

Introduction

The National Alliance recognizes that St. Maarten's most valuable asset is its people. It is essential that our people progress along with our economy. The National Alliance is dedicated to setting and executing an agenda for 2016- 2020 under the theme WE ACCOMPLISH – which promotes a society continuously growing its human resource capacity, promoting education as the key to sustainable development as well as improving the quality of life for all.

The National Alliance has proven time and time again that we have the people of St. Maarten at heart, from Moving St. Maarten Forward, to St. Maarten First where our vision, plan and projects were all geared towards the full participation and advancement of our people. Creating a society and an economy focused on the growth of our people to be productive citizens actively participating and benefitting from investments whether local or foreign. This will secure a future for generations to come.

From 2010 to present, the National Alliance has had representation in Parliament, presenting legislation, debating issues of importance to our development as a people and presenting motions geared at realizing change at the executive level of government. During this period the National Alliance also had the opportunity to form part of Government for two short periods where we were able to commence and in some cases execute projects in the best interest of the people.

With continuity and stability, the National Alliance will continue to promote positive developments that will realize a brighter future for all. We embrace the National Development Plan and the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals wherein the participation of the community is key. We recognize that we face many challenges as a society and therefore we must act to improve these critical areas to attain the highest possible level in key sectors.

The National Alliance has put together an inclusive program and a dynamic team of individuals dedicated to work with you to provide St. Maarten with a government of Stability, Integrity and Transparency.

William Marlin

Party leader National Alliance

Content

Candidates 6

“Education is the most powerful weapon to change the world” 8

Education

Investing for a sustainable life 11

Infrastructure

Fiscal stability leads to an environment conducive to growth 13

Finance

Safe and secure 15

Justice

Governing for all 17

Good governance

Change will happen, but to progress we must act 18

Economy & Tourism

A living wage to care for your needs 20

Labor

“The groundwork of all happiness is good health” 22

Health care and well-being

"If we are to reach real peace (..) we shall have to begin with children"25

Youth

Love, honor and respect for all 27

Caring for the Elderly and Vulnerable

Achieving new heights 29

Sport

Clean neighborhoods, clean air and beautiful views 31

Environment

Advancing our people through technology and increasing mobility 34

Telecommunication & Transportation

We all deserve a roof over our heads 36

Housing and communities

“Tis We Own Ting” 38

Culture

Quality service you deserve 40

Public services

Extending our reach to benefit all 42

Kingdom & International Affairs and Foreign Relations

Candidates

The 23 candidates on the National Alliance slate for the 2016 Parliamentary elections in action.

“Education powerful change the weapon is world” the most to

Nelson Mandela

The education of our society is the cornerstone for a stronger and more economically diverse St. Maarten. Setting world class education as a precedent is beneficial for the development of a sustainable and diversified economy, as well as the development of our younger citizens.

Our top priority is developing resources for continuous education to enable our citizens to enhance their skills with training, initiatives, and policies aimed at retaining our best and brightest in the labor market. We should not treat vocational training and higher education as a privilege, but a right which each member of our community should have.

Education

Improve the quality of education

- Improve the primary and secondary schools' curricula and educational materials to meet the changing needs of our learners
- Provide opportunities and improve accessibility to Special Needs Education
- Encourage and provide incentives for the Private Sector to invest in education

NA accomplished

- Secured financing for the reconstruction of the Prins Willem Alexander school, critical upgrades for public schools, renovation of MPC & Solar Panels for public schools
- Approved National Ordinance Study Financing and National Decree of the Remuneration of Teachers by Council of Ministers
- Approved National Decree for the Council for Education and Labor by the Governor

- Introduced agriculture program in schools
- Establishment of the Education on the Move (EOM) program aimed at educational awareness and participation in the community
- Secured funding for ITC in the classroom project
- Investing in our educators
- Execute ICT in the Classroom project
- Implement entrepreneurship and agriculture curriculum in schools
- Reinstate Transitional Classes
- Subsidizing Early Childhood Development Programs (3/4 years)

programs and facilities

Implement legislation and policy for Education

- Pending legislation e.g. National Ordinances Study Financing, Early Childhood Development and Tertiary Education
- Pending policy e.g. Behavior, Agriculture, Health, Wellness and Safety within the schools, Extension of School Hours and After School program
- Establish Service Level Agreements between USM and government of St. Maarten

Ensure effective and efficient use of the education budget

Continue with the renovation and upgrading of schools

- Finalize the renovation of the Education Care Center/ Charles Leopold Bell School
- Construct additional classrooms for SMVTS and renovate MPC and Sundial
- Finalize the construction of the Prins Willem Alexander School
- Continue the upgrading of Critical Electrical and Cabling at Public Schools
- Establish high speed Internet access for all schools
- Finalize installation of solar panels on schools and air conditioning in all classrooms
- Assessment and maintenance of all educational facilities
- Build new secondary school

"Education is the most powerful weapon to change the world" 9

Increase retention and decrease drop-outs in education

- Evaluate and execute social formation program (sociale vormingsplicht) in order to reduce number of dropouts
- Set up special summer school programs and other programs
- Invest in programs for extra guidance with homework and tutoring sessions

Ensure that education is in tune with the employment and sustainable needs of our society

- Conduct periodic research to predict the labor market and labor training needs
- Maintain a database of professionals and students locally as well as living and/or studying abroad to link with our business community
- Collaboration between the Labor and Education departments to improve the facilitation of employment for educated persons

Provide programs for adults, pre-graduates and professionals to enhance employability, skills and stimulate entrepreneurship, such as mentorship, apprenticeship, budgeting, parenting and knowledge of the law

Improvement and expansion of tertiary education opportunities via USM and NIPA, as well as establishing linguistic, culinary and other institutes aimed at making St. Maarten an EduHub for the Caribbean and beyond

“The main hope of a nation lies in the proper Education of its youth”

Erasmus

Investing sustainable for life

a

Investing in the infrastructure of one's country is not a luxury but a necessity to life. Proper sewage, drainage, public roads, telecommunication network and buildings are vital for a sustainable living but also good for economic growth, jobs and access to services. In 2012 the National Alliance started with the execution of the Comprehensive Road Network Plan. This plan lays out all the required links for a proper flow of traffic but also contains the structural work and maintenance that is required of our road network. In 2016 projects related to the sewage and upgrading of the parking facilities were started. In order to move forward in providing the necessary infrastructure for St. Maarten more needs to be done.

Infrastructure

Update and realize the execution of the Comprehensive Road Network Plan

- Implement the Comprehensive Road Network Plan to open-up and connect all districts and neighborhoods
- Realize Dutch Quarter (co-financing), commitment 10th EDF and upgrade of the A.T Illidge road - D.Q. Phase 1

Together with coalition partners NA accomplished

- Parking facility in Simpson Bay and paid parking in Philipsburg
- Secured the financing for upgrading front- and backstreet
- Home connections to the main sewage line in St. Peters
- Resurfacing of Major Roadways, instead of constant patching
- Upgrade and conduct structural maintenance on main roads
- Continue with the hard surfacing of dirt roads

Proper management of water drainage

- Build water catchments to alleviate flooding in vulnerable areas
- Securing proper drainage in the hillside areas
- Hard surfacing of trenches
- Paving all dirt roads
- Connect water waste from homes to central sewage systems

Develop the infrastructure of the Simpson Bay Strip

Expansion of the sewage network

- Initiate the drafting of a Master Plan for sewage management
- Construct additional sewage plants
- Connect remaining neighborhoods to a public sewage system

Work together with property owners to clean up areas that have sewage, running water and garbage disposal challenges

Proper management of cemetery

- Purchasing of land for cemetery
- Properly maintain public cemeteries
- Restore and renovate Cul de Sac historic cemetery wall
- Increase the cemetery vaults

Fiscal an conducive environment stability to growth leads to

Government revenues have to increase structurally and compliance has to be improved. The reigning tax system has to be reformed in a manner that is fair to all and efficient to generate sufficient revenue to cover government expenditures

Finance

Invest in the Tax Office to achieve more efficiency

- Invest in housing (office spaces), training, staff and IT
- Fill critical vacancies
- Introduce online filing and other online services
- Improve communication between tax office and tax payer

Improve compliance

- Integrate the Tax Inspectorate and Receivers Office and providing better (online) services
- Improve the ICT system of the Tax Inspectorate and Receivers Office
- Automate the process of procuring permits and licenses for all ministries
- Improve the collections of taxes and social security contributions

Introduce measures to improve liquidity position

Fiscal stability leads to an environment conducive to growth 13

We accomplished

- Resolved the long outstanding debts to SZV and Pension Fund (APS)
- Balanced budget 2016
- Approved budget 2017 by September 1st by the Council of Ministers

- Responsible decision making
- Improved financial management

Review Fiscal Policy

- Execute the framework approved by Council of Ministers on tax reform e.g. lower Income Tax, lower Profit Tax, shift to more indirect taxes and broadening the tax base
- Simplify the tax system
- Propose tax incentives for the small and medium sized enterprises (SME) sector
- Stimulation of home ownership via tax incentives

Regain control of appointments of board members and management

- Improve operations efficiency in Government Owned Companies and foundations

Implement income generating measures

- Improve collection of study finance debt
- Finalize, introduce and regulate garbage collection fees
- Finalize a sewage collection levy
- Pursue legislation to raise revenue on signs pollution
- Index casino fees
- For tourist: driver's permit fee and environment impact fee

Reduce government expenditures

- Reduce phone cost and cost of government vehicles
- Amend the bidding process to secure best price for government projects
- Promote small businesses' ability to offer services to government
- Review the possibilities to increase the pension age for civil servants from 62 - 65

Improve the functioning of the local branch of the Central Bank of Curaçao and Sint Maarten

Safe and secure

It is our goal to provide a safe and secure environment for all our citizens as well as our visitors. A truly comprehensive justice system is not solely comprised of police presence and a strong criminal policy. It also includes education and public awareness in crime prevention, as well as retraining programs for offenders in order to be able to reintegrate them as productive citizens in our society.

Despite having taken several steps towards the establishment of a complete justice chain since 2010 there is still much to be accomplished. Review and adaptation of legislation, preventative measures, the integration of technology, increased communication and positive interaction between law enforcement and the community are some of the critical steps that must be taken to improve the feeling of safety and security on the island. We must have a collaborative, comprehensive plan of action in place to reduce violent crime which has been steadily on the rise.

Justice

Improve the efficiency in the Justice chain

Implement ordinances and policies within the Justice chain

Improve the operational management of the Ministry of Justice

- Further strengthening of the National Detective Agency
- Increase capacity to investigate, conduct surveillance, prevent, detect and solve crimes in accordance with the Plan of Approach
- Improve the automatization of services within the ministry of justice
- Assess and address shortage of staff at the prison and police department

Together with coalition partners NA accomplished

- Executed phase-1 of the camera project
- Dealt with long outstanding personnel matters such as placing police officers in proper rank and adjusting their salaries
- Acquired Soremar Building for shooting range and forensic facility
- Evaluate and improve the functioning of the Probation office, Foundation Judicial Institutes St. Maarten (SJIS) and the Court of Guardianships to obtain maximum efficiency
- Review and revise the voluntary police corps to meet our current needs
- Strengthening the Police force, Immigration, Customs and Prison

“Safety works when people work together” Unknown

Improve immigration and increase border control on land and sea

- Acquire container scanners for the control of goods by Customs in collaboration with the harbour
- Acquire scanners for the cargo sections at PJIA to combat the import of illicit goods in collaboration with the airport
- Review Caribbean visa policy
- Strengthen cooperation between Customs and Immigration & Border Control
- Finalize the implementation of fully automated border control system (kiosk, e-gates) to identify international security threats
- Combat illegal immigration as well as regulating immigration in a humane manner
- Promote USA pre-clearance

Reintegrate P&O Justice into general P&O department of government

Upgrade and expand justice, safety and security facilities to meet international standards

- Finalize the Youth Detention and Rehabilitation Facility for youth offenders
- Finalize the upgrade and expansion Point Blanche prison to meet international standards
- Continue improvement of the House of Detention
- Improve the Justice Academy

Realize the establishment of the Victim's Unit

Governing for all

Good governance is not a buzz-word; it must be a guiding principle for anyone who represents the public interest. Integrity and transparency must be addressed and enforced at all levels of government. National Alliance recognizes and is committed to upholding these principles.

Good governance

Finalize the electoral reform including the process to enable students abroad to vote

Address integrity and transparency within government

- Improve the legislative capacity and process within government
- Promote the effectiveness and transparency within Parliament
- Promote transparency within government

NA accomplished

- Stimulate transparency and openness with weekly press briefing
- Draft legislation to amend the constitution to promote stability in governance
- Continue with the execution of the recommendations to improve integrity through the integrity bureau
- Implement the whistle blower policy

Review relevant legislation and policy

- Review and enforce policy on government owned and operated vehicles
- Review all organic laws

Further improve the functioning of the Cabinet of the Minister Plenipotentiary

Governing for all 17

Change to progress will we happen, must but act

The National Alliance wants St. Maarten to prosper. Our island, our people, and our culture places us at the forefront of Caribbean travel destinations. In order for us to maintain our position in a region that is growing we will take measures to strengthen our economy. It is our vision to continue to improve upon our hospitality and tourism industry through diversification and extension of the season, but also through the stimulation of new and innovative pillars.

Economy & Tourism

Implement necessary legislation and policy

- Review timeshare legislation
- Stimulate and regulate E-Zone Commerce
- Regulate and enforce the financial and banking regulations
- Finalize Competition Authority Legislation and Consumer Protection Law

Together with coalition partners NA accomplished

- Implementation National Ordinance to regulate the collection of casino fees
- Established the St. Maarten Tourism Authority
- Enforce Laws and manage the registration, monitoring and control of Intellectual Properties, copyrights, patents etc.
- Regulate agriculture and fisheries legislation
- Regulate animal welfare and management

Finalize the process to realize the St. Maarten Tourism Authority (STA)

Strengthen the tourism season through extension and diversification to improve the generated yield

- Draft an economic development plan with tourism as main pillar
- Ensure the proper implementation of a Tourism Statistical Information System
- Identify niche markets and promote Sports tourism, Cultural- & Eco-tourism, Edu-tourism, Medical tourism, Volun- tourism and Entertainment tourism
- Facilitate and stimulate the growth of the marine industry
- Utilizing our strategic geographical position to expand our market base to Latin America and other

regions, as well as attracting more Caribbean visitors by offering specials in cooperation with hotels and guesthouses

Facilitate small-medium business development

- Create a good investment climate for foreign investors
- Provide efficient access to data for businesses
- Stimulate the use of innovation and ICT in business
- Simplify procedures of doing business
- Stimulating and facilitating “green businesses”
- Optimize cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce
- Fight to protect and grow small local businesses by offering tax incentives and government assistance

Stimulate agricultural initiatives

- Review the organizational structure to include agriculture and fisheries
- Support development of a small agricultural station
- Raise awareness of possibilities and benefits of agriculture
- Draft policies to assist with locally grown produce and the marketing and distribution thereof
- Introduce a Home Gardening program for a healthy and affordable lifestyle
- Promote the growth of aqua and hydroponics plants

Regulate, manage and ensure the well-being of the island's animal population through cooperation with relevant stakeholders responsible for animal welfare and management

Improve quality of services to the public

- Establish Consumer Protection Bureau
- Establish and implement policy and processes synchronization and automation of processes

A National Lottery for St. Maarten

Change will happen, but to progress we must act 19

A for living your wage needs to care

Job creation is one of our biggest focuses in this election. Putting our citizens back to work and improving the economy is something that we are working diligently towards. By elongating our tourism season, and providing incentives for local entrepreneurs, we can develop the regions' choice destination for business.

Developing a strong labor market is a continual process. We are dedicated to reducing the burden on all our citizens by developing new strategies, and expanding the creation of new employment opportunities and enterprises.

Labor

Implement legislation and policy for labor

- Finalize National Ordinance to stop the abuse of short-term labor agreement
- Make the Labor Law more flexible
- Review the minimum wage
- Enforce Labor inspection policies
- Monitor and enforce policy on adult entertainment
- Finalize legislation for the Youth Employment Fund and execute the Youth Employment Fund Program
- Enact legislation aimed at the protection and sustainability of Small Businesses

Ensure that the labor needs are fulfilled through education

- Conduct periodic research and promote collaboration between the labor, education and immigration departments to do a needs assessment of our labor market, and adjust our education and job training programs to meet our labor needs
- Collaboration between the Labor and Education departments to improve the facilitation of employment for educated person
- Maintain a database of professionals and students locally as well as living and/or studying abroad to link with our business community

NA accomplished

- Draft legislation to stem the abuse of short term labor agreements
- Draft legislation for the Youth Employment Fund

Facilitate the creation of employment opportunities

- Provide beginner, intermediate and advanced skills training in order to create long-term decent paying jobs
- Provide opportunities for continuing education to train and re-educate the labor market as well as offering opportunities for Second Chance education
- Strengthening competencies and mentoring of staff to ensure the delivery of the services and products
- Provide tax incentives for businesses willing to hire and train the registered unemployed

“The happiness groundwork is good of health” all

Leigh Hunt

Transforming our health care system to provide all residents with the care they need will strengthen and safeguard our community. By providing world class health care, we can ensure a better quality of life for our residents while decreasing our medical expenditures overseas and offering better services to our region.

Health care and well-being

Finalize, implement and enforce legislation and policies in the Public Health sector

- Implement policies to ensure mandatory medical coverage for all residents of St. Maarten (National Health Care Plan)
- Develop and evaluate policies, laws and regulations with regards to public health, healthcare services in general including vulnerable groups' e.g. seniors, elderly, physically and mentally challenged and the under-insured
- Assess quality through regular inspections
- Draft a national cancer plan
- Develop a national Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Prevention Plan
- Create accountability policy for medical practitioners

Together with coalition partners NA accomplished

- Concrete plan and selection of a contractor for the realization of a new general hospital
- Initiate process to realize national health insurance
- Increase of specialist returning to the island
- Increase maternity leave from 12 to 16 weeks and implement a two-week paternity leave for all fathers to participate fully in the bonding process of their newborn
- Develop a standard of care policies to secure the medical coverage of all high care patients
- Finalize the policy to regulate medical tourism

- Draft policy that requires medical practitioners to keep up to date on latest procedures and research through training, education and seminars

Transition to a general hospital

- Development of a National Hospital
- Finalize the new tariff structure
- Invest in campaigns aimed at bringing home our local medical professionals currently residing/working in other countries to be able to make proper use of the planned expansion.

Create a sound financial management system in public health

Stimulate healthy living and well-being of all residents

- Build and promote good personal and public-health habits through public education awareness programs, education, prevention, protection and care
- Promote the overall health of the society in order to reduce and prevent the high incidences of cancer, diabetes, hypertension and other preventable diseases
- Provide more access to safe Reproductive Health Services and Family Planning
- Support the HIV & Aids Prevention Programs through the St. Maarten HIV/AIDS program management team and the Aids Foundation
- Partner with local Social Development organizations to assist in curing social ills and enhancing life experiences

“The groundwork of all happiness is good health” 23

Assure accessible, affordable and sustainable quality health care

- Implement programs that address Nutritional, Hygiene and Health standards to meet the needs of the poor and vulnerable in keeping with international regulations
- Enhance operations of emergency medical response services
- Automate and upgrade health care data collection to be able to address health care needs in proactive, efficient and effective manner
- Invest in state of the art equipment which caters to the highest risk patients of our St. Maarten and the surrounding islands
- Assist with reducing medical referrals by providing more services on the Island
- Promote medical tourism initiatives which would also increase services to the local population

Improve Mental Health services and facilities

- Implement National Mental Health Plan for St. Maarten
- Expand Mental Health facilities
- Increase funding for Mental Health Facilities, Drug Abuse Facilities and outpatient services

Support the upgrading of medical professionals and staff as well as service delivery through collaboration with the American University of the Caribbean and other institutions on the island and in the region

“If peace to begin we are (...) with to we reach children” shall real have

Mahatma Gandhi

Youth are at the forefront of our plans and initiatives, as youth are paramount to the continual development of our livelihood. While youth encompass a vital component of our government – such as education, labor and economic development – it is important to provide them with the structure and tools to prosper. Youth initiatives include developing resources for extracurricular activity in athletics, arts, education as well as proactive measures in crime prevention and community engagement.

Youth

Enhance Youth Policy and Involvement

- Tackle & decrease youth unemployment by executing the Youth Employment Program and establishing the Youth Employment fund project
- Update Youth policy and finalize Early Childhood Development (ECD) legislation and policy
- Promote Youth Entrepreneurship, Volunteerism and Ambassadorship programs
- Continue to involve youth in the planning and execution of Youth, Sport, and Cultural Awareness campaigns and programs such as #YesYouthCan, Education on the Move (EOM), Youth Empowering Conference, and literacy campaign
- Maintain the empowerment of adolescent programs for teenagers with relevant agencies and organizations, such as Girl Power and Real Talk

“If we are to reach real peace (...) we shall have to begin with children” 25

NA accomplished

- Re-introduce Youth Conferences
- Participation of youth in policy discussions

- Facilitate youth participation in international debates, workshops and conferences

“We cannot always build a future for our youth, but we can always build our youth for the future”

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Execute extracurricular activities for youth

- Further implementation of After School Programs
- Expand a pilot “Steel Pan” training program in schools
- Review and advise on the Healthy Lifestyle School Program
- Utilize Community Centers more efficiently
- Offer opportunities for academic tutoring, counseling and mentorship by qualified adults and youth
- Create a think tank, involving youth, professionals and intellectuals to address youth issues and come up with innovative ways to promote positivity in our youth

Continue to collaborate within the ministries to create policy aimed at the protection of children and youth and create public awareness

- Create policy to ensure the Rights of the Child to a Nationality and Education
- Secure the Child's Rights to protection from child and sexual abuse through the implementation of policies and procedures to the benefit of the victims
- Create Public Awareness of Abuses against children and youth and promote of Culture of intolerance to these acts as well as to breaking the Code of Silence

Love, honor and respect for all

The elderly and vulnerable are the foundation our community is built on. The elderly has worked hard for what we now take for granted. By taking care of our elders we can pave the way for how we too will be taken care of when we reach that age. Taking care of those less privileged, the special needs groups and the low income earners allows us to live in a happier and healthier community. We should do all that we can to accommodate and make the lives of our residents as comfortable as possible.

Caring for the Elderly and Vulnerable

Senior citizen and elderly care

- Establish a Council for the elderly
- Establish recreational centers for the elderly in various districts
- Collaborate with stakeholders for elderly protection and care
- Promote awareness of existing elderly programs
- Research and propose food, amenity and transportation discounts

NA accomplished

- GEBE relief for seniors
- Housing for special needs groups and low income earners in Hope Estate
- Housing for seniors in Belvedere

Love, honor and respect for all 27

Assess, improve and increase quality of Foster Care facilities

Ensure sustainable living

- Finalize and implement legislation and policies in the Social Development sector
- Enhance pension benefits
- Increase Old Age Pensions for the elderly
- Conduct a study to determine the living wage
- Increase of disposable income for the low income earners
- Assess quality through regular inspections
- Realize housing for low income earners, seniors and persons with special needs
- Simplify procedures to improve responsiveness to those in need
- Stimulate training and support for the low income earners
- Evaluate and if needed expand the products included in the Basket of Goods
- Provide GEBE social relief to citizens in need
- Introduce social tariffs for phone and internet for those in need

Achieving new heights

Through sports we can develop our physical, mental and social aspects. Sport enhances our quality of life. By facilitating our community to be involved in sports, we can create a society that is healthier and happier. We aim to improve sports management by preparing a 10-year plan for sports and recreation development and by structuring and facilitating the governing bodies in St. Maarten to work in the benefit of all who practice sport, whether in school, recreationally or competitively, locally or internationally.

Sport

Sports policy

- Finalize and execute the sports policy in cooperation with the National Sports Institute (NSI) and St. Maarten Sports Federation
- Promotion of Sports Tourism as a destination for major amateur and professional sports & recreation tournaments, games and championships

NA accomplished

- Secured finance for upgrading existing sport facilities e.g. Little league ballpark, Raoul Illidge and improved ventilation at Melford Hazel Sport Facility
- Subsidized athletes and national teams to compete in international competitions both locally and abroad
- Honoring top athletes and bringing awareness of sport development to St. Maarten
- Prepare a 10-year plan for the promotion of sports and recreation development in the interest of the general health and fitness of the population and also for the preparation of our athletes to reach to the highest possible level of competition, locally, regionally and internationally

Sport and training facilities

- Upgrade of current sports facilities
- Maintain all sport and training facilities to a high standard
- Establishment of outdoor gym
- Assess the needs within the communities for training facilities and put an aggressive plan of action to secure training facilities in each district

Promotion of sports and recreation development

- School sports, community, sports & recreation and after school programs
- Promotion of physical fitness, sport and health awareness programs for the general public
- Collaboration of NSI with the Sports Federation and Sports Organizations for the promotion of competitive sports and training programs for coaches, trainers and officials
- Implementation of a Code of Conduct for all coaches, trainers and individuals in a position of guidance of our children and youth in an effort to protect them
- Preparation of the top athletes to form National Teams in each sport to represent St. Maarten regionally and internationally
- Facilitating the possibilities for top local athletes to earn sports scholarships and grants to further develop at tertiary and professional levels

Sport

Clean clean and beautiful air neighborhoods, views

The environment of our island doesn't only reflect how we live, but also contributes to our well-being, health and increases our life span. We all deserve to be able to live a healthy lifestyle in a clean environment! The implementation, use and access of renewable energy, and reduction of the waste hill in Philipsburg are issues at the forefront of the health of our island as well as our individual well-being.

Environment

Responsible management of the environment

- Realization of a Waste to Energy plant
- Introduce garbage sorting at the source in homes and businesses
- Commission a Task Force to address matters related to climate change

NA accomplished

- Implemented garbage awareness program with The Mighty Bin community outreach project
- Promotion of waste separation for recycling purposes
- Isolation of the garbage dump
- Organize public awareness program on waste management challenges and the need for sound management

Promotion of the use of green energy for production of electricity and water for St. Maarten's consumption

- Grant concessions to companies willing to invest in wind, solar and wave energy in St. Maarten and sell to GEBE
- Stimulate the use of Green Energy at all government owned buildings, sport facilities and schools
- Place solar panels at parking locations to protect parked cars and provide power to the GEBE grid
- Implement water saving techniques at all government facilities, schools and sports facilities

“We all deserve to live a healthy lifestyle in a clean environment”

Herbert Martina

Stimulate and support clean, renewable and affordable energy and water management infrastructure and initiatives

- Review, refine and implement the Energy Policy Plan
- Approve legislation for the Energy-Buy- Back policy
- Review and where necessary amend the electricity concession
- Support the use of solar hot water heating systems and solar panels for homes, schools, businesses and public buildings
- Investigate the possibilities of partnering with neighboring islands where generation and distribution of renewable energy is concerned
- Further investigate the possibilities of the use of Wind Turbine Technology on St. Maarten
- Work together with investors and environmental protection organizations to implement renewable energy and clean water systems

Identify a site for the Creation of a Man and the Biosphere Reserve (MAB)

- Diversifying our Economy via the promotion of Culture, Agriculture and Nature related businesses
- Promotion of Eco-Tourism on St. Maarten

Implement and enforce necessary legislation and policy

- Introduce new VROMI Ordinance
- Finalize and implement the environmental and nature policy plans
- Introduce recycling and reuse ordinance and finalize Legislation on Plastic Bags
- Draft, implement and enforce a Beach Protection Ordinance
- Complete the zoning project
- Establish, expand and support marine protected areas, land-based and wetland protected areas
- Increase enforcement of and adherence to existing policies and ordinances on sewage and waste management

Preservation of our natural environment through awareness campaigns, ordinances, laws and policies, and enforcement

Promote public-private partnerships to safeguard our environment

- Construction of the sewage plant in Cole Bay
- Realize a fuel farm
- Realization of the Waste to Energy Plant

Implement and enforce necessary legislation and policy

- Introduce new VROMI Ordinance
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Facilitate the realization of an animal shelter

Advancing through and increasing technology our people mobility

To be able to embrace and meet the challenges of globalization with confidence we must provide our people with the opportunities to be able to network and prosper through advancing technology. Our people deserve a properly functioning public transportation system brought in line with 21st century technology. In keeping with our country's motto 'semper progrediens' - always moving forward - we cannot stand still.

Telecommunication & Transportation

Implement and enforce necessary legislation and policy

- Assess transportation tariff

Improve maritime and airport facilities, services and safety in order to strengthen the hub position of St. Maarten

- Review and revise Airport master plan
- Strive to meet the FAA ISAA Category 1 requirements
- A closed Civil Aviation Registry

NA accomplished

- Agreement to negotiate the merger between Telem (60%) and UTS Eastern Caribbean (40%)
- Implementation of E-gates and kiosk to increase border security
- Enhance SXM Airport as number 1 hub in aviation of the Caribbean
- A closed Maritime Registry focused on the promotion of regulation within the growing Maritime industry

Research possibilities with the aim to attain a National Carrier that serves regional and international destinations based on our strategic position

Reactivate the Transportation committee

Improve quality of Telecommunication in collaboration with Bureau Telecommunication and Post

- Improve internet connectivity of the Island
- Reduce cost of services to the consumer
- Stimulate mobile network evolution to 4G
- Regulate the cost of connectivity
- Facilitate high speed internet for medical institutions and schools

Realize parking facilities

- Establish a taxi dispatch area in Philipsburg
- Realize two paid parking facilities in Philipsburg

Improve mobility

- Regulate island-wide access to public transportation
- Realization of a dispatch center for bus
- Promote public-private partnership for the improvement of bus service to the general public
- Improve infrastructure to promote safety and accessibility for road users, pedestrians and persons in wheelchair
- Assess innovative ways to diversify the transportation system

We over all our deserve heads a roof

Housing is a basic need. Whether you are a young professional, a just married couple, a business owner, a middle income earner, a senior citizen or a person with special needs, we all have the right to proper and affordable housing. Providing housing requires land transfers and proper infrastructure in order to realize the sustainable development of the communities. The St. Maarten Housing Development Foundation and public- private partnerships play an important role in the realization of these affordable housing projects and the communities within.

Housing and communities

Review and expand public housing

- Review the housing vision and policy to meet the population's housing needs
- Relocation emergency homes
- Diversify the housing options

NA accomplished

- Established Belvedere and Hope Estate housing projects
- Built Community Center in Dutch Quarter
- Purchased land for the construction of community centers in Dutch Quarter, Cole Bay and Belvedere
- Constructed Emergency homes after hurricane Luis
- Purchase land for the realization of housing programs
- The realization of public private partnerships with regards to new housing projects

Homes for low income earners, seniors and persons with special needs

- Realize an affordable housing program for seniors at Ang. 50,- per month
- Realize an affordable housing program for low income earners
- Construct additional homes for persons with disabilities

Offer citizens the opportunity to quality housing

- Provide opportunities to middle income earners to rent or own their own homes
- Construct purchase homes for middle income earners and young professionals
- Construction of 2-3 bedroom rental apartments in Upper Princes Quarter and other locations

Further development of our neighborhoods

- Construction of community centers in the districts
- Secure land for infrastructural development in various communities
- Allocate land for community gardens and exploitation of agriculture
- Realize outdoor gyms and playgrounds in each housing development project

Promotion of public private partnerships for the upgrading of communities

- Stimulate balanced communities
- The building/renovation/renting of homes to upgrade living conditions of the unfortunate as well as low income earners, seniors and persons with special needs
- Partner with property owners to develop their land to create more housing which would provide them with income and increase the value of their land

“Tis We Own Ting”

The culture of St. Maarten is unique even amongst the Dutch Caribbean. In order to preserve and celebrate our tangible and intangible cultural and natural heritage, we must ensure that cultural integrity thrives here. Many historical aspects of our culture can be recognized through the preservation of monuments and the realization of museums and archives.

Continual development within our culture should be encouraged through education, and the use of cultural and artistic facilities. The values of culture should be shared through all generations and engrained in our communities.

Culture

Increase and improve cultural Infrastructure

- Execute plans for National Theater of the Creative and Performing Arts
- Maintain and upgrade existing cultural and artistic facilities, such as John Larmonie Cultural Center

NA accomplished

- Honored the pioneers of Carnival
- Initiated labelling of monuments
- Promoted culture through Education e.g. Calypso and Pan in the classroom
- Financing of scholarships for talented artists
- Engaging stakeholders by executing a Symposium on Forging Stronger National Identity as part of the first step to revitalize our cultural and natural heritage
- Organized annual Interscholastic Essay competition celebrating people of African decent
- Re-measurement of demarcation of existing monuments
- Enhance the usage of Festival Village, and increase accessibility usage

Raise awareness and inspire pride of our culture and natural heritage

- Finalize monument labeling
- Document and promote tangible and intangible heritage
- Facilitate establishment of National Museum and Archives
- Research, write and execute an overall 10-year plan for The Decade of Revitalization of our Natural & Cultural Heritage (DRN&CH)
- Increase promotion of St. Maarten's culture in carnival

Finalize the Cultural Policy and strengthening the Monument Policy

Quality you deserve service

There is no reason for government services to be less effective and efficient than private-sector services. Citizens rightfully expect more and more from civil servants. Government will need to educate and equip its staff to be able to offer the desired level of service.

Public services

Finalize the move to the new government building

- Parking facilities at the new government building

NA accomplished

- Secured finance and completed the new government building
- Expansion of the services at the Public Service Center
- New building for civil registry
- Construction of a new parliament building

Provide quality services within government by increasing efficiency and effectiveness

- Introduce a national ID number for all citizens and strengthen security functions for drivers' licenses and IDs
- Promote awareness about information in the public domain regarding their rights, privileges and relevant laws and the services government provide
- Further improve the efficiency of the Public Service Center
- Institute and promote innovation, including automation, within government
- Fostering a service-minded mentality within civil servants
- Develop and stimulate the use of innovative methods and projects to improve and strengthen public service (e-government)
- Focus on the targets and objectives of the Millennium Development Goals and execute the associated recommendations made by relevant government commissioned work groups
- Realization of a comprehensive Geographic Information System

Ensure that the public is informed through the use of media

- Complete the national radio and television station
- Utilize social media to optimize communication
- Promote public awareness and usage of the different media channels that government utilizes to communicate

Upgrade and expand fire department facilities and equipment

Extending to benefit all our reach

Strengthening our foreign policy, not only to comply with foreign expectations, but moreover to create local opportunities. St. Maarten enjoys very good relations with various countries due to historic and geographical ties. Going into the future we need to make sure these relations lead to more benefits for the St. Maarten citizen.

Kingdom & International Affairs and Foreign Relations

Develop closer ties with Saint Martin

- Resume and pursue new bilateral projects with Saint Martin in the areas of agriculture, education, culture, youth, sports and tourism
- Resolve existing cross border issues related to data exchange, vehicle registration, regulation of public transportation and labor border.

NA accomplished

- Signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Dominican Republic to foster collaboration in the areas of commerce, education, health, regional security, transshipment and tourism
- Signed sea border demarcation Treaty with France that delineates the western and eastern sea borders between Saint Martin and St. Maarten
- Secured funding from the 10th European Development Fund (EDF) to upgrade the sewage, drainage, drinking water and the Dutch Quarter main road. Works will begin in January 2017
- Brought EU Territorial Cooperation Program between Saint Martin and St. Maarten to its final stage that enables the execution of cross border projects such as the construction of a joint wastewater treatment plant in Cole Bay
- Ensure safety and security of all citizens through structured cooperation with all law enforcement officials on both sides of the island
- Realize land demarcation border

Present St. Maarten internationally as a respectable partner

- Meet the human rights obligations enshrined in the various international instruments by submitting the necessary human rights reports and implement the recommendations from the Commission on Human Rights
- Ensure effective implementation of the Convention of Vienna on Consular Relations by proceedings with legislative changes to the law on ID cards
- Prioritize treaties such as the “Law on the Transfer of the Enforcement of Criminal Judgments”, Investment Protection Agreements (IPAs), Tax Information Exchange Agreements (TIEA) and Convention for the avoidance of double taxation (DTA)

Promote regional Cooperation

- Secure Associate membership in CARICOM as it promises to be a formidable regional platform for St. Maarten.
- Continue to participate in the programs of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) and Economic Commission of Latin America and Caribbean (ECLAC).
- Give more attention to the coordination and management of EU projects by exploring possibilities in attaining funding from other EU programs.
- As RAO, strengthen cooperation with EU representatives in the region and with representatives in other Overseas Caribbean Countries or Territories and/ or Outermost Regions in an effort to successfully implement 11th EDF Caribbean regional program

[Extending our reach to benefit all 43](#)

