



## JOINT MISSION IN THE MARONI RIVER BASIN 29/01/2024 - 02/02/2024



In the framework of the Phase II of BIO-PLATEAUX project, a transboundary joint mission has been organized in the Maroni river basin, on the week of January 29th to February 2nd, 2024, with coordination of the International Office for Water (IoWater).

### PARTICIPANTS



Ministry of Public Works-WLA Ministry of Natural Resources -MNH National Water Company-SWM Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning - ROM



Community of Municipalities of Western Guiana - CCOG, French Guiana Water Office-OEG Geological Research Office -BRGM

## **1. LOCATION**





The mission took place first in Albina, then the delegation focused on the Grand-Santi/Stoelmanseiland area, where issues of essential services and water quality are shared by local population on each bank of the river.

Other missions will be organized in the near future with other populations and areas of the basin.

## 2. MAIN OBJECTIVES

Continuing the previous dialogues (Technical working groups of Phase 1 2019–2022, Paramaribo workshop of May 2023, etc.), the technical institutions of both Suriname and French Guiana realized a joint field visit in order to :



Dialogue on visions and perceptions on the Maroni river basin, among institutions of each country and with populations living in the area



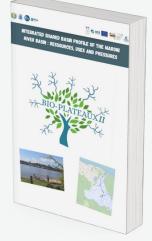
Exchange of technical experience, to initiate the joint inventory of the basin infrastructure for essential services (starting with drinking water supply), identifying areas of common interest for future projects

# TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP : QUALITY OF WATER RESOURCES AND CONTAMINATIONS





Discussion on the quality of aquatic ecosystems in the Maroni, which evolution are challenging for populations. Strengthen common monitoring network of water resources with measurements of turbidity



... A PROGRESSIVE WORK TOWARDS A SHARED INTEGRATED RIVER BASIN PROFILE UNTIL 2026







# SUMMARY OF THE WORKING GROUP (DRAFT) WATER QUALITY NETWORK - 31/01/24 - GRAND SANTI

## **OBJECTIVES & EXPECTATIONS**

With participation of Local authority (Grand Santi), OEG, WLA, Ministry of Natural Resources and OiEau

-Willingness to cooperate on water quality in Maroni river basin -Improve together the monitoring network basin -Enhance articulation between water quality monitoring and public policy -Show links between evolution of quality and pressures along the rivers.





## **TECHNICAL INTEREST**

Partners prioritized the following thematic exchanges

-Type of equipments and joint campaigns -Tools for georreferrences - Qfield -Methods for calibration -Methods for sampling -Norms and parameters (environment & drinking water) -Water quality analysis (labs)

## NEXT STEP

### Preparation of the installation of a joint automatic turbidity station

**WHAT**? Focus on turbidity, for a first step of collaboration, in a pilot perspective and for a integrative parameter on a permanent automatic basis. Method will be developed jointly & data produced by the station will be shared

**WHERE**? Identification of a relevant position in the field, downstream confluence of Tapanahony and Lawa (Kawani). Dialogue with landowner

**HOW**? Agreement of principle between partners of both countries for installation (WLA/OEG) with support of Grand Santi municipality for maintenance. An institutional figure should be developed for sustainability

**HOW MUCH** ? The first station has already been financed by the project, based on previous dialogues



WHEN ? Proposal to install until end of first semester 2024











# SUMMARY OF THE WORKING GROUP (DRAFT) ESSENTIAL SERVICES - 31/01/24 - GRAND SANTI

## **OBJECTIVES & EXPECTATIONS**

With participation of Local authority (Grand Santi), OEG, BRGM, WLA, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Public Works and OiEau

- Assess the pressures related to sanitation on Maroni river basin
- Characterise water flows and water access on the Maroni river
- Improve together the access to safe drinking water
- Share experience and methodologies (hydrogeology, norms and parameters)







## AREAS OF WORK IDENTIFIED

Partners prioritized the following areas of work to be developed as part of the working groups

### 1. Assessing impacts of "Surinamese pits" on water quality

- Inventory of existing studies
- Feasibility of setting up a monitoring unit
- Definition of the parameters to be studied

#### 2. Assessing water flows

- Diagnosis: assess water flows (who? when ? how many people? where?)
- Outlook: identify concrete actions to guarantee access to drinking water for the population
- Awareness raising
- 3. Sharing experience on hydrogeology
- Sharing experience on monitoring of groundwater resources
- Joint field mission

#### 4. Sharing norms and parameters

- Parameters and thresholds in Suriname and French Guyana related to drinking water supply
- Perspective: Study the feasibility of setting up a joint laboratory

## **NEXT STEPS**

#### 1. Field missions

- Suriname: Visit to the Stoelmansiland treatment plant
- French Guiana: Hydrogeology mission with BRGM

#### 2. Internships

- Identification and characterisation of water flows on the Maroni river, between Suriname and French Guyana banks
- Identification and characterisation of areas for fetching water on the Maroni river, assessment of the quality, and awareness raising about drinking water treatment





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