

Power In Our Past's Future

Fellowship in Community Empowerment through Participatory Research of Afrikan Cultural Heritage

LEAD TIME: 18 MONTHS (FEB 2026 – AUG 2027)

ST. EUSTATIUS AFRIKAN BURIAL GROUND ALLIANCE

SUMMARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Setting up a St. Eustatius-Afrikan Cultural Heritage Fellowship Program. This fellowship program will help local descendant community by giving them unfettered access to cultural heritage resources, teaching them cultural heritage skills, and offering mentorship. It will build their leadership and allow them to create positive change in the St. Eustatius community.• Key principles:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Project design and method of implementation are fully community led.◦ Community empowerment and access to heritage through partnership
TARGET AUDIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All sectors of society will be included but special focus on marginalised and disenfranchised groups in the community eg. Women, young people, elders, unemployed, youth (ages 18 to 35) from St. Eustatius. Target number: 20 persons• Facilitators/mentors: experts in different fields who will provide• Community of St. Eustatius• General public interested in Afrikan heritage awareness and advocacy.
PLANNING	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Design, planning, programming and preparation of fellowship programme (time period 6 weeks)2. Recruitment and appointment of local fellows and securing guest lecturers, speakers, experts for the fellowship (time period 4 weeks)3. Finalise pilot fellowship plan, programme and capstone project (1 month)4. Implement with community and partners (time period 6 months, 2 hours, bi-weekly sessions)5. Produce capstone project with fellows, partners and community (time period 2 month)6. Report-back presentation on capstone projects: Masterplan for Cultural Heritage on St. Eustatius (time period 3 month)7. Communication and knowledge dissemination, legacy through follow-on projects
VISION	<p>Liberating and making accessible the Afrikan Heritage knowledge in a structured collective format to democratize and decolonize memory through restitution and reparation with community empowerment at the core of the program.</p>

DELIVERABLES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer more opportunities (including digital) to access heritage. • Make archival material available to the community. • Provide access to cultural institutions where people can learn about and become acquainted with history, culture, and science. • Formalize the St. Eustatius Historical Foundation and the St. Eustatius Monuments Foundation. • Improve essential relationships and build sustainable partnerships between governmental and non-governmental agencies. • Actively mobilise marginalized groups in their endangered heritage as co-designers and co-creators
OUTCOMES FARO-1	<p>Learned lessons from FARO-1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness was raised and community interested but barriers and gate-keepers to heritage • Direct and unfettered access to Afrikan heritage is limited • Lack of transparency in responsibilities between local government and The Hague • Underrepresented groups like the Youth seemed "inaccessible"