

Waste management in Aruba



Caribbean
Waste
Collective

Students: Hilary Jimenez, Paola Koeman & Christiaan Kingsale

Faculty: FHTMS

Course: Environmental Science

Teachers: Tony Sevold & Christie Mettes

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Introduction:

Managing waste is not an easy job, especially if you do not have people cooperating to do so. It takes time, energy and commitment to do so. Luckily, there are a few organizations, companies and even individuals who help manage waste and bring awareness to the importance of having a sustainable environment. Our assigned “company” or group is the Caribbean Waste Collective.

What is the Caribbean Waste Collective?

The Caribbean Waste Collective was founded in 2017 and is a group of companies, initiatives and individuals all over the ABC islands (Aruba, Bonaire & Curacao) who work together to manage waste by collecting and recycling. Their goal is to become an economic sector in these three islands by working together in order to grow and by sharing knowledge to the community.

What does the Caribbean Waste Collective do?

The Caribbean Waste Collective creates a network of waste initiatives that need each other to become an economic pillar on the ABC islands. They are looking for fundings from investors and want to become the single point of contact to the local governments. The Caribbean Waste Collective wants to make waste into value. Their mission is to make waste recycling a valuable economical sector on the ABC islands by 2025. They want to achieve this goal by getting funds from investors that are interested and become part of the government. One of their main goals is to define projects that stimulate waste recycling within the collective they work together to realize these goals. The projects can be on an local or inter-island level. They want to achieve all of this by changing the mindset of the community.

Why does the Caribbean Waste Collective do this?

They are doing waste recycling because the world is changing drastically, traditional resources are running out and new sources are needed to take their place. Waste is a big issue on all the Caribbean islands. The Caribbean Waste collective finds that through changing the mindset of the community and linking initiatives they can create waste into value.

Interview

The questions we were going to ask were as follows:

1. What does the Caribbean Waste Collective do?
2. What are your personal and professional impressions of waste management in Aruba?
3. What is your desired future for waste management in Aruba?
4. Do you see any obstacles in getting to this desired future scenario?
5. Who do you think would pay for a better waste management in Aruba?

Unfortunately we did not get access to an interview, even though we tried contacting the company and Mr. Acevedo multiple times. The only question we could answer ourselves was, as answered in a previous paragraph, *What does the Caribbean Waste Collective do?*.

Conclusion

To conclude, the Caribbean Waste Collective is a group of companies in the Caribbean who work together to manage waste by collecting and recycling. The Caribbean Waste collective wants to transform waste into value, by recycling. They try to raise awareness on waste management, so that they can motivate and change people's mindsets and find ways to better manage all the waste produced on the ABC islands. It is very unfortunate that we did not get access to an interview with Mr. Acevedo from the Caribbean Waste Collective. Knowing that waste is relatively poorly managed here on the island, we would have loved to find out more about the Caribbean Waste Collective's future and desires of waste management. We sent multiple messages, personally by phone and by mail to Mr. Acevedo, and even tried calling the company itself, but we barely got any reply back. He told us he was busy due to the energy conference that was going on at the time. The fact that the company tries to give information about waste management but does not reply was unfortunate. We totally support the whole concept of the company and what its focuses are, we just really hoped to be able to talk to Mr. Acevedo to get an even deeper insight of the company and where it sees itself in the future.

Reference:

The Caribbean Waste Collective Website: <https://www.caribbeanwastecollective.com/>