

REDD+ for the Guiana Shield project

Regional workshop on Tonka Island, Suriname, 29 September to 2 October 2015

"Improving knowledge sharing on tree species identification in the Guiana Shield"

www.reddguianashield.com

Logistics note

Checklist for international participants - make sure that you have:

- ✓ Visa/tourist card for Suriname (check with nearest Embassy or Consulate of Suriname)
- ✓ Passport valid for at least 6 months (required for entering Suriname)
- ✓ Tickets and travel details (sent to you by organizers via e-mail)
- ✓ Health/travel insurance (not provided through the project)
- ✓ Vaccinations if needed (not provided through the project)

Arrival in Suriname (international participants):

Most participants from abroad will arrive to Johan Adolf Pengel International Airport, located in Zanderij (about 45 min - 1 hour drive from central Paramaribo). Travellers from Guyana will arrive to Zorg en Hoop Airport, and those arriving from French Guiana will travel overland to Paramaribo. You will be picked up at the airport/border by the transportation company Cay's Services (phone number: (+597)8577533/8286348) and brought to the hotel.

Please note that for some international participants, a visa or tourist card is needed to enter the country (price for a tourist card 20 EUR/25USD). It has to be purchased in the nearest Embassy or Consulate of Suriname before departure, or at the airport upon arrival.

Accommodation in Paramaribo (international participants):

Most international participants will arrive in Suriname on 28 September, which means one night in Paramaribo before departure to Tonka Island. Part of the group also needs to stay the night 2-3 October. Accommodation has been booked for those concerned in Greenheart Hotel, Costerstraat 68, Paramaribo (<http://www.greenheart-hotel.com/en>). Breakfast is provided at the hotel but other meals in Paramaribo are self-organized. International participants will get a fixed amount reimbursed through the project, via perdiems distributed by Mathieu Rahm from ONF International (ONFI) when you meet.

Travel to Tonka Island (everybody):

Tonka Island is located in the district of Brokopondo, Suriname, some hours travel south from Paramaribo (2 hours by bus and 1 hour by boat). The full group will depart together from Greenheart Hotel, Costerstraat 68 on Tuesday 29 September. Participants from Suriname need to come to the hotel for departure together with the group. Please be ready at Costerstraat 68 on 29 September at 08:30 for departure at 09:00 sharp.

Accommodation and facilities on Tonka Island:

Tonka Island (about 100 ha) exists since the 1960s, when the Brokopondo reservoir (officially named Professor Doctor Ingenieur W. J. van Blommestein Meer) was created by constructing the Afobaka Dam. Tonka Island, covered mainly by primary tropical rainforest, remained above water when the reservoir flooded the surrounding forest and villages. Today the island hosts an educational center, tourist facilities and a tree species trail, founded by the Surinamese field botanist Frits van Troon and maintained by his family. You will have time to experience the beautiful nature on the island, walk in the forest and enjoy the water (but be aware of pirayas so don't swim if you menstruate or have wounds).



Our group will stay in two houses with shared accommodation, 3-6 beds per room. You can choose a bed in any room. If you prefer to sleep outside in a hammock, feel free to bring your own. The beds are equipped with pillow, mosquito net and sheets, but please bring your own towels and shampoo/soap. There is no fan or aircondition in the houses, but the breeze usually provides a comfortable temperature. One of the houses has two showers and two toilets, as well as a dining room where meals will be served for the full group. The other house has a detached building with toilets and showers.

The meeting itself will take place outside under the trees and/or in another house close by, also without fan/aircondition so please dress accordingly. Electricity is provided via generator. Translation services will be provided for English/Portuguese/French. The island has phone coverage but no internet / wifi.

Meals on Tonka Island:

All meals and coffee breaks will be provided during the stay on Tonka Island. Drinking water will be available at all times. If you require a special diet for medical/ethical reasons, please inform the project team on time before the event. There is no store available on the island.

Suggested packing list:

- ✓ Towels
- ✓ Flashlight
- ✓ Mosquito repellent
- ✓ Sunscreen, sunglasses and hat
- ✓ Rain coat (boat is not covered)
- ✓ Notebook and pens
- ✓ Laptop (optional, not required) and adapter if needed (*)
- ✓ Swimming gear, hammock etc for recreational time (optional)
- ✓ Slippers/water shoes for the boat, closed shoes/boots for forest
- ✓ Clothing (appropriate for the climate, no need to be too formal)
- ✓ Other personal belongings.



(*) Electricity in Suriname is 127 volts, 60 cycles. Two different types of sockets/outlets are used in Suriname and in some buildings only one of them is available. Varieties are shown on images above.

More information:

If you have questions about the logistics not responded to here, feel free to ask Sara Svensson from ONFI - sara.svensson@onfinternational.org, phone (+597)8655227.