

## A Hub for Innovative Thinking

Aruba is matching its strengths in tourism with a knowledge-based economy poised to serve as a testing ground and authority on breakthrough technologies. Anchored by Aruba's skilled talent, the knowledge economy includes the development, testing, and export of sustainable island solutions to other Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

### **FAST FACTS**



Sustainable Island Solutions program at the University of Aruba (SISSTEM) provides faculty, research centers and laboratories to develop new energies and technology



Strategic gateway to Latin America, North America, and Europe



Harnessing natural resources to generate solar, wind and waste-to-energy



Reliable, widespread internet access



Tropical climate attracts top talent

### **SUCCESS STORIES**





## PAY.AW: ARUBA'S FIRST AND ONLY MOBILE WALLET

SETAR is an all-service provider offering service solutions to fit every need. SETAR prides itself on continuously bringing the newest technologies and innovative products, services, and apps to the Aruban community. For example, the Pay.aw app, Aruba's first and only local mobile wallet, allows fast, easy, and contactless mobile transfer and payments; person-to-person (p2p) transactions, direct payment to vendors, bill payment, or any mobile commerce option from a smartphone.

"We believe in constant innovation in the technology of telecommunications for further development of our company and our island. In today's world, connection at all times is essential. Therefore, we are proud to be able to connect everything and everyone seamlessly together."

Mr. Roland Croes, Director of SETAR





# **SISSTEM:**A NEW GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Sustainable Island Solutions through Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (SISSTEM) bachelor and master's program at the University of Aruba in collaboration with KU Leuven University in Belgium and financed by the European Development Fund, provides the (research) skills and disciplines supported by its research centers and laboratorie's within the scope of achieving sustainable development with a focus on sustainable energies, bio-environmental awareness, sustainable technology, and engineering, as well as informatics and data sciences. The SISSTEM program at the University of Aruba embodies sustainability policies on an academic level, supporting resilience in small island states while educating a workforce with the skill and capacity to make these policies a reality.

"We strive to be an innovative and open-minded university. Our aim is to always be receptive to new knowledge and welcoming of new ideas."

Dr. iur. habil. Viola Heutger, Rector University of Aruba





# **XAVIER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE:** NEW RESIDENTIAL CAMPUS NOW OPEN

Located in Oranjestad, the Xavier University School of Medicine (XUSOM) offers a safe and secure atmosphere to study medicine. Accredited by the Accreditation Commission on Colleges of Medicine (ACCM), the XUSOM faculty comprises distinguished physicians from across the U.S. The university's new beautiful campus provides an ideal backdrop where students enjoy academic work and clinical rotations in the U.S.





#### **INVESTING IN ICT SOLUTIONS**

The Government of Aruba is investing in information and communication technologies (ICT), including the Aruba Health App. The Department of Public Health (DVG) created the official health app to make a visitor's trip safe and pleasant. The app unlocks faster lines at the airport, low-touch travel, faster test results, health information, and Health & Happiness Code business listings.

### **ROADMAP TO E-GOVERNMENT**

The Government of Aruba has set e-governance as a vital tool for achieving enhanced resilience and governance. The first phase outlined in the e-Government Road Map 2021-2025 involves undertaking several key actions deemed strategically necessary to establish the foundation for e-governance in the Aruba civil service. For subsequent phases (2021-2030), the completion of Conexion, an interoperability pilot project modeled after Estonia's X-Road e-government platform, will determine the top actions to be pursued and adapted to Aruba's context. The European Commission approved the funding for this e-Government project.







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