

Monitoring report progress Saba Package 2.0

Text space to comment on the progress by the Public Entity and give a general view on 2023.

Legenda

	Implementation is going according to (finished by June '23, including comments/first results)
	Implementation delayed (incl. comments)
	Implementation stalled (incl. comments)

Theme 1: Subsistence security and well-being

1. Poverty alleviation, lowering cost of living

Action Saba Package 2.0	Responsibility	Planned realization 2022	Progress and comments
Increasing the statutory minimum wage	SZW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Executive Council must, in consultation with employers, take a position on increasing the statutory minimum wage as of January 1, 2023 Take a significant step in the statutory minimum wage as of 1 January 2023 (Minister APP is committed to a policy-based increase of 10%; implementation depends on the scope of increasing WML). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In reaction to the request of the minister APP, the Executive Council has, in consultation with employers, taken a position on increasing the statutory minimum wage as of January 1, 2023. As of 1 January 2023, the statutory minimum wage on Saba has been increased with 15,0% to \$ 1.434 per month (\$ +187). This has been completed. After discussions a joint letter between the Public Entity Saba and the Saba Business Association (SBA) was sent to the ministry.
Increasing the social security benefit (in accordance with as well as compared to the statutory minimum wage)	SZW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An increase in the social security benefit allowances for independent living and joint households of respectively 7- 5% and 15% as of 1 July 2022. As of 1 January 2023, take a significant step in the level of social security benefits, AOV and AWW. In principle, the percentage of increase is equal to the increase in the minimum wage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 1 July 2022, the social security benefit allowances on Saba have been increased with \$ 93 per month for independent living households and, in addition to that, with \$ 197 per month for joint households. As of 1 January 2023, the AOV on Saba has been increased with 31,2%. The AOV amounts to \$ 1.175 (\$ +204), including the so-called 'Duurtetoelag' on the Windwards Islands. The AWW has been increased with 19,7%. The specific amount of social security benefits as of 1 January 2023 depends on the household situation. Benefits for independent living households have been increased with 34,1% to \$ 1.046 per month on Saba (+266). For couples that live independently the benefit amounts to \$ 1.434 per month as of 1 January. That is an increase of 35,2% (\$ +373). The base amount has been increased solely for correction of inflation (9,7%) and amounts to \$ 546 per month (\$ +48).
Increase child benefits	SZW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An increase in child support by \$10 per child per month, as of 1 July 2022. An increase in child benefit in 2023 by \$10 per child per month compared to the level of 1 July 2022. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 1 July 2022, child support on Saba has been increased with \$ 10 to \$ 99 per child per month. As of 1 January 2023, child benefit has been increased further to \$ 129 (\$ +30).

Modernize social security system	SZW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation and consultation for drawing up an unemployment scheme. Preparing an arrangement in case an employee travels abroad with a sick relative/in the event of a medical referral. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the third quarter of 2022 stakeholders in the Caribbean Netherlands have been consulted in order to provide input for shaping the arrangements. Based upon this input, the ministry of SZW will draw up a policy memorandum.
Reducing the cost for childcare	SZW/OCW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific realization for 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The subsidies for child care have been increased in January 2022 with 10%, and in July 2022 again with 10%. With this extra subsidy child care organizations can enhance the quality of child care. An additional subsidy has been granted for babies after child care organizations reported that the costs for care of babies were much higher than for toddlers. The law proposal 'Child care' will be sent to the Parliament in the beginning of 2023. The law proposal has been adjusted because of the 'coalitieakkoord' and the advice of de Raad van State. As of 1 January 2023 the subsidies for childcare have been increased with 33,8% for the daycare and with 20% for the afterschool care. The parental fee will decrease with \$25 for the daycare and \$10 for the afterschool care. In 2022 OLS has continued to improve the quality of Childcare especially in the area of housing and education of staff. We have also reduced the cost for parents using childcare.
Social workplace and initiatives for those with a distance to the labor market	SZW, OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding towards OLS for the social workplace (The Garden). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 12 November, the Minister has signed a specific allowance ("bijzondere uitkering") to support the Public Entity of Saba on a number of initiatives in the social domain, including the social workplace. This action was completed.
Task "bijzondere onderstand"	SZW, OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Island Council approves the new Saba ordinance. With that the relevant SZW budget goes to OLS, together with budget for 1 extra fte at OLS to e.g. execute the extraordinary benefit). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the last Island Council meeting of 2022 this ordinance was approved. SZW and OLS will make an agreement on the transfer of the task three months after the publication of the ordinance. This includes the transfer of the budget and structural budget for capacity within the OLS.
Poverty policy	OLS, SZW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is an ongoing activity to implement the poverty policy (which was mentioned in the Saba Package 1.0). Execution is based on a mix of local and national budgets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the specific allowance, mentioned above, budget has also been made available to enable the Community Development Department to continue implementing the poverty policy. This is an ongoing process.

Abuse, domestic violence and abuse	OLS, VWS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific realization for 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The actions as agreed upon concerning domestic violence and abuse are admitted in and financed through the Bestuursakkoord aanpak huiselijk geweld en kindermishandeling BES. This process is ongoing. A plan is being made through the domestic violence coordinator and OLS, along with the planning bureau. This temporary shelter is a realization in 2023.
------------------------------------	----------	--	--

2. A healthy society and well-being

Action Saba Package 2.0	Responsibility	Planned realization 2022	Progress and comments
Infectious disease control	OLS, VWS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing investigation into improving matters concerning infectious disease control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns a continuous task of the GGD. Vaccinations against MPOX and COVID are available, as well as COVID-testing and research concerning infectious disease OLS continues to monitor the covid situation and the head of OLS public health department meets bi weekly with the RIVM in the continued monitoring and response to covid including sequencing of positive tests to determine variants. These samples are sent to the RIVM in the Netherlands. During those meetings it is discussed with broader infectious disease topics. OLS head of Public health department is now part of the RIVM working group for the development of RIVM Caribbean hub. The prospect of this hub was an agreement in last year's 4 country meeting in Aruba and the project plan will be presented in this year's 4 country meeting. The idea with this hub is to have a base for capacity building, expertise and education available to the islands. Regarding food safety (linked to gastrointestinal infectious disease), together with multiple other departments, OLS public health is brainstorming the introduction of a policy and proper process and procedures. We will focus on training for food handlers, especially hand hygiene and the process involved in securing a food handlers card and vendors license.control.
AMvB Maatschappelijke Ondersteuning(Legal foundation for social development)	OLS, VWS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the support that is offered and the need for further development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At this moment, the internetconsultation for the AMvB Maatschappelijke Ondersteuning is happening, in order for the AMvB to come into effect on januari 1st, 2024. Awaiting update from social department at OLS

3. Unleash (potential) talents

Action Saba Package 2.0	Responsibility	Planned realization 2022	Progress and comments
Job placement	SZW, OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment of (youth) job consultant; job programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the above mentioned specific allowance op the Ministry of SZW, budget has been allocated to the Public Entity to strengthen its efforts to match labor market needs and potential. The Public Entity will need to decide on the specific allocation of funding. This is something that will be monitored and discussed in the course of 2023. Awaiting update from social department at OLS

Master plan (early childhood) education related buildings	OLS, OCW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovation of the primary school has started, first building will be finished May 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reorganized and reinforced Directorate of Infrastructure started working on the programme of requirements for SCS, sufficient funding needs to be found` Ongoing. OLS has started the expansion and renovation project of the primary school for kindergarten classes. OLS also purchased property to start childcare housing in 2023.
Education and labor market initiatives	OCW, OLS	<p>Start implementing these measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Collaboration in hospitality 2) Exchange programs for students, teachers 3) Collaboration in education within the health domain 4) Boost vocational education and education of assistant teachers. 5) Invest in stages. 6) Skills Enhancement Program for the development of technical skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A collaboration within the hospitality-sector has been realized with NIPA. The collaboration aims to establish training for students and professionals. A collaboration in education within the health domain has not yet been realized, it is necessary to wait for the establishment of a consortium of mbo-schools in the European Netherlands. ROA is responsible for the research. OLS is involved in this process. With the above mentioned specific allowance, funding has been made available to the Public Entity to strengthen its efforts to match labor market needs and potential, including by offering training to young people.
Culture	OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Culture policy plan agenda is drafted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The culture policy plan has been completed and awaiting final approval through the Island Council and BC.

Theme 2: Economic and spatial development

4. Reducing the cost of doing business, diversifying the economy, sustaining tourism

Action Saba Package 2.0	Responsibility	Planned realization 2022	Progress and comments
Decreasing price of telecom	EZK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreements between telecom providers concerning passing on the subsidy to customers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EZK provides a subsidy to reduce the costs of fixed internet subscriptions for the end user. This is completed. Every month all customers receive a reduction in their cost.
High level Task force 'Solutions for Saba's high cost of doing business'	FIN, JenV, EZK, SZW, BZK en zo nodig andere partijen.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start the Taskforce Tangible results of the topics mentioned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Banking service; Notary; Customs and brokers matters; Immigration/border control, IND and work permits issues; Mail service, lack of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Taskforce has been up and running since October 2022. As requested by the public entities – who play a central part in taskforce - it has been working on the following topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BSN 2. Postal Codes 3. Banking services 4. Notarial services 5. Competing claims on land 6. Economic diversification 7. Digitization 8. Work- and residence permits

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ZIP code; Import and export regulations Tax issues. 	<p>9. Movement of people and goods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As it currently stands, actions are being deployed to work on all bottlenecks. Notably on the first 5 subjects in the list above we have seen considerable progress, as these were considered most pressing and were therefore prioritized. The taskforce will provide a full progress report in the summer of 2023.
Executing Tourism Master Plan	OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tourism Master plan for Saba is available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is completed.
Telecommunication	OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An organization to audit Satel has been selected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is still pending. The BC has to make a decision on this.

5. Continuous development of infrastructure, spatial planning and water management

Action Saba Package 2.0	Responsibility	Planned realization 2022	Progress and comments
Reducing the cost of drinking water	IenW, OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced prices of bottled drinking water compared to their cost price. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OLS is responsible for pricing the bottled drinking water according to the granted subsidies. In 2021 a total of €0,168 mln. has been granted by the ministry of IenW which can be used for subsidizing bottled drinking water (for the years 2021/2022). Moreover, the ministry of IenW has agreed upon a total of €1,1 in subsidies to be granted to the OLS in 2022, for reducing the price of drinking water and investments in reverse osmosis water. This is has been done and a structural subsidy of 168k EUR has been made available for lowering the cost of drinking water.
Improve connectivity and a sustainable air connection	PSO: IenW Ferry: OLS en OLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSO: IenW to perform a study into the possibilities of offering reliable flight connections for residents (for example, via PSO). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This was announced in different articles. IenW has been monitoring and working on this.
Long-term maintenance of airport infrastructure and compliance with safety requirements.	OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw up a multi-year maintenance program for the airport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In progress. Awaiting report
Construction of a safe and hurricane-ready harbor(s)	OLS	<p>Perform the tender and economic impact assessment for the harbor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The economic impact assessment study is done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The economic impact assessment study was put on hold as the company needed information which was being gathered for the Saba Tourism Master Plan. Now that the plan is completed it is expected that the EIS will be finalized first half of 2023.

Housing implementation agenda	BZK/OLS	Saba's ambitions will be specified concretely and measurably within the framework of the 'Beleidsagenda Volkshuisvesting and Ruimtelijke Ordening Caribisch Nederland.' The goal of this agenda is to create the right preconditions to make housing more available and affordable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 'Beleidsagenda' has been published in January 2023. To implement this policy agenda, a steering group and task force will be created in 2023. The steering group will formulate an implementation framework in 2023, which offers ample space to further specify Saba's ambitions for housing. In 2022, BZK/VRO formulated the 'Policy agenda housing and spatial development for the Caribbean Netherlands'. OLS provided input by means of: a position paper, discussions during Minister De Jonge's visit to the island in June 2022 and feedback on draft versions of the policy agenda. The policy agenda has been presented end of January 2023. Subsequently, OLS will translate the goals/ambitions mentioned in the policy agenda to an island-specific action plan with priorities and the right approach for Saba. Installation of the Rent Committee (Huurcommissie) has not taken place yet, but is one of the goals described in the policy agenda.
Spatial planning	BZK/VRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OLS gives input for the spatial planning framework that BZK is working on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the first half of 2022 we have explored the topics the spatial development program should contain. The result of that was an outline that I have shared with the colleagues on the islands. Saba reacted to that outline. In 2022, BZK/VRO has initiated the process of establishing a spatial development programme for the Caribbean Netherlands. The spatial development programme relates to national interest in the field of spatial planning and covers all three islands. As a first step, BZK outlined, with input of OLS, what this programme could entail. In November 2022, Wolfs Company and Rho adviseurs were selected by BZK to draw up the spatial development programme. BZK has introduced OLS and the companies and the consultants presented the goals and planning of their assignment. In January 2023 BZK/VRO and Rho adviseurs will visit Saba to discuss: the relevant spatial development themes on Saba; the desired role of the national government and how this should be included in the spatial development programme. A first draft should be ready in April 2023, which will be presented and discussed on Saba. The final programme is expected to be presented in June 2023. Subsequently, OLS will draw up a spatial development plan, specifically for Saba.
Different infrastructural projects	OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start with the bypass road in St. Johns, road maintenance, start with airport projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bypass road has currently been made into a working road for the school project. <p>Ongoing progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on the grey jetter was pushed back to 2023, as it worked better with the events and other works planned for the harbor. The connection of the generator room to the terminal building was being executed during the second half of 2022. The update of the airport Master Plan was completed and now an action plan and the next steps have to be worked on. Works on the Roads continue with the main project in the second half of 2022 being the widening of the road in Giles Quarter.

Theme 3: Climate and Nature

6. Accelerated transition towards renewable energy for cost reduction

Action Saba Package 2.0	Responsibility	Planned realization 2022	Progress and comments
Increasing the share of renewable energy	EZK, OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further concertize a plan to expand the capacity of renewable energy supply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Island Government has decided to expand renewable energy production by constructing another solar park with battery storage (phase 1) and two small wind turbines (phase 2). The next step is tendering for phase 1. The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy provides 60% of the expected costs as subsidy, another 20% is covered by a European subsidy. This is completed. PM
Reduced electricity rate	SZW, OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OLS receives a grant from the national government and makes sure that low-income households get this reduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SZW has granted \$350.212 USD to the OLS for a low-income household electricity rate reduction in 2022. A second grant has been transferred to the OLS in early January 2023. The national government has made a similar budget available to continue the reduction for low-income households in 2023. This is completed. (PM OLS execution)

7. Development of nature and environment, local food production and waste management

Action Saba Package 2.0	Responsibility	Planned realization 2022	Progress and comments
Implementation of the Nature and Environment Policy plan phase 1 (2022-2025)	OLS, LNV, IenW, BZK/VRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a Saba Nature and Environment Plan of Action. The steering group decides on various proposals and allocates a budget from the 30 million that will be added to the free allowance Start with executing several of the approved projects. There is a solution for existing high costs of waste management due to recycling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SNEPA <p>The Saba Nature and Environment Plan of Action (SNEPA) is in draft, needs finalizing and final approval from the NEPP Steering Group. This is to be worked on. The projects that are part of the SNEPA are already known. Some have already been approved by the steering group. Others are in development and need finalizing. These I explain further below.</p> <p>Funding In November 2022, the OLS received USD 3,073,900 to executive the first projects in the SNEPA as part of the NEPP, capacity for a program manager, a waste water investigation and the bounty period of the goat control project as a precondition to the execution of the other projects.</p> <p>Capacity to execute NEPP In the third quarter of 2022, a program manager was hired for the NEPP. Still the team working on the NEPP project is small. The OLS will request for support for more project management capacity to execute the projects of the SNEPA and for the control of invasive species (goats, rats, green iguanas).</p> <p>Goat control project In January of 2022, the OLS started a bounty period as part of its goat control project. Here local goat owners are incentivized to take part in the removal of their goats. A year later, approximately 2,000 goats have been removed. Phase 2 of the bounty period will be executed</p>

over the next few months to intensify the removal of goats. An operational plan will be developed for the removal of the remaining 10 – 20% of goats to complete the project. This will take place after the March 15 Island Council elections.

Hydroponics farm project

The way forward with the hydroponics farm project is being fine-tuned to realize crop production in 2023. This is still being done within the scope of the plan on which the subsidy is based.

Reforestation project

The removal of 80 – 90% of the island’s roaming goat population is a precondition to the start of the reforestation project. This is being worked on. The OLS is searching for expertise to start up the project and is in touch with STENAPA in St. Eustatius, who already has a reforestation team. The OLS has also reached out to RVO to assist with finding expertise for more continuous assistance with the project. A component of this project is to plant fruit trees as a step toward increasing local food production. This will be carried out on the short term.

Waste water vision/strategy

The Ministry of I&W is working on a monitoring program to monitor the quality of the sea water at Saba’s coast for a waste water vision. The OLS will liaise with I&W to find the required expertise. I&W will visit Saba in March.

Animal husbandry and fisheries pilot project

A pilot project will be carried out for 6 months to assist livestock owners with the high costs of animal food and commercial fishermen with fishing materials. Here livestock owners and fishermen can request for reimbursement for shipping and ABB costs on imported products. A longer term for 3 years has been developed and will be submitted to the steering group for the NEPP for approval and then sent to the Ministry of LNV to request for financial support to execute it. Funding for this may come from the Fund for Agriculture and Fisher BES, which still falls within the NEPP budget.

Backyard farming pilot project

A pilot project has been developed and will be carried out to support backyard farming. A online survey will be carried out to determine the needs of these farmers. Based on the results, solutions will be made available for a period of 6 months. For a longer term project, support can be provided in a broader sense and connected to the OLS horticulture master plan.

Education and awareness plan

The OLS is currently in talks with the Sea & Learn foundation to develop a tailor-made plan focused on education and awareness on nature conservation for the NEPP. This plan will be presented to the NEPP steering group for review and approval.

			<p>Strengthening of nature parks</p> <p>In order to get a better insight into the different tasks of the nature parks and their available funding and capacity, LNV is considering an independent assessment of the SCF and STENAPA. This will help the OLS assess whether the SCF is the right party to take on the management of Mt. Scenery National Park and the coordination over the execution over the coral restoration plan. The idea was developed during meetings between PES and LNV. PES is currently working on a draft ToR for such an assessment, after which LNV will develop it further.</p> <p>During the second half of 2022 a taskforce with representatives from Saba, Statia and IenW was formed with the aim of finding sustainable solutions for waste management, in collaboration with the both islands. In October, both islands submitted drafts plans and it was agreed that a phased approach would be best until a more definite plan and solutions were in place. A solution is sought to bridge the gap years until the islands have capabilities and procedures in place to implement a regional solution. Discussions/planning will continue in first half of 2022.</p>
--	--	--	--

Theme 4: Good governance

8. Improving public service

Action Saba Package 2.0	Responsibility	Planned realization 2022	Progress and comments
Digitalization	OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A plan of action has been drafted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is not done and needs to be rolled over for 2023.
Improve public service	OLS en SZW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore possibilities for strengthening their collaboration with the aim of providing better, and - if possible – integrated services to the inhabitants of Saba. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst in practice there is already a lot of cooperation between the Public Entity's Community Development Department and the RCN-unit SZW, steps still need to be taken to implement this action. Implementing this action will be taken up in the course of 2023. SZW has initiated a customer experience survey. The report of 29 september 2022 provide tools to ameliorate public services from the perspective of the RCN-unit SZW.

9. Improving public safety, legitimacy and reliability of the public administration

Action Saba Package 2.0	Responsibility	Planned realization 2022	Progress and comments
Improving public order, enforcement and supervision	JenV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OLS continues with the legal desk 	Still in progress. (PM).

Improving public order, enforcement and supervision	BZK, OLS en JenV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific action for 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public safety updates on progress: <p>In order to enforce public order and enforcement we have chosen two points of focus: invest in prevention and teach Sabans that actions have consequences:</p> <p>A team of 6 enforcers was established: two main enforcers and four part-time on harbor safety, environmental crimes, hygiene and building safety.</p> <p>Regarding prevention, Saba enforcers and Public Safety have held multi-disciplinary inspections of bars and restaurants and vendor stalls regarding fire safety, violations of the General Local Ordinance and Single Use Plastic Ban and hygiene. These inspections have led to 5 official warnings. Input has also been given for operational permits, firework permits and event permits. We have also warned owners of buildings at risk of (partly) blowing away during a hurricane. One structure was removed on public safety grounds and two building owners were given warnings regarding their building.</p> <p>Public Safety has also worked on the implementation of the new Traffic Ordinance, which was passed in May 2022. This traffic ordinance covers topics including tint, alcohol controls, helmets, child seats and handheld devices.</p> <p>On top of that, public safety has given advice in a number of policy domains including: food safety, immigration and border security, school bus safety, inhabitants causing nuisance and fire safety.</p> <p>On the topic of consequences, we have started at the main annoyance of the Saban people: parking troubles. Being blocked in, not finding a space to park, these are daily irritants on an island where space is scarce. We started slowly with verbal warnings. In the end 111 written warnings were issues (berisping) and 10 fines (process verbalen) were handed out. On top of that, 45 car wrecks were removed from the public road by their owners after formal enforcer warnings. One warning was handed out in the harbor regarding an oil spill.</p>
---	------------------	---	---

10. A modern, solid and employee empowering organization with robust public finances

Action Saba Package 2.0	Responsibility	Planned realization 2022	Progress and comments
Finances: Priorities governing agreement islands tasks Free allowance	BZK, OLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All mentioned topics will be started in 2022. Saba's begrotingstekort en beperkte financiële reserves. 1. Saba's financial deficit and weak financial reserve position. 2. A fund for low-income 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Completed. (2) In the process. (3) ongoing process. (4) ongoing process

<p>Island backlogs</p> <p>Motion van den Berg/Kuiken</p>		<p>households that can't afford to upkeep their homes; hurricane-readiness (public assistance).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Renovation, expansion of different government buildings (outside, inside, landscaping) for instance Community Development/Public Health 4. Maintenance of buildings 5. Beautification projects throughout the island 6. A fund to assist persons to build a home 7. Increase some departmental budgets wherever necessary, for instance tourism and legal & safety. 8. Various assistance programs for the community 9. Room for the island council to present new policies, projects and other initiatives 10. Giving culture initiatives a boost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (5) new benches were bought and the sign for the airport was enhanced. The rest is still ongoing. • (6) This is part of the shared agenda BZK/VRO and OLS. This is not done as yet. A fund to assist persons to build a home has not been realized yet, but this goal has been added to the 'Policy agenda housing and spatial development for the Caribbean Netherlands'. OLS will give priority to this goal in the elaboration of the island-specific action plan for Saba. • (7) Completed. Pending update from OLS finance. • (8) Pending update. • (9) Completed. Pending update from OLS finance • (10) The culture Covenant was signed. Culture stakeholders have been receiving assistance. We are now awaiting the final decision on letter to hire a culture coach through the ministry of OCW.
<p>Capacity building</p>	<p>OLS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start strengthening various sections of OLS. • Start with organizing extra support (capacity and work budget) for the island council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Someone was hired in nature and environment. • A head of the project bureau was hired, policy, communication and project workers now fall within this department. • Someone extra for HRM was hired. • The Island council hired someone to train them and make a more robust IC.
<p>Training and education</p>	<p>OLS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start with TOP Saba. • Implement education programs at various levels for different groups, also for island council members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have organized a PEP program for 16 persons within OLS alongside offering workshops for all civil servants. • We meet every 6 weeks for 3- 4 days. During this time new skills are learnt as well as tools are given to use in your everyday job. • Top highlighted trainings: Policy Writing, Project Management and public speaking