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Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba, Makes Waves with United Nations' SDG 14 Newest in media release series highlights resort's commitment to Life Below Water initiative

EAGLE BEACH, Aruba – May 5, 2024 – <u>Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba</u> has long been making waves when it comes to actively integrating the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14) into its practices. SDG 14 focuses on Life Below Water, aiming to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources. As the world raises to combat climate change, here is how the <u>Caribbean's first and only certified carbon-neutral hotel</u> is caring for its backyard, the Caribbean Sea.

Nestled on the widest stretch of world-famous Eagle Beach, affectionately known as one of the "Dream Beaches of the World," Bucuti & Tara's 36-year history of providing a regenerative travel vacation for its guests is often the spotlight of global case studies. The United Nations declared the resort's sustainability program "highly replicable and scalable."

With the focus of SDG 14 being on water, Bucuti & Tara's Owner/CEO Ewald Biemans has long shared, "Aruba is not in the tourism business, it is in the nature business. Visitors come from all over the world to see Aruba's powdery white sand beaches and turquoise-clear seas."

Here are ways Bucuti & Tara aligns with the SDG 14: Life Below Water:

- Marine life conservation. Bucuti & Tara partners with TurtugAruba, the island's nonprofit sea
 turtle conservation, for staff training and guest education as the resort's wide stretch along Eagle
 Beach is a treasured natal nesting ground for vulnerable Leatherback sea turtles. The resort is a
 proponent of protecting coral reefs, promoting responsible snorkeling and diving practices, and
 supporting marine biodiversity.
- Beach cleanups. More than 30 years ago Bucuti & Tara created Aruba's Sponsor-a-Mile program, and at one point 100% of the hotels participated. The resort's monthly beach cleanup brings together staff and guests to remove debris along the shoreline. This initiative keeps trash from blowing into the seas and keeps a pristine beach for sea turtles to nest and their hatchlings to make their first journeys. This contributes to cleaner oceans and healthier ecosystems. Each year, 1,000 lbs of debris is collected through this initiative.
- Water management. Bucuti & Tara implements water-saving measures to reduce its impact on marine ecosystems. The small, arid island is devoid of freshwater sources. The island's desalination system provides some of the highest-rated water on the planet, however, it is costly. Low-flow aerating faucets, rainwater harvesting, UV-filtered gray water irrigation and ozone-based laundry equipment that decreases the need for detergent and draws less water are examples of efficient water usage.

- **Educational programs.** At the Caribbean's most eco-certified resort, sustainability training, presentations and guided tours highlight the importance of ocean health and water stewardship. Staff, guests, researchers, students and even delegations from other countries routinely participate and learn.
- Sustainable seafood practices. Bucuti & Tara prioritizes sustainable seafood sourcing. By choosing seafood from local fishing boats and well-managed fisheries, the resort supports healthy marine ecosystems.
- Streamlined procurement. While local sourcing is given priority, as a small island, Aruba relies
 heavily on shipped goods. Bucuti & Tara streamlines its orders for less shipments and from where
 senders are closest.

The overall commitment to SDG 14 reflects the resort's dedication to environmental stewardship and regenerative travel. To discover more, this is part of a growing series of <a href="https://www.sustainable.new.sustainable

- <u>Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort Embraces UN Sustainable Development Goal 3 for Healthier Today,</u>
 Healthier Tomorrows
- <u>Top Caribbean Resort Revolutionizes Hospitality Revealing Latest Innovation and Resilience,</u> Aligned with UN SDG 9
- Aruba Resort Champions UN Sustainable Development Goal 15 with Carbon Sink

Next up in the series, Bucuti & Tara will be sharing how it exemplifies SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities.

Learn more by visiting Bucuti.com

IMAGES & VIDEOS

Images at Bucuti & Tara showcasing SDG 14 are in this Dropbox folder. Images and videos are located in this private media gallery.

About Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Declared the first certified CarbonNeutral® hotel in the Caribbean in 2018, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is the No. 3 Hotel in the Caribbean and No. 21 Hotel in the World according to Tripadvisor. Aruba's premier adults-only boutique resort is led by celebrated hotelier and environmentalist, Ewald Biemans, who holds many accolades including multiple Hotelier of the Year awards. The resort is nestled on the powdery white sands of Eagle Beach, home to protected sea turtles and named one of the "Dream Beaches of the World."

Home to the Caribbean's Safest, Healthiest Vacation Experience and Aruba's Health & Happiness Code seal, Bucuti has 104 well-appointed guest rooms, suites and penthouses. It offers sunbeds and shade for every guest; freshwater infinity pool; spa; WiFi; and complimentary iPad for use during stay. Award-winning healthy dining is enjoyed at oceanfront Elements, Tara Lounge and private beach dining. Reserved exclusively for guests and their friends, the open-air SandBar offers top-shelf cocktails and live music daily along with the Caribbean's first Healthy Hour. The resort is IGLTA and TAG Approved® as an LGBTQ-friendly hotel. Bucuti & Tara, a worldwide sustainable tourism leader, holds eco-certifications of CarbonNeutral®, LEED Gold, Green Globe Platinum and Travelife Gold and was named the World's Most Sustainable Hotel/Resort in 2016 by Green Globe. The resort exemplifies an all-embracing commitment to the the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the United Nations deemed Bucuti & Tara's sustainability program "highly replicable and scalable" for hotels worldwide to emulate.