




MINISTRY OF
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LABOR AND WELFARE




Working on Poverty Reduction in Curacao from a social perspective



Poverty from a multidimensional perspective in Curacao

- The approach to poverty will be from a multidimensional perspective



Poverty from a multidimensional perspective in Curacao

- Poverty is more than the lack of income and resources to ensure a sustainable livelihood.
- It manifests itself through hunger and malnutrition, limited access to education and other basic services, social discrimination and exclusion, as well as the lack of participation in decision-making processes.
- Inclusion is a key to economic growth in order to provide sustainable jobs and promote equality.
(UN)



Poverty reduction

To achieve poverty reduction these elements must be tackled:

- Laws and institutional frameworks must be revised
- Decent jobs for all must be created
- The educational system must be improved
- Urban infrastructure must be upgraded
- Welfare and care must be available for all



Poverty reduction

Adaptation of laws and institutional government framework

- The National Plan for the prevention of violence against children and relational/domestic violence is in place
- Family resilience programs to prevent those with debts/economic challenges to drop into poverty are also being implemented.
Draft law on debt restructuring is ready



Poverty reduction

Employment opportunities

- Improving the match between supply and demand
- Increase labor participation
- Evaluating and updating employment legislation: over 60% has already been done
- Evaluate immigration and permits policy

All the above have to be done in cooperation with other ministries



Poverty reduction

Improved education and welfare and care system

- Healthy afterschool programs
- Universalize access to early childcare programs and services. Except for the normal daycare, children of one of the focus groups of the Ministry of Social Development, Labor and Welfare, people with social assistance, are taken into childcare to enable the (often single) mother to participate in work related activities.

Poverty reduction

Improved housing

- Social housing programs preventing the presence of multiple generations in one house.

Social housing were built in three different neighborhoods. Collaboration between Ministry SOAW, VVRP and FKP in a social housing project to build 134 homes in Tera Kora (13), Sapaté (88), Montaña Abou (33)

Poverty reduction

Improved urban infrastructure

- Create safe public spaces:

Through the renovation of 5 community centers and a multi functional center in the Barber village, opportunities are being created for the neighborhood to come together and participate in diverse social activities.

Gibraltar, Brievengat and Kustbatterij community center (in building phase)

Buena Vista and Montaña community center (financing phase)

Barber multi-functional center (financing phase)



Impact COVID-19

- The Covid-19 pandemic has hit our country hard. It is not just a health crisis but it will have very severe social, economic and confidence consequences for years to come. The impact on the already vulnerable target groups and human basic needs is enormous and has not yet been mapped out.
- There is an increase of social assistance applications of 40%.



Impact Covid-19

- Many employees lose their jobs no matter the benefits to employers to the effect of preventing job loss
- Employees do not receive their (full) payment on time
- To support the most vulnerable groups, the poor, the chronically ill, the elderly, and children in the community, the first interventions are aimed at guaranteeing access to essential services and social protection.

Poverty reduction strategies

Covid 19 bridging action for 0-6 month

- Food supply (through packages or social cards):
around 13,000 families have received food packages through the Food Bank.
- Employment loss benefits:
the number of persons who lost their jobs that have received an employment loss benefit is 1,760 until August 20;
the number of persons who lost their jobs that have received a social card (for food supplies) is 2,904 until August 20



Poverty reduction strategies

Covid 19 bridging action for 0-6 month


- Resilience benefits

The number of people receiving social assistance who have received a social card (for food supplies) is 7,488 until August 20

- Strengthening financial resilience (solutions for problem debts)


Establishing a debt assistance process that mediates, guides and settles debts.

- Providing psycho social support
- Ensuring the reconnection to the water supply



Challenges related to the 2030 agenda, now and in the near future, taking the impact of COVID-19 into account

- The achievement of cooperation between all sectors, an integral approach / prevention of pillarization
- The attainment of inclusion and participation
- The availability of sufficient financial means, which might be an extra big challenge
- The implementation of a different, results based approach



Challenges related to the 2030 agenda, now and in the near future, taking the impact of COVID-19 into account

- Making use of the objective and the subjective poverty line in policy development
- Stock must be taken of the applied interventions and best practices
- Interventions tailored to the needs of the focus groups must be provided
- Monitoring and evaluation thereof must be realized



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