



Saba is a Caribbean Island, and is also the smallest special municipality (Public Entity) of the Netherlands. The island is characterized by its beautiful nature, the volcano Mount Scenery (which is the highest point within the Kingdom of the Netherlands at a height of 887 meters), a particularly beautiful underwater world and its inhabitants.

Saba became a special municipality within the Netherlands after the dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles on October 10th, 2010. Currently about 1900 inhabitants (including several hundred medical students) live on an area of 13 square kilometres on Saba.

This beautiful island is looking for a

GOVERNMENT VETERINARIAN

Work Environment

The Department of Agriculture, Hygiene and Vector Control is part of the Public Entity of Saba. The department currently consists of 11 people. The goal of our department is to ensure and enforce hygiene standards on the island, execute vector control tasks and stimulate food production. We are looking for an experienced veterinarian to work on food safety, animal health and animal welfare in the aim to further develop and professionalize animal husbandry on Saba and improve animal welfare in general. The Veterinarian is based in the Department of Agriculture, Hygiene and Vector Control, but will work closely together with policy advisors and project managers in the Project Bureau, as well as the safety officer and enforcers of the Department of Public Order & Safety.

Description of main duties and responsibilities

- Develops relevant departmental policies, enforcement plans and long term strategies, drafts policy notes and advises management and departments on this;
- Directs and coordinates the design of quality control in the production and distribution chain of animal products, including export, and advises on this in a broad sense;
- Advises on import and export regulations for live animals;
- Coordinates meat processing and certification at the slaughter facility in accordance with BES regulations;
- Monitors and investigates the orderly and hygienic conduct of the slaughter, storage and transport process and investigates complaints, reports and incidents;
- Inspects and certifies livestock, other animals and meat, inspects and certifies meat processing plants, carries out checks;
- Coordinates with stakeholders within the chain, represents and defends the interests of the department, aligns this with other policy areas and provides explanations on departmental documents in consultations.
- Supervises and if needed carries out tagging and registration of animals, and executes enforcement on tagging and registration;
- Executes enforcement tasks on animal welfare and animal husbandry related cases together with enforcement team;
- Provides information to the public about, among other things, certification, quarantine, killing of animals, products, services, processes, results, etc.;
- Some clinical veterinary work may be part of the duties in collaboration with or in absence of the local practicing veterinarian.

What you offer

- A veterinary diploma recognized in the Netherlands;
- 3+ years of experience in the field of veterinary policy;
- Experience as a practicing veterinarian is an advantage;
- Broad knowledge of and understanding of local, regional and national laws and regulations and related policy areas and areas of work;
- Insight into government administrative, functional and organizational relationships;
- Skills in advising on politically sensitive topics, developing and implementing policy, leading complex integrated projects, conducting consultations and in coordinating on policy issues, managing integral inspections, and making diagnoses.
- Willing to follow BavPol training in order to be able to carry out enforcement tasks;
- Available to work outside regular working hours when required;
- Strong communication skills in English and Dutch.

A reference check could be part of the application procedure.

Commitment

You are prepared to commit to our organization for an extended period of time and you are willing to establish yourself on the island.

We offer

- A competitive salary in minimum scale 12, with a salary ranging from \$4,075 through \$5,589 (excluding 15.5% allowance, 8.33% vacation allowance and a 13th month), depending on experience, skills and competences;
- A 36-hour working week and a two years employment contract with the possibility of extension.
- Generous secondary benefits;
- Life on the beautiful and safe island of Saba;
- Also offered is a relocation packet for the ideal candidate traveling from abroad;
- Expatriate arrangement in applicable.

Apply

We look forward to receiving your letter of interest and resume (both in English) before or on **April 1, 2024** addressed to personnel.affairs@sabagov.nl.

For more information about the position, contact program manager Sarah van der Horn (sarah.vanderhorn@sabagov.nl) or government veterinarian Martin Hovius (martin.hovius@sabagov.nl).