

## **Statement Gajadien session IV “Supporting climate-resilient agriculture and livelihoods: Ensuring food security and human and environmental health”**

Good afternoon ladies and gentleman, dear colleagues, I am pleased to address the topic of this session. I remember the words of the president of IPU, Sr Pacheco in Bali, we need to take actions, no words more.

While speaking of mitigation of climate change matters for our people are confronted with war matters that we can not create optimal food security. While Suriname is one of the carbon negative country it is a fact that 87% of the population, and most of the country's economic activity is located within the low-lying coastal area. There is no other choice to supporting climate resilient by engaging a broad set of relevant national stakeholders in the development and implementation of sector specific climate adaptation plans in their respective spheres of activity and local communities such as:

- Effective support provided for stakeholder generated initiatives for economic, social and environmental linkages between urban, peri-urban and rural areas to develop sustainable rural climate adaptation.
- Stakeholder approved initiatives with exclusive targets relevant to rural concerns such as climate resilient agriculture and coastal protection.

I shall address the three sectors and there strategic objectives used.

Starting with:

### **Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries**

This sector is highly dependent on water resources and climatic conditions, and currently employs outdated technology, increasing its sensitivity to climate change. Saltwater intrusion and variations in rainfall patterns could lead to a decrease in available productive land, which could have negative repercussions on national food security and export earnings.

Strategic objectives:

- Developed a comprehensive national research program on climate resilient crops, adaptive agricultural practices, animal husbandry and fisheries.
- Conducted analysis on past and future climate impacts on Suriname's and the region's agriculture, livestock and fisheries sector and responses
- Strengthened participation in agricultural activities particularly among women and vulnerable groups
- Increased the capacity and effectiveness of the agriculture extension services
- Focused on community specific and local specific awareness and training
- Provided training and guidance in climate smart crop production
- Climate-control systems on livestock farms and modification of livestock feed, in both the coastal area and the interior
- Implement the Water Boards Act as the most relevant legislation for water management in the agricultural sector and strengthen the governance in water management for agriculture
- Developed and provide a financial incentives scheme for farmers, based on research results appropriate to each region and ecotype, to implement climate resilient farming techniques/actions
- Developed and provide a financial incentives scheme to promote aquaculture

### **Human Health**

Strategic objectives:

- Keep abreast of the latest scientific and medical findings and evidence related to the spread of disease likely caused by climatic changes.
- Stimulate national health research and conduct a continuous program for monitoring diseases that have been highlighted with a climate change signal for Suriname and the region, which include malaria, yellow fever and dengue fever.

Sources :

- State of the Climate Report, Suriname. Summary for Policy Makers ,Technical note No IDB-TN-02205, July 2021
- Suriname National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2019-2029

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- Strengthening of technical and professional capacity of health personnel, the organizational capacity of health systems, and their institutional capacity to work with others. In order to public health resources for the surveillance, prevention and control of vector borne diseases.
- Conduct a public-awareness campaign on climate related health impacts, such as dangers of prolonged heat stress.
- Provide information to the public on climate related vector-borne diseases.
- Establish medical centers near potential risk zones and hospitals in areas that are not vulnerable to climate-change impacts.
- Introduce Early Disease Warning Systems that consider temperature signatures for vector borne diseases and other diseases.

**Environment health**

**Strategic objectives:**

- Provide support for climate adaptation along the coastal region including mangroves.
- Perform Technology Needs Assessment to draw out and identify priority resilience and low emission technologies required.
- Support and advance scientific understanding of climate phenomena and harness that understanding for action in Suriname and the region.
- Create capacity building program on climate resilience by Leading climate adaptation strategy and country implementation.
- Enact the Environmental Framework Act 2000, which stipulates that climate change be considered in development planning and proposes a fund to finance climate related research.
- Require environmental impact assessments when developing long-term projects.
- Implement conservation strategies designed to protect marine turtles in the face of climate change.

**Sources :**

- State of the Climate Report, Suriname. Summary for Policy Makers ,Technical note No IDB-TN-02205, July 2021
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