

## **Economic Outlook 2022**

December 2021



# Presentation Outline:



**General Information and Assumptions** 



GDP 2021 – 2022 including scenarios

## Disclaimer:

This presentation includes forecasts that represent assumptions and expectations of the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) in light of information available up to and including October 2021. These forecasts involve **uncertainties** and are subject to upside and downside **risks**. The actual results may differ from those projected in this presentation. Consequently, no guarantee is presented or implied as to the accuracy of specific forecasts contained herein. The CBA does not assume any liability for any loss that may result from the reliance upon this information.



# General Information and Assumptions









### Stay-over Visitors

Starting point 2021: 74.0% recovery (2019) (ATA).

Realized: Jan. – Sep. 2021.

> Projected: Oct. – Dec. 2021.

#### > 2021 Scenarios:

> Pessimistic: 65.4% recovery (2019).

> Baseline: 69.2% recovery (2019).

> Optimistic: 72.9% recovery (2019).

#### 2022 Scenarios:

> Pessimistic: 80.0% recovery (2019) (ATA).

> Baseline: 95.0% recovery (2019) (ATA).

> Optimistic: 110.0% recovery (2019).



### **Tourism Credits**

#### Starting point:

2021 TC/ night (accommodations):

-4.0% vs. 2019 (AHATA).

> 2022 TC/ night (accommodations):

+3.0% vs. 2019 (AHATA).

> Realized: Q1 – Q3 2021.

> Projected: Q4 2021.

#### > 2021 Scenarios:

> Pessimistic: 72.8% recovery (2019).

> Baseline: 77.2% recovery (2019).

> Optimistic: 81.6% recovery (2019).

#### > 2022 Scenarios:

> Pessimistic: 87.0% recovery (2019).

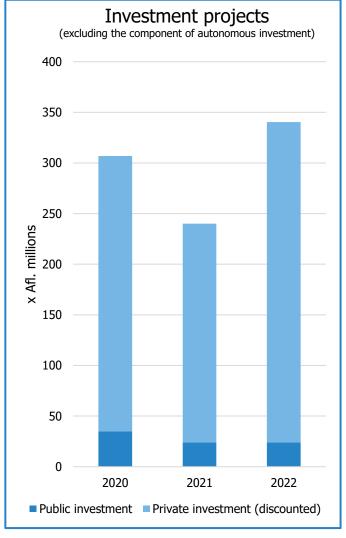
> Baseline: 103.4% recovery (2019).

> Optimistic: 119.7% recovery (2019).

## **Expectations**

- > Start of relatively few construction projects in 2021.
- Gradual increase in investment in 2022, despite heightened uncertainties with regard to disruptions in the supply chain.
- Decreased public investment in 2021 (Government of Aruba's (GoA) budget).
  In 2022, public investment is expected to remain equal to 2021.





#### Data & Assumptions

#### **DATA**

- > FASE data: up to and including Jun. 2021.
- Wage subsidy program data: up to and including Jun. 2021.

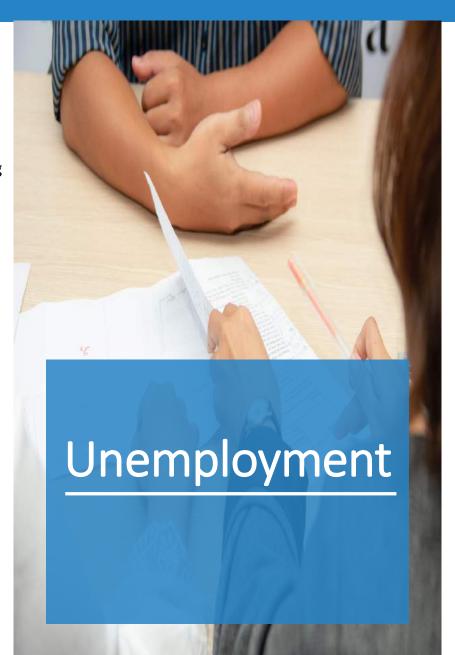
#### **ASSUMPTIONS**

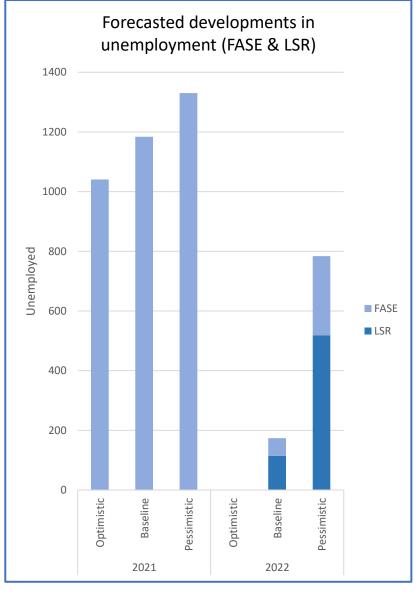
- > The unemployment rate follows the developments in the tourism industry.
- > FASE and the salary subsidy program are available up until the end of 2021.
- Minimum consumption for those who have lost their jobs set at the minimum wage level.

#### **RESULTS**

- <u>2021 Unemployment Scenarios:</u>
  - > Pessimistic: 9.7%> Baseline: 9.5%> Optimistic: 9.2%
- 2022 Unemployment Scenarios:

> Pessimistic: 8.7%> Baseline: 7.7%> Optimistic: 7.4%





### **Data and Assumptions**

#### **DATA**

- > CPI data: up to and including Sep. 2021.
- Oil price data: up to and including Oct. 2021.

#### **ASSUMPTIONS**

- Stable water and electricity prices in 2021 (hedge).
- Increase in water and electricity prices in 2022 (no hedge).
- Oil price expectation (2022): Slightly lower than 2021, (relatively higher than current hedge price average).

#### **RESULTS**

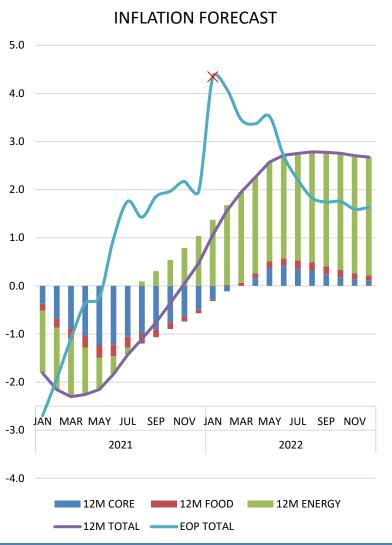
#### <u>2021</u>

- > 12 month average inflation: 0.5
- > End of period (YoY) inflation: 1.9

#### <u>2022</u>

- > 12 month average inflation: 2.7
- > End of period (YoY) inflation: 1.6





# Forecast Risks

Risk	Upside	Downside
Duration of the pandemic:	Vaccination programs, booster shots.	New variants of COVID-19.
Investment projects:	Faster implementation.	Uncertainty and delays.
Oil and other import prices:	Decrease in prices.	Surge in prices.
Tourism recovery and spillovers to the labor market and consumption:	Stronger tourism recovery.	Slower tourism recovery.
Government measures:	Additional stimulus to cope with the crisis, additional liquidity loans.	Additional measures to cope with the crisis.
Wage subsidy scheme and spillovers in unemployment:	Availability of the salary subsidy program.	Unavailability of the salary subsidy program.



# 2021 GDP results including scenarios:

Nominal	2021 o f	2021 b f	2021 p f
GDP	16.7	14.0	11.3
Consumption	3.9	3.8	3.7
Private consumption	5.6	5.6	5.4
Public consumption	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
Investment	-15.9	-19.0	-22.2
Private investment	-15.3	-18.6	-21.8
Public investment	-30.8	-30.8	-30.8
Exports	51.2	43.6	35.9
Tourism exports	59.6	51.0	42.4
Imports	16.5	13.3	10.0

Real	2021 o f	2021 b f	2021 p f
GDP	17.9	15.5	13.0
Consumption	3.4	3.3	3.2
Private consumption	5.1	5.0	4.9
Public consumption	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5
Investment	-17.4	-20.5	-23.6
Private investment	-16.9	-20.1	-23.3
Public investment	-32.1	-32.1	-32.1
Exports	54.6	46.8	39.1
Tourism exports	65.7	56.7	47.8
Imports	12.8	9.7	6.5

e = estimate, f = forecast, o = optimistic, b = baseline, p = pessimistic

# 2022 GDP results including scenarios:

Nominal	2022 o f	2022 b f	2022 p f
GDP	17.3	12.2	6.8
Consumption	1.5	1.3	0.9
Private consumption	2.0	1.8	1.1
Public consumption	0.2	0.2	0.2
Investment	10.7	8.8	6.7
Private investment	11.1	9.1	7.0
Public investment	0.0	0.0	0.0
Exports	37.8	26.7	14.5
Tourism exports	46.6	33.8	19.5
Imports	18.0	12.7	7.0

Real	2022 o f	2022 b f	2022 p f
GDP	12.0	7.7	3.1
Consumption	-0.7	-0.9	-1.3
Private consumption	-0.7	-0.9	-1.5
Public consumption	-0.8	-0.8	-0.8
Investment	7.7	5.9	3.8
Private investment	8.0	6.1	4.0
Public investment	-2.7	-2.7	-2.7
Exports	32.7	22.2	10.6
Tourism exports	41.0	28.7	15.0
Imports	15.2	10.0	4.4

e = estimate, f = forecast, o = optimistic, b = baseline, p = pessimistic

# **Concluding Remarks**

The Aruban economy is expected to continue its recovery path set forth in the second half of 2020.

Real GDP is projected to grow by between 13.0 percent and 17.9 percent in 2021. The anticipated economic recovery in 2021 was largely spurred by the speed of tourism recovery, as well as the continued availability of the GOA's wage subsidy and FASE programs.

In 2022, the sustained recovery of the tourism sector, complemented by a pick-up in private investment, is expected to further drive real GDP growth. The forecasted growth rate ranges between 3.1 percent and 12.0 percent, with a baseline real GDP growth of 7.7 percent. Inflation, however, remains a significant risk.

