

Appendix: Measures for the Caribbean Netherlands (St. Eustatius, Saba and Bonaire) => only for the Caribbean Netherlands

1. Loss of wages and income

An entrepreneur who is faced with a loss of turnover (at least 20%) and as a result is unable to keep staff working, can apply for a three-month compensation from the RCN unit SZW (80% of the maximum daily wages). A scheme is chosen that is in line with the BES health insurance.

Employers making use of this emergency measure are obliged to keep their staff in service and to continue to pay them in full, for which they are therefore compensated to a considerable extent. The emergency regulation also applies to employees with a zero-hour contract or a temporary contract.

2. Extra support for independent entrepreneurs and other individuals

The Cabinet is introducing a temporary scheme to support self-employed entrepreneurs, including freelancers, so that they can continue their business. This emergency measure is comparable to the measure described above for employees. A maximum subsidy of 80% of the WML is provided for this group.

Also employees who have already lost their jobs as a result of the coronavirus can qualify for this scheme. Finally, an appeal can be made to the social relief ('onderstand'), such as necessary costs of living arising from the special circumstances.

3. Emergency counter

The allowance referred to in the letter of March 17th, 2020, in the form of a gift for the primary need of entrepreneurs who are affected, will also be worked out in more detail for entrepreneurs in the Caribbean Netherlands.

4. Liquidity support

The measures for liquidity support for companies announced in the European Netherlands will also be extended to the Caribbean Netherlands:

- For the Caribbean Netherlands, a possibility for special deferral of payment will be temporarily introduced for entrepreneurs who have been or will be experiencing liquidity problems as a result of the corona crisis.
- The temporary facility under the BMKB will be opened in the Caribbean Netherlands. Because the BMKB in the Caribbean Netherlands has so far been relatively little used by banks, extra information about this instrument will be provided in consultation with the Chambers of Commerce Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba. Other than in the European Netherlands, the BMKB is also open to agricultural entrepreneurs, including the fishing sector and aquaculture.

- The GO scheme will be extended in the same way as in the European Netherlands. This plan is for larger companies, for loans above \$ 1.5 million. The GO scheme will also be given extra publicity and information in consultation with the Chambers of Commerce.
- The expansion of Qredits, announced in the letter to the House of Representatives on March 17th, on the emergency package for jobs and the economy for the European Netherlands is also valid in the Caribbean Netherlands.

5. Consultation on island taxes

In consultation with the executive boards of the Public Entities, the Cabinet is discussing the possibility of ending the collection of island taxes on entrepreneurs. This particularly concerns the tourist tax and the surcharges on the property tax.

Where can private individuals and entrepreneurs go?

Financiers, in particular banks, can submit applications for the extended credit schemes (BMKB and GO) to RVO, the implementing organization of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy. Entrepreneurs report this to their lender. For the tax measures entrepreneurs can contact the Tax Office Caribbean Netherland (Tax Office CN).

The RCN unit SZW is the designated body for the schemes of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment. The RCN unit SZW strives to publish more information and the application forms at www.rijksdienstcn.com/covid-19 as soon as possible.