

I. COUNTRY PROFILE

Political system

- Suriname is a Presidential Republic.
- Chief of state: President Chan SANTOKHI (since 16 July 2020); Vice-President Ronnie BRUNSWIJK (since 16 July 2020); note - the President is both Chief of State and Head of Government.
- Cabinet of Ministers appointed by the President

Statistical figures (source: UNDP Human Development Report 2020)

- Total population (million): 0.6
- Human Development Index: 0.738 / Rang 97
- Life expectancy at birth (years) : 71.7
- Gross national income (GNI) per capita (2017 PPP\$): 14,324
- Internet users (% of population): 48.9
- Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (tonnes): 3.1
(Map of Suriname at the last page)

Education (source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics)

- Expected years of schooling (years): 13.2
- Compulsory education (years): 6 (from 7 to 12)
- Net enrolment ratio in primary education (%): 94.2
- Government expenditure on education (% of GDP): N/A

II. SURINAME/UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership in UNESCO:** Since 16 July 1976
2. **Membership on the Executive Board: not currently.**
Previous terms: 2001-2005 (Mr Cornelis Pigot); 1989-1991 (Mr Ronald Venetiaan, former President of the Republic), and 1987-1989 (Mr Allan S. Li Fo Sjoie).
3. **Current Membership on Intergovernmental Councils/Committees and Commissions:**
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, IOC
4. **DG's visit to Suriname:** none to date
5. **Former Director Generals' visit to Suriname:** 1 (Koïchiro Matsuura, in May 2003)
6. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:**
 - H. E. Mr Reggy Martiales Nelson, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Surinam to France, Permanent Delegate (Since March 2016)
 - Previous: H. E. Mr Harvey H. Naarendorp; Mr Gerhard Otmar Hiwat.
7. **UNESCO Office:** none, Suriname is covered by the UNESCO Cluster Office in Kingston. Ms Saadia Sanchez Vega (Venezuela, D-1) has been the Director since 1 September 2020.
8. **Suriname National Commission for UNESCO:**
 - Established on 16 June 1976 by Resolution of the Council of Ministers

- **Chairperson:** The Honourable Maria E. Pawiroedjo-Levens, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport
- **Secretary-General:** Mr. Roy Smith, former Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO (2014-2016)

9. Personalities linked to UNESCO's activities: none

10. UNESCO Chairs: none

11. Associated Schools: 0

12. Category 2 Institutes and Centres: none

13. UNESCO Clubs: none

14. Biosphere Reserves: none

15. UNESCO Global Geoparks: none

16. World Heritage Sites: 2 sites

- Central Suriname Nature Reserve (2000)
- Historic Inner City of Paramaribo (2002)

17. Tentative List: 1

- The settlement of Joden Savanne and Cassipora cemetery (30/06/1998)

18. Intangible Cultural Heritage List: none

19. Memory of the World Register: 3 inscriptions

- Archive Middelburgsche Commercie Compagnie (MCC)
- Dutch West India Company (Westindische Compagnie) Archives
- Records of the Indian Indentured Labourers

20. Creative Cities Network: none

21. UNESCO's standard-setting instruments: 2 ratified and 3 accessed

Convention	Date of deposit	Type of deposit
Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean. Mexico City, 19 July 1974.	10/06/1982	Ratification
Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. Ramsar, 2 February 1971.**	22/07/1985	Accession
Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. Paris, 16 November 1972.	23/10/1997	Acceptance
International Convention against Doping in Sport. Paris, 19 October 2005	20/07/2009	Accession
Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Paris, 17 October 2003.	05/09/2017	Ratification

**The States marked with two asterisks are parties to the 1971 Convention alone.

22. Anniversaries with which UNESCO was associated in 2020-2021: none

23. Participation Programme:

- During the biennium 2018-2019, three requests submitted by Suriname were approved by the Director-General for a total amount of US\$69,000.
- No PP request for the 2020-2021 biennium.

24. Fellowships:

Since 2010, 1 fellowship has been awarded to Suriname for a total amount of US\$ 8,000.

25. NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO: none

26. IGOs in official relations with UNESCO: none

27. Payment of assessed membership fees for 2021 :

- Assessment rate: 0.006 %

28. Staff members' status : Non-represented (min. 2, max. 4)

Young Professional Programme (YPP)

As a non-represented Member State, Suriname is eligible to participate in the Young Professional Programme.

The National Commission submitted three candidatures for the YPP 2018 Intake.

29. Map of Suriname

