



**STINAPA**  
FONAIKE  
NATIONAL PARKS FOUNDATION



## STINAPA INFORMATION

WHAT ELSE CAN WE THINK?

Lucia 'Mientje' Martina and her tiny restaurant 'Kushina Krioyo'. Who can't remember her? Nowadays she takes it a little bit easier. But she is still involved quite a bit with both locals as well as tourists. In a well-known shop at the airport she still enjoys assisting both groups to their local or international newspapers and magazines. She totally identifies with the statement that the sea around Bonaire is so clean, beautiful and pure. But her eyes really start to twinkle when she starts recalling her childhood days on her mother's kunuku. She enjoys talking about those days. How she used to help getting water from the well, and carrying it home in sheet-metal containers either in her hands or on her head. She still returns often to her parents' kunuku to relax, and to listen to the rustling of the leaves in the cool breeze and other sounds that are so typical of the kunuku like the singing of the birds. Her father used to plant all kinds of fruits and vegetables like watermelon, pumpkin and wild corn. He had the best and fattest chickens and goats of the whole neighborhood. We tend to believe that whatever comes from abroad is better, but we forget that you will not find any hormones in our home-grown vegetables and meat, and that it really tastes better. Mientje would not trade Bonaire for any other place in the world. That is because of the wonderful nature here. Or as she phrases it herself the 'Dushi' of Bonaire you will not find anywhere else. Many of her 'tourist - customers' she talks to, also tell her that the nature here offers them so much peace of mind. "I love this place' is the sentence she keeps hearing. After thinking it over for a while she concludes;" If even they think of it that way, what else can we think?"  
*Written by pa Natalie Wanga, translated by Marcel Nahr.*

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## NOS TA BIBA DI NATURALESA



**Traha huntu na un desaroyo duradero pa Bonelru**