green Growth Suriname Foundation's (GGS) mission is to further advance the people of Suriname's wellbeing and welfare by conserving the biological and cultural richness of the country. GGS envisions Suriname as a country that recognizes and maintains its ecological and cultural balance, populated by its citizens that are enabled and recognized as cornerstones of a sustainable society. GGS envisions to achieve its goals by:

- Developing and implementing models to include nature in national development processes.
- Designing and executing socio-economic projects that contribute to GGS's mission.
- Building capacity for nationals interested in conservation by organizing training sessions, workshops, seminars and socio-cultural excursions.

At Green Growth Suriname (GGS) we adhere to our operation principles. What makes us different is our research-based approach, our core values and our operating model. Together with our partners we strive to further advance the people of Suriname's wellbeing and welfare.



High return on
Investment



Precise alignment
with existing
needs



Solid Ethos



Partnerships



During the soft launch of the FOREST93 campaign in August 2019 at the Amazone Market in Paramaribo visitors wrote their ideas for nature conservation on our totem pole.

Contents

Report from the Board for 2019 & 2020	3
Internal organisational goals.....	3
Publications.....	3
Impact Goals	3
1. Models to include nature in national development processes.....	4
2. Socio-economic projects.....	5
3. Build capacity for nationals	6
Profile of the Green Growth Suriname Foundation	8
NGO 2.0 Model	8
GGs' mission, goals and values.....	9
GGs' role in Suriname and the World	9
Outlook 2021	10
Board of Directors and Partners	11
Board of Directors	11
Board of Patrons	11
Partner Organizations and Consultants	11
Financial Report on the year 2020	13



Little boy draws his idea for Suriname's national animal, one of the questions at the totem pole at the Amazone Market in August 2019 during the soft launch of the FOREST93 campaign

Report from the Board for 2019 & 2020

The year 2019 was the start up year for the organisation. 2020 was the first year of full operations. This annual report summarizes the activities for the year 2019 and 2020 combined.

Internal organisational goals

Green Growth Suriname (GGS) started its own operations in 2018 focussing on the set up of the organization whilst also developing its own projects to find funding. The organization received its first funding in 2019 and signed a fiscal sponsorship agreement with partner organization Global Wildlife Conservation in 2020.

Through a seed funding program with Global Wildlife Conservation the organization was able to:

- set up its highly networked technology suite to run its projects and daily operations,
- do research as input for funding proposals,
- publish supporting whitepapers on actual events in society,
- support volatile communities in organizing and planning their own capacity building activities via community-managed funds,
- design and execute a capacity building program for Green Growth Champions

Publications

In 2019 and 2020 the following whitepapers were published:

Smith, Gwendolyn (2020). *Collaborative (Co)-Management as a Model for Bio-Cultural Conservation in Suriname*. Green Growth Suriname Foundation.

Smith, Gwendolyn (2019). *The Rules are Changing: Indigenous Peoples and Social Impact Assessments*. Green Growth Suriname Foundation.

Smith, Gwendolyn (2019). *Conflictresolutie: Een Methode ter Onderhandeling van het Surinaams Grondenrechtenvraagstuk*. Green Growth Suriname Foundation.

Impact Goals

Green Growth Suriname designs their programs, with its core values at heart, around one or more of the following goals:

1. Develop and implement models to include nature in national development processes, based on research.
2. Design and execute socio-economic projects that contribute to GGS's mission.
3. Build capacity for nationals interested in conservation by organizing training sessions, workshops, seminars and socio-cultural excursions.

In 2019 and 2020 the following programs were developed and executed:

- **The Forever 93 Suriname Nature Management program;** which was aimed at awareness on Suriname's status as the most forested county in the world and the necessity to adopt legislation to help protect this status.
- **Forest conservation through a community-owned brazil-nut enterprise in Alalapadu;** which is a one-year support to set up a diversification of the product range for the community-owned, livelihood project in Alalapadu, South-Suriname.
- **Building the foundation for Suriname's Green Future;** which is aimed at helping to create the enabling conditions for sustainability through capacity building, and, to build the pathway to conservation by integrating the full suite of IUCN category protected areas into the needed regulatory framework.

All programs have elements of the three main organizational goals; the most prominent aspects of the program can be assigned as forwarding these organizational goals as follows.



1. Models to include nature in national development processes

Green Growth Suriname Foundation aims at developing models to help include nature in national development processes.

Our model to support Government initiatives included:

- Studies that serve as building blocks to complete the legal suite of sub-regulation for the Environmental Framework Law.
- Tailor-made trainings on environmental finance.

Forest Governance

Green Growth Suriname Foundation sets out to include larger groups from society in forest governance. In order to create more engagement from the public to be involved with the governance of nature, it developed a three layered model, consisting of:

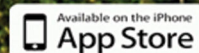
1. **Research:** *Near-real time satellite monitoring with the technology of Satelligence.* A website showed the results of bi-weekly alerts of changes in the forest coverage in the production area of Suriname's forest (25% of the land area) to give the general public more insights in the types and pace of changes in the hinterland.
2. **Engagement:** *Citizen science through the Green Growth Forests app* Together with Spotteron, a leading global platform for citizen science applications, GGS developed a Green Growth Forests app as part of a larger citizen science planning effort. A study into the opportunity for citizen science to help elevate the data gap in Suriname was done in 2019. A mobile application was developed, on the Spotteron platform, to engage the general public in monitoring areas or signs of deforestation throughout the country. Once someone detects (signs of) deforestation or logging, one can snap a picture and record the entry in the app.



As part of the redecoration of the international airport of Suriname the departures hall was decorated with a giant kankantri image as an ideal place for a last picture in Suriname for your social media



Promotion for the citizen science app Green Growth Forests.



DONWLOAD DE APP NU EN HELP ONS 93% BOS TE BEHOUDEN



SEE IT



SNAP IT



SAVE IT

The mobile app was made available to the public in August 2020. The data is visible in real time for everybody via the website <https://app.greengrowthsuriname.org>

3. **Awareness:** *Awareness through a weekly webserie called Busi Taki.*

A weekly web series by nature-enthusiast and journalist Christio Wijnhard gives the general public information on all kinds of nature related topics in Suriname. The serie also accumulates information from the Green Growth Forest app and/or the satellite monitoring data.

<https://busitaki.sr>

The triangulation of the three activities will help to open up the forestry sector, in particular the governance part, to the public with more and readily available information on the activities in the forest. All data is shared with researchers and government institutes to advance their work and/or policies.

Potential Future Conservation Efforts

Green Growth Suriname has started several research projects to assess the needs of communities in relation to the following projects:

- Needs Assessment for wood carving culture in Saramacca area (Tembe). This is a study into the potential for the revival of wood carving as a livelihood project for the Saramacca tribe.
- Study into the opportunity for citizen science as part of tourism development in the mangrove regions along the coast of Suriname. This is a follow-up of the Green Growth Forests app and the potential of citizen science and the use of mobile applications in the coastal zone for agri-tourism development.

The results of these studies will be used to develop future project proposals.



2. Socio-economic projects

New product line for Brazil Nuts in Alalapadu

In 2020 a project started to advance forest conservation through a community-owned brazil-nut enterprise in Alalapadu. The brazil nut facility was already in production thanks to a partnership of the Alalapadu community and Conservation International Suriname.



Green Growth Suriname Foundation supports the community foundation and Conservation International Suriname, with a one-year project, to diversify the product range of the community-owned facility by researching, designing and setting up a roasted nuts product line. The roasted nuts will be an enhancement of the current Tuhka oil product. At the same time the community is trained and supported in conservation monitoring of their 235,000 ha area which the community pledged to help conserve under a conservation agreement with Conservation International Suriname.

Guesthouse in Kwamalasamutu

The Trio tribe decided to put forward parts of the funds available to them (under the enhancement of self governance of the Trio tribe program) to a socio-economic project in the village of Kwamalasamutu. They have built a community-owned guesthouse to accommodate (paying) guests to the village.



3. Build capacity for nationals

FOREST93 campaign

To build national awareness on the importance of nature and protection (a.o. through appropriate legislation) a national campaign was developed under the brand FOREST93. 93% forest. 100% Surinamese.

The campaign included several visuals around town (billboards, posters), video and radio commercials, social media campaigns and highly-visible branding projects through partner projects with the SLM (national flight carrier), NV Luchthavenbeheer (Airport Management) and Paramaribo Live Museum beautification of Paramaribo project.

The impact of the FOREST93 campaign was surveyed in May 2020. By then, 53% of respondents had heard of FOREST93, 63% knew the slogan “93% forest, 100% Surinamese” and 80% saw the forest-themed airplane. After this, the billboard campaign reached the largest audience; 67% of respondents saw the billboards, 50% saw the wall art in Paramaribo or news articles about it and 41% saw advertisements in local newspapers on FOREST93 themes.



Green Growth Champions

The Foundation has a focus on building capacity for nationals interested in nature and conservation.

Since the start of the foundation, the organization uses 24% of its funds to establish its operations for sub-grants to Green Growth Champions.

Amongst those are i) the oldest organisation for indigenous in Suriname, the Organisation of Indigenous Suriname (OIS), and ii) the Trio tribe in the South of Suriname, represented by Granman Ashongo Alalaparoe.

Besides this, the organization also selected four young nationals for an internal capacity building program, offering participants a lecture series with professionals within the environment sector.

The new Environmental Framework Law opened up new opportunities to attract and manage environment financing. Together with the National Institute for Environment and Development (NIMOS)¹, Green Growth Suriname started preparations for an assessment around environment finance experience in the country and untapped opportunities for Suriname to find advice on what types of financing to proceed with. This project includes a thorough capacity building program for government representatives on environment financing performed by national and international experts on the subject.

¹ NIMOS is in the middle of transitioning towards a National Environment Authority, which is required by the Environmental Framework Law (2020). The transition period is expected to be concluded in quarter one of 2022.



Profile of the Green Growth Suriname Foundation

Suriname is the only country on earth that has managed to keep over 90% of its forests standing! 93% forest is 100% Surinamese.

Green Growth Suriname Foundation strongly believes that nature is the single most connecting issue across the wide variety of cultures, religions and age groups in Suriname. When the Government of the Republic of Suriname pledged, during the COP-23 conference in 2017 in Bonn, that it is their ambition to remain the most forested country on earth with a forest cover of 93% percent, we found a compelling opportunity to unite Suriname around this goal.

Green Growth Suriname Foundation (GGS) was established in 2018 as a non-governmental organization, under Surinamese law, run by nationals with a high level of expertise working in nature conservation and sustainable development. GGS was established to fill the gap as the only Surinamese green organization working in the nexus of conservation and development without ties to international organizations. As a young organization, GGS created structures and systems to effectively implement projects and activities to safeguard the wellbeing of the Suriname people and to generate economic profits while conserving nature.

NGO 2.0 Model

GGS's operational strategy is different from other conservation organizations because it adheres to following core values when working with partners to execute projects and programs:

- **LEAN OVERHEAD.** GGS keeps overhead to an absolute minimum by outsourcing non-core tasks as much as possible, having no payroll and only virtual workspaces (no office).



- **MAXIMIZE INVESTMENT.** GGS looks for flexible funding to flawlessly fit the needs of the beneficiaries. Each project or program is perfectly built on the local cultural systems to maximize investment. A systems approach is used to interconnect projects. There is a direct connection between board and field, thus limiting bureaucracy.
- **HIGH IMPACT.** Projects and programs have a high impact because of GGS's balanced expertise of science and practice, matched together with the investment of the donors.
- **NEW MODELS.** We focus on finding and/or developing new models to solve real time problems. We combine NGO goals with an entrepreneurial mindset. Image for the organization itself is not the driver. Impact is. We use tools and approaches from others as long as they work.

GGG partnered with the United Tour Guides Suriname Association (UTGS) to do a wall art of the FOREST93 theme in the center of Paramaribo as part of the beautification of Paramaribo project under the IDB-supported tourism support project 'Paramaribo Live Museum'



GGG' mission, goals and values

Green Growth Suriname Foundation's mission is to further advance the people of Suriname's wellbeing and welfare by conserving the biological and cultural richness of the country. GGS envisions Suriname as a country that recognizes and maintains its ecological and cultural balance, populated by its citizens that are enabled and recognized as cornerstones of a sustainable society.

GGG maintains a set of core values that guide the initiation and development of all programs and projects. These are depicted in the 4 interconnecting circles in our logo:

1. **Dedication to socio-cultural balance;** bridging the worldviews at play in project design and implementation to the ultimate benefit of Suriname's people.
2. **Love of communities;** capacity building guided by local needs, knowledge and customs to make vulnerable communities more resilient.

3. **Appreciation of Biodiversity;** conservation of biodiversity and data collection to mainstream the economic benefit of nature and forest stewardship.
4. **Respect for Science;** use evidence-based research in project design to add to national knowledge on bio-wealth and/or socio-cultural developments and inspire informed decision-making.

In the execution of all of its projects Green Growth Suriname adheres to its five core values: Respect, Ownership, Transparency, Integrity, and Empowerment.

GGG' role in Suriname and the World

Suriname, one of the only two carbon negative countries in the world, is home to the third largest renewable freshwater resources per capita in the world and the highest per capita forest resources of any country. Having led the world in conservation practices as recently as 1998, with the establishment of the World Heritage listed Central Suriname Nature reserve as the largest wilderness reserve in the world at the time, Suriname is now ready to embark on a new era of conservation. An era that holds the promise of serving as the undisputed green growth leader in a world where environmental leadership is scarce.

We, at Green Growth Suriname, stand ready to serve as not only trusted advisors to the country and its people, and we are keen to be the conduit for the much needed technical and financial support that will be needed over the coming years to turn opportunity into reality.



Outlook 2021

In 2021 the Green Growth Suriname Foundation will:

- Continue its work on the suite of legal tools to support creating the building blocks for successful implementation of the Environmental Framework Law in Suriname.
- Provide a roadmap to incorporate IUCN categories in national regulation by providing draft regulation and a pilot case study of how this will work on the basis of one exemplary new protected area.
- Create a partnership with STINAPA, the Foundation for Nature Parks in Suriname, to support the formal protection of green urban areas in and around Paramaribo, the capital city of Suriname.
- Support the Green Growth Champions in their projects with technical support, knowledge sharing and funding. The aim is to increase the group of Green Growth Champions with 4 additional participants.
- Continue fundraising for forest governance to continue a.o. the satellite monitoring and the citizen science projects to increase science-awareness and data collection in Suriname.
- Support the national discussion on how to diversify the economy with oil revenues.
- Develop one new project proposal on indigenous health.
- Publish its first public annual report and a whitepaper on environment financing.



Partner Organizations and Consultants

The following organizations and individuals contributed in reaching our goals:

Partners

Conservation International Suriname (CIS)
 Coördinatie Milieu, Kabinet van de President (CM)
 Granman of the Trio, Ashongo Alalaparoe
 Global Wildlife Conservation (GWC)
 IUCN Europe
 N.V. Luchthavenbeheer Suriname (JAPI)
 Ministerie van Ruimtelijke Ordening en Milieu (ROM)
 Nationaal Instituut voor Milieu en Ontwikkeling in Suriname (NIMOS)
 Organisatie van Inheemsen Suriname (OIS)
 Satelligence
 Spotteron
 Stichting voor Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht (SBB)
 Stichting Tuhka te Alalapadu
 Surinaamsche Luchtvaartmaatschappij (SLM)
 Villa Zapakara
 United Tour Guides Suriname (UTGS)

Consultants

4U Business Solutions
 Adept Suriname
 Aviation Graphix
 Brandnew Strategic Partners
 Bridge IT
 Climate Change Advisory Services
 CrossedLines Advisory Services
 Suriname
 Fabian de Randamie
 Kenswil & Co.
 Lilian Spijkerman
 Melvin Uiterloo
 Naarendorp Advocaten
 Nadira Hellendoorn
 Nancy del Prado, LL.M.
 Next Level Partners
 Nils Print
 Perspectives of Freedom Foundation
 Proplan Consultancy
 R&G Consulting
 Sandra Reeder

Board of Directors and Partners

In 2019 and 2020 the Green Growth Suriname Foundation's Board worked with various partners and consultants on their projects. We are thankful for the contributions made and guidance received towards realising our first projects for Suriname and its people.

Board of Directors

Gwendolyn Smith, Ph.D.	Chair/ Director of Science
Lindsay Goossens	Secretary/ Director of Policy & Governance
Maikel Reeder	Treasurer/ Director of Communications

Board of Patrons

The Board is supported by a Board of Patrons composed of a group of selected people with outstanding track records around the globe in conservation, wildlife or socio-economic work. They act as trusted advisors to the board.

The current Board of Patrons has one member:

Dr. Russell Mittermeier	Chair
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93% BOS. 100% SURINAAMS.

Financial Report on the year 2020

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITIONS AS AT

	Notes	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
		US\$	US\$
ASSETS			
Receivables	5	4,063	550
Cash and cash equivalent	6	428,947	480,353
Total asset		433,010	480,903
FUND	7		
Endowment fund		110	110
Cumulative Deficit/surplus		-3,031	-498
Total fund		-2,921	-388
LIABILITIES			
Deferred revenue	8	428,024	476,512
Payables	9	7,907	4,779
Total fund		435,931	481,291
Total fund and liabilities		433,010	480,903

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW OVER THE YEAR

	Notes	2020	2019
		US\$	US\$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Deficit over the year		-2,533	-498
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities</i>			
Grants and accounts receivable		-3,512	-550
Accounts payable and accrued Expenditures		-45,361	481,291
NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES		-48,873	480,741
		-51,406	480,243
Cash flow from Fund		-	110
Net in cash and cash equivalents		-51,406	480,353
Cash equivalent, beginning of year		480,353	-
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT, END OF YEAR	6	428,947	480,353

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES OVER THE YEAR

	Notes	2020	2019
		US\$	US\$
REVENUE			
DONATION		-	13,000
GRANTS	10	752,498	343,487
Total revenue		752,498	356,487
EXPENDITURES			
Project Expenditures	11	753,698	355,652
General and administrative Expenditure	12	1,333	1,333
Total expenditures	13	755,031	356,985
Surplus/ (Deficit) revenue and expenditures		-2,533	-498



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To: The Board of Green Growth Suriname Foundation

Our opinion

The summary financial statements as at 31 December 2020, of Green Growth Suriname Foundation, based in Paramaribo, is derived from the audited financial statements 2020 of Green Growth Suriname Foundation.

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements are consistent, in all material respect, with the audited financial statement 2020 of Green Growth Suriname Foundation.

The summary financial statements comprise:

1. The statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 2020;
2. The statement of Revenue and Expenditures for the year ending December 31, 2020; and
3. The statement of Cash Flow for the year ending December 31, 2020

Summary financial statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles. Reading the summary financial statements and our report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of Green Growth Suriname Foundation and our auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our auditor's report on those financial statements of august 2nd, 2021.

The audited financial statements and our auditor's report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements 2020 of Green Growth Suriname Foundation in our auditor's report dated august 2nd, 2021.

Responsibilities of the board for the financial statements

The board is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

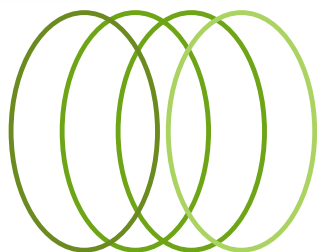
Our responsibilities

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which we conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing including Standard 810, "Engagements to report on summary financial statements".

Paramaribo, October 27th, 2021

Exlent Accountancy & Financial Services N.V.

drs. Susan Trott CA RA
Managing Director



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GROWTH
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GREEN GROWTH SURINAME FOUNDATION

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