



CURAÇAO EXPORT WEEK 2023

SCHEDULE



MINISTRY OF
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF CURAÇAO





ABOUT CEW

Curaçao Export Week is an annual event that promotes and supports the export of goods and services from the Caribbean island of Curaçao. It is organized by the Ministry of Economic Development of Curaçao, collaborating with local businesses, industry associations, and other stakeholders. Curaçao Export Week aims to showcase the export potential of the island, provide networking opportunities for local exporters, and offer educational workshops and seminars on various topics related to international trade and export.

There are many events during Curaçao Export Week, including trade fairs, business matchmaking sessions, panel discussions, and training sessions. These events may be attended by local businesses, international buyers, government officials, industry experts, and other stakeholders interested in promoting and supporting Curaçao's exports.

Curaçao, a constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, has a diverse economy that includes sectors such as tourism, financial services, port and maritime services and oil-related activities, and international trade. Exporting goods and services can be an important driver of economic growth for Curaçao, as it can help diversify the economy, create jobs, and generate foreign exchange earnings. Curaçao Export Week provides a platform for local businesses to connect with international markets, explore new business opportunities, and learn about best practices in exporting. It also helps raise awareness about the island's export potential and promotes Curaçao as a reliable and competitive trading partner in the international arena. Overall, Curaçao Export Week is an important event for promoting and boosting the export-oriented sectors of the island's economy.



OBJECTIVES

Purpose of the Curaçao Export Week

The Curaçao Export Week is a platform for showcasing Government and Private Sector initiatives to grow exports and to promote collaboration among businesses. Specifically, the event seeks to:

- Increase awareness and visibility of the export potential of Curaçao
- Bring together all the key stakeholders in Curaçao to inform them about Government's export development initiatives
- Provide information to SMEs and the general public on the support mechanisms that are put in place for start-ups and existing enterprises
- Strengthen and deepen interactions and partnerships among the public and private sector, academia, SMEs, research & development institutions, and communities towards promoting the growth of exports through innovation.

Overall, the Curaçao Export Week is to stimulate and showcase the export performance of Curaçao-based businesses, enhance their competitiveness in international markets, and contribute to the economic growth and development of Curaçao. It aims to contribute to the creation of a supportive environment for local exporters, connect them with potential international buyers, provide them with export-related education and resources, and foster partnerships and collaborations to facilitate their success in international trade. Thus, the event aims to position Curaçao as a competitive player in the global trade arena and promote its economic development through increased international trade.



15th May 2023

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Time	Event	Topic Presentation	Speakers	Company / Organisation	Moderator	Platform	Location	Language
8:00 - 8:30	Signup + Coffee	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Physical	CBCS	ENG
8:30 - 8:45	Opening Curaçao Export Week 2023	State of Curaçao Exports (Tourism, Financial Services, Ports, etc.)	Vanessa Tore (MEO) Jeanette Bonet Minister Ruisandro Cijntje	Ministry Economic Development & CINEX	N. Maduro	Hybrid	CBCS	ENG
8:45 - 9:15	Presentation	Curaçao's Export Evolution in the Past Decade	Inês Silva Correia & Shekinah Dare	Central Bank representatives	N. Maduro	Hybrid	CBCS	ENG
9:15 - 9:45	Presentation	Implementing the NES - What Does It Take	Anton Said	International Trade Centre (ITC)	N. Maduro	Hybrid	CBCS	ENG
9:30 - 10:00	Presentation	Overcoming the challenges of small island country logistics	Samuel Nicholas	CPost	N. Maduro	Hybrid	CBCS	ENG
10:00 - 10:30	Presentation	Defining & Embracing Sustainability in and for international markets (Business Platform for Sustainability)	Tamira La Cruz	president BPM Business Platform for Sustainability, owner MarkStra Caribbean	N. Maduro	Hybrid	CBCS	ENG
10:30 - 11:30	Panel	Sustainability for international markets and real life examples	Tamira la Cruz; Sharella Riedel	BPM Business Platform for Sustainability,.	N. Maduro	Hybrid	CBCS	ENG
11:30 - 12:00	Case Study	Developing the IT Service Sector into becoming the 4th Economic Pillar for Curaçao	Danilo Zabala	Blue Nap Americas	N. Maduro	Hybrid	CBCS	ENG
12:00 - 13:30	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
13:30 - 14:00	Panel	Lessons Learned: Success Stories and Best Practices from Curacao's Export Champions	Herbert Luis Roy Knippenborg Esmeralda Levens-Wijngaarde	SOFTEX Chobolobo BearingPoint	Elton Villareal	Hybrid	CBCS	Pap



16th May 2023

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Time	Event	Topic Presentation	Speakers	Company / Organisation	Moderator	Platform	Location	Language
9:00 - 9:45	Presentation	Training on the use of Trade map/ Market Access Map/ Export Potential Map for exporters	Katerina Blanchard Joklova and Arushi Vaishnav	International Trade Centre (ITC)	Ruvette Dirksz	Hybrid	Marriott	ENG
9:45 - 10:30	Presentation	Accessing International Finance: Securing funding and investment for export expansion/ RVO Instruments for Exports - SIB and DHI	Soelan Daal	RVO - Adviseur Internationaal Ondernemen	Ruvette Dirksz	Hybrid	Marriott	ENG
10:30 - 11:00	Presentation	Legal and Compliance Aspects: Navigating International Contracts and Agreements	Mirto Murray	Murray Attorneys at Law	Ruvette Dirksz	Hybrid	Marriott	ENG
11:00 - 11:30	Presentation	From Islands to Innovation Hubs: Empowering Small Nations Through IT Investments	Andrew Solomon	Simia	Ruvette Dirksz	Hybrid	Marriott	ENG
11:30 - 12:00	Presentation	Protecting global partnerships: Safeguarding your business in the global markets	Karyl Bertrand	Bertrand Legal - Attorney at Law	Ruvette Dirksz	Hybrid	Marriott	ENG
12:00 - 12:30	Panel	The future of exports: Trends and innovations shaping the global trade landscape	Taiana Mora, Mary Derby, Tamira La Cruz		Ruvette Dirksz	Hybrid	Marriott	ENG
12:30 - 13:30	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
13:30 - 14:15	Presentation	The Future of Investment: Exploring Curaçao's Diverse Market Opportunities	Jeanette Bonet	Cinex - Interim CEO	Ruvette Dirksz	Hybrid	Marriott	ENG
14:15 - 15:00	Presentation	Nurturing local talent: Workforce Development for a Thriving Export Economy & Launch of the 2nd Edition Essay Competition	Guido Rojer	UoC	Ruvette Dirksz	Hybrid	Marriott	ENG
15:00 - 17:00	Mini Summit on Eliminating REDTape	Kick off for Business Climate Reform: An actionable plan to reduce red tape and lower the cost of doing business	Tamira La Cruz	Aqualectra & BTP Representative		In-Person	Marriott	PaP/ENG
ALL DAY	Trade Event	OECS Trade Expo Matchmaking	OECS Trade Expo Matchmaking			Virtual		ENG



17th May 2023

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Time	Event	Topic Presentation	Speakers	Company / Organisation	Moderator	Platform	Location	Language
9:00 - 9:45	Presentation /Q&A	Financing for Creative Industries	Lorraine O'Connor	C15 Studios - General Manager	Fiona Regales	Hybrid	Kolab	ENG
9.45-10:15	Presentation	Assessing Your Export Potential	Nelida Cathalina	ProfPro - Business & Export Coach	Pauline Koeyers	Hybrid	Kolab	ENG
10.15-11:00	Presentation	Making Sustainable Trade the Standard: Where do I Start?	Akshata Limaye	Making Sustainable Trade the Standard: Where do I Start? Akshata Limaye	Pauline Koeyers	Hybrid	Kolab	ENG
11:00-11:45	Presentation	The Role of Technology in Internationalization and Exporting in Priority Services Sectors	Natallie Rochester	International Trade & Development Policy Expert, CEDR Accredited Mediator	Pauline Koeyers	Virtual	Kolab	ENG
11:45 - 12:15	Presentation	Shifting the Payments Landscape - local online payments in the Dutch Caribbean and beyond	Vincent van Rutten	Sentoo - Managing Director	Pauline Koeyers		Kolab	ENG
12:15 - 13:30	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
13:30 - 14:15	Expert-led Masterclasses	USA Export Roundtable: Conducting Business Successfully in the USA - Three Practical Examples and Lessons Learned.	Erik Broekhuijsen	Van Holland Group Inc - CEO	Pauline Koeyers	Hybrid	Kolab	NED
14:15 - 15:00	Expert-led Masterclasses	Doing Business with the BES islands Roundtable – Opportunities for Curaçao	Edison Rijna	Special Envoy for the BES-islands for EU- and UN- funding	Pauline Koeyers	Hybrid	Kolab	PaP/ENG
15:00 - 15:45	Expert-led Masterclasses	Determining Markets: Tapping into DR Market - market opportunities for Curaçao companies in DR.	Taiana Mora-Ramis	NEX Consulting - International Trade Consultant/General Manager	Pauline Koeyers	Hybrid	Kolab	ENG
15:45 - 16:30	Expert-led Masterclasses	Tap Into the Regional Export Opportunities	Drs. Meredith Derby, MBA	PMI Certified Project Manager Air Transport Business Consultant	Pauline Koeyers	Hybrid	Kolab	ENG
16:30 - 17:00	Panel	Breaking into new markets	Meredith, Taiana, Erik, Xiomara Overman		Pauline Koeyers	Hybrid	Kolab	ENG



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Time	Event	Topic Presentation	Speakers	Company / Organisation	Moderator	Platform	Location	Language
10:00 - 11:00	Launch of CWIT	Opening Remarks	Dr. Ngozi Okonjo - Iweala, WTO		Andrea Ewart		Virtual	ENG
			Pamela Coke - Hamilton (Jamaica), ITC		Andrea Ewart		Virtual	ENG
			Rebeca Grynspan (Costa Rica), UNCTAD		Andrea Ewart		Virtual	ENG
		Greetings	Ruthmilda Larmonie-Cecilia, Vice Prime Minister of Curaçao				Virtual	ENG
		Greetings	Paula Gopee-Scoon, Minister of Trade and Industry, Trinidad & Tobago		Andrea Ewart		Virtual	ENG
11:00 - 11:40	Keynote Speaker: Policy	Woman Inside Trade	Dr. Renata Vargas Amaral		TBD		Virtual	ENG
11:30 - 12:30	Panel of International Womens Organisation	Panel of International Womens Organisation	OWIT-UK, or OWIT South Florida WISTA, WISTA International, Paula Angelica Pastén Carvallo Women Inside Trade TradeExperettes		TBD		Virtual	ENG
14:00 - 14:45		Study on trade issues facing women and anticipating issues like climate change.	Andrea Ewart & Marjorie				Virtual	ENG
15:00 - 15:45	Presentation	Accelerating Services Trade through Data Collection – Latin American Association of Services Exporters (ALES)	Taiana Mora Ramis - former Executive Director, Caribbean Export Development Agency		Yvonne Agard (tbc)		Virtual	
16:30- 18:00	In-Country Connect Curaçao and meet CEW	In-Country Connect Curaçao and meet CEW						



19th May 2023

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Time	Event	Topic Presentation	Speakers	Company / Organisation	Moderator	Platform	Location	Language
ALL DAY	Creative Industries - One-on-One Meetings	One-on-One Meetings and field visits	Mrs. Lorraine O'Connor, General Manager, C15 Studios	C15 Studios	Eloise van Wickeren/ Fiona Regales	In-Person		ENG
9:00 - 9:30	Presentation	Food Security in Curaçao	Alvin Daal	N/A	Sam	Hybrid	Kolab	PaP
09:30 - 10:00	Presentation	Blue Economy as a driver for economic development	Luuk Weber	Kolektivo		Hybrid	Kolab	ENG
10:00 - 10:30	Presentation	The Potential for Blue Carbon the in ABC islands	Christie Mettes	Metabolic Foundation		Hybrid	Kolab	ENG
10:30 - 11:00	Panel/ Q&A	The contributions of healthy reefs to the export potential of Curaçao	Tripp Funderburk	Reef Restoration Curacao		Hybrid	Kolab	ENG
11:00 - 11:45	Presentation	How can Island Nations Lead the Way in Blue Economy Exportation	Christie, Tripp, Luuk			Hybrid	Kolab	ENG
11:45 - 12:15	Official ceremony	Diving into the Future: The Proteus Underwater Research Center in Curaçao	Fabien Cousteau	Proteus		Hybrid	Kolab	ENG
12:15 - 12:45		MOU signing Proteus with Minister Ruisandro Cijntje of the Ministry of Economic Development of Curaçao	Fabien Cousteau, Minister Ruisandro Cijntje	Proteus, Ministry of Economic Development of Curaçao				



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