



YEAR IN REVIEW 2025



Opening of Mahalo Bowls & Rolls on Bonaire

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Tiffany Dorand, winner of the 2023 Chamber of Commerce Academy (Shark Tank), opened her new eatery, “Mahalo – Bowls & Rolls,” in downtown Bonaire. The Chamber continues to encourage entrepreneurship on the island. [Read more](#)

KvK Bonaire organizes information session for the Chinese community on Bonaire in collaboration with HBN Law & Tax

KvK Bonaire and HBN Law & Tax organized an information session for the Chinese community on Bonaire. Jorik Julsing and Lucas Drissen explained ABB, payroll tax, property tax, and the most important changes for 2025, with Jiamin Wu translating. The Chinese entrepreneurs received practical tools for their tax affairs. [Read more](#)

Successful two-day Marketing & Communication training by the Center for Entrepreneurship

The Center for Entrepreneurship of KvK Bonaire organized a two-day training in marketing and communication for participants of the CvO program. The sessions offered aspiring entrepreneurs practical insights into marketing strategies, target audience development, and effective communication, with interactive exercises to strengthen their brand and market approach. [Read more](#)

Successful speed dating session between employers and young professionals on Bonaire

KvK Bonaire organized a successful speed dating session between employers and young professionals. The event offered companies with HBO (higher professional education) vacancies the opportunity to have one-on-one conversations with talented individuals and exchange experiences regarding recruitment and returning to the island. The meeting fostered valuable connections and knowledge sharing. [Read more](#)



KvK Bonaire organizes an information session for the Chinese Association on Bonaire in collaboration with HBN Law & Tax

Successful Trade Mission 'Dutch Caribbean Meets Panama 2025'

The trade mission "Dutch Caribbean Meets Panama 2025" was a success. Entrepreneurs from the Dutch Caribbean visited Panama to explore business opportunities, build networks, and stimulate collaborations. The program included company visits, networking events, and presentations on trade and investment opportunities between the two regions. [Read more](#)

IAB (Establishment and Activities Decree BES) Information Sessions for the Hospitality and Construction Sectors

In collaboration with the OLB, KvK Bonaire organized two information sessions on the new environmental regulations. Both sessions focused on the hospitality and construction sectors. Entrepreneurs received practical information, had the opportunity to talk to experts, and learned about environmentally friendly solutions. The sessions were well-received and represented a successful first step in providing these sectors with structured information. In this way, KvK Bonaire contributed to increased environmental awareness, collaboration, and more sustainable business operations on Bonaire.

KvK Bonaire organizes meeting for construction sector with OLB (RNO department)

KvK Bonaire organized several meetings for the construction sector together with the OLB. Entrepreneurs discussed current challenges, collaboration, and opportunities within the sector. The goal was to share knowledge and strengthen mutual cooperation to further develop the construction sector on Bonaire. [Read more](#)

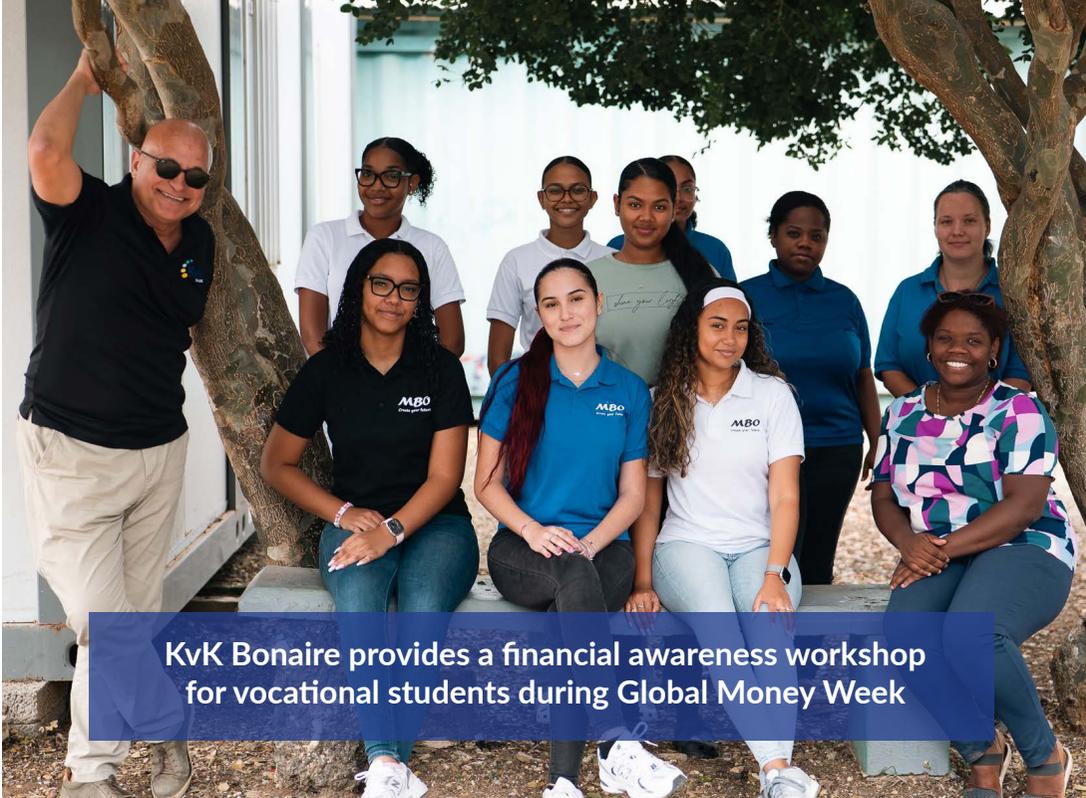
Successful two-day training "How to write a business plan" by the Center for Entrepreneurship (CvO)

The CvO organized a two-day training "How to write a business plan." Participants learned step-by-step how to write a good business plan, including strategy, finances, and implementation, to successfully start or grow their business. [Read more](#)



INFORMATIEPUNT
Milieu

Information sessions on the IAB (BES Establishments and Activities Decree) for the hospitality and construction



KvK Bonaire provides a financial awareness workshop for vocational students during Global Money Week

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During Global Money Week, KvK Bonaire provided a financial awareness workshop for vocational students. The session focused on increasing knowledge about money matters and responsible financial behavior, to better prepare young people for their future. [Read more](#)

KvK Bonaire gives presentation during OLB Knowledge Week

During the OLB Knowledge Week, KvK Bonaire gave a presentation on entrepreneurship and starting your own business. The session offered practical information and tips to inspire and support residents in setting up a business. [Read more](#)

CvO participants attend Excel training sponsored by MCB Bank Bonaire

CvO participants attended an Excel training provided by MCB Bank Bonaire. The training provided practical skills for efficiently managing data and financial information to support their entrepreneurship. [Read more](#)

Successful CBS Caribbean Netherlands workshop “From Data to Insight: How to Use Data and Where to Find It?”

Entrepreneurs learned how to find statistical data and use it effectively for their business operations and decision-making. The session offered practical tips for converting data into valuable insights. [Read more](#)

Valuable information session “Insights by RVO” on subsidies and tools

KvK Bonaire, together with the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO), organized an information session “Insights by RVO.” Entrepreneurs received information about available subsidies and tools to strengthen their business and seize growth opportunities. The session offered practical information and advice for local entrepreneurs. [Read more](#)



KvK Bonaire gives a presentation during the OLB knowledge week

KvK Bonaire provides inspiring entrepreneurship workshops for MBO levels 2 and 3 students at SGB Bonaire

At SGB Bonaire, KvK Bonaire provided inspiring entrepreneurship workshops for MBO level 2 and 3 students. The sessions stimulated entrepreneurial thinking and provided practical tips for starting your own business. [Read more](#)

HRM Month: ‘Start of Planning Discussion’

The first session of HRM Month focused on conducting planning discussions. Employers received practical tips and insights for conducting effective discussions and involving employees in goal and development planning. [Read more](#)

HRM Month: HR Processes

During this meeting, entrepreneurs received practical tips and strategies to improve their human resources management and internal communication. The session offered insights into how companies can make their HR processes more efficient and better support employees. [Read more](#)

HRM Month: HR Policy

This session further explored optimizing HR processes, creating a positive work environment, and strengthening employee engagement. The goal was to support companies in professionalizing their HR policies. [Read more](#)

HRM Month: Conducting Bad News Conversations

This meeting offered entrepreneurs practical insights and tips on how to handle bad news conversations and poor performance reviews. [Read more](#)



Successful CBS Caribbean Netherlands workshop “From Data to Insight: How do you use data and where can you find it?”



HRM Month: “Start of Planning Meeting”



Guidance for entrepreneurs interested in a kiosk at Isidel Park

State Secretary Zsolt Szabó Visits the KvK Bonaire

State Secretary Zsolt Szabó (Kingdom Relations) paid a working visit to KvK Bonaire. He toured the Chamber, learned about the local business climate, and visited two participants from the Center for Entrepreneurship. These entrepreneurs shared their experiences, allowing him to see firsthand the challenges and opportunities for starting entrepreneurs on Bonaire. [Read more](#)

Guidance for Entrepreneurs Interested in a Kiosk at Isidel Park

KvK Bonaire informed entrepreneurs about the possibility of renting a kiosk at Isidel Park. KvK Bonaire guided them through their business plans, how to register, and the steps needed to acquire and successfully operate a kiosk. [Read more](#)

Kick-Off for the Center for Entrepreneurship “The Next Step”

The Kick-Off for the CvO program “The Next Step” was organized by KvK Bonaire. The meeting brought together existing and experienced entrepreneurs who want to participate in the program to stimulate the growth of their businesses. Participants in this program receive training, coaching, and practical tools to help them take the next step in growth with their businesses. The goal is the growth and professionalization of local businesses. [Read more](#)



Kick-off for the Center for Entrepreneurship “The Next Step”

Networking event for starting entrepreneurs where they can meet experienced entrepreneurs.

The CvO organized a special event for starting entrepreneurs, where they could be paired with experienced entrepreneurs who can serve as mentors. [Read more](#)

Bonaire Chamber of Commerce encourages entrepreneurship among young people during 'Buki di Pret' activity

KvK Bonaire encouraged entrepreneurship among children during the Buki di Pret activity. Through interactive workshops and practical information, children learned about starting their own business and were encouraged to think entrepreneurially. [Read more](#)

Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy Visits Bonaire Chamber of Commerce

The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy visited KvK Bonaire. During the visit, discussions were held about the entrepreneurial climate, challenges for local businesses, and opportunities to stimulate economic growth on the island. [Read more](#)

Bonaire Chamber of Commerce Contributes to Buro Hebe's Citizenship Festival

KvK Bonaire participated in the Citizenship Festival, organized by Buro Hebe, with the masterclass "Entrepreneurship in Education," provided by KvK Bonaire. The session introduced entrepreneurial and innovative thinking in education using Design Thinking and was well-received. The teaching staff showed a great deal of curiosity and interest, making the masterclass a success. [Read more](#)



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Follow-up event: Connecting the BES Islands with Colombia, Panama, and the Dominican Republic

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During a follow-up event, entrepreneurs and organizations discussed the next steps for doing business with Colombia, Panama, and the Dominican Republic. Initiatives focus on trade, logistics (working group launches in early 2026), and regional events, including “Business Close to Home” with Aruba and Curaçao in 2026. The event concluded with networking and knowledge sharing. [Read more](#)

Heavy Equipment Sector Entrepreneurs Engaged in Diabase Mining Join Forces and Discuss with OLB

Entrepreneurs in the Heavy Equipment sector on Bonaire were encouraged to establish a trade association to collaborate with the government and customers. Furthermore, the OLB explained the new regulations regarding diabase mining and heard and discussed the views of these entrepreneurs. Besides the new regulations, fair prices, responsible diabase mining, and repurposing of quarries were also discussed. [Read more](#)



New SBI code(s) automatically processed in the Trade Register as of October 1, 2025

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In 2025, KvK Bonaire prepared for the implementation of new SBI codes effective October 1, 2025. These codes, based on an updated Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) from Statistics Netherlands (CBS), were automatically processed in the Trade Register, so entrepreneurs did not have to take any action themselves. Entrepreneurs received information about this via email and could contact KvK Bonaire with questions or changes. [Read more](#)

Promoting the use of our online portal

Instructional videos were used to demonstrate how easy and efficient it is for entrepreneurs to use our online portal.

Bonaire Chamber of Commerce Participates in 'Feria di Trabou' and Promotes Entrepreneurship

In October 2025, KvK Bonaire participated in the "Feria di Trabou," a major job and career fair organized by Plenchi di Trabou. During this event, the Chamber of Commerce promoted entrepreneurship as a sustainable alternative to traditional employment. Visitors received an interactive workshop and practical information about starting a business, including legal forms, registration in the Trade Register, and taking the first steps toward entrepreneurship. The Chamber of Commerce also held personal conversations with participants who already had ideas, resulting in several follow-up appointments to further guide them in developing their plans.

[Read more](#)

Subsidy Process Survey

In close collaboration with the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO), KvK Bonaire conducted a survey about the subsidy process to gain insight into the experiences and needs of entrepreneurs. The survey focused on local businesses that use or are interested in subsidies. The initiative arose from the desire to improve the process and align it more effectively with current practices. The results will be used to make future subsidy support and processes more effective and accessible for the BES islands. [Read more](#)

'Sales Techniques' training inspires entrepreneurs with practical insights

In October 2025, KvK Bonaire organized a successful 'The Next Step' training on sales techniques, where entrepreneurs gained practical insights into customer approach. In addition to the trainers on sales strategies, successful entrepreneurs with various sales approaches also shared their experiences with the participating entrepreneurs about sustainable customer relationships. [Read more](#)



KvK Bonaire participates in 'Feria di Trabou' and promotes entrepreneurship



'Sales Techniques' training inspires entrepreneurs with practical insights



Successful workshop, digital accessibility, the future of Caribbean entrepreneurship

Successful workshop, digital accessibility, the future of Caribbean entrepreneurship

KvK Bonaire organized a workshop on digital accessibility, aimed at future-proofing Caribbean businesses. The session offered practical insights on how companies can make their online presence more accessible to all users, including people with disabilities. The workshop emphasized the importance of inclusive digital strategies and demonstrated how accessibility can contribute to growth and customer satisfaction. [Read more](#)

KvK Bonaire participates in 'Customer Journey' project

KvK Bonaire participated in the Customer Journey project initiated by RCN, aimed at improving the customer experience. Employees attended various sessions and training courses, including customer journey management. In addition, internal analysis and mapping of the customer journey has begun. This will be further developed in 2026. [Read more](#)

Valuable webinar: Successfully "Make your organization resilient to security attacks"

KvK Bonaire organized a webinar on digital security: "Make your organization resilient to security attacks." Entrepreneurs received practical tips to prevent cyberattacks and better protect their company data. The session emphasized the importance of preventive measures and awareness to ensure business continuity. [Read more](#)



Valuable webinar: Successfully "Make your organization resilient to security attacks"

An insightful information session, “Secure Digital Entrepreneurship - From Risk to Opportunity,” shows entrepreneurs how digitalization accelerates growth.

KvK Bonaire organized an information session, “Secure Digital Entrepreneurship: From Risk to Opportunity.” Entrepreneurs learned how digitalization not only entails risks but also offers growth opportunities. The session provided practical tools for working safely online and strategically using digital tools for business development. [Read more](#)

Insightful Information Session on Cyber Resilience in the Age of AI

KvK Bonaire organized an information session on cyber resilience in the age of digitalization and AI. Entrepreneurs gained insight into current digital risks and practical strategies to protect their businesses. The session emphasized how secure digitalization not only limits risks but also offers new opportunities for growth and innovation. [Read more](#)

KvK Academy 2025 concluded with Tanki di Tribon and festive certification

The KvK Bonaire concluded the KvK Academy 2025 with the Tanki di Tribon event, where startups had the opportunity to present their businesses to an expert, independent jury. Three winners were crowned during the Tanki di Tribon finals: Jurdine Felix (Flavorful Moment), who specializes in children’s parties and celebrations; Ragnhild Isabella (Huma Trading), who brings Bonairean flavors and culture together in a BBQ experience with Humá-Bar-B-Kuí; and Ludvarina Valerio (La Belle Soirée), who creates romantic experiences on the beach or at other special locations. During a festive evening, the KvK presented certificates to 38 KvK Academy participants. This gathering emphasized the growth of the entrepreneurs and the importance of continuous development within local entrepreneurship. [Read more here](#) and [here](#)





Information session 'Stop Being Your Business, Start Building One' encourages entrepreneurs to grow

Information session “Stop Being Your Business, Start Building One” encourages entrepreneurs to grow

Many businesses are too dependent on entrepreneurs, sometimes even temporarily taking a break for vacation or illness. KvK Bonaire organized an inspiring information session, “Stop Being Your Business, Start Building One.” Entrepreneurs gained insight into how they can grow their businesses by working strategically on structure, processes, and scalability, instead of being completely dependent on their own efforts. The session offered practical tools to transition from an operational role to an entrepreneurial mindset. [Read more](#)

Working visit by State Secretary for Participation and Integration “Jurgen Nobel”

The State Secretary and his delegation, together with KvK Bonaire, held several discussions about, among other things, signals from the field, the increase in the statutory minimum wage (WML), and safety regulations in the construction sector. These discussions were held with representatives of the Bouw Bonaire association, the association of accounting and tax consultancy firms, and an entrepreneur for whom the increase in the statutory minimum wage (WML) has had a significant impact.



KvK Art Exhibition Christmas edition

PUBLICATION | Board elections

KvK Bonaire held board elections in December. The results of the board elections include the new board: chairman Jeaniro Balentien, vice-chairman Judy Diaz, treasurer Ottmar Martie, board member 1 Leonard Domacassé, and board member 2 Hans Els. [Read more](#)

KvK Art Exhibition Christmas edition

KvK Bonaire organized the third edition of the KvK Art Exhibition, this time in the form of a Christmas edition. The event offered local artists a platform to showcase their work and stimulated creativity and community connection. The successful turnout emphasized the importance of arts and culture as part of entrepreneurship on Bonaire. [Read more](#)