

# Environmental Services & Support

## Company Profile



*July 2024*





## **Introducing ESS**

Environmental Services & Support (ESS) is a registered consultancy firm, established in Suriname in 2005<sup>1</sup>. For public and private sector clients, we (ESS) implement multidisciplinary projects that require ‘green’ as well as ‘grey’ environmental expertise. We combine expertise that is available in Suriname and globally, and we put it to work.

We implement studies and help develop policies, plans and projects in relation to the use and conservation of biological resources, including forestry and ecotourism. We assess and monitor the environmental and social impacts of agriculture, mining, infrastructure and other projects. We also advise on the valuation of forest resources and certification of their sustainable use.

In addition, we design and implement customized training modules and short courses, and we offer support for the publication of information on ecology and environment. We also assist organizations in designing and managing projects, fundraising and recruiting staff.



## **Mission and Approach**

Based on our expertise in relation to forests, nature and environment, we provide clients in a timely manner with useful research results and advice. We support them to be successful in achieving their goals, within the context of responsible (business) development in natural and human-made environments. We are very much committed to providing services and support that meet or exceed international professional standards.

ESS works by using its network to mobilize the local and international experts required for the job. Whenever possible, ESS involves local students in the implementation of its projects, giving them the chance to acquire knowledge and skills.

At present, the geographical focus of ESS is Suriname and the Guianas in general.

<sup>1</sup> Registered as “Environmental Services and Support N.V.” at the Suriname Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KKF), reference no. 42861; Tax registration FIN no: 2000008607



## Scope

Currently, the main scope of activities of ESS is:

### **BASELINE, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND MONITORING STUDIES**

Development projects require that the baseline situation before the project starts is assessed, and that impact on the biophysical and social environment is predicted and monitored, and environmental costs versus benefits are known. Knowledge is needed on measures to reduce adverse impacts and enhance beneficial ones. ESS implements baseline and impact assessment studies in relation to e.g. mining, energy, agriculture, forestry, and transport development projects.

### **SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT AND CERTIFICATION**

In forest management and timber harvesting, wise use and sustainability have become of critical importance. Certification is the means to achieve sustainability and to communicate sustainable land and production management with the market and the public. ESS helps companies with feasibility studies, management plans, and with sustainable forest management and obtaining 'green' certification.

### **VALUATION OF INTANGIBLE RESOURCES**

Natural areas are often defined by intangibles with uncertain market value, such as clean water, fresh air, carbon sequestration and diversity of life. Such intangibles can be experienced directly by visitors, and this is the basis of nature tourism and a key aspect of ecotourism. ESS advises on how to conserve such intangibles and transform them into tangible revenues, such as by means of tourism (e.g. ecotourism), and carbon valuation, with due consideration of cultural sensitivities.

### **TRAINING, EXTENSION AND PUBLICATION**

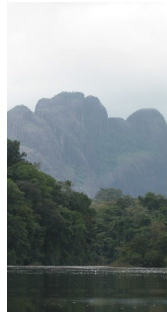
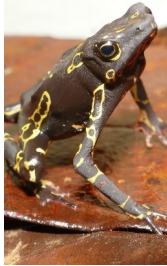
Performance and results depend on well trained people, equipped to their task. Training and extension help to stay informed concerning developments in various fields. ESS offers help with tailor-made design and the organizing of training and extension meetings, at least in the context of the forest and environmental sectors. ESS also contributes to education and awareness through publication of information related to ecology and the environment, in collaboration with other organizations.

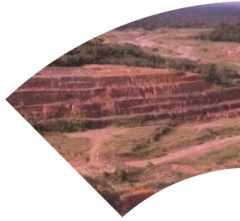
### **PLAN, POLICY AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

Suggestions and ideas, even global initiatives in the forest and environmental sectors need to be translated in realistic policies and well documented plans at a manageable scale. This is true for businesses as well as governments. ESS offers its support for policy, plan and project development.

### **PROJECT MANAGEMENT, FUNDRAISING, AND RECRUITMENT**

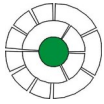
Within the forest and environmental sectors context, ESS can assume the responsibility of project manager on behalf of its clients. It also offers support to identify and approach funds and donors, and to recruit experienced staff and trainees.





## Organization

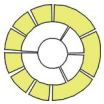
ESS is organized as a core with two surrounding layers:



**CORE** – the administrative and logistical management is the responsibility of Ms. Saskia Somai; Mr. Hans Paters is the Director / CEO.



**INNER LAYER** – associates of ESS which do all commercial work via ESS; these currently are: Mr. Bart De Dyn, Ms. Sandhia Punwasi and Mr. Raoul Boedhoe; in addition Mr. Sietze van Dijk and Mr. Giani Razab-Sekh who do part of their commercial work via ESS.



**OUTER LAYER** – local and international consultants, either companies or individual experts, who are contracted for specific jobs, based on the client's requirements.

Over the years, ESS has established partnerships with national and international experts and companies to tackle more complex jobs in Suriname and the region.



Bart



Saskia



Raoul



Sandhia



Hans



Giani



Sietze



## Expertise

We can offer the expertise of companies and experts associated with ESS (cf. Inner Layer), and more (cf. Outer Layer).



### INNER LAYER – ASSOCIATES

These experts work via ESS in the Guianas:

**BART DE DYN**, Licentiaat (MSc equivalent) in Biology from the University of Gent in Belgium, with 27+ years of experience in nature conservation and ecological baseline and impact assessment, mainly in Suriname;

**SANDHIA PUNWASI**, Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Environmental Science - orientation Technology from the Anton de Kom University of Suriname, with 11+ years of work experience in Suriname. She has worked as an environmental consultant since 2017, mainly in the context of ESIA;

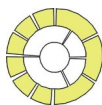
**RAOUL BOEDHOE**, Master of Science (MSc) in Sustainable Management of Natural Resources from the Anton de Kom University of Suriname with experience in biodiversity baseline studies (mammals, herps and flora) as well as environmental, biodiversity and agricultural training programs

**SIETZE VAN DIJK**, Master of Science (MSc) in Tropical Forest Ecology from the University of Wageningen (NL), specialized in sustainable forest management and certification, and related capacity building and institutional support, with 37+ years of experience worldwide (of which 20+ years in Suriname); and

**GIANI RAZAB-SEKH**, Master of Science (MSc) in Tropical forestry from Bangor University in Wales, UK. Giani has over seven year of experience in tropical forestry with proven skills in project management, silvicultural research, sustainable forest management, forest certification auditing, rural livelihood development and university lecturing.

### OUTER LAYER – ADDITIONAL COMPANIES AND EXPERTS

These are descriptions of additional companies / experts that ESS can easily mobilize:



**TOURISM SPECIALIST**, Master in Leisure, Tourism and Environment from the Wageningen University in The Netherlands, chairman of a foundation for conservation and sustainable tourism, with 30+ years of experience in nature tourism and capacity building in Suriname;

**BOTANIST**, Doctor in Botany from the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris, France, with 15+ years of worldwide experience, including in French Guiana and Suriname, in assessment and conservation of flora, vegetation and biodiversity in general;

**ORNITHOLOGIST**, Doctor in Biology from the Louisiana State University in the USA, specialized in neotropical birds, with 10+ years of experience in faunal surveys, and impact assessment studies in the Americas, including Suriname and Guyana;

**MAMMAL SPECIALIST**, Doctor in Biology from the University of Toronto in Canada, specialized in small mammals, with 25+ years of worldwide experience in faunal surveys, impact assessment studies and field training, including in the Guianas;

**HERPETOLOGIST**, Doctor in Biology from the University of Leiden in The Netherlands; specialized in reptiles and amphibians of the Guianas, with 30+ years of experience in surveys, impact assessment studies and field training, mostly in the Guianas;

**FISH SPECIALIST**, Doctor in Biology from the University of Suriname, specialized in the ecology of the fishes of the Guiana, with 25+ years of experience in surveys and impact assessment studies in the Guianas;

**SOCIAL SPECIALIST**, Master of Science in Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development in the Caribbean, independent consultant with 9 years experience in stakeholder engagement/ stakeholder consultation, impact assessments, communication for development; and

**ARCHAEOLOGIST**, Ph.D. and M.A. in Anthropology with 27 years of international experience in archaeological surveys, consultancy and fieldwork.

**We can mobilize**



**an even wider  
range of expertise**



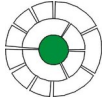
**if the job  
requires it.**





## Contact

Feel free to contact us via our Junior Consultant



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Visit our Facebook and LinkedIn pages by clicking on the icons below







## Our track record (a sample)

ESS has been assigned the jobs listed below, either as lead or as subcontractor within the framework of a larger commission. What is listed below is a sample of mostly recent and on-going jobs we (ESS) have implemented; the complete list can be found on our website.

ASSIGNMENT	PERIOD	CLIENT
<b>Sustainable Forest Management and Certification</b>		
• Cities4Forest (C4F) initiative: a partnership between the indigenous community of Bigi Poika and the City of Amsterdam (Netherlands)	2023 - 2024	Stichting ProBos (The Netherlands)
• Forest Carbon Project Development Consultancy-II	2023 - 2024	CI-Suriname / Face Forests B.V (Face the Future)
• Forest Carbon Project Development Consultancy	2022	CI-Suriname / Face Forests B.V (Face the Future)
• Tropical Timber Trade Portal - Update of the Suriname Country Profile & writing of a news item "Improved production control in Suriname"	2020	FORM International (The Netherlands)
• Preparation and performance of training on the EUTR (EU Timber Regulation) for the Dutch Food Safety Authority (NVWA)	2018	Tropenbos International (The Netherlands)
<b>Baseline, Environmental Impact, and Monitoring Studies</b>		
• Merian Reclamation Areas Monitoring	2023 - ongoing	Newmont Suriname, LLC
• Assessment of potential impacts of flaring on birds at Staatsolie Saramacca Concession	2023 - ongoing	Staatsolie
• Newmont Biodiversity Offset Monitoring	2023 - 2024	Newmont Suriname, LLC
• Ecological Baseline Studies for TSF2 Newont Concession - phase I and phase 2	2023 - 2024	Newmont Suriname, LLC
• Gap Analysis Newmont TSF2 Merian Mine	2022-2023	Newmont Suriname, LLC
• Archeology / Tangible Heritage Baseline Study TSF3	2022-2023	Rosebel Gold Mines NV (RGM)
• Ecological Baseline Studies TSF3 - phase I and phase 2	2022	Rosebel Gold Mines NV (RGM)
• Socio-economic study in Galibi as part of the Marine Turtle Programme in Suriname	2022	World Wildlife Fund, Inc. (WWF)
• Environmental Impact Assessment for Digicel Suriname Submarine Fiber Cable Project (Paramaribo)	2022-2023	Digicel Suriname / Digicel Group



ASSIGNMENT	PERIOD	CLIENT
<b>Valuation of Intangible Resources</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Case study of the traditional uses of fires by Indigenous People in Suriname, specifically in relation to surrounding ecosystems.</li> </ul>	2020	Advisory Bureau on Human Rights and Sustainable Development for UNESCO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment of Business Baseline and Exploration of Business Options for Galibi Nature Reserve and Brownsberg Nature Park</li> </ul>	2015	World Wildlife Fund Guianas (WWF Guianas)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a Business plan for the Central Suriname Nature Reserve (CSNR)</li> </ul>	2010	Ministry of Physical Planning, Land and Forest Management (RGB)
<b>Training, Extension and Publication</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SMP training project personnel-Bridge Construction Van 't Hogerhuysstraat</li> </ul>	2024 - ongoing	Kuldipsingh Infra N.V.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institutional Capacity Strengthening</li> </ul>	2023 - ongoing	National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (NIMOS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newmont Suriname Monitoring Training</li> </ul>	2023 - 2024	Newmont Suriname, LLC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RGM Monitoring Program– Develop a participatory water quality monitoring program and train community members of Kwakoebron</li> </ul>	2021-2022	Rosebel Gold Mines NV (RGM)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity Monitoring Training of Newmont Suriname - Environmental Department employees as part of Newmont's Suriname closure and reclamation program.</li> </ul>	2021	Newmont Suriname, LLC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of the book "Frits van Troon: treespotter extraordinaire, icon"</li> </ul>	2021 - ongoing	Foundation Amazon Conservation Team Suriname (ACT)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yearly Water Quality field and - laboratory training</li> </ul>	2015 - 2021	Newmont Suriname, LLC
<b>Plan, Policy and Project Development</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consulting to support the review of the progress of the Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Program (CDRMP) of Suriname.</li> </ul>	2023 - on going	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updating the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Suriname</li> </ul>	2023	Ministry of Spatial Planning & Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consulting services for the Implementation of Global Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Project Activities in Suriname</li> </ul>	2022-2023	Frankfurt school / Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitator at the webinar 'Online presentation on Experience Sharing on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)'</li> </ul>	2021	REDD+ Project Management Unit



<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>	<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>CLIENT</b>
<b>Project Management, Fundraising and Recruitment</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of the National GEF PPG Team and provide technical support for the preparation of UNDP / GEF project “Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM Sector Plus – GEF GOLD + in Suriname</li> </ul>	2020-2022	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of the Project 'Encouraging children’s homes to grow crops and fish for food security and climate change resilience'</li> </ul>	2017 - 2019	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project writing for a UNDP Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (J-CCCP) project, for and in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Fisheries in Suriname</li> </ul>	2016-2017	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation of Three Finalized SGP projects (Suriname)</li> </ul>	2015 - 2016	Small Grants Programme Suriname (SGP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring and Reporting on a Charcoal Making Furnace to Find a Means for Converting Wood Waste into High Quality Charcoal (Suriname)</li> </ul>	2015 - 2016	Charbon Engineering N.V. (The Netherlands)

