

## SDG 15: Life on land

SDG goal: "Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss."

Target 7&8

7: "Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products." This SDG target seeks to eliminate poaching, by removing the demand for poached goods. In some instances countries have a shoot to kill policy, where soldiers protect a protected zone from intruders whom are mainly poachers (book page 146).

8: "By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species." To prevent the invasive species phenomenon. (1)

On Aruba we are also somewhat susceptible to poaching, we don't have any animals here that carry precious furs, but we do have the conch which is a delicacy here on the island.

SDG target number 8 can benefit Aruba more than 7, here we can work towards the prevention of more boa's coming onto the Island and the eradication of the boa's already on the island.

Maybe by putting stricter rules on the soil imports of countries like Suriname. Preventing the boa's from over consuming our native wildlife, like the shoco. List of some invasive species here on the island at source (2)

In regards to waste management this SDG goal is of relevance since waste is also stored on land. That can have an adverse effect on life on land due to pollution. Target 7 and 8 has no relation to waste management since they focus on living creatures.

Some indicators for the progression of this goal and targets are for example:

Amount of land that is protected, at the moment 15% of land is protected, however, it still does not cover all the important areas for biodiversity. (3)

Species being add on the red list index (biodiversity loss)

On Aruba the national park monitors the availability of animals in the park, such as bats and the cascabel. (4)

Sources: (1)

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/11803Official-List-of-Proposed-SDG-Indicators.pdf>

(2)

<http://issg.org/database/species/search.asp?st=sss&sn=&rn=Aruba&ri=18476&hci=-1&ei=-1&fr=1&sts=&lang=EN>

(3) <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg15>

(4) <https://www.arubanationalpark.org/main/reforestation-pilot-project/>