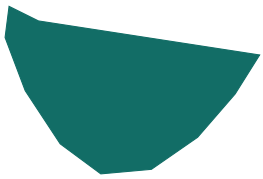
Saint-Barthélemy — How much water does a busy week need?



Saint-Barthélemy AI white paper • 27 November 2026 · Revision 2

Tourism forecasts matter to Saint-Barthélemy because a busy week affects deliveries, staff housing and demand for desalinated water. The framework should let operators plan for a range of arrivals while keeping decisions about housing, planning permission and water restrictions with the people authorised to make them.

The decision before local leaders

This paper proposes two starting points for Saint-Barthélemy. Before either begins, the service owner should agree on an existing comparison service, a way to challenge an error and the conditions for ending the trial.

Compare the water planner’s estimate during a busy week with a second run that includes planned maintenance.

Proposed lead. Participating water operations supervisor

What to measure. Record forecast error, available production and whether the operator could revise the published notice in time.

Check that an applicant who changes temporary accommodation can still receive a planning or service notice.

Proposed lead. Participating public-service manager

What to measure. Count undelivered notices, duplicate records and days needed to correct the contact route.

Local evidence in context

Indicator	Value	Observation	Source
Municipal population	10,660	1 Jan 2023	INSEE census

The year and geographic coverage belong to each observation. These figures describe the jurisdiction as a whole. Collect service-level figures before setting a cost target, staff requirement or digital access threshold.

Economic and social needs

Plan for demand without making a booking a fact

IEDOM’s 2025 economic report describes record visitor traffic in Saint-Barthélemy and the importance of tourism to activity on the island. A delivery planner might use bookings to estimate orders for hotels and restaurants. A reservation, a cancellation and a visitor who has arrived should carry different weights. Small suppliers need to see which assumption caused a forecast change before they commit cash to an extra shipment.

Policy response. Compare forecast, confirmed and delivered orders by week. Permit small suppliers to correct a cancellation without disclosing their client list.

IEDOM, Saint-Barthélemy economic report 2025

Do not infer housing security from a work address

IEDOM’s 2024 report describes housing pressure that intensified after reconstruction work began in 2017. A service trying to reach workers might receive a shared staff address, a temporary room or a forwarding address. Treating these differences as proof that an application is unreliable would burden people whose housing is already uncertain. The proposed policy would let a resident choose a safe way to receive and correct correspondence.

Policy response. Test an address change during an open application. Restrict address access to the staff handling the case.

IEDOM, Saint-Barthélemy economic report 2024, housing chapter

Public institutions and environmental needs

Use Saint-Barthélemy’s planning rules

Saint-Barthélemy’s own prior-declaration form for building work cites the local planning, housing and construction code and identifies the territorial planning directorate. A planning assistant must therefore retrieve the text applicable to the collectivity and the site in question. A plausible answer copied from a mainland guide can cost an applicant a second set of drawings. The signed decision should identify the local provision and the reviewer.

Policy response. Have a planning officer check the cited rule and version on a sample of applications before an applicant sees a recommendation.

Collectivité de Saint-Barthélemy, Prior declaration of construction work, territorial planning directorate

Show what changes a water forecast

IEDOM documents Saint-Barthélemy’s limited natural drinking-water resources and its use of seawater desalination. A demand model should therefore show operators what it assumes about production as well as consumption. When a plant is under maintenance, yesterday’s visitor figures cannot answer how much water will be available tomorrow. Operators could compare an ordinary week with a maintenance week and retain a manual route for issuing public notices.

Policy response. Give operators separate inputs for expected demand and available production. Rehearse a maintenance outage before using model output in a public notice.

IEDOM, Saint-Barthélemy economic report 2022, water and sanitation

How the policy would change a decision

Use a staged booking request for an accessible room. Trace the message to the staff member responsible for the room, the system storing the conversation and any supplier with access. Check whether the next guest who uses the assistant can recover any part of that request.

- Record who decides how the hotel uses guest messages, who processes them and from where. Give any separate use for model training its own legal review.
- Tell guests whom to contact for access, correction or deletion requests. Record the legal ground or safeguard for any transfer that requires one.

The hotel manager should review a sample booking record and a list of everyone who can retrieve its chat. If another guest can see it, disable conversation retrieval, investigate the disclosure and arrange direct booking assistance. Restore the feature after separate test bookings keep their messages private.

Source: CAIA jurisdiction guide for Saint-Barthélemy. The worked example illustrates the proposal.

Have beach stewards check the directions

Have beach stewards and residents check local names and accessible routes. Test the guides in French and in useful visitor languages. Allow calls or in-person reports and avoid publishing photos that identify a person, nest or private entrance.

The local pilot connects to Tourism, retail and small businesses. Review R03 · R05 in the regional risk register.

Implementation and public review

Stage	Evidence or decision	Proposed responsibility
Before the trial	Define a completed case and sample the current process. Include people who use the phone, desk or an offline route.	Participating water operations supervisor
During shadow testing	Record forecast error, available production and whether the operator could revise the published notice in time. Compare the same cases through both routes and record every override.	Participating water operations supervisor
At the local decision	Count undelivered notices, duplicate records and days needed to correct the contact route. Record whether the result justifies a live trial and identify the person who can stop it.	Participating public-service manager
After six months	Publish results by channel, the correction time, unresolved complaints and the decision to continue, revise or stop.	Local service owner

What partners can share

Neighbouring territories could compare false turtle-track identifications and visitor education signs. Keep nest coordinates with local conservation staff; agree permissions separately for any shared photographs.

Record the local approval, correction route and stop authority before exchanging results. Other jurisdictions can reuse the method and run their own tests. Regional recommendation 5.

Where to draw the boundary

An office adopting this proposal would still need to check its own powers, contracts and data permissions. Organisations named as possible reviewers or leads have not been appointed by this publication. Publish any accepted role and its date with the local trial record.

A 90-day plan for the first service

Compare the water planner’s estimate during a busy week with a second run that includes planned maintenance.

Proposed pilot lead. Participating water operations supervisor

A water estimate assumes production during planned maintenance

Failure to test. A forecast for a busy week fails to adjust supply when the operator expects a maintenance outage.

Evidence to retain. Keep maintenance dates, two forecasts and the operations review of the revised notice.

Pause condition. The model could issue a supply notice while the available production figure remains unresolved.

When	Proposed action and evidence
Days 1–30	Participating water operations supervisor agrees the eligible cases, existing service measures, staffed alternative and authorised decision owner. Record reviewers and a cost estimate in local currency for staff time, testing, access and recovery. Identify the funding source and who would approve it.
Days 31–60	Run the original and proposed routes on the same sample. Record forecast error, available production and whether the operator could revise the published notice in time. Report counted errors and eligible cases by channel and language where lawful, plus the time from error report to correction.
Days 61–90	Witness the fallback, correction and restart before asking the accountable officer for a decision. Pause on the condition above. Record affected cases, unresolved issues, costs and the date for the next check.
Six months after live launch	Publish a lawful comparison with the baseline, including corrections, open complaints and the decision to continue, change or end the use.

Sponsorship, funding and the proposed lead’s acceptance require a recorded local decision. Share test methods with Caribbean partners using the local data permissions.

Sector guide · IEDOM, Saint-Barthélemy economic report 2022, water and sanitation · Local evidence and sources · Regional high-impact use rules · Local risk scenario

Sources and method

The committee used published local evidence to select the four priorities and compared them with the Caribbean AI Framework's requirements for access, data, skills, oversight and adoption. Recommendations and stories are editorial proposals. This edition reports no results from a completed local pilot.

1. IEDOM, Saint-Barthélemy economic report 2025
2. IEDOM, Saint-Barthélemy economic report 2024, housing chapter
3. Collectivité de Saint-Barthélemy, Prior declaration of construction work, territorial planning directorate
4. IEDOM, Saint-Barthélemy economic report 2022, water and sanitation
5. INSEE census — Municipal population
6. Saint-Barthélemy jurisdiction guide, Caribbean AI Association
7. Saint-Barthélemy pilot note, Caribbean AI Association
8. Caribbean AI Framework, consultation edition, 27 November 2026

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