

Oct-Dec
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DEACI NSP REPORT

"Nos Plan, Nos Futuro" 2019 - 2022



'FOCUSING ON THE INTERVENTIONS AND TARGETS WHERE WE CAN DO THE MOST GOOD WILL BE CRITICAL FOR THE NSP 2019-2022'

Aruba has had several national plans in the last decades. From national plans such as the Social Development Plan (1986-1990), National Development Plan (1991-1997 / 2003 -2007), to Nos Aruba 2025. Some based more on a higher consultative level compared to others. The process and approach slowly but surely progressed more into a participatory one, with “Nos Aruba 2025” serving as a good example. The process and methodologies of previous plans served as a great learning experience to apply successful methods and tools through-out the planning process of Aruba. While also providing unique insights to learn from all of the challenges and drawbacks from previous plans.

NSP PROCESS

In order to have a successful and robust NSP, it is critical to have a participatory process, by involving stakeholders and relevant partners from the public and private sector, NGOs and academia. Furthermore, it is important to have a coherent process where the economic, social, and environmental dimensions are all taken into account. This allows us to minimize the negative spill-over effects (trade-offs) and maximize the positive spill-over effects. The government’s plan “Hunto pa Aruba”, Agenda 2030, and the SDG Aruba Roadmap serve as a basis and starting point for the NSP.

The sustainable vision for Aruba is a long term goal in which the SDGs and targets are used to determine the future. However, the planning of policies and activities will be prepared in medium-term plans, in order to be flexible to the local and international changes:

- 2019 - 2022
- 2023 - 2026
- 2027 - 2030

It becomes critical to link the NSP to the Multi-Annual Budget, Planning and Control Cycle (MJB-PCC), and to align the NSP with available resources from the private sector and the NGOs. Giving the private sector and the NGOs an important role when it comes to implementing specific interventions.

Our reality indicates that we only have a limited amount of resources, so let’s make sure to efficiently use those resources on policies and actions where we can help the most and where we can accomplish the most. Prioritizing interventions and activities will be critical for the NSP 2019-2022 and for progress across the SDGs.

EXWGs for the NSP

On the 20th of June 2018, the Expert Working Groups (EXWG) were established through a ministerial decree, with the task of evaluating, prioritizing, and specifying policies and activities, with time-line, budget, responsible partners for implementation, and a monitoring plan. The result of the reports/output of the EXWGs will be incorporated into the NSP “Nos Plan, Nos Futuro” 2019-2022. Each accelerator will be part of the NSP. Currently the coordinating and support team of the NSP is focusing on three pillars: people, planet, and prosperity.

The Sustainable Tourism accelerator will be incorporated into the NSP through a different process.

The Aruba SDG Roadmap recommended more than one hundred

well-meaning interventions, but too many interventions and targets makes it difficult to prioritize. During the last three months, it became clear that the Accelerator and Bottleneck Assessment (ABA) methodology that was being used was too complicated and time-consuming for the EXWGs. The coordinating and support team (DEACI) decided to adapt the methodology to the local capacity and needs. Therefore, surveys were designed to accelerate the process and was sent via a digital format to the EXWG members. During each subsequent meeting, the results of the surveys were presented to the EXWGs. This continued to be the case until the last two weeks of November when it was decided to bring all the EXWGs together for jointly weekly meetings. This was also done to encourage policy coherence and inter-linkages between policies and interventions from each EXWG.

Pillar People:

- **Quality of Life and Wellbeing:** Started with 7 drivers and 13 interventions and was adapted to 8 drivers and 12 interventions. (pre-NSP event)
- **Youth Empowerment:** Started with 5 drivers and 22 interventions and was adapted to 5 drivers and 13 interventions. (pre-NSP event)

Pillar Planet:

Natural Resource Management: Started with 9 drivers and 51 interventions and was adapted to 6 drivers and 22 interventions. (pre-NSP event)

Pillar Prosperity:

- **Energy Efficiency and Energy Diversification:** Started with 6 drivers and 30 interventions and was adapted to 6 drivers and 11 interventions. (pre-NSP event)
- **Entrepreneurship and Enabling Business Environment:** Started with 6 drivers and 27 interventions and was adapted to 4 drivers and 17 interventions. (pre-NSP event)

Sustainable Tourism will be incorporated into the NSP through a different approach.

Meanwhile during the last few months, the EXWGs rearranged and adapted each accelerators by prioritizing, reformulating some drivers and interventions. The re-clustering and renaming was necessary to simplify the interventions. The results were presented at the NSP event of December 3, 2018.

The EXWGs also started with the formulation of a draft vision for each of the accelerators during the jointly sessions.

Adapting Methodology (ABA)

Working with the SDG Accelerator and Bottleneck Assessment (ABA) tool as a guideline for the work of the EXWGs, required us to adapt the tool/methodology to the current capacity and time-frame. Therefore, we had to adjust and rethink new strategies and criteria's which could be used, without sacrificing our objective, which was to create a participatory and coherent process. Because the EXWG members have been working with the ABA tool some time, it was recommended to keep using the same tool/methodology and try to speed up the process by making use of

'ADAPT THE TOOL/METHODOLOGY TO THE CURRENT CAPACITY AND TIME-FRAME.'

surveys. For this kind of prioritization each EXWG member was asked to discuss all the questions within their field of expertise and to fill in the answers to the questions in the survey.

The EXWGs are trying to find the interventions/targets that would benefit Aruba and the Aruban people the most, and at the same time accelerating progress across all of the SDGs and SDG targets.

The first criteria of prioritizations used was the impact criteria. This allows us to rank the interventions on the basis of impact. Furthermore, the interventions went through another prioritization phase focusing on the enabling environment criteria. These include: the ability (capacity) to



implement the intervention; if there is stakeholder coordination and political will to implement (are intervention(s) included in government and/or political parties program?); and ability to monitor the intervention.

Additionally, EXWGs evaluated which interventions could be clustered, and if the drivers and interventions were properly defined and described. This was critical in order to have a solid understanding of each intervention, for the NSP “Nos Plan, Nos Futuro” 2019-2022.



NSP EVENT

Since the exercises were being worked on in small groups of experts, it was important to organize a National Strategic Plan (NSP) Event, where other stakeholders from the private and public sector, NGOs, and the academia could give feedback on the drivers and interventions that were proposed. Allowing for more feedback, input, and different perspectives. Identifying interventions that were possibly overlooked is an important step to create participation and ownership of the NSP. The NSP Event was held at the La Cabana Beach Resort and Casino Ballroom. The EXWGs People, Planet and Prosperity helped to prepare the program of the event. The 5 accelerators: Quality of Life and Wellbeing, Youth Empowerment, Natural Resource Management, Energy Efficiency and Energy Diversification and

Entrepreneurship and Enabling Business Environment were discussed at the event. Each table had at least one EXWG representative and an Indicator Working Group (IWG) representative that were in charge to lead the discussions at each table (each accelerator had two tables).



Participants from different and diverse field of expertise were assigned to each table. This was done to encourage the multi sectoral component of the discussions and to enhance the three aspects of sustainable development, looking through the economic, social and environmental perspectives.

Each EXWG representative presented the updated and adapted drivers and interventions for each of the five accelerators, with a draft vision statement for each accelerator.

The event turned out to be a very successful one, with tremendous turnout, with nearly one hundred participants (original budget was for a maximum of 80 participants). The discussions at the tables were very productive and



valuable. At the end of the event, the feeling was that everybody had contributed and had given their feedback on the interventions for the NSP 2019-2022, and there was an understanding of the SDGs and the process for the NSP.

'CREATING PARTICIPATION AND OWNERSHIP FOR THE NSP.'

'BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN THE LOCAL AND GLOBAL TARGETS'

Moving Forward

One of the following steps will be to localize the SDG targets and indicators, to get a better reflection of the current situation and local context, bridging the gap between the local and global targets.

Pillar Peace and Partnership still have to be worked out and incorporated in the plan. There is also a possibility that a separate event will be done to gather additional insights from the perspective of the youth. The EXWGs will start working on the reports for each accelerator to be able to have a first draft by the end of January, 2019.

Although the draft vision statements of each accelerator were presented at the event, the EXWGs and the coordinating and support team of DEACI will organize a separate event to discuss and to create an overall vision for the NSP 2019-2022.



For the year 2019, the coordinating and support team of the NSP will continue to lead the EXWGs and incorporate each accelerator into the NSP 2019-2022. Identifying the leverage points within the framework will be critical, and will contribute in prioritizing which policies have an impact across the accelerators and across all dimensions. Aligning them to create a coherent plan for implementing the SDGs in Aruba. This will make the NSP more effective and efficient.

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NSP 2019-2022