**Covid-19 and Islands**

***Aruba, Netherlands***

1. What actions are being taken to protect the island community from Covid 19? In particular, how are travel restrictions being put in place and enforced?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
|  | 25 March 2020 | * Only inhabitants returning from their travels may enter the country and leave the country. |
| Gisela Kadir-de Cuba  [gisela.decuba@gmail.com](mailto:gisela.decuba@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * Airport is closed for a month already: lockdown |
| Oriana Wouters  Directorate of Nature and Environment  [oriana.wouters@dnmaruba.org](mailto:oriana.wouters@dnmaruba.org) | 13 May 2020 | * Repatriation of illegal immigrants allowed without legal charges * Lockdowns * no tourists * borders to open in 2 weeks from now, for a period of 2 weeks |

1. What actions will be taken should people on the island have Covid 19?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
|  | 25 March 2020 | * They are monitored in the hospital. The nation is discussing plans for actions with the Central Bank if the situation should get worse and funds need to be secured. |
| Gisela Kadir-de Cuba  [gisela.decuba@gmail.com](mailto:gisela.decuba@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * Actions are being taken for 5 weeks already. Everyone who has Covid-19 is isolated. Shelter in place during the day. Daily from 10:00pm to 5:00 am: Toque-de Queda (lock-down, nobody is permitted to leave their home) |
| Oriana Wouters  Directorate of Nature and Environment  [oriana.wouters@dnmaruba.org](mailto:oriana.wouters@dnmaruba.org) | 13 May 2020 | * contact hotline, report first sign of symptom * after consultations --> quarantine --> pcr testing * after 14 days no symptoms --> free from quarantine * if symptoms occur --> hospitalization and treatment   during lockdown:   * follow regulations of sanitation and hygiene * wear masks etc. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that essential goods and services are provided to the island community?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
|  | 25 March 2020 | * Awareness campaign on buy what you need. Supermarkets may remain open until 9 pm. Nothing else. |
| Gisela Kadir-de Cuba  [gisela.decuba@gmail.com](mailto:gisela.decuba@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * Lockdown was not applicable for import of goods |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that people working on the islands, not only in the tourism sector, are sustained financially in the short term and in the long term?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
|  | 25 March 2020 | * All company owners have different approaches. Many hotels send their cleaners, waiters mechanics home with food they had in stock. Some NGOs allow only the core group to work at reduced salaries. Stating that they will try to keep running for at least 3 months and are looking into ways to secure funds for the future. |
| Gisela Kadir-de Cuba  [gisela.decuba@gmail.com](mailto:gisela.decuba@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * Financial aid from the government to everyone who lost their job and for SMEs |
| Oriana Wouters  Directorate of Nature and Environment  [oriana.wouters@dnmaruba.org](mailto:oriana.wouters@dnmaruba.org) | 13 May 2020 | * It is odd to receive a question, where one asks about ensuring financial safety for people from the tourism sector. The tourism sector is the richest sector. Why would they need support for their employees? They promote unsustainable practices that have lead to large social inequality and environmental degradation. If anything, the tourism sector should have had a vulnerability assessment carried out long ago, should have made themselves financially resilient and should have seriously considered the hazards in SIDS and prepared for these financially speaking. Poor business management is a matter of reading a book and improving your skills. * The lack of vision and consistent short-term planning has led us to here, a financial crisis. So, the logical approach would be to safeguard long-term actions as these have never become common practice. For this, political will is the determining factor. * On the short-term, we provide subsidies to some families who may or may not need it. We fast-tracked all projects that could start within 3 months. * On the long-term, few to none as it is not common practice to think on the long term * Only "real action" was that:   + governmental workers will donate 12% of their annual salary to cover governmental costs   + members of parliament and Ministers will donate 20% of their annual salary to cover governmental costs * This is regulated by the Calamities Act, which enables the government to take extreme actions/ measures to safeguard the nation's finances, wellbeing and so on. The action is then published in what is known as a Minister Decree, which acts as a type of permit. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure the mental well-being of people on the islands?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
|  | 25 March 2020 | * Heavy awareness campaigns on the virus to reduce hysteria. |
| Gisela Kadir-de Cuba  [gisela.decuba@gmail.com](mailto:gisela.decuba@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * During the shelter in place, everyone is allowed to sport outside their home (but with the 1.5 meters norm in place). Also, everyone is allowed to swim at our beaches, but not allowed to go with ice jugs to have fun. It is strictly for sport and mental health. The supermarkets remain open. |
| Oriana Wouters  Directorate of Nature and Environment  [oriana.wouters@dnmaruba.org](mailto:oriana.wouters@dnmaruba.org) | 13 May 2020 | * constant communication on COVID, which equates to no communication on other matters. |

1. If you consider it appropriate, feel free to share any data about people who have Covid 19 on your island and of people who, sadly, have passed away because of Covid 19.

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
|  | 25 March 2020 | * Info found [here](https://www.arubacovid19.org/) |

1. If applicable, how are the lockdown measures being relaxed?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Gisela Kadir-de Cuba  [gisela.decuba@gmail.com](mailto:gisela.decuba@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * Since last Monday, 4 May 2020, we entered the first level of flexibilization. A few more organization can reopen their doors. |

1. Is there anything else you want to share?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
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*This information has been collated by the Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance in collaboration with Island Innovation and can be found at* [*https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/*](https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/)*.*