

IMPACT REPORT 2019

CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL

Suriname







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The achievements we've highlighted in this report are made possible by tremendous support from our team, donors and partners. Protecting nature is a collaborative effort. Partnering at every level is the only way to lasting success. Thank you for standing with us.



conservation.org/suriname



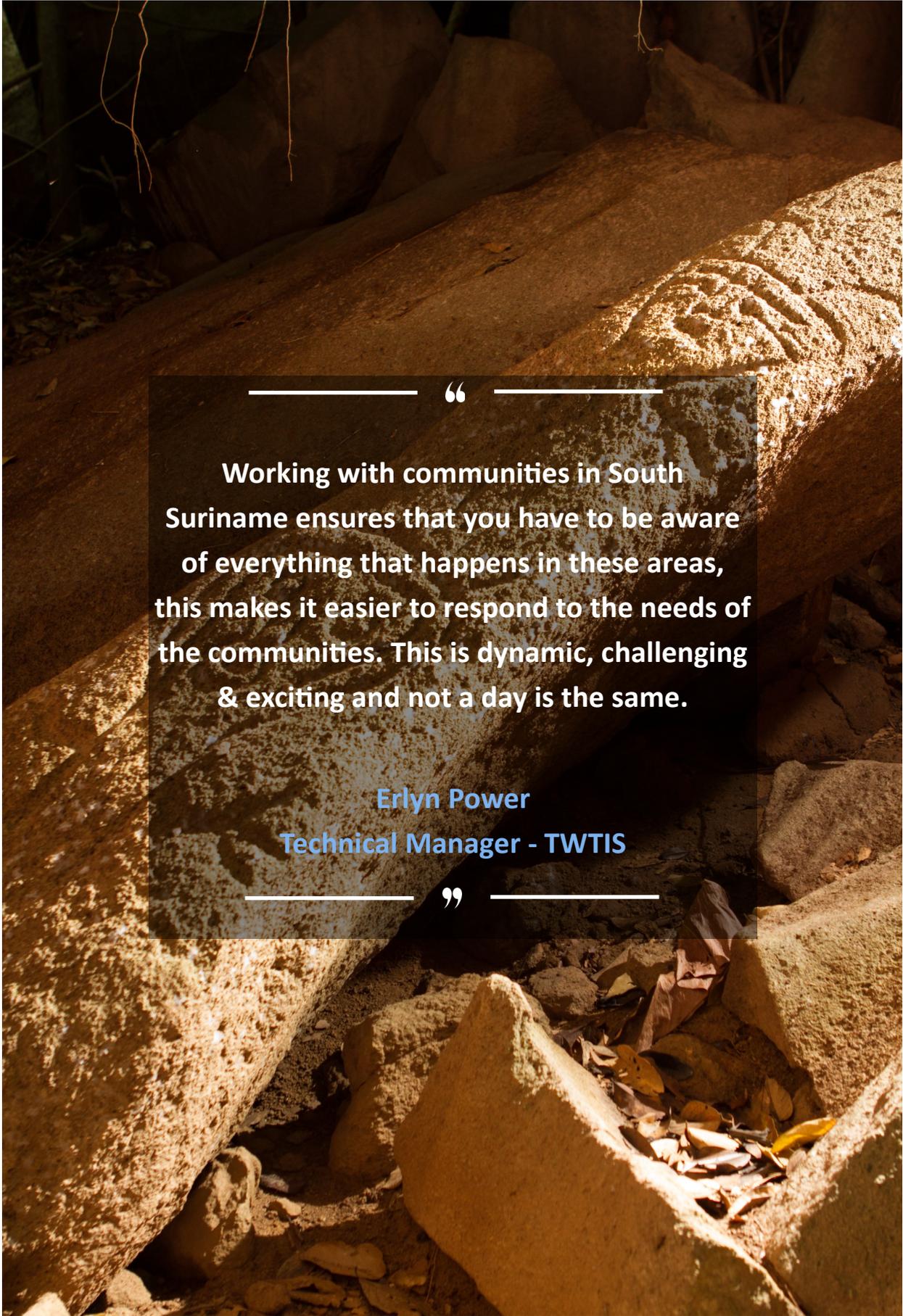
[@CISuriname](https://www.facebook.com/CISuriname)

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The Amazon is much more than a beautiful, exotic tropical rainforest. It's also an enormous source of food, water, medicine and cosmetics that we use in our daily lives.

Daniela Raik
Senior Vice President - Americas Field Division

”



“

**Working with communities in South
Suriname ensures that you have to be aware
of everything that happens in these areas,
this makes it easier to respond to the needs of
the communities. This is dynamic, challenging
& exciting and not a day is the same.**

Erlyn Power
Technical Manager - TWTIS

”

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TWTIS

Trio and Wayana Protect Land and Nature in Southern Suriname

SOUTH SURINAME: Conserving 7.2 million hectares of forest

For three years, the village of Alalapadu has been working closely with Conservation International Suriname (CIS) to conserve their forest and develop a community brazil nut oil enterprise. 2019 was a stellar year.



Aerial view of the Trio village, Alalapadu

Impact indicators

- 45 stores in Suriname sell Tuhka oil – Brazil nut oil brand produced in Alalapadu
- 500 liters of Tuhka oil exported to US cosmetics company LXMI
- 235,000 ha newly conserved forest
- 1 exchange trip to Bolivia
- Preparations to conserve 1 million hectares of the Tepu Itu Area under a Conservation Agreement

From forest to the main ingredient in LXMI 33 Face Oil - Stichting Tuhka's first export to the USA

At the beginning of March 2019, HEM Suriname, one of Suriname's largest distribution companies, took over local distribution of Tuhka oil which is now available in more than 45 stores across the country.



from Alalapadu

Zij verkopen
TUHKA
NATURAL BRAZIL NUT OIL
100% ORGANIC - MADE IN SU

PARAMARIBO

- DIO/DA DRUGISTERIJEN
- KET MIEN & CO
- M. OEMAR
- READYTEX N.V.
- SOMA APOTHEEK
- ALI'S DRUGSTORE
- CHOI'S SUPERMARKETS
- GALAXY TORARICA
- LIN A MIN COSMETICA
- COMBE MARKT
- FLAMINGO STORE
- BEST MART
- APOTHEEK POLANEN
- LELYZORG APOTHEEK
- ZESHA DRUGSTORE
- APOTHEEK FARMAVIDA
- MERIAM DRUGSTORE
- HEALTH & RITUALS DRUGSTORE
- CONNECTION APOTHEEK
- BRAHMA
- KAY STORE
- G-SALE SUPERMARKT
- BIK FOENG SUPERMARKT
- LATOUR DRUGSTORE
- NICKERIE
- FUNG APOTHEEK
- WANG WANG SUPERMARKT
- TIAN KE LONG

Some of the outlets where the Tuhka oil is available



Captain Morishi of Alalapadu and CI employee, Iven Cyrus, loading the 500 liters of Tuhka oil for shipment.



Trijana and CI representatives during a field visit in Bolivia.

Stichting Tuhka's first export to the USA

On September 10th, Stichting Tuhka exported their first 500 liters of Tuhka oil to the US cosmetic company LXMI (www.lxmi.com). The community of Alalapadu and Stichting Tuhka were very proud of this milestone. The export was made possible by the grant Stichting Tuhka received from IFS (Innovation for Firms) Fund of the Ministry of Trade, Industry & Tourism. With the earnings from this order, Stichting Tuhka purchased additional equipment for the factory and paid the salaries of the factory employees & the nut collectors.

Strengthening indigenous communities

To improve management of South Suriname and the current brazil nut oil enterprise in Alalapadu, representatives of Trijana (foundation of Trio and Wayana communities in South Suriname) and CIS participated in an indigenous enterprise exchange trip to Bolivia, from June 18 – 25, 2019.

During this exchange, we visited conservation and community livelihood management initiatives including Brazil nut and community tourism sites, as well as different indigenous lands and protected areas. The exchange also improved understanding of Bolivia's indigenous lands and National Parks system, and the different indigenous movements in Bolivia. By the end of the trip, strengths and challenges were identified for the several initiatives and the indigenous movements.

Renewal of the Conservation Agreement with Alalapadu

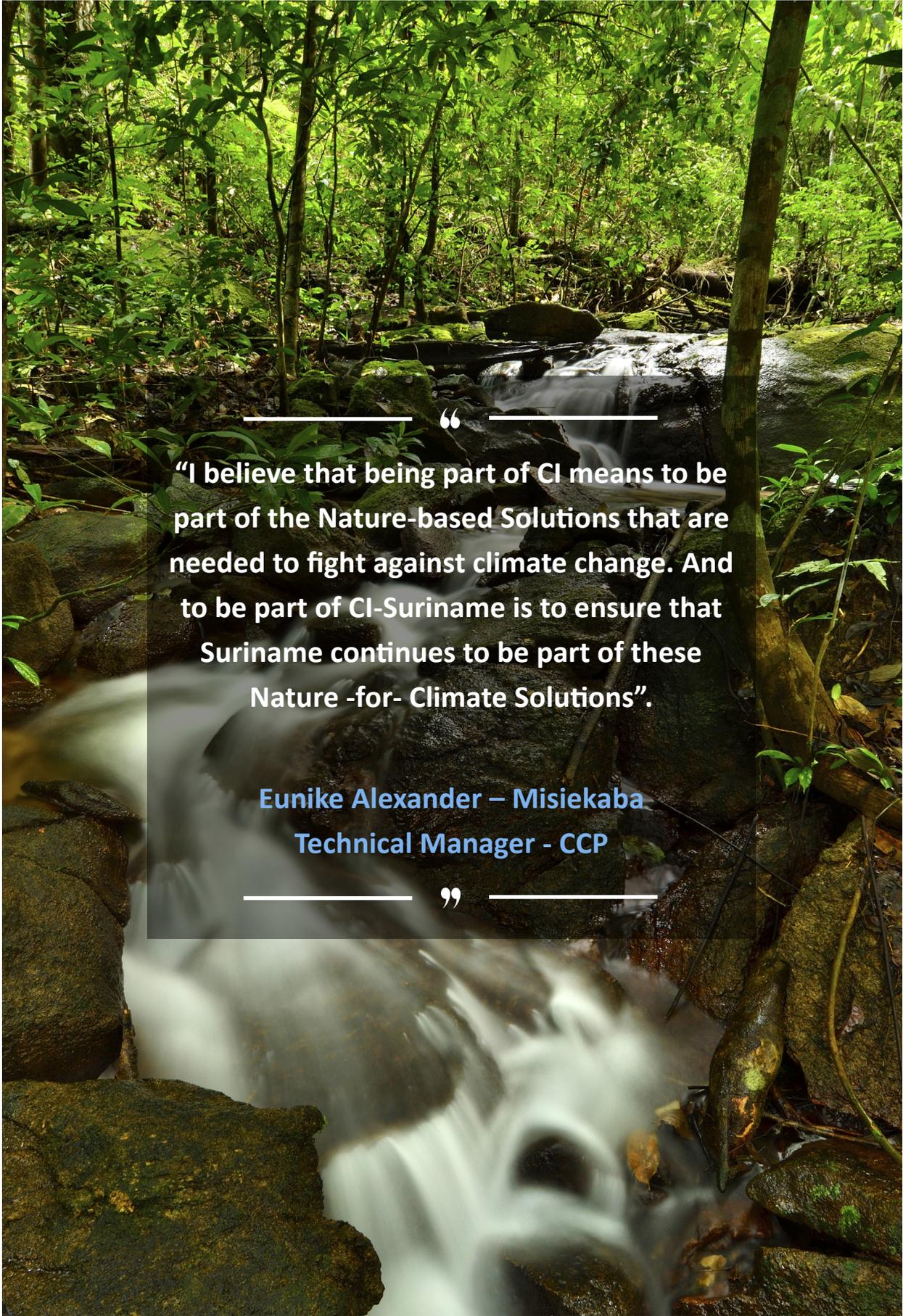
Since 2016, the village of Alalapadu has been working closely with Conservation International Suriname towards developing the village and protecting the region surrounding Alalapadu. In 2017, after a consultation period of almost a year, a Conservation Agreement was signed between Alalapadu and Conservation International Suriname. On 29 June 2019, this agreement was extended to June 2020, while the area to be monitored was expanded from 70.000 ha to 235.000 ha. This refers to clear arrangements on protection of the area and the Brazil nut trees and to measures to improve the living conditions of the people of Alalapadu. Important elements of this agreement are the improvement and expansion of the production of Brazil nut oil and monitoring the sustainability of the activities.



The signing of the new conservation agreement in the presence of the local engagement team

Conservation Agreement for 1 million ha Tepu Itu Area

After a long engagement with the South Suriname community of Tepu, we received community approval to help Tepu protect 1 million ha of forest (twice the size of the Grand Canyon) through a conservation agreement. Together with the community we are scoping potential livelihood and forest monitoring options.



“I believe that being part of CI means to be part of the Nature-based Solutions that are needed to fight against climate change. And to be part of CI-Suriname is to ensure that Suriname continues to be part of these Nature -for- Climate Solutions”.

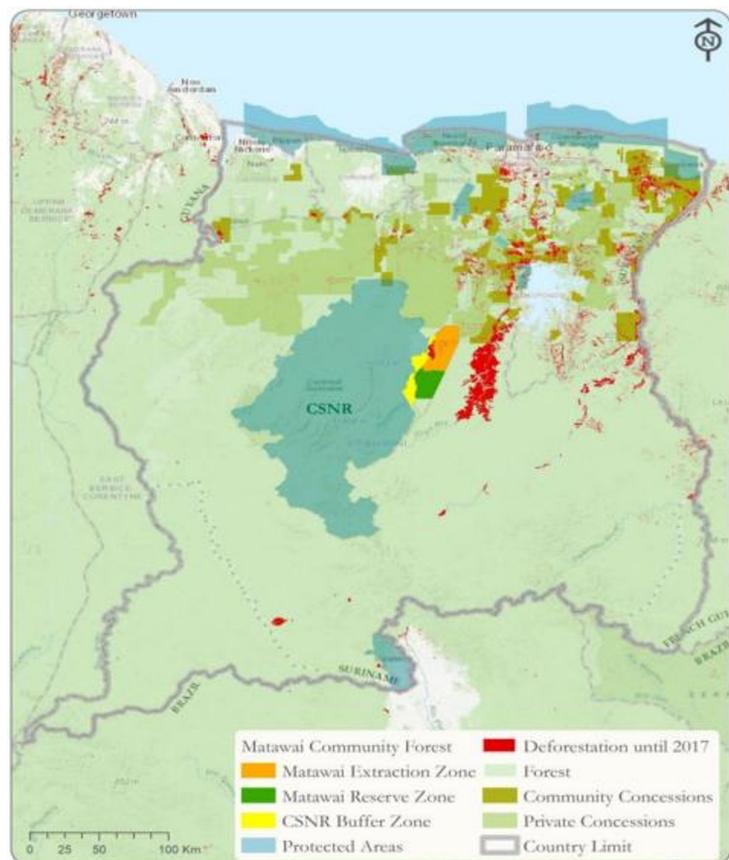
Eunike Alexander – Misiekaba
Technical Manager - CCP

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PROGRAM (CCP)

Community forests are part of the most important timber production area called the “forest belt”. This area spans across the Mid-Region of Suriname, where most of the deforestation and degradation in the country occurs. To date, 2.7 million ha. has been designated as production forest. Through the CCP partnerships between the government, private sector, local communities and non-state actors is created to concentrate on climate smart management and production of community forest concessions in Suriname.

Impact indicators

- 1 3D ecosystem service map of the 10 upper Matawai villages
- 1 two-day workshop with the Matawai working group
- 1 fundraising event in Amsterdam
- 5 communities’ benefit from four Apex Solar Systems



The Matawai—creating a sustainable landscape

The program started with a pilot project in 2017 in the biggest community forest belonging to the Matawai tribal community who live in the buffer area of the Central Suriname Nature Reserve, one of the largest wilderness protected areas in the world. Since then, the community has committed to conserving 40% of their 97,000 ha community forest and to monitoring the Reserve’s border. Starting in 2018, the community received funding from the Implementation Organization Facility Twinning Suriname Netherland to carry out a Sustainable Landscape Management Project for the 10 Matawai villages along the upper Saramacca river. This collaboration between CIS, Foundation Investment Fund Matawai and the Royal Institute for the Tropics will lead to sustainable ecosystem management while improving the Matawai’s livelihood.

Participatory 3D mapping of Ecosystem services of the 10 upper villages of Matawai

From March–August 2019, we carried out a 3D ecosystem service mapping process with the 10 upper Matawai villages. Activities included community-led engagements to determine the mapping process and area to be mapped, and field visits to ground truth maps and data produced. In September 2019, activities were concluded by ground truthing the P3D maps and identifying the priority ecosystem services.



Matawai community posing with the developed 3D map of their living area.

Identifying risks and threats on key ecosystems and ecosystems services

A two-day workshop was held with the Matawai Working Group to identify risks and threats on key ecosystems and the services they provide as well as specific measures to manage these ecosystems. Livelihood opportunities and their links to ecosystems important to the community were also identified. Different problem analysis and stakeholder engagement tools were used. The information from the workshop will be used for the management plan which will outline important conservation actions and livelihood opportunities.

Solar Power System for the Matawai Community

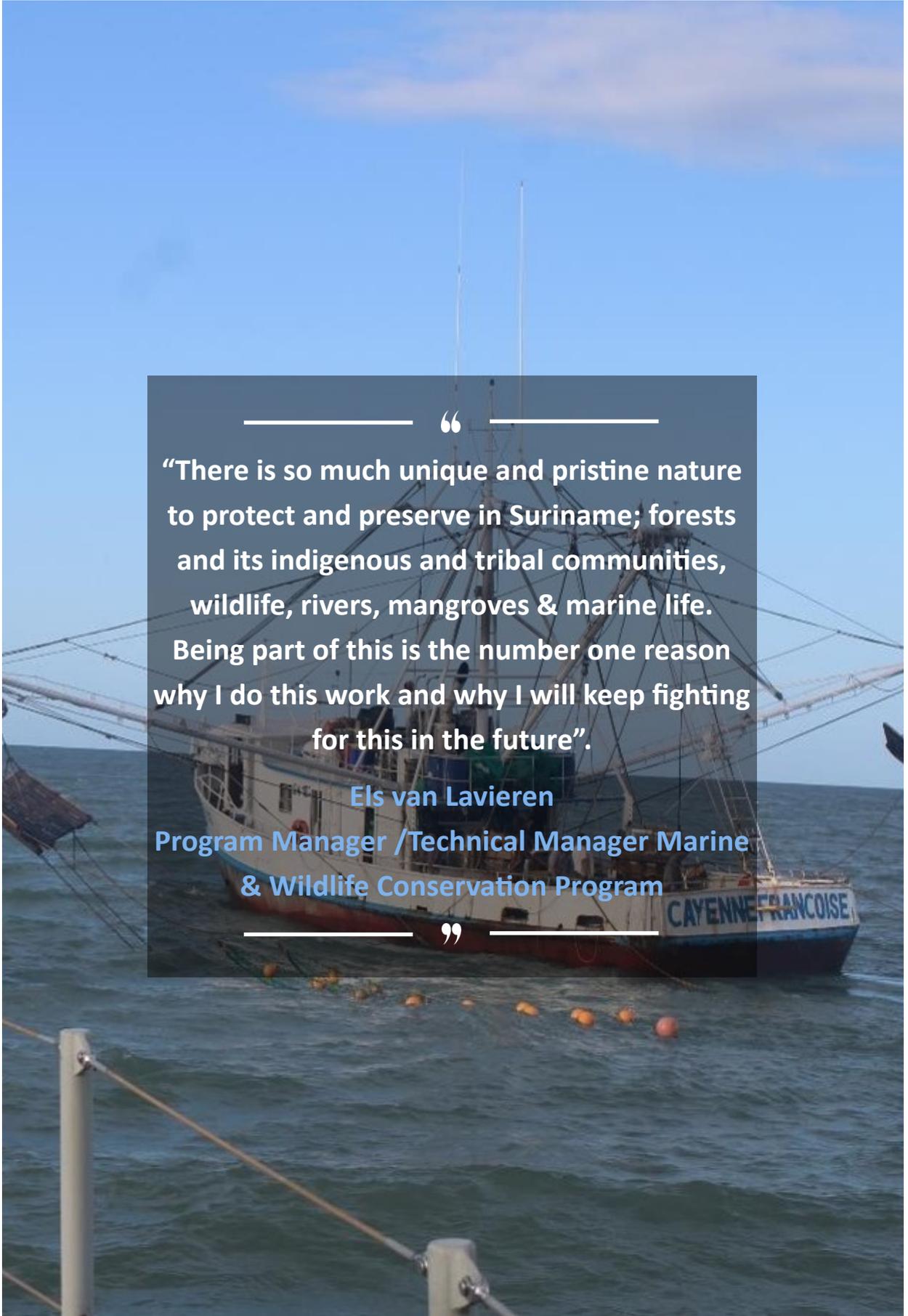
In November 2019, the CIS - Matawai team organized a trip to the Matawai with Dorian Dickinson, representing GSD Innovations, to request consent from the Matawai to pilot the use and efficiency of four (4) solar generators. CIS connected the Matawai Invested Fund with the solar company Inergy and GSD Innovations, to pilot the Apex Solar Generator as an off-the-grid energy source for the Matawai community. CIS is facilitating the engagement process to ensure a culturally appropriate integration of the solar system within this traditional community. The following villages will be receiving the Apex generators: Nieuw Jacobkondre, Pusugrunu and Boslanti.

KIT Fundraising event in Amsterdam

On September 19, 2019, CI Suriname in collaboration with the Royal Institute for the Tropics organized a fundraising event in Amsterdam to attract prominent Dutch companies, intermediary and / or influential persons (philanthropists) with their (natural) heart in the right place. The idea was to talk about the program in general and to zoom in on the problems surrounding the increasing (alarming) deforestation and forest degradation in Suriname. In order to get people to invest in the 'Matawai Community REDD+ Business model' which enables companies to offset their carbon emissions with the purchase of voluntary "carbon credits" (CO2 compensation credits). This business model is being presented on different platforms to interest the private sector to engage in green development.



CIS Executive Director, John Goedschalk giving a presentation at the KIT fundraising event.



“There is so much unique and pristine nature to protect and preserve in Suriname; forests and its indigenous and tribal communities, wildlife, rivers, mangroves & marine life. Being part of this is the number one reason why I do this work and why I will keep fighting for this in the future”.

Els van Lavieren
Program Manager /Technical Manager Marine
& Wildlife Conservation Program

COMMUNITY FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (CFIP)

CIS is working on a Community Fisheries Improvement Project with *Cynoscion Acoupa* and *Cynoscion virescens* artisanal driftnet fisheries. Our goal is certification (either MSC, Fair Trade or similar) of this fishery to contribute to socio-economic development, food security and enhanced livelihoods. To achieve this, we first need to collect data on the fishery.

Impact indicators

- 1 Bycatch Reduction Pilot Project
- 1 Onboard Monitoring (data collection) and Life Cycle Program



Attachment of floating lines with red floaters on the seine.

Bycatch reduction project

After assessing the driftnet fishery, it became clear that there is very little data available about the catch profile and numbers of bycatch species. For this reason, CIS has contracted the University of Suriname to undertake a pilot project to protect endangered, threatened and protected (ETP) marine species by reducing bycatch and minimizing the ecosystem impact from the artisanal *C. Acoupa* and *C. virescens* drift gillnet coastal fishery. During our data collection, the bycatch included manta rays, Guiana dolphins, Leatherback turtles and many other ray species. By testing different bycatch reduction devices, we hope to decrease the bycatch numbers significantly in the future and conserve the ecosystem's health.

The overall aim of the bycatch reduction pilot project is to investigate the effectiveness of bycatch reduction strategies within the artisanal-SK driftnet fisheries.

The Bycatch reduction devices that were tested in the first part of this project and which will also be continued in trail execution are:

- Red floaters.
- Seine profile reduction
- Thinner bottom line.
- Shorter soak time, due to presence of a winch on the fishing vessel vs no winch
- The green net lights: Reduction of marine turtle bycatch in small scale driftnet fisheries in Suriname. The net lights are aimed at reducing turtle bycatch in small scale fisheries.

ONBOARD CATCH MONITORING FORM					
DATE		SET		TIME	
DRAG N ^o		HAULBACK		POSITION	
				"N "W	
				"N "W	
CATCH					
SPECIES		NUMBER		SPECIES	
bangbang - snapper				krokus - bashaw	
barbaman				makreel	
bigeye kandra				neertjie - mirky fisi	
blakka tere				paoema	
botrifisi - butterflyfish				sarki - shark	
dagutifi - bangamary				riemvis - silverbelt	
jarabaka - gillbacker				snuku - snook	
kandratiki - trout				spari - stingray	
kingfish				trapoen - tarpon	
kodokoe					
koepila - kuras					
EGGS					
bangbang - snapper			kandratiki - trout		
NO EGGS	UNRIPE	RIPE	NO EGGS	UNRIPE	RIPE
DISCARDS					
SPARI - STINGRAY					
Longnoze	American	Sharpsnout	Bat	Butterfly	
					
TURTLE					
Aitkanti (black)	Krapé (green)	Warana (small green)			
					
OTHERS (sea devil/manta ray/palnas)					

Onboard monitoring form developed by Tomas Willems.



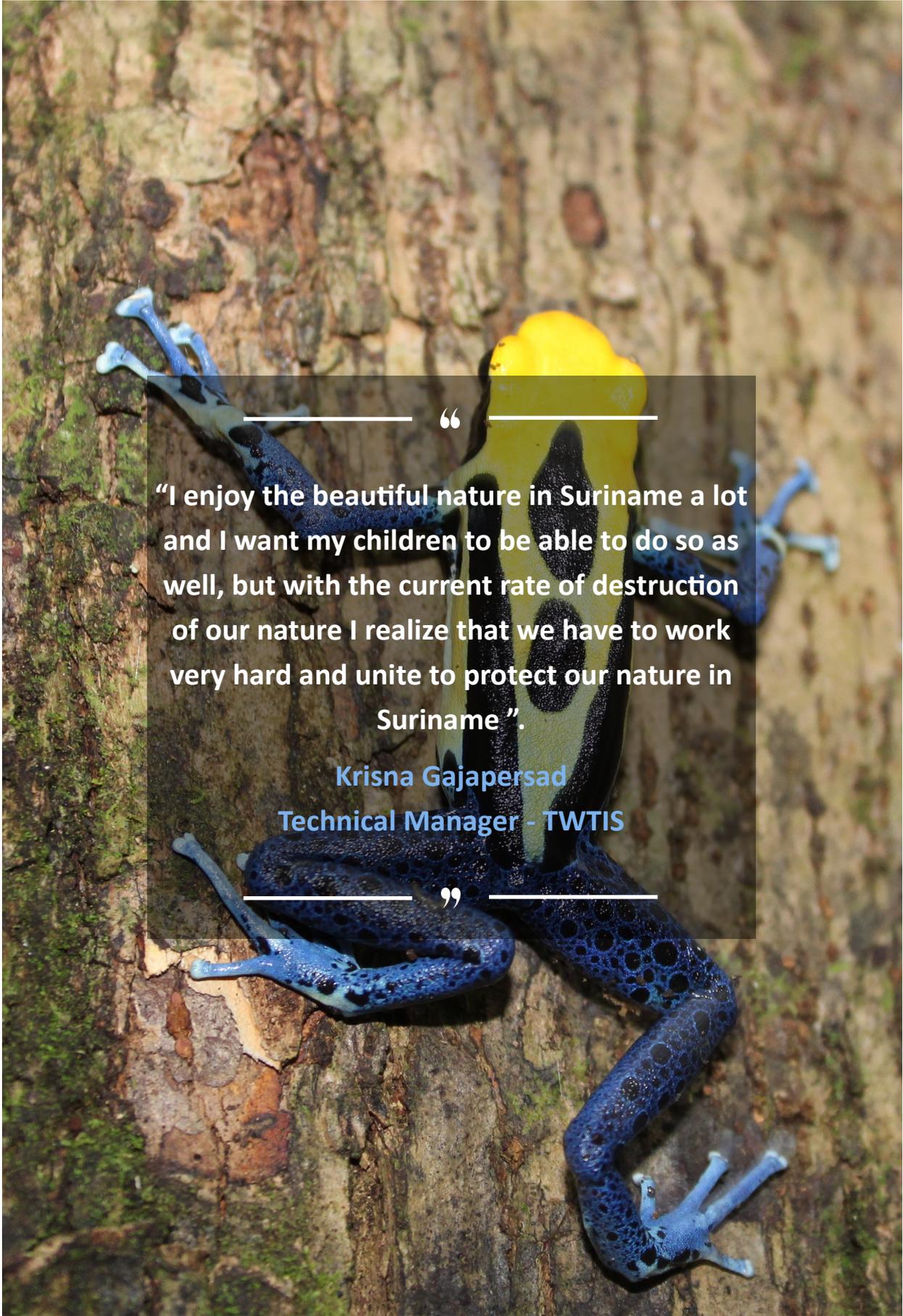
Mike Resomardono (representative of KOSMOS donor), Thomas Willems (Marine consultant) and Henk Baghwandien (Marine consultant)



Henk Baghwandien (Marine consultant) with a fisherman

Data collection – onboard monitoring program & life cycle research

The onboard monitoring program is being carried out according to the data collection form developed by Tomas Willems, Marine consultant at CIS. The boat captains are trained in filling out this form or collecting data on fish catches and bycatch of ETP-species. Furthermore, the captains have received an onboard guide for the identification of marine endangered, threatened and protected and other key species of the Guianas which makes it easy for them to identify ETP-species with which they are not familiar. Additionally, the fishermen are collecting data on the reproduction/life cycle of the target fish.



“

“I enjoy the beautiful nature in Suriname a lot and I want my children to be able to do so as well, but with the current rate of destruction of our nature I realize that we have to work very hard and unite to protect our nature in Suriname”.

”

Krisna Gajapersad
Technical Manager - TWTIS

WILDLIFE PROGRAM

Conservation International Suriname started their wildlife program early 2017. The first years we have been focusing on fact-finding regarding illegal trade in wildlife, sports hunting and poaching and other wildlife related issues. Furthermore, the first phase focuses on gathering baseline population data of the 9 priority species selected by Conservation International Suriname, in partnership with other organizations and experts. This however has only commenced for the jaguar and partly for the spider monkey, due to lack of funding.

Impact indicators

- Jaguar awareness campaign
- “Spider monkey island” enclosure adoption at the Paramaribo Zoo
- Primate survey and biodiversity monitoring in South Suriname
- 1 Panthera camera trapping pilot
- 2 wildlife awareness activities



One of the Jaguar campaign billboards in Paramaribo.

Jaguar protection in Suriname

Our work with religious leaders in Suriname on illegal jaguar trade inspired Suriname’s Chinese community to support a broader awareness campaign to educate the Surinamese, Chinese and Brazilian communities to stop jaguar hunting.

Billboards, posters and other communications materials are circulating throughout Paramaribo and in communities the interior. A third phase of the campaign is in the making looking into television and radio, and community-based dialogs. Several Surinamese communities have been asking for more awareness material (especially in Portuguese) and educational sessions on this topic.



CI Suriname staff and representatives of the Paramaribo Zoo showing the new signs of the adopted “Spider Monkey Island”.

Spider monkey adoption at Paramaribo Zoo and primate surveys

CIS collaborated with the Paramaribo Zoo to adopt the “Spider Monkey Island” enclosure, donating new signs and support for educational materials. Primates are indicator species – their presence is a key indicator of a healthy forest.

CIS’ wildlife team is also working with local communities in South Suriname to collect data and monitor primate populations and overall forest biodiversity.

Panthera camera trapping pilot

In the fight against the illegal jaguar trade, CI's Suriname Program Manager, Els van Lavieren, has been designated Suriname's representative for Panthera. Panthera, the leading global organization for wild cat conservation, seeks to ensure a future for wildcats and the vast landscapes on which they depend. Together with Panthera we are designing Suriname's national jaguar monitoring strategy. This year CIS field staff, government rangers, staff from the National Zoological Collection Suriname and others were trained in jaguar monitoring techniques by Panthera experts Bart Harmsen and Valeria Boron. In October 2019, camera traps were installed in the regions of Laarwijk, Peperpot and Tamanredjo -known for high numbers of jaguar.



Camera trap field team in Laarwijk.

Pets vs Wildlife awareness activities

From August 31 – September 1, 2019, the Wildlife team together with volunteers executed awareness activities in the Bromki Fu Tamara village located in the Palmentuin. On both days, the CIS booth was very crowded. Parents patiently waited for their children to finish participating in the activities. We also received positive feedback from parents who asked if we would continue these activities. In October we used the same concept in the Paramaribo Zoo and the feedback we received was also very positive.



Wild animals vs domestic animals awareness activities.

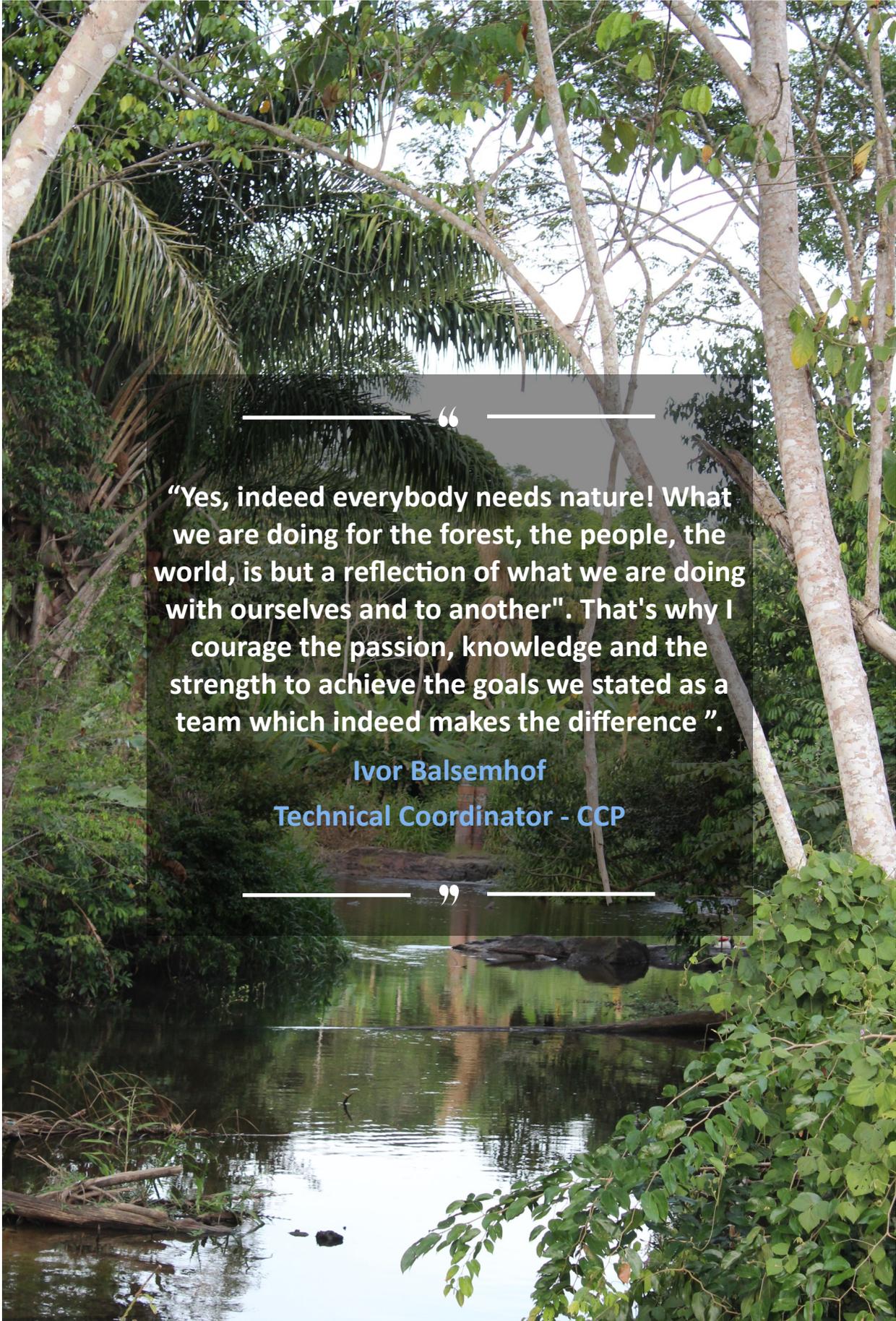
Setting up a wildlife team & fact-finding wildlife trade and hunting

A motivated wildlife team was selected and trained and are still working on the jaguar campaign, wildlife database and conducting fieldtrips for factfinding on wildlife trade. The Zorg & Hoop airport checkups that was focused on checking flights coming from the interior of Suriname went on till September 2019, bird species were confiscated, and fines were given. A Technical Coordinator working off the radar did a good job setting up a network of people who inform the Technical coordinator on wildlife trade and wildlife trade related issues. Because of this we have been able to identify some of the (illegal) wildlife trade hubs.



Confiscated Frans madam in a cage.

Frans madam (*Derophtus accipitinus*). The "Frans madam" or Red fanned parrot – a protected species - was confiscated and one person was taken into custody. After paying the fine of SRD 1000 the person was let go. Because it is a very young bird, the Frans madam is now in care of the Paramaribo Zoo until strong enough to be let back into its habitat.



“Yes, indeed everybody needs nature! What we are doing for the forest, the people, the world, is but a reflection of what we are doing with ourselves and to another”. That's why I courage the passion, knowledge and the strength to achieve the goals we stated as a team which indeed makes the difference ”.

Ivor Balsemhof
Technical Coordinator - CCP

BROWNSBERG NATURE RESERVE

Public Private People Partnership (PPPP)

New for Conservation International Suriname this year is a pilot project to rehabilitate Brownsberg Nature Park the most visited protected area in the country. receiving over 10,000 local and foreign visitors per year.

Brownsberg Nature Park is a 12000-ha ancient elevated forest landscape that lies at the core of a unique cultural-historical landscape. The area is rich in artifacts of Brownsberg Culture and characterized by great habitat diversity. But the influx of illegal small-scale miners and loggers have contributed to the Brownsberg mountain losing its glory.

Impact indicators

- 8 Maroon villages involved
- 5,000 people
- 12,000 ha Brownsberg Naturepark better protected



Brownsberg Nature Park entry sign.



View from the Brownsberg Nature Park Plateau.

The Brownsberg Nature Park

With its proximity to Paramaribo, the park is a potential center for environmental education and awareness for the country. The model for park management is based on revenue from ecotourism implemented through a public/private partnership with the Ministry of Spatial Planning and Land Use Management, a private investor (to be determined) and the local communities living around the reserve. The selected private partner is required to include the community as one of the shareholders to maximize benefits and ensure that the community's traditional and cultural rights are considered.



Signs of the different trails at Brownsberg Nature Park



CIS and STINASU staff during the field visit to Brownsberg Nature Park



Jeugd Herberg, one of the facilities at the Brownsberg Nature Park Plateau, in dire need of fixing.

Community engagement

Our engagement to strengthen the local community not only maximizes the benefits from nature tourism and nature conservation, but also explores and creates the basic economic fundamentals for alternative sustainable livelihoods and job creation. These activities will have a spin-off effect on the local economy by generating various sustainable income sources and creating broad support and awareness for nature conservation.

All actions go hand-in-hand with the rehabilitation of the Brownsberg Nature Park by 1. creating a skilled workforce, 2. a safe, conserved area, and 3. a cultural heritage environment. By creating ownership in the community for these interventions, we can prevent further loss of critical irreplaceable forest and biodiversity while shaping a stronger local economy with people whose capacities are increased and have jobs other than unsustainable mining. The local community will know how to protect their environment.

Rehabilitation of the Brownsberg Nature Park

Conservation International is initiating and supporting this project through its "Green Growth Strategy," where sustainable growth, added value, entrepreneurship and increased employment for the local community and capacity development and awareness are the starting points. In this approach there is less pressure on the government's budget conservation of Brownsberg Nature Park and its rich biodiversity is guaranteed with broad community and government support.

Intervention provides:

- employment (including tourism & hospitality, park guard and entrepreneurship) for more than 300 people.
- Installation of at least local 20 park guards
- Construction of checkpoints/ control posts.
- Preservation of endangered species (Wildlife)

