



Development of the Central Government Debt

Dec 27, 2024

Introduction

In 2013, Suriname Debt Management Office (SDMO) started publishing its quarterly report on the development of the central government debt. Since 2022, this report has been enhanced with more relevant analysis, tables, charts of the debt, and other economic indicators. Efforts are made to publish this report on the SDMO website within 4 weeks, after the publication of the quarterly statistics has occur.

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Summary

- In the third quarter of 2024, the total central government debt amounted to USD 3.4 billion (SRD 106 billion). Compared to the second quarter of 2024, the debt increased by approximately 2 percent. This rise is attributed to the net balance of disbursements minus repayments of USD 17.9 million, the depreciation of the SRD against the USD by about 1.7 percent, and the increase in "supplier' debt" or "other accounts payable" by about 7 percent during this period.
- The price of the Eurobond fell in November 2024 to 93 cents per dollar compared to the previous month. This is largely due to developments in the international capital markets during this period. The price of VRI stabilized around 90 cents per dollar during this time.
- Through the third quarter of 2024, total disbursements were approximately USD 136 million, while total debt service payments were approximately USD 249 million.
- Three new loans were secured in the third quarter of 2024 with a total value of USD 88.1 million. These new loans were from the multilateral institutions ISDB and IMF for foreign financing totaling USD 72.8 million and a domestic loan; the acquisition of government debt to Kuldipsingh N.V. by Finabank N.V. worth USD 15.3 million.
- In October 2024, the umbrella agreement for the debt restructuring Phase II was signed with the Paris Club, while the first phase of the debt restructuring with the Export-Import Bank of China and the commercial debt to the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China was completed in November-December.
- Moody's credit rating for our country improved by two steps in October 2024, from Caa3 to Caa1 with a positive outlook, while Standard & Poor's maintained the country's rating at the same level as last year, namely CCC+ with a stable outlook, in December.
- The long-term debt of a selected group of state-owned enterprises totaled SRD 38.9 billion (or USD 1.0 billion) as of December 2023. Compared to June 2023, there was a 2 percent decrease in the amount of these debts.

Coverage of the debt statistics

The national debt managed by the Debt Management Office pertains to the central government debt, with guarantees provided on third-party debts also being monitored. The statistics are currently presented on a cash basis. Outstanding payments to suppliers for goods and services provided to the government, also referred to as **'suppliers debt,' have been included in the statistics since July 2023**, starting with the balance at the end of December 2021.

The statutory definition of gross national debt is worded as follows in the State Debt Act: "The total of outstanding legally incurred debt obligations of the State, including the outstanding current debt as well as arrears of interest and costs, both of which entail a repayment obligation of the State, and those which involve a called-up guarantee obligation of the State (Article 1, section i)."

In the past, the amount of debt expressed in SRD deviated from the international debt definition (effective debt). This was due to Article 3, section 3:

"Amounts in foreign currency shall be converted into Surinamese dollars based on the exchange rates according to the Central Bank of Suriname on the last banking day of the calendar year to which the nominal gross domestic product (GDP) relates."

The GDP figure from the General Bureau for Statistics (ABS) for the past year is released in the third quarter of the current year, which means that exchange rates for the conversion of foreign currency debts may vary significantly from the ones on which the debt in the current year is based.

Due to the amendment of Article 3, Section 3, it has now been established that the exchange rate to be used when converting foreign currency debts into Surinamese dollars must be the exchange rate on the reporting date of the debt, not the year-end exchange rate to which the most recent GDP figure from ABS relates. This aligns the amount of debt with international standards, and the statutory debt amount is now equal to the effective debt.

The statistics are compiled using information received from various creditors, the Central Bank of Suriname, the Ministry of Finance & Planning, the Ministry of Public Works, while the GDP figure from the General Bureau for Statistics (ABS) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) are used to establish the debt-to-GDP ratio and its deviation from the debt ceiling, indicating the pressure of the current debt on the economy.

In Article 3, the debt ceiling is based on the debt-to-GDP ratio, with the total debt ceiling set at 60 percent. This ratio must be calculated based on the most recently published GDP figure from ABS. In Article 28, Section 2, of the amended State Debt Act of March 16, 2023, it is stated that the government has 13 years to reduce the ratio to 60 percent. To assess the pressure of current debt on the total economy, the effective debt is expressed in the estimated GDP figures of the year to which the debt relates.

Outstanding Debt and Debt to GDP ratios at the end of September 2024

In the third quarter of 2024, the total central government debt amounted to USD 3.4 billion (Table 1 and Figure 1), which is equivalent to SRD 106.0 billion (Figure 1). Table 1 shows that the total debt, expressed in SRD, increased by approximately 2 percent at the end of September 2024 compared to June 2024. This increase can be explained by the following factors:

- ❖ In the third quarter of 2024, the balance of new disbursements (USD 54.4 million) minus repayments (USD 36.5 million) resulted in a net increase of USD 17.9 million. This indicates a rise in debt, both in SRD and USD.
- ❖ The large share of foreign currency in the total debt portfolio, approximately 86 percent, combined with a depreciation of the SRD against the USD of about 1 percent. The depreciation contributed to an increase in debt of approximately 1.7 percent.
- ❖ An increase of about 7 percent in the so-called "supplier debt," also referred to as "other accounts payable," in September 2024 compared to the second quarter of 2024.

Table 1. Central Government Debt on cash base and Debt to GDP ratio's				
Debt according to the law	2023-Q4	2024-Q1	2024-Q2	2024-Q3
External debt (billion SRD)	96.9	92.7	81.9	84.4
Domestic debt (billion SRD)	25.9	23.3	22.1	21.7
Total debt	122.8	116.0	104.0	106.0
Government debt in billions USD	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4
External Debt to GDP ratio	76.2	73.0	64.4	66.4
Domestic Debt to GDP ratio	20.4	18.3	17.4	17.0
Total Debt to GDP ratio	96.6	91.3	81.8	83.5
Total debt-to-GDP ratio based on the estimated GDP of the respective year	96.6	69.1	61.9	63.1
Memorandum items				
Exchange rate SRD/USD (e.o.p)	37.2	35.3	31.0	31.1
GDP 2021 current prices (billion SRD)	127.1	127.1	127.1	127.1
GDP 2023 (IMF estimates) (billion SRD)	127.1	167.9	167.9	167.9

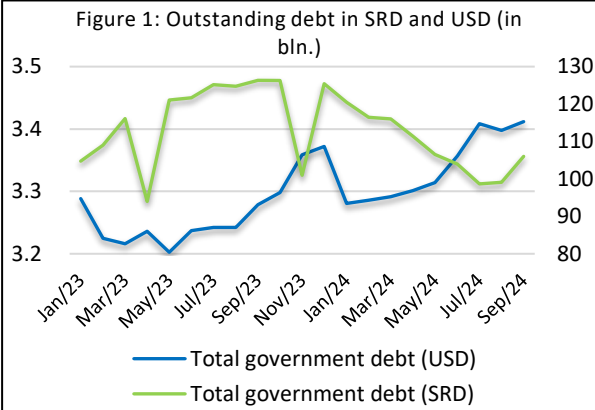
Sources: SDMO, CBvS, ABS, IMF e.o.p.= end of period

The total central government debt expressed in USD amounted to approximately USD 3.4 billion during this period.

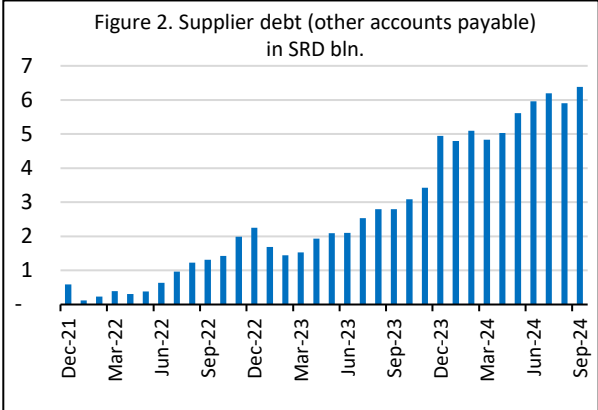
The external debt stood at USD 2.7 billion by the end of the third quarter, reflecting a slight increase of 3 percent compared to the end of June 2024. This increase resulted from new disbursements on loans from multilateral creditors and the accumulation of payment arrears with China, which had not yet been restructured at that time.

In contrast, domestic debt decreased by approximately 2 percent during this period due to higher repayments compared to disbursements. However, "supplier debt," also referred to as "other accounts payable," increased by 7 percent. This debt, related to outstanding invoices for goods and services delivered to the government, amounted to SRD 6.4 billion as of the end of September 2024 (Figure 2).

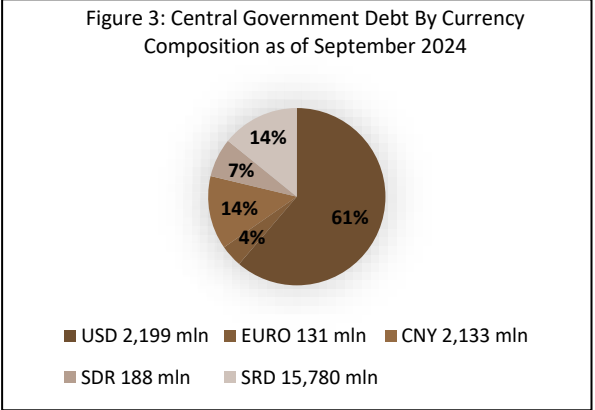
In the third quarter of 2024, this debt item increased by approximately SRD 417 million compared to the second quarter (Figure 2).



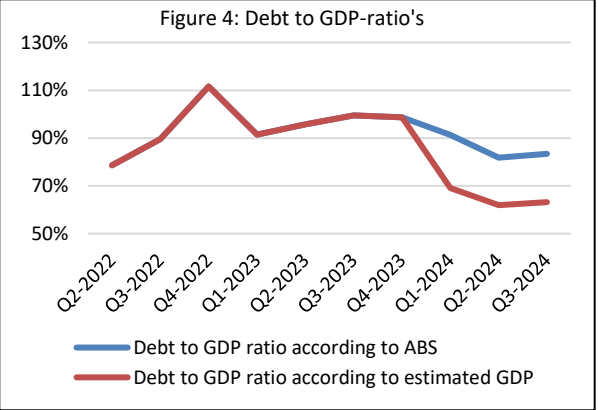
Source: SDMO



Source: Ministry of Finance and planning



Source: SDMO



Source: SDMO

The total debt by currency composition is illustrated in Figure 3. The majority of the debt remains foreign currency debt, accounting for 86 percent, most of which is denominated in USD.

The statutory debt-to-GDP ratio as of the end of September 2024 was 83 percent (Figure 4). According to the Public Debt Act, the debt ceiling must be calculated based on the most recent GDP figure presented by the ABS. The latest published GDP figure refers to 2023 and amounted to SRD 127.1 billion.

If this ratio is calculated using an estimated GDP figure for 2024 of SRD 167.1 billion (IMF data), the debt-to-GDP ratio at the end of the third quarter is approximately 63.2 percent (Figure 4). This ratio provides a more accurate reflection of the burden the central government debt places on the total income of the country in 2024.

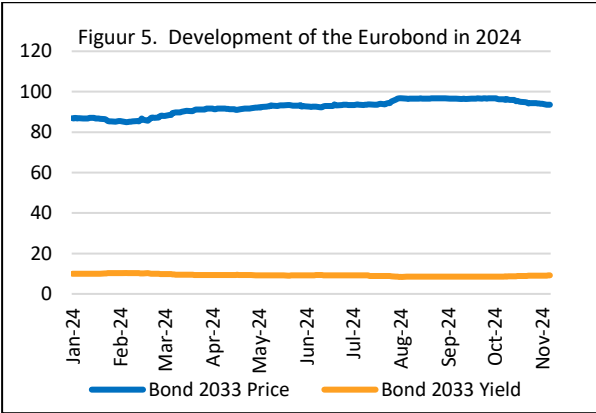
The restructured Eurobond and the VRI instrument

In Figure 5, the development of the price and yield of the restructured Eurobond in 2024 is displayed. Since October 2024, the price of the Eurobond has shown a decline, trading around

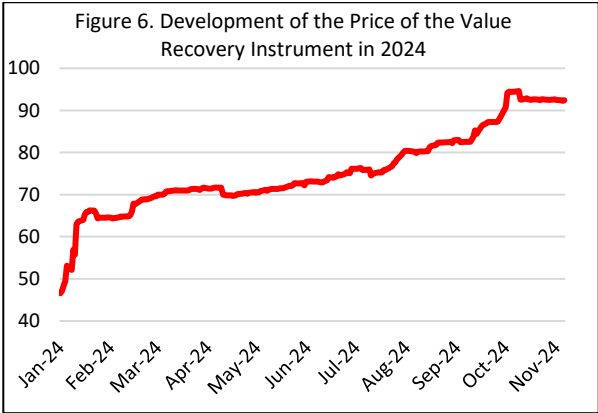
USD 93 cents per dollar in November 2024 (approximately a 3.3 percent decrease compared to October 2024). Due to the inverse relationship between price and yield, the yield increased during this period.

The recent decline in the Surinamese Eurobond price can be attributed to several factors related to international developments and perceptions of emerging market economies. Furthermore, investor risk perception concerning the local economy, particularly, due to uncertainties surrounding the upcoming elections and potential follow-up programs with the IMF has also influenced the price.

It is evident that the Final Investment Decision (FID) announcement by TotalEnergies to develop the GranMorgu oil project in Suriname's Block 58 has caused the price of the VRI to increase and stabilize around 90 cents per dollar in recent months (Figure 6). This stabilization reflects positive expectations regarding the future value of the underlying assets. A contributing factor to this confidence is the large-scale project, involving an investment of USD 10.5 billion, which is expected to achieve a production rate of 220,000 barrels of oil per day starting in 2028.



Source: Bloomberg with adjustment SDMO



Source: Bloomberg with adjustment SDMO

Regarding the amendment of the Suriname Savings and Stabilization Fund (SSFS) Act, which is scheduled to take place this year, it can be noted that this legislative amendment, along with changes to the Computability Act, has already been submitted to the National Assembly (DNA). On Friday, December 14, local stakeholders were heard by Parliament regarding the proposed amendments to both laws. All stakeholders indicated that the changes represent an improvement for both pieces of legislation.

The debates in DNA on the amendments to these laws, which will be handled together, began on Monday, December 24. It is anticipated that both laws will be approved and published before December 31, 2024.

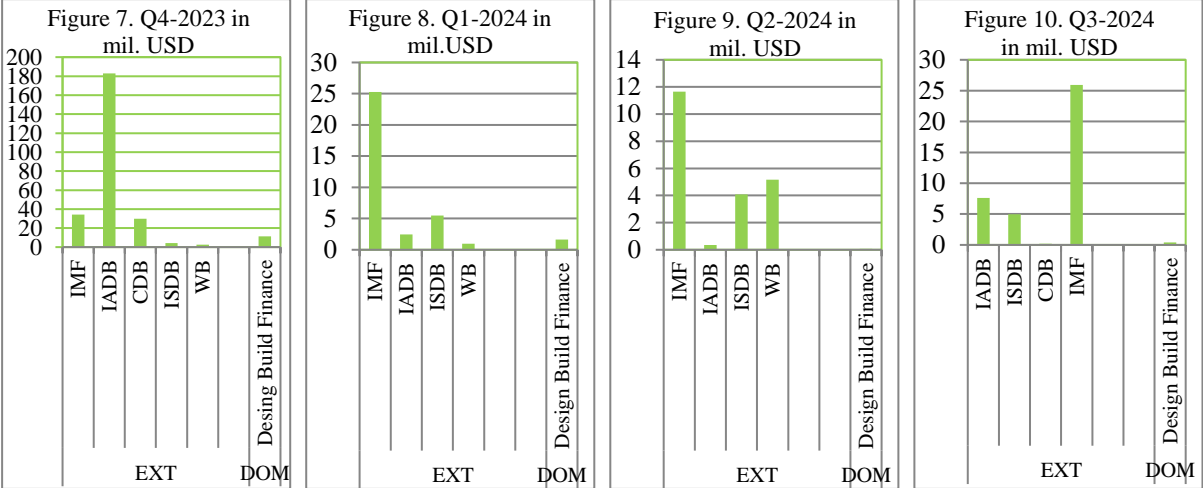
Disbursements and debt service payments

Through the third quarter of 2024, the total disbursements amounted to USD 135.8 million, of which USD 17.4 million was on domestic debt and USD 118.4 million on external loans. Compared to the first three quarters of 2023, there is an increase of 2 percent in disbursements in 2024. This increase is the result of the smooth completion of the quarterly reviews of the IMF-EFF program, whereby the tranches influenced the level of foreign withdrawals.

In 2022 and early 2023, there was a delay in the collection of transfers from the IMF because various evaluations had not been approved, due to our country's lagging behind in implementing various measures affecting the program.

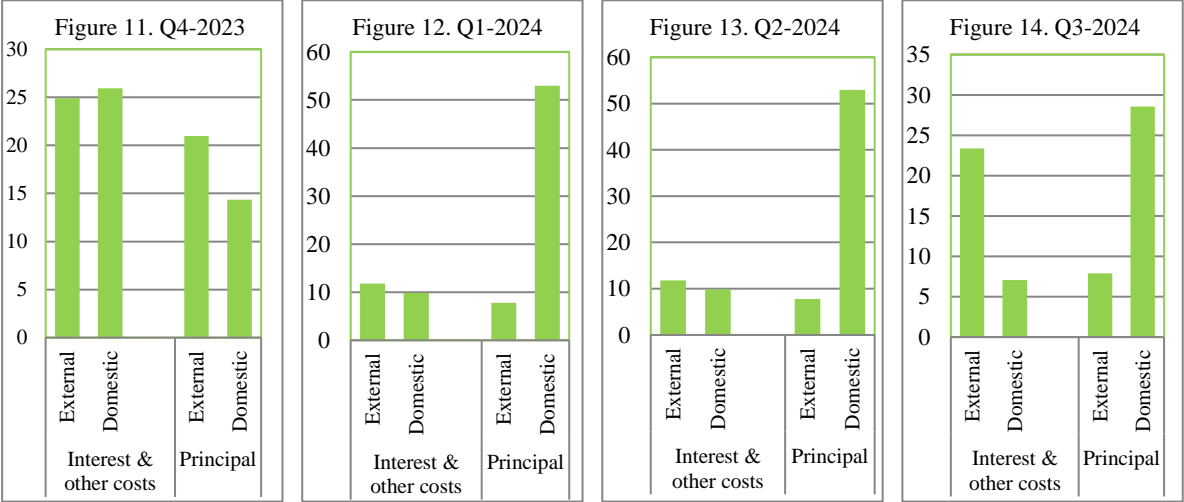
In the third quarter of 2024, total disbursements were approximately USD 39.1 million. Of the total disbursements, 99 percent came from abroad, of which USD 25.9 million was the largest source from the IMF (figure 10).

Disbursements in million USD



Source: SDMO
EXT = external debt DOM = domestic debt

Debt service, excluding supplier debt in million USD



Source: SDMO

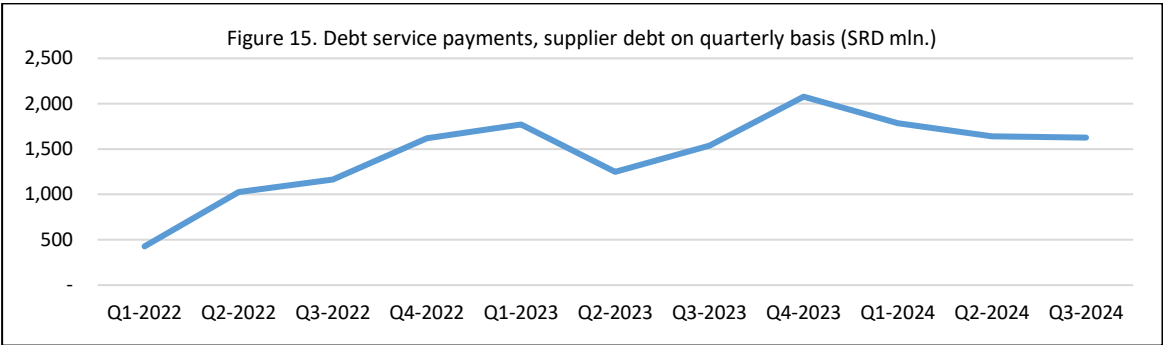
Through the third quarter of 2024, total debt service payments amounted to USD 248.7 million. This is approximately 41 percent more than in 2023, when the total debt burden was USD 176.7 million.

The higher domestic payments in 2024 are mainly related to the elimination of arrears on domestic debts, namely treasury bills with commercial banks and on infrastructure works, and the repayment of various loans, with the “gold loan” being one of the largest domestic loans. The higher external debt service payments relate to the start of payments to the Euro bondholders and other creditors with which rescheduling has already taken place in the current year.

Total debt payments in the third quarter amounted to USD 66.5 million, of which interest payments were USD 30.0 million and repayments USD 36.5 million. Most payments were on domestic debt.

The collection of receipts still to be paid (supplier debt or other accounts payables) was also lower in the third quarter of 2024 compared to the second quarter of 2024 (figure 15). Approximately SRD 1.6 billion worth of supplier debt was paid during this period. Until the end of September 2024, approximately SRD 5.0 billion in payments had been made on this debt item.

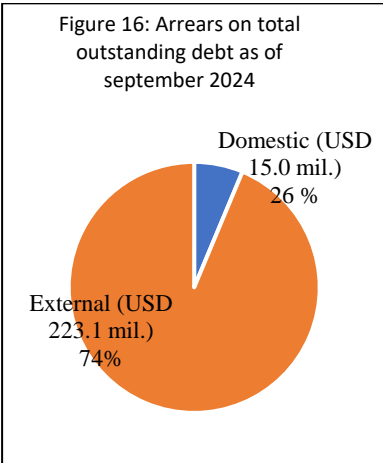
The Ministry of Finance and Planning, namely the treasury department of the ministry, is currently cleaning up the supplier debt databases to check whether the amount as it comes from the IFMIS system is accurate and there is no double booking. It is expected that this debt item will continue to show a clear picture in the coming year with regard to unpaid government receipts.



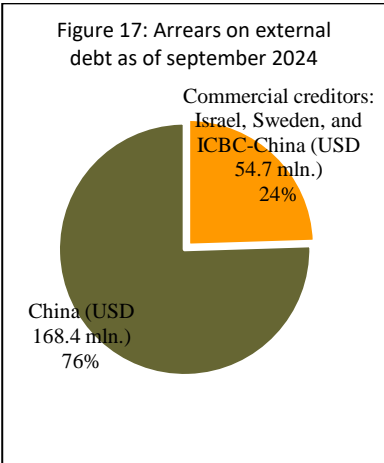
Source: SDMO

Arrears and delayed payments

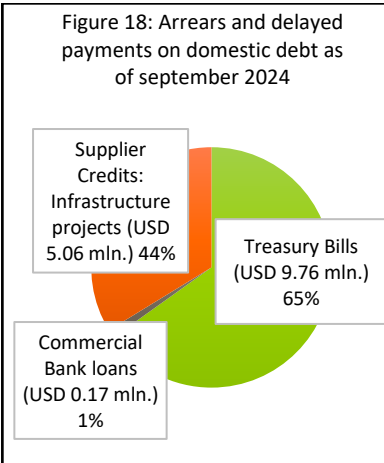
As of the end of September 2024, the total overdue and delayed payments amounted to USD 238.1 million. Of this, USD 223 million was attributed to arrears on external debt, and approximately USD 15.0 million to arrears and delayed payments on domestic debt (Figure 16). Compared to the end of June 2024, there was an increase of around 12 percent, mainly due to rising arrears on external bilateral and commercial loans to China that had not yet been restructured (Figure 17).



Source: SDMO



Source: SDMO



Source: SDMO

In the third quarter of 2024, domestic debt arrears included outstanding payments on treasury bills, loans to commercial banks, and delayed payments for infrastructure projects, amounting to approximately SRD 465 million. This represented a decrease of about 3 percent compared to June 2024, as many arrears were cleared in June and July.

Of the arrears as of the end of September 2024, these were settled in October and November. Arrears on treasury bills primarily relate to the Pension Fund Suriname. As part of a CLAD investigation within this institution, the Ministry of Finance & Planning requested the Bureau of Public Debt to suspend payments until the investigation is concluded. It is expected that these arrears on treasury bills will be settled in December 2024 and the first quarter of 2025.

New debt incurred in the third quarter of 2024

In the third quarter of 2024, three new loans were taken out with a total of value of USD 88.1 million, as shown in Table 3.

Table 3. New loans in the third quarter of 2024					
Creditor	Date of agreement	Amount	Purpose	Interest	Term
ISDB – Expansion of the Power Transmission and Distribution Systems Project	08/26/2024	USD 47.7 million	Expansion of the power transmission and distribution Systems Project	SOFR based interest + marge	20 years
IMF Promissory Note	09/20/2024	SDR 19.1 million	Boosting budget and economy support	SDR interest + marge	10 years
New domestic loans					
Finabank N.V.	07/17/2024	USD 15.3 million	Acquisition of debts of Kuldipsingh N.V.	3.5 percent	12 months

Source: SDMO

On August 26, 2024, the state entered into a partnership with the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) for the “Expansion of the Power Transmission and Distribution Systems Project”. Partial agreements had previously been signed for this project with the IsDB, the OPEC Fund and the Kuwait Fund. Due to the inability to implement the project effectively, the loan agreements with the Kuwait Fund and the IsDB have been canceled, while the agreement with the OPEC Fund remains valid. This project is still being carried out with IsDB resources.

Due to the successful assessment of the seventh quarter of the IMF-EFF program, Suriname has again received a tranche of SDR 46.7 million, of which SDR 19.1 million (USD 25.13 million) is intended for budget support.

On July 17, an agreement regarding the takeover of Kuldipsingh's debt by Finabank N.V. was signed between the State of Suriname, Kuldipsingh N.V. and Finabank N.V. This concerns the projects:

1. National Paving Program 1;
2. National Asphalt Paving Program 4
3. and National Infrastructure Program.

This loan has a term of 12 months with a one-time interest rate of 3.5 percent on the total debt. In order to accelerate the implementation of projects with this local contractor, it has been decided that Finabank will pay the contractor and the State will further settle the settlement of the implementation of the projects with this bank. Due to the implementation of the IMF program, government expenditure in the first two years was kept as limited as possible and hardly any new infrastructure projects could be financed from the budget.

Debt restructuring

In the third quarter, significant progress was made in finalizing the restructuring process with the Paris Club, Eximbank of China, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, and the Israel Discount Bank.

Paris Club

The first phase of debt restructuring with the Paris Club was signed on June 22, 2022. This phase covered the settlement of arrears up to the end of 2021, amounting to EUR 18.2 million, as well as the restructuring of interest and principal payments for the period 2022-2024, totaling EUR 30.8 million.

On October 8, 2024, the second phase of debt restructuring was signed. This phase involved the restructuring of outstanding debt as of January 1, 2025. It covered bilateral and commercial debts with state guarantees amounting to EUR 15 million, restructured as follows:

- Bilateral debts are to be repaid over a period of 17 years, with a grace period of 4 years. The maturity period was extended by an average of 12 years.
- Debts with state guarantees are to be repaid over 12 years, with a grace period of 5 years. The maturity period was extended by an average of 6 years.
- Upon completion of the second phase, the interest rate for all debts was set at 3.59 percent. Given the rising Euribor rate, this new rate offers more favorable terms. The original interest rates for these loans were based on 6-month Euribor with a margin ranging from 1.6 percent to 4.3 percent.

The signed agreement is an umbrella agreement, meaning that separate bilateral agreements must still be negotiated with each involved country (France, Italy, Israel, and the Netherlands).

Additionally, it was agreed that the parties will reconvene in the future to discuss whether payments can be accelerated. This will depend on repayments to bondholders via the Value Recovery Instrument (VRI), ensuring equal treatment of all creditors.

Eximbank of China

The first phase of the restructuring of loans from Eximbank of China was finalized in November and December. This phase involved three types of bilateral debts: buyer's credit, preferential buyer's credit, and concessional loans. The process to achieve this outcome took more than three years.

Similar to the Paris Club, this first phase of restructuring addressed the settlement of arrears up to the end of 2021 and debt service (interest and principal payments) for 2022-2024, which were spread over a longer period.

The signing of the concessional loans was completed in December 2024, following the signing of an updated framework agreement for the provision of bilateral concessional loans between Suriname and China on November 18, 2024.

Table 4 presents an overview of how bilateral restructuring under Phase 1 with China was conducted.

Table 4: Overview of Eximbank Loan Restructuring Phase 1

Type of Loan	Outstanding Debt as of Sept 2024	Arrears as of End 2021	Debt Service 2022-2024	Restructuring Terms
Buyer's Credit	USD 94.6 million	USD 29.2 million	USD 35.3 million	- 60% repayment in 2024 and 40% in 2025 - Repayment term for debt service 2022-2024 is 10 years, with a 5-year grace period. - Interest rate on the total amount reduced from 5.52% to 2.9%.
Preferential Buyer's Credit	USD 93.8 million	USD 0 million	USD 18.4 million	- Repayment term for debt service 2022-2024 is 15 years, with a 5-year grace period. - Interest rate on the total amount reduced from 3% to 1%.
Concessionele Leningen	CNY 2.1 billion (USD 304.1 million)	CNY 178.3 million	CNY 471.5 million	- 60% repayment in 2024 and 40% in 2025. - Repayment term for debt service 2022-2024 is 15 years, with a 5-year grace period. - Interest rate on the total amount reduced from 2% to 1%.

Source: SDMO

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited (ICBC)

In 2015, a loan of USD 65.3 million was secured from the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited (ICBC) for the construction of 70 km of roads in Suriname. As of the end of September 2024, this debt had increased to USD 68.0 million, with arrears amounting to USD 38.1 million. The restructuring of this debt is as follows:

- Arrears will be paid as follows: 40 percent in 2024 and 60 percent in 2025.
- The remaining debt has a term of 9.5 years, with a 1.5-year grace period. The term has been extended by 4 years compared to the original agreement.
- The interest rate on the loan, originally 5 percent, will be reduced to 1.95 percent for the period of November 2024, after which it will return to the original 5 percent.

Israel Discount Bank LTD

On December 16, 2024, Suriname signed four restructuring agreements with Israel Discount Bank LTD. The total value of these restructurings was EUR 10.1 million. The restructuring took place under the following conditions:

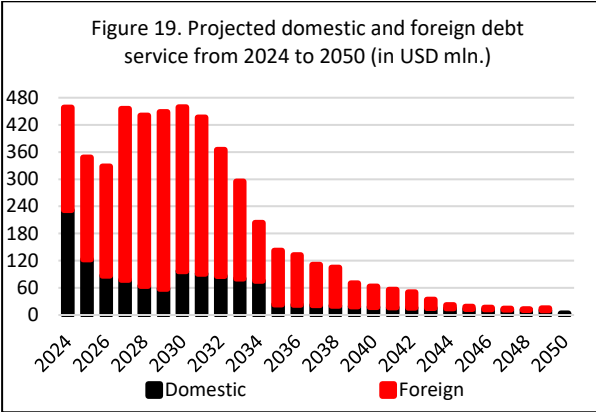
- A 29 percent haircut.
- The interest rate was increased from 1.95 percent to 7.95 percent.
- The term of the remaining debt was set at 8 years, with a 2-year grace period. The original agreements' terms were extended by periods ranging from 5 to 9 years.

Only the commercial debt to Credit Suisse, now UBS, amounting to EUR 11.1 million as of the end of September 2024, remains to be finalized. This will be completed in the first quarter of 2025.

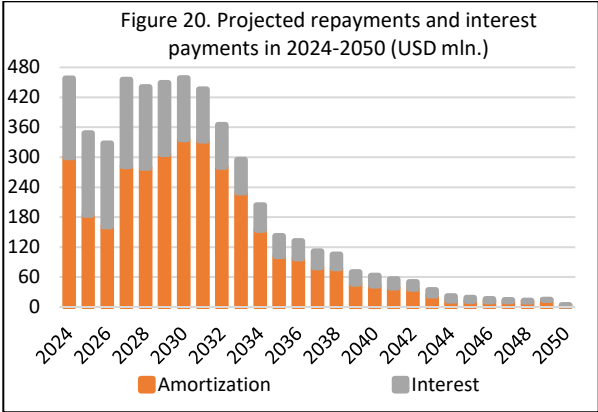
State debt and debt burden projections 2024 – 2050

The following figures show the projections for debt service payments and outstanding debt for the period 2024-2050. These projections reflect the most recent completed debt restructurings, as well as the bonds issued (approximately SRD 8.3 billion) for the recapitalization of the Central Bank of Suriname.

In the recapitalization of the Central Bank of Suriname (CBvS), 35 bonds are issued, which will come into effect on January 1, 2025. Each bond has a nominal value of SRD 239.5 million and an annual interest rate of 9 percent. These instruments are divided into 5 groups, where the maturities of these bonds are respectively 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 years. All the bonds will be effective from January 1, 2025.



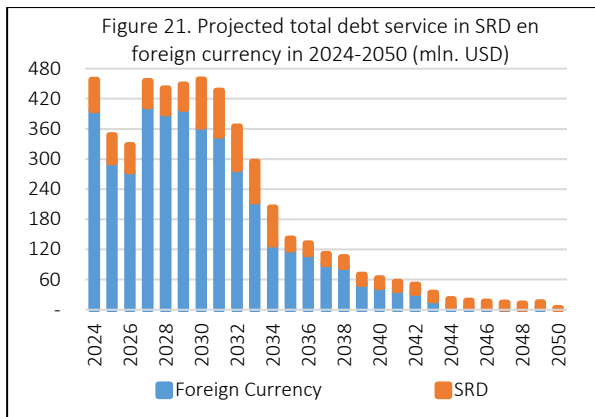
Source: SDMO



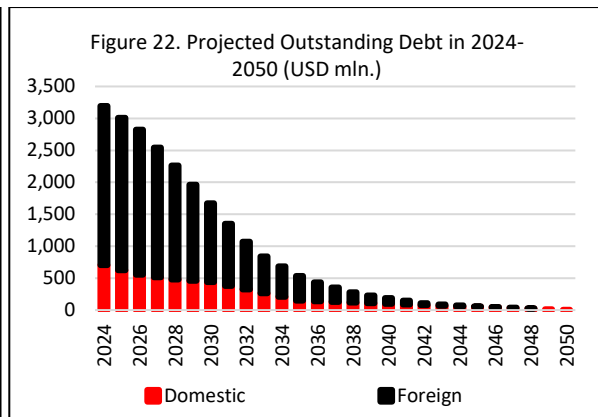
Source: SDMO

Figures 19, 20, and 21 indicate that debt service payments for 2024 are relatively high, amounting to approximately USD 458 million. In 2025, these payments are expected to decrease to around USD 360 million.

The significant share of foreign currency debt is reflected in figure 22. A stable exchange rate is also important for the development of the state debt.



Source: SDMO



Source: SDMO

Credit Rating

On October 22, 2024, Moody's Rating Agency upgraded Suriname's long-term local and foreign currency credit rating from Caa3 to Caa1, with a change in outlook from stable to positive. This upgrade reflects the anticipated economic and fiscal benefits of the GranMorgu offshore oil project. The investment decision by TotalEnergies is expected to lead to strong economic growth and increased government revenues, which will significantly contribute to reducing the debt burden. Additionally, the upgrade acknowledges the debt reduction resulting from fiscal reforms over the past three years, which have led to a primary surplus and a further decline in the debt burden.

In December 2023, Standard & Poor's raised Suriname's foreign and local currency ratings from 'SD' (selective default) to 'CCC+/C' with a stable outlook. This rating was maintained by S&P in December 2024. The unchanged rating reflects several factors. Although Suriname has introduced new debt management procedures, it will take time to fully integrate them. Due to past defaults and uncertainties surrounding elections, the payment culture remains weak. However, further fiscal consolidation, the completion of restructuring agreements, and strengthening of debt management are expected.

Long-term debts of state-owned enterprises, parastatals, and government institutions

In December 2024, the Suriname Debt Management Office published the long-term debts of state-owned enterprises, parastatals, and government institutes on its website.

This publication includes a list of 120 state-owned enterprises, parastatals, and government institutes, which have been screened by the Debt Office based on a defined set of criteria. Of this list, 22 entities have long-term debts.

For 2025, the reporting will be expanded to include both long-term and short-term debts. Additionally, the frequency of reporting will shift from semi-annual to quarterly reports. This is expected to contribute to better management of the debt positions of these entities and minimize risks to public finances.

The debts of the 22 state-owned enterprises with long-term debt, which have been mapped out, are as follows:

Financial sector:

1. Centrale Bank van Suriname,
2. Surinaamse Postspaarbank,
3. Stichting Volkscredietbank.
4. De Nationale Ontwikkelingsbank van Suriname N.V

Non-Financial sector:

5. N.V. Staatsolie Maatschappij Suriname
6. N.V. Energie Bedrijven Suriname
7. Surinaamse Waterleiding Maatschappij
8. N.V. Havenbeheer Suriname
9. Surinaamse Luchtvaart Maatschappij
10. Staatsziekenfonds Suriname
11. Food & Agriculture Industries N.V.
12. Telecommunicatiebedrijf Suriname
13. Surinaamse Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht
14. Canawaima Management Company N.V.
15. Surinaamse Amerikaanse Industriemaatschappij
16. Luchthavenbeheer N.V.
17. Centrale voor Vissershavens in Suriname
18. Bedrijf Geneesmiddelen Voorzieningen Suriname
19. Maritieme Autoriteit Suriname
20. Grasshopper Aluminium Company
21. Civil Aviation Safety Authority Suriname
22. Academisch ziekenhuis Paramaribo

The most recent data presented pertains to December 2023, as shown in Table 5. The long-term debts of the 22 companies amounted to approximately SRD 38.9 billion, or USD 1.0 billion, by the end of 2023. Compared to the previous year, there was a decrease of 2% in the debt position expressed in SRD. In 2023, a total of SRD 4.1 billion in debts were repaid, while SRD 1.4 billion in new debts were incurred.

This decrease is observed in the domestic debts of these companies, particularly in the financial sector, which saw an 80 percent reduction compared to the end of 2022.

Although the total debt decreased in 2023, arrears increased by 3 percent. This increase is related solely to state-owned enterprises in the non-financial sector. The rise in arrears was largely caused by an increase in overdue payments by state-owned enterprises to the government itself.

Institutions with long-term debts to the state include entities such as N.V. Energie Bedrijven Suriname (EBS), Surinaamse Luchtvaartmaatschappij (SLM), Food and Agriculture Industries N.V. (FAI N.V.), Surinaamse Waterleiding Maatschappij (SWM), Civil Aviation Safety Authority Suriname, and Canawaima. The total debt owed to the state as a creditor amounted to SRD 393.2 million, or USD 10.6 million, by the end of 2023.

The long-term external debts of state-owned enterprises, expressed in SRD, increased by 21 percent in December 2023 compared to the previous year. This increase was observed both in

the financial sector, particularly with the Central Bank of Suriname (CBvS), and in the non-financial sector. The rise in debt is attributed to balance of payments support to the CBvS under the IMF-EFF program, while the 17 percent depreciation of the exchange rate in 2023, compared to 2022, contributed to the increase in long-term external debt in the non-financial sector.

Table 5: Long-term debts of state-owned enterprises from 2021-2023 on a cash basis

Date	31 december 2021		31 december 2022		30 june 2023		31 december 2023	
Description	Outstanding debt	Of which arrears	Outstanding debt	Of which arrears	Outstanding debt	Of which arrears	Outstanding debt	Of which arrears
Total debt in billions SRD	39.2	2.6	60.5	4.3	39.5	5.3	38.9	39.2
Domestic debt	27.8	1.6	46.7	2.7	23.0	3.4	22.2	3.6
Financial sector	19.0	-	33.0	-	7.1	-	6.5	-
of which Central Bank of Suriname	2.9	-	3.5	-	3.9	-	3.4	-
Non financial sector	8.9	1.6	13.6	2.7	15.9	3.4	15.7	3.6
of which N.V. Staatsolie maatschappij Suriname	4.1	-	6.1	-	7.2	-	7.1	-
External debt	11.4	1.0	13.8	1.5	16.5	1.9	16.6	1.9
Financial sector	-	-	0.0	-	1.9	-	3.3	-
of which Central Bank of Suriname	-	-	1.1	-	1.9	-	3.3	-
Non financial sector	11.4	1.0	13.8	1.5	14.6	1.9	13.3	1.9
of which N.V. Staatsolie maatschappij Suriname	9.7	-	11.4	-	11.5	-	9.5	-
Total debt in billions USD	1.8	0.1	1.9	0.1	1.1	0.1	1.0	0.1
Domestic debt	1.3	0.1	1.5	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.6	0.1
Financial sector	0.9	-	1.0	-	0.2	-	0.4	-
of which Central Bank of Suriname	0.1	-	0.1	-	0.1	-	0.1	-
Non financial sector	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1
of which N.V. Staatsolie maatschappij Suriname	0.2	-	0.2	-	0.2	-	0.2	-
External debt	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.1
Financial sector	-	-	0.0	-	0.1	-	0.1	-
of which Central Bank of Suriname	-	-	0.0	-	0.1	-	0.1	-
Non financial sector	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.1
of which N.V. Staatsolie maatschappij Suriname	0.5	-	0.4	-	0.3	-	0.1	-
Total debt in billions:								
SRD	1.2	0.1	1.4	0.1	1.6	0.1	1.6	0.1
USD	1.4	0.1	1.3	0.1	0.9	0.1	0.9	0.1
EUR	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
SDR	-	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.1	-
Memo item								
Exchange rate USD/SRD	21.296		31.853		37.587		37.200	
Exchange rate EUR/SRD	24.146		33.89		40.914		40.397	
Exchange rate SDR/SRD	29.805		42.274		49.993		49.763	
eop								

Source: SDMO

APPENDIX: DEBT INDICATORS AND STATISTICS

Table 1. Structure of the Central Government Debt

In percent	2023- Q4	2024- Q1	2024- Q2	2024- Q3
External debt	77	78	78	80
Domestic debt	23	22	22	20
Short term	7	7	6	7
Long term	93	93	94	93
Fixed interest rate	49	48	48	46
Variable interest rate	51	52	52	54
Local currency	14	14	16	15
Foreign currency	86	86	84	85
External loan	57	58	58	60
External Credit Lines	0	0	0	0
External capital markets instruments	20	20	20	20
Domestic long-term debt CBvS	7	8	9	8
Domestic long-term debt Commercial Banks	2	2	2	0
Domestic treasury bills	2	2	1	1
Domestic supplier credits	3	3	3	2
Domestic long-term debt private sector	6	6	7	7
Multilateral external creditors	36	37	38	39
Bilateral external creditors	16	16	16	16
Commercial external creditors	24	25	24	25
CBvS	7	8	9	8
Commercial domestic creditors: Commercial Banks	3	3	2	1
Commercial domestic creditors: Non-banking private sector	12	11	11	11

Source: SDMO

Table 2. Debt/GDP ratios of selected countries in the Caribbean

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024-proj.</u>
Bahamas	74.6	99.7	88.6	81.5	78.7
Barbados	138.2	121.6	113.2	110.8	103.2
Guyana	51.1	43.2	26.5	26.4	25.5
Jamaica	109.7	94.2	77.0	73.3	67.9
Suriname	120.9	76.4	83.1	64.4	85.7
Trinidad & Tobago	60.6	60.0	50.7	56.1	59.0

Source: IMF

Table 3. Effective debt by currency in million units								
December 2023					September 2024			
	Domestic	External	Total	In %	Domestic	External	Total	In %
USD	269.6	2,003.5	2,273.1	67%	174.7	2,024.1	2,198.8	61%
Euro	19.9	120.0	139.9	4%	12.8	117.8	130.6	4%
CNY	0.0	2,093.6	2,093.6	12%	0.0	2,132.7	2,132.7	13%
SDR	0.0	130.7	130.7	5%	0.0	188.0	188.0	7%
SRD	15,028.2	0.0	15,028.2	12%	15,780.9	0.0	15,780.9	14%

Source: SDMO

Table 4. Total outstanding external debt including arrears by creditor on a cash base in million USD								
Creditor	2023-Q4		2024-Q1		2024-Q2		2024-Q3	
	Total debt	Of which arrear	Total debt	Of which arrear	Total debt	Of which arrear	Total debt	Of which arrear
Multilateral Creditors	1,229.7	0.0	1,254.7	0.0	1,277.1	0.0	1,315.1	0.0
EIB	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0
IADB	847.1	0.0	845.9	0.0	838.9	0.0	842.8	0.0
ISDB	41.3	0.0	46.4	0.0	46.4	0.0	51.0	0.0
CDB	115.9	0.0	113.5	0.0	114.2	0.0	111.7	0.0
OPEC	30.1	0.0	29.8	0.0	29.5	0.0	28.6	0.0
World Bank	19.3	0.0	20.3	0.0	25.4	0.0	25.8	0.0
IMF	175.4	0.0	198.3	0.0	222.2	0.0	255.0	0.0
Bilateral Creditors:	549.3	125.3	551.5	149.3	541.2	140.5	559.4	168.4
France	31.8	0.0	31.2	0.0	30.9	0.0	32.3	0.0
China	482.7	125.1	485.7	149.3	475.7	140.5	492.5	168.4
India	34.8	0.2	34.5	0.0	34.5	0.0	34.5	0.0
Commercial Creditors:	825.2	65.7	824.3	46.6	826.0	52.0	840.7	54.7
Capital market instrument issued through Oppenheimer	659.9	0.0	663.5	0.0	663.5	0.0	673.4	0.0
ING Bank N.V.	11.2	0.0	11.0	0.0	10.9	0.0	11.4	0.0
Israel Discount Bank	20.1	8.7	19.8	9.2	19.6	9.3	20.8	10.4
Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena	32.8	0.0	32.1	0.0	31.8	0.0	33.3	0.0
ABN-AMRO Bank N.V.	20.9	20.9	17.3	0.0	17.1	0.0	17.9	0.0
Credit Suisse	12.3	3.3	12.1	4.6	12.0	4.6	12.6	6.1
China Industrial and Commercial Bank	65.5	32.8	65.5	32.8	68.0	38.1	68.0	38.1
KBC bank	2.6	0.0	3.1	0.0	3.1	0.0	3.2	0.0
Total outstanding debt	2,604.1	191.0	2,630.8	195.9	2,644.5	192.5	2,715.2	223.1

Source: SDMO

Table 5. Total outstanding domestic debt inclusive arrears by debt instrument on cash base in million SRD

Debt instrument	2023-IV		2024-I		2024-II		2024-III	
	Total debt	Of which arrear	Total debt	Of which arrear	Total debt	Of which arrear	Total debt	Of which arrear
Treasury bills	439.8	354.8	153.7	72.5	123.6	65.6	94.5	65.6
Treasury notes	2,655.8	532.3	1,891.3	462.0	1,226.1	234.4	998.1	237.8
CBvS Advances & short-term debts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leningen:								
CBvS Consolidated debt	9,291.5	-	9,144.8	-	9,029.1	-	8,924.8	-
Short-term loans of commercial banks	957.4	-	108.4	18.6	122.6	21.9	400.3	-
Long-term loans of commercial banks	1,642.4	957.4	2,218.5	68.3	1,677.5	100.6	1,484.7	5.2
Long-term loans of Private sector	1,855.6	-	1,172.2	-	772.3	-	775.2	-
Supplier credit for infrastructural public works	4,079.4	134.9	3,774.9	185.1	3,149.5	136.1	2,593.5	157.2
Supplier debt	4,942.3	-	4,837.8	-	5,964.1	-	6,381.4	-
Total outstanding debt	25,864.1	1,979.3	23,301.7	806.6	22,064.8	558.8	21,652.3	465.9

Source: SDMO

Table 6. Total external and domestic debt by economic sector in USD million, excluding Supplier's Debt

Sector	Foreign	Domestic
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	58.0	-
Budget Support	1,180.7	333.7
<i>incl. CBvS</i>	-	297.3
<i>incl. Treasury Papers</i>	-	36.4
Construction	124.5	-
Defense	14.2	-
Education & Training	91.2	-
Energy (electricity) & Gas	215.2	25.6
Financial & Insurance activities	50.0	19.1
Health & Social work	57.4	1.3
Information & Communication	93.9	-
Other	35.1	-
Public Administration	258.0	-
Roads & bridges	522.5	86.4
Water Supply	14.5	-
Real estate, renting & business	-	1.8
Total	2,715.2	467.9

Source: SDMO