UNESCO AND SURINAME: KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

I. COUNTRY PROFILE

Political system
- Suriname is a Presidential Republic.
- Chief of state: President Chan SANTOKHI (since 16 July 2020); Vice-President Ronnie BRUNSWIJK (since 16 July 2020); note - the President is both Chief of State and Head of Government.
- Cabinet of Ministers appointed by the President

Statistical figures (source: UNDP Human Development Report 2020)
- Total population (million): 0.6
- Human Development Index: 0.738 / Rang 97
- Life expectancy at birth (years): 71.7
- Gross national income (GNI) per capita (2017 PPP$): 14,324
- Internet users (% of population): 48.9
- Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (tonnes): 3.1

Education (source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics)
- Expected years of schooling (years): 13.2
- Compulsory education (years): 6 (from 7 to 12)
- Net enrolment ratio in primary education (%): 94.2
- Government expenditure on education (% of GDP): N/A

II. SURINAME/UNESCO COOPERATION

1. Membership in UNESCO: Since 16 July 1976

2. Membership on the Executive Board: not currently.
   Previous terms: 2001-2005 (Mr Cornelis Pigot); 1989-1991 (Mr Ronald Venetiaan, former President of the Republic), and 1987-1989 (Mr Allan S. Li Fo Sjoe).

3. Current Membership on Intergovernmental Councils/Committees and Commissions:
   Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, IOC

4. DG´s visit to Suriname: none to date

5. Former Director Generals’ visit to Suriname: 1 (Koïchiro Matsuura, in May 2003)

6. Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:
   - H. E. Mr Reggy Martiales Nelson, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Surinam to France, Permanent Delegate (Since March 2016)
   - Previous: H. E. Mr Harvey H. Naarendorp; Mr Gerhard Otmar Hiwat.

7. UNESCO Office: none, Suriname is covered by the UNESCO Cluster Office in Kingston. Ms Saadia Sanchez Vega (Venezuela, D-1) has been the Director since 1 September 2020.

8. Suriname National Commission for UNESCO:
   - Established on 16 June 1976 by Resolution of the Council of Ministers
9. **Personalities linked to UNESCO’s activities:** none

10. **UNESCO Chairs:** none

11. **Associated Schools:** 0

12. **Category 2 Institutes and Centres:** none

13. **UNESCO Clubs:** none

14. **Biosphere Reserves:** none

15. **UNESCO Global Geoparks:** none

16. **World Heritage Sites:** 2 sites
   - Historic Inner City of Paramaribo (2002)

17. **Tentative List:** 1
   - The settlement of Joden Savanne and Cassipora cemetery (30/06/1998)

18. **Intangible Cultural Heritage List:** none

19. **Memory of the World Register:** 3 inscriptions
   - Archive Middelburgsche Commercie Compagnie (MCC)
   - Dutch West India Company (Westindische Compagnie) Archives
   - Records of the Indian Indentured Labourers

20. **Creative Cities Network:** none

21. **UNESCO’s standard-setting instruments:** 2 ratified and 3 accessed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Date of deposit</th>
<th>Type of deposit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean. Mexico City, 19 July 1974.</td>
<td>10/06/1982</td>
<td>Ratification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. Ramsar, 2 February 1971.</td>
<td>22/07/1985</td>
<td>Accession</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The States marked with two asterisks are parties to the 1971 Convention alone.

22. **Anniversaries with which UNESCO was associated in 2020-2021:** none

23. **Participation Programme:**
   - During the biennium 2018-2019, three requests submitted by Suriname were approved by the Director-General for a total amount of US$69,000.
   - No PP request for the 2020-2021 biennium.
24. **Fellowships:**

Since 2010, 1 fellowship has been awarded to Suriname for a total amount of US$ 8,000.

25. **NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO:** none

26. **IGOs in official relations with UNESCO:** none

27. **Payment of assessed membership fees for 2021:**

   - Assessment rate: 0.006 %

28. **Staff members’ status:** Non-represented (min. 2, max. 4)

**Young Professional Programme (YPP)**

As a non-represented Member State, Suriname is eligible to participate in the Young Professional Programme. The National Commission submitted three candidatures for the YPP 2018 Intake.

29. **Map of Suriname**