In this paper we will discuss SDG’s for Aruba, focusing on the Climate Action. The SDG in question was set in place to take urgent action against climate change, to mitigate and reverse the effects of climate change. The goal is to ensure a sustainable and stable climate for future generations, as well as protect the current generations from feeling the negative effects of climate change such as more frequent and stronger weather patterns such a hurricanes and other storms as well as longer droughts that could intensely impact certain communities. So there must be a collective and organized effort to minimize and hopefully eradicate climate change. The target and indicators relating to climate change that we will focus on in this report are as follows:

* Is there a national and local disaster risk reduction strategies
* Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 peopl
* Has there been an establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy/strategy/plan which increases the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production (including a national adaptation plan, nationally determined contribution, national communication, biennial update report or other)

With these three indicators I contacted SDG Aruba and spoke to Jocelyne Croes about them and asked if there was a framework in place to collect data on these indicators. For the first indicator she said that yes indeed. The national disaster risk reduction is accounted for by De Bureau van Rampenbestrijding which is helmed by Rino Hermans. For the second, number of deaths, missing persons etc affected by disasters there is also data collected. When I spoke to Jocelyne she said that I would receive the specific data on the matter but I was never sent the information. And for the third she told me that there was nothing in place as of yet.

As for how this relates to Aruba it is quite clear. As a small island completely dependent on tourism, our natural environment is one of our biggest draws. So many people rely on the environment to survive. From tour operators to hotels we all require the climate to be stable to be able to not only make a living but to also thrive on our tiny island. Aruba being a small island is also susceptible to rising oceans. Aruba is an island that is not only small but also relatively flat, with rising tides most of the infrastructure, housing and buildings would be underwater and unusable.

All SDGs are closely linked, this is no different for climate action and waste management on Aruba. Waste management on Aruba has long been just throwing everything in a landfill and burning it off. This is not in alignment with sustainable waste management development goals. Aruba must do it’s best to find new ways to manage waste. To start a recycling initiative and properly deal with all the waste collected in households and especially in our hotels and restaurants.

# References:

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg13>

<http://sdgaruba.com/sdgs/climate-change/>

Jocelyne Croes from <http://sdgruba.com>

<http://www.overheid.aw/bestuur-organisatie/bureau-rampenbestrijding-rba_41007/>