

Annual Report: 2021

1. Administrative Details

1.1 - Name of National Committee: Stichting Nationaal Committee Blue Shield Curacao

1.2 - Date Report Completed: February 2 2022

1.3 - Reporting period covered: 01 January 2021 – 31 December 2021

- Names, positions and emails of all those who were the governing body/ trustees / principal officers on the date the report was approved or who served during in the reporting period:

Max Scriwanek, president: (Archives – ICA)

Lida Pandt, secretary: (Museums – ICOM)

Miriam Jonker, treasurer:

Rhuendly Janzen, boardmember: (Build Heritage - ICOMOS)

Nitzah Jacobus, boardmember: (Libraries – IFLAA)

1.5 - Address of the main office: National Archives Curacao

Scharlooweg 77-79, Curacao

1.6 - Website and social media (if applicable):

Facebook page is set up , but not live. Website is a project for the upcoming year

2. Income:

What is the total income of your committee? What are the primary sources? (Donations, grants, etc?)

We do not have income. We apply for grants for projects. Our aim is to get sponsors for our website (hosting costs).

3. Report of Activities: Achievements & Performance

Explain the activities & projects carried out over the year under the Areas of Activity

The annual report should tell the story of the organisation and put into context what was achieved in the reporting year against the achievement of its longer-term strategy. The annual report under this section should Provide a clear review of the organisation's performance for the relevant year as well showing how the current year's strategic performance links to the achievement of the longer-term strategy of the organisation.

These could include: grants applied for; talks given; conferences held; training courses run; work to support new legislation; working groups attended, etc.

Please provide as much detail as possible – for example, length of event, audience, and so on.

3.1 - Law, policy development and implementation:

After the initiative to include "Cultural Heritage" as an Emergency Support Function (ESF) in the National Disaster Plan of Curacao (Bachelor Thesis of our intern J. van der Zaag, Saxion Hogeschool Enschede, Netherlands *Cultureel Erfgoed & Veiligheid, 2015*), the Director of the Directorate Disaster Management and Security of the Government of Curacao (L. Fer) included cultural heritage as an *area of interest* in the National Disaster Plan with the advice to raise awareness among the cultural stakeholders on matters of security. An *area of interest* and not (yet) an ESF because that needed a change of the law itself. But as the National Disaster Plan states: every 5 years it needs to be updated. The update is overdue to the COVID pandemic measures. So, we are working on a renewed effort to include cultural heritage as an ESF. This time together with a "Climate Change Working Group on Curacao", UNESCO National Committee. These efforts will run into 2022 as well.

The Universal Declaration on Archives is translated to Papiamentu (local language Curacao) and available on ICA's website. This was part of a curriculum for a newly set up Bachelor's Education Program on Archive Management.

On the 2th Memory of the World Global Policy Forum of UNESCO (21-22 sept 2021), the Blue Shield Curacao-president held a speech on the local and regional efforts to protect documentary heritage (Panel B: Strengthening disaster risk governance through networking). The GPF is based on the principles of the Sendai Framework. The Curacao minister, responsible for Documentary Heritage was also invited to participate and held a speech. The Global Policy Forum has a global reach and was transmitted online.

Nov. 2021: National Archives Curacao nominated a part of their collection as Memory of the World (UNESCO Program) in cooperation with the National Archives of the Netherlands, Suriname,

Government of St. Maarten and the National Archaeological and Anthropological Memory Management (NAAM).

One of our Blue Shield Board members participated in the Summer School training organized by the Center of Global Heritage and Development / University Leiden / Erasmus University Rotterdam and the Technical University Delft on *“Cross-border transfer of Cultural Objects: the law, challenges & practices – August 23- August 26th 2021*) with lectures and interactive sessions from: Ana Vrdoljak, Pieter ter Keurs, Marielies Schelhaas, Charlotte Huygens, Donna Yates, Neil Brodie, Andrzej Jakubowski, Kristin Hausler, Amy Strecker, Karolina Kuprecht, Raveena Tamoria, Corrado Catesi, Richard Bronswijk, Roos Hoek, Ted Oakes, Irina Tarsis, Naomi Oosterman, James Ratcliffe, Richard Aronowitz, Evelien Campfens.

On a regional basis we are working closely with the Caribbean Heritage Emergency Network (CHEN) of CARBICA. In 2021 CARBICA / CHEN realised a new website www.carbica.org and in the CHEN session is included a Dbase of experts willing to help in the Disaster management cycle. The national (Curacao experts – also Blue Shield experts) are included in this Dbase (searchable on expertise – not on country) CHEN cooperates with UNESCO regional HQ in Kingston, Jamaica, f.e. after the St. Vincent volcano eruption (La Soufrière volcano 8th-22th April 2021) we did a damage and risk assessment (DRA) with 2 of our CHEN-experts. One Caribbean CHEN expert (Halcyon Withshire, Barbados – University of the West Indies) was previously sent to the ICCROM training in Rome (train-the-trainer) and was qualified to do the DRA. The other expert was Samuel Franco (Guatemala).

Our regional network building is discussed with Blue Shield International (Peter Stone and Emma Cunliffe) and CDEMA (Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency).

CHEN has applied for funding (Prins Clausfund Netherlands) for a Caribbean hub with a mobile conservation lab. Intention is to stall this container at the marine base in Curacao. In the case of a hurricane it can be transported to affected area's (f.e St Maarten). On St. Maarten we have a contact person (Jay Havisier – CHEN-expert) who will be liaison and also use the hub in St. Maarten as an educational project. This project idea is pitched by CHEN co-president Rita Tjien Fooh from Suriname and has been approved for submitting as a project for funding. (2022). The mobile Conservation Lab will have emergency needs like: gloves, mouth masks, filters, non-electric dehumidifiers, vacuum cleaners (for mould treatment) etc.

3.2 - Education, training, and capacity building:

We are planning to build a website for Blue Shield Curacao. Estimates are in (2021). Idea is pitched for funding at the Prince Bernhard Culturefund Caribbean Area (Curacao), but we still need additional sponsors. Insurance companies are considered for possible sponsors (better preparations – less damage payouts). Intention is to include training tutorials on this site. This project will run through 2022.

3.3 - Proactive protection and risk preparedness:

National Archives Curacao updated their Disaster Risk Plan and staff had a training at the Fire Squad.

3.4 - Emergency response in disaster, domestic emergencies, and armed conflict:

We did not encounter domestic disasters (other than the COVID pandemic). We made sure that cultural heritage managers received waivers during curfews, to check their collections.

3.5 - Stabilisation, post-disaster recovery, and long-term/ongoing support:

Describe

3.6 - Co-ordination (of Blue Shield and with other relevant organisations):

- Meteo Curacao / Climate Change Working Group Curacao
- CARBICA / CHEN → CDEMA / UNESCO Regional Caribbean HQ (Jamaica)
- UNESCO National Committee Curacao
- National Disaster Management Agency Curacao
- Alliance for Response Group New Orleans (New Orleans Preservation Coalition –personal member)

4. Main issues faced:

What are the main issues faced by your committee?

Blue Shield Curacao does not have any income. Even the yearly inscription costs of the legal body at the Chamber of Commerce is paid for by the board members.

5. Future goals

Describe future plans to achieve strategic goals

We strive to make distinction between operating cost for which we will search for sponsorships (inscription costs and hosting costs) and project costs (primary goals related to our mission) for which we can apply for funding.

Our future goals: share tutorials on our (upcoming) website, include the Dbase of experts online. Include Cultural Heritage in the National Disaster Plan. Foster alliances and mutual interest groups. Raise risk awareness by means of training and promotions activities.

6. Other

Through its connection to Newcastle University, BSI is sometimes able to access funding that can be shared with research institutions to further the work of Blue Shield. Does your national committee have any connections with research institutions interested in its work (e.g. in risk management, heritage protection, etc.). If yes, please supply the names and contact details here.

Via CHEN – CARBICA, we work together with Emilie Leumas (New Orleans), Samuel Franco (Guatemala), Andrea Richards (UNESCO Kingston).