



STINAPA
BONAIRE
NATIONAL PARKS FOUNDATION



STINAPA INFORMATION

THAT DIRTY WATER ???

She has been working at a well-known jewelry store for more than 23 years. Norma Rosaria, is not only a mother, but she also loves her work, and to walk, meditate and practice yoga. Norma loves the peacefulness and clean, fresh air that Bonaire offers us. To her, the sea of Bonaire is one the things she is most proud of. She has traveled extensively, and everywhere they show her the sea, she will answer the same way; "the sea? Is that dirty water what you call the sea here?" On average, Norma will enjoy being in the 'kunuku', or, as she calls it; 'walking in the green'. Here, she explains, you can see and listen to the animals so much better. Like the sounds they make when they are happy, or in danger etc. "I can drive on the road to Rincon in 'slow motion' and soak up the nature that borders the road." To Norma even the common weeds hold a beauty with their whimsical colors and shapes. And even though she can not swim, she can sit at the waters edge and relax with the sounds and sights of the sea. We depend on tourism for our income. Norma explains that we do not have the 'casino-tourism' or shopping-tourism' as on other islands. No, it's the nature that the tourist that comes to Bonaire seeks. Through her work she has experienced that all the tourists want something 'natural' from Bonaire to take home. The shape that is most sold is the fish, followed closely by the turtle, iguana and the sea shell. If we did not have these animals roaming free in the wild, we would not be selling so many souvenirs. We have to take care of our nature and teach our children the same. Norma would like to ask them not to throw anything into the wild that could harm our pristine nature. She also mentions the fact that many cruise-ship tourists tell her how clean Bonaire is compared to other islands. "Beautiful, clean, clean island," is the way they describe it to her. She chuckles as she recalls how a Bonairean girl in a school uniform approached a tourist who threw a piece of paper on the ground. The girl brought the piece of paper back to him, saying 'Tene Boneiru Limpi'. The tourist later asked Norma the meaning of 'Limpi'. When explained, the tourist understood and admired the reason why our island was so clean, as we teach our children from early on how to keep the island clean.

Written by pa Natalie Wanga, translated by Marcel Nahr.

For more information or comments: STINAPA, telephone 717 - 8444, info@stinapa.org

NOS TA BIBA DI NATURALESA



Traha huntu na un desaroyo duradero pa Boneiru