INVESTOR TOOLKIT

Key Institutions

A reference guide to the institutions that matter for foreign investors, business operators, and market-entry professionals.

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This reference document lists the key public institutions, private-sector bodies, and regulatory authorities that foreign investors need to know about. For each institution, we describe the mandate, investor relevance, and primary contact details.

1. Investment & Trade Promotion

SITA — Suriname Investment and Trade Agency

Category	National Investment & Trade Promotion Agency (state-owned company under BIBIS)
Mandate	SITA is the national Trade and Investment Promotion Agency of Suriname, operating as an independent state-owned company under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation Suriname (formerly known as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation of the Republic of Suriname - BIBIS). Established in 2021. SITA's mandate is to attract foreign direct investment, act as a one-stop shop for foreign investors, support business establishment in Suriname, and promote Surinamese exports. CEO: Amar Alakhramsing. Affiliated with the Caribbean Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (CAIPA). In June 2024, SITA signed an MOU with Guyana's GO-Invest.
Investor Relevance	SITA is the single most important first contact for foreign investors. It facilitates introductions to relevant ministries, guides investment procedures, organizes investor missions and roadshows, and prepares investment profiles and sector intelligence. Investors who engage SITA early benefit from facilitated access to the entire institutional ecosystem.
Contact / Website	info@sita.sr | +597 431317 / +597 494384 | Brokopondolaan 97, Paramaribo | www.sita.sr

BIBIS — Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation Suriname

Category	Government Ministry — Investment Policy & International Business
Mandate	This is the ministry under which SITA operates. It houses the International Business Directorate, which serves as a formal entry point for foreign investors seeking government engagement. The Directorate's intake form process allows for initial review of proposed FDI against national development goals. The Ministry manages Suriname's bilateral trade and investment relationships and participates in CARICOM and other regional trade frameworks.
Investor Relevance	For investors requiring ministry-level engagement — particularly for larger or sector-specific investments — the International

	Business Directorate at this Ministry serves as the formal entry point, alongside SITA.
Contact / Website	Via SITA: info@sita.sr | www.gov.sr

2. Business Registration & Commerce

KKF — Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Kamer van Koophandel en Fabrieken)

Category	Statutory Registration Body & Business Advisory Institution
Mandate	The KKF is the mandatory business registration body for all commercial enterprises operating in Suriname. Established in 1910, with currently nearly 30,000 registered members. Maintains the Commercial Register (Handelsregister) as required under the Commercial Register Act. All businesses — including foreign branch offices — must register with KKF. Also provides advisory services to companies before, during, and after establishment, and represents regional trade and industry interests.
Investor Relevance	Every investor incorporating a company in Suriname will interact with the KKF. It issues the company registration number, maintains the trade register, and provides company extracts required for banking and regulatory purposes. The KKF directory is also a valuable resource for identifying potential local partners.
Contact / Website	chamber@kkf.sr | +597 530-311 | Prof. W.J.A. Kernkampweg #37, Paramaribo | https://www.surinamechamber.com/

EZOTI — Ministry of Economic Affairs, Entrepreneurship and Technological Innovation

Category	Government Ministry — Business Licensing, Trade Policy, Standards
Mandate	Responsible for issuing activity-specific business licenses (Handelsvergunning) for the 26 regulated sectors. Oversees trade policy, the Suriname Electronic Single Window (SESW) for import/export documentation, and product standards in coordination with the SSB. Launched the Digital Business License

	Platform in November 2024, enabling digital verification, automated tax registration, and centralized permit processing.
Investor Relevance	Companies in regulated sectors must obtain a Handelsvergunning from this Ministry (processing ~3 months). The SESW — launched in 2019 — is the online portal for import, export, and transit documentation, used by all companies importing goods into Suriname.
Contact / Website	Via https://gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-economische-zaken-ondernemerschap-technologische-innovatie/ | SESW portal for trade documentation

3. Monetary & Financial Authority

CBvS — Central Bank of Suriname (Centrale Bank van Suriname)

Category	Monetary Authority, Banking Supervisor, Foreign Exchange Regulator
Mandate	Established under the Bank Act of 1956; operations commenced April 1, 1957. The CBvS is the supreme monetary authority, responsible for maintaining the purchasing power of the Surinamese Dollar (SRD), supervising the banking and credit system, overseeing insurance companies and pension funds, regulating foreign exchange houses and money transfer companies, and acting as banker to the state. Since January 2024, it has also been designated as the resolution authority for failing credit institutions. Achieved statutory independence through IMF program legislation. Governor: Maurice Roemer. Foreign reserves: approximately $670 million USD.
Investor Relevance	CBvS regulates all banking and financial services. Foreign investors need CBvS involvement in two key areas: 1) Foreign exchange approvals — non-residents must receive Foreign Exchange Commission clearance via their notary when incorporating; and 2) Banking — all commercial banks operate under CBvS supervision with KYC/AML requirements. Monitor CBvS publications for exchange rate data, monetary policy, and financial stability reports.
Contact / Website	Waterkant, Paramaribo, Suriname | www.cbvs.sr

4. Private Sector & Business Advocacy

VSB — Suriname Business Forum (Vereniging Bedrijfsleven Suriname)

Category	Private Sector Employers' Federation
Mandate	The VSB is Suriname's principal private sector employers' organization, representing major companies across all sectors of the economy. It advocates for business-friendly policies, engages with the government on regulatory matters, and serves as a forum for the Surinamese business community. The VSB is the go-to body for understanding the private sector landscape and the positions of established Surinamese business interests.
Investor Relevance	A valuable network entry point for foreign investors. VSB membership or active engagement signals commitment to the market and provides access to the established business community. Useful for introductions to member companies that may be potential partners, clients, or suppliers, and for staying informed on regulatory developments.
Contact / Website	Paramaribo, Suriname | www.vsb.sr

AmCham — American Chamber of Commerce in Suriname

Category	Bilateral Business Chamber — U.S.-Suriname Commercial Relations
Mandate	Represents U.S. business interests in Suriname and facilitates trade and investment between the United States and Suriname. In 2024, AmCham published a statement advocating for a more streamlined residency permitting process for foreign investors — indicating its active role in business environment reform advocacy.
Investor Relevance	A natural first-contact body for American investors. For non-American investors, AmCham remains a useful source of business intelligence, given its connection to the U.S. commercial ecosystem in Suriname.
Contact / Website	Via the U.S. Embassy in Suriname

SGCC — Suriname-Guyana Chamber of Commerce

Category	Bilateral Chamber — Suriname-Guyana Business Relations

Mandate	Established in February 2024 to strengthen economic ties between Suriname and Guyana, and organized Paramaribo's largest-ever Guyanese trade delegation in June 2024. In July 2024, SITA signed an MOU with the SGCC to formalize cooperation on investment and trade facilitation. Co-chaired by senior officials from both countries.
Investor Relevance	Relevant for companies with a dual-country strategy — particularly in logistics, professional services, and oil field services. Paramaribo is increasingly seen as a regional hub for the Guyanese-Surinamese energy corridor.
Contact / Website	www.surguychamber.org | Paramaribo, Suriname

ASFA — Manufacturing Association Suriname (Associatie van Surinaamse Fabrikanten)

Category	Manufacturers' Association & Private Sector Advocacy Body
Mandate	ASFA is the representative body of Suriname's manufacturing and production sector, founded on 25 September 1980. With more than 100 active members, it is the most representative manufacturers' association in Suriname and is formally recognized as such. ASFA's mission is to facilitate and stimulate the production sector by representing its members in collaboration with the government and with local and international partners. Its vision is a strong, innovative production sector in Suriname, driven by cooperation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable growth. ASFA actively engages with national policymakers and legislators to create a production-friendly environment, supports members with information, training, and workshops to improve productivity and export capacity, and monitors legislative and regulatory developments relevant to the manufacturing sector. The association positions Suriname as the leading producer and exporter in the CARICOM region. Chair: Rufin A. Bajnath.
Investor Relevance	SFA is the primary point of entry for foreign investors interested in manufacturing, food production, industrial supply, and the broader production sector in Suriname. For investors looking to source locally produced goods, identify manufacturing partners, or understand the regulatory and operational conditions for production in Suriname, ASFA membership and engagement are highly valuable. The association's "Made in Suriname" program promotes locally manufactured products. It can facilitate

	introductions to established producers across sectors such as food and beverages, construction materials, consumer goods, and light industry. Companies in the energy sector supply chain — particularly those seeking local manufacturers to supply equipment, consumables, or processed materials — will find ASFA a useful connector to Suriname's domestic industrial base. ASFA also provides intelligence on trade conditions, tariff developments, and CARICOM market access relevant to production-oriented businesses.
Contact / Website	nfo@asfasuriname.org | (+597) 434014 / (+597) 439797 | Jagernath Lachmonstraat #201, Paramaribo, Suriname | www.asfasuriname.org

5. Energy & Natural Resources

Staatsolie — Staatsolie Maatschappij Suriname N.V.

Category	State-Owned Oil Company — National Energy Company
Mandate	Staatsolie holds the exclusive legal right to all petroleum-related activities in Suriname. Foreign oil companies access Suriname's hydrocarbon resources exclusively through Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) negotiated with Staatsolie. In the GranMorgu offshore project (Block 58), Staatsolie exercises its option to take up to 20% interest alongside TotalEnergies (operator, 40%) and APA Corporation (40%). Also operates onshore production and manages domestic fuel supply infrastructure. Managing Director: Annand Jagesar.
Investor Relevance	Any company seeking to participate in Suriname's oil and gas sector — as operator, contractor, or service provider — will engage with Staatsolie. PSC negotiations are conducted directly with Staatsolie. Local content provisions in PSC agreements are managed and monitored by Staatsolie. Supply chain and services companies should engage Staatsolie's procurement department to understand qualification requirements.
Contact / Website	Paramaribo, Suriname | +597 499-649 | www.staatsolie.com

NMA — National Environmental Authority (Nationaal Milieu Autoriteit)

Category	Environmental Regulatory Authority
Mandate	The NMA is responsible for environmental assessment and approval of major investment projects in Suriname. For the GranMorgu project, TotalEnergies submitted an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) under NMA review. Large-scale investments in mining, agriculture, infrastructure, and energy will typically require NMA approval.
Investor Relevance	Investors in sectors with a significant environmental footprint should engage the NMA early and factor ESIA costs and timelines into project planning. The NMA process requires public consultation with stakeholders and communities in affected areas.
Contact / Website	Via Ministry of Spatial Planning, Land and Forest Management | Paramaribo, Suriname

6. Sectoral Ministries — Suriname

The following ministries are relevant to foreign investors, depending on their sector and type of operation. Government ministries in Suriname screen inbound investments in their areas of oversight. This table reflects the current cabinet structure under President Jennifer Simons (post-May 2025 elections). Entries marked ★ NEW indicate ministries created or significantly restructured under the current government.

Ministry	Portfolio / Investor Relevance	Contact
Ministry of Oil, Gas and Environment (Ministerie van Olie, Gas en Milieu) ★ NEW	A newly created dedicated ministry under the current Simons government, and one of the most strategically important for foreign investors. It provides dedicated ministerial oversight of Suriname's onshore and offshore oil and gas sector, including the GranMorgu project, and governs environmental regulation (previously split among other ministries). Investors in the energy sector supply chain, environmental services, and any company requiring environmental permits for major projects should engage this ministry directly alongside Staatsolie. Its creation signals the government's intent to give the oil and gas sector dedicated policy leadership as the first oil approaches in 2028.	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-olie-gas-en-milieu/*
Ministry of Finance and Planning (Ministerie van Financiën en Planning)	Fiscal policy, government budget, taxation, and public debt management. Oversee the Tax Authority (Belastingdienst) and the State Debt Management Office (SDMO). Key contact for understanding the tax regime, VAT compliance, corporate income tax	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-financien-en-planning/*

	(36%), and public finance transparency. The Ministry publishes quarterly public debt data and manages the government's IMF program commitments on fiscal transparency.	
Ministry of Natural Resources (Ministerie van Natuurlijke Hulpbronnen)	Oversight of the mining sector (gold, bauxite), energy policy (water and electricity), and natural resource governance. The key ministry for all investors in extractive industries. Oversees Suriname's EITI (Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative) participation and the national Responsible Mining Strategy. The government is actively exploring the establishment of a Suriname Gold Authority (SGA) to regulate the gold sector. Also manages water distribution and renewable energy programs in the interior.	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-natuurlijke-hulpbronnen/*
Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries (Ministerie van Landbouw, Veeteelt en Visserij)	Governs agricultural land use, livestock, fishing concessions, food safety, veterinary inspections, and agricultural export certification. Publishes public tenders for agricultural sector projects. Import of animals and live fish requires a veterinary import permit issued by this Ministry's Veterinary Inspection service. Key ministry for agrifood investors, food processors, fishing industry operators, and companies involved in agricultural supply chains.	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-landbouw-veeteelt-visserij/*
Ministry of Public Works & Spatial Planning (Ministerie van Openbare Werken & Ruimtelijke Ordening)	Infrastructure policy, road construction, ports, spatial planning permits, and building approvals. Key for logistics operators, real estate developers, construction companies, and infrastructure investors. Manages the One Stop Window for building and construction permit applications. Publish public works tenders. The Ministry is currently active in marine biodiversity and coastal infrastructure programs, including the Suriname GRID Project in partnership with WWF Guianas.	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-openbare-werken-en-ruimtelijke-ordening/*
Ministry of Transport, Communications and Tourism (Ministerie van Transport, Communicatie en Toerisme)	Port policy, civil aviation, maritime transport, telecommunications licensing, and tourism sector development. Key ministry for logistics operators, shipping companies, telecoms investors, and hospitality/tourism businesses. Manages the e-Visa system for Suriname. Tourism investors should engage this Ministry for sector-specific licensing and incentive programs. Also oversees connectivity infrastructure relevant to the oil sector's marine logistics requirements.	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-transport-communicatie-toerisme/*
Ministry of Justice and Police (Ministerie van Justitie en Politie)	Approves company incorporation applications (Presidential approval channel). Issues work permits and manages immigration for expatriate staff via the Alien Affairs Department (Vreemdelingenzaken). Governs the notarial profession — this Ministry must license all notaries. Manages criminal justice, civil registry interfaces, and forensic/child protection services. Foreign investors will engage this Ministry	Via gov.sr *vz2.juspol.sr (Alien Affairs)*

	to apply for work permits and residency permits for expatriate personnel.	
Ministry of Public Health, Welfare & Labour (Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn & Arbeid)	Combined with the ministry covering health regulation, social welfare, and all labor matters. For investors, the key functions are: (1) Labour — enforces labour law including the post-probation dismissal approval requirement, sets and enforces the minimum wage (SRD 52.47/hour as of April 2025), and issues work permits for foreign employees in coordination with Justice; (2) Health licensing — governs healthcare sector operations, hospital licensing, and pharmaceutical regulation; (3) Health certification — issues health certificates for imported food products and pharmaceuticals. Previously split across two ministries; now consolidated.	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-volksgezondheid-welzijn-arbeid/*
Ministry of Land and Forest Management (Ministerie van Grond- en Bosbeheer)	Land allocation, land title conversion, forestry concessions, and domain land management. Key for any investment requiring land access — real estate development, agriculture, mining, and energy infrastructure. Manages the Grondconversie 2023 (land title conversion) process, enabling transfer of domain land ownership. Also manages REDD+ (forest carbon) programs and forest conservation concessions, making it relevant for nature-based investment and carbon credit projects. The e-services portal for land applications (Grondzaken) is accessible via e-services.gov.sr.	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-grond-en-bosbeheer/*
Ministry of Social Affairs and Housing (Ministerie van Sociale Zaken en Huisvesting) ★ NEW	Governs social welfare policy, poverty alleviation programs, and the national housing program (Landelijk Woningbouw Programma). Relevant for real estate developers, construction companies, and affordable housing investors. The Ministry manages public housing allocation and social benefit programs that affect household purchasing power and the consumer economy. Companies with significant local workforce programs or corporate social responsibility obligations may also engage this Ministry.	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-sociale-zaken-en-huisvesting/*
Ministry of Interior Affairs (Ministerie van Binnenlandse Zaken) ★ NEW	Manages civil administration, district governance, civil registry, and national identity documentation. Relevant to foreign investors for: civil registry extracts required during company formation (nationality declarations for founders/shareholders are obtained through civil registry channels); residency permit applications; and any operations that require district-level approvals or permits outside of Paramaribo. Also oversees the Digital-ID (Digitale-ID) government authentication system launched to modernize public service delivery.	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-binnenlandse-zaken/*
Ministry of Economic Affairs, Entrepreneurship and Technological	Issue activity-specific business licenses (Handelsvergunning) for the 26 regulated sectors via the Digital Business License Platform (launched	Via gov.sr *vergunningen.gov.sr (licences) | gov.sr*

Innovation (Ministerie van Economische Zaken, Ondernemerschap en Technologische Innovatie)	November 2024). Manages the Suriname Electronic Single Window (SESW) for import/export documentation. Oversee consumer protection, competition policy, and the SME Financing Navigator (MKB-Financieringswijzer). The complaints registration portal and business licensing portal (vergunningen.gov.sr) are both managed by this Ministry—the key first point of operational contact for most businesses.	
Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (Ministerie van Onderwijs, Wetenschap en Cultuur)	Governs the national education system, university policy, scientific research, and cultural heritage. Relevant to investors establishing training facilities, educational institutions, or skills development programs — particularly those supporting the oil sector's local content obligations. Companies investing in workforce development that aligns with national education priorities may benefit from collaboration with the ministry.	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-onderwijs-wetenschapen-cultuur/*
Ministry of Regional Development (Ministerie van Regionale Ontwikkeling)	Coordinates development programs for Suriname's interior districts and hinterland regions. Relevant for investors whose operations extend beyond Paramaribo and the coastal zone — including mining, forestry, agribusiness, and energy projects in interior areas. Manages relationships with indigenous and Maroon communities, which is a practical requirement for projects in the interior.	Via gov.sr *gov.sr/ministeries/ministerie-van-regionale-ontwikkeling/*

Source: Government of Suriname — gov.sr | InvestInSuriname.com

7. Standards, Customs & Trade

SSB — Suriname Standards Bureau

Category	National Standards Body & Conformity Assessment Body
Mandate	Responsible for developing and implementing national standards and technical regulations, certifying goods and processes, conducting metrology, and accrediting testing laboratories. Suriname's standards regime encompasses both voluntary and mandatory standards. Member of CARICOM's Regional Organization for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) and the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT).
Investor Relevance	Companies importing regulated products — food, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, electronics — should engage the SSB to understand applicable standards and certification requirements. Agricultural and food exporters will need SSB-referenced product certification for export compliance. Relevant

	also for companies establishing manufacturing operations in Suriname.
Contact / Website	www.ssb.sr | Paramaribo, Suriname

Douane — Suriname Customs (Douane Suriname)

Category	Customs Administration
Mandate	Oversees the clearance of all goods crossing Suriname's borders. Enforces tariff schedules, validates import/export documentation, controls prohibited and restricted goods, and collects customs duties and VAT on imports. The SESW interfaces with Customs for document submission.
Investor Relevance	Every company importing equipment, materials, or products into Suriname will work with Suriname Customs. Engaging a licensed customs broker familiar with the SESW system and current tariff classifications reduces clearance delays and ensures correct duty payments. Energy sector companies should note VAT exemptions available under the Petroleum Act (2023) for oil sector contractors.
Contact / Website	Via Ministry of Finance | SESW portal | Paramaribo, Suriname

8. Development Finance & Regional Bodies

IDB — Inter-American Development Bank

Category	Multilateral Development Bank
Mandate	One of Suriname's primary multilateral partners, providing development financing, technical assistance, and policy advisory services. The IDB has published a framework for private-sector development in Suriname and has supported infrastructure, governance, and economic diversification programs.
Investor Relevance	IDB-funded public tenders represent procurement opportunities for foreign companies in infrastructure, consulting, and services. Companies bidding on IDB-financed projects must comply with IDB procurement rules. SITA has used the IDB's ConnectAmericas platform to facilitate business connections.
Contact / Website	www.iadb.org | Paramaribo field office

World Bank — World Bank Group

Category	Multilateral Development Institution
Mandate	Published key country analyses, including the 2023 Suriname Systematic Country Diagnostic, highlighting the need for economic diversification and better governance. The Doing Business report has historically benchmarked Suriname at 66 days to start a company.
Investor Relevance	World Bank-financed programs and analytical publications are useful resources for authoritative assessments of Suriname's economic and institutional environment.
Contact / Website	www.worldbank.org/en/country/suriname

IMF — International Monetary Fund

Category	International Monetary Institution
Mandate	Supported Suriname through its 36-month, $688 million Extended Fund Facility (EFF), which concluded successfully in March 2025. The IMF program stabilized the economy, reformed the monetary framework, and improved fiscal transparency. Continue to provide technical assistance to the CBvS and the Ministry of Finance.
Investor Relevance	IMF Article IV consultations and Staff Reports provide the most authoritative external assessment of Suriname's macroeconomic situation and should be reviewed as part of investment due diligence.
Contact / Website	www.imf.org/en/countries/SUR

CARICOM — Caribbean Community

Category	Regional Trade & Integration Body
Mandate	Suriname has been a CARICOM member since 1995. As part of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME), Suriname benefits from preferential trade arrangements with other Caribbean member states and regional standards harmonization through CROSQ.
Investor Relevance	CARICOM membership is relevant for companies with a regional Caribbean strategy. Goods from CARICOM member states enter Suriname with reduced or zero tariffs. Companies incorporated

	in CSME countries nominally receive preferential treatment in Suriname.
Contact / Website	www.caricom.org

Quick Reference Directory

Use this table as a quick-access reference for the institutions most frequently needed by foreign investors.

Institution	Primary Role for Investors	Contact
SITA	First contact for all foreign investors; investment facilitation; one-stop shop	info@sita.sr | sita.sr
KKF	Company registration, trade register, business directory	chamber@sr.net | kkf.sr
CBvS	Banking regulation; FX approvals; monetary policy	www.cbvs.sr
Staatsolie	Oil & gas PSC partner; local content authority	www.staatsolie.com
VSB / Business Forum	Private sector network; business advocacy	www.vsb.sr
Ministry of Economic Affairs	Business licenses; SESW; trade standards	Via gov.sr
Ministry of Finance / Tax Authority	Tax registration; VAT; corporate tax	Via gov.sr
Ministry of Labor	Work permits, dismissal approvals, and minimum wage	Via gov.sr
Ministry of Justice	Company incorporation approval; notary oversight	Via gov.sr
SSB	Product standards; certification; testing	www.ssb.sr
Suriname Customs (Douane)	Import/export clearance; tariffs; SESW interface	Via Ministry of Finance
NMA	Environmental approvals for major projects	Via Ministry of Spatial Planning
IDB	Development finance; procurement opportunities	www.iadb.org
AmCham	U.S.-Suriname business network; advocacy	Via U.S. Embassy

SGCC	Suriname-Guyana bilateral trade & investment	surguychamber.org

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