

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic project data

▪ Country/Region:	Suriname/CCB- Caribbean Group
▪ TC Name:	Strengthening Female Entrepreneurship in Brokopondo, Wanica, Sipaliwini and Marowijne
▪ TC Number:	SU-T1091
▪ Team Leader/Members:	STEVENSON, CLAUDIA - Team Leader BLANCAT - Creator KARCHER, NICOLA - Operational Analyst DEUL, NATASJA AMANDA - Team Member TORRICO DURAN, BLANCA PAOLA - Project Assistant CARRASCO CUELLAR, ALEJANDRA MARIA - Team Member HENNESSEY, MICHAEL P. - Team Member DE SALVO, CARMINE PAOLO - Alternate Team Leader GONZALEZ HERRERA, BEATRIZ MARIA - Project Assistant
▪ Indicate if: Operational Support, Client Support, or Research & Dissemination.	Client Support
▪ If Operational Support TC, give number and name of Operation Supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Reference to Request ¹ : (IDB docs #)	40842269
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	Feb 13th, 2017
▪ Beneficiary (countries or entities which are the recipient of the technical assistance):	Wi! Uma Fu Sranan (WUFS)
▪ Executing Agency and contact name (Organization or entity responsible for executing the TC Program) {If Bank: Contracting entity} {If the same as Beneficiary, please indicate}	SU-WUFS - WUFS
▪ IDB Funding Requested:	\$500,960.00
▪ Local counterpart funding, if any:	\$226,250.00
▪ Disbursement period (which includes execution period):	36 months
▪ Required start date:	
▪ Types of consultants (firm or individual consultants):	Individuals
▪ Prepared by Unit:	Competitiveness, Technology & Innovation
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	Country Office of Suriname
▪ Included in Country Strategy (y/n);	Yes
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Social Inclusion and equality, Productivity and Innovation

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 The objective of the present TC will be to improve the livelihoods of communities in the interior (mostly headed by women) by promoting the production and commercialization of cassava porridge and other cassava related products.
- 2.2 The specific objective of the project is to increase the quality, quantity, and commercialization opportunities of the cassava crop. Farmers will be trained in a variety of techniques to improve their processes and ensure that quality requirements are met for the production of cassava products.
- 2.3 The Interior of Suriname comprises the districts of Brokopondo, Marowijne and Sipaliwini represent approximately 90% of the land area of Suriname. Brokopondo and Sipaliwini comprised mainly of “Amerindian and Maroon villages, account for only 10% of the country’s population. There are about 250 villages in the country’s interior districts which range from small family communities of 50 for indigenous peoples to large Maroon communities of up to 7,000 persons. The women in the Maroon communities in Suriname’s interior have limited opportunities for microenterprise development and employment as these communities are very small and remote, located many hours away from viable employment opportunities and markets in the main urban centers on the coast.
- 2.4 Most Maroon households rely primarily on fishing and subsistence farming. The low level of productivity in subsistence farming and lack of economic opportunities in the interior means that men leave their communities to seek employment in extractive industries, such as mining, which is the main economic activity in the interior, leaving their families in the villages for extended periods of time. Women are affected as they are left behind, without a stable source of income and need to engage in local production.
- 2.5 Cassava cultivation and processing has provided an opportunity for income generation for women in the interior. The crop’s cultivation and processing are based on local and cultural knowledge and traditions, and cassava is the fourth most important staple food after rice, wheat flour (bread) and plantain.
- 2.6 Surivit is an agro-processing company established in 2006 and is a member of the agriculture cooperative, Wi! Uma Fu Sranan (WUFS). WUFS was legally established in 2014, as a female agro cooperative and is composed of 28 women from the districts of Brokopondo and Wanica. With the support of Surivit and WUFS, a women’s collective has been created with 28 women from the districts of Brokopondo and Wanica (from the 28 women all of them plant cassava, 19 women plant and produce the porridge). The 28 women in the WUFS cooperative harvest 12MT per month of cassava; and 12,800 packages of cassava porridge per month are produced and distributed to over 300 supermarkets in Suriname.

- 2.7 In 2014 the women in Kapasikele and Klaaskreek (district of Brokopondo), Perica (district of Marowijne) and the district of Wanica formed a cooperative and started a pilot project which included the (i) training members to plant cassava according to climate smart agriculture (CSA) practices, (ii) performed a health assessment in Brokopondo, in collaboration with the National Medical Centre; and (iii) to produce the cassava porridge (kokori) for sale.
- 2.8 The targeted beneficiaries are approximately 1000 persons from Indigenous and Maroon communities in the districts of Brokopondo, Marowijne and Sipaliwini in the farming and production of cassava porridge as well as other cassava related products.
- 2.9 The project is consistent with the country strategy as it supports the diversification of the economy and development of more sustainable agribusiness opportunities. The project focus on gender, is consistent with one of the cross cutting areas within the country strategy. The project is consistent with the Regional Food Security Strategy of CARICOM to reduce the food import bill by developing agricultural policies that focus on increasing and promoting locally produced food.

III. Description of activities and outputs

- 3.1 Component I: Improve production process of the cassava porridge and development of other cassava related products. This component will finance customized training for the beneficiaries. The farmers and producers will participate in the training to improve their processes and meet the quality requirements of the market. A Training of trainers and coaching program will be designed to enhance the capacity of a group farmers in Global Gap standards. Clayuca Corporation will complement this component by developing a baseline diagnosis and creating a cassava database. The database will provide information on the high yielding and improved cassava, free of major diseases that affect cultivation. The information provided by Clayuca Corporation will support the development of trainings customized training for this target group incorporating training material and assessment principals of adult learning as well as training aids and tools to improve the production of cassava.
- 3.2 Activities under this component are: (i) training in Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) to improve the production of crops and raw materials for further processing, (ii) training in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) with an integrated agricultural-processing model; (ii) training in the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) for the processors of the cassava porridge; and (iii) training and certification s in Global Gap standards.
- 3.3 Component II: Strengthening of production Facility. Currently the production facility has only an automated cassava grater; the other production activities are done

manually. The production facility is located in the district of Wanica (a middle ground accessible to the communities producing the raw material in the districts of Brokopondo, Marowijne) and is property of Surivit. Surivit collects and transports the raw material from the communities to the facility for further processing and packaging into cassava flour and porridge. This component will develop a study to identify weaknesses and provide recommendations within the production line (from plantation to processing and distribution). An action plan will be developed to ensure that the production facility meets the standards and requirements. Clayuca Corporation will complement this component with the installation of an automated cassava production line. This component will also finance the equipment and installation within the facility for the instant cassava porridge as well as some minor refurbishment.

- 3.4 Component III: Marketing and Commercialization of the cassava porridge and cassava related products. In order to further develop the market in Suriname as well as the region, this component will further develop marketing and branding strategy to improve the commercialization of the cassava porridge, instant porridge and ready-to-bake cassava bread mix. The cassava porridge and other related products will be branded and marketed as a traditional knowledge and health product. This component will also develop an action plan to ensure that the cassava porridge and other cassava related products are compliant certified as a fair trade product. Clayuca Corporation will complement this component with the development of a deeper market study which will identify the market sectors that have potential for developing marketing linkages. This market study will also develop new market opportunities for the different cassava products (porridge, instant porridge and bread.

3.5 Outcomes

Name: Improve production process and Strengthening Production Facility.

Marketing and Commercialization of the cassava porridge and other cassava related products.

3.6 Components

Name: Improve production process of the cassava porridge and development of other cassava related products.

Description: This component will finance customized training for the beneficiaries to improve their processes and meet quality requirements of the market. A Training of trainers program will be implemented to enhance the capacity of a farmers in Global Gap standards.. Clayuca Corporation will complement with a baseline diagnosis and a cassava database to provide information on high yielding and improved cassava and for development customized trainings.

Trainings in Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Good Agricultural Practices, Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACPP) and trailing in Global Gap Standards.

Name: Improving Production Technology.

Description: This component will develop a study to identify weaknesses and provide recommendations in production (from plantation to processing and distribution) and to develop and Action Plan for meeting standards and requirements. Clayuca Corporation will complement this component with the installation of an automated cassava production line (which will include a washer, chipper, dryer and miller). It will also finance the equipment for the instant cassava porridge and some minor refurbishment.

Action Plan to address weaknesses in the production line

Certification of Facility

Equipment for processing instant porridge

Name: Marketing and Commercialization.

Description: This component will further develop marketing and branding strategy to improve the commercialization of the cassava porridge, instant porridge and ready-to-bake cassava bread mix. The cassava porridge and other related products will be branded and marketed as a traditional knowledge and health product. This component will also develop a study with an action plan to ensure that the cassava porridge and other cassava related products are compliant certified as a fair trade product.

Marketing and Branding Campaign

Marketing materials

Standardized labeling requirements

Certification of Cassava Fair Trade

Name: Program Administration.

Description: Includes support for Surivit in the technical and financial aspects of the execution of the operation.

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	CounterpartFunding	Total Funding
Improve production process of the cassava porridge and development of other cassava related products	\$ 131,940.00	\$ 58,500.00	\$ 190,440.00
Improving Production Technology	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 93,500.00	\$ 263,500.00
Marketing and Commercialization	\$ 103,600.00	\$ 24,250.00	\$ 127,850.00

Program Administration	\$ 95,420.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 145,420.00
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V. Executing agency and execution structure

- 5.1 The execution will be carried out by Surivit, with the support of WUFS. To support execution, a dedicated team of a program manager and fiduciary/procurement support will be financed to strengthen the execution capacity.

- 5.2 Surivit, established in 2006, has 10 full-time and 16 part-time employees. Surivit's business objective is to produce agro-processed products that meet international requirements by using of local raw materials to improve local production and substitution of imported products. Surivit started producing tropical juices for different companies in Paramaribo, such as, the Torarica Hotel group, Jacana resort and other catering companies. Surivit's experience as an agro-processor has allowed it to expand into other produce such as root crops and related processed products. The juice processing plant is in the same location as the cassava mill. Surivit has been working closely with Wi! Uma Fu Sranan (WUFS) in developing a strategy for the production of cassava porridge and other. WUFS was legally established in 2014, as a female agro cooperative and currently is composed of 28 women from the districts of Brokopondo and Wanica. Surivit is working in close partnership with WUFS.

- 5.3 The Government of Colombia prepared an application for an EU fund and included 5 countries, one of them being Suriname, in exploring activities to expand the cassava market in the Caribbean region. This project would be executed by Clayuca Corporation in cooperation with other organizations and companies involved in the agro-processing of cassava related products forming a promoter group in each country. In October 2016, the Government of Suriname, recommended for Clayuca Corporation to work with Surivit, as they were working closely with communities in the interior. Clayuca Corporation will work with the promoter groups in setting-up an automated cassava mill financed by the EU fund. Surivit and the Government of Suriname have an agreement stating that Surivit is responsible for the running and maintenance of the mill with the purpose of helping expand and develop a market for farmers in the interior.

- 5.4 Surivit is an agro-processing company established in 2006 and is a member of the agriculture cooperative, Wi! Uma Fu Sranan (WUFS). WUFS was legally established in 2014, as a female agro cooperative and currently is composed of 28 women from the districts of Brokopondo and Wanica. Surivit is working in close partnership with WUFS in creating a unique strategy for the production of cassava porridge and other cassava related products. Surivit is responsible for the collection of the primary product which is produced by the cooperative members from WUFS. Surivit and WUFS have been working with communities on a limited scale to test cassava cultivation and processing as a potential source of income.

- 5.5 Surivit is working in close partnership with WUFS in creating a unique strategy for the production of cassava porridge and other cassava related products, and is responsible for the collection of the primary product which is produced by the cooperative members from WUFS. Surivit has an agreement with DTS N.V. to collect the finish product and distribute it to the supermarkets in Suriname.
- 5.6 The Presidential Agency for International Cooperation of Colombia (APC-Colombia) launched a knowledge exchange project funded by the European Union in 2015 in partnership with the Clayuca Corporation. The South-South project will support to activities related to the production and industrialization of cassava in the LAC region with initial emphasis in Guyana, Grenada, Barbados, Suriname and Jamaica. During 2013-2015, APC-Colombia and Clayuca Corporation, in collaboration with the Ministries of Agriculture of five beneficiary countries, including Suriname, worked on developing on promoting the intensification and industrialization of cassava value chain in the respective countries. By the end of 2015, this collaboration resulted in the formulation of action plans for these countries involving public, private, producer groups, school and other entities involves in the cassava value chain. Each country conducted internal reviews to identify entities that are involved in the cassava sector and Promoter groups were created. WUFS is part of the Promoter group in Suriname. APC-Colombia is the coordinator for the EU project and is responsible for the implementation for raising awareness, promotion and beneficiary participation. Clayuca Corporation is the technical coordinator and is responsible with knowledge sharing and mobilization to the beneficiary countries. Clayuca Corporation will also facilitate the dialogue between the beneficiary groups and the promoter group.

VI. Project Risks and issues

- 6.1 The main risk for this Technical Cooperation is that the technical capacity of the women in the cooperative does not allow them to improve their productivity. This risk will be mitigated by the training to be provided, including training of trainers and customized training on the areas of Global Cap Standards, Good Manufacturing Practices, Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point. Another risk is that the market (both internal and external) does not absorb the increased production. This risk will be mitigated by providing a marketing and commercialization campaign, involving not only the current supermarkets being serviced but also exploring new commercialization options.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

- 7.1 The ESG classification for this operation is “C”(See [Safeguards Policy Filter Report](#) and the [Screening Form](#)).