SITA

SURINAME INVESTMENT & TRADE AGENCY

2026

INVEST IN SURINAME

Agriculture and Agribusiness

AGRICULTURE AND AGRIBUSINESS INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

Suriname's abundant land and water resources, tropical climate and established agricultural base create opportunities for commercial farming, value-added processing and export-oriented agribusiness

WHAT DOES SURINAME OFFER INVESTORS?

Located on the northern coast of South America, Suriname combines abundant natural resources, a favourable tropical climate and extensive freshwater availability with access to Caribbean and South American markets.

The country has a long-established agricultural sector built on rice production and is well positioned to diversify into horticulture, tropical crops, food ingredients and value-added agri-processing supported by available land, growing regional demand and export potential.

Suriname offers investors the opportunity to develop integrated agribusiness operations serving domestic, regional and international markets.



Abundant land and natural resources

1.5 million ha
Suitable for agriculture yet only about 60,000 hectares are currently cultivated

158,867 m³
Renewable freshwater per capita (3rd globally)

Outside the Atlantic hurricane belt

93% forest cover
With rich tropical forest resources

Diversified agricultural production

Commercial production
Across rice, horticulture, tropical crops and livestock

225,923 tonnes
Rice production

38,800 tonnes
Tropical fruit production

11,667 tonnes
Vegetable production

6,314 tonnes
Root crop production

Proven export platform

60+
export markets

22%
Of food exports destined for Europe

66%
Growth in agribusiness exports over five years

Duty-free access
to CARICOM and EU markets

25% by 2030
Government target to reduce food imports into the CARICOM region

Growing agribusiness ecosystem

4,700+
Pieces of agricultural equipment distributed under SAMAP

US$1.2 million across 129 matching-grant projects
under SAMAP programme

40+
hydroponic growers producing leafy vegetables, tomatoes, peppers, and herbs

Tissue-culture laboratory
established in Commewijne

ABUNDANT RESOURCES FOR GROWTH

Suriname combines extensive agricultural land, abundant freshwater and year-round tropical growing conditions to support scalable production across rice, horticulture, tropical crops and livestock

LARGE UNDERUTILISED PRODUCTION POTENTIAL

1.5 million ha Suitable for agriculture	**158,867 m3** Freshwater resources per capita, the 3rd highest globally	**Outside the Atlantic hurricane belt** Reliable year-round production	**93% forest cover** With rich tropical forest resources

Extensive agricultural land

Around 1.5 million hectares are suitable for agriculture, yet only about 60,000 hectares are cultivated, offering significant potential to expand commercial crop production

Year-round production conditions

Tropical climate, fertile coastal soils and a location outside the Atlantic hurricane belt support reliable year-round production across rice, horticulture and tropical crop value chains

Abundant freshwater resources

With 158,867 m3 of renewable freshwater resources per capita and an extensive river network, Suriname provides long-term water security for commercial agriculture and future irrigation expansion

Diversified production systems

Established production across rice, horticulture, tropical fruits, oil crops and livestock provides multiple opportunities for commercial expansion. The horticulture sector alone includes an estimated 3,000–4,000 farmers

TESTED CLIMATES FOR A RANGE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS



1. **Western Coastal Belt**
   Suriname's principal rice-growing region, centered on Nickerie, which produces around 80% of national rice output alongside livestock production
2. **Central Coastal Production Zone**
   The country's main horticulture and mixed farming corridor, producing vegetables, citrus, root crops, poultry and fresh produce
3. **Eastern Plantation Belt**
   Historic plantation region centered in Commewijne and Marowijne districts supporting tropical fruits and cocoa
4. **Interior Agroforestry Zone**
   Suitable for agroforestry, pineapple, cassava, and other tropical crops, combining agricultural production with sustainably managed forest resources
5. **Southern Forest Zone**
   Extensive forest landscape with potential for Brazil nuts, açaí, medicinal plants and other non-timber forest products

COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION ACROSS MULTIPLE VALUE CHAINS

Suriname combines established commercial production across crops, horticulture and livestock with expanding processing capacity, providing multiple opportunities for agribusiness investment

DIVERSE COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION (2024)

Rice
225,923 tonnes
Suriname's largest crop sector and established export industry

Tropical fruit
38,800 tonnes
Oranges, bananas, pineapples, citrus, mangoes and other tropical fruits

Vegetables
11,667 tonnes
Tomato, cabbages, cucumbers, beans, and other horticultural products

Poultry
8,221 tonnes
Established poultry production and growing domestic demand

Root crops
6,314 tonnes
Cassava, sweet potatoes, and other tubers supporting food processing opportunities

Fresh milk
2,709 tonnes
Fresh milk production

ADDITIONAL LIVESTOCK BASE HEADCOUNT

Pigs	Cattle	Sheep	Goats	Chickens
11,056	19,714	5,506	2,303	821,644

ESTABLISHED PRODUCERS & EXPORTERS

Servicing international markets with fresh produce

- N.V. Rijsthandel Sahara
- Cooperatie Saramacca Fruit & Vegetable Farmers
- N.V. Privilege La Prosperite (NV PLP)
- Hynes All Natural Products
- Food and Agriculture Industries (FAI)

RECENT INVESTMENTS

Cassava processing	Horticulture processing	Poultry production
Marthiland New cassava processing facility	**Pineapple innovation hub** Five new processing facilities planned	**Hilly's Chicks** Expansion of commercial poultry production
• First cassava porridge processing line inaugurated in April 2025 • Supported by the EU-funded, FAO-implemented SAMAP programme • Strengthens local agro-processing capacity and value addition	• Export-oriented pineapple value chain • FAO-supported commercial processing programme • cornerstone of the Agrifood Systems Transformation Accelerator (ASTA)	• Eighth production facility opened in 2024 • New breeder-egg farm • Capacity of around 7,500 eggs per day

RELIABLE ACCESS TO GLOBAL MARKETS

Suriname combines established agricultural exports, preferential market access and growing regional food demand to provide investors with a strong platform for export-oriented agribusiness

PROVEN ACCESS TO OVERSEAS MARKETS

60+ International export markets served	**22%** Of food exports are destined for Europe	**66%** Growth in agribusiness exports in the past 5 years

KEY EXPORT MARKETS AND REGIONS (2024)

Rice

US$39 million
Exports

Key markets

- Jamaica
- France
- Netherlands
- Portugal

Ethyl alcohol

US$18 million
Exports

Key markets

- Venezuela
- France
- Netherlands

Poultry products

US$12.5 million
Exports

Key markets

- Venezuela
- United States

Bananas

US$1.5 million
Exports

Key markets

- Trinidad and Tobago
- Barbados

POSITIONED TO BENEFIT FROM GROWING REGIONAL FOOD DEMAND

Established Caribbean supplier

- **80% +** of Suriname's rice exports are destined for Caribbean markets
- **Strong and long-standing trade relationships** with CARICOM markets provide the commercial base for further export growth

Strategic market access

- **Duty-free access to CARICOM and EU markets** enables producers in Suriname to supply approximately 19 million Caribbean consumers and around 450 million consumers in the European Union.

Growing regional food demand

- **US$6 billion+** annual food imports by CARICOM countries
- **25% by 2030** Government target to reduce food imports into the CARICOM region

STRENGTHENING THE AGRICULTURE ECOSYSTEM

Government, research institutions, and international partners are strengthening Suriname's agricultural competitiveness through investment in productivity, innovation, and export readiness

1. AGRICULTURAL MODERNISATION

Suriname Agriculture Market Access Programme (SAMAP)

- National programme supporting commercialisation, mechanisation, and value-added agriculture across Suriname.
- 4,700+ pieces of agricultural and processing equipment distributed under the Suriname Agriculture Market Access Project, including US$1.2 million across 129 matching-grant projects in all 10 of the country's districts

2. AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION

- Tissue-culture laboratory established in Commewijne by InVitroPlants Grassalco.
- Propagation of Banana, pineapple, cassava, cocoa, coffee, and ginger in Grassalco's greenhouse facility
- 40+ hydroponic growers in the country. Production of leafy vegetables, tomatoes, peppers, and herbs

3. EXPORT CAPABILITY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

Agricultural Research Laboratory

Strengthening food safety and quality testing

Phytosanitary compliance

Supporting exporters to meet international standards and regulatory requirements

Mango exports to the EU resumption

First trial shipment of 200 kg in 2024 passed EU inspection

Identified regional horticulture markets

Untapped export opportunities for cassava, leafy vegetables, beans and peppers into neighbouring countries including Jamaica, Barbados, and Guyana

4. INSTITUTIONAL ECOSYSTEM

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries (LVV)

Leads agricultural policy, extension services, and sector development

Agricultural Research Laboratory

National laboratory supporting food safety and quality testing

Centre for agricultural research (CELOS)

Applied research in sustainable agriculture, agroforestry, and climate-smart solutions

Natuur Technisch Instituut Suriname (NATIN)

Agricultural education, research, and technical training for a skilled agricultural workforce

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Growing domestic production, value-addition, and exports across agriculture and agribusiness with opportunities for investment at every stage of the value chain

COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE



Rice production

Develop commercial rice cultivation, contract farming, modern milling, packaging and premium rice products, building on Suriname's established export industry



Commercial horticulture

Establish export-oriented production of pineapple, citrus, vegetables and tropical fruits through commercial farming, protected cultivation and contract grower networks



Tropical and specialty crops

Expand production of cassava, cocoa, coffee, ginger, medicinal plants and other high-value tropical crops for regional and international markets

AGRICULTURAL INPUTS & FARM TECHNOLOGIES



Agricultural inputs

Develop fertilisers, crop protection products, irrigation systems, agricultural equipment and mechanisation services supporting commercial farming



Animal feed

Produce poultry feed, livestock feed, feed ingredients and nutrition products using locally available agricultural raw materials and by-products



Cold-chain storage and export logistics

Invest in refrigerated storage, grading, packing, post-harvest handling and export logistics supporting fresh produce and horticultural exports

PRIMARY AGRI-PROCESSING



Food ingredients

Develop fruit concentrates, juices, purées, dried fruit, essential oils, natural extracts and food ingredients for regional food manufacturers



Primary processing

Establish cassava flour, rice products, beverage ingredients and other value-added processing facilities using local agricultural production



Non-timber forest products

Develop commercial production of Brazil nuts, açaí, medicinal plants, natural oils and other non-timber forest products through sustainable harvesting and processing

How can we help you?

SITA is dedicated to providing free, structured support services for international investors looking to establish operations in Suriname's target industries

Why work with SITA?

1. **One stop entry point for foreign investors:**
   SITA acts as the national trade and investment promotion agency and serves to help investors navigate bureaucratic, regulatory and administrative procedures required to establish in Suriname

2. **Tailored investor facilitation support:**
   SITA helps investors identify business opportunities, understand regulatory frameworks, and connect with relevant government ministries and local partners

3. **Incentive access and support:**
   Suriname offers several incentives for foreign investors and offers dedicated support to navigate the application process

4. **Sector expertise:**
   Dedicated sector expertise across priority sectors offering information and facilitation tailored to direct sector opportunities

5. **Aftercare and partnership development:**
   SITA supports expansion, organises investment promotion events, and liase with international firms, helping build partnerships on the investment and supply-chain side

Ready to invest in Suriname? Get in touch!

Contact SITA to discuss your requirements and facilitate your investment project

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