

## **Project grant for journalists in the Dutch Caribbean**

Are you a journalist or journalistic media creator based in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (Dutch Caribbean). Have you got a great idea for a journalism project? It could be anything from an investigation into a topic that's been on your mind for a long time to a story that deserves more attention. Apply now for a grant of €7,350 to work on your project, with support from a journalistic sparring partner.

### **This grant scheme is for you if:**

- you are a journalist, or you work on journalistic stories, and you live on Saba, Statia, Bonaire Sint Maarten, Aruba or Curaçao
- you have an idea for a journalistic project that will need time to develop, on a subject that deserves attention

If you are collaborating with other journalists or journalistic media creators in the Dutch Caribbean (with two or more journalists who submit a joint grant application) you are eligible for a maximum project grant of €14,700).

### **IMPORTANT: eligibility and conditions**

- The project grant is exclusively intended for journalists and journalistic media creators in the Dutch Caribbean, and only journalists living there are eligible to receive payment under this grant scheme. An applicant who chooses to collaborate with one or more journalists residing outside the Dutch Caribbean cannot apply for the double project grant of €14,700. (Journalists wishing to seek funding for this type of collaboration should apply through the FBJP Project Grants scheme.)
- If you previously received an implementation grant under the FBJP's Project Grants scheme ('Uitvoeringssubsidie'), you are not eligible for this grant scheme, but you can submit a new application for a new implementation grant (Uitvoeringssubsidie).
- You *are* eligible to submit a new grant application if you previously received a project grant under the Caribbean Journalism grant.

### **What the grant may be used for**

The FBJP exists to support journalists working on in-depth and time-intensive projects. The same applies to this project grant for journalists in the Dutch Caribbean. It is intended exclusively for projects that require a significant investment of time and attention, rather than for producing daily news or short-form reporting.

The grant allows you to focus entirely on a single subject, whether full-time for two months or part-time for a period up to six months. The grant can also help cover costs incurred during the project, such as equipment rental, travel expenses, or archival research. When you are granted the subsidy, it is up to you to decide how to spend the grant – as long as it serves the publication you are working on.

Your project must result in one or more publications. These may include an article or series of articles, a documentary, a podcast, one or more radio broadcasts, a video production or a photographic work.

If you are unsure whether your idea is eligible for a project grant, please contact us directly at [cariben@fondsbjp.nl](mailto:cariben@fondsbjp.nl).

### **Publishing partner or self-publication?**

Providing a collaboration agreement or letter of intent from a journalistic publishing outlet will support your application, but it is not a requirement. If you are intending to produce and publish independently – for example using social media – we still require that you provide a plan for publication and distribution. It should include information about your plans for the final editing and design of the publication, for example, and how you will ensure the publication reaches its audience.

### **Sparring partner**

Working on an in-depth journalistic project is often done alone. You spend a lot of time working through your material, conducting interviews, and weighing decisions, usually without having anyone to discuss it with. But especially when you're working on a large-scale journalistic investigation, it can be very valuable to talk things over with a fellow journalist – someone who follows your work, asks questions and helps sharpen your story. This can help give your work focus and depth. For these reasons, if your application is granted we will also connect you with a journalistic sparring partner. The FBJP will propose a sparring partner with whom you can confer on the best way to define the role, by mutual agreement. The sparring partner can have different roles, depending on what is most relevant to you and your project.

### **How to apply for a grant**

- **Please note: a grant application can only be completed on a desktop or laptop; the grant portal does not work on a mobile phone.**
- Use [this link](#) to access our grant portal.
- In the portal, create a login if you don't already have one.
- After logging in, click the orange button to start a new grant application.
- Select the application form titled 'Caribbean journalism' (available in Dutch and English).
- Complete the application form at your own pace – just click 'save' or 'save and close' to store any information you have entered, without submitting it to us.
- Once you have submitted your application we will review it. If we have any questions, we will get in touch – so please keep an eye on your inbox in the subsidy portal. If we do send you a message, you will also receive a notification in your email inbox.

### **Webinar and online consultation**

On 14 May 2026 at 9:00 Atlantic Standard Time (AST) we will host a webinar to share information about this project grant round, with an opportunity to ask questions.

[Register here for the webinar.](#)

On 25 May 2026 from 9:00 to 11:00 AST we will hold an online consultation session. Register now to reserve a time slot if you have any specific questions about the grant or your project. You are also

welcome to send your question by email to [cariben@fondsbjp.nl](mailto:cariben@fondsbjp.nl) or via WhatsApp at +31 6 13466461.

[Register here for the online consultation session.](#)

### **Timeline**

All fully completed applications that meet the criteria will be submitted to an independent advisory committee. The committee will meet to assess all applications, focusing particularly on:

- the relevance of the subject matter (urgency and topicality)
- the approach (journalistic method)
- the publication medium for the project (video, audio, writing or photography).

The committee's decision will be announced on the subsidy portal at the beginning of October 2026.

### **Kick-off session**

If your grant application is approved, we look forward to seeing you on 15 October 2026 for the online kick-off of this funding round. At the kick-off, you will have the opportunity to connect with fellow journalists and we will explain how to prepare a publication plan and budget for your project.

### **FAQ**

#### **Why is there a funding round for journalists in the Dutch Caribbean?**

The FBJP supports journalists in producing larger-scale work and developing professionally. We also work for a stronger journalistic field by encouraging collaboration between journalists. We do this for all journalists and journalistic creators throughout the Kingdom of the Netherlands. In 2025 we started offering additional, tailored support to journalists in the Dutch Caribbean that aligns with local practices and needs.

#### **Am I allowed to submit multiple applications within this project grant round?**

Yes, that is possible. However, there are a few rules to follow:

- You may have a maximum of two project grant applications running simultaneously under this scheme.
- If you received a Caribbean journalism project grant last year and that project has not yet been completed, this counts as an ongoing application. You may then submit one new grant application.
- You may submit one grant application as the lead applicant. In addition, you may also be involved as a co-applicant in one other grant application.

#### **Am I allowed to apply if I have already received a project grant (Uitvoeringssubsidie) from the FBJP?**

No, if you have previously received an implementation grant under the FBJP's project grants scheme (Uitvoeringssubsidie) you *are not* eligible to submit a grant application in this round (however, you can apply for a new implementation grant). Recipients of other FBJP grants *are* eligible to submit a grant application in this round.

**As a Europe-based Dutch journalist, is it possible to apply for a project in the Caribbean region?**

No, this project grant round is specifically intended for journalists and journalistic creators permanently living in the Dutch Caribbean.

**Am I allowed to collaborate with a journalist or journalistic creator residing outside the Caribbean Netherlands?**

You are free to collaborate with a journalist outside the Dutch Caribbean, but you cannot apply for funding for this collaborator under the Caribbean Journalism scheme. The maximum project grant is therefore €7,350 (for a single applicant, based in the Caribbean). If you wish to collaborate with a journalist based outside the Dutch Caribbean, you may apply for an implementation grant under the Project Grants scheme (Uitvoeringssubsidie).

**Am I allowed to involve other funders in financing my project?**

Yes, provided it does not impact on your journalistic independence. Please indicate in the application form if any other funders are involved in your project and provide their names.