**Covid-19 and Islands**

***Curaçao, 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 |
| Anonymous | 18 April 2010 | All passenger flights have been cancelled, except for 1 KLM flight/week from Amsterdam. Cargo flights continue as normal. Everyone is required to "shelter at home" except for for essential service workers. Citizens are allowed to do groceries, go to the doctor/pharmacy 2/week. Citizens can exercise outdoors (no swimming) every day from 6 - 9 am & 6 - 8 pm as long as there's social distancing. |
| Guido Roger  University of Curaçao  [G.rojer@uoc.cw](mailto:G.rojer@uoc.cw) | 22 April 2020 | * Complete closure of airspace, lockdown for citizens. * Only allowed to leave home for health and groceries   License plate restrictions apply, 2 days a week per car owner. |
| Juliette Buddingh  Kayena Consulting  [juliette.buddingh@gmail.com](mailto:juliette.buddingh@gmail.com) | 22 April 2020 | First case was detected March 13. At this point locals got a chance to return to the island for two weeks, entering into voluntary (monitored) quarentaine for two weeks. After the two weeks were done, the borders were shut completely and the island went into full lockdown for two weeks. It seems that there is not much local transmission with the total amount of confirmed cases staying at 14 for the past two weeks. Governement is slowly deescalating the lock-down measurements, but the borders will have to remain closed until the outbreak is under control in the rest of the world. People can still leave the island, but they won't be permitted back in. |
| Bonnie Banesh  Think to Do Institute  [bonnie@thinktodoinstitute.com](mailto:bonnie@thinktodoinstitute.com) | 22 April 2020 | NO cruise ships, NO commercial flights to US, EU, SA. |

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

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Anonymous | 18 April 2010 | Self-quarantine at home. |
| Juliette Buddingh  Kayena Consulting  [juliette.buddingh@gmail.com](mailto:juliette.buddingh@gmail.com) | 22 April 2020 | We've had 14 cases and the spread seems to have been prevented by drastic measures. Now that the measures are being relaxed little by little there is a chance a new pocket will pop up. Government has already indicated that if that is the case we'll have to go into lockdown again. |
| Bonnie Banesh  Think to Do Institute  [bonnie@thinktodoinstitute.com](mailto:bonnie@thinktodoinstitute.com) | 22 April 2020 | There is a well-developed health response plan that is updated daily and which was instituted early. Hospital is prepared for low number of cases. |

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 |
| Anonymous | 18 April 2010 | Cargo flights continue as normal. All essential services continue as normal. |
| Juliette Buddingh  Kayena Consulting  [juliette.buddingh@gmail.com](mailto:juliette.buddingh@gmail.com) | 22 April 2020 | Cargo is still coming in by boat and plane. Furthermore there is great emphasis on stimulating agriculture and horticulture. Anyone who works in the food, water, electricity or data supply chain is still permitted to work (essential services). However, many non-food related stores are closed which is causing some discomfort here and there. |
| Bonnie Banesh  Think to Do Institute  [bonnie@thinktodoinstitute.com](mailto:bonnie@thinktodoinstitute.com) | 22 April 2020 | Cargo is still arriving. Island is on total lock down. Stay at home in effect, all businesses closed except Supermarkets, Pharmacies, Gasoline stations, Bank walk up. Movement of citizens restricted to two days a week out of the house. Heavy fines for violation. This action seems to have flattened the curve. Now we see the economic crisis that will follow. |

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 |
| Anonymous | 18 April 2010 | The Curacao government is providing financial relief to employers to help pay salaries of employees and entrepreneurs receive financial relief. Holland has provided a loan to Curacao help finance these programs. |
| Guido Roger  University of Curaçao  [G.rojer@uoc.cw](mailto:G.rojer@uoc.cw) | 22 April 2020 | Basic income for laborers industries that lost revenue, including independents. |
| Juliette Buddingh  Kayena Consulting  [juliette.buddingh@gmail.com](mailto:juliette.buddingh@gmail.com) | 22 April 2020 | The island has been in economic recession for years and there are no real reserves. The amount of people that have become dependent on the food bank has exploded overnight. The government has gotten a 6 week loan from the Netherlands (we're part of the kingdom of the Netherlands). The financial aid is geared towards job retention, meaning that affected companies can get reimbursed for up to 80% of labor cost if they can show a significant reduction in revenue due to the outbreak or measures surrounding it. People on benefits get a debet card that can be used solely to buy food on which the government transfers money every two weeks. On the long term there is no fixed plan, besides trying to stimulate economic growth that is not dependent on tourism and keeping our fingers crossed that we'll soon have a vaccine and the rest of the world gets it under control. |
| Bonnie Banesh  Think to Do Institute  [bonnie@thinktodoinstitute.com](mailto:bonnie@thinktodoinstitute.com) | 22 April 2020 | Still under negotiations its the Kingdom of NL. Local government is in financial crises already and can not afford. Uncertainty is mounting. |

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

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Anonymous | 18 April 2010 | There is a daily press conference to keep people up-to-date. There are also mental health hotlines. |
| Guido Roger  University of Curaçao  [G.rojer@uoc.cw](mailto:G.rojer@uoc.cw) | 22 April 2020 | Third sector initiatives are spread out. And exercise is promoted in the mornings between 6-9. |
| Juliette Buddingh  Kayena Consulting  [juliette.buddingh@gmail.com](mailto:juliette.buddingh@gmail.com) | 22 April 2020 | One of the first things that was allowed after the lockdown was for people to be able to bike and walk during certain times of the day, which a lot of people are making use of. Government has also opened phone numbers where people can call if they need support. They are currently also starting up regular health care again (everything except life threatening was postponed during the lockdown), including psychotherapy. |

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

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Juliette Buddingh  Kayena Consulting  [juliette.buddingh@gmail.com](mailto:juliette.buddingh@gmail.com) | 22 April 2020 | First step was starting up regular health care and allowing people to excersize (walk, run or bike) during 6-9am and 6-8pm. Also healthfood stores were allowed to open. The second step was that certain types of shops were allowed to open with a pick-up / delivery system, like hardware stores, computer supply stores and bookstores / office supply stores. Also, people are now allowed to swim in the ocean between 6 - 9 am, however, you are only allowed to drive there if your license plate is valid for that day. Everyone gets 2 days a week that they are allowed to drive to spread traffic to the grocery stores more evenly over the week. |

1. Is there anything else you want to share?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Anonymous | 18 April 2010 | The financial consequences of not having any more tourists is devastating & if the situation continues for an extended period of time, unemployment could rise to 45 - 65%. |
| Juliette Buddingh  Kayena Consulting  [juliette.buddingh@gmail.com](mailto:juliette.buddingh@gmail.com) | 22 April 2020 | The philosophy that is being followed here is not to flatten the curve, but to crush the curve. While over the past weeks the health care sector has invested in expanding the capacity for potential COVID-19 patients, we still cannot handle more than 25 - 30 IC cases at a time. Everything is focussed on making sure that does not happen and so far I feel very safe in that the virus has not spread through the population. However, I do worry that we'll have a humanitarian disaster following with a lot of the population being unable to make any money and the government treasure chest already empty. This is the result of the worldwide pandemic more than the fact we have had a few infections. We currently have two active cases still and I'm hoping we've eradicated it internally. Unfortunately, in an economic sense seeing what is happening in the rest of the world, this does not really help us. |

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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/)*.*