Gender Plus project aimed to strengthen the role of civil society in Suriname in promoting women and girls’ rights and improving the competencies of civil society organizations (CSOs), university students and vulnerable people to identify and implement actions for poverty reduction from a women’s and civic rights approach.

>> critical conscience >> dialogue’s capacity >> gender equality
>> entrepreneurship

March 2017 - February 2019

Gender Plus project

Gender awareness raising

Promoting gender awareness has been a transversal topic in all the workshops implemented during the 2 years of the Gender Plus project. Indeed, when it comes to culture and tradition, women are victims of gender stereotypes which socially and economically impact the entire community.

49 people from 9 Maroon villages (Duwatra, Baikoetoe, Pikinpada, Banafowkondre, Pikinslee, Pokigron, Abenaston, Bekiokondre, Baikoetoe), 4 Indigenous villages (Marijkedorp, Tapoekoe, Bigiston and Alfondsdorp) and 3 Maroon / Mixed communities (Moengotapoe, Moengo and Albina) could explore and understand the concept of gender and the issues of women’s inequality as related to the labor market, productive and reproductive labor. ‘Gender’ is now the new word in the village of Pikinslee, as the women said.

New partnership built

at national (Bureau Gender Affairs) and local government levels (District Commissioners of Marowijne, Sipaliwini and Nickerie, with local Captains of two Indigenous villages Alfonsdorp and Marijkedorp).

BFN attended the launch of the first Gender Platform (with more than 20 key actors) set up by Bureau for Gender Affairs in Nikerie, which has to identify gender priorities for the district, and will support them in capacity building.

Following the Gender Training with the students, the School for Journalism became interested to include a gender equality module in their curricula.

The cooperation with Marowijne & Sipaliwini will continue by supporting them with value chain development through continued entrepreneurship education, microfinance, marketing and technical assistance by volunteer adviser experts from the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO). BFN is the representative of CESO in Suriname.

The Gender Plus project provided opportunities to the CBOS and NGOs to meet and exchange, truly willing to create a national network.

This project is co-funded by the European Union

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of ‘kjgytd’ and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union.
**Micro-enterprise training and loans attribution**

During the micro-enterprise laboratories, the target group identified their business idea in a participatory way and with the assistance of the project micro-enterprise expert they managed to write their basic business plan. 21 loans of 250€ were attributed after the training and 11 smartphones were given for the benefit of the enterprises. Priority was given to the micro-enterprises with social character, gender, and environmental-sensitive activities.
Project-planning training and subgrants attribution

20 hours of Training and Coaching on project planning, gender equality strategies and budgeting were provided to 6 CBOs (4 from Marowijne and 2 from Sipaliwini) in order to develop gender-sensitive projects. After the training, the 6 CBOs received a subgrant at an average amount of 2666.67€ for an average 10 months project duration, especially focusing the International Women's Day Right, gender training, violence against women and children and women’s entrepreneurship. Two CBOs were provided with a notebook (one to Fiti Awan in Pikinslee and one to Tranga Uma fu Marwina in Moengo) in order to implement their projects and manage the entrepreneurial business of their organization.

Stichting Fiti A Wan
Expansion of handicraft business (calabash) by setting up a workplace for calabash and training young women.

Tranga Uma fu Marwina
The grant was used to buy a new machine to process the Acai berry and clear 2 plots (1ha each) to plant Acai trees. A gender awareness raising meeting was also implemented in Moengo as well as a women’s fair for women entrepreneurs in the field of clothing, agriculture, acai, and food.

Stichting Rosalina
Organization of Gender awareness training in one indigenous village. The grant was also used to buy office equipment and to renovate a greenhouse for agricultural activities of village women.

Maipafolo
Renovation of the handicraft shop and clearing of 2 plots of land of about ½ to 1 ha in Banafokondre village to start a horticulture initiative focused on selling for a local market. Moreover, they implemented a gender awareness training for 30 women and 4 men from Pikan Pada, Banafokondre, Bekiokondre and Baikoetoe.

Stichting Hanaba Hiarono
Organization of a capacity building training for 84 women and 8 men from 6 Indigenous villages in entrepreneurship, gender & leadership.

Stichting VODM
Organization of a gender and health training for 56 teenage girls & moms from Moengo. The grant was also used to buy office equipment.
7 NGOs and 4 CBOs received a subgrant of €4,400 to implement projects linked with raising awareness on gender and promoting women’s entrepreneurship. Three NGOs worked together with a CBO on “joint small projects”. The aim of joining CBOs and NGOs was for CBOs to broaden their horizons and strengthen their skills and competencies by working with national NGOs, and for NGOs to increase their presence, activities, and impact at local level. 9 smartphones were given to the CBOs and NGOs for the benefit of their projects.

Subgrantee: Stichting Stop Geweld Tegen Vrouwen (NGO)

Project Title: Realization of an educational film for children on domestic violence.

Description: The film produced has been used at various primary and secondary junior schools in Paramaribo and the districts as a starting point for the initiation of awareness processes for a substantial reduction of cases of (sexual) violence against children.

Subgrantee: Stichting Sari (NGO) & Stichting Avittie Mauw (NGO)

Project Title: Training and coaching of 21 men + 40 women micro-entrepreneurs in Nickerie District.

Description: The training allowed the participants to put their permit in order as they worked on their organization’s name, to improve labeling and their business cards, also skills development in cost price calculation and to think in a market-oriented and innovative way. Avittie Mauw organized gender awareness workshops in Pusugrunu schools (30 boys and 80 girls), and for the residents of Pusugrunu, Bethel, Suki Bakka and Pijetie.

Subgrantee: Pater Ahlbrinck Stichting (NGO) & We Suku bun nanga ontwikkeling gi Ovia-Olo (CBO)

Project Title: Promote the production structure and process among 4 villages and buy new equipment for cassava processing and bread production.

Description: The organization has in the area of income generation and value chain development initiated collaboration and interaction between the different individual producers and groups in the Patamacca area and surroundings. The women received training in entrepreneurship and food safety. Moreover, they improved their collaboration with PAS. An important step of the PAS Podosiri (Acai) value chain was the purchase of a larger freezing capacity on site and marketing on site in Paramaribo.
Gender Plus project aimed to strengthen the role of civil society in Suriname in promoting women and girls' rights and improving the competencies of civil society organizations (CSOs), university students and vulnerable people to identify and implement actions for poverty reduction from a women's and civic rights approach.

Gender awareness raising

Promoting Gender awareness has been a transversal topic in all the workshops implemented during the 2 years of the Gender Plus project. Indeed, when it comes to culture and tradition, women are victims of gender stereotypes which socially and economically impact the entire community.

49 people from 9 Maroon villages (Duwatra, Baikoetoe, Pikinpada, Banafowkondre, Pikinslee, Pokigron, Abenaston, Bekiokondre, Baikoetoe), 4 Indigenous villages (Marijkedorp, Tapoekoe, Bigiston and Alfondsdorp) and 3 Maroon / Mixed communities (Moengotapoe, Moengo and Albina) could explore and understand the concept of Gender and the issues of women’s inequality as related to the labor market, productive and reproductive labor. ‘Gender’ is now the new word in the village of Pikinslee, as the women said.

New partnership built

at national (Bureau Gender Affairs) and local government levels (District Commissioners of Marowijne, Sipaliwini and Nickerie, with local Captains of two Indigenous villages Alfonsdorp and Marijkdorp).

BFN attended the launch of the first Gender Platform (with more than 20 key actors) set up by Bureau for Gender Affairs in Nikerie, which has to identify gender priorities for the district, and will support them in capacity building.

Following the Gender Training with the students, the School for Journalism became interested to include a gender equality module in their curricula.

The cooperation with Marowijne & Sipaliwini will continue by supporting them with value chain development through continued entrepreneurship education, microfinance, marketing and technical assistance by volunteer adviser experts from the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO).

BFN is the representative of CESO in Suriname.

The Gender Plus project provided opportunities to the CBOS and NGOs to meet and exchange, truly willing to create a national network.