Vida News

Newsletter Vidanova, 2026-02

Newsletter of your Vidanova Pension Fund Foundation.

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Discover how much pension you will receive later

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"Indexation will only take place if the fund has sufficient financial flexibility to continue to honor the structural increase in pensions, both now and in the future."

Your best option for pensions

vidanova
PENSION FUND

Indexation or the one-time bonus: what's the deal?

The main objective of our pension fund is to ensure that we can continue to pay out pensions both now and in the future. This refers to the pensions you have accrued with us. Once your pension begins, it is fixed and, in principle, will not change.
What can change each year, however, are the prices of various products. The prices of groceries, rent, and other daily necessities rise almost every year. If your pension payment remains the same, you'll be able to buy less with the same amount of money. Although our promise to you is to continue paying out your (fixed) pension — as you've accrued it — every year, our goal is to have your pension payment keep pace, in whole or in part, with price increases. We call this indexation. Indexation is the adjustment of your pension to account for rising living costs, so that you can maintain your purchasing power.

You may be wondering: what about my pension? When will it be indexed? That's a valid question. And you'll find the answer in this article.

What's the situation at Vidanova?

Once pensions have been indexed, that new pension benefit is fixed, and that is the new amount we must be able to continue paying out both now and in the future. So, before we make a decision to index pensions, we must carefully assess whether we have sufficient financial flexibility to continue fulfilling our commitment to our participants even after that structural increase in pensions.

At Vidanova, indexation is therefore conditional. This means that indexation will only take place if the fund has sufficient financial flexibility to continue to honor the structural increase in pensions, both now and in the future. This is not arbitrary. It is a deliberate choice to protect all participants, both now and in the future.

The funding ratio: the benchmark for assessing the scope for indexation

You've already come across the term 'funding ratio' in previous newsletters. In short, the funding ratio indicates how much money the fund has relative to what it must pay out, both now and in the future. Is the funding ratio 100%? Then the fund has exactly enough. Is it lower than 100%? Then there is a shortfall. Is it higher than 100%? Then there is a buffer.

For regular indexation, Vidanova applies a threshold of 112%. Indexation can only take place if the policy funding ratio as of December 31 of the previous year was above that threshold and does not fall below it even after indexation.

As of December 31, 2025, Vidanova's policy funding ratio was 110.8%. Unfortunately, this meant that no regular indexation could be granted as of January 1, 2026.

Why exactly that 112% threshold?

That 112% is not a random number. The 12% above the 100% baseline serves as a buffer that enables the fund to continue meeting its obligations even in the event of setbacks (such as poor investment years or economic uncertainty). Vidanova is actively working to achieve an upward trend that will bring the funding ratio structurally above 112%. That is the goal.

No indexation, but a bonus nonetheless

The Vidanova Board understands that our retirees are feeling the impact of rising prices. For this reason, a supplementary provision has been established: in years when regular indexation is not possible, the fund may make a one-time bonus payment. When deciding whether or not to pay a one-time bonus, the Board takes the following factors into account, among others:

1. The funding ratio is at least 105% and does not fall below that level as a result of the payment;
2. The investment return was higher than the actuarial interest rate;
3. The fund's net result is sufficient to cover the one-time payment.

As of December 31, 2025, Vidanova met all three conditions. That was good news: you therefore received the bonus payment along with your regular pension payment at the end of June 2026.

Please note: this is a gross payment. Income tax and social security contributions will be withheld from this amount, just as they are from your regular pension.

The bonus amounts paid out were as follows:

Type of pension	Bonus Amount (Gross)
Old-Age Pension / Disability Pension	XCG 500 / USD 275
(Special) Spousal Pension	XCG 350 / USD 195
Orphan's Pension	XCG 70 / USD 40

This allows you to benefit from positive investment returns even in years without regular indexation, as long as the fund's financial position reasonably permits it.

What does this mean for active participants?

As an active participant, you are currently accruing pension benefits with Vidanova. If you are enrolled in a DB plan, your accrued pension benefits will be indexed at the same time that pension payments are indexed. If you are an active participant in the DC plan, interest is credited to your pension capital annually.

So even if, as an active participant, you think that any indexation may not be relevant to you, it's important to keep track of developments in your pension; after all, this will eventually affect the purchasing power of your pension.

Our advice: stay involved with your pension. Check your pension statement regularly. Do you have questions about your personal situation? Feel free to contact us.

Summary

Vidanova will only index pensions once it has sufficient financial capacity to continue covering this increase both now and in the future. This is a deliberate decision to keep the fund financially sound in the long term.

As of January 1, 2026, pensions had not been indexed, but a one-time bonus payment had been made.

That bonus has been paid out in June 2026.

Congratulations *Sheronica*!

A special moment to be proud of.

We are very proud to announce that a second Vidanova employee has signed her purchase agreement with Hòfi Vidanova.

We sincerely congratulate Sheronica on this wonderful milestone and wish her all the best with her new plot of land.

In the photo, Ms. Sheronica Martina can be seen together with Mr. Freddy Curiel, Director of Hòfi Vidanova.

Statistical data Vidanova Pension Fund as per 31 March 2026

The following statistical data applied to the Fund on 31 March 2026.

	31 March 2026	31 December 2025	31 December 2024
Sponsors	106	103	98
Active participants	2984	2942	2846
Participants with deferred rights	3386	3353	3304
Pensioners	2069	2044	1919
Pension capital	XCG 1217 mln.	XCG 1184 mln.	NAf. 1136 mln.
Pension obligations	XCG 1090 mln.	XCG 1080 mln.	NAf. 1068 mln.
Reserves	XCG 127 mln.	XCG 103 mln.	NAf. 68 mln.
Employees	20	20	20
Coverage ratio	109.3%	109.5%	106%

(Amounts in thousands Caribbean guilders)

During 2025, 5 new companies joined Vidanova. This resulted in an increase in the number of active members.

During the first 3 months of 2026, 3 new sponsors joined, contributing to a further increase in the number of active members.

The pension liabilities, the pension capital, and the reserves increased during both 2025 and the first 3 months of 2026. During 2025, we saw an increase in the funding ratio from 106% to 109%. Over the first three months of 2026, the funding ratio remained more or less the same.

Log in to My Vidanova (our participants’ portal) and stay always informed about your pension.

What can you do on the portal?

- View your accrued pension
- Update your personal details
- Download your pension statement
- See what you will receive later on a monthly basis, based on your current capital
- And more...

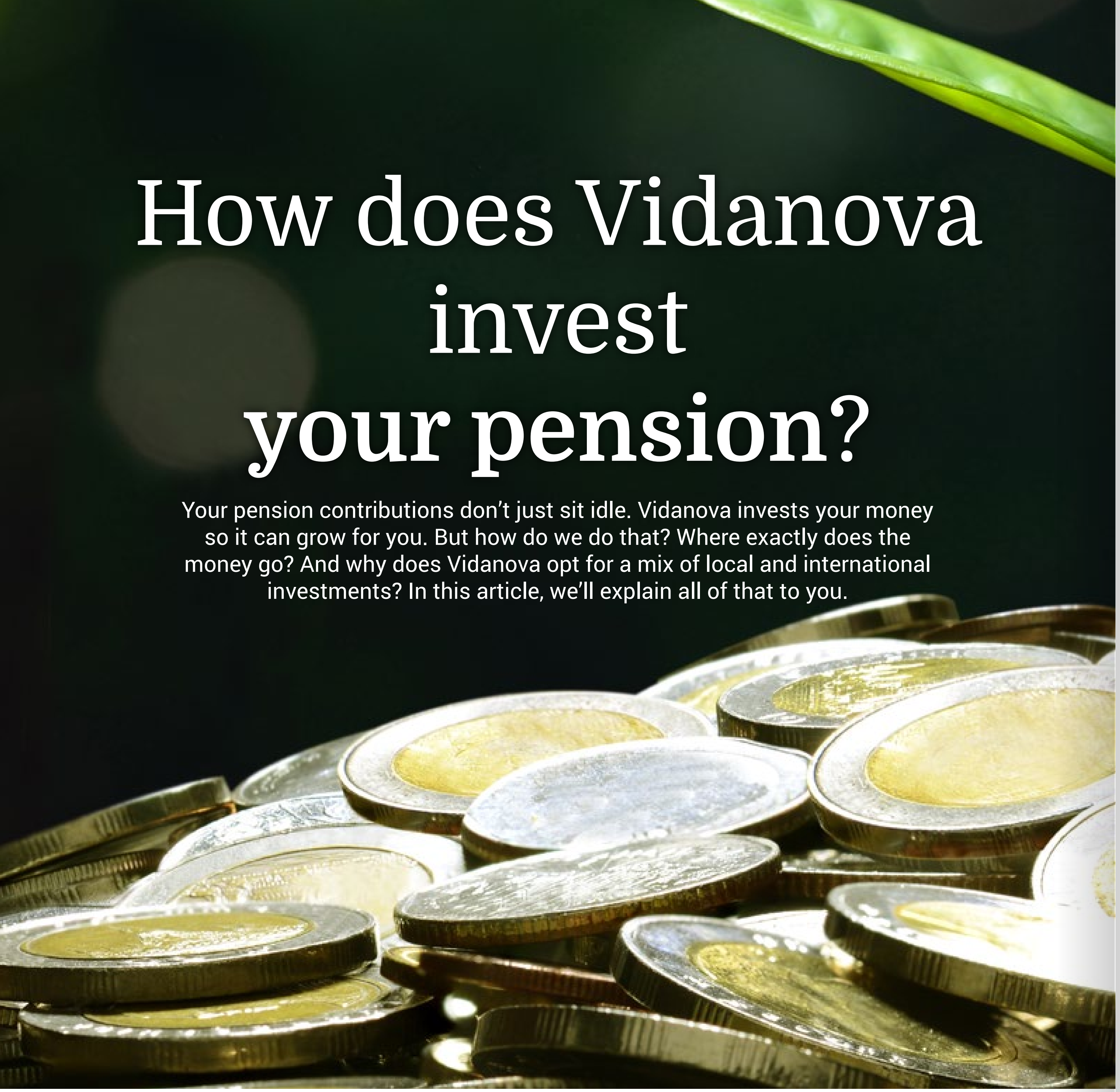
How to register?

Scan the QR code and send us your personal email address. We will guide you from there.

Take control of your pension now. It only takes 1 minute.

How does Vidanova invest your pension?

Your pension contributions don't just sit idle. Vidanova invests your money so it can grow for you. But how do we do that? Where exactly does the money go? And why does Vidanova opt for a mix of local and international investments? In this article, we'll explain all of that to you.



Investments: the driving force behind your retirement

Every month, we receive contributions from employers and employees. We use a small portion of that income to cover the costs of fund management. We invest the vast majority of it; after all, your contributions alone are not enough to pay for pensions now and in the future. We also need the returns on our investments.

Investing always involves a certain degree of risk. That is why Vidanova employs a diversified investment strategy: we spread our assets across different types of investments, sectors and regions. This way, we are not dependent on a single market or a single type of investment.

As determined by the Central Bank: 60% local, 40% international

The Central Bank of Curaçao and Sint Maarten (CBCS) supervises all pension funds on the islands. It also sets rules regarding how a fund may invest its assets. The Central Bank requires that at least 60% of a pension fund's total liabilities be invested locally; since Curaçao and Sint Maarten share a Central Bank, 'locally' refers to Curaçao and Sint Maarten. The remaining 40% may be invested internationally (outside of Curaçao and Sint Maarten).

Local investing: familiar and stable

A large portion of your pension funds is invested in Curaçao and Sint Maarten. Local investments are generally more stable and less susceptible to the volatility of international financial markets. Vidanova has a thorough understanding of the local markets, which further mitigates risk.

In recent years, Vidanova has invested in, among other things:

- Hòfi Vidanova — a real estate project on Curaçao that offers affordable housing to participants and the broader community
- Telem — Sint Maarten's telecommunications provider
- Princes Juliana International Airport – Sint Maarten's airport
- Tourism and Hospitality — investments in the tourism sector, which is a proven driver of the local economy.

These local investments offer a twofold benefit: they generate returns for the pension fund and contribute to the economic development of Curaçao and Sint Maarten.

International investing: higher returns, greater dynamism

The international portfolio, which accounts for up to 40% of the fund's liabilities, is aimed at generating higher returns than the local markets typically offer. This includes investments in stocks, bonds and funds in major global markets, such as the United States and Europe.

International investing offers opportunities, but it also requires vigilance. Global markets are more sensitive to external events: geopolitical tensions, wars, trade conflicts, or unexpected economic developments can quickly influence market sentiment. In uncertain times, investors become more cautious and withdraw their money to safer havens, which puts pressure on returns.

We see this happening today as well. The consequences of the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, along with shifting trade relations, make international investing more complex than it has ever been. Vidanova closely monitors these developments, in collaboration with external advisors who have years of international experience.

Despite the higher risks, international investments are of great importance to our pension fund. Thanks to their higher returns, they contribute to the funding ratio during favorable investment periods and can bring us closer to our goal of being able to index pensions.

Long-term investor

Vidanova achieved a good return in 2025. However, as mentioned, investments are not without risks, so in any given year we may also achieve a lower return or even a negative return.

It is important to realize that pension funds are long-term investors. Because our obligations extend over a very long period into the future (we must pay pensions to all our retirees for as long as they live), we also look at our returns over a longer period. This means that if the investments (particularly the international ones) underperform in a given year, we can recover from this in the years thereafter.

Why a buffer is so important

Precisely because international markets are sensitive to unexpected events, it is crucial that Vidanova maintain a solid buffer. That buffer — the reserves in excess of the required coverage ratio — acts as a shock absorber. If a poor investment year or a geopolitical crisis temporarily puts pressure on returns, we can still continue to pay out pensions without having to cut your benefits.

This is also why Vidanova only begins indexing when the funding ratio exceeds 112%. That margin is not a luxury; it is a necessary buffer to absorb fluctuations. In good years, we build up that buffer. In difficult years, we can draw on it without you even noticing.

Vidanova is supported in this by external advisors with broad international experience, who report quarterly to the Managing Board and the Supervisory Board. This ensures that the investment policy remains focused and aligned with the current market situation at all times.

Summary

Vidanova invests your pension funds across local and international markets, as required by the CBCS. Local investments are more stable and strengthen the economies of Curaçao and Sint Maarten. International investments carry somewhat higher risks and can yield very high returns in one year and lower returns — or even negative returns — in another. But precisely because they can offer higher returns, they are also necessary. These higher returns enable the fund to eventually achieve its goal of indexing pensions. International investments require active monitoring and a solid buffer to absorb setbacks.

That buffer is precisely what Vidanova is working toward. Because the best we can offer you is not just a good return today, but the certainty that your pension will still be there when you need it.

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Until September 25th, 2026

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Vidanova Pension Fund Foundation, Schottegatweg Oost 28, Curaçao, P.O. Box 527
Phone + Whatsapp (+599 9) 734 4200, Fax (+599 9) 736 54 99, E-mail: info@vidanova.net

www.vidanova-group.com