

## Video making to promote gender equality

In March and April 2018, more than 40 students from ADEK, AHKCO, FHR, and PTC received training on gender education and video reporting. As a final assignment, they produced 9 video-interviews about different gender topics and a compilation of these in 2 documentaries. The videos are available online and free of use for an educational purpose.

**You Tube:** *GenderPlus Suriame*



## 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.



# Gender Plus Project results

**March 2017 - February 2019**

**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*

<https://genderplussuriname.com>

**You Tube:** *GenderPlus Suriame*

**f:** *Gender Plus*



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A project implemented by Bureau NGO

"The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders".

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# 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.



<p><b>Claudia Joop</b> (Albina)</p> <p>The loan was used to expand her restaurant, she bought material for construction.</p>		<p><b>Irma Kaise</b> (Abenaston village)</p> <p>Irma took the loan to invest in her cassava planting and bread business.</p>		<p><b>Cyrano Asoiti</b> (Albina)</p> <p>The loan was used to buy a new computer for video editing.</p>		<p><b>Margriet &amp; Ruben Toemere</b> (Alfonsdorp)</p> <p>Both received a loan to set up a chicken farm, but experiences some delay.</p>	
	<p><b>Augusta Pinas</b> (Moengo)</p> <p>She took a loan for buying fabrics, painting, and material to make clothes.</p>		<p><b>Claudie Doornkamp</b> (Albina)</p> <p>She developed a new activity owing to the loan, by buying materials to start with theater for children.</p>		<p><b>Monica Watamaleo</b> (Marijkedorp)</p> <p>She received a loan for expanding her fruit and vegetable boot which is located by the main street of the village.</p>		<p><b>Rosita Plein</b> (Moengo)</p> <p>She invested money in her Acai business and developed an innovative product (Acai Syrup) with a nice label.</p>
<p><b>Chantal Bado</b> (Moengo)</p> <p>She took a loan for buying fabrics and material to make clothes.</p>		<p><b>Florine Jubitana</b> (Alfonsdorp)</p> <p>She received the loan to expand and her small shop in the village. She already reimbursed the loan and apply for a new one for painting the shop.</p>		<p><b>Ingrid Pinas</b> (Moengo)</p> <p>The loan was used to post Acai pulp to Belgium. She also invested in watermelon seeds and planting them. This was an absolute success.</p>		<p><b>Norma Jubitana</b> (Marijkedorp)</p> <p>Norma is a dressmaker and got a loan to buy a lock machine to improve the quality of her clothing production.</p>	
	<p><b>Roël Jubitana</b> (Alfonsdorp)</p> <p>With the loan, he bought baskets and extra fruits to develop his business. He took a second loan to buy a better car for transport of his fruits and vegetables.</p>		<p><b>Jonathan Pinas</b> (Moengo)</p> <p>He used the loan to invest in his farm and bought products from local farmers to sell it back.</p>		<p><b>Lenie Landveld Sabajo</b> (Marijkedorp)</p> <p>Lenie bought materials to renew and expand her greenhouse where she grows vegetables to sell in her village.</p>		<p><b>Robbert Booi</b> (Albina)</p> <p>He took a loan to buy a DVD duplicator for his video business.</p>
<p><b>Marijke Adipi</b> (Duwatra village)</p> <p>She makes clothing and took a loan to buy materials, like fabrics, thread, ...</p>		<p><b>Denise Adam</b> (Moengo)</p> <p>She used the loan to buy tools to develop her agriculture activity.</p>		<p><b>Joyce Sabajo</b> (Alfonsdorp)</p> <p>She bought extra agricultural and poultry products for her to develop her shop.</p>		<p><b>Riefe Vorswijk</b> (Pikin Pada village)</p> <p>Riefe is an artisan in wood crafting. His specialty is making Maroon crafted stools. He invested the loan in machines and tools.</p>	



## 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 Genderawareness 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 Banafookondre 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 Pikin Pada, Banafokondre, Bekiokondre and Baikoetoe.



### 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.

### Stichting Hanaba Hiarono

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



## Subgranting for join projects to promote gender equality

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.



**Vonzell (NGO)**

Training and Job placement of early 10 school dropouts in Paramaribo and awareness of 61 vulnerable young people. More than 50% of the 10 young people have been placed in a job. Moreover, a "Manuel tips book" for a correct work posture has been developed.



**Stichting TANA (CBO)**

Trained 12 early school dropouts (11F/1M) in sewing uniforms and set up a production unit for this to help them earn an income. They also organized an exhibition and were about to start a sewing shop.

### Stichting Stop Geweld Tegen Vrouwen (NGO)

Realization of an educational film for children on domestic violence. 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.

### Stichting Suricorps (CBO)

A processing unit has been set up in Ricanaumofa (Marowijne) in order to increase the production of the village, while 20 women and 5 men received training in production and computer skills. The processing unit allowed the women's organization to hire women for operating system.



**Vrouwen Parlement Forum (CBO) & Stichting Marronage (NGO)**

Promote women's participation in decision making through drama, book publication and the creation of a women's cafe, thus creating a network of women who can support each other. This book is already reprinted after the first edition of 250 copies which were all distributed. The handbook is durable and very up-to-date tool. It is meant to be used in VPF training programs and by every woman who has leadership ambitions as a tool to help them achieve her goals. The handbook contributes the legacy of the VPF. Marronage organized a Training of Trainers in Gender Equality for 20 persons (18F/2M) to expand the number of qualified gender trainers. They brought together 30 artistic persons (22F/8M) to develop drama about gender equality issues. The drama will be performed in different villages.



**Stichting Ilse Henar Hewitt Juridische Bijstand (NGO)**

Realizing the first 3 model companies with a Sexual Harassment policy. Three companies have formed a working group in the companies consisting of representatives from the HRM, legal department, Employee Affairs and trade union to work on a plan of action to implement policy on sexual harassment in the workplace. The plans of action have been approved by the management of the companies and thus provide a basis for continuing the activities after the project. In the three companies (informal) leaders were trained to provide information to colleague employees, managers were trained to discuss the topic with colleagues and victims, and with perpetrators on their behavior, employees made aware of the consequences of sexual harassment at the workplace and the complexity of the problem.



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

Promote the production structure and process among 4 villages and buy new equipment for cassava processing and bread production. The mutual cooperation between women of Ovia Olo and women groups of Moengo and Abadoekondre has increased their agricultural production by helping each other and plant bigger. 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.



**Stichting Sari (NGO) & Stichting Avittie Mauw (NGO)**

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