

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN

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Budget Debate 2023

Ministry of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Traffic & Telecommunications

Presented by : Minister A. Lambriex



GOVERNMENT OF SINT MAARTEN



Presentation Content

- Mission and Vision Ministry TEATT
- Key achievements 2022
- Policy Priorities 2023
- Overall comparison budget 2023 vs 2022
- Revenue
- Expenses
- Capital Investments Expenses
- Other Matters
- Conclusion





Mission & Vision

Mission

To gather and produce the relevant statistics, policies, regulations and laws, taking into consideration critical dilemmas, and explore diversification areas, complementary to our Tourism Based Economy, to assist with decision making towards the further stimulation, development & growth of our economy on the short- and long-term for country St. Maarten

Vision

We aim to stimulate sustainable economic growth, provide economic relief and further tourism development and agriculture, while creating employment and economic opportunities for the people of St. Maarten.





Ministry's Goals

- Economic Growth
- Economic Relief
- Tourism Development
- Developing Sustainable Agriculture
- Regulation, Control & Enforcement
- Service Improvement





Current Realities

- Economic growth for 2022, with a forecasted GDP of 8.0%
- Economic growth for 2023, with a forecasted GDP of 5.0%
- Stay-over arrivals 2022 vs 2019 surpassed by 17%
- Stay-over arrivals 2022 vs 2016 behind by 29%
- Cruise arrivals 2022 vs 2019 behind by 48%
- Inflation in 2022 was 3.8%
- Inflation is projected to be 3.5% (approx.) for 2023
- Note: Price increase, due to Imported Inflation arising War in Ukraine, Supply chain challenges and issues from COVID-19

Crossroads/ Challenges:

- Aim for sustainability tourism development
- Increased business activities --> Increased noise pollution & other externalities
- Promote Investments --> Spatial Planning & Dilemma



Key achievements in 2022

Economic Growth

- Support of the Farmers Market in PDP
- Disbursement of funds to (8) schools for 'agriculture in schools' program
- Approval and publishing of the Investment and Diversification Policy
- Approval and publishing of the Agriculture Policy
- SME Entrepreneurship Development Program (SEDP)

Service Improvement

- Census 2022
- Economic Indicators: Updated figures for GDP & Inflation
- Weather Radar
- Launch of online application for business licenses

Economic Relief

- Max Price Project (Basket of Goods)
- Hurricane/Disaster List
- Excise Tax Relief
- Price Comparisons

Tourism Development

- On-Line Travel Agency (OTA) Campaigns (Expedia, TravelZoo)
- Marketing and sales campaigns throughout our regions (North America, EU, Caribbean) targeting B2B and B2C
- Airline campaign with American Airlines, Sunwing
- Partnership with Annual special events to increase arrivals

Control, Regulation and Enforcement

- Formalization of the Lottery Oversight Committee
- Implementation of Driving exams in automatic vehicles
- Approval and Implementation of Min. Regulation ref. mandatory price displays



Key achievements in 2022

Economic Growth: Support of the Farmers Market in PDP

- The Ministry provided an initial subsidy of Naf. 36,000 in 2022 with plans to continue providing an annual subsidy to support this initiative, which organizes monthly farmer's markets throughout the year.
- The market has now been ongoing successfully for 2 years.
- This initiative helps farmers and other agriculture-related businesses sell their products directly to consumers, reducing the middleman's cost.
- This not only benefits the farmers but also promotes healthy eating habits among consumers.

Ministry of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Traffic & Telecommunications (TEATT)



"A Taste of St. Maarten"

FARMERS' MARKET

MARCH 4TH: 9 A.M. - 12 P.M.

Located at the Yacht Club Port De Plaisance: Oasis Garden

**ENCOURAGING
A HEALTHY
LIFESTYLE**

In support of our local farmers, we would like to invite the community to come out and experience the best in produce that Sint Maarten has to offer. You will get fresh food, while promoting the region and supporting local jobs. We hope to see you there!

ENJOY LIVE STEEL BAN
infosmfhf@gmail.com
Union Road, Cole Bay





Key achievements in 2022

Economic Growth: **Agriculture in Schools** program

- The government has disbursed funds to nine schools for this program, which aims to teach students about agriculture, farming techniques, and related skills.
- Each school was contacted and given the opportunity to take part in the program.
- Each school will use the funds to (further) develop their school gardens/ greenhouses.
- The funds +/- NAf 84,000 disbursed varied per school according to their needs.





Key achievements in 2022



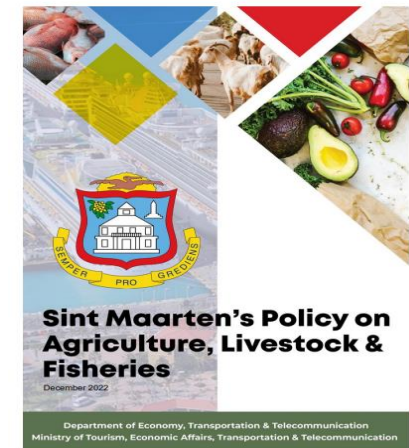
Economic Growth: **Investment and Diversification Policy**

- The government has approved and published the Investment and Diversification Policy to attract foreign investment and diversify the economy.
- This policy will create new opportunities for businesses, increase employment opportunities and promote economic growth.



Economic Growth: **Agriculture Policy**

- The Agriculture Policy aims to provide a comprehensive framework for promoting agriculture in the country.
- This policy includes measures to improve agriculture productivity, increase investment in agriculture, and promote agro-industries.



Both policies are available on:

<http://www.sintmaartengov.org/government/TEATT/Pages/Ministry-Policies-and-Reports.aspx>



Key Achievements in 2022

MSME : SEDP Program Sept. 2022 To Aug. 2023

Intake: 61 (Existing - 27, Aspiring – 28)

Active: 55 & Inactive 7

Distribution of active – 55 candidates

Category	Type	Total
Loan only - no training needed	Existing	5
Job referral	Existing	1
Approved NRPB loan	Existing	3
NRPB Loan application being processed	8 existing, 2 aspiring	10
Business license application in process	Aspiring	7
No loan needed, classes only	Aspiring and existing	12
Undergoing research to finalize business ideas	Aspiring	18
Total		55

THE INITIAL EVALUATION PROCESS HAS BEEN COMPLETED

115 APPLIED FOR OUR **NEW SEDP PROGRAM**

53% 53% of the Applicants were qualified to move on to second phase of the evaluation.

61 The **DIVERSITY** and **VARIETY** in experience of the qualified applicants were fascinating.

"THERE ARE NO LOSERS"

Thus, it was agreed in quoting the Minister of TEATT "there are no losers" to this program. Therefore we are committed to assist all qualified participants, aspiring or existing, by scheduling a one-on-one consultancy session to:

- To better understand their needs
- To categorize them in the different modules of the SEDP based on their specific needs

The Ministry of TEATT | ASA | SEDP

TRANSFORMING ST.MAARTEN, ONE SMALL BUSINESS AT A TIME.

SUBMIT YOUR VIDEO PITCH

By August 23, 2022

The Ministry of TEATT

ASA

REC

D. NO. TAKE ROLL



SEDP UPDATES

An Entrepreneur's investment in knowledge pays their best interest.

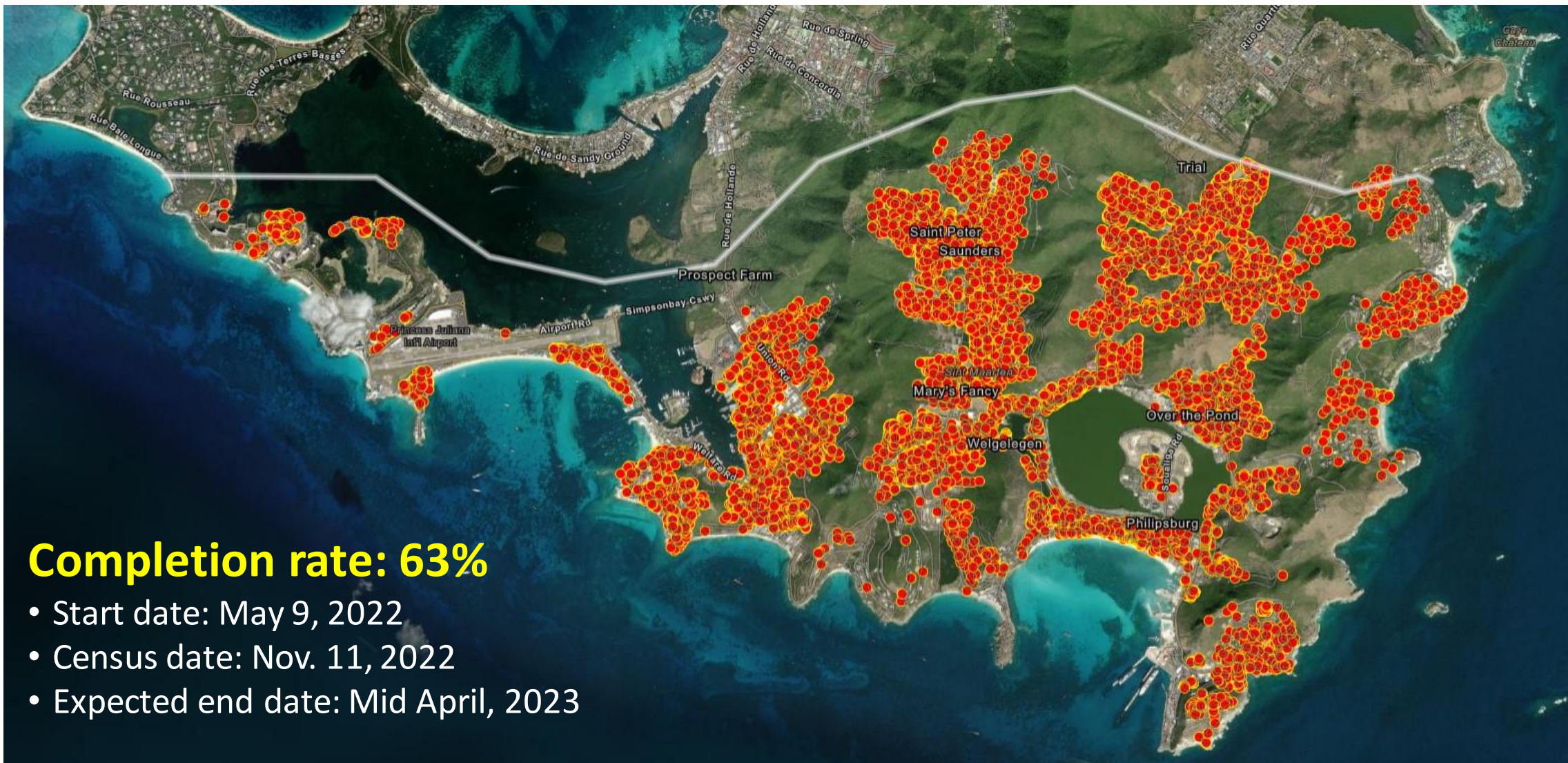
SEDP





Key achievements in 2022

Service Improvement : **Population Census 2022**





Key achievements in 2022

Service Improvement : **Weather Radar**



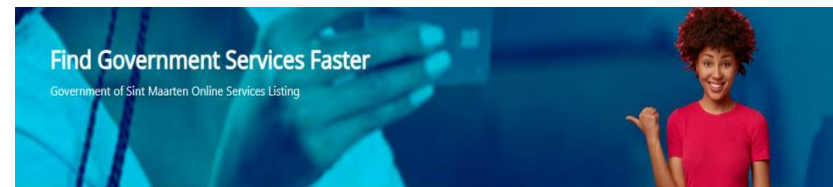
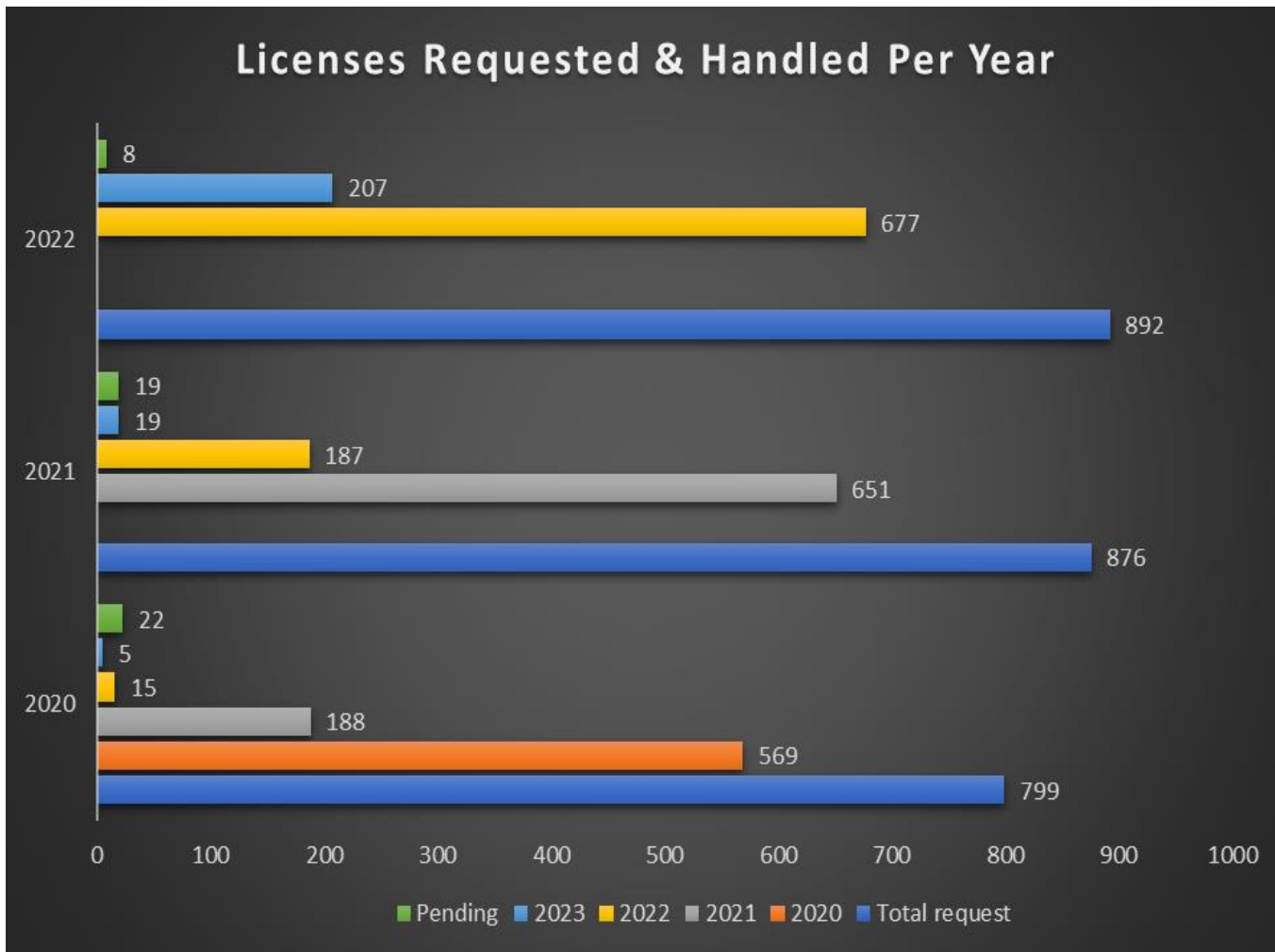
The weather radar is installed and functioning as of September 2022.

Pending to be online soon, working with ICT to get it online.



Key achievements in 2022

Service Improvement: **Business Licenses, Online Applications**



Services related to:

- Vehicle Taxes
- Receipt Retrieval
- Economic Licenses
- Civil Registry
- Justice
- Pay Invoices
- Covid Vaccine
- Online Appointments

Additional Directors License Request Form [View](#)

Business License
To request a business license online. [View](#)

Business License Amendments Request Form [View](#)

Step 1: Prepare Documents

Provide digital copies of the following documents:

- Tax Registration Declaration (CRIB Verklaring)
- Chamber of Commerce Registration
- Deed of Incorporation
- Letter addressed to the Minister of TEATT

Director Documents:

- Antillean: Colored Copy of Passport & Census Registration Form
- Naturalized Dutch: Colored Copy of Passport & Census Registration Form
- Local Resident(not Dutch): Colored Copy of Passport, Census Registration Form, Resident Permit & Certificate of Good Conduct
- Foreign: Colored Copy of Passport, Proof of residence in country where residing, utility bill, bank statements, lease agreement (at least 2) & Certificate of Good Conduct from country where residing

Step 2: Online Request

Once you have obtained all of your digital documents (Step 1), please proceed to complete your online request.

[Complete Online Request](#)



Key achievements in 2022

Economic Relief: Hurricane/ Disaster List 2022



Building Materials			
ITEM	Description	extra info	2022
Lumber (in feet)	1x3x10		12.15
	1x3x12		14.56
	1x3x16		19.73
	1x10x12		40.89
	1x12x16		93.58
	2x4x10		23.40
	2x4x12		28.08
	2x4x16		39.42
	2x6x18		54.27
	2x6x20		60.30
	3x6x18		116.64
	3x6x20		129.60
	Plyform Wood:	treated plyform 1/2 inch	
untreated plyform 1/2 inch			80.98
treated plyform 5/8 inch			188.98
untreated plyform 5/8 inch			93.58
treated plyform 3/4 inch			140.84
untreated plyform 3/4 inch			106.18
treated T-1-11 1/2 inch			68.98
			107.98
			121.49
			125.98

BATTERIES

Description	quantity in pack	BRANDS				
		Duracell	Energizer	Panasonic	ACE	Eveready
AA size / 1.5 V	2	4.93	4.69	4.20	6.75	4.95
AA size / 1.5 V - Promo	2	5.70	4.28	7.16		
AA size / 1.5 V	4	8.86	8.15	7.00	6.71	
AA size / 1.5 V - Evolta	4		8.55			
AA size / 1.5 V - Promo	4	8.75				
AA size / 1.5 V	6	19.51	7.59			
AA size / 1.5 V	8	20.04	15.78	9.20		
AA size / 1.5 V	10	26.83				
AA size / 1.5 V	20	46.71				
AA size / 1.5 V	24			26.99		
AAA size / 1.5 V	2	5.02	4.70	4.23		3.83
AAA size / 1.5 V - Evolta	2	4.80	5.31	3.80		
AAA size / 1.5 V - Promo	2		5.20	4.50		
AAA size / 1.5 V	4	8.98	8.31	7.18	6.60	
AAA size / 1.5 V - Promo	4	7.20	7.70			
AAA size / 1.5 V	6	11.87	8.47			

500 gr 7.18
500 gr 5.84
500 gr 5.84
500 gr 5.84
500 gr 5.84

Other Products for Light

Description	BRAND	Maximum Price in ANG
CANDLE (SMALL) GLASS	any brand	2.55
CANDLE (LARGE) GLASS	any brand	4.21
CITRONELLA CANDLE (SMALL) GLASS	any brand	3.97
CITRONELLA CANDLE (LARGE) GLASS	any brand	6.23

WATER BRANDS

	8 oz / 236.6 ml	330 ml / 33 cl.	0.5 L / 500 ml / 50 cl.	1 L / 1000 ml / 100cl.	1.5 L / 1500 ml / 150 cl.	5 L / 5000 ml / 500 cl.
Blue Waters	0.65	1.00	0.85	1.36	1.59	4.54
Blue Mountain	-	-	0.85	1.53	1.90	5.42
Capes	-	-	1.12	1.59	2.08	5.58
Heavenly	0.59	-	0.96	1.88	1.71	4.42
Evian	-	1.39	1.42	2.78	5.25	4.92
Spa	-	1.48	1.80	2.23	2.25	-
Volvic	-	1.34	1.49	1.91	2.69	5.15
Chanflor	-	1.15	1.46	2.12	2.39	6.85
Vittel	-	1.09	1.51	2.89	2.89	6.61
Nedle	-	-	1.29	2.55	2.67	6.95
Nestle	0.65	-	0.86	1.18	2.45	4.38
Dasani	-	0.52	0.82	1.97	2.61	4.60
Acqua Panna	-	1.80	1.80	3.11	3.21	-
Perrier	-	2.12	2.12	3.25	3.95	-
Aguaфина	-	0.83	1.40	3.08	2.91	-
S. Pellegrino	1.55	1.83	1.96	3.12	3.16	-
Silver Springs	-	-	0.90	-	-	-
TRUE	-	-	0.40	-	-	-

NOTE: The maximum price established must be applied to any multi unit



Key achievements in 2022

Economic Relief: **Basket of Goods & Maximum Price**



Website: <https://www.maxpricesxm.com/>

Increased the Basket from 12 items to 72 items now also mentioning specific brands and implemented a Maximum Price on the 72 items as of August 1st, 2022.

Previous Basket of Goods

1. Rice
2. Margarine
3. Butter
4. Milk powder
5. Canned milk
6. Baby food
7. Cooking oil
8. Coffee
9. Tea
10. Flour
11. Sugar
12. Cornmeal



New Basket of Goods List

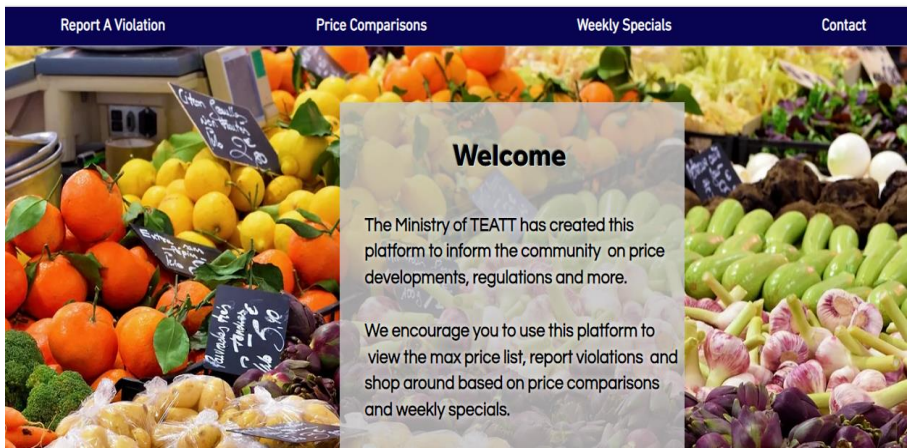
- Oats
- Granola Bars
- Club Social
- Sultana
- Corn Flakes
- Salt
- Black Pepper
- Season All
- Pasta
- Condiments
- Vinegar
- Margarine/Butter
- Frozen Chicken
- Canned Evaporated Milk
- Mop & broom
- Sponges
- Soap Powder
- Deodorant
- Powdered Milk
- Tea Bags
- Coffee
- Peanut butter
- Jam
- White Sugar
- Honey
- Flour
- Corn meal
- Baking Powder
- Rice
- Vienna Sausage
- Sardines
- Mackerel
- Corn Beef
- Cooking Oil
- Beans/Peas (Dry/Can)
- Green Beans (Can)
- Corn Kernel (Can)
- Peas & Carrots (Can)
- Tomato Paste
- Tuna
- Baby Food & Pampers
- Garbage Bags
- Toothpaste/Brush
- Razors
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Bar Soap
- Dish Liquid
- Disinfectant
- Sanitary Napkins



Key achievements in 2022

Economic Relief: **Basket of Goods & Maximum Price**

Website: <https://www.maxpricesxm.com/>



Max Price List

Search Category Filter Item

Effective Date: August 01, 2022

Note: gr = gram | ml = milliliters | oz =

Category	Item	Brand	Size	Amount (Naf)
Dry Goods	Corn Flakes	Kellog	24 oz / 680 gr	12.09
Dry Goods	Pasta - Spaghetti	Panzani	500gr	3.36
Dry Goods	Pasta - Macaroni	Panzani	500gr	3.28
Baby Products	Baby Diapers	Huggies / Pampers	1pk (all ages) *	22.72
Baby Products	Baby Cereal	Nestle / Nestum	730gr	6.86
Hygiene Products	Cavity Protection Toothpaste	Cologate	113gr / 4 oz	4.75





Key achievements in 2022



Economic Relief: Gas price (excise tax) relief

The Ministry of TEATT spearheaded the exercise to provide relief on gas prices through a reduction in the gasoline excise tax (aka import duties).

The relief was a joint effort between the Ministries of TEATT, Finance and Justice.

Between June and December 2022 (6 months) the excise tax was reduced from Naf. 0.29 cents per litre to Naf 0.155 cents per litre.





Key achievements in 2022



Service Improvement : **Automatic Driving Exams**

Pursuant to AB 2022, no. 67 Lbham tot wijziging van het Landsbesluit inrichting rijexamens, with an effective date of February 3, 2023, it is now possible for driver's license candidates to take the practical part of the driving exam in a motor vehicle with an automatic or manual transmission.

Total exams per March 9, 2023: 147

Manual transmission (since January 2023): 93

Automatic transmission given (since February 3, 2023: 54





Key achievements in 2022

Tourism Development : Marketing and sales campaigns targeting B2C to B2B

Trade Farm - Invited 10 travel advisors to the island for a winter update, to experience the island firsthand.

Delta Vacation University- Participate in Delta Vacations annual conference attended by travel advisors from across the USA. Business to St. Maarten has grown by over 60% this past year.

Attend ALG's (Apple Leisure Group) annual tradeshow- Promoting St. Maarten to the trade, networking with 650 travel advisors at this annual conference.

Northeast Roadshow- Host a series of destination updates for the travel trade in the northeast USA, St. Marten's largest source market for visitors.

DELTA VACATIONS
UNIVERSITY
TRAVELING FORWARD TOGETHER™





Key achievements in 2022

Tourism Development : Online Travel Agency Travel Zoo

Travel Zoo

- **Investment** : 90,900 Naf.
- **Total Reach**: 4,465,519
- **Over 20K** visits to the page demonstrates high member interest and engagement with St. Martin & St. Maarten content
- **3,360+** outbound links demonstrated high interest in discovering more about the two islands, particularly with accommodation links ranking high
- **Strong engagement on social media**, with users saving and sharing content on Instagram





Key achievements in 2022

Tourism Development : Online Travel Agency Travel Zoo

We saw high engagement on social media
with **269,195 impressions** reached



St. Maarten & St. Martin:
One island, two nations,
all magic

Travelzoo October 20 at 7:28 AM · 🌐

Welcome to the unparalleled vacation destination that is St. Martin and St. Maarten 🌴💙

Click below to find out why this locale is nicknamed The Friendly Island!

👉 <https://www.travelzoo.com/ca/custom/st-martin-st-maarten/>
See less

Most relevant ▾

- Dianne Lee**
Was our favorite island it's perfect
20h
- Francine Taillon Greene**
Debbie Laframboise
2w
- Honey Humble**
Mathew-Young Alia we coming soon
23h

Most Relevant is selected, so some comments may have been filtered out.



Key achievements in 2022

Tourism Development : Tourism Development : Online Travel Agency Expedia

Investment: 153,000 Naf. Along with SHTA

Return on investment: 49:1

Gross booking revenue to destination: US\$ 4.2 million in gross bookings

5.8k Room Nights booked

4.2 M Impressions



Ad

MAAGICAL

ST. MAARTEN

Discover Sint Maarten

Find paradise in "The Friendly Island" where European Culture blends effortlessly with Caribbean Flair.



Ad

MAAGICAL

ST. MAARTEN

Experience paradise in Sint Maarten

Sint Maarten invites you to kick off your sandals and stay awhile.



Priorities in 2023

Economic Growth

- **SME Development**
 - Replicate Farmers Market in Philipsburg
 - SME Entrepreneurship Development Program (SEDP)
 - Opportunity for SME (Street Fairs)
- **Promoting Agriculture**
 - Agriculture in schools' program
 - Educational Programs for the Agriculturists
- **Investment Climate**
 - Issue subsidy to EDC for investment promotion and diversification activities and oversee activities.
 - Develop a red-carpet policy for Investors
 - Revision/Updating of Residential Economic policy (REP)
 - Mooring ball project Simpsonbay Lagoon
 - Revision/Updating of Beach & Vending policy
 - Review of List of Moratoria
 - Finalization of Re-establishment of the EDC

Info Campaigns & Service Improvement

- **Data Availability**
 - Census 2022
 - Economic Indicators: Updated figures for GDP & Inflation
- **Information and Communication**
 - Complaint/Case Management System
 - Info Campaign for awareness of tourism in school and in the community
- **Reduce the License Process time**
 - Launch of online application for business licenses
 - Publication of clear criteria to start a business/obtain a business license
- **Enhance Weather Reporting**
 - Purchase and install new Automatic Weather Observation System (AWOS).
 - Weather Radar

Economic Relief

- **Increased Prices Controls**
 - Max Price Project (Additions to Basket of Goods)
 - Hurricane/Disaster List
 - Establish/ Update Maximum prices
- **Stimulate Competition**
 - Price Comparisons published on Website
- **Monitor and Evaluate economic relief initiatives**

Tourism Development

- **Marketing to Increase Tourism Receipt (Heads in Bed)**
 - Co-op Campaigns (Airlines and Travel Agents)
 - Trade Shows
 - Hosting
 - Annual Calendar of Events
 - Website development
 - Various campaigns created to increase bookings and arrivals (Expedia and TripAdvisor)
- **Data**
 - Online ED Cards (requires work with immigration)
 - Tourism Exit Survey
- **Product Development**
 - Coordination for beautify Philipsburg including signage
 - Increase foot traffic in town via a bus/tour terminal
 - Finalization of Digital Maps
 - Cruise Conversion to assist in increasing our day visitors to return stay over guest
 - Finalizing discussions with RCG for proposed Hotel/Water Park

Control, Regulation and Enforcement

- Noise pollution & complaints
- Public Transportation Improvements
- Harassment & Soliciting
- Addressing Unlicensed Business
- Max Prices, Weights & Measures
- Finalize updates to Beach policy and the Residential Eco. Policy (REP)
- ICAO and CAT 1 Status
- Inspections on Pricing of Basket of Goods and keeping within regulation
- Recruitment of Harbour Master



Overall Comparison Budget 2023 vs 2022

Description	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Difference (Savings)
Expenses	Naf. 26,472,478	Naf. 24,526,388	Naf. 1,946,090
Income	Naf. 31,950,251	Naf. 60,813,010	Naf. 28,862,759



Projected Revenue Increases 2023 vs 2022

Category	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Difference (Additional Revenue)
Business Licenses	Naf. 7.7 mil	Naf. 8.89 mil	Naf. 1.19 mil
Time Share	Naf. 1.3 mil	Naf. 3.14 mil	Naf. 1.84 mil
Guest Lodging Tax	Naf. 2.5 mil	Naf. 8 mil	Naf. 5.5 mil
Guest Tax Airbnb	Naf. 0	Naf. 5 mil	Naf. 5 mil
Special Income - Tourist Tax	Naf. 0	Naf. 10 mil	Naf. 10 mil
Rental Car Tax	Naf. 450,000	Naf. 850,000	Naf. 400,000
Hazards Games	Naf. 4.92 mil	Naf. 7.2 mil	Naf. 2.28 mil
Total	Naf. 16,870,000	Naf. 43,086,957	Naf. 26,216,957



Expenses per Economic Category 2023 vs 2022

Category	Budget 2022	Actuals 2022	Budget 2023
Personnel Expenses	Naf. 16.3 mil	Naf. 13.8 mil	Naf. 16 mil
Goods and Services	Naf. 8.1 mil	Naf. 4.9 mil	Naf. 7.1 mil
Subsidies	Naf. 2.1 mil	Naf. 1 mil	Naf. 1.6 mil
Total	Naf. 26.5 mil	Naf. 19.7 mil	Naf. 24.7 mil



Capital Investments 2023

Description	Budgeted Amount	Project Cost
Market/Vendor Village	Naf. 676,800.00	
Market place, Meeting Area & Taxi Holding (Phase 1)	(Naf. 426,032.13)	Naf. 1,056,032.13 RCG Commitment Naf. 630,000.00
Park Benches & Ash-Trash Bins (Phase 1)	(Naf. 250,760.00)	Naf. 250,760.00
6 Vehicles Inspection department	Naf. 323,832.00	
Total	Naf. 1,000,632.00 (Naf. 1,000,624.13)	



Philipsburg Market Place Plans



PHILIPSBURG MARKET PLACE

Not just a Market Place/Vending Village but also incorporates a proper Taxi Holding area to ensure proper parking and waiting area to eliminate the congestion at Courthouse/Clem Labega Square.

Seating areas for enjoying a snack or refreshment will also be incorporated into the new design. This allows the area to become more of just a passing through area but a actual area for even locals to come and enjoy their lunch time.

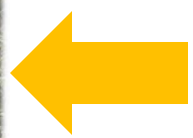
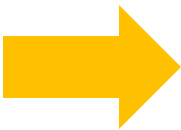


PHILIPSBURG MARKET PLACE



Philipsburg Market Place Plans

Comfortable space for all vendors to display, and store their items which avoids unsightly storage, easy operations for vendors, all while keeping a open concept and relaxed feel for shoppers.



Central meeting area is also included in the plans. In this area we will have nice water feature, green area, seating as well as public restroom (already in place and will remain within new plans for area). St Maarten Tourist Bureau is also busy with finalizing a digital map of Philipsburg where this would be a good central area to have it placed aswell for easy navigation throughout Town for our visitors.



AshTrash Bins with 4-sided disposal, light weight, non-corrosive and fire-retardant material



Concrete University/Park style benches, with low to little maintenance and heavy enough that it cannot be moved around by public, ensuring when used throughout front street that it also works as deterrent against curbside/sidewalk parking which has been continued issue and this will assist to also resolve.



Additional Generated Revenues or Public Private Partnership

Description	2023
Philipsburg Bus Station (Phase 2)	Naf. 601,632



Requested Additional Project for 2023

"Bus Terminal, a real necessity for public transport as well for tourism sector to have safe central drop off and pickup location"



Pros:

- Create safe, Friendly environment for tour bus/groups & transfers aswell as Public Transportation.
- To better allow Drop off/pick up of pre-arranged tours/transfers *optional drop off for our mutual guests to visit and shop in Philipsburg will greatly assist with boosting economy/visitor flow
- Groups can now meet and gather in downtown or boardwalk and then begin their tours/transfers from there.



Requested Additional Project for 2023

"Bus Terminal"



Pros:

- Regulate the flow of buses and ensure all routes leaving Philipsburg are covered
- Including never before covered short routes that are much needed such as: Point Blanche, & Sucker Garden/Arch Road/Illidge Road.



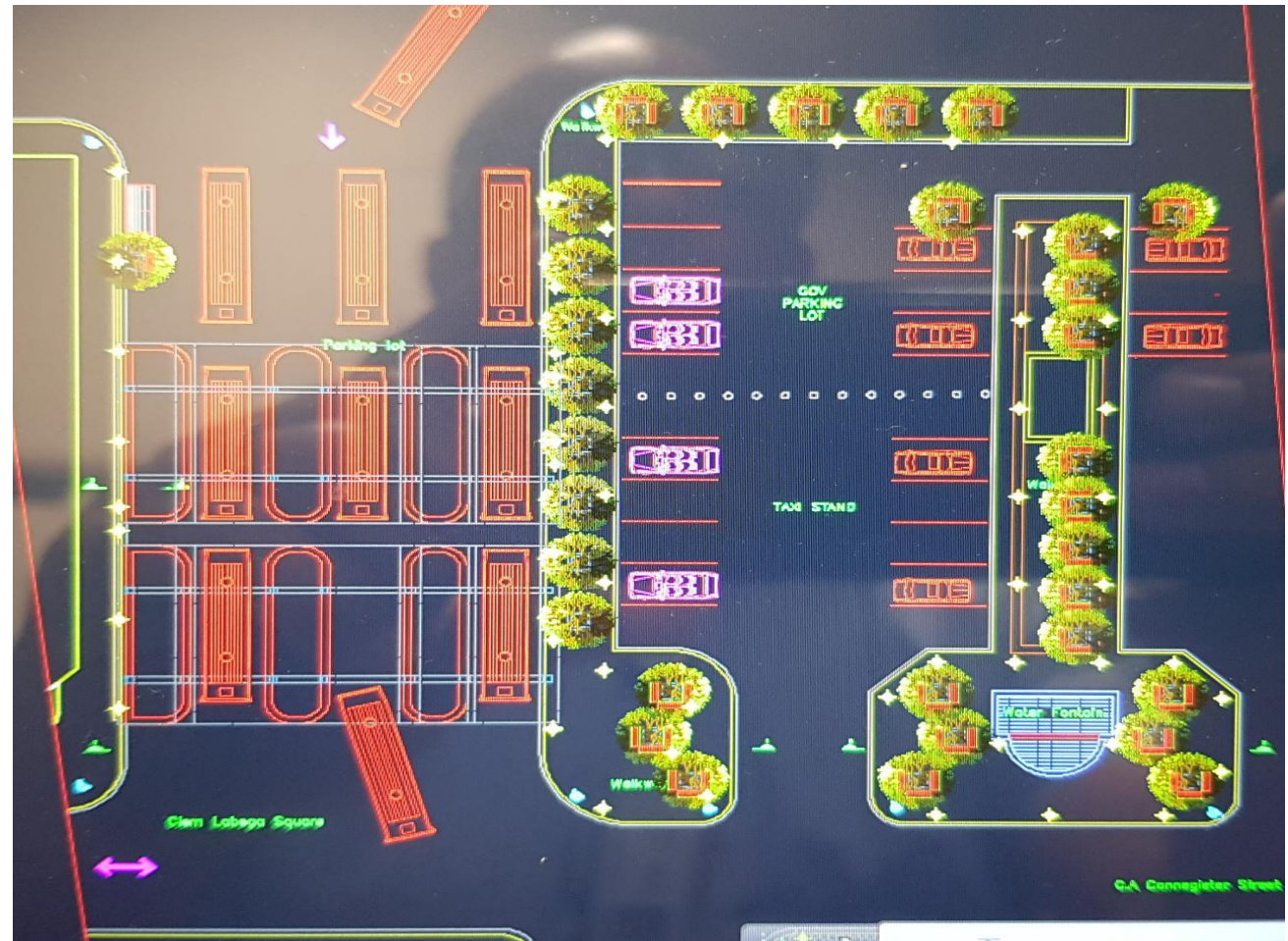
Requested Additional Project for 2023

"Bus Terminal"



Pros:

- Express route out of Philipsburg to Marigot via Link 1 during peak hours for workers/students to get to and from work/school easily and quickly as well as to make easy connections i.g. Marigot/Ph'burg then connect Ph'burg/Point Blanche.
- Assist to help frequency of seeing a bus that the public actually needs and avoiding sometimes 8 or more buses with same destination passing and not seeing any for your route needed.





Challenges to Budget Execution

- Liquidity Constraints & Bureaucratic Processes
 - *Affects our ability to stick to financial commitments*
 - *Key projects/ opportunities are being delayed*
- Lack of Inhouse Legal Expertise
- Mix residential areas and noise pollution concerns
- Limited Persons w/ Specific Expertise
- Loss & Changes of Staff





Impact of Budget Cuts

- Insufficient funds to hire in external consultants to assist with necessary specific research when in house staff transitions out.
- Redirecting funds could lead to the Labor Force Survey 2023 not being completed in the same period as previous years.
- Met Office lack of new equipment for operations, and training.
- Reduction in number of street fairs to promote SME development
- Tourism – Reduction in the number of sales actions, trade shows co-operative marketing campaigns





Other Matters:

Staff Development & Capacity Building

- Change in Organization Structure
- Trainings
 - **Inspection Department:** Law Enforcement Training
 - **Licensing Department:** Training of staff to be all-rounded administrators, Training and improvement of the processes
 - **Met Office:** Training of one staff member to be a forecaster
 - **Policy Department:** Training on Economic modelling and forecasting
 - **Staff & Tourism Stakeholders:** training on heritage, culture & history
 - **Statistics Department:** National Accounts Training and Data Analysis and data mapping training.
 - **General Training :** Language development: Dutch and English, Microsoft Office Essentials, Report Writing and Critical Thinking

Ministry of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Traffic & Telecommunications (TEATT)



GOVERNMENT OF SINT MAARTEN



Conclusion

Due to limited budget, Ministry will focus on Organizational Improvements

- Ministry will focus Revision of Policies
 - (i.e. Residential Economic Policy, Beach & Vending Policy, Moratoria Assessments, etc.)
- Automation & Streamlining of Business License Process (depending on ICT dept)
- Collaboration & synchronization of Policies w/ other Ministries (esp. VROMI, Jus., etc)
- Active Enforcement incl. Multi-Disciplinary Control (Justice/KPSM, VROMI & VSA)
- Data gathering, collaborating, producing & updating
- Address the Development Dilemma's
- Hire Key Staff Members (legal, legislative, statisticians, policy advisors, etc.)



GOVERNMENT OF SINT MAARTEN



**Thank you for
attention & time!**

Budget Debate 2023

**Ministry of Tourism, Economic Affairs,
Traffic & Telecommunications**

**Presented by :
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