Extra funding for strengthening of Caribbean journalism

Fonds BJP will receive extra funding from the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) to strengthen journalism in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Thanks to this additional funding, the Fund will be able to further expand and establish more structured support for journalists and content creators on the six islands.

“With these extra resources, we can further strengthen our commitment to journalism on the islands. Our initial focus will be on journalism traineeships. This means that, in the near future, in collaboration with local editorial teams on the islands, we aim to create positions for journalists at the beginning of their careers to get them started,” says Joëlle Terburg, Managing Director of Fonds BJP.

Since 2025, Fonds BJP (Dutch Fund for In-Dept Journalism) has been placing greater emphasis on tailored funding schemes and activities that align with the local journalistic practice in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom. The Fund’s existing schemes, which were largely developed for the European Netherlands, do not always match the needs and circumstances of journalists on the islands. For that reason, we are working — in close consultation with journalists, content creators, and other media stakeholders on the six islands - on a program that better suits the realities of journalism in the Caribbean region.

“Over the past two years, we have already achieved a great deal: in two rounds of funding, we granted nearly forty project grants which have already resulted in several publications,” says Wensly Francisco, expert on Caribbean Funding Schemes at Fonds BJP. “In addition, we have focused on knowledge sharing and expanding networks. For example, we did this through a workshop on creating audio stories. This year and last year, we also invited Caribbean journalists to the Dutch Journalism Festival in Deventer, where we also organized sessions on Caribbean journalism.”

Until now, these activities were funded from the Fund’s regular financial resources. The additional funding granted by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) for Caribbean journalism provides an opportunity to strengthen, continue, and expand existing initiatives. By doing so, we aim to contribute to a sustainable journalistic infrastructure in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom. In addition to establishing journalism traineeships, the extra funds will be used, among other things, to enable Caribbean journalists to participate in national and international conferences and workshops. In this

way, we not only support current journalists in their work, but we also contribute to the further development of a new generation of journalists and the long-term, sustainable strengthening of the sector.

About Fonds BJP

Fonds BJP is committed to strengthening journalism by supporting journalists and media professionals throughout the Kingdom. In this respect, the Fund focuses on providing tailored support to help journalists produce in-depth journalistic publications, deepen and broaden their journalistic skills, and enhance their professional practice by creating opportunities for networking and collaboration.