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Stenapa reviews strategy for future

STATIA--St. Eustatius National Parks Stenapa has started to review its nature conservation strategy. This strategy will steer the organisation for the coming years, will help in setting priorities and allow for planning into the future, Director Clarisse Buma said this week.

A team from the World Wide Fund (WWF) for Nature (Netherlands) and the Saba Conservation Foundation trained the Stenapa team last week to use the internationally recognized Open Standards method. This helps to set targets and milestones for the future and helps to measure if the organisational activities are successful or need adjustment.

Buma said one of the outcomes is that Stenapa will strengthen its focus to increasing awareness, extending outreach activities and building strong relations with the government and stakeholder groups.

"Nature services the community by offering income through fisheries and dive tourism, safety through coastal protection and by offering medicines and recreational value," said Buma. "Stenapa wants to work with the community to preserve the rich forests and healthy reefs for Statia. These treasures are valuable and we want to pass them on to our children."

Other nature conservation organisations using the Open Standards Method are the Jane Goodall Institute, The Nature Conservancy, Forever Costa Rica, Conservation International and African Wildlife Foundation.



Clarisse Buma (centre) with Stenapa personnel in office in Gallows Bay.