

# Sustainable Forreest Policy in the Context of The National Development Strategy



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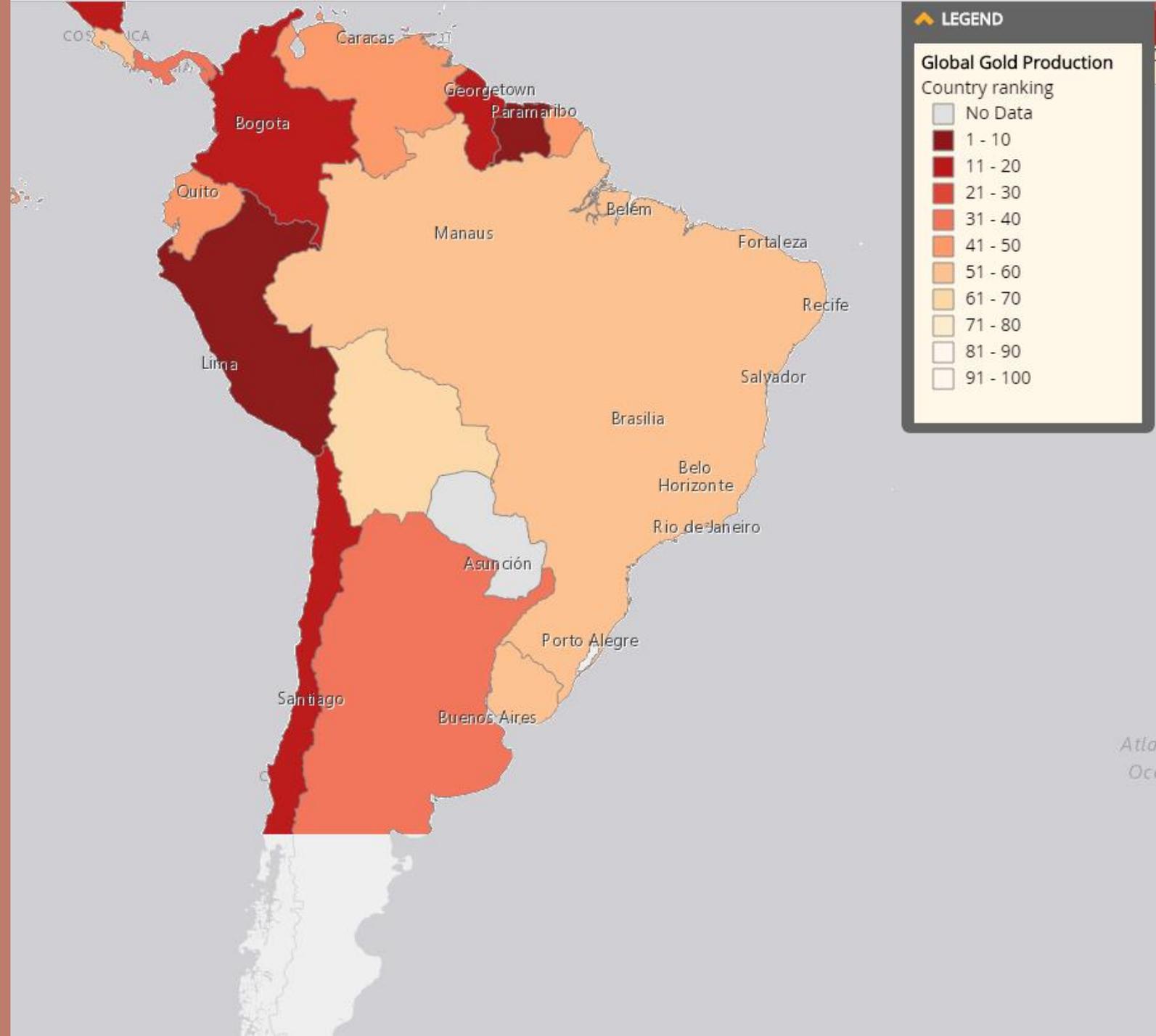
Paramaribo, February 2019



## **What we will discuss**

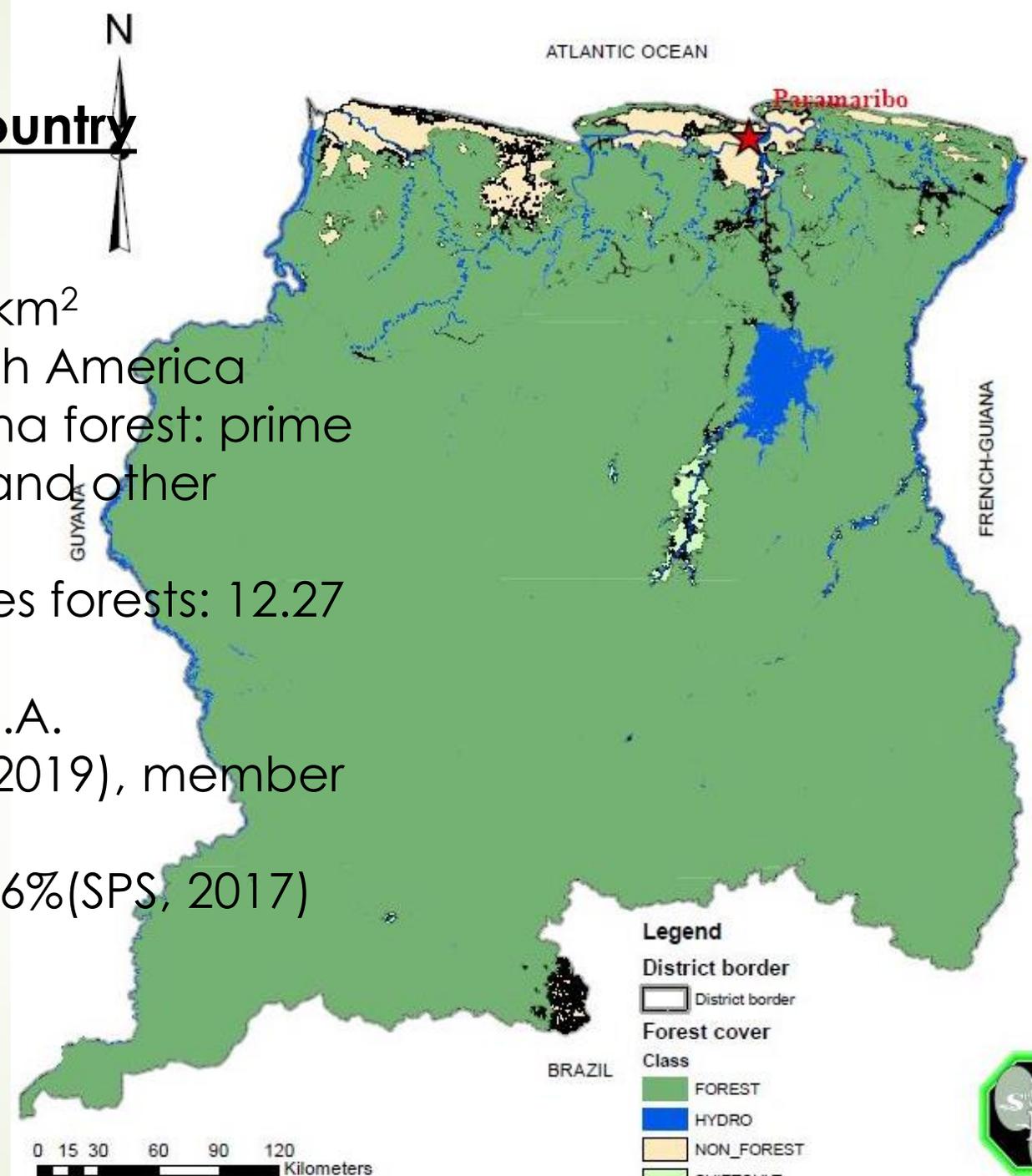
- Suriname the world most forested country**
- Maintaining forest coverage and overall development strategy**
- Strategic development goal and outcomes**
- Principles of Suriname's Forest coverage policy**
- Priorities and short term goals**

Suriname the  
world most  
forested  
country



## World most Forested Country

1. Land surface area= 166.000 km<sup>2</sup>
2. Maritime surface area of 212.85 km<sup>2</sup>
3. Smallest state/population in South America
4. 93 % of land area or 15.2 million ha forest: prime rain forest, savanna, mangrove and other forests
5. Estimated CO<sub>2</sub> stored in Surinames forests: 12.27 Gigaton in 2017
6. Estimated CO<sub>2</sub>: emission levels N.A.
7. Population 583.385 in 2017 (SPS, 2019), member of the SIDS (UN-grouping)
8. Openness: Trade to GDP ratio 106%(SPS, 2017)
9. Upper middle income country



# Suriname the world most forested country

- Vulnerability:
  - Size: power brokers in the global economy or geo-political field
  - Cycles in the international commodity markets
  - Rising sea levels
  - Increasingly strong winds
- The country received abysmal levels of funding for
  - **a)** the absorption and sinks of CO<sub>2</sub> that it maintains in support of mitigation of global climate change and
  - **b)** developing a more environmental friendly economy that is required to maintain its forest coverage
  - **c)** adaption measures aimed at reducing the impact of rising sea levels.

# Suriname the world most forested country

- Conditionalities placed on funding, including maintaining the levels of forest coverage, seem:
  - **Unfair** because while the country delivers to reduction and storage of CO<sub>2</sub> in the earth's atmosphere there is no compensation while those emitting the CO<sub>2</sub> receive 'free carbon credits'
  - **Counterproductive** productive because economic activities that can and do deliver livelihoods for the population but result in deforestation do not contribute to the credibility of establishing a more environmentally friendly economy in order to minimize deforestation.
- Conditionalities on co-management of protected areas or joint management of income from carbon-credits or other adaption related monies is unacceptable

# Overall development strategy and maintaining forest coverage

- ▶ Suriname is a very small, natural resource based economy that is CO2 emission negative. This path to prosperity implies ensuring the necessary infrastructure and energy.
  - ▶ Dependence on mining increased (gold/oil) in the past 3 decades ... average annual income of the Government from the mineral sector is US\$189 (1993-2017). Total investment from international sources is only a very small fraction if compared to this flow.
  - ▶ The promising (easy) options for growth come from mining but they come at a price. ➡
- ▶ Maintaining current levels of forest coverage requires a vastly different developing strategy from the one pursued in the past hundred years or so. Maintaining forest coverage implies dedicating land use to:
  - ▶ halt deforestation. ➡
  - ▶ reforestation
- ▶ Responding largely to a global mitigation and adaptation strategy must consider the opportunity costs for Suriname of this path to development. In addition, the cost of adaptation to rising sea levels and other projected negative impacts of climate change must be assessed and quantified.
- ▶ A strategy to maintain current forest coverage levels requires: better planning, improved governance and significantly higher levels of international financial technical and political support.

# Strategic development goal and outcomes

- 
1. Strategic goal/Outcomes
  2. Principles/values
  3. Institutional framework
  4. Action plan

# Strategic development goal and outcomes

## Strategic Goal

*With the necessary support pledged by the International community, Suriname adopts and implements an alternative development path to prosperity for its people that maintains a balance between expansion of Surinames traditional economic activities, establishing more environmentally friendly economic activities, and limits to deforestation to levels that keep its forests coverage at --% and keeps it relative share in (global) absorption of CO2 at -- %.*

# Strategic development goal and outcomes

- 1) Enhanced Environmental Awareness (national and internationally)
- 2) Suriname Protected Areas are properly governed effectively protected and economically and socially self-sustaining
- 3) Effective and efficient environmental legislation, compliance and M&E
- 4) Policies and the regulatory framework for mining, forestry and agriculture is strengthened and reoriented
- 5) Competitive, environmentally friendly economic activities are Initiated and expand to become a major source of prosperity
- 6) Environmentally damaged areas are rehabilitated
- 7) The national planning capacity is enhanced (restructuring and strengthening)
- 8) International support for Surinames sustainable forest policies and its underlying development strategy is institutionalised and strengthened

# Principles of Suriname's Forest coverage policy

- 1) Balance international, regional and national interests with local interests (Suriname Vision 2035 and the Five-Year National Development Plans)
- 2) Negotiate and legislate the consensus between the international community and Suriname aimed at maintaining a -- % forest coverage.
- 3) Acknowledge the mandate and responsibility of Suriname's Central and Local Government for governance of Suriname at the national level and district level respectively.
- 4) Consult Local Communities in the design and implementation of Suriname's forest policy in the context of the national development strategy aimed at development of all Surinamese.

# Principles of Suriname's Forest coverage policy

- 5) Mobilise national and international action for inclusion of the costs of rehabilitation of deforestation into the compulsory accounting practices of commercial entities and funding to be guaranteed by legislation
- 6) Mainstream gender equality and inclusion of vulnerable groups affected by deforestation into forest coverage policy and action
- 7) Ensure that capacity building is a verifiable result of funding arrangements and technical cooperation with partners irrespective their status
- 8) Project funds must contribute to enhancing the planning capacity of Suriname's and contribute to sustainable development of local communities

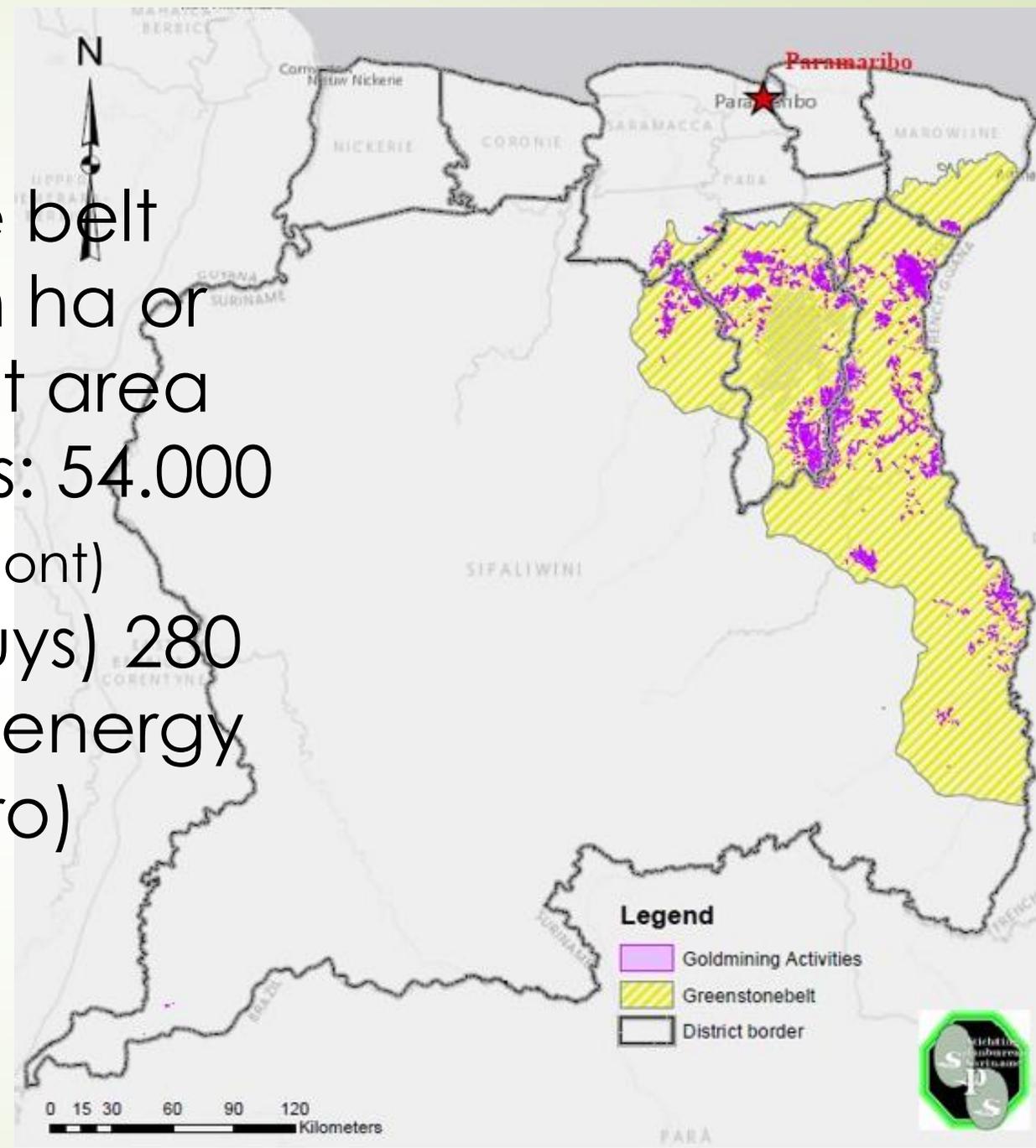
# Priorities and short term goals

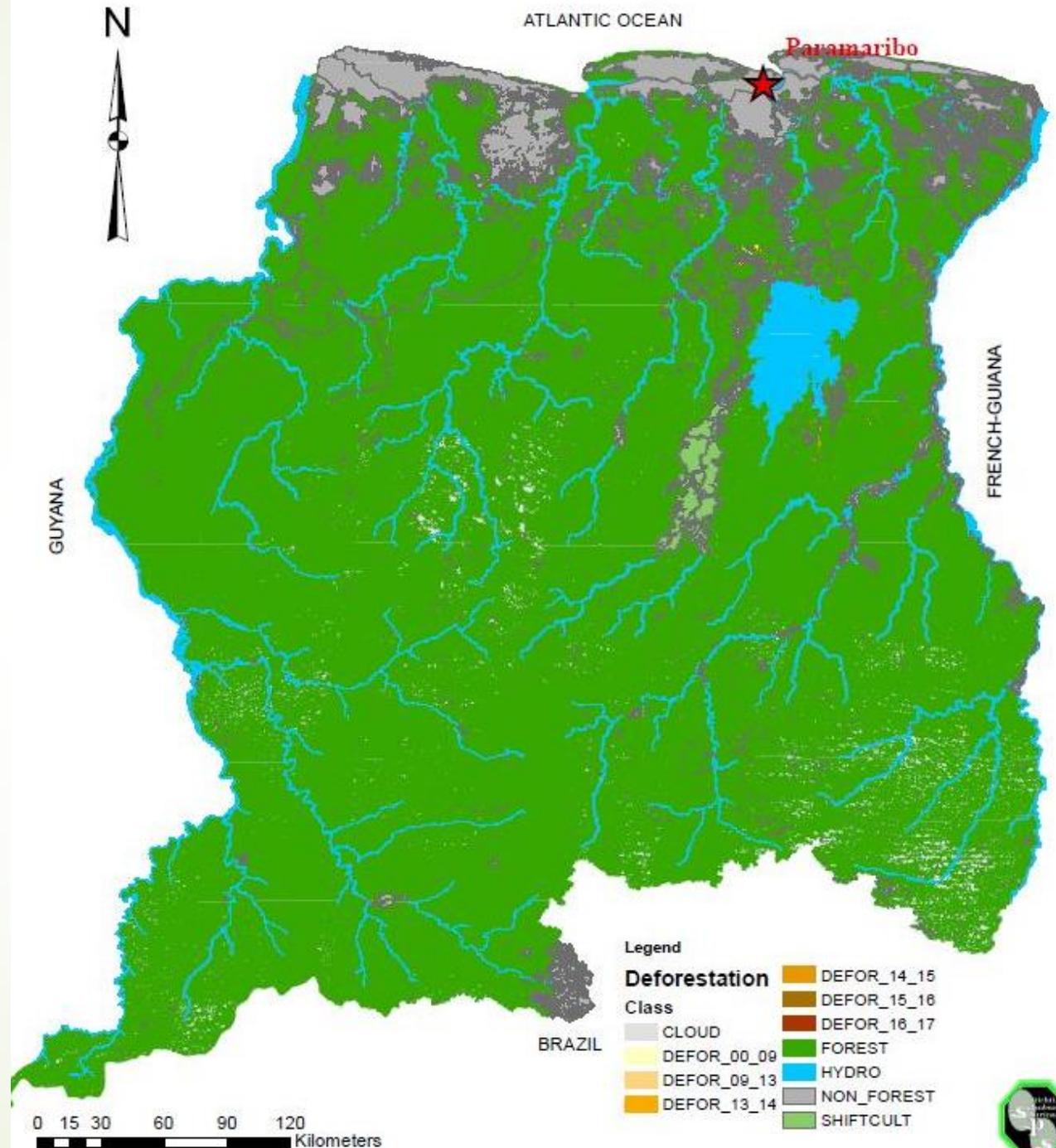
- ▶ Difficult to prioritise the 8 outcomes of our strategy but in terms of a practical sequence of events the following is emphasized:
  - ▶ Research and Planning are a preparatory steps and are indispensable for strategy an policy formulation as well as designing operational plans and action
  - ▶ Establishing and expanding more environmentally friendly economy activities (outcome 5) is a necessary condition for transition
  - ▶ All partners must focus on outcome 2 as a matter of making the challenge of the transition more manageable and demonstrate the viability of the strategy (highest urgency)
  - ▶ Commitment to sufficient levels of funding are needed to take long-term decisions to deny major investment in mining led development (10 15 year planning)

**THANK  
YOU!**



- Suriname's Greenstone belt (Gold area) : 2,8 million ha or about a 20% total forest area
- Actual mining locations: 54.000 ha (incl. IAM Gold and Newmont)
- Bauxite reserves (Bakhuys) 280 million metric tons and energy needs (Kabalebo, Hydro)





# Suriname

## Carbon emissions resulting from deforestation

Cause of CO2 emission	Period	
	2000 - 2017	2016 - 2017
<b>Deforestation* of which</b>		
- Total (inclusive mining)	90,562,308	8,596,453
- Annual average	5,327,195	
<b>Forest degradation of which</b>		
- Total (inclusive mining)	33,238,464	
- Annual average		
Total		

\* CO2 emissions as a result of deforestation were estimated using deforestation information such as 'activity data' that were produced by the Forest Cover Monitoring Unit (FCMU) of the SBB and the Emission Factor (EF), used for determining the FREL for Suriname. The emission factor for deforestation used is 805.9 tons CO2 for one (1) ha.

\*\* CO2 emissions as a result of forest degradation are based on the round wood production data reported in the report 'Rapport Bosbouw Sector 2017' and the Emission Factor (EF) used is the FREL for Suriname



**Total deforestation  
due to mining in  
2000-2017  
72.260,83 ha**

**Mined-out bauxite  
areas in the  
Paranam/Biliton**

