



Governo dos Açores



INNOVATION
sustainable islands' growth
INNOVATION
croissance durable des îles

Innovating St Eustatius through Digital Information Services (ISDIS)

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OVERSEAS COUNTRIES
AND TERRITORIES
INNOVATION
PAYS ET TERRITOIRES
D'OUTRE-MER



CARIBBEAN NETHERLANDS SCIENCE INSTITUTE



St Eustatius

- Remote island
 - Called 'Statia'
 - 21 km²
 - 3,500 inhabitants
 - Dependent on one airline; 80 seats per day
- Economic sectors
 - Oil transshipment (35% GDP)
 - Government

Mission Statement

- SuStatiability



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Problems

- Restricted educational possibilities
 - Further education outside St Eustatius
 - Challenge to bring Stadians back ('brain drain'): creativity, entrepreneurship, investments, etc.
- Knowledge about economic and market principles
 - Supply and demand mismatch
 - Selling and market price mismatch
 - Transport and logistics
- Human capacity challenge
 - Small island population
- Large dependence on single, foreign (unsustainable) sector
 - Oil transshipment
- Innovation challenges
- Challenges for sustainable socio-economic development

Solutions

- Improve educational level
- Provide economic information
 - Connect buyer to seller
 - Communicate market prices
- Use external capacity

How

- Online education for Statian residents
- App development, e.g.:
 - Fisheries App
 - Agriculture App
 - Tourism App
 - Museum App
- Connect with Statian intellectual capital abroad
 - Online network
 - Virtual meeting place for Statian residents and abroad
 - Exchange of knowledge and ideas
 - Entrepreneurial and innovation support

Opportunities

- Most people use internet
- Most people have smart phones
- Most people use social media
- Encouragement for the next generation to get involved

Risks

- Internet is very expensive on St Eustatius
- Limited WiFi coverage
- Limited band width

Benefits (Fisheries App)

- More efficient fisheries
 - ‘What you catch is what you sell’
 - Lower Catch per Unit of Effort (CUE)
 - Realistic pricing
- Building-up database
 - Catch reports and landing reports
 - Fish stock monitoring
 - Fishing ground monitoring
 - Species recognition
 - Policy and management development
 - Fisheries quota and/or fishing season development

Benefits (Tourism App / Museum App)

- Virtual guided tours
 - Historical information (archaeology)
 - Geographical information (trails)
 - Nature information (ecology, landscapes, species)
 - Attractions
 - Weather information
- Building-up database
 - Species recognition (birds, plants, reptiles, insects, etc.)
 - Observation reports (citizen science)
 - Biodiversity monitoring
 - Alien Invasive Species alert / monitoring
 - Policy and nature management development

Benefits (Virtual meeting place, online learning)

- Connecting Statia's intellectual capital locally and abroad
- No need for Statian's abroad to give up their jobs, career and social life, while supporting their home land
- No physical schools or institutions needed on the island
- No need to leave the island: larger probability that intellectual capital remains at the island
- Increasing innovative ideas by connecting people
- Increasing chances of implementation by improved access to more networks

Result

- Sustainable socio-economic development
 - Increasing higher quality jobs and income
 - Responsible use of ecosystem services
 - Economic diversification
 - Improved societal equity

First pilot plan

- Sint Eustatius Project for Innovation towards Sustainable Fisheries
 - Development of a Fisheries App “Statia Blue”