



# BUREAU VOOR DE STAATSSCHULD

## Suriname Debt Management Office

Quarterly Debt report

4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2024

### Development of the Central Government Debt

February 28, 2025

#### Introduction

The Suriname Debt Management Office (SDMO) started in 2013 with the publication of the quarterly report on the development of the National Debt. This report has been improved in 2022 by presenting more relevant analyses, tables, and graphs of debt and other economic indicators. Effort will be made to place this report on the website of SDMO within 4 weeks after the publication of the quarterly statistics.

If you have any questions after reading the report, you can contact the Suriname Debt Management Office by email at [info@sdmo.org](mailto:info@sdmo.org) or by phone at 552644 or 552645.

#### Summary

- The level of the central government debt as of the end of 2024 amounted to USD 3.5 billion, representing a 5 percent increase compared to the end of 2023, when the debt stood at USD 3.3 billion. The increase was due to higher disbursements than principle payments.
- The debt expressed in SRD amounted to SRD 122.9 billion as of the end of December 2024 and increased significantly by 163 percent compared to the end of 2020.
- The price of the Eurobond fell to 90 cents on the dollar until January 2025 but then increased to 96 cents on the dollar in February 2025 due to improved market conditions. The Value Recovery Instrument (VRI) has stabilized at 90 cents on the dollar.
- The total disbursements on government debt in the period 2020-2024 amounted to approximately USD 2 billion. In 2020, the highest disbursements of about USD 800 million were recorded, of which 82.4 percent came from domestic financing through the central bank. Most disbursements in 2020 took place in the first half of that year.
- In 2024, disbursements amounted to USD 344.5 million, mostly from external financing.
- The total debt service, excluding payments on supplier debt, increased from USD 154 million in 2020 to USD 385 million in 2024. The increase is due to the completion of the restructuring process with most creditors by 2024 and the clearance of arrears on domestic debt. When payments on supplier debt are included, a total debt service paid in 2024 was approximately USD 600 million.
- In the fourth quarter of 2024, Suriname attracted six new loans of USD 349 million, five of which were from the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and one for budget support from the IMF. During the period 2020-2024, approximately USD 2.4 billion in new loan agreements were signed, of which about 65 percent were signed in the first half of 2020.
- Suriname received the "Sovereign Restructuring of the Year 2024" award from LatinFinance for the successful restructuring of USD 1.5 billion of its external debt. The award was granted to the country on January 30, 2025, in recognition of successfully completing the restructuring process over the past year.

## Coverage of 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.

## Debt position and debt-to-GDP ratios as of the end of 2024

At the end of 2024, the central External government debt amounted to USD 3.5 billion (tables 1 and 2, figure 1), which corresponds to SRD 122.9 billion. As shown in table 1, the debt expressed in SRD increased by approximately 16 percent by the end of December 2024 compared to September 2024. This increase is attributable to the following factors:

- ❖ In the fourth quarter of 2024, the positive balance of disbursements (USD 238.6 million) minus principle payments (USD 99.2 million) resulted in a net debt increase of USD 139.4 million.
- ❖ The high share of foreign currency within the total government debt portfolio, which accounts for approximately 87 percent, combined with the depreciation of the SRD against the USD of about 14 percent.
- ❖ An increase of approximately 17 percent in so-called “supplier debt” (“other accounts payable”) in December 2024 compared to the third quarter of 2024.

<b>Table 1. Government Debt on cash base and Debt to GDP ratio's</b>				
	<b>2024-Q1</b>	<b>2024-Q2</b>	<b>2024-Q3</b>	<b>2024-Q4</b>
Domestic debt in SRD billion	92.7	81.9	84.4	100.7
Total debt in SRD billion	23.3	22.1	21.7	22.2
<b>Government debt in SRD billion</b>	<b>116.0</b>	<b>103.9</b>	<b>106.0</b>	<b>122.9</b>
<b>Government debt in USD billion</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.5</b>
Foreign debt-to-GDP ratio	73.0	64.4	66.4	79.2
Domestic debt-to-GDP ratio	18.3	17.4	17.1	17.5
<b>Total statutory debt-to-GDP ratio</b>	<b>91.3</b>	<b>81.8</b>	<b>83.5</b>	<b>96.7</b>
<b>Total debt-to-GDP ratio based on the estimated GDP of the respective year</b>	<b>91.3</b>	<b>70.4</b>	<b>71.8</b>	<b>83.2</b>
<b>Memorandum items</b>				
Exchange rate SRD/USD (e.o.p)	35.3	31.0	31.1	35.4
GDP 2023 in SRD billion - ABS data	127.1	127.1	127.1	127.1
GDP 2024 in SRD billion - IMF estimate	127.1	147.6	147.6	147.6

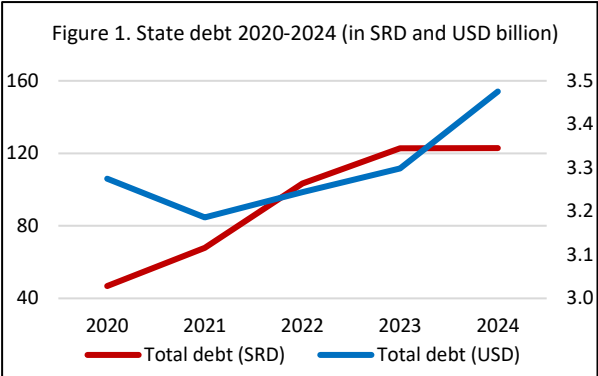
Source: SDMO, CBvS, ABS, IMF e.o.p.= end of period GDP in current market prices

As of the end of December 2024, the total central government debt expressed in USD amounted to approximately USD 3.5 billion. Furthermore, the external debt stood at USD 2.8 billion (SRD 100.7 billion), representing a 19 percent increase compared to the end of September 2024. This increase is a result from new disbursements on loans from multilateral creditors like the IaDB and IsDB, including the seventh tranche from the IMF.

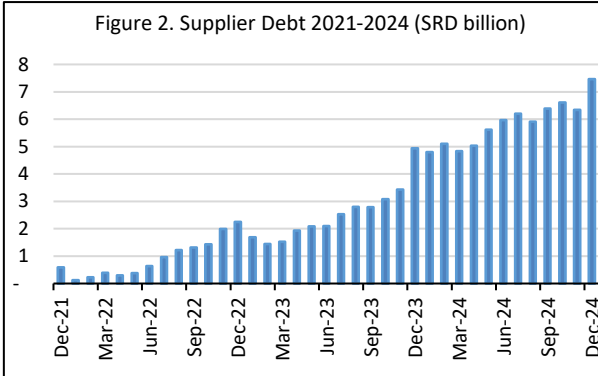
Domestic debt also saw an increase of approximately 3 percent during this period, primarily due to a 17 percent rise in "supplier debt" compared to September 2024. This debt component, which consist of outstanding invoices for goods and services delivered to the government, amounted to SRD 7.5 billion as of the end of December 2024 (figure 2).

Compared to 2023, the central government debt expressed in SRD in 2024, increased only minimally by 0.1 percent (table 2). In 2024, the external debt grew by approximately 9.4 percent compared to 2023, as disbursements exceeded principle payments, while domestic debt declined by approximately 3.9 percent in 2024 relative to 2023. The decrease in domestic debt was mainly driven by the appreciation of the exchange rate during this period by approximately 4.8 percent.

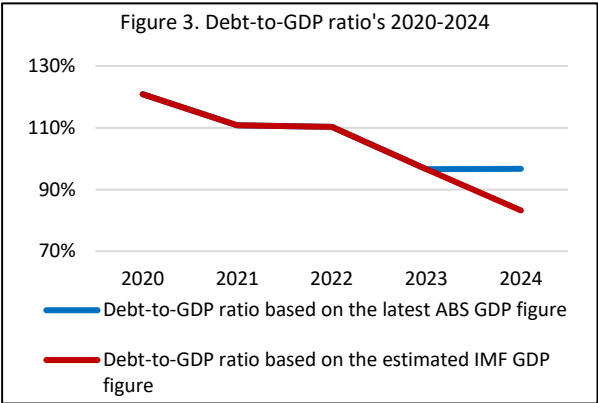
The total government debt expressed in SRD at the end of 2024 increased significantly by 162.6 percent compared to 2020 (figure 1, table 2). This sharp rise in government debt during this period was primarily due to the depreciation of the SRD against the USD by as much as 148 percent in this period.



Source: SDMO



Source: SDMO



Source: SDMO

The statutory debt ceiling is set at 60 percent of GDP, with an allocation of 35 percent for external debt and 25 percent for domestic debt. At the end of 2024, the total statutory debt-to-GDP ratio stood at 96.7 percent (figure 3). This calculation is based on the latest GDP figure reported by the ABS for the year 2023 of SRD 127.1 billion.

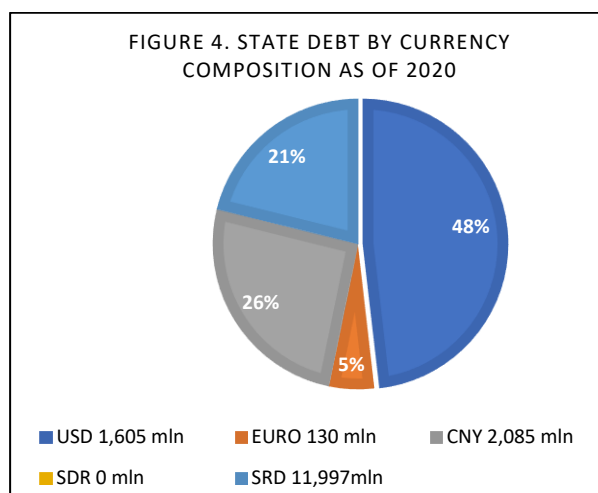
The actual burden of the central government debt on the total economy at the end of 2024 is estimated at approximately 83.2 percent (figure 3). The ratio has significantly decreased by about 40 percent compared to the end of 2020, when the central government debt-to-GDP ratio stood at 121 percent. The increase in GDP in 2024 compared to 2020, driven by the gradually growing economy since 2022, is the reason for this significant decline in the ratio.

<b>Table 2. Government Debt on cash base and Debt to GDP ratio's</b>					
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
Domestic debt in SRD billion	29.8	21.0	25.5	25.9	22.2
Total debt in SRD billion	17.0	46.8	77.8	96.9	100.7
<b>Government debt in SRD billion</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>103.3</b>	<b>122.7</b>	<b>122.9</b>
<b>Government debt in USD billion</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.5</b>
Foreign debt-to-GDP ratio	76.9	34.3	27.2	20.4	17.5
Domestic debt-to-GDP ratio	43.9	76.5	83.1	76.2	79.2
<b>Total statutory debt-to-GDP ratio</b>	<b>120.8</b>	<b>110.8</b>	<b>110.3</b>	<b>96.6</b>	<b>96.7</b>
<b>Total debt-to-GDP ratio based on the estimated GDP of the respective year</b>	<b>120.8</b>	<b>110.8</b>	<b>110.3</b>	<b>96.6</b>	<b>83.2</b>
<b>Memorandum items</b>					
Exchange rate SRD/USD (e.o.p)	14.3	21.3	31.9	37.2	35.4
GDP 2023 in SRD billion - ABS data	38.7	61.2	93.7	127.1	127.1
GDP 2024 in SRD billion - IMF estimate	38.7	61.2	93.7	127.1	147.6

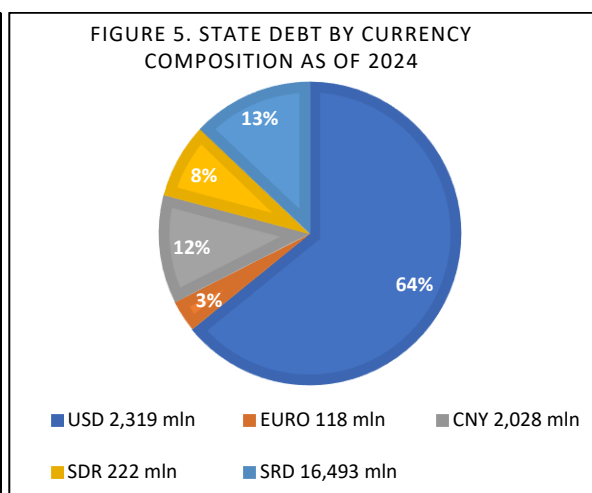
Source: SDMO, CBvS, ABS, IMF e.o.p.= end of period GDP in current market prices

The currency composition of the central government debt changed during the period 2020-2024 (figures 4 and 5). By the end of 2024, the share of foreign currency debt stood at 88 percent, with the majority of the debt denominated in USD, accounting for approximately 64 percent of the total debt portfolio.

In 2020, the share of foreign currency debt was 9 percentage points lower, at around 79 percent. Overall, SRD-denominated debt has decreased since 2020. The share of SDR-denominated debt increased in 2024 compared to 2020 due to the tranches received under the IMF-EFF program.



Source: SDMO

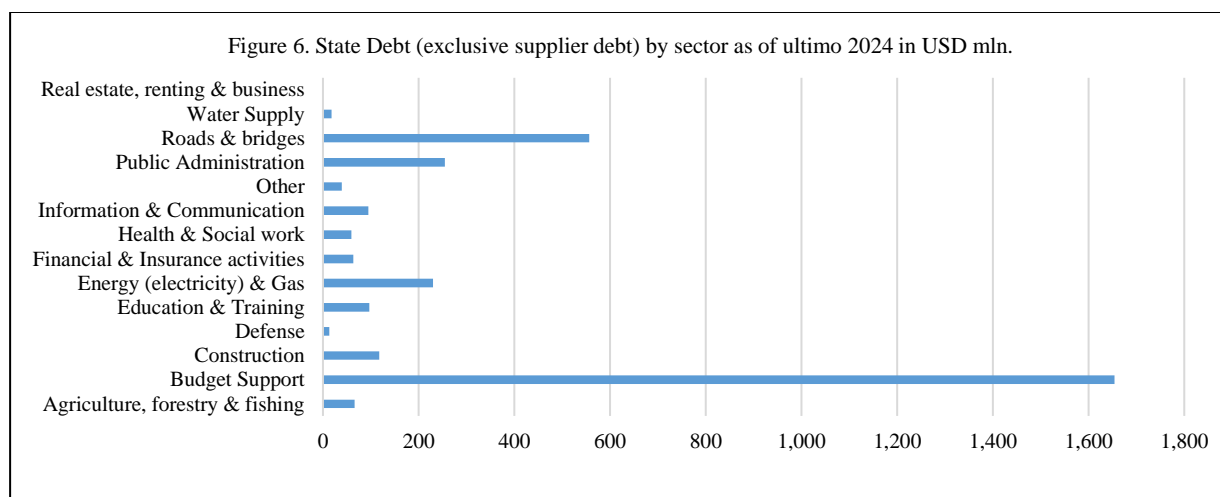


Source: SDMO

## Allocation of Government Debt by Sector

The allocation of the central government debt (excluding supplier debt) as of the end of 2024 was primarily designated for budget support for (current) expenditures, accounting for approximately 51 percent. This is partly due to the IMF-EFF program, which provides budget support to the government to implement the reform program.

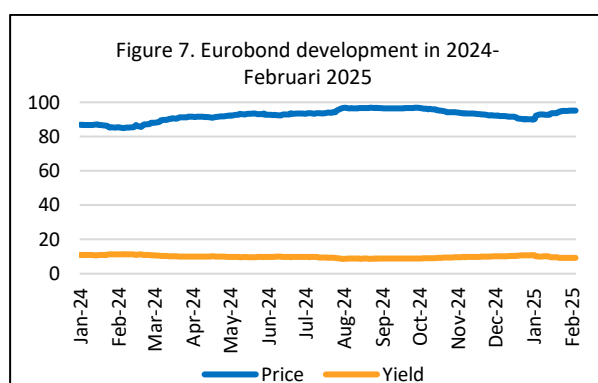
Additionally, around 21 percent of the debt was allocated to infrastructure and 7 percent to the energy sector. The allocation of government debt to key social sectors such as, education, healthcare, and drinking water supply amounted to approximately 5 percent, while around 2 percent was assigned to productive sectors.



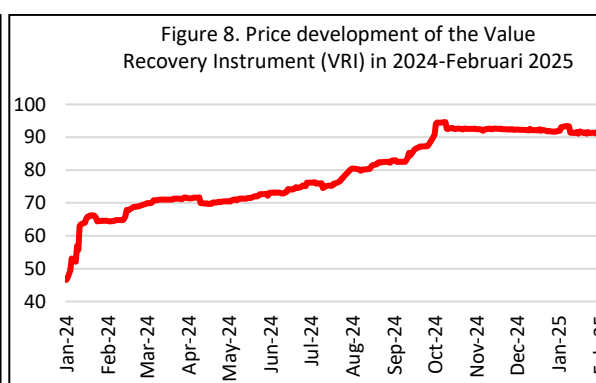
Source: SDMO

## Price/Yield of International Capital Market Instruments: Eurobond and VRI

Figure 7 illustrates the development of the price and yield of the restructured Eurobond up to February 2025. The price of the Eurobond continued to decline until January 2025, reaching 90 cents on the dollar. However, in February 2025, the price rose again to the October 2024 level, reaching 96 cents on the dollar. Due to the inverse relationship between price and yield, a visible decline in yield can be observed from February 2025 onward. The price recovery in February 2025 may be the result of improved international market conditions.



Source: Bloomberg with adjustments by SDMO



Source: Bloomberg with adjustments by SDMO

Since November 2024, the Value Recovery Instrument (VRI) appears to have stabilize around 90 cents on the dollar (figure 8). Market confidence was strengthened by the final investment

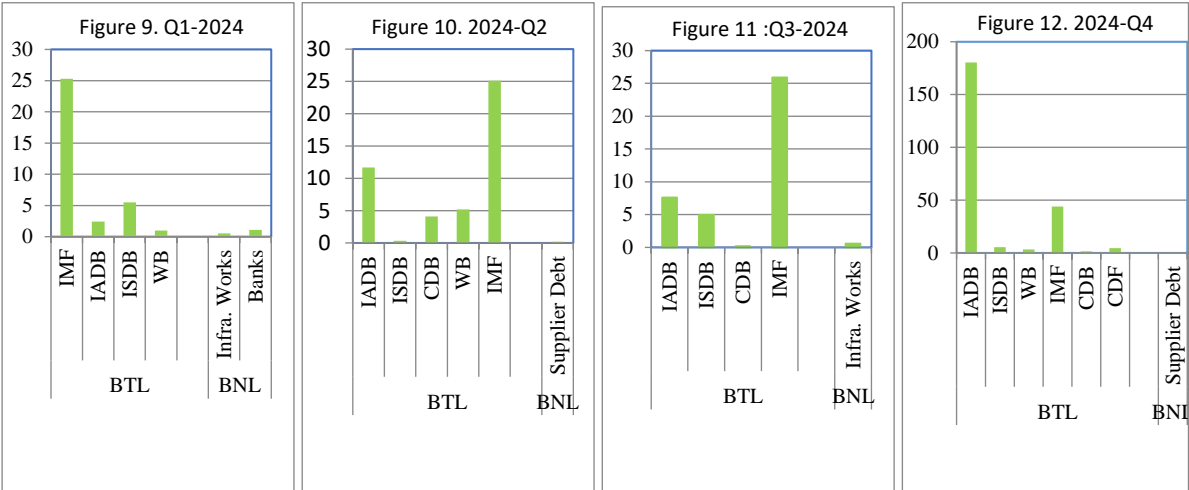
decision (FID) made by TotalEnergies at the beginning of October to develop Block 58 in Suriname’s offshore oil area.

On December 31, 2024, the President of Suriname ratified the amendment to the Law on the Savings and Stabilization Fund and the Law on Public Financial Management, following approval by Parliament. These laws are part of the reforms aimed at strengthening the fiscal framework and reducing the impact of mineral volatility, including offshore oil. The new regulations seek to prevent budget deficits, build financial buffers, and save a portion of oil revenues for future generations. The amendment of the law is also a commitment to the holders of the Value Recovery Instrument and a signal to creditors that Suriname will meet its payment obligations.

### Disbursements and payments

In the fourth quarter of 2024, total disbursements on loans amounted to USD 238.6 million (figure 12).

#### Disbursements in USD million



Source: SDMO BTL = external debt BNL= domestic debt

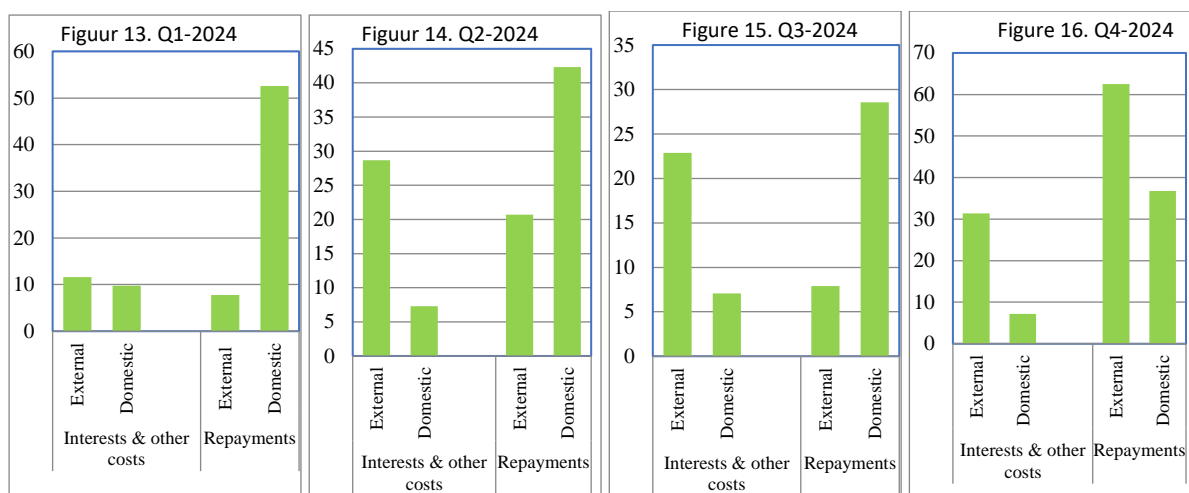
Of this amount, more than 99 percent came from external financing, while less than 1 percent came from domestic sources. The largest foreign disbursements were on IaDB loans amounting to USD 180.3 million, followed by disbursements on the IMF-EFF tranche of USD 43.8 million (figure 12). Domestic disbursements were related to the finance of infrastructure projects.

#### Debt service in USD million

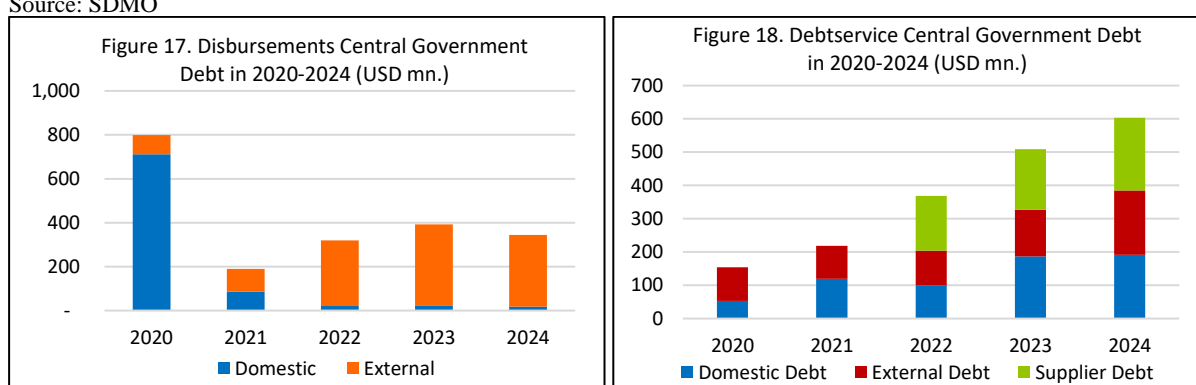
In the fourth quarter of 2024, total debt service payments amounted to USD 137.8 million (figure 16). This represents a 107 percent increase compared to the third quarter, when debt service payments totaled USD 66.4 million. Most payments in the last quarter of 2024 were on external debt.

In figures 17 and 18, the annual development for the period 2020-2024 is presented for disbursements and total debt service payments on the central government debt.





Source: SDMO



Source: SDMO

Source: SDMO

During the period 2020-2024, total disbursements amounted to approximately USD. Most of the disbursements on the central government debt occurred in 2020, of approximately USD 800 million, with the majority being domestic debt disbursements.

Of this amount, about USD 659 million came from the CBvS (Central Bank of Suriname) under the consolidated debt and advances taken to facilitate transfers to the population during the COVID-19 pandemic. The remaining portion of the domestic disbursements, approximately USD 51.9 million, was primarily used for infrastructure projects, supplemented by the issuance of treasury bills to finance the government's current expenditures.

In 2021, domestic disbursements were advances from the CBvS worth SRD 250 million for transfer the Surinamese population. Additionally, funds were drawn and used for infrastructure projects and the issuance of treasury bills to commercial banks were used to cover the government's current expenditures.

During the years 2022-2024, most disbursements were related to external debt, primarily budget support under the IMF-EFF program. Domestic debt disbursements remained limited, as various projects were temporarily stopped due to government reforms under the IMF program. In 2024, total disbursements amounted to USD 344.5 million.

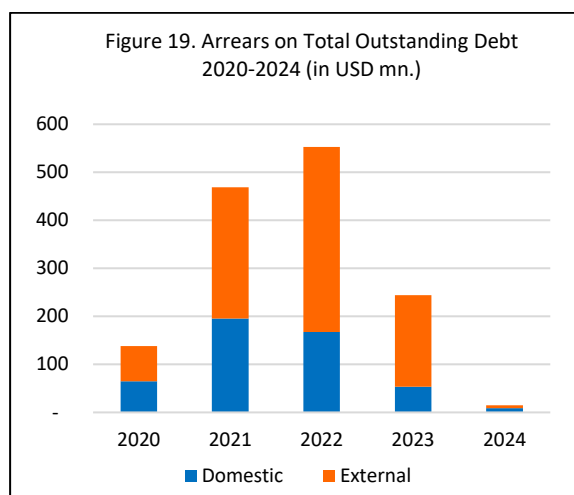
Looking at debt service payments, these increased over the respective period. The completion of debt restructuring with various foreign creditors, as well as the clearance of arrears on domestic debt since the last quarter of 2023, contributed to this rise. Total debt service payments, excluding "supplier debt," amounted to USD 154 million in 2020 and increased to USD 385 million in



2024. Additionally, significant payments were made on "supplier debt" during 2022-2024. Payments on "supplier debt" amounted to USD 165 million in 2022 and rose to USD 218 million. Including payments on "supplier debt," total debt service payments in 2024 amounted to approximately USD 603 million.

### **Arrears and Delayed Payments**

The completion of debt restructuring with various creditors during 2020-2024 is also reflected in the development of arrears and delayed payments on the central government debt.



Source: SDMO

<b>Table 3. Arrears/Delayed Payments on the Central Government's Outstanding Debt in 2020-2024 (USD mn.)</b>					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>External</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>Multilateral</i>	14	0	1	-	-
<i>Bilateral</i>	34	69	97	125	-
<i>Commercial</i>	24	204	288	66	6
<b>Domestic</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>9</b>
<i>CBvS</i>	-	116	101	-	-
<i>Treasury paper</i>	17	39	49	24	4
<i>Banks</i>	23	38	16	26	0
<i>Infra. projects</i>	25	2	2	4	5

This is clearly reflected in figure 19 and table 3. At the end of 2024, total arrears amounted to USD 15 million, of which USD 6 million related to external debt. This concerns the still unresolved restructuring of the commercial debt with Credit Suisse.

The remaining USD 9 million in arrears/delayed payments pertained to domestic debt, mainly debt for infrastructure projects that were paid one month later. The delayed payment on treasury bills involved the roll-over of a treasury bill at DSB Bank, which was completed in January. Meanwhile, the arrears on treasury bill obligations to the Pension Fund Suriname were fully settled in January and February 2025.

### **New Debt incurred in the fourth quarter of 2025**

In the fourth quarter of 2024, Suriname signed five new loan agreements with the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) of a total amount of USD 305 million and an additional budget support loan from the IMF of SDR 33.6 million.

The allocation of these loans is aimed at various strategic development goals, including budget support, education, spatial planning, social protection and poverty reduction, and the development of Indigenous communities.

Table 5 presents an overview of all loans incurred during the period 2020-2024, split between domestic and external loans. The overview shows that approximately USD 2.4 billion in loans were incurred during this period, with USD 884.6 million from external creditors and USD 1,546.1 million from domestic creditors.

<b>Table 4. New Loans Incurred in the fourth quarter of 2024</b>					
<b>Creditor/Loan</b>	<b>Agreement date</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Duration</b>
IaDB-Fiscal Sustainability Program for Econ. Developm.II	11/06/2024	USD 150 million	Restoring Fiscal Sustainability and Stimulating Economic Growth in Suriname (Budget Support))	SOFR Based interest + margin	20 years, 5,5 years grace.
IaDB-Skills for Growth: Improving Education Opportunities and Competitiveness	11/08/2024	USD 40 million	Improving Educational Opportunities and Competitiveness	SOFR Based interest + margin	25 years, 5,5 years grace.
IaDB-Strengthening Spatial Planning and Environmental Management in Suriname	12/16/2024	USD 30 million	Enhancing Suriname's Institutional Capacity for Land Management	SOFR Based interest + margin	22,5 years, 8 years grace.
IaDB-Support to Safety Nets for Vulnerable Populations in Suriname	12/16/2024	USD 40 million	Poverty Reduction in Suriname through Expansion of Social Protection	SOFR Based interest + margin	25 years, 5,5 years grace.
IaDB-Bio-Economy Empowerment in Suriname's Indigenous Communities through access to Water, Energy and telecommunications	12/16/2024	USD 45 million	Promoting Socio-Economic Development of Amazon Villages in Suriname	SOFR Based interest + margin	23,5 years, 7 years grace.
IMF Promissory Note-Budget Support	12/24/2024	SDR 33,6 million	Budget Support	SDR interest rate + margin	10 years, 4,5 years grace

Source: SDMO

Furthermore, the total amount of new loans incurred in the first half of 2020 amounted to approximately USD 1.578 billion (97.5 percent of 2020). This represents 65 percent of the total amount of new loans incurred in the period 2020-2024.

<b>Table 5. New Loans Incurred by Creditor in 2020-2024 (USD mn.)</b>					
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Incurred External Loans:</b>					
Inter American Development Bank	40.0		160.0	58.0	222.0
Islamic Development Bank	2.2				47.7
Caribbean Development Bank	8.2				
Caricom Development Fund					10.0
India	35.8				
KBC			3.4		
Internationaal Monetair Fonds		55.1	20.0	102.1	120.1
<b>Total Amount of New Loans</b>	<b>86.2</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>183.4</b>	<b>160.1</b>	<b>399.8</b>

<b>Incurred Domestic Loans:</b>					
<b><u>Banks:</u></b>					
CBvS	1,290.5	13.5			
DSB	45.2				
Hakrinbank	22.9				
Republic bank	10.0				
NTFM	7.3				
Trustbank Amanah	2.0			1.1	
VCB	4.0				
<b><u>Local Contractors:</u></b>					
Baitali	29.8				
Tjongalanga	17.5				
Kuldipsingh	52.5				
NUB	16.5				
Rubis	33.3				
<b>Total Amount of New Loans</b>	<b>1,531.5</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>1,617.7</b>	<b>68.6</b>	<b>183.4</b>	<b>161.2</b>	<b>399.8</b>

Source: SDMO

Among the significant amount of domestic loans/debts incurred in 2020, the largest debt was attracted from the Central Bank of Suriname (CBvS), amounting to approximately USD 1,290.5 million. This includes the consolidated debt to the CBvS, valued at SRD 8.5 billion, signed on April 28 between the government state and the bank.

Addition advances were received under article 21 of the Banking Act, of an amount of SRD 648.8 million on May 4, 2020. Further advances were received under the State of Emergency Act, of SRD 400 million and SRD 250 million respectively, which were drawn on May 27, 2020, and November 2, 2020.

Of the new credits received from the banking sector of approximately USD 87.8 million, about 93.8 percent were incurred in the first half of the year 2020, to cover the government's current expenses. Of the new agreements with local contractors for infrastructure projects and the loan from Rubis of approximately USD 33.4 million, 77.7 percent were signed in the first half of 2020.

Between 2020 and 2024, a total of USD 884.6 million in external loans were incurred. The majority of these loans came from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), which provided USD 480 million in total. By the end of December 2024, the IDB became the largest creditor of the country, with a debt of approximately USD 1.0 billion.

The total lending from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was USD 297.3 million. Other significant international creditors included the Islamic Development Bank (USD 49.9 million) and India, which provided a loan of USD 35.8 million in 2020. However, this loan was cancelled due to the arrears and debt restructuring on other loans that had already been disbursed in 2023.

In 2024, the government signed the recapitalization plan for the CBvS for SRD 9.3 billion, divided into SRD 1 billion as a financial injection and SRD 8.3 billion financing through the issuance of government bonds. This recapitalization plan is part of the IMF-EFF program and is crucial for creating a financially stable and reliable central bank, which is expected to have a positive effect on the overall financial sector. The issuance of government bonds took place on January 1, 2025. The financial injection was initially planned for 2024 but will be finalized in February 2025.

## Debt restructuring

The restructuring process of Suriname within the IMF-EFF program is almost finalized and can be presented as follows:

Year	Creditor	Description
2022	Paris Club creditors	Phase 1 agreement signed in June covering arrears up to and including 2021 and debt service payments for 2022-2024. Bilateral agreements completed in 2022-2023.
2023	India	Restructuring of credit lines and buyer's credit completed in March and June.
	Eurobond creditors	Finalized in December with a 29 percent haircut on the restructured Eurobond and the creation of a Value Recovery Instrument (VRI).
2024	ABN-AMRO	Finalized in March with a 25 percent haircut and restructuring on commercial terms similar to the bondholders, but without a VRI.
	Paris Club creditors	Phase 2 agreement signed in October concerning debt restructuring as of January 1, 2025. It has been determined that when the VRI is paid out to bondholders in the future, parties will reconvene to assess whether debt service payments can be accelerated as indicated in the original agreements. Bilateral agreements with individual creditors have not yet been finalized.
	China	Phase 1: Agreement signed with Exim bank of China creditors in November and December.
	Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC)	In November, the process was completed with the total debt restructured including arrears, in line with the restructuring terms of the bilateral creditors.
	Israel Discount Bank	Finalized in December with a 29 percent haircut and restructuring similar to the bondholders, but without a VRI instrument.

Source: SDMO

What still needs to be finalized in the external debt restructuring is:

- Commercial debt Credit Suisse (UBS). The settlement is expected to take place in the first quarter of 2025.
- Second phase restructuring with China, restructuring of the debt position as of January 1, 2025, in line with the Paris Club.
- Bilateral agreements with Paris Club creditors on phase II still need to be signed.

Due to the successful debt restructuring of its external debt, Suriname has received the "Sovereign Restructuring of the Year 2024" award from LatinFinance. The organization is a leading financial platform and magazine focused on providing information related to capital markets, investments, and economic developments in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Through this award, Suriname has gained international recognition for the successful completion of a debt restructuring worth approximately USD 1.5 billion. This restructuring has led to a significant reduction in the debt burden and has contributed to a more stable macroeconomic position for the country within its economic reform program.

The editors of LatinFinance also recognized that Suriname's restructuring process stood out from other countries for the following reasons:

- ✓ Suriname is the first country to have successfully restructured its foreign debt in the period following COVID.
- ✓ Suriname was successful in restructuring its debt with a variety of creditors. Previous restructurings in the region, including those in Argentina and Ecuador, were only linked to a specific creditor group, namely bondholders. In Suriname's case, the successful debt restructuring took place with all foreign creditors, including bondholders, commercial banks, members of the Paris Club, China, and India.
- ✓ Finally, the positions of the IMF and bondholders regarding the country's growth were very different, leading to greater complexity in the negotiations. To align the IMF's analysis with the bondholders' position, the Republic of Suriname, advised by Lazard and White & Case, introduced an innovative instrument, the oil-dependent Value Recovery Instrument (VRI), which allows bondholders to recover their nominal haircut (debt reduction) in the event of future oil production.

The debt restructuring process with domestic creditors was as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Creditor</b>	<b>Description</b>
2021	Local contractors: Kuldipsingh, Baitali, Tjongalanga, N.V. Nationaal Uitvoeringsbedrijf, Aannemingsbedrijf Pahlad, N.V APS, S. MAIN Transport NV, and RUBIS West Indies Limited.	With these contractors, a restructuring of arrears for completed work was carried out.
2023	CBvS	The consolidated debt, signed in July, has been fully restructured, and outstanding advances have been settled.
	DSB	The first restructuring of the loan to cover outstanding payments by the government took place in January 2023. This loan was restructured again in January 2024 due to liquidity issues faced by the government.
	Local investors of treasury bills: DSB, Hakrinbank, Pension Fund, CBvS, Grassalco, Pension Fund Suriname, VCB, NOB, Finabank, Surichange Bank, Pension Fund SWM, Pension Fund DSB, EBS, Global Equipment, Natural Stone, Nannan Panday, Hoopraadj, Chotelal.	Starting from the last quarter of 2023 and in 2024, the arrears on treasury bills have been rolled over/restructured and/or settled.
	Hakrinbank, Finabank	In the last quarter of 2023, the arrears on loans were restructured.

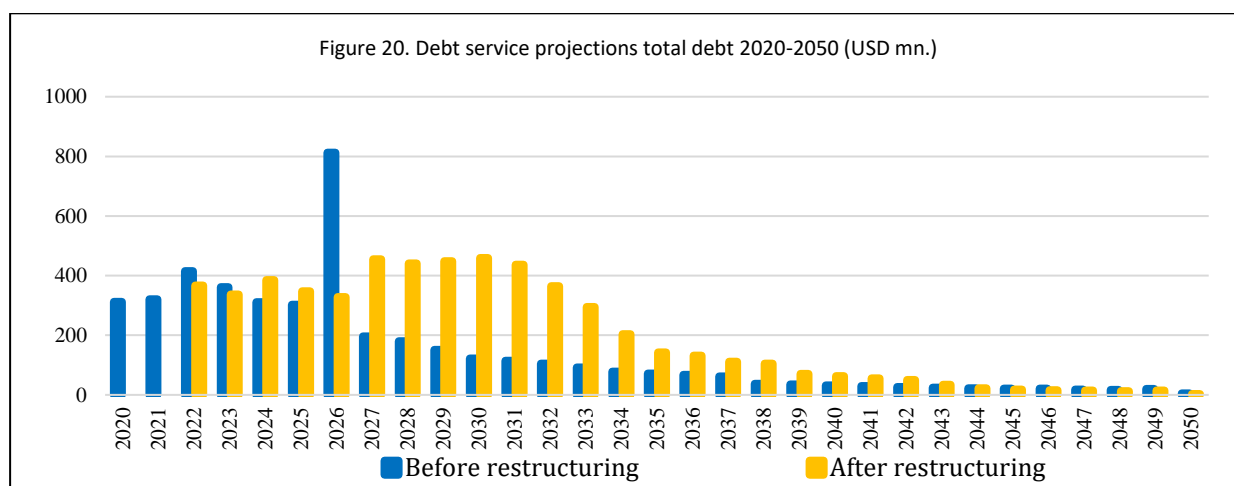
2024	Republic Bank	The restructuring took place in May and involved three credit facilities: SRD 75 million, EUR 3.5 million, and USD 10 million.
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Bron: SDMO

The success of the restructuring program, particularly in clearing arrears, implementing the reform program, and the prospects of future oil production, also resulted in an improved credit rating for the country.

Moody's raised the long-term credit rating from Caa3 to Caa1, with a outlook upgraded from stable to positive. Similarly, Standard & Poor's (S&P) improved the foreign and local currency rating from 'SD' (selective default) to 'CCC+/C' in December 2023, and this rating was maintained in 2024.

The debt restructuring has led to a better distribution of debt service payments, as shown in figure 20.

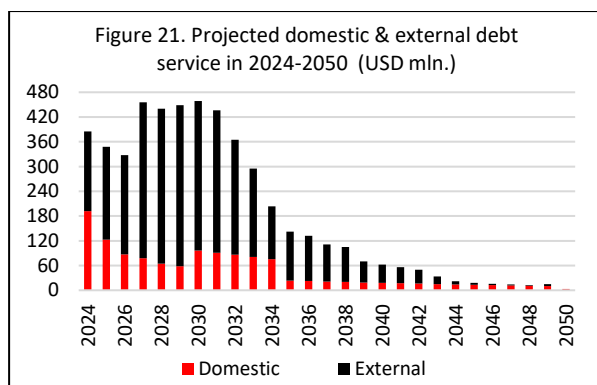


Bron: SDMO

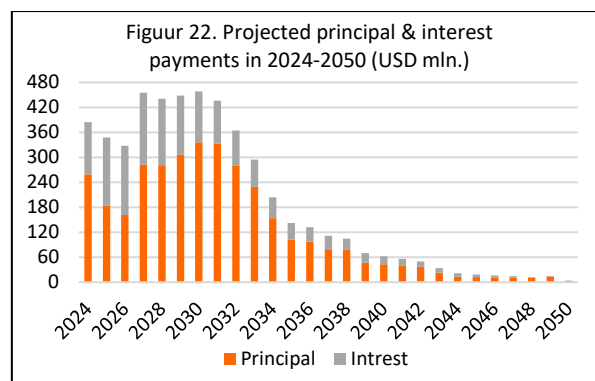
## Central government debt and debt service projections 2024-2050

The figures 21 to 24 show the projections for debt service payments and outstanding debt for the period 2024-2050. These projections incorporate the latest 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 were issued, that became effective on January 1, 2025. Each bond has a nominal value of SRD 239.5 million and an interest rate of 9 percent per year. These instruments are divided into 5 groups, with respective maturities of 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 years. All the bonds will become effective as of January 1, 2025.



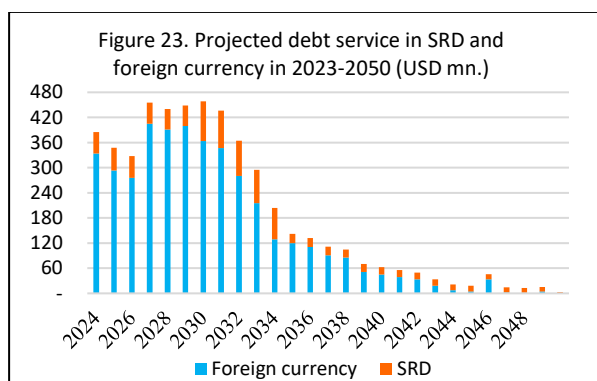
Source: SDMO



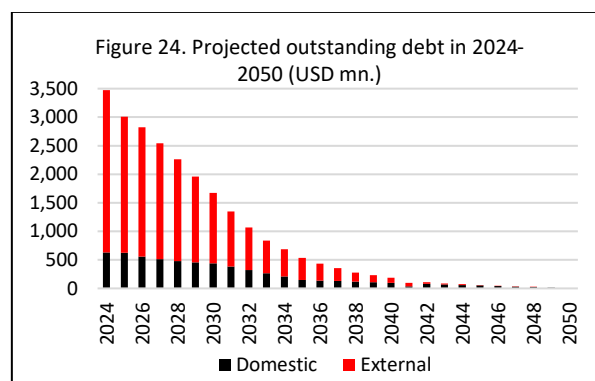
Source: SDMO

Figures 21, 22, and 23 show that debt service payments for 2024 are relatively high, amounting to approximately USD 385 million. In 2025, these payments will be reduced to around USD 360 million.

The large share of foreign currency debt is reflected in figure 24. Therefore, a stable exchange rate is also crucial for the development of the central government debt.



Source: SDMO



Source: SDMO



## APPENDIX: DEBT INDICATORS AND STATISTICS

**Table 1. Structure of the Central Government Debt**

<b>As percentage</b>	<b>2024- Q1</b>	<b>2024- Q2</b>	<b>2024- Q3</b>	<b>2024- Q4</b>
External debt	80	79	80	82
Domestic debt	20	21	20	18
Short term	7	6	7	1
Long term	93	94	93	99
Fixed interest rate	47	52	47	43
Variable interest rate	53	48	53	57
Local currency	13	15	15	13
Foreign currency	87	85	85	87
External loans	59	59	59	62
External credit lines	0	0	0	0
External capital market instruments	20	20	20	19
Domestic long-term debt at the CBvS	8	9	8	7
Domestic loans from commercial banks	2	2	2	1
Domestic treasury bills	2	1	1	1
Domestic supplier credit for infrastructure projects	3	3	2	2
Domestic suppliers' debt	4	6	6	6
Domestic long-term debt private sector	1	1	1	0
Multilateral external creditors	38	38	39	44
Bilateral external creditors	17	16	16	15
Commercial external creditors	25	25	25	23
CBvS (Central Bank of Suriname)	8	9	8	7
Domestic commercial banks	3	3	2	2
Domestic Non-bank private sector	9	10	10	9

Source: SDMO

This concerns the effective debt based on the international definition of debt

**Table 2. Debt-to-GDP Ratios of Selected Countries in the Caribbean**

	<b><u>2020</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>
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	120.8	110.8	110.3	96.6	83.2
Trinidad & Tobago	60.6	60.0	50.7	56.1	59.0

Source: IMF World Economic Outlook, Database April 2023 & SDMO data for Suriname

Table 3. Effective Debt by Currency Type in Million Units								
December 2023					December 2024			
	Domestic	External	Total	In %	Domestic	External	Total	In %
USD	269.6	2,002.9	2,272.6	67%	151.1	2,168.3	2,319.4	64%
Euro	19.9	120.0	139.9	4%	10.5	107.4	118.0	3%
CNY	0.0	2,093.6	2,093.6	12%	0.0	2,028.5	2,028.5	12%
SDR	0.0	130.7	130.7	5%	0.0	221.6	221.6	8%
SRD	15,028.2	0.0	15,028.2	12%	16,492.6	0.0	16,492.6	13%

Source: SDMO

This concerns the effective debt based on the international definition of debt

Table 4. Total Outstanding Foreign Debt Including Arrears by Creditor on a Cash Basis (in USD million)								
Creditor	2024-Q1		2024-Q2		2024-Q3		2024-Q4	
	Total Debt	Of which arrears	Total Debt	Of which arrears	Total Debt	Of which arrears	Total Debt	Of which arrears
<b>Multilateral Creditor:</b>	<b>1,254.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1,276.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1,314.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1,521.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>
EIB	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0
IADB	845.9	0.0	838.9	0.0	842.8	0.0	1,006.8	0.0
ISDB	45.6	0.0	45.6	0.0	50.2	0.0	54.9	0.0
CDB	113.5	0.0	114.2	0.0	111.7	0.0	109.5	0.0
OPEC	29.8	0.0	29.5	0.0	28.6	0.0	27.9	0.0
World Bank	20.6	0.0	25.4	0.0	25.8	0.0	29.0	0.0
IMF	198.3	0.0	222.2	0.0	255.0	0.0	289.0	0.0
Caricom Development Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	0.0
<b>Bilateral Creditor:</b>	<b>551.5</b>	<b>149.3</b>	<b>541.2</b>	<b>140.5</b>	<b>559.4</b>	<b>168.4</b>	<b>514.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>
France	31.2	0.0	30.9	0.0	32.3	0.0	26.9	0.0
China	485.7	149.3	475.7	140.5	492.5	168.4	455.5	0.0
India	34.5	0.0	34.5	0.0	34.5	0.0	31.7	0.0
<b>Commercial Creditor:</b>	<b>824.3</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>826.0</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>840.7</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>811.1</b>	<b>5.7</b>
Eurobond	663.5	0.0	663.5	0.0	673.4	0.0	673.4	0.0
ING Bank N.V.	11.0	0.0	10.9	0.0	11.4	0.0	9.0	0.0
Israël Discount Bank	19.8	9.2	19.6	9.3	20.8	10.4	16.5	0.0
Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena	32.1	0.0	31.8	0.0	33.3	0.0	28.1	0.0
ABN-AMRO Bank N.V.	17.3	0.0	17.1	0.0	17.9	0.0	16.6	0.0
Credit Suisse	12.1	4.6	12.0	4.6	12.6	6.1	11.7	5.7
China Industrial and Commercial Bank	65.5	32.8	68.0	38.1	68.0	38.1	53.1	0.0
KBC bank	3.1	0.0	3.1	0.0	3.2	0.0	2.7	0.0
<b>Total outstanding debt</b>	<b>2,629.9</b>	<b>195.9</b>	<b>2,643.4</b>	<b>192.5</b>	<b>2,714.4</b>	<b>223.1</b>	<b>2,846.9</b>	<b>5.7</b>

Source: SDMO

<b>Table 5. Total Domestic Debt Including Arrears by Debt Instrument on a Cash Basis (in SRD million)</b>								
<b>Debt instrument</b>	<b>2024-I</b>		<b>2024-II</b>		<b>2024-III</b>		<b>2024-IV</b>	
	<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>Of which arrears</b>	<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>Of which arrears</b>	<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>Of which arrears</b>	<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>Of which arrears</b>
Treasury Promissory Notes	153.7	72.5	123.6	65.6	94.5	65.6	61.3	61.3
Treasury Bills	1,891.3	462.0	1,226.1	234.4	998.1	237.8	810.1	63.6
CBvS Advances & Short-term Debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Leningen:</b>								
CBvS Consolidated Debt	9,144.8	-	9,029.1	-	8,924.8	-	8,778.1	-
Short-term Loans from Commercial Banks	108.4	18.6	122.6	-	400.3	-	320.1	-
Long-term Loans from Commercial Banks	2,218.5	68.3	1,677.5	122.6	1,484.7	5.2	1,350.3	5.5
Long-term Loans from the Private Sector	1,172.2	-	772.3	-	775.2	-	587.8	-
Supplier Credits for Infrastructure Projects	3,774.9	185.1	3,151.7	136.2	2,613.0	157.4	2,853.0	191.4
Suppliers Debt	4,837.8	-	5,964.1	-	6,383.8	-	7,462.0	-
<b>Total Outstanding Debt</b>	<b>23,301.7</b>	<b>806.6</b>	<b>22,067.0</b>	<b>558.8</b>	<b>21,674.3</b>	<b>466.1</b>	<b>22,222.7</b>	<b>321.8</b>

Source: SDMO

<b>Table 6. Total Foreign and Domestic Debt by Economic Sector in USD million, Excluding Supplier Debt at the end of 2024</b>		
<b>Sector</b>	<b>External</b>	<b>Domestic</b>
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	66.2	-
Budget Support	1,360.7	293.5
<i>i.e. CBvS</i>	-	248.3
<i>i.e. Treasury paper</i>	-	24.6
Construction	117.6	211.1
Defense	13.2	
Education & Training	97.1	
Energy (electricity) & Gas	213.2	16.6
Financial & Insurance activities	47.0	16.6
Health & Social work	58.6	1.2
Information & Communication	94.7	-
Other	39.7	-
Public Administration	254.5	-
Roads & bridges	466.7	89.6
Water Supply	17.8	-
Real estate, renting & business	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,846.9</b>	<b>417.5</b>

Source: SDMO