



CONSULTATION REPORT MOENGO AND ALBINA REGION



**ELECTRIFICATION OF EAST-WEST REGION
AND RURAL ELECTRIFICATION**

CONSULTANT: J. NIEUWENDAM

AUGUST 2025

This Report Presents The Results Of Consultations Conducted For An Energy Project Aimed At The Sustainable Development Of Maroon And Indigenous Communities In North-Eastern Suriname

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1. Introduction

This report presents the results of Consultations conducted for an energy project aimed at the sustainable development of Maroon and Indigenous communities in north-eastern Suriname. The project seeks to increase power transmission capacity to facilitate the integration of renewable energy into the national interconnected system; provide rural communities with reliable access to electricity and strengthen institutional capacity for planning transmission and generation investment projects. For the population in the north east of Suriname, this project will connect isolated energy systems to the N.V. EBS (Energie Bedrijven Suriname) main grid, reducing operational costs, improving electricity reliability, and fostering socio-economic growth. Additionally, the project aligns with Suriname's broader goals of regional energy integration, with potential benefits extending to Saint-Laurent-du-Maroni (French Guiana).

The general objective of this operation is to strengthen energy security and reduce dependence on fossil fuels in Suriname's electricity sector. As part of this "Energy Transition and Integration Program for Suriname," the Peperpot-Albina Transmission Line Project is an infrastructure initiative designed to expand Suriname's electricity grid, enhance energy access, and reduce reliance on costly diesel generation in the eastern region. The project covers the road corridor from Peperpot to Albina, including all rural villages along this route, as well as Moengo, Wanhatti and their surrounding communities.

2. Objective of the consultation

Presentation of the project objectives and components of the project, by the Surinamese government, represented by the Ministry of Natural Resources, specifically the Energie Bedrijven Suriname (EBS), or Energy Companies Suriname. The presentation also clarified the activities that will be conducted in the future for the benefit of all the communities involved and presented the results of the environmental and social assessments conducted in all the communities, the feedback received, and the culturally adapted grievance mechanisms in case of problems during construction and the implementation of the project. One of the objectives of the consultations was to obtain consent from the villagers to the implementation of the project in their community.

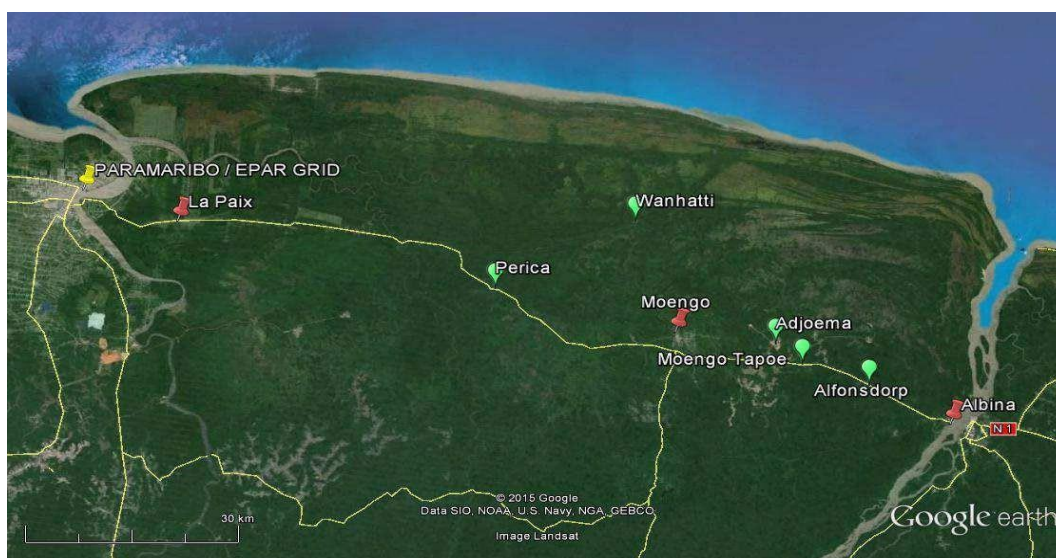


Figure 1. Projected Interconnection and Electrification

3. Preparation for the field visit to Moengo and the surrounding villages, Akalekondre, Benhattimofo, Abadoekondre, Wanhatti, Langa Uku I and II, Lantiwee, Pikin Santi, Pinatjarimi, and Tamarin.

The main communication procedures relevant to the project are described in the table below.

TABEL1. COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES IN ADVANCE OF THE MISSION

Date	Activity	Communication method	Who has the lead	Digital Tool	Explanation
5 th of August Paramaribo	Indicate the need for a field visit to Moengo and the surrounding villages, Wanhatti and the surrounding villages, by a delegation consisting of 4 representatives of the EBS, 1 representative of the District Commissioner, and 1 consultant who did the social and environmental studies for the EBS.	Telephone/Letter	EBS	WhatsApp	A presentation is needed in the communities by the government on the project's objectives, components, and the activities that will be conducted in the future to benefit the communities.
11 th of August Moengo	Obtain approval for the field visit from the community of Moengo through the District Commissioner.	Letter to the DC of Moengo ¹	EBS	Internet	The purpose of the visit was explained to the DC, and she approved the request, granting permission for the visit. She appointed her secretary as the dedicated contact person for us, and all communications regarding this project should be directed through her.

Notes:

The languages used during the meeting were Dutch and Srenan. No translators were needed because the presenters speak both languages. The EBS representative and the consultant coordinated the agenda and Q&A.

Date of field consultation to Moengo and surrounding villages, Akalekondre, Benhattimofo, Abadoekondre, Wanhatti, Langa Uku I and II, Lantiwee, Pikin Santi, Pinatjarimi, and Tamarin.

TABLE 2. Date of the Mission

Village	Date	Location	Arrival time village	Departure time village
Moengo, Akalekondre, Benhattimofo, Abadoekondre, Wanhatti, Langa Uku I and II, Lantiwee, Pikin Santi, Pinatjarimi, and Tamarin	August 12	Moengo	10.0 u	12.0 u

¹ See invitation letter to the DC of Moengo as annex 1.

4. Consultation visit to Moengo

Participants:

- 1 representative of the District Commissioner;
- 4 representatives of the EBS; and
- 1 consultant for the EBS.

Preliminary Agenda

Table 3. Preliminary agenda consultation visit to Moengo on 12th of August 2025

Objective	Speaker	Title	Times slot
Welcome		District Commissioner of Moengo	10 minutes
Greetings and introducing all the delegation members and explaining the purpose of the visit and the agenda	Faye Graanoogst		10 minutes
Project Presentation (technical)	Jerry Aseja	EBS representative	20 minutes
Questions and Answers	Jerry Aseja	Villagers and government representatives	20 minutes
Project Presentation (social and environmental)	Josta Nieuwendam	Consultant EBS	20 minutes
Questions and Answers	Josta Nieuwendam	Consultant EBS	10 minutes
Snack and drinks		All villagers attending the community meeting	20 minutes
Return to Paramaribo		Delegation members	1,5 hours drive

Agenda

Table 4. Agenda during the consultation in Moengo

Date/Time	Activity	Communication method	Who has the lead	Digital Tool	Remarks
10 th of August	Welcome upon arrival at the conference room in Moengo	In person	Member of the District commissioner's office, the secretary of the district commissioner's office	None	Take along snacks and drinks for the villagers by EBS.
	Greetings from the representative of the district commissioner and introduction	In person	The highest authority figure in Moengo	None	The DC could not be present in person
	Greetings from the delegation	In person	Representative of the EBS	None	Purpose of the visit and introduction of the delegation members by the coordinator of the project.
	Project Presentation (see PowerPoint annex 2)	In person	Energie Bedrijven Suriname Consultant EBS	Beamer and screen	Presentation as Annex.
	Discussion with the villagers	Community meeting	EBS	None	Information disclosure by delegation, feedback by villagers, and seeking ownership.

12 pm	Snack and drinks		EBS		In the conference room
	Leaving for Paramaribo by car			None	A 1,5 hour drive by car to Paramaribo

Notes:

The speeches were done in both languages, Srenan and Dutch, by the presenters.

Coordination of the agenda and the Q&A was done by the representatives of the EBS and the consultant.

Summary EBS presentation²

- Introduction and purpose of consultation.

An overview of the project was presented. The electricity in the east of Suriname will be upgraded. All the households from Peperpot to Albina, in all villages and settlements, will have access to improved and reliable 24/7 electricity. This will offer possibilities for businesses and local industries, as it reduces diesel-based electricity generation and lowers greenhouse gas emissions. The quality of life will also be enhanced with improved healthcare and educational opportunities.

The EBS had already been in the region in the past, conducting an assessment and interviewing the villagers. The results of the social and environmental assessment were discussed.

All the relevant stakeholders were identified. The grievance mechanism that will be in place will be culturally appropriate and will operate in the villages through traditional authorities and in Moengo through official government authorities.

The project will be implemented by a contractor.

1. If the contractor needs **extra workers** during implementation, some villagers will be considered to work on the project for payment, as long as the implementation of the project lasts.
2. If it is necessary, the community can also help the contractor with **lodging and cooking**. They will be paid for the services they provide.
3. The villagers already **pay** for electricity; they are used to that. They already have a meter. Payment is important; otherwise, the facilities would not be sustainable.
4. The **land needed** for the project is government land and is available.
5. The possible negative environmental impacts during the implementation of the project could be the noise during construction. All other negative environmental impacts, such as air or water pollution, are highly unlikely to occur.

Community feedback

The attendees understood that they would have access to more stable electricity, and they appreciated that. They understood that the new electricity substations at Wanhatti, Moengo (solar plant), and Albina will be connected to the electricity in Paramaribo via the EBS station in Peperpot.

There was confusion about where people had to pay their electricity bills. According to the attendants, EBS has no proper payment office in Moengo. Furthermore, the attendants complained about the lack of communication between the EBS office and the communities. Communication is currently good for this project, they say, but for other EBS activities, there is no communication with the public. They suggested broadcasting messages via radio stations. That would be helpful so people know in advance, for example, if there will be a power outage. The PR office of the EBS has a full schedule and they send messages via Facebook to the public, but Facebook is not accessible for many people, especially the elderly. However, with the project, all the EBS services will also be improved in Moengo, Albina, and in the other villages.

² See the PowerPoint presentation of Moengo.

There were questions about the possibility of young people finding permanent employment at EBS. In the future, jobs will certainly become available at EBS itself, for example, at the power plant. But access to stable electricity will give young people and all residents the opportunity to start their own businesses and earn an income.

5. Preparation for the field visit to Albina and surrounding villages Marijkedorp, Alfonsdorp, Pierrekondre, and others.

The main communication procedures relevant to the project are described in the table below.

TABLE 5. COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES IN ADVANCE OF THE MISSION

Date	Activity	Communication method	Who has the lead	Digital Tool	Explanation
5 th of August Paramaribo	Indicate the need for a field visit to Albina and the surrounding villages by a delegation consisting of 4 representatives of the EBS, 1 representative of the District Commissioner, and 1 consultant who did the social and environmental studies for the EBS.	Telephone/Letter	EBS	WhatsApp	A presentation is needed in the communities by the government on the project's objectives, components, and the activities that will be conducted in the future to benefit the communities.
12 th of August Albina	Get approval for Field visit by the community of Albina, conducted by the District Commissioner.	Letter to the DC of Albina ³	EBS	Internet	The purpose of the visit was explained to the DC, and he approved the request, granting permission for the visit.

Notes:

The languages used during the meeting were Dutch and Srenan. No translators were needed because the presenters speak both languages. The EBS representative and the consultant coordinated the agenda and Q&A.

Date of field consultation to Albina and surrounding villages Pierrekondre, Alfonsdorp and Marijkedorp and others.

Table 6. Date of the mission

Village	Date	Location	Arrival time village	Departure time village
Albina, Pierrekondre, Alfonsdorp, marijkedorp	August 14	Albina	10.0 u	12.00u

³ See invitation letter to the DC of Albina as annex 2

6. Consultation visit Albina

Participants:

- 1 representative of the District Commissioner;
- 4 representatives of the EBS; and
- 1 consultant for the EBS.

Preliminary Agenda

Table 7. Preliminary agenda consultation visit Albina on 14th of August 2025

Objective	Speaker	Title	Times slot
Welcome		District Commissioner of Albina	10 minutes
Greetings and introducing all the delegation members and explaining the purpose of our visit and the agenda	Faye Graanoogst	EBS representative	10 minutes
Project Presentation (technical)	Harold Anantoewe	EBS representative	20 minutes
Questions and Answers		Villagers and government representatives	20 minutes
Project Presentation (social and environmental)	Nieuwendam	Consultant EBS	20 minutes
Questions and Answers	Nieuwendam	Consultant EBS	10 minutes
Snack and drinks		All villagers attending the community meeting	20 minutes
Return to Paramaribo		Delegation members	2 hours

Agenda

Table 8. Agenda during the consultation in Albina

Date/Time	Activity	Communication method	Who has the lead	Digital Tool	Remarks
10 th of August	Welcome upon arrival at the conference room in Moengo	In person by the arrival of the 5 delegation members	Member of the District Commissioner's office, the secretary of the district commissioner's office	None	Take along snacks and drinks for the day for the villagers by EBS.
	Greetings from the representative of the district commissioner, and introduction	In person present	The highest authority figure in Albina	None	The DC could not be present in person
	Greetings from the delegation	In person	Representative of the EBS	None	Purpose of the visit and introduction of the delegation members by the coordinator of the project.
	Project Presentation (see PowerPoint annex 2)	In person	Energie Bedrijven Suriname Consultant EBS	Beamer and screen	Presentation as Annex.
	Discussion with the villagers	Community meeting	EBS	None	Information disclosure by delegation, feedback by villagers, and seeking ownership.

12 pm	Snack and drinks		EBS		In the conference room
	Leaving for Paramaribo by car			None	A 2-hour drive by car to Paramaribo

Notes:

The speeches were done in both languages, Srenan and Dutch, by the presenters.

Coordination of the agenda and the Q&A was done by the representatives of the EBS and the consultant.

Summary EBS presentation⁴

All households from Peperpot to Albina, in all villages and settlements, will have access to improved and reliable electricity 24/7. This will offer possibilities for businesses and local industries, as it reduces diesel-based electricity generation and lowers greenhouse gas emissions. The quality of life will also be enhanced with improved healthcare and educational opportunities.

The EBS had already been in the region in the past, conducting an assessment and interviewing the villagers. The results of the social and environmental assessment were discussed.

All the relevant stakeholders were identified. The grievance mechanism that will be in place will be culturally appropriate and will operate in the villages through traditional authorities and in Moengo through official government authorities.

The project will be implemented by a contractor.

1. If the contractor needs **extra workers** during implementation, some villagers will be considered to work on the project for payment, as long as the implementation of the project lasts.
2. If it is necessary, the community can also help the contractor with **lodging and cooking**. They will be paid for the services they provide.
3. The villagers already **pay** for electricity; they are used to that. They already have a meter. Payment is important; otherwise, the facilities would not be sustainable.
4. The **land needed** for the project is government land and is available.
5. The possible negative environmental impacts during the implementation of the project could be the noise during construction. All other negative environmental impacts, such as air or water pollution, are highly unlikely to occur.

Community Feedback

The attendees understood that they would have access to more stable electricity, and they appreciated that. They understood that the new electricity substations at Wanhatti, Moengo (solar plant), and Albina will be connected to the electricity in Paramaribo via the EBS station in Peperpot.

They criticized the lack of clarity regarding where they had to pay their electricity bill. EBS has no proper functioning payment office in Albina. Furthermore, the attendants complained about the lack of communication between the EBS office and the communities, especially in the surrounding villages. The representative of the District Commissioner answered that the traditional authorities are always invited to meetings, but often fail to inform their fellow villagers. The proposal was then made to also broadcast announcements, for example, via local radio stations. That would be helpful so people know in advance, for example, if there will be a power outage. The PR office of the EBS has a full schedule, and they send messages via Facebook to the public, but Facebook is not accessible for a lot of people, especially the elderly. The representative of the EBS answered that with the implementation of this project, all the EBS services will also be improved in Moengo, Albina, and in the other villages.

⁴ See the power point presentation of Albina.

There were questions about the possibility of young people finding permanent employment at EBS. In the future, jobs will certainly become available at EBS itself for young people, for example, at the power plant. But access to stable electricity will give young people and all residents the opportunity to start their own businesses and earn an income.

7. Conclusions

1. All the villagers and the attendees of Moengo and Albina were very enthusiastic about the planned execution of this project. They gave consent for the execution of this electricity upgrade project in their community.
2. All the villagers accept the proposed method of working during the implementation of the project.
3. They all agree to work together with the contractor and, if necessary, to make their contribution so that the projects can be carried out successfully.
4. As regards the provision of land for the construction of the facilities, it will be on government land, so that will not be an issue.
5. Distrust of the government was expressed in all of the villages. The government has a history of failing to keep its promises to the villagers. Especially at election time, many promises are made to the villagers, but after the elections, these promises are hardly fulfilled.
6. Gender roles are traditionally determined in these villages. However, in the areas around Moengo and Albina, middle and higher education training courses are now available. Therefore, it is expected that women will also attend these courses, thereby increasing their chances of securing non-traditional jobs at the EBS.
7. It will still take extra effort to include women in non-traditional work roles. However, women could traditionally be deployed in administrative roles, as well as in jobs such as lodging and cooking.
8. In this electricity upgrade project, there will be temporary job possibilities via the contractor for local men and women.

Annex 1. Invitation Letter Moengo

DISTRICTSCOMMISSARIAAT MAROWIJNE ZUID-WEST



Adres: Julianaweg Moengo Marowijne no. 72

Telefoon: (597) 0341825 - 0341831

Email: dc.marowijnezv@gmail.com



No. 764/25

Uitnodiging

**Betreft: Uitnodiging vervolg stakeholdersmeeting project
upgrading elektriciteitsnet Albina, Moengo en omliggende dorpen**

Beste belanghebbende,

Naar aanleiding van de stakeholdersmeeting van 4 maart jl. en in het kader van het project voor de upgrading van het elektriciteitsnet in Albina, Moengo en omliggende dorpen, nodigen wij u van harte uit voor een vervolgbijeenkomst.

Datum : 12 augustus 2025

Locatie: Vergaderzaal van het Commisariaat

Tijd : 10 uur am

Tijdens de vorige bijeenkomst hebben we uw waardevolle input verzameld. Inmiddels zijn we in een vergevorderd stadium met de Milieu- en Sociale Effectenanalyse (ESIA) en willen we u graag de resultaten van deze studie presenteren.

Het doel van deze bijeenkomst is om:

- Transparant te zijn over de bevindingen van het onderzoek.
- Uw vragen te beantwoorden.
- Verdere input te verzamelen voor de volgende fasen van het project.

Uw aanwezigheid is van groot belang voor een succesvolle voortzetting van het project. We zien ernaar uit u te verwelkomen en samen verder te bouwen aan een betere toekomst voor het elektriciteitsnet in de regio.

Hoogachtend,

De districtscommissaris van
Marowijne Zuid-West

Mw. Dominie O.A.

EGI KONI - EGI MONI - EGI DU

Annex 2. Invitation Letter Albina



DISTRICTSCOMMISSARIAAT MAROWIJNE NOORD-OOST

Telefoon (597) 0342124 - 0342113

Adres: Olton Willem Van Genderen Boulevard, Albina

Email: sec.dcmarowijne@gmail.com

Blog: dcmarwina.wordpress.com/ Facebookpage: BIC Marowijne



Aan:

Betreft: Uitnodiging vervolg stakeholdersmeeting project upgrading elektriciteitsnet Albina, Moengo en omliggende dorpen

Beste belanghebbende,

Naar aanleiding van de stakeholdersmeeting van 4 maart jl. en in het kader van het project voor de upgrading van het elektriciteitsnet in Albina, Moengo en omliggende dorpen, nodigen wij u van harte uit voor een vervolgbijeenkomst.

Datum: 14 augustus 2025

Locatie: nucleuscentrum Mohammed Joenoes Williamweg

Tijd: 10.00 uur

Tijdens de vorige bijeenkomst hebben we uw waardevolle input verzameld. Inmiddels zijn we in een vergevorderd stadium met de Milieu- en Sociale Effectenanalyse (ESIA) en willen we u graag de resultaten van deze studie presenteren.

Het doel van deze bijeenkomst is om: -Transparant te zijn over de bevindingen van het onderzoek ; - Uw vragen te beantwoorden;- Verdere input te verzamelen voor de volgende fasen van het project.

Uw aanwezigheid is van groot belang voor een succesvolle voortzetting van het project. We zien ernaar uit u te verwelkomen en samen verder te bouwen aan een betere toekomst voor het elektriciteitsnet in de regio.

Hoogachtend,

De districtscommissaris

van Marowijne Noord

Oost namens deze, de

districtssecretaris

(J.P. Genderen van)

Annex 3. Presentielijst Moengo

EBS EnergieBedrijven Suriname

Meeting : Stakeholder Engagement

Locatie : Albina

Datum : 12 augustus 2025

: ~~10.40~~ 10.40 - 11.40 u

Presentielijst en toestemming om de vergadering in Moengo te houden (FPIC)

Naam	Instantie/ functie	Telefoonnummer	Handtekening
	RR. lid.	85	
	RR. lid.	88	
	RR. lid.	2	
	P.G.D. Nerys.	8	
	Politie ambtenaar	8	
	EBS	8	
	EBS	08	
	Baija Duvai		
		8	

Annex 4. Presentielijst Albina

EBS EnergieBedrijven Suriname

Meeting : Stakeholder Engagement

Locatie : Albina

Datum : 14 augustus 2025

: 10.06 II. ISD u

Presentielijst en toestemming om de vergadering in Albina te houden (FPIC)

Naam	Instantie/ functie	Telefoonnummer	Handtekening
	Hoofd EBS	08	
	Adm. medewerker	8	
	Hoofd GODO AB.	86	
	EBS		
	NV EBS		
	Commissaris	86	
	,	76	
		716	
	EBS	89	

EBS ▲ EnergieBedrijven Suriname



uw betrouwbare ontwikkelingspartner

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MEETING

Electrification of the East –West Region and Rural Electrification

- Introduction and purpose of consultation
- Project overview
- Environmental and social assessment results
- Stakeholder engagement process so far
- Feedback and Grievance Mechanism
- Next Steps



Introduction and Objective

Objective:

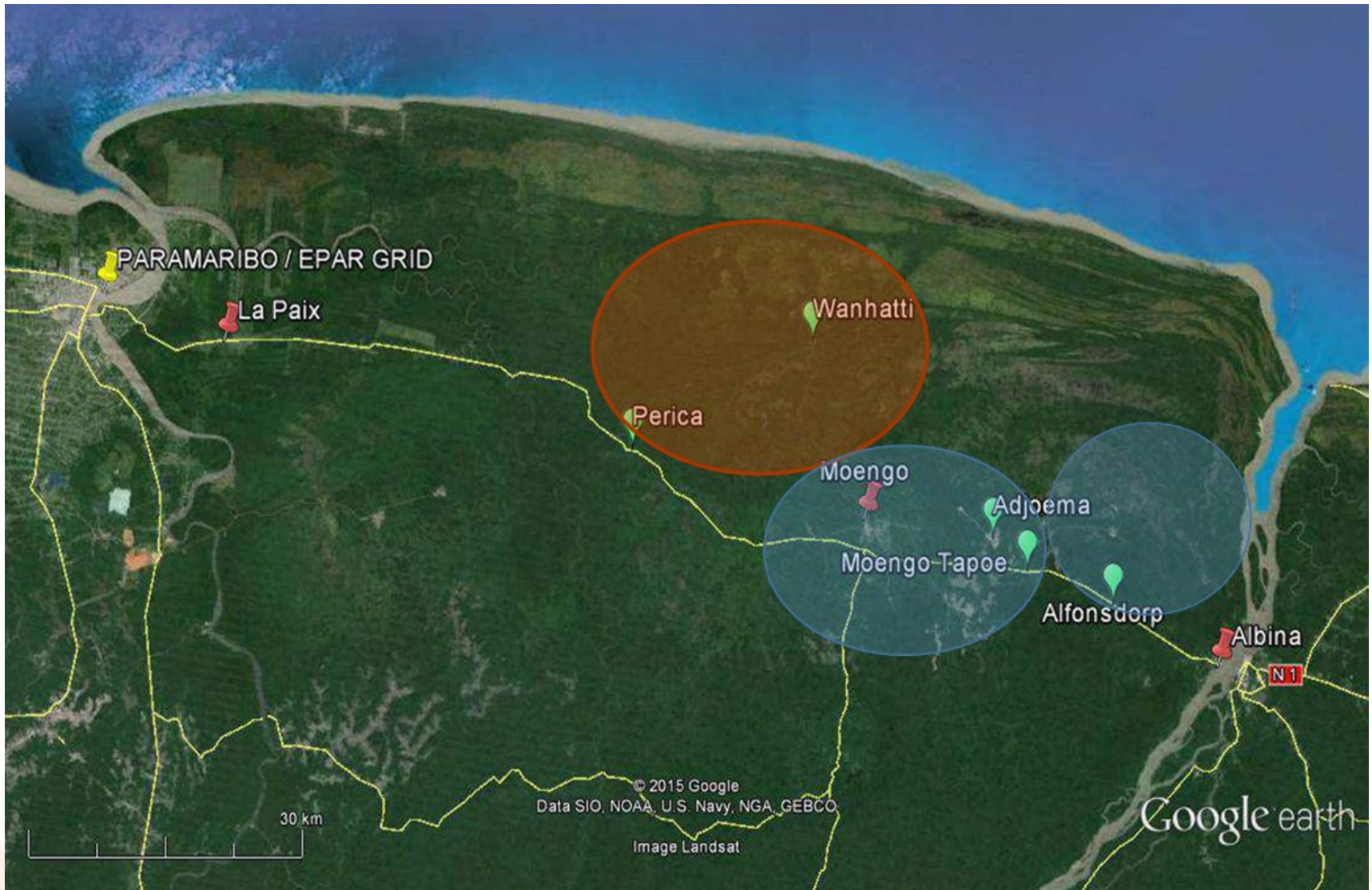
- Share project information;
- Present environmental and social findings; and
- Gather stakeholder feedback for the final project design and implementation.



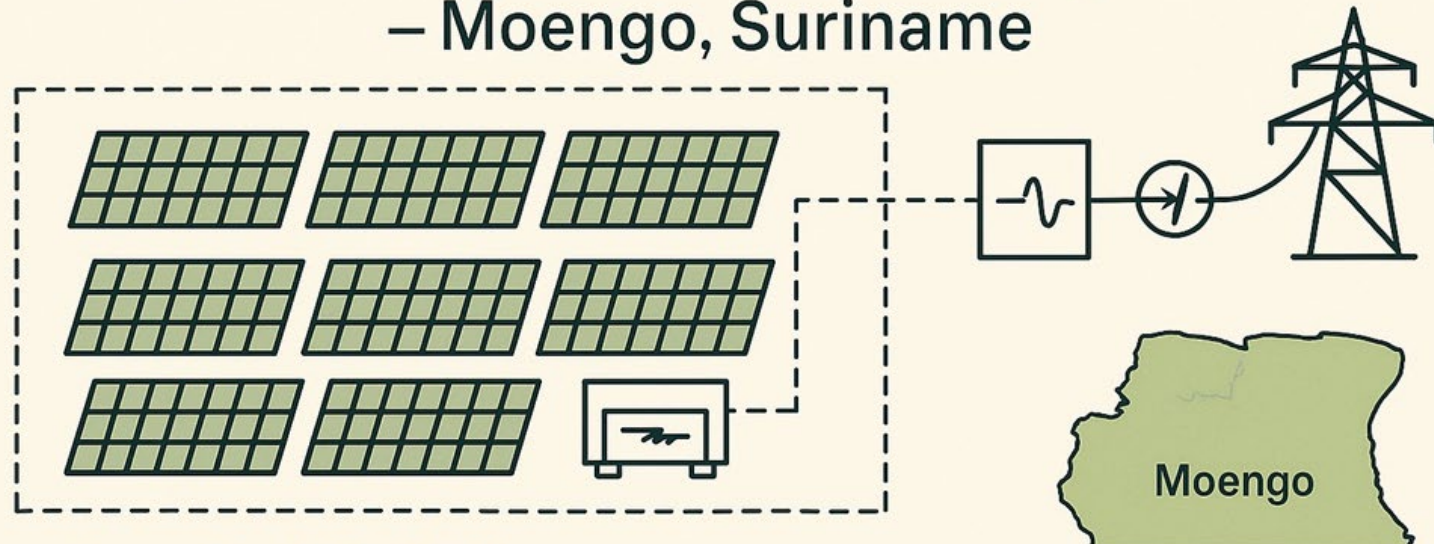
Project overview: Electrification of the east-west region and rural areas

Four main components:


- **Component 1:** Construction of a 127 km, 110 kV overhead transmission line from Peperpot to Albina to improve power distribution efficiency.
- **Component 2:** Construction of three new substations in Moengo, Wanhatti, and Albina, and upgrading the Peperpot substation to ensure reliable power supply in remote communities.
- **Component 3:** Connecting Wanhatti and other rural villages to the grid, with an upgrade of the distribution and low-voltage networks to EBS standards.
- **Component 4:** A 1.6 MW solar power plant.



1,6 MW Grid-Tied Solar PV System – Moengo, Suriname



- Capacity: 1,600 kW
 - Panel wattage ≥ 500 W
- 3,200 units

 Average
Solar
Irradiance
 $\geq 5,5$ kWh/m²/day



CO₂ Savings



Clean Energy



Clean Energy

Expected benefits for the project

- **Improved Energy Access:** Reliable 24/7 electricity for rural and urban communities.
- **Economic Growth:** Increased opportunities for businesses and local industries.
- **Environmental Benefits:** Reduction in diesel-based electricity generation, lowering greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Social Development:** Enhanced quality of life, improved healthcare, and educational opportunities.

Stakeholder Identification

- Conducting a stakeholder assessment:
 - Identifying stakeholders
 - Prioritizing stakeholders

Stakeholder Name	Contact Person <i>Name, address, contact details</i>	Power <i>Their ability to stop or change the project</i>	Interest <i>The size and location of the overlap between their interests and the project goals</i>	Engagement Strategy <i>The type and frequency of communication</i>
Stakeholder 1				
Stakeholder 2				
Stakeholder 3				

- Local communities along the power line
- Local authorities (district commissioners, traditional leaders)
- Government agencies (Ministry of Natural Resources, Public Works, NMA)
- NGOs (Pater Ahlbrinck Foundation)
- Community organizations
- Businesses and service providers (Telesur, SWM)

Engagement Process to Date

- Timeline of engagement activities: activities were done in three days:
 - Wanhatti and surrounding villages
 - Akalekondre and surrounding villages
 - Moengo Centre
- Communication method: Presentation was held by EBS. The consultant asked questions based on a prepared questionnaire in the local language
- The different villages where visited separately to engage as much as possible stakeholders
- Usually man and women are questioned separately but due time constraints and a low attendance rate in some areas the stakeholders didn't mind to be questioned together.

Key Issues Raised So Far and How We Addressed Them

- **Key problems/issues:**

- Stakeholders want frequent information and communication from and with EBS.
- There is distrust of the government due to several unfulfilled promises, especially during the election period.
- Everyone is happy with the project and wants a stable power supply. Even the villages that still don't have electricity are hopeful.

- **Action:**

- A report detailing all problems/issues has been prepared and submitted.
- EBS is aware of these problems and will take them into account.

The Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) provides a structured approach to managing environmental and social risks related to the electrification of the East-West region and the rural electrification project.

The plan ensures compliance with national regulations, the Inter-American Development Bank's (IDB) Environmental and Social Performance Standards (ESPS), and international best practices.

Social and environmental impacts and mitigating measures



Environmental Challenge

The construction and operational phases of the project pose several environmental risks, including:

- Deforestation and habitat disruption, which could affect biodiversity, including migratory species.
- Potential water and soil contamination due to improper waste disposal and hazardous substance leaks.
- Air and noise pollution from construction activities, affecting residents near schools and densely populated areas.
- Climate change risks, such as flooding, droughts, and extreme weather, which could impact the energy infrastructure.

Sociale en milieueffecten en mitigerende maatregelen

Key societal issues that must be addressed for the long-term success of projects include:

- Financial sustainability, as some communities may struggle to pay ongoing operational and maintenance costs.
- Economic inequality, which particularly affects marginalized groups and limits equal access to services.
- Resident skepticism, particularly in villages like Tamarin and Wanhatti, due to broken political promises from the past.
- Gender inequality, as women have limited employment opportunities in the construction sector and are underrepresented in decision-making processes.

Sociale en milieueffecten en mitigerende maatregelen

Mitigation Strategies and Recommendations

Environmental Measures

- Conduct thorough impact assessments before construction.
- Establish buffer zones around important wildlife habitats.
- Implement stringent pollution control measures to prevent water and soil contamination.
- Integrate climate resilience strategies, such as infrastructure designs that can withstand extreme weather events.

Sociale en milieueffecten en mitigerende maatregelen

Mitigation Strategies and Recommendations

Social Measures

- Facilitate village-level discussions (krutus) to develop financial ownership models tailored to community needs.
- Strengthen community engagement through transparent communication, regular updates, and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes to build trust.
- Promote gender equality through targeted programs, such as vocational training, microfinance, and economic opportunities for women.

Structure ESMP (requirements)

Includes:

- Impact identification and mitigation measures
- Procedures for environmental and social monitoring and reporting
- Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Plan
- Contingency Plan (ERP)
- Measures to protect biodiversity and habitat
- Working conditions

Complaints mechanism

- **Purpose:** To provide residents with the opportunity to submit complaints, concerns, or suggestions.
- **How to submit:** By phone, email, or to the district commissioner or traditional authority in the villages.
- **Confidentiality:** All complaints will be treated confidentially.
- **Contact information:** This information will be provided before construction begins.

- Project approval by IDB (November 2025)
- 1 month later: Loan agreement
- Comply with NMA requirements (additional studies, meetings)
- Amendment of tender documents (1 month)
- Tender process (3 months)
- Start of construction: 1 year after approval



Thank You!

Contact:

Jerry Aseja

[Email: Jerry.Aseja@ebs.sr](mailto:Jerry.Aseja@ebs.sr)

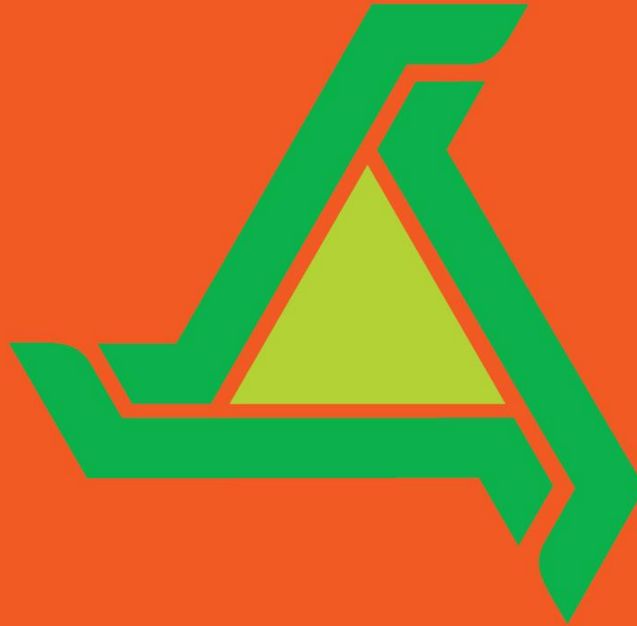
Phone: 8544833

Harold Anantoewe

[Email: Harold.Anantoewe@ebs.sr](mailto:Harold.Anantoewe@ebs.sr)

Phone: 8954677

EBS ▲ EnergieBedrijven Suriname



uw betrouwbare ontwikkelingspartner

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MEETING

Electrification of the East –West Region and Rural Electrification

- Introduction and purpose of consultation
- Project overview
- Environmental and social assessment results
- Stakeholder engagement process so far
- Feedback and Grievance Mechanism
- Next Steps



Introduction and Objective

Objective:

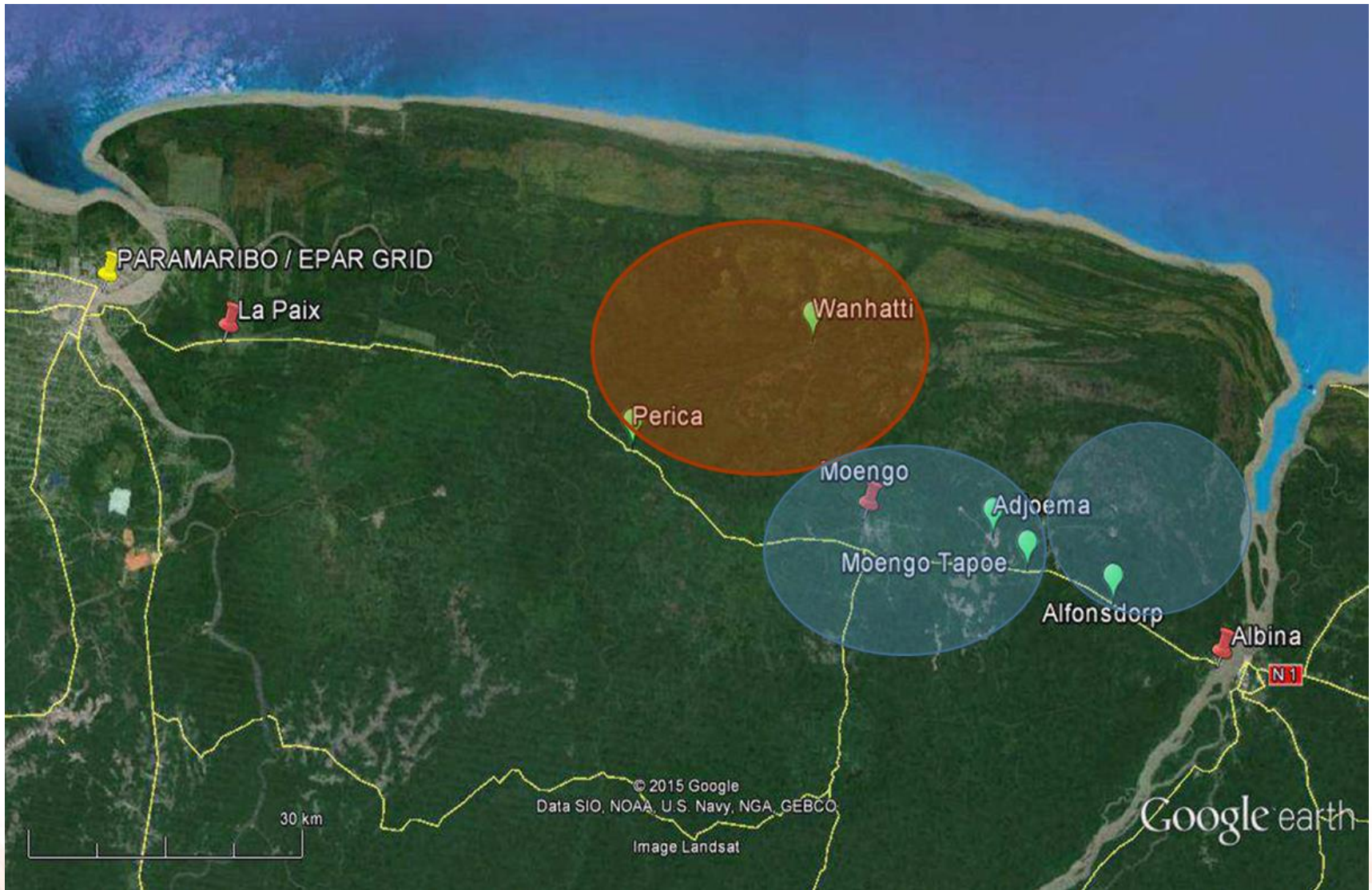
- Share project information;
- Present environmental and social findings; and
- Gather stakeholder feedback for the final project design and implementation.



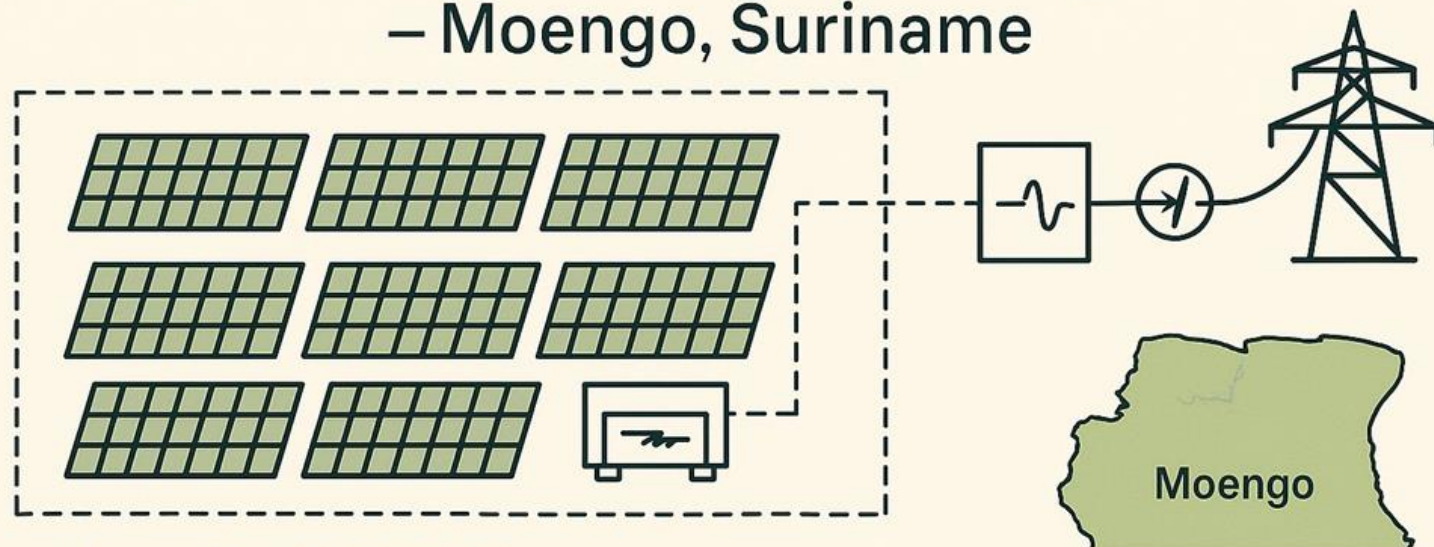
Project overview: Electrification of the east-west region and rural areas

Four main components:

- **Component 1:** Construction of a 127 km, 110 kV overhead transmission line from Peperpot to Albina to improve power distribution efficiency.
- **Component 2:** Construction of three new substations in Moengo, Wanhatti, and Albina, and upgrading the Peperpot substation to ensure reliable power supply in remote communities.
- **Component 3:** Connecting Wanhatti and other rural villages to the grid, with an upgrade of the distribution and low-voltage networks to EBS standards.
- **Component 4:** A 1.6 MW solar power plant.



1,6 MW Grid-Tied Solar PV System – Moengo, Suriname



- Capacity: 1,600 kW
 - Panel wattage ≥ 500 W
- 3,200 units

 Average
Solar
Irradiance
 $\geq 5,5$ kWh/m²/day

 CO₂

CO₂ Savings

 %

Clean Energy



Clean Energy

Expected benefits for the project

- **Improved Energy Access:** Reliable 24/7 electricity for rural and urban communities.
- **Economic Growth:** Increased opportunities for businesses and local industries.
- **Environmental Benefits:** Reduction in diesel-based electricity generation, lowering greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Social Development:** Enhanced quality of life, improved healthcare, and educational opportunities.

Stakeholder Identification

- Conducting a stakeholder assessment:
 - Identifying stakeholders
 - Prioritizing stakeholders

Stakeholder Name	Contact Person <i>Name, address, contact details</i>	Power <i>Their ability to stop or change the project</i>	Interest <i>The size and location of the overlap between their interests and the project goals</i>	Engagement Strategy <i>The type and frequency of communication</i>
Stakeholder 1				
Stakeholder 2				
Stakeholder 3				

- Local communities along the power line
- Local authorities (district commissioners, traditional leaders)
- Government agencies (Ministry of Natural Resources, Public Works, NMA)
- NGOs (Pater Ahlbrinck Foundation)
- Community organizations
- Businesses and service providers (Telesur, SWM)

Engagement Process to Date

- 1 day meeting at Albina
- Traditional authorities of surrounding villages were also present:
 - Marijkedorp, Pierrekondre and Alfonsdorp
- Method: Presentation by EBS, questions by the consultant in the local language.
- Normally, men and women are interviewed separately, but due to time constraints and low turnout, these were sometimes conducted together.

Key Issues Raised So Far and How We Addressed Them

- **Key problems/issues:**

- Stakeholders want frequent information and communication from and with EBS.
- There is distrust of the government due to several unfulfilled promises, especially during the election period.
- Everyone is happy with the project and wants a stable power supply. Even the villages that still don't have electricity are hopeful.

- **Action:**

- A report detailing all problems/issues has been prepared and submitted.
- EBS is aware of these problems and will take them into account.

The Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) provides a structured approach to managing environmental and social risks related to the electrification of the East-West region and the rural electrification project.

The plan ensures compliance with national regulations, the Inter-American Development Bank's (IDB) Environmental and Social Performance Standards (ESPS), and international best practices.

Social and environmental impacts and mitigating measures

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Environmental Challenge

The construction and operational phases of the project pose several environmental risks, including:

- Deforestation and habitat disruption, which could affect biodiversity, including migratory species.
- Potential water and soil contamination due to improper waste disposal and hazardous substance leaks.
- Air and noise pollution from construction activities, affecting residents near schools and densely populated areas.
- Climate change risks, such as flooding, droughts, and extreme weather, which could impact the energy infrastructure.

Social and environmental impacts and mitigating measures

Key societal issues that must be addressed for the long-term success of projects include:

- Financial sustainability, as some communities may struggle to pay ongoing operational and maintenance costs.
- Economic inequality, which particularly affects marginalized groups and limits equal access to services.
- Resident skepticism, particularly in villages like Tamarin and Wanhatti, due to broken political promises from the past.
- Gender inequality, as women have limited employment opportunities in the construction sector and are underrepresented in decision-making processes.

Social and environmental impacts and mitigating measures

Mitigation Strategies and Recommendations

Environmental Measures

- Conduct thorough impact assessments before construction.
- Establish buffer zones around important wildlife habitats.
- Implement stringent pollution control measures to prevent water and soil contamination.
- Integrate climate resilience strategies, such as infrastructure designs that can withstand extreme weather events.

Social and environmental impacts and mitigating measures

Mitigation Strategies and Recommendations

Social Measures

- Facilitate village-level discussions (krutus) to develop financial ownership models tailored to community needs.
- Strengthen community engagement through transparent communication, regular updates, and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes to build trust.
- Promote gender equality through targeted programs, such as vocational training, microfinance, and economic opportunities for women.

Structure ESMP (requirements)

Includes:

- Impact identification and mitigation measures
- Procedures for environmental and social monitoring and reporting
- Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Plan
- Contingency Plan (ERP)
- Measures to protect biodiversity and habitat
- Working conditions

Complaints mechanism

- **Purpose:** To provide residents with the opportunity to submit complaints, concerns, or suggestions.
- **How to submit:** By phone, email, or to the district commissioner or traditional authority in the villages.
- **Confidentiality:** All complaints will be treated confidentially.
- **Contact information:** This information will be provided before construction begins.

- Project approval by IDB (November 2025)
- 1 month later: Loan agreement
- Comply with NMA requirements (additional studies, meetings)
- Amendment of tender documents (1 month)
- Tender process (3 months)
- Start of construction: 1 year after approval



Thank You!

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