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### LVV Fisheries Directorate once again receives support from Shell and partners



The Fisheries Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (LVV) today received a new donation from Shell and its partners. This donation represents the second phase of the "Capacity Building of the Suriname Fisheries Department" project and includes equipment worth approximately US\$50,000, which will be used for collecting and monitoring fisheries data.

The donated resources include a pickup truck for transport to the field, as well as equipment to support efficient fisheries data collection, such as a marine scale and drones. The directorate also received coolers, a freezer, polo shirts, and badges for its data collectors, as well as a fish identification guide listing the fish, shrimp, and crab species found in Surinamese waters.





The first donation took place in March 2024, with the Fisheries Directorate receiving tablets for field data collection, personal protective equipment for data collectors, computers for data analysis, and a secure data storage server from Shell, along with partners Chevron and Hess.

The fishing sector is a vital part of Suriname's economy, culture, and food security. Given its importance, Shell has entered into a project with the Directorate of Fisheries, the agency responsible for formulating and implementing fisheries management measures.



The project aims to strengthen the directorate's capacity to better monitor fish stocks and expand the knowledge base for the sustainable management of marine resources. The project will contribute to improved data collection processes and standards within the Fisheries Department, as well as to the development of skills and competencies of staff involved in data collection. The expected improvement in the quality of fisheries data and statistics will be noticeable over time. In the short term, the project

will produce quarterly reports highlighting, among other things, catches by species, fleet, and fishing area. In the long term, the project is expected to contribute to the regular provision of reliable

information essential for the sustainable management and development of the fisheries sector.

According to Tomas Willems, coordinator of the Statistics and Research Department of the Fisheries Directorate, the advanced tools will contribute to effective data collection, which is crucial for fish exports. Andrew Hepburn, Shell's Country Chairman, emphasized that Shell and its partners recognize that the fishing sector is the backbone of many coastal communities in Suriname and that it contributes to the local economy, employment, and food security. The companies recognize the Directorate's commitment and will continue their collaboration on this project.



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