



UWI
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CAMPUS



SIR ARTHUR LEWIS
INSTITUTE OF
SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC
STUDIES

SIR ARTHUR LEWIS
INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STUDIES
11TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**“Turmoil and Turbulence
in Small Developing States:
Going Beyond Survival”**

Hyatt Regency Hotel
24th-26th March 2010

INSIDE FRONT COVER



PROFESSOR

SELWYN RYAN is Emeritus Professor at the **Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies**, the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. He served as University Director of the Institute of Social and

Economic Research, as well as Director of the St. Augustine Branch of the Institute from 1986 to 2003. Professor Ryan is Managing and Research Director of **St. Augustine Research Associates (SARA)**, which publishes the esteemed and much quoted SARA polls.

He received a BA (Hons.) degree in History from the **University of Toronto** and a Ph.D. in Political Science from **Cornell University**. He has taught at **York University** in Toronto, the **University of Ghana**, **Makerere University** in Uganda and in the **Department of Government** of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. He was Head of the Department from 1976 to 1979. Professor Ryan has received many academic awards and distinctions ranging from the **Ford Foundation Fellowship** to the **Rockerfeller Teaching Fellowship**.

Professor Ryan was a member of two Constitutional Commissions established by the **Government of Trinidad and Tobago**, Chairman of the **Public Utilities Commission**, Deputy Chairman of the **Caribbean Press Council** and President of **Caribbean Studies Association** (1989 - 1990).

Professor Ryan has written extensively on politics and political thought, both within and outside of the Caribbean region. He has published over 50 journal articles and over 25 books, the latest of which is titled “*Eric Williams – the Myth and the Man*”. He was a columnist for the *Sunday Guardian* during the 1972-1976 period and, since 1976, is a columnist for the *Sunday Express*.

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

7:30am-9:00am

REGISTRATION

Venue: Diamond Room

9:00am-9:45am

OPENING CEREMONY

Venue: Regency IV, V & VI

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Chair - Professor Andrew Downes

Director, SALISES (Cave Hill)

OPENING REMARKS

Professor Patrick Watson

University Director, SALISES

WELCOME

Professor Rhoda Reddock

Deputy Principal

*The University of the West Indies,
St. Augustine*

REMARKS

Dr. Hamid Ghany

Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences

FORMAL OPENING

OF CEREMONY

His Excellency

The President of the

Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Professor George Maxwell Richards

CLOSING REMARKS

Professor Brian Meeks

Director, SALISES Mona

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

SESSION 1A

Island Economies and Globalization

Chair: Patsy Lewis

Venue: Jade Room

The consequences of global economic crisis on the small pacific island economies (Sunil Kumar)

Monetizing Caribbean Value Innovations
(Tamira LaCruz)

Trinidad and Tobago as development island state
(Timothy Shaw)

The Supply side effects of climate change on tourism
(Winston Moore, Tiffany Grosvenor and Leandra Harewood)

9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

SESSION 1B

Social Capital and Development

Chair: Teresa Baptiste-Cornelis

Venue: Ruby Room

Factors determining Health Care Provision in Trinidad and Tobago (Abbi Kedir and Sandra Sookram)

E-Learning: a survival strategy for developing countries
(Robert Hogan)

Impact of the Global and Development financial crisis on Women in the Caribbean
(Juliana Foster and Rhoda Reddock)

Human Resources Development as a Survival Strategy
(Maureen Dayal)

9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

SESSION 1C

Civil Society, Community and Sexuality

Chair: Patrick Watson

Venue: Sapphire Room

Social Policy and resilience. European aid and domestic policies in Grenada (Jean-Paul Revauger)

Evaluation of the Bashy Bus HIV prevention clinic in Jamaica (Jimmy Tindigarukayo)

Constitutional reforms in Solomon islands: an analysis of public participation in the reform process (Paul Mae)

11:00 am-11:15am

REFRESHMENT BREAK

Regency IV, V, & VI Foyer

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

11:15am-12:30pm

SESSION 2A

Governance of Caribbean Public and Private Sector Enterprises

Chair: Jimmy Tindigarukayo

Venue: Jade Room

Factors impacting on whether and how businesses respond to early warning signs of financial and economic turmoil: Jamaican Firms in the global crisis
(David Tennant)

Public Sector Reforms: The case of successful reforms of Government owned enterprise
(Narendra Reddy and Jashwini Narayan)

External Enticements and Internal Inertia: constraints to enterprise growth in Barbadian manufacturing enterprises (Jonathan Lashley)

Governance of organizations in Curacao
(Miguel Goede)

SESSION 2B

Crime and Violence in the Caribbean

Chair: Phillip Osei

Venue: Ruby Room

Offender abuse history: findings from Her Majesty's Prison, Barbados
(Corin Bailey and Charlene Coore-Desai)

The Socio-economic determinants of violent crime in Jamaica (Kerry Gilbert and Sandra Sookram)

Criminal deportees and violent crime: evidence from a cross-national panel of homicide rates, 1970-2004
(Garfield Blake)

The Role of the Media in Victimology in Trinidad and Tobago (Sandra Romany)

SESSION 2C

Society and Youth

Chair: Roy McCree

Venue: Sapphire Room

An Exploration of youth risks in the Caribbean: through the voices of youth (Brader Brathwaite)

Limited human capital and its challenges on pro-poor development strategies for youth (Grace-Ann Cornwall)

Theorizing Civil Society Participation in Development: The Caribbean Case (Annita Montoute)

The Pillar of Zakat: A Lesson from the Jamaat al and Madressa (Jeanne Roach-Baptiste)

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

12:30pm-2:00pm

LUNCH
Regency IV

2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

SESSION 3A

***Governing Crisis in a Micro State:
Governance, Social Development
and Capacity Building in St. Kitts
and Nevis***

Chair: Aldrie Henry-Lee

Venue: Jade Room

*A Communicative Approach to Technology and
Capacity Building for Social Service Delivery on St.
Kitts (D Dysart-Gale)*

*Evolving a Performance Based System for the Delivery
of Social Protection in St Kitts: An Assessment
(Philip D. Osei)*

*Mindset in Capacity Development: Challenges for
Social Development in Microstates
(Paulette Griffiths and Jovil Martin)*

*Making Technology Fit: Designing an Information
Management System for Monitoring Social Protection
Programmes in St. Kitts (Kristina Pitula, Daniel Sinnig,
Thiruvengadam Radhakrishnan)*

SESSION 3B

Issues in Trade and Development

Chair : Sandra Sookram

Venue: Ruby Room

*The dynamic relationship between the state pension
scheme and household saving in New Zealand
(James Obben and Monique Waayer)*

*Trade Policy Barriers Versus Institutional Trade
Barriers: an application using “Good old” OLS
(Laura Marquez-Ramos, Immaculada Martinez-
Zarzoso and Celestino Suraez-Burguet)*

*An assessment of the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk
Insurance Facility (CCRI) (Eric Strobl)*

*Surviving Technical Barriers: Towards a Trade Related
Capacity Building for SMEs in Trinidad and Tobago
(David Anyanwu)*

*Impact of HIV/AIDS on international financial flows:
evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa (Olayemi Olabiyi)*

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

SESSION 3C

***Governance and Development in
Small Island States I***

Chair: Robert Hogan

Venue: Sapphire Room

Dependency Governance, Constitutional Reform and Democratic Deficit in the Non-Independent Caribbean (Carlyle Corbin)

Constitutionalism in Post-Coup Fiji: A critical appraisal (Ashwin Raj and Vijay Naidu)

Sanctions and the Islands State: An oceanic experience (Kylie Anderson)

Governance in the UK Overseas Territories: The Case of the Turks and Caicos Islands (Peter Clegg)

3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

SESSION 4A

***Financial Issues and
the New Economic Order***

Chair: Patrick Watson

Venue: Jade Room

How Executive Remuneration Packages distort the decision making process in major corporations - and their influence on the recent financial crisis (David Walker)

The evolution of stock markets in the Caribbean: From 1969 and beyond (John Cozier)

Pension plan administration and the free movement of capital within CARICOM - Are we any closer for achieving financial integration? (Rachel Simms)

The Implications of ‘Social Capital’ for the Caribbean Food System: A Universal Concept? (Marisa Wilson)

3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

SESSION 4B

***Governance and Development
in Small Island States II***

Chair: Corin Bailey

Venue: Ruby Room

Constitutional Reform, Governance, Democracy and Development (Suruj Sharma)

Shadowing global democracy: the politics of gender in the Caribbean (Patricia Mohammed)

After ‘Westminster Adapted’: Does Constitutional Reform in St. Vincent and the Grenadines Herald a New Model of Governance for the Caribbean? (Matthew Bishop)

A Framework for the construction of a Corporate Governance Index for Trinidad and Tobago (Varuna Ramlal)

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

SESSION 4C
***Trade, Integration
and the Environment***

Chair: Laura Marquez-Ramos

Venue: Sapphire Room

The Threat to Integration (Jay Mandle)

The Implications of the Current Global Financial\\Economic Crisis on Integration “The Caribbean Experience” (Khellon Roach, Diedron Lewis and Samantha Joseph)

Hydrocarbon export boom, the Dutch Disease and food security in a small petroleum rich economy (Rebecca Gookool and Roger Hosein)

Master Planning Ideology: the Case of Alutrint in La Brea and Essar Steel in Claxton Bay (Wayne Kublalsingh)

4:30pm-5:00pm

REFRESHMENT BREAK

Regency IV, V & VI Foyer

5:50pm

Depart Hyatt Hotel for Sir Arthur Lewis Lecture
Daaga Auditorium

6:30pm-8:30pm

Sir Arthur Lewis Distinguished Lecture to be delivered by Professor Robert Barro

8:30pm-10:00 pm

Principal’s Reception in honour of Conference Participants

10:00pm

Return to Hyatt Hotel

DAY TWO: THURSDAY MARCH 25, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

9:00am-9:45am

Venue: *Regency V & VI*

Keynote Address

TITLE: *Sustaining Ourselves*
- Does Smallness Really Matter?

Honourable Mia Mottley

*Leader of the Opposition,
Parliament of Barbados*

Chair: Patrick Watson

9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

SESSION 5A

Climate, the Environment and Sustainable Development 1

Chair: Sandra Sookram

Venue: Jade Room

The “ménage-a-trois” of Biodiversity, human welfare and developing countries: can valuation techniques reveal the true nature of this relationship? (Sonja Teelucksingh and Paulo Nunes)

Climate Change and Urban Population Vulnerability in Small Island States: Challenges in Pacific and Caribbean Cities (Manoranjan Mohanty)

Towards mitigating climate change threats to small island states coastal communities: Geomatics contributions in a holistic governance approach (Michael Sutherland)

Economic valuation of coastal water quality improvements in Tobago (Nesha Beharry-Borg and Ricardo Scarpa)

9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

SESSION 5B

Finance and Investment

Chair: Timothy Shaw

Venue: Ruby Room

The appropriateness of intermediate monetary targets adopted by Caribbean economies (Debra Roberts)

Foreign Banks, Corporate Strategy and Financial Stability: Lessons from the river Plate (Michael Brei and Carlos Winograd)

The Global Financial Crisis from NYC to LATAM (Michael Brei and Carlos Winograd)

The EEC’s Banking System: a risk study during the global financial crisis (Valentina Tarkovska, Bernadette Andreosso and Lucia Morales)

DAY TWO: THURSDAY MARCH 25, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

SESSION 5C
Developmental Issues

Chair: Brian Meeks

Venue: Sapphire Room

Reflecting on development outcomes: A comparative analysis of Barbados and Guyana
(Kari Grenade and Denny Lewis Bynoe)

Child maltreatment in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean: An under researched problem (Letnie Rock)

Is the Trinidad and Tobago education system structured to facilitate optimum human capital development? New findings on education structure and outcomes from International and National assessments of educational achievement (Jerome DeLisle, Harilal Seecharan, Taliba Ayodike)

11:00 am-11:15am

REFRESHMENT BREAK

Regency IV, V & VI Foyer

11:15a.m. - 12:30pm

SESSION 6A

Youth and Gender in the Caribbean

Chair: Sandra Sookram

Venue: Jade Room

Rural Women in the Caribbean: 30 years after CEDAW
(Siddier Chambers)

Youth participation in local (community) level development: A development strategy.
(Grace-Ann Cornwall)

Enhancing gender visibility in disaster risk management: Jamaica country assessment
(Keino Senior)

The future of the Nations: youth in the Caribbean. An examination of critical areas of youth development
(Suzanne Charles)

DAY TWO: THURSDAY MARCH 25, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

10:30a.m. - 11:45am

SESSION 6B

Climate, the Environment and Sustainable Development II

Chair: Paulo Nunes

Venue: Ruby Room

Life Expectancy and the environment
(Augustin Perez-Barahona, Fabio Mariani and Natacha Raffin)

Quantifying the Economic Damage due to Hurricane Strikes:

An Analysis from Outer Space for the Caribbean Region
(Luisito Bertinelli, Eric Strobl)

Caribbean disaster risk management: A gendered review on the Commonwealth of Dominica (Erika Ellis)

Managing adaptation to environmental change in coastal communities: Canada and the Caribbean
(Daniel Lane and Patrick Watson)

11:15a.m. - 12:30pm

SESSION 6C

Elderly and Ageing Issues in 21st Century Caribbean Societies

Chair: Sebastian Vollmer

Venue: Sapphire Room

Ageing in the Caribbean: exploring some major concerns for family and society (Joan Rawlins)

Demographic Ageing in the Caribbean Sub-Region: Implications for the Elderly in Trinidad and Tobago
(Godfrey St. Bernard and Juliana Lawrence)

Active ageing: a qualitative study in six Caribbean countries
(Patrick Cloos and Caroline Allen)

The Aged: a new power for development (Kenneth A Niles)

12:30pm-2:00pm

LUNCH

Regency IV

DAY TWO: THURSDAY MARCH 25, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

2:00pm-3:15pm

SESSION 7A
***Labour, Human Capital
and Entrepreneurship***

Chair: Sonja Teelucksingh

Venue: Jade Room

Entrepreneurship and its resultant complexities in the Caribbean (Therese Baptiste-Cornelis and Jonathan Lashley)

The reservation wage of the unemployed jobseekers in Curacao (Miriela Carolina, Lennie Pau)

The Fertility Transition Around the World: 1950-2005 (Sebastien Vollmer)

The Global Economic Crisis and Labour Markets in the Small States of the Caribbean (Andrew Downes)

2:00pm-3:00pm

SESSION 7b
Migration and Quality of Life

Chair: Eric Strobl

Venue: Ruby Room

Back to the Caribbean: Narratives of Adjustments among Adolescent Migrants Returning to the Caribbean (Algernon Ward)

Revisiting the Caribbean transnational family through the lived experiences of children left behind in Trinidad (Mala Jokhan)

Protecting West Indian children from the impact of separation due to parental immigration (Wilma Fletcher-Anthony)

Going Beyond mere survival in St. Lucia: 30 years after Independence (Aldrie Henry-Lee)

DAY TWO: THURSDAY MARCH 25, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

2:00pm – 3:15pm

SESSION 7C
Culture and Intellectual Property

Chair: Nadine Newman

Venue: Sapphire Room

Embracing the Political Calypso and Engaging Healing
(Everard Phillips)

*Bun or Fire Bun? Wily women, survival slackness
and a possible wily survival strategy for reading (Kim
Robinson-Walcott)*

*The cultural determinants of the organization and
regulation of the governance system of the city
(Emmanuel Okamba)*

3:15pm-4:30pm

ROUND TABLE
PLENARY SESSION:
Celebrating Professor Selwyn Ryan

Chair: Patrick Watson

Venue: REGENCY IV, V & VI

Brian Meeks
John LaGuerre
Hamid Ghany
Bridget Brereton

4:30pm-5:00pm

REFRESHMENT BREAK
Regency IV, V & VI Foyer

6:40pm

Depart Hyatt Regency Hotel for President’s House

7:00pm-9:00pm

**Reception hosted by the President of the Republic
of Trinidad & Tobago in honour of Conference
participants**

9:00pm

**Return to Hyatt Regency Hotel
from President’s House**

DAY THREE: FRIDAY MARCH 26, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

SESSION 8A
Caribbean Tourism

Chair: Charley Granvorka
Venue: Jade Room

Tourism, Economic Growth and Monetary Policy in Jamaica (Edward Ghartey)

An econometric analysis of international tourism in the nature isle, Dominica (Jehann Jack)

Cruise tourists returning to Curacao for a land based vacation: A logit model (Lennie Pau and Miriela Carolina)

Is The Tourism Led Growth Thesis Valid? The Case of The Bahamas, Barbados and Jamaica (Diaram RamjeeSingh, Allan S. Wright)

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

SESSION 8B
Caribbean Economic and Social Development 1

Chair: Godfrey St Bernard
Venue: Ruby Room

Rethinking development in small states (Patsy Lewis)

Quantifying Management's Role in Bank Survival Using Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA): Case of Jamaica (Lisa-Kaye Wallace)

Price Reform and Household demand for Electricity (Roland Craigwell, Winston Moore and Adrian Carter)

Choices, Constraints and Spatial outcomes in public housing: a comparative study of Trinidad and Tobago (Seema Kadir and Jimmy Tindigarukayo)

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

SESSION 8C
Financial and Sustainability Issues

Chair: Alain Maurin
Venue: Sapphire Room

Energy Security, Sustainability and Survivability: Caribbean Initiatives or Lack Thereof (Indira Rampersad)

External Shocks and the Volatility of tourism Flows in the Caribbean (Travis Mitchell)

Dutch Disease, Deindustrialisation and Structural Change in Trinidad and Tobago (Roger Hosein and Mahindra Maharaj)

Fiscal Stimulus: A Neo-classical Perspective (Timo Trimborn and Holger Strulik)

10:15 am-10:30am

REFRESHMENT BREAK
Regency IV, V & VI Foyer

DAY THREE: FRIDAY MARCH 26, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

10:30am-11:45pm

SESSION 9A
Integration and Development

Chair: Michael Brei

Venue: Jade Room

Evidence of moderate degree of capital mobility in 15 Caribbean countries and the absence of the Feldstein-Horioka (F-H) puzzle (Allan Wright and Diaram Ramjeesingh)

Advancing Reinaldo Gonsalves' model of global economic insertion: consideration for the English speaking Caribbean (Ian Walcott)

Beyond the Ivory Tower: Amartya Sen's development theories in Bob Marley's reggae, or the other way around? (Andres Gramajo)

Constitutional Reform and its implications for improved Governance: the case of Trinidad and Tobago (Ann-Marie Bissessar)

10.30am-11.45am

SESSION 9B
Societal Issues

Chair: Sandra Sookram

Venue: Ruby Room

Are Caribbean Countries Diverging or Converging? Evidence from Spatial Econometrics (Alain Maurin and Roland Craigwell)

Teaching Social Policy in the 21st Century: the importance of Praxis, and relevance for social development (Innette Cambridge)

The Janus Face of disaster preparedness: protecting documents against disasters (Nadine Newman and Dustan Newman)

SESSION 9C
Family, Business Activity and Innovation

Chair: Varuna Ramlal

Venue: Sapphire Room

From migrants to retail small businessmen: perspectives on the East Indians of Barbados 1910-2010 (Natalie Jones and Trevor Marshall)

The role of transportation infrastructure in correcting regional disparities through business clustering: case study of a Jamaican highway project (Sandra Tennant)

Future of Research and Development at UWI (St. Clair King, Brian Copeland and Ronald DeFour)

DAY THREE: FRIDAY MARCH 26, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

11:45am-1:00pm

SESSION 10A
***Caribbean Economic
and Social Development 2***

Chair: Kim Robinson

Venue: Jade Room

*The Digital Divide in Trinidad and Tobago 2007
(Bheshem Ramlal and Patrick Watson)*

Whither the Resource Curse? (Michael Henry)

*Designing resilient finance systems for competitive
island economies: developing the case for the Caribbean
(Ryan Peterson and Don Taylor)*

2:00pm-3:15pm

SESSION 10B
Ethnicity and related Issues

Chair: Ann-Marie Bissessar

Venue: Sapphire Room

*Racism in Barbados in the 21st Century: Forty year
beyond the growth of the modern West Indies
(Natalie Jones and Trevor Marshall)*

*Ethnicity, Race, Class and Society in Post Colonial
Barbados (Natalie Jones and Trevor Marshall)*

*An Assessment of the Caribbean Diaspora and its
potential to impact economic development in the
Caribbean Region. (Samantha C. Joseph, Roger Hosein
and Martin Franklin)*

1:00pm-2:30pm

LUNCH
Regency IV

2:15pm

CLOSING CEREMONY

7:00pm-1:00am

**CONFERENCE LIME
AT COCO LOUNGE**

DAY THREE: FRIDAY MARCH 26, 2010
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, The University of the West Indies, St.Augustine wishes to acknowledge and thank the following institutions for their kind and generous contributions:

Caribbean Development Bank

Republic Bank Limited

Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited

Commonwealth Secretariat

First Citizens Bank

Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited

Export-Import Bank of Trinidad & Tobago Limited

Trinidad & Tobago Electricity Commission

Inter-American Development Bank

Ministry of Science, Technology & Tertiary Education

Eastern Caribbean Central Bank

ABSTRACTS

SANCTIONS AND THE ISLAND STATE: AN OCEANIC EXPERIENCE

Kylie Jayné Anderson

*Division of Politics & International Affairs
School of Social Sciences Faculty of Arts & Law
University of the South Pacific, Fiji*

Sanctions – in all of their guises – remain one of the most contentious tools of state craft. In Oceania – a region which is home to over 30 island states and territories - they have primarily been used for promoting international norms, disregarding the most basic premise of generic sanctions theory. Few studies have been undertaken on the impact of sanctions on Oceanic countries and peoples and yet the history of sanctions within the region runs parallel to theories of power and marginalisation. This paper provides an overview of the type of sanctions used in Oceanic countries between 2000-2009. The key argument is that sanctions rarely achieve their stated objectives and, ultimately, are more likely to contribute to turmoil within the state and, ultimately, the region as a whole.

SURVIVING TECHNICAL BARRIERS: TOWARDS A TRADE RELATED CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SMES IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

David Anyanwu

*Phd Candidate
Institute of International Relations
The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine*

With the progressive erosion of tariffs and other forms of non-tariff barriers that can restrict international trade, countries are turning to Technical Barriers to Trade (TBTs) as a means of regulating markets, protecting their consumers and natural resources, and possibly discriminating against imports in favour of domestic products. For food product exporting SMEs in developing countries, the impact of these technical barriers applied as standards and regulations is more damning because in many respects they lack the necessary Trade-Related Capacity to implement the various technical requirements in export markets; a prerequisite for international competitiveness.

This study proposes a theoretical framework for Trade-Related Capacity Building (TRCB) towards international competitiveness for SMEs in the beverage industry in Trinidad and Tobago. Employing a mixed-methodology approach, this study investigates the impact of European Community's technical barriers through administered questionnaire on twenty-five beverage exporting SMEs. Data is also collected through semi-structured interviews with industry specialists (both private and public) on the perceived impact of technical barriers on SMEs. Preliminary analysis of findings calls for action particularly as standards and regulations are not likely to go away anytime soon. This study proposes a tripartite/joint framework approach for trade-related capacity building in SMEs in Trinidad and Tobago. It concludes that the ability of SMEs to foster productivity, efficiency in product and process methods towards international competitiveness, requires joint and regional efforts. This study makes significant contribution to the development of the manufacturing base of Trinidad and Tobago.

ABSTRACTS

OFFENDER ABUSE HISTORY: FINDINGS FROM HER MAJESTY'S PRISON, BARBADOS

Corin Bailey and Charlene Coore-Desai

Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies

The University of the West Indies

Barbados

There is general agreement within the international discourse, that abuse, particularly in childhood, is a precursor to future offending. Every year, across the Caribbean, large numbers of children and adults suffer abuse at the hands of parents, teachers and intimate partners. Women in the Caribbean are assumed to suffer from a higher level of abuse than men and as such, their involvement in criminality has often been felt to be the result of these painful life experiences. Despite growing interest internationally however, there remains an absence within the region, of empirical data to support these claims.

Using a sample of male and female inmates incarcerated for drug crimes at Her Majesty's Prison in Barbados, this paper attempts to shed light on what is an under-researched area in the Caribbean, while at the same time identify areas for future research. Questionnaires were administered to determine the level of abuse experienced by respondents in both childhood and as adults.

Results indicated that female offenders were indeed subjected to a higher level of sexual abuse throughout their life histories. There was however no significant difference in the levels of physical abuse between male and female offenders. Further research is necessary to determine the manner in which the different forms of abuse affect male and female involvement in criminal activity.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ITS RESULTANT COMPLEXITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

Therese Baptiste-Cornelis

Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies

The University of the West Indies

Trinidad and Tobago

Jonathan Lashley

Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies

The University of the West Indies

Barbados

In the Caribbean, the words 'entrepreneurship' and 'small business' are constantly used interchangeably with out any true distinction being made by speakers on their various platforms [governmental, academic and business]. In recent times, various support systems have been utilized with an apparent aim at helping achieve the growth and development of a nation, which entrepreneurship promises to the world. The Caribbean reality fails to match that of other developing countries that appear to have been able to harness the value that entrepreneurship presents to communities in which it is properly implemented. This conceptual paper presents a literature review of the topic of entrepreneurship, with a comparative look at countries that have demonstrated understanding of the resultant complexities, as well as a cursory assessment of the Caribbean's situation via country examples, thus highlighting some key issues that will need to be addressed, if we are to see a similar success drive mirrored in our Caribbean societies.

ABSTRACTS

ECONOMIC VALUATION OF COASTAL WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS IN TOBAGO

Nesha Beharry-Borg

Sustainability Research Institute

The University of Leeds

United Kingdom

Riccardo Scarpa

Department of Economics

Waikato Management School

The University of Waikato

New Zealand

The quality of the coastal waters is now a major environmental issue in Tobago due to its role in supporting the economically important tourism sector and for safeguarding public health. In this paper we report the results of two choice experiments designed to estimate willingness to pay (WTP) for an improvement in coastal water quality for two groups of beach recreationists: snorkellers and nonsnorkellers. Responses from 284 respondents were analyzed and included both locals and tourists to the island who participated in beach recreation. Latent class and mixed multinomial logit models were used in the analysis of the responses to explain the presence of any unobserved taste heterogeneity. The results indicate that individual specific means of WTP estimates vary significantly between snorkellers and nonsnorkellers. The results from the analysis using the latent class model identified two subgroups with distinct preferences with the snorkeller group. Unobserved taste heterogeneity was better represented for the nonsnorkellers with a mixed multinomial logit model. This study not only addresses the lack of valuation estimates on this island but also demonstrates the importance of using estimation methods that account for individual specific differences in WTP estimates. By understanding how preferences vary between and within the sub populations, policy makers are better able to manage this natural resource in a sustainable way and to strategically position the recreational product to accommodate these differences. By linking the management recommendations to WTP values, they can also gain an understanding of how different recommendations will be valued by different segments of users. This gives managers a measure of how well potential policies will be accepted if they are implemented.

QUANTIFYING THE ECONOMIC DAMAGE DUE TO HURRICANE STRIKES: AN ANALYSIS FROM OUTER SPACE FOR THE CARIBBEAN REGION.

Luisito Bertinelli

Universite du Luxembourg

Luxembourg

Eric Strobl

Ecole Polytechnique

France

Hurricanes are well known to cause considerable amount of damage in the Caribbean, a region that is highly susceptible to these phenomena and largely consists of small island developing economies. However, data constraints have limited the quantification of the damage to only very sparse and rough figures. In this paper we set out to quantify the economic damage due to hurricane strikes in the region using alternative data sources. Our innovation in this regard to is to use night lights data derived from satellite images the capture the extent of economic activity locally and then measures its changes after a hurricane strike. We proxy the potential damage due to a hurricane by using destruction index derived from actual hurricane track and a wind field model. Our results indicate that during our sample period 1992-2003 hurricanes significantly affected the extent to which economic activity as captures from outer space. We then use a recently developed conversion methodology to translate this effect into monetary values.

ABSTRACTS

AFTER 'WESTMINSTER ADAPTED': DOES CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM IN ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES HERALD A NEW MODEL OF GOVERNANCE FOR THE CARIBBEAN?

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In the post-decolonisation era, almost all of the former British colonies of the Commonwealth or English-speaking Caribbean adopted the norms and attributes of 'Westminster' style government, which is loosely based on that in London. The Westminster Model, as it is more commonly known, has been progressively 'adapted' in the Caribbean to fit local realities, even though, on the whole, the practice of politics in the region has still remained distinctly influenced by its prerogatives and processes.

This has historically been something of a double-edged sword. As has been well-remarked, the Westminster Model has simultaneously engendered vibrant, lively, and, more importantly, stable democratic practice throughout the region, such that the Caribbean is widely considered as exhibiting the strongest levels of democracy anywhere in the developing world. In contrast, the small stature of many Caribbean societies has led to a situation whereby the very worst aspects of Westminster practice – parochialism, particularism and an 'elective dictatorship' – have been fully visible, often corroding the quality of democracy that endures.

Recently, the St Vincent government under Prime Minister Gonsalves has attempted to resolve some of these issues, charging a 'Constitutional Review Commission' (CRC) made of the island's great and good to devise a new constitution which breaks with the past and shapes new institutions better suited to Eastern Caribbean political reality. In December 2009, it is planned that the country will have a referendum on the issue. The purpose of this paper, then, will be to outline the proposals and engage with them critically, before drawing conclusions relating to the extent to which the work of the CRC can be said to offer effective solutions to the broader problems of Westminster governance in the region. Further, we shall set these conclusions within the context of the result of the Vincentian plebiscite of late 2009.

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR IMPROVED GOVERNANCE: THE CASE OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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The aim of this paper is to critically examine the proposals by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to reform the constitution of the country and to assess the impact that these changes are likely to have on the present governance practices. The paper is divided into three segments. The first segment presents a historical overview of the constitution of the country. The second segment will look at the changes that are proposed. The third segment will accordingly focus on the implications that these changes may have on the governance practices within the country.

ABSTRACTS

CRIMINAL DEPORTEES AND VIOLENT CRIME: EVIDENCE FROM A CROSSNATIONAL PANEL OF HOMICIDE RATES, 1970-2004

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From the mid 1980s to the late 1990s there were changes in US laws which resulted in a sharp increase in criminal deportations. Some case studies, especially of Caribbean countries, have suggested that increased deportations may have contributed to the increased homicide rates of the receiving countries which occurred over the same period. I investigate the relationship and possible causal link between these variables using panel data of intentional homicide rates for a sample of developed and developing countries, based on information from the United Nations World Crime Surveys. The panel data consist of non-overlapping 5-year averages for 37 countries. I estimate several dynamic models of national crime rates using GMM methodology, which accommodates unobserved country-specific effects, the joint endogeneity of some of the right-hand side variables, and the existence of certain types of measurement errors that may distort the analysis. My results indicate a statistically significantly positive relationship between increases in the numbers of criminal deportees and increases in murder rates. The magnitude of these effects is stable across model specifications and suggests that a 1 percent increase in the number of criminal deportees per capita leads to a 5 to 8 percent increase in the receiving country's murder rate.

AN EXPLORATION OF YOUTH RISKS IN THE CARIBBEAN: THROUGH THE VOICES OF YOUTH

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Unavoidable hazards exist in the Caribbean stemming from natural and environmental disasters: the spill off from using rapidly advancing technology for ill gain, the bombardment of foreign cultures through the electronic media, and the global economic crisis that is now at hand. The Literature portrays Caribbean youth as a group who are at risk to crime and gang violence, early initiation of sexual intercourse, teenage pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, and attrition from the education system. This study sought to define risks through the eyes of a sample of Caribbean youth in three territories: Jamaica, Haiti, and Trinidad, using focus group methodology, consultations with targeted groups, and in-depth interviews. Youth from a range of social groups were invited to participate: youth in school and out of school, youth from affluent as well as impoverished communities, unemployed as well as employed youth, commercial sex workers, teenage mothers, hearing impaired, and youth from indigenous communities.

The youth in general, identified risk as a necessary step in psychological development but recognized the inherent elements of chance. Risk taking was associated with cultural values, survival, poverty, group membership, as well as with immaturity, although the nature of risks was expected to change with age. Risks were taken while under the influence of peers and adults and even substances, though being counter to norms and the law. Risks that appeared to be successful to some youth actually constituted deviance. Specifically in Haiti, illegal immigration stood out as a risk, and the need for food security as a recommendation.

There was a steadfast cry among the voices, for education on identifying negative consequences of risks, for strategies for risk reduction, and for programmes on conflict resolution and anger management, for example. Youth wanted a safe place and resources and activities for their growth and development until they can adequately fend for themselves.

ABSTRACTS

THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS FROM NYC TO LATAM

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In this brief summary paper we analyze the impact of the global financial crisis on the Latin American economies. We discuss the contagion channels resulting from the international turmoil and the policy responses of the different countries of the region. We will focus on their ability to cushion the adverse effects on the real economy. In the first part, we summarize the origins of the global crisis, the region's economic outlook, and the main channels of international contagion. In the second part, we lay out the current policy responses and suggestions for future policy. We identify three groups of countries according to their initial conditions that determine the governments' ability to respond by countercyclical policies. We finally stress the fundamental uncertainties for the coming years.

FOREIGN BANKS, CORPORATE STRATEGY AND FINANCIAL STABILITY: LESSONS FROM THE RIVER PLATE

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In contrast to the growing debate on the merits and pitfalls associated with foreign bank presence in emerging market economies, little attention has been paid to the corporate structure of foreign banks and how it affects foreign banks' risk attitudes and responses to financial turmoil in host countries. We stress that corporate structures play an important role in this context. In the first part we analyze incentive distortions that arise across subsidiaries and branches of foreign banks, using a theoretical model of asymmetric information and costly monitoring. In the second part we test empirically for differences in risk attitudes and crisis responses across branches and subsidiaries for the cases of Argentina and Uruguay. We find evidence that foreign banks' subsidiaries have been on average riskier than branches. The results also suggest that especially branches that are large relative to parent banks had lowest risk exposures on their balance sheets. As we argue, policymakers in volatile countries should foster foreign bank entry of branches, because a branch tends to be better protected by its parent bank than a subsidiary that allows for risk isolation.

ABSTRACTS

TEACHING SOCIAL POLICY IN THE 21ST CENTURY: THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAXIS, AND RELEVANCE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

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An examination of the agendas of governments in the 21st century reveals a focus on issues such as education, disaster preparedness, health, social welfare, gender, crime, disability, aging, community development and transportation. Global social agendas such as the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Commonwealth Social Development Agenda set guidelines for improved social functioning of world populations in the 21st century. These issues all fall under the umbrella of social policy. The improvement or reduction any of any social problem areas requires the use of social policy analysis and planning that are elements of social policy teaching.

This paper examines the principles underlying the teaching of social policy analysis and planning within the Social Policy Programme at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. Trinidad and Tobago. It shows the importance of linking theory to practice in teaching while retaining a course content that relates to contemporary societal needs. The paper closes with illustrations of pedagogical initiatives indicative of a teaching philosophy of praxis and relevance to social development in the 21st century.

THE RESERVATION WAGE OF UNEMPLOYED JOB SEEKERS IN CURAÇAO

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This paper examines the level of and factors affecting the reservation wage in Curaçao. The analysis is based on data from our Reservation Wage Survey (RWS) and the Labor Force Survey (LFS 2006) from the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). The theoretical framework for the reservation wage is based on the job search model. We have used this model to find the determinants (economic resources, individual and household characteristics, and institutional factors) of the reservation wage. The results suggest that the reservation wage of unemployed persons is affected by their last monthly wage, their age group, education, and the sectors in which they are looking for employment. In some cases, the duration of unemployment, and a combination of the social security benefits and being head of the household also determine the reservation wage. In contrast to popular belief, we found no evidence of an unemployment trap; only a minority of the unemployed collects the complete package of social security benefits.

ABSTRACTS

RURAL WOMEN IN THE CARIBBEAN: 30 YEARS AFTER CEDAW

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The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 18, 1979. This Women's Convention promotes women's rights in the areas of social, economic, cultural, civil and political. The CEDAW was ratified by most Caribbean countries in the early 1980s.

After 30 years of implementing CEDAW, strides have been made in various areas for women in the region. However, women as a group is not homogenous and most rural women remain marginalized to these rights and benefits. Skewed national development perpetuates the exclusion of these vulnerable groups.

The paper highlights the fact that rural women usually account for a large percentage of persons living below the poverty line. The current global economic crisis is projected to push more persons below the poverty line. In pointing the way forward, regional Governments are reminded of their commitments, under CEDAW, to the development of rural women and practical recommendations provided.

THE FUTURE OF THE NATIONS: YOUTH IN THE CARIBBEAN. AN EXAMINATION OF CRITICAL AREAS OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

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Caribbean youth issues have emerged during volatile conditions and the lives of Caribbean youth reflect the socio-political, economic and cultural pressures faced by the region.

The loss of FDI and aid, and more recently the loss of preferential treatment in agriculture markets and increasing vulnerability of the tourism sector, coupled with debt service obligations have not only conspired to undermine the capacity of the state to effectively perform its role as a facilitator of economic and social justice but has diminished the prevalence of traditional modes of socialization¹, thereby changing the social options and possibilities for many young people.

High unemployment rates, migration and its consequent depletion of intellectual and social capital, weaknesses in education systems, persistent health challenges; particularly as it relates to HIV/AIDS, global trends that weaken our collective economic viability and threaten the sustainable livelihood of significant proportions of

the region, spiralling crime and most recently a change in political paradigms, have all coalesced to create a situation in which the well-being of youth is potentially compromised.

This paper examines seven areas of priority, (including education, health and poverty) in which Caribbean adolescents are affected and considers the existing gaps in policy aimed at adolescent development and empowerment in the region. Further, it considers the political and economic contexts and macro-level environments in which these priority areas are manifest and offers recommendations for policy development.

ABSTRACTS

GOVERNANCE IN THE UK OVERSEAS TERRITORIES: THE CASE OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

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The Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI) is one of 14 Overseas Territories still overseen by the United Kingdom (UK). Underpinned by tourism, property development and financial services, the TCI experienced economic growth amongst the highest in the world. However, it now appears that this economic success was built on a political, economic and social system that was rotten to the core, and which created "a national emergency" that potentially threatened the very future of the country. The paper considers the report of the recent UK government-appointed Commission of Inquiry into alleged corruption in the TCI, the British decision to impose direct rule, and Caribbean reactions to the affair. More generally, the paper analyses the UK government's approach to all of its Caribbean Overseas Territories in light of the Commission's report, and whether UK government policy since the 1999 White Paper "Partnership for Progress and Prosperity", has therefore failed in terms of instilling and encouraging good governance in the territories.

ACTIVE AGEING: A QUALITATIVE STUDY IN SIX CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

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The aim of this study was to document the perceptions of elders in six Caribbean countries about 'active ageing' and on the basis of their reports to make recommendations to improve their situation. Data were collected principally through 31 focus group discussions conducted in both urban and rural areas. Comparative analysis was carried out of the qualitative information, focusing on three components of 'active ageing': health and social services access and use, social support, and economic circumstances. Most of the participants were women, aged 60–79 years, of lower socio-economic status and from urban areas. Large disparities in the responses of Caribbean societies to population ageing were indicated, as well as unequal opportunities to obtain health care and social services, public transport, income and food by both socio-economic status and location. Home-care services are either insufficient or non-existent. Some elders receive social and financial support from relatives while others fear isolation and face deprivation. Social participation varies by place, physical condition, financial situation, association membership, and transport opportunities. Social protection benefits do not provide adequate income and some older people face food insecurity. It was concluded that a comprehensive and multi-sectoral approach using the 'active ageing' framework should be implemented to ensure a healthy ageing process.

ABSTRACTS

DEPENDENCY GOVERNANCE, CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM AND DEMOCRATIC DEFICIT IN THE NON-INDEPENDENT CARIBBEAN

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The year 2010 will mark a defining point in relation to the movement toward, or away from, full democratic governance and the achievement of full political equality in the non-independent Caribbean countries (NICCs), with the culmination of four separate processes impacting their political and constitutional evolution. The first process is the conclusion of the United Nations (U.N.) Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism when the remaining seven Caribbean/Atlantic territories of Bermuda, Turks and Caicos Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, British Virgin Islands, Anguilla and the U.S. Virgin Islands – all categorised by the U.N. as non self-governing - are supposed to be decolonised pursuant to internationally-recognised parametres. The second projected development is the political dismantling of the five-island autonomous country of the Netherlands Antilles into two separate and significantly lesser-autonomous countries of Curacao and Saint Maarten, with the remaining smaller islands of Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius to be transformed through direct ties with the Kingdom of the Netherlands into three separate and partially-integrated Dutch “public entities” (with the concomitant implications for Caribbean Community integration including the expansion of the European Union border in the region). The third projected activity is the consideration by the United States Congress of legislation introduced in 2009 designed to establish separate processes for self-determination for the U.S.-administered territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, respectively. The fourth expected undertaking will be the referenda on new autonomous arrangements being scheduled for the French West Indies. Accordingly, the paper will explore the moribund U.N. decolonisation process which has facilitated the decolonisation of only one territory since the 1990s, and the regional response to this inaction.

LIMITED HUMAN CAPITAL AND ITS CHALLENGES ON PRO-POOR DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR YOUTH

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Pro-poor development policies are focused on economic opportunities that directly impact on the sustainable livelihood of the poorest in a population. The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and its targets seek to guide poverty reduction strategies that ought to ensure relative equitable participation of the poorest in society. The achievement of universal primary education among youth and adults is one of its eight indicators that guide the poverty reduction strategy. In Jamaica, however, the challenge neither resides in the access of primary education nor enrollment rates at both the primary and secondary levels but in a bifurcated educational system which produces disproportionately varied levels of achievement from poorer schools which the poor more than likely attend compared with wealthier schools. Low academic achievement usually impacts negatively on the ability to negotiate as equal partners in development practices and militates against the capacity to take advantage of opportunities for personal development and improved social mobility. The objectives of the paper are to examine academic achievement in light of pro-poor development strategies locally as well as to examine the impact of low educational achievement on youth participation in local level development.

ABSTRACTS

YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL (COMMUNITY) LEVEL DEVELOPMENT: A DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

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Pro-poor development policies are focused on social and economic opportunities that directly impact on the sustainable livelihood of the poorest in a population. In addition, these policies seek to guide poverty reduction strategies that ought to ensure relative equitable participation of the poorest in society.

Youth participation as a development strategy in community development requires sustained engagement of youth. The synchronization of Barr and Hashagen (2000) ABCD approach to community development and youth development and participation perspectives such as the empowerment educational model (Freire 1970), the adolescent empowerment cycle (Chinman and Linney (1998), the youth development and empowerment (Kim 1998) and transactional partnering models (Cargo 2003) and Hart's ladder of participation have facilitated the creation of a model for improved partnerships between adults and youth in community development. From the onset, this model demonstrates an engagement of youth and adults in a set of activities towards advancing the local development agenda. Furthermore, it critiques Hart's Ladder of participation, a unilinear perspective on youth participation. One of the emergent outcomes from the synchronization of the previous approaches is a generic model of sustained youth at the local level. This model integrates the elements from the logical framework and identifies potential institutions for implementation. The success of the model relies on the incorporation of techniques practiced by the potential implementation organizations.

THE EVOLUTION OF STOCK MARKETS IN THE CARIBBEAN: FROM 1969 AND BEYOND

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This paper represents the first of three papers which seeks to examine various aspects of stock market development within the Caribbean. The focus of this paper is primarily to discuss the general nature of the regional stock markets. This would involve an in depth analysis of the three main facets of stock markets: (1) market size, (2) market depth and liquidity, and (3) market risk (volatility) and return. While reference will be given to the many stock exchanges in existence within the region, the analysis will be limited to the three major regional stock exchanges: (1) The Barbados Stock Exchange (B.S.E), (2) The Jamaica Stock Exchange (J.S.E), and (3) The Trinidad & Tobago Stock Exchange (T.T.S.E). The progress made in these areas by these markets will then be compared to those attained by following equity markets: (1) the New York Stock Exchange (N.Y.S.E), (2) the London Stock Exchange, (3) the Singapore Stock Exchange (SGX), (4) the Oslo BØrs (Norway), (5) the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (South Africa) and (6) the BM&FBOVESPA S.A (Brazil). The three CARICOM markets seem to still be in a state of underdevelopment with many of its indicators still well below those of the more advanced emerging markets such as Singapore.

ABSTRACTS

PRICE REFORM AND HOUSEHOLD DEMAND FOR ELECTRICITY

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This paper estimates a model of residential electricity demand to project the impact of proposed tariff changes on a representative sample of 130 Barbadian households. The results from the demand function suggest that the price elasticities of demand for particular appliances varied significantly, with households that utilize solar water heating being more price elastic than households that use air conditioning and electric water heating . The income effects were, however, statistically insignificant as they may have been captured by choices of appliances rather than utilisation. The income elasticity for households with solar water heating was found to be negative, probably reflecting the substitution impact arising from the use of solar power to provide water heating. The database also allowed the authors to breakdown price and income elasticities by individual households and these results suggest that middle-income households tend to be more prices sensitive, indicating that these households may be more able to reduce their usage of discretionary appliances than low-income households. The propose changes in the electricity rate structure was investigated and determined to likely have very little influence on households demand for electricity. Changes in consumption will however be more noticeable within upper consumption and upper income households.

ABSTRACTS

IS THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO EDUCATION SYSTEM STRUCTURED TO FACILITATE OPTIMUM HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT? NEW FINDINGS ON EDUCATION STRUCTURE AND OUTCOMES FROM INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS OF EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

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One of the more critical functions of the education system is the development of human capital. The quality and level of differentiation in human capital remains a critical issue for Trinidad and Tobago as it seeks to align its economic structure with the emerging requirements of a knowledge society. The education system inherited from British colonial rule was noticeably elitist and examination-oriented, designed to filter, segregate and retain on the basis of perceived meritocracy, as defined by public examinations, such as the Eleven Plus. Another feature of this inherited system is the differentiation among schools and embedded organizational practices such as tracking, streaming and setting. Despite governmental commitment to a seamless system, the legitimacy of a differentiated system remains high among the populace, with a persistent concern for the fate of what is defined as "the top 20% of the ability group". The question then becomes, *are the country's needs and that of the various ability groups better served by a differentiated or non-differentiated school system?* In other words, does the current design of the education system represent the best strategy for human resource-centred development? The issue of structure and outcome in education systems has emerged internationally with the growth of regional and international assessments, which allow comparisons and benchmarking across countries and education systems. High quality differentiated systems as in Germany may be compared with high quality non-differentiated systems as in Finland. Trinidad and Tobago is currently enrolled in the PIRLS and PISA international assessments, and benchmarking data is available from the 1990/1991 IEA study of reading at ages 9 and 14 and the 2006 PIRLS. We use this information and other data from the national assessments of educational achievement to analyze, benchmark, and compare outcomes from the differentiated education system in Trinidad and Tobago.

THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS AND LABOUR MARKET IN THE SMALL STATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

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The labour market constitutes the main source of income for a large segment of the population of the Caribbean. Since the demand for labour (employment) is derived from the production and sale of goods and services, any shock to the commodity market will have both direct and indirect effects on the labour market. The severity of the impact depends on the initial level of unemployment, the size of the informal sector; the existence of a social protection system, the adoption of creative labour market strategies and measures and the ability to engage in social dialogue.

The paper examines the impact of the current (2008-present) global economic recession on the labour markets of the small developing countries of the Caribbean. It provides an overview of the impact of the global crisis on the Caribbean economies, and then analyzes the impact of the crisis on the labour markets of the region in particular. It provides a review of the policy responses adopted in Caribbean countries from a labour market prospective and examines the coping strategies adopted by Caribbean households. The paper concludes with a set of recommendations and lessons which can be identified from the Caribbean experience.

ABSTRACTS

A COMMUNICATIVE APPROACH TO TECHNOLOGY AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SOCIAL SERVICE DELIVERY ON ST. KITTS

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This paper presents a case study of the role of instruction in writing and rhetoric as a means of enhancing professionalism among paraprofessional social service delivery personnel on St. Kitts. We propose rhetoric, understood as the development and presentation of persuasive argument, as a link between local stakeholders and international donor groups, providing stakeholders with new tools for effecting change.

We report on a series of capacity building workshops given in conjunction with the introduction of the Department of Social Development's new information management system. Although initially conceived as secondary to instruction in the use of the database, the writing instruction component rapidly assumed a primary role in demonstrating to stakeholders the utility of objective data in meeting the expectations of an audience of government groups, donor organizations, and NGOs. The adoption of a rhetorical perspective made explicit the unspoken values that conditioned local social service delivery, as well as the conflicts arising from discrepancies between local and foreign service-related values. For practitioners, rhetoric's explicit awareness of audience needs and expectations provides an opportunity for understanding "from within," opening the door to new solutions and practices in service delivery. Implications for capacity building in technology and knowledge diffusion are discussed.

CARIBBEAN DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT: A GENDERED REVIEW ON THE COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA

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This country report on Dominica is part of a larger project on gender, climate change and disaster risk management in the Caribbean, commissioned by the UNDP/CRMI, and the results will provide insights on the extent to which risk management governance mechanisms in these countries effectively incorporate gender considerations.

This project will contribute to the achievement of greater equality in the field of risk management, which is fundamental for the survival and well-being of men and women. In the last few years, globally it has been recognized that often disasters impact on women harder than on men, for social and cultural reasons. This research ultimately will facilitate the development of better public policies for risk management in the region, precisely to anticipate and prevent that differentiated impact by gender which can be so devastating. The effect of climate change is one of the most urgent issues impacting countries like Dominica at this time.

From this research, it was found that although there was no formal policy for gender mainstreaming in disaster management, the Commonwealth of Dominica was proactive in ensuring that everyone was offered the same resources. Although there is no gender specific policy regarding disaster management, women are more willing to participate in training programmes and adhere to the early warning systems. However, as disasters become more intensive and their impact more extensive and destructive, there is need to formalise and implement strategies to handle different aspects of these disasters.

ABSTRACTS

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN FROM THE IMPACT OF SEPARATION DUE TO PARENTAL IMMIGRATION

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West Indian children are routinely left behind by their parents when opportunities arise for them to migrate to the USA. Usually the mother leaves first and entrusts the children to the care of relatives or friends. During the period of separation, children may experience feelings of abandonment, anger, and depression. These feelings are typically expressed in school, in the community and at home, and may contribute to childhood delinquency and suicide rates. The extent of these issues depends upon their preparation for the parent's departure and the relationship with the caregiver. The period of separation may be extensive due to parental immigration and financial status. Reunification frequently occurs during the turbulent teen years.

Upon reunification in the USA, children are required to fit into a family with parents who seem to be strangers. Depending on the parent's ability to integrate the children into the family, they may establish relationships outside the home and eventually become a part of the prison population. Our teenaged children are already contributing disproportionately to the numbers in a large New York City jail. These children are not productive in a way that will send remittances home, they tarnish the reputation of their Caribbean countries, and some may return as deportees with the requirement for resources and services in the home countries. Based upon her research among reunified children in New York City, the presenter proposes a method of tracking the children while they are in school in the Caribbean countries. This is an opportunity to provide them with support for the period of separation as well as prepare them for the immigration experience.

A SOCIAL CONTRACT IN THE SHADOW

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Developing countries have large shadow economies, which constitute a challenge to democratic accountability. We construct an intertemporal model where private agents opt to produce formally or informally depending on their abilities and on government policies. These policies are embedded in a political framework where a politician seeks reelection.

Beyond a threshold share of informal sector employment, the politician can secure the *informal vote* by reducing regulatory enforcement on informal firms. This generates a political rent that reduces the politician's accountability constraint and facilitates corruption. The model yields multiple steady states that help explain high informality rates and high corruption alongside weak institutions. The predictions of the model are then tested using a dataset of Brazilian regions.

ABSTRACTS

IMPACT OF THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS ON WOMEN IN THE CARIBBEAN

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The Global financial crisis affecting the economies of the world since summer of 2008 has also had serious social effects. There has been much concern with the impact of the crisis on the poor and gains made towards improving social development (including progress towards the millennium development goals). Any analysis of the true impact of the financial crisis, we argue, needs to include a gendered impact assessment of the social and economic effects, in order for responses to be adequately designed and effectively target the right populations. This assessment was facilitated by the use of secondary data from different Caribbean countries including employment data, policy responses from a national regional and global level. Women in the Caribbean are affected by the crisis due to their large representation in service sectors and dependence on remittances, both being areas largely affected by the crisis. However, a comprehensive gendered assessment remains hindered by the lack of gender disaggregated data throughout the region. We conclude therefore with a critique of the responses to date and with recommendations for a more gender sensitive response to the global financial crisis.

TOURISM, ECONOMIC GROWTH AND MONETARY POLICY IN JAMAICA

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The study examines the causal relationships between economic growth, tourism expansion and the real exchange rate which is used to measure the real cost of living in Jamaica over the period 1963 to 2008. Both Dickey-Fuller (1979) and modified form, and Kwiatkowski, Phillips, Schmidt and Shin (1992) tests are used to test the stationarity properties of the variables, and Akaike information and Schwarz Bayesian information criteria are used to determine the optimum lag lengths of the variables. Johansen cointegration test and the autoregressive distributed lag estimates (ADL) are used to determine the long-run equilibrium relationships between (and among) the variables. The Johansen cointegration and long-run ADL estimates show that an increase in economic growth (depreciation) results in more than proportional change in tourist arrivals (expenditures). In the short-run increase in tourist arrivals causes expansion in economic growth, but there is no causal relationship between the rests of the variables. Additionally, both depreciation and changes in tourist arrivals cause economic growth. In the long-run tourist arrivals cause economic growth, and there is bi-directional causal relationship between tourist arrivals and the real exchange rate. Depreciation causes an increase in tourist spending, and there is a bi-directional causation between economic growth and the real exchange rate. Only, economic growth and the real exchange rate do not cause an expansion in tourist arrivals. Tourist arrivals (expenditures) and real exchange rate cause economic growth, while tourist arrivals (expenditures) and economic growth cause real exchange rate. Finally, economic growth and real exchange rate cause tourist expenditures. Policy makers should therefore incorporate the exchange rate in designing policy to woo tourists to increase their spending, although the real exchange rate and tourist arrivals are independent in the short-run.

ABSTRACTS

THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF VIOLENT CRIME IN JAMAICA

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Social and economic factors have an impact on the state of people's lives which in turn influence their behaviour. The key objective of this study is to determine which of these factors contribute to the rate of violent crime in Jamaica so that the Government can utilise more effective methods to curb the occurrence of violent crime. A vector autoregression (VAR) model is employed to ascertain the relationship among socio-economic variables (social expenditure as a percentage of GDP, the clear-up rate, the size of the police force) and the rate of violent crime over a 30-year period. Using innovation accounting, the causality and significance of the variables in relation to the rate of violent crime is attained. Results show that social expenditure as a percentage of GDP explains the variation in the violent crime rate by approximately 1% at the end of a 25-year period; however this impact is shown to be significant when the Granger Causality test is conducted. While social expenditure does not seem to influence the violent crime rate to a great extent, how it affects violent crime should be given consideration.

GOVERNANCE OF ORGANIZATIONS IN CURAÇAO

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The purpose of this article is to present a case study of the governance in a Caribbean Small Island Developing States Curaçao and to explore governance in these types of societies. The article contributes to the development of a framework for understanding governance of Small Island Developing States. This framework is then applied to the case of Curaçao. After analysis, conclusions are drawn and ideas for further research are presented. Findings indicate that in Curaçao there is a specific transition model towards a Pragmatic Corporate Governance Model. The small scale and fragmentation due to colonial historical development of society makes governance difficult.

ABSTRACTS

HYDROCARBON EXPORT BOOM, THE DUTCH DISEASE AND FOOD SECURITY IN A SMALL PETROLEUM RICH

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Deagriculturalization refers to the premature decline of the agricultural sector. In the case of the Trinidad and Tobago economy, the cause of the relative decline in the size and contribution of the agricultural sector can be attributed mainly to the impact of the boom in the hydrocarbon sector. This paper will quantitatively detail out the impact of the 'oil boom' on the non booming tradable and non tradable segments of the T&T agricultural sector, i.e. the export agricultural sector and the domestic agricultural sector respectively. In particular, the paper shows that statistically the increased dominance of the petroleum sector has essentially crowded out the export agriculture sector and hence resulted in its decline. The paper will conclude with some relevant policy directions regarding the reversal of these trends in order to ease the economic strangulation of the agricultural sector as a whole.

BEYOND THE IVORY TOWER: AMARTYA SEN'S DEVELOPMENT THEORIES IN BOB MARLEY'S REGGAE, OR THE OTHER WAY AROUND?

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This article claims that political philosophy ideas can evolve simultaneously in academia (articles and books) and in the arts (music). The case of Amartya Sen and Bob Marley illustrates this. The article describes the political philosophy of Amartya Sen as it relates to freedom and economic development. The article also describes the political philosophy in Bob Marley's songs. The philosophies embodied in the work of these towering figures converge. The paper focuses specifically on positive freedom and the idea of progress. I claim that the early personal stories of these two figures represent a path dependence that explains: (1) their political philosophy expressed in books and articles in the case of Sen, and in songs, in the case of Marley; and (2) why their ideas converge.

ABSTRACTS

THE LABOUR LIBERALISATION WITHIN THE FRAME OF CSME : WHAT ABOUT THE LABOUR SURPLUS IN THE OECS' COUNTRIES ?

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Regional agreements regulating persons's movements such as GATT, CSME and/or the Cariforum-European Union EPA settle the frame for cross-borders skilled worker circulation. One of the aims of a labour common market according the growth theory is to optimize the resources allocation and to improve the labour distribution among the different integrated economies. In that view, the intra regional mobility of labour should lead to equalize the local labour surplus and prevent from the structural unemployment caused by asymmetric shocks. We try to find out whether or not the CSME's mobility clause will affect employment within the Cariforum. That very clause is assimilated as a migration policy as it distinguishes between skilled and non skilled person for labour free circulation. So, we will examine the effect of this clause upon the spatial labour distribution with a particular focus on the OECS' countries. We follow the theoretical frame of Karemara and al. (2000), Clark and al. (2002), Hatton and Williamson (2002).

As they are prone to all range of natural hazards, Small Insular States have to develop preparedness and mitigation strategies within the frame of climate change. But, it seems that for a successful implementation the aforementioned have to seek for resilience first and very seemingly then, to develop new resilience indicators for future prediction. But, in fact, what is resilience? Originally, the term applies to materials shocks' resistance. It then passed to the social sciences for referring to someone's capacity to positively react to a negative psychological shock. That also means that memory has to infer into the willingness or the decision to not experience once more a similar shock in the same extent this one did. In such a case the psychological preparedness helps to prevent from a new negative shock. Applied to Small Insular States one might think that they have to consider the past disasters and their spill over to prevent from the same consequences that might occur in future. Thus, the questions are “how could the Small Insular States develop resilience and which could be the price to pay for and who has to pay?”.

There is no need to recall which disasters the Caribbean Small Insular States are prone to as the literature is rather abundant. But let us envisage the particular case of Haiti. This case is somewhat interesting for several reasons. Not only because it is classified as the poorest country of the hemisphere but also because there is no case' studies related to that specific environmental aspect regarding that country.

The five past decades, the country has experimented hurricanes of an average speed of classified as and causing something like deaths of people as a % of a global population of as an average. Most of them have strike the northern part of the island where are located the most fertile valleys of which are closely depending a farmer population. If we consider the data set related to this period, one may think that up to now, and from an economical viewpoint, the country has not yet recovered from these disasters. As a matter of fact, many roads are still out of access and many cities remain isolated, as houses also remain flooded.

Dans le domaine de **lécologie**, la résilience souligne, la capacité de récupération ou de régénération d'un organisme ou d'une population, mais aussi, l'aptitude d'un écosystème à se remettre plus ou moins rapidement d'une catastrophe (la reconstitution d'une forêt après un incendie, par exemple).

Dans le **monde socio-économique**, les termes « resilient business » et « resilient community » désignent la capacité intrinsèque des entreprises, des organisations et des communautés à retrouver un état d'équilibre, soit leur état initial, soit un nouvel équilibre, leur permettant de fonctionner après un désastre ou en présence d'un stress continu.

ABSTRACTS

Resilience is widely seen as a desirable system property in environmental management. This paper explores the concept of resilience to natural hazards, using weather-related hazards in coastal megacities as an example. The paper draws on the wide literature on megacities, coastal hazards, hazard risk reduction strategies, and resilience within environmental management. Some analysts define resilience as a system attribute, whilst others use it as an umbrella concept for a range of system attributes deemed desirable. These umbrella concepts have not been made operational to support planning or management. It is recommended that resilience only be used in a restricted sense to describe specific system attributes concerning (i) the amount of disturbance a system can absorb and still remain within the same state or domain of attraction and (ii) the degree to which the system is capable of self-organisation. The concept of adaptive capacity, which has emerged in the context of climate change, can then be adopted as the umbrella concept, where resilience will be one factor influencing adaptive capacity. This improvement to conceptual clarity would foster much-needed communication between the natural hazards and the climate change communities and, more importantly, offers greater potential in application, especially when attempting to move away from disaster recovery to hazard prediction, disaster prevention, and preparedness.

REFLECTING ON DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF BARBADOS AND GUYANA

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At independence in 1966, Barbados and Guyana faced similar developmental challenges and capacity to deal with these challenges – small economic size, lack of economic diversity and externally dependant following centuries of colonisation. In spite of these parallels, and moreover, despite Guyana's abundance of natural resources, four decades later, incomes and welfare in Barbados are among the highest in the Caribbean, while Guyana ranks as the second poorest country in the western hemisphere. The study explores the possible antecedents of the divergent development paths and discusses the prospects for economic convergence in the context of regional economic integration. The study finds that differences in development policies and years of social incohesion in Guyana account for the marked divergence in development outcomes between the two countries. The study also finds that further macroeconomic consolidation, institutional strengthening and greater social cohesion could enhance long-run growth in Guyana and in turn, income convergence between the two countries. The research evinces key lessons from the Barbados/Guyana experience that should support the more even development of countries in this region, especially in the context of the Caribbean single market and economy objective.

ABSTRACTS

MINDSET IN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT: CHALLENGES FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN MICROSTATES

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For decades, social development was inextricably linked to economics with GDP as the main indicator of social justice. As poverty increased amidst growth in GDP, development scholars shifted attention to endogenous development through good governance and capacity development. The pillar of good governance would necessitate empowering and strengthening the skill base of civil society and institutions, through transforming social attitudes and mindsets to enable accountability, transparency and self reliance. Endogenous development assumes convergence of mindsets on desired development outputs within an enabling local political and social environment with external partners who have understanding of the historical, social, psychological and economic context conducive for capacity development.

This paper analyses these assumptions in the context of transitioning microstates like St. Kitts and Nevis, in which capacity development for adaptation to self reliance is vital. This paper explores the theory and practical application of "mindset", understood as a set of attitudes, values and beliefs that shape the way people think, behave and act. It explores how mindset challenges the predisposition for readiness or resistance to change, determines the outcomes of social and economic reforms, and impacts social development, government policy and practice.

ABSTRACTS

"WE CANNOT AFFORD TO BE LEFT BEHIND"; THE DISCOURSE, AND IDEAS THAT INFLUENCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF ICT POLICES AND STRATEGIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

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As we observe the many changes brought about by globalization we become aware that national policy making has taken on increasing global dimensions. The access to information across governments, the role of international development agencies in directing development policy, and shaping the development agenda as well as the growth and influence of civil society networks and their influence on policy determination has increased significantly.

The globalization literature demonstrates that no nation in the industrialized or industrializing world can insulate its economy from global economic pressures. As the world economy in particular is transformed by new modes of production and trade, and as transnational corporations and institutions come to exercise more influence and power, so the capacity of national policy-makers to frame their own agendas is diminished.

While factors affecting the determination of national policy has increased the issues faced by governments and policy makers in developing countries have also increased leaving governments with the challenge of solving growing domestic problems with the limited financial and human resources available. What has resulted from this developing conundrum is that policy makers are now searching for a range of options locally and internationally to address development challenges while simultaneously being presented with policy prescriptions and priorities shaped on the local and global development agenda.

This paper examines the adoption of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) policies and strategies in the Caribbean and suggests that attention be paid to the role of discourse and ideas that influencing the perception of the centrality of ICT for development and the way in which ICT policies and strategies are implemented.

ABSTRACTS

WHITHER THE RESOURCE CURSE?

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Since the work of Sachs and Warner (1995), a large literature has developed that focuses on the “resource curse” – the puzzling paradox suggesting that resource-rich countries tend to grow more slowly than resource-poor one. Indeed, much of this literature has concluded that since the 1960s the per capita incomes of resource-poor countries have grown significantly faster than those of the resource-abundant countries.

However, within recent times the main finding of an inverse relationship between economic growth and development, and natural resource abundance has been called into question. One of the grounds of contention for the sceptics of the “resource curse” hypothesis is an absence of or at best inadequate of the role played by social forces, or the external political and economic environments in shaping development outcomes in resource abundant countries (Posser, 2006). This paper seeks to empirically examine the role played by various political and social variables in mediating the relationship between natural resource wealth and development outcomes.

GOING BEYOND MERE SURVIVAL IN ST. LUCIA: 30 YEARS AFTER INDEPENDENCE

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In 2009, St. Lucia celebrated 30 years of independence. This paper examines the social progress that the country has made since political independence. The changing global and regional contexts are discussed to highlight the vulnerabilities that the country continues to face. Using mainly secondary data, the paper discusses issues such as “the banana boom and fall”, access to basic social services, the changing governance climate and the impact of natural disasters on socioeconomic stability. The paper concludes that while some social gains (e.g. in health and education), have been made, economic independence remains elusive; poverty levels are on the rise and social planning remains ad hoc and compartmentalized. The country in its 30th year of independence is at a cross-road as it struggles for viability. The future for the next 20 years will be bleak if there is no concerted effort to put some corrective and proactive measures in place for the social protection of the St. Lucian populace.

ABSTRACTS

E LEARNING: A SURVIVAL STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

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In today's competition-based world economy, a developing country must provide a skilled workforce to attract business, and offer lifelong learning to retain it. Similarly, emigrants must be equipped with in-demand skills, if they are to get good jobs that allow them to send remittances home. Education is no longer an option; it is the prescription for economic survival. This presentation describes an innovative and sustainable eLearning approach for delivering science, mathematics, and professional development training in low-bandwidth regions. The courses blend online delivery with videoconferences, face-to-face labs, online teams, simulations, and web resources to create a supportive learning environment that promotes student success and satisfaction. The eLearning classroom is highly interactive with daily contact with instructors and tutors, team work, and weekly feedback. This presentation describes the program, which is being delivered across the Pacific to Micronesia, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu, Fiji, and Kiribati. Despite the need for eLearning, some institutions are unable to adapt to the changing needs of students and industry. This presentation also addresses cultural and administrative barriers to change.

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN DIASPORA AND ITS POTENTIAL TO IMPACT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION

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The currents of globalization have accelerated and have been accelerated by the movement of people across national, political and geographical boundaries. The Caribbean has one of the largest net migration rates and has evolved from being a net importer of labor to a net exporter. A wide variety of factors including the widening of the income gap amongst different regions in the world as well as an increase in labor shortages has spurred a continued increase in migration rates in the Caribbean region and across the globe. This has led to large Caribbean diasporas in various parts of the world, but with heavy concentrations in the United States, Canada and United Kingdom. This paper assesses the role of the Caribbean diaspora in contributing to the economic development within the Caribbean region. In particular, the paper highlights the importance of leveraging and tapping into diasporic tourism, trade, transport, transfers (social and economic), telecommunications and investments.

ABSTRACTS

AN ECONOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL TOURISM DEMAND IN THE NATURE ISLE, DOMINICA

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In an economy, such as Dominica, in which a substantial proportion of export revenues is due to international tourism, it becomes a strategic imperative for policymakers to both understand the factors affecting tourism demand and be able to project arrivals. Therefore, the main objective of this research paper is to empirically ascertain the determinants of international tourism demand to Dominica. The service markets considered are the US, Canada, the UK and the Caribbean, which together account for 82.8 per cent of total stay-over arrivals to Dominica. The paper utilises regression analysis with time series data for the period: 1980 to 2008 to estimate the quantitative relationship between the number of stay-over visitors to Dominica and some hypothesised determinants, for example income, tourism prices, transportation costs and exchange rates.

REVISITING THE CARIBBEAN TRANSNATIONAL FAMILY THROUGH THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF CHILDREN LEFT BEHIND IN TRINIDAD

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This qualitative study revisits the notion of resiliency as it epitomizes the Caribbean transnational family. In so doing, it interrogates issues of parenting and care-giving through the eyes of children left behind, in-keeping with the socio-cultural context of family life in Trinidad. Specifically, this paper explores the lived experiences of sixteen persons - now young adults - in Trinidad, who were left behind as children due to parental migration. Furthermore, through evaluating the effectiveness of transnational families from the vantage point of persons who were children at the time they were left behind, this paper provides much needed information for guiding policy responses and practice in treating with children under such circumstances.

ABSTRACTS

CHOICES, CONSTRAINTS & SPATIAL OUTCOMES IN PUBLIC HOUSING: A COMPARITIVE STUDY OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO AND JAMAICA

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Housing choices made in the face of economic limitations result in varying spatial representations of exclusion on the urban landscape. The governments of Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago have sought to provide affordable housing for low and lower-middle income earners who are excluded from the open housing market. However, have such public housing initiatives succeeded in: i) housing these segments of society that encounter several challenges in homeownership; and ii) creating a housing landscape which reflects inclusion via the mixing of income groups?

This paper examines the economic characteristics of households of three housing schemes each in Jamaica and Trinidad to identify and understand who has been excluded from public housing. The education and employment status, monthly income and expenditure of household heads were examined, in addition to the households' choice of tenure and dwelling, and ability to maintain their residential status.

For Trinidad, lower-middle and middle-income earners were usually the main beneficiaries of public housing, while low income earners were more frequently excluded. In addition, income mixing was relatively low. In comparison, Jamaica's public housing were more inclusive of low-income earners, in addition to the lower-middle and middle-income groups. Further, there was greater heterogeneity of units in Jamaica's housing developments, which facilitated mixed-income schemes.

ABSTRACTS

FUTURE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AT UWI

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Research and Development at UWI is funded by various stakeholders whose attitudes to date have supported quality of the output results as demonstrated by internationally accepted publications, reports to funding agencies etc.

Stakeholders, particularly governments, are beginning to be concerned about extracting value from their investments in Research and Development, and about targeting their investments such that this value is created commercially or socially. Hence publications are not good enough – something has to be done with this knowledge besides exciting other academics.

The innovation transactions that propel this knowledge today are encouraged, however, they will become required. The research decisions though, must continue to be of high quality, and take into consideration improving the welfare of others. The Research and Development effort will need to move from being activity-based to performance-based funding.

The governance of UWI's Research and Development and Innovative Systems will have to undergo a fundamental change and if UWI does not change, it will abdicate to others its relevance to the society.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS ON THE SMALL PACIFIC ISLAND ECONOMIES

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As the recent financial crisis took hold on the global economy small Pacific Island countries (PICs) remained optimistic but not without apprehension. An uncertain faith prevailed amongst the Pacific Island economists that the PICs would be cushioned from the global crisis due to its isolation from the global financial sector. Nothing could be far from truth. In this age of global trade, information and mobility, every economy in the Pacific Region was drastically affected but to different extents. The phenomena that brought the global crisis right to the door steps of the poor in the Pacific Island countries is examined in this paper. The analysis focuses on the linkages that exist between the global economy and the small Pacific Island economies. A comparative analysis of Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu is done here to explain those economic linkages, which often help in the developmental efforts but at the same time tend to have the reverse effect on the economies when circumstances change. The Pacific Island policymakers need to understand these mechanisms so that corrective policy measures can be taken to mitigate the effects of such global downturn. A particular attention is paid to tourism and primary exports in this paper since these are the mainstay of the small Pacific Island economies.

ABSTRACTS

MONETIZING CARIBBEAN VALUE INNOVATIONS

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Caribbean private and public sectors create knowledge. Often this knowledge is used only in the market where it was produced. To what extent can this knowledge be regionalized or globalized to:the macro-economic benefit of the (small) state where the knowledge was produced, increase the quality of locally available knowledge-based services (as a result of specialization), and therefore to benefit the competitiveness of the organizations using these knowledge-based services, enable the (small) states to participate fully in the global knowledge economy In which type of talent, knowledge and industries can Caribbean islands develop a competitive advantage and why? How do they incentivize private enterprise and individuals to invest their resources in these strategic areas?

The study is based on primary and desk research. The primary research consists of interviews with knowledge service providers and users of such services.

MANAGING ADAPTATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE IN COASTAL COMMUNITIES: CANADA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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The impacts of the changing climate are nowhere more imminent or intense than in the coastal zone. Rising temperatures, thermal expansion of water, and subsidence of the land base are contributing to sea level rise, changing precipitation patterns, more frequent intense weather events, storm surges and flooding, salinisation of fresh water, coastal erosion, increased sedimentation of coastal waters, and pollution from flooded or destroyed infrastructure and storm runoff. Globally, the recent UN Conference on Climate Change in Copenhagen brought global media attention to the fact that not enough is being done to support mechanisms between our scientific knowledge and adaptation policies by mobilizing people, businesses, and institutions to prepare for the negative impacts of rising seas. As part of a larger international project, this paper presents a framework for integrating the multiple dimensions of the problems facing coastal communities toward managing adaptation to the changing environment. Multiple dimensions in the coastal system include the bio-physical, economic, social and institutional arrangements of coastal communities. Criteria are given relative importance by the broad definition of participant groups within coastal communities: (1) governance and local decision makers; (2) private and public infrastructure services; (3) business and economic activity organizations; (4) citizens' groups; and (5) special interest or disadvantaged members (the poor, seniors, minorities). This methodology captures and profiles community data via a geographical information system that identifies sensitive areas to storm surge and sea level rise. The decision model compares among the participants alternative evaluations of community adaptation strategies in the face of simulated extreme weather conditions and provides a ranked group decision evaluation procedure to assist decision makers in their operational and strategic negotiations and evaluations. A selected set of coastal communities in Canada and the Caribbean are examined toward developing local strategic preparedness plans for community adaptation to the changing environment.

ABSTRACTS

EXTERNAL ENTICEMENTS AND INTERNAL INERTIA: CONSTRAINTS TO ENTERPRISE GROWTH IN BARBADIAN MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISES

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Whether motivated by the model of import substitution, industrialisation by invitation or export orientation, Caribbean governments have been providing support to stimulate the manufacturing sector for over 50 years. However, the current contribution of manufacturing to GDP is marginal in the majority of countries; despite the existence of these enticements, both physical and fiscal. The following paper draws on surveys of manufacturing establishments in Barbados conducted between 2002 and 2009. The 2002 survey captured information on 146 establishments across a number of subsectors, while the 2006 survey focussed specifically on the wooden products subsector. The recently completed 2009 survey included information on 165 establishments in all subsectors. The results of the analysis of variables common to each survey suggest that a level of inertia by enterprise owners/managers is constraining the effectiveness of external enticements, and the growth of these establishments. In consideration of Leonidou et al.'s (2007) identification of stimuli for export growth among small firms, and its identification of the high impact contribution of internal factors, the paper suggests a re-conceptualisation of policy-making in light of Shane's (2009:141) question-statement of 'Why encouraging more people to become entrepreneurs is bad public policy'.

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RETHINKING DEVELOPMENT IN SMALL STATES

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The paper this paper questions the growth model of development pursued within the region against the backdrop of continued high levels of unemployment, poverty and inequality. It raises questions as the quality of growth pursued, the limits on growth that size and environmental resources place and its sustainability. It raises these questions against the backdrop of the global recession brought about by the global financial crisis, arguing that it presents opportunities for a rethink of development strategies, particularly for small developing countries.

ABSTRACTS

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM IN SOLOMON ISLANDS: AN ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE REFORM PROCESS

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Solomon Islands, as a small island country, is faced with a lot of problems associated with the lack of development, unemployment, rise in criminality and overburdened health and educational facilities. These problems can be traced to the system of government adopted by the country during independence. The Independence leaders believed that the unitary monarchical system of government was the idle model for the country. From the start there was opposition from various sectors of the community who preferred the federal system of government with its promises of decentralization. Thirty one years had passed since the country attained independence, and the rural areas are getting isolated by the days as the urban centres continue to dominate development. Discouraged, rural dwellers continued to migrate to the urban centres in search of employment, better health and educational facilities and better life. This resulted in the rise of squatter settlements, crime, and unemployment in the urban centres. On the hand, the landowners and resource owners are concerned as the earnings from the resources were not fairly distributed. A larger percentage is kept by the government in the capital city and other urban centres.

The people through their provincial governments rallied for the adoption of a federal system of government. It is believed that the new system would deliver the much needed developments and better life to the majority of Solomon Islanders. Since 2000 the country had engaged in the process of constitutional reform. A first draft of the federal constitution was released in 2004 after intense consultations and surveys. The 2004 draft was then taken back to the people for further consultations. As a result of these consultations and deliberations by a constitutional congress, a second draft was released in August 2009. It is hoped that the people will continue to participate in this process until a final draft is finalized.

DUTCH DISEASE AND DEINDUSTRIALISATION IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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This paper investigates the impact on the manufacturing sector of the Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) economy given its dependency on the petrochemical sector. The paper reviews the major contributions to deindustrialisation theory and proceeds to evaluate the deindustrialisation experience of the economy in the context of the Dutch disease using various measures of deindustrialisation. Preliminary evidence from the data indicates that the T&T economy is progressing along a deindustrialisation path. A vector autoregressive model is then used to identify interrelationships between the oil price, the real exchange rate, government expenditure and net international reserves. The paper concludes by identifying some policy prescriptions for the T&T economy that can be used to speed up the reindustrialisation process in the face of a global economic downturn.

ABSTRACTS

THE THREAT TO INTEGRATION

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This paper hypothesizes that if the process of regional integration continues to advance at its current painfully slow pace, the nations of the region will seek alternative supportive relationships.

Venezuela has already implemented such an option. The Bolivian Alliance of the Americas (ALBA), which it sponsors, has attracted Antigua and Barbuda, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Dominica to membership, though each has declined to participate in the organizations' Single Regional Payment Compensation System. Further, Venezuela has provided significant assistance to most of the rest of CARICOM with its Petro Caribe mechanism that provides petroleum on subsidized terms.

In the not too distant future, it is very likely that Brazil will offer itself as a patron to Guyana. The completion of a highway from the Guyanese-Brazilian border to Georgetown's port will benefit Brazilian commodity producers. As such it could well result in Brazil's offering the kind of assistance to Guyana that only a growing and large country with a financial stake in its neighbor can provide.

Finally, Trinidad and Tobago has offered itself as a patron to the members of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, in the form of an Eastern Caribbean-Trinidad & Tobago Economic Union. This move was widely understood to be an initiative undertaken in response to Venezuela's success. Each of these threatens the integration process. Shridath Ramphal, a committed regionalist, has expressed misgivings concerning ALBA and the Prime Minister of Jamaica has articulated similar sentiments concerning Trinidad and Tobago's initiative. Almost certainly an offering of assistance by Brazil will result in Guyana's looking more to South America than the Caribbean in envisioning its future.

This paper then will explore the extent to which these alternatives represent the death knell for the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) project.

THE JANUS FACE OF DISASTER PREPAREDNESS: PROTECTING DOCUMENTS AGAINST DISASTERS

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The paper highlights some of the more recent examples of the impact of disasters on libraries and other institutions in the Caribbean and the implications in terms of the issues of human safety and costs for recovery.

Disasters such as a hurricane make all of us acutely aware of our vulnerabilities to a disaster. Fortunately, catastrophes of this unpredictable magnitude are rare, but disaster can strike in many ways. Large or small, natural or man-made, catastrophes put an institution's staff and collections in danger. It is unfortunate that organisational staff often learns about the advantages of disaster preparedness through hard experience, but an emergency does not have to become a full-fledged disaster.

As responsible custodians, information managers must create a disaster plan which facilitates efficient reaction and speedy recovery in the event of an emergency. However, all planning is largely ineffective if staff is not aware of it, if it is outdated, or if you cannot find it during a disaster. The way forward is to see disaster preparedness as essential for any institution to provide the best possible protection for its collections.

ABSTRACTS

FROM THE SUB-ARCTIC TO THE CARIBBEAN: DEVELOPING A FRAMEWORK TO ASSESS THE ADAPTIVE CAPACITY OF COMMUNITIES TO RESPOND TO CLIMATE CHANGE

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The impact of global warming and climate change is not just a product of its exposures, but also of the capacity to respond in effective ways to them. Climate change is not just about the ecological changes and their potential consequences, but also about the capacity of social organizations do respond effectively.

Over the past several years, I have undertaken studies in the Canadian north in which I have developed a framework for assessing community 'adaptive capacity'. It focuses on institutional processes within those organizations responsible for both governance and resource management in a community or region. Using a 'New Institutional Analysis' perspective, I examine the way in which these cultures facilitate or hinder community leaders and resource management seeking to develop effective and flexible responses to climate challenges. It also incorporates aspects of both decision-analysis, and the perspectives of the Institutional Human Dimensions Program on Global Environmental Change (IDGEC).

In this presentation, I will both summarize this perspective and discuss the way in which I will be applying it both in coastal Canada and the Caribbean as part of the C-Change research program examining ocean related climate change.

ARE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES DIVERGING OR CONVERGING? EVIDENCE FROM SPATIAL ECONOMETRICS

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After gaining political independence from the European countries and the United States, the Caribbean Basin economies have at the end of the 2000s display considerable differences in income and living standards. In this paper the concepts of convergence are used to examine whether disparities in per capita GDP of selected countries in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) have tended to diminish or not. The results of the beta-convergence.

ABSTRACTS

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AS A SURVIVAL STRATEGY

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Human Resource Development can be a platform for organisational transformation and renewal, and a vehicle for global knowledge transfer. The aim of this article is to examine the role of four key education and training Institutions – The University of the South Pacific (USP), the Fiji Institute of Technology (FIT) and Training and Productivity Authority of Fiji (TPAF) in enhancing human resource development for the Fiji Islands. The central argument of this paper is that these three key institutions play a crucial role in developing and enhancing human resource skills so that Fiji can meet the challenges of restructuring that is currently taking its toll in both the public sector and private sector.

Reforms emerged in western European countries in 1980s and since then have taken their toll across the world. Fiji is no exception as it has gone through structural reforms and economic recession. Reforms in Fiji have been driven by both internal and external factors. The article will also argue that these institutions need further capacity building and development to achieve this goal.

EXTERNAL SHOCKS AND THE VOLATILITY OF TOURISM FLOWS IN THE CARIBBEAN

Travis Mitchell and Tiffany Grosvenor

Tourism in the Caribbean has been one of the key areas of regional development and as with most industries, has been susceptible to external shocks. A study employed by Browne, Edwards and Moore (2009) suggests that shocks to the Caribbean tourist industry tend to only have temporary rather than permanent effects, implying that Caribbean tourism is fairly resilient to negative influences. This paper extends the above discussion to look at the impact of specific shocks on the volatility of tourism flows in the Caribbean. To carry out the analysis we utilize a multivariate garch procedure and monthly data for nine Caribbean countries, which span the period 1977 to 2007.

ABSTRACTS

SHADOWING GLOBAL DEMOCRACY: THE POLITICS OF GENDER IN THE CARIBBEAN

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The promises generated by four world conferences of women between 1975 and 1995 had infused an optimism about the possibilities for global change for all, and in particular for the democratic rights of women to have a say in the affairs of the world. Some governments in the Caribbean have been persuaded by gender advocates and by the agreements built into their acceptance of the Convention on the Elimination of Domestic Violence against Women (1974) to commission national gender policies. In the writing of these policies, a series of gender consultations formed a primary part of the methodology for arriving at shared understandings of what was required by each state to achieve greater gender equality between men and women for a determinate period. The process itself presents a microscopic understanding of how each state, either historically or in the present, continues to negotiate the limits of gender equality and establish the possibilities for gender and democracy within its borders, each claiming cultural, religious and geographic specificity for different configurations of policy. The question of how these micro-negotiations, circumscribed by state driven goals, actually interface with the global project of achieving gender equality and equal democratic rights for all women and men, and for enhancing the gendered voice in global democracy, remains implicit rather than explicit. My experience as one of the main architects in the three national gender policies of Cayman Islands, Dominica and Trinidad and Tobago between 1999 and 2006 coupled with an academic theorizing of gender around a theory of "gender negotiations" has led me after more than three decades of work in this area to the need for rethinking the limits and possibilities of gender politics in the process of achieving global democracy. The paper proposes a concept of *democracy of convenience* in that, we may still be playing shadow games through gender politics rather than confronting issues that the production of democracy at societal and global levels require.

ABSTRACTS

CLIMATE CHANGE AND URBAN POPULATION VULNERABILITY IN SMALL ISLAND STATES: CHALLENGES IN PACIFIC AND CARIBBEAN CITIES.

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The paper explores the linkages between climate change and urbanization, examines the intensities of flooding in Pacific and Caribbean cities, identifies their population vulnerabilities, challenges and commonalities to climate change-induced events and suggests some mitigation and adaptation strategies to flooding in small island cities.

Climate change and cities are intricately linked in a complex two-way process. On the one hand, cities are the net contributors to greenhouse gas emissions, leading to global warming and climate change. On the other, climate change and extreme weather events such as cyclones, high intensity rainfall, storm surges, hurricane, landslides and floods cause population displacement and migration, contributing significantly to urban growth. Cities also cause micro-climatic variability and change. Pacific and Caribbean Island cities are the most vulnerable to climate change. Rapid urbanization in small island countries has aggravated the conditions of vulnerability. The small island cities/towns such as Suva and Nadi (Fiji), Port Moresby (PNG), Honiara (Solomon Islands), South Tarawa (Kiribati), Apia (Samoa), Nassau (Bahamas), Bridgetown (Barbados), Port-au-Prince (Haiti), Kingston (Jamaica), San Juan (Puerto- Rico), or Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago) all witness to frequent flooding. These cities are doubly vulnerable, to both global (macro) climate change & sea level rise and to urban (micro) climatic variability. Rapid urban sprawl, haphazard and unplanned growth, mushrooming growth of squatters, poor drainage and blockage of waterways, lack of urban planning and inadequate flood control measures are some of the aggravating factors. Urban flooding is expected to increase manifold in the future with sea level rise and accelerating urbanization. Population displacement and relocation questions are the growing concern. A significant uncertainty and knowledge gaps however exist over climate change and city linkages and adaptation & mitigation strategies.

THEORIZING CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION AND DEMOCRACY IN DEVELOPMENT: THE CARIBBEAN CASE

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In recent times, the link has been made between democracy and development. One of the assertions is that democratic participation is essential for attaining sustainable development. Civil society, by extension is seen as the vehicle through which participation in the development process can be achieved. In the Caribbean, there have been many attempts towards democratisation of the development process. However, there has been widespread dissatisfaction with the outcome of these processes. This may be because participatory processes in the region are largely premised on the liberal democratic framework with limited consideration for the principles of participatory models advocated by critics. This participation problematique may be resolved by theorizing on the link between civil society participation, democracy and development. The paper outlines participatory initiatives in the Caribbean and argues for a merging of the philosophies of participatory and liberal democratic theories to inform participation in development policy. This merger is aimed at achieving good policy outcomes as well as empowering citizens, both necessary for achieving sustainable development outcomes.

ABSTRACTS

THE CHALLENGES OF RETAINING THE SKILLED WORKFORCE IN THE PACIFIC: THE CASE OF SAMOA AND TONGA

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For many decades Pacific Island economies were referred to as MIRAB (Migration, Remittances, Aid and Bureaucracy) economies. It was believed that these small economies could continue to function with large governments and significant outward migration since external aid and remittances would continue to flow in. The question today is whether these processes could continue to shape the future of these islands in the era of global competition, trade and deteriorating climatic conditions where technology and efficiency are the buzz words for economic success and sustenance. This paper looks at Samoa and Tonga that epitomise such economies in the Pacific and where migration and remittances continue to define their state of livelihood. Existing economic and social data for these two countries and a 2005 survey data on migration are analysed to draw conclusions about their economic future. The paper concludes with reference to domestic mitigation policies of Samoa and Tonga and questions whether host countries such as Australia and New Zealand have something better to offer.

PUBLIC SECTOR REFORMS: THE CASE OF SUCCESSFUL REFORMS OF GOVERNMENT OWNED ENTERPRISES

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Since the early 1970's, 'Thatcherite' and 'Reganomics' doctrines both elevated the role of the market to the central place in resource allocation. Indubitably, reforms have taken many economies by storm. Fiji, a coup ridden yet one of the most developed of Pacific Island economies is no exception. This article, in particular examines the success factors as public entities in Fiji journey into reforms. Based on data obtained through in-depth interviews and various related documentary evidence, this paper investigates how the reform exercises compare between three successful Government Commercial Companies (GCCs) in Fiji. This theme is empirically based, exemplified by GCCs, namely Ports Authority of Fiji, Post Fiji Limited and Unit Trust of Fiji. The usefulness of this study draws from the gaps that exist in prior research, whereby past research on public enterprise reforms have been fewer in comparative accounts. This article has two goals. A complete account of the individual GCCs is discussed, as the first aim. The second aim unveils the success factors akin in the said public enterprises. The paper suggests that Fiji needs to realise the importance of similar success factors if it wishes for successful reforms in all public entities.

ABSTRACTS

THE AGED, A NEW POWER FOR DEVELOPMENT: IMPLYING THE IMPORTANCE OF AN INTERGENERATIONAL FRAMEWORK ADDRESSING THEIR NEEDS IN THE CARIBBEAN

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Today's society is in a position of development that focuses on the future without paying attention to the past. It is the old things that are discarded to make way for the new; it is the old things that prevent new interventions and it is the old that definitely have no means of integration with the future. It is apparent that the old is poised in a forgotten mode almost becoming extinct – retired to be forgotten. Within the context of modernization and globalization there are several theories and concepts that would embrace the need for the participation of the older person who would have had much experience and expertise that would benefit any industry or organization. Identifying with the issues of reeducating and the modern health promotion, the elderly could definitely become a new power within the development of any nation.

THE DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE PENSION SCHEME AND HOUSEHOLD SAVING IN NEW ZEALAND

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The paper employs the cointegrating vector autoregression and autoregressive distributed lag approaches to estimate the long-run equilibrium model and the short-run dynamics of household saving incorporating certainty of retirement income in New Zealand. Of particular concern is the persistent negative saving by households. There seems to be a need to reform the funding mode of the universal tax-funded public pension scheme because of the projected increases in the cost of providing superannuation for an ageing population. The long-run parameters from the two approaches are comparable but the short-run ones show some variation. The long run results indicate that whereas the trend in the household saving rate has been negative, increases in disposable income and gross social wealth boost saving; the introduction of the government-run Super Fund in 2001 has elicited a slight positive response in the saving rate; there is significant propensity to consume out of household net wealth; and inflation and unemployment engender significant precautionary saving. The error correction term takes the expected negative sign in all the models. Cuts to the pension benefits rate would reduce the social security wealth and exacerbate an already abysmal saving rate.

ABSTRACTS

THE CULTURAL DETERMINANTS OF THE ORGANIZATION AND REGULATION OF THE GOVERNANCE SYSTEM OF THE CITY

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The aim of this paper is to show from the statistical analysis, the link between performance of the government structure of the city and the instruments used in its design and control in situations of cultural diversity. The longitudinal study of the structure of government of the Congo, reveals the existence of two types of structures. The first and most common is the government of national unity. It is based on the agreement. The second is the regular government. It is based on the contract. The governance system is more structured and regulated by the Convention that the contract because of the instability of coalitions between parties bound by differing cultural values rather than converging vector of institutional stability and organizational system government of the city. The four sub-systems of government that result are related to the four dominant ideological currents that have run the country without being in line with the established system of government contained in the founding myth of society, except the subsystem technocratic whose performance can be improved by optimizing the size and changing regulation in the contract by the Convention.

EVOLVING A PERFORMANCE BASED SYSTEM FOR THE DELIVERY OF SOCIAL PROTECTION IN ST. KITTS

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This paper assesses efforts at transforming the delivery of social protection services by the Government of St Kitts and Nevis (GSKN) in implementation of the National Adaptation Strategy (NAS) for transitioning from sugar production to a service based economy. Using data from a six-month field study obtained through anthropological approaches and organizational review techniques, this paper analyses the institutions, processes, systems and tools applied by the GSKN in the delivery of services in social protection. The paper interrogates some of the "taken for granted" assumptions often made in intervention logics, and argues for creativity and innovation in project formulation, implementation, and management based on evolving environmental circumstances.

The study revealed a sense of entitlement to social assistance services embedded in the notion of political participation and ownership of government in the island. Within the microstate context, political actors appear to place pressure on the Department of Social Development to provide value for money in service provision. Despite vested interest in the reform, the perceived political risks associated with the governmental response to the 2007–2009 global financial crisis did constrain macro level reform. Similarly, donors equivocate between universalist provision and targeted approaches.

ABSTRACTS

CRUISE TOURISTS RETURNING TO CURACAO FOR A LAND-BASED VACATION: A LOGIT MODEL

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This paper examines some important factors that encourage cruise tourists to return to Curaçao for a land-based vacation. Our results identify 15 important variables: months of the year, interest in visiting the Caribbean, port of call at Curaçao, more time spent ashore, Caribbean visitors, employment status, education level, age, annual household income, cleanliness of Curaçao, safety in Curaçao, and attractions and activities such as; restaurants and bars, overall sightseeing, and diving. The results show that cruise tourists with certain characteristics tend to return to Curaçao for a land-based vacation.

LIFE EXPECTANCY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

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France

We present an OLG model in which life expectancy and environmental quality dynamics are jointly determined. Agents may invest in environmental care, depending on how much they expect to live. In turn, environmental conditions affect life expectancy. As a result, our model produces a positive correlation between longevity and environmental quality, both in the long-run and along the transition path. Eventually, multiple equilibria may also arise: some countries might be caught in a low-life-expectancy / low-environmental-quality trap. This outcome is consistent with stylized facts relating life expectancy and environmental performance measures. We also discuss the welfare and policy implications of the intergenerational externalities generated by individual choices. Finally, we show that our results are robust to the introduction of growth dynamics based on physical or human capital accumulation.

ABSTRACTS

DESIGNING RESILIENT FINANCE SYSTEMS FOR COMPETITIVE ISLAND ECONOMIES: DEVELOPING THE CASE FOR THE CARIBBEAN

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It is common knowledge among economic policy makers and academics that small island economies are particularly vulnerable to external economic events outside of their control. These "shocks" have never been as deep in modern economic history as the current global recession, the depth of its impact is made all the more profound because of the extent the mantra of globalization has been absorbed into the cultural fabric of the economic and fiscal policies of small island states. The impact on the financial system and financial intermediaries within small island states is as yet uneven with some significant impact reported in the press , the unmasking of essentially unique Jamaican and pan Caribbean Ponzi schemes has been one of the positive outcomes.

Based on a review of literature and previous studies, this paper presents a Caribbean study in progress on the design and development of resilient and robust financial systems for competitive island economies. The paper discusses the vulnerabilities and capabilities of island economies in an increasingly volatile economy, and provides a review of the current state of affairs in the Caribbean, thereby highlighting opportunities for sustainable economic growth and island development.

EMBRACING THE POLITICAL CALYPSO AND ENGAGING HEALING

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The calypso, which forms an integral part of the cultural carnival celebration of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, is a syncretic popular art form that has its origin in Africa. The art-form, having been influenced and adapted by the experiences of enslaved Africans in the Diaspora, has been fused in the vortex of plantation society. Today, the music of carnival has evolved considerably, so that the calypso has become one of the cornerstones of our carnival celebration, having been significantly influenced by this Carnivalesque tradition. Recording as it does some of the experience from the extensive ethnographic research that I essentially completed for the purpose of this paper, the principal objective of this presentation is to illuminate key processes that underlie a different, yet complementary approach by calypsonians, as agents of non-governmental political action. In doing so, the presentation recognises the pre-existing **formal** and **informal** modes of dispute resolution. In extending on that duality, it adds a third model that is a **non formal, cultural community conflict management mechanism**, applicable to Trinidad & Tobago's local, temporal context. By adding this new set of intellectual tools, this paper enables recognition of the language of calypso as "**Symbolic Action**" in **resolving conflict in the republic of Trinidad and Tobago**.

The presentation therefore exposes aspects of those Calypsos that offer commentary on the socio-political and/or economic issues in the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago (Trinbago), recognising them as bedded in the popular practice of ritual resistance. It examines the developments in the field of dispute resolution showing how this specific sub-set of Political Calypsonians can legitimately be situated in the field of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). It shows how, through the medium of these Calypsos, the skilful Calypsonian, using verbal creativity, freely comments on aspects of Trinbago's everyday life, exposing scandals of politicians and the rich, while recounting gossip, as they redress the powerful. This presentation argues that Calypsonians, using a localised language that is steeped in colloquialisms, to sing on the prevailing socio-political and economic ills within Trinbago, function as liminal-servants in an **Indigenous, Non-Formal, Community Conflict Transformation Mechanism**.

ABSTRACTS

PERFORMANCE CONTRASTS BETWEEN FAMILY AND NON-FAMILY FIRMS IN BARBADOS

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In some circles the family firm is still regarded as the main agent of economic progress of the economy (Amoore, 1995). However this picture has been questioned by Donckels and Frohlich (1991) who after reviewing studies in several European countries concluded that there is no answer to the question – Are family businesses better performers than non-family businesses? This paper contributes to this debate by comparing the performance of family and non-family companies in Barbados. The paper also investigates whether there are significant differences between family and non-family companies in Barbados as it relates to business goals, management practices and performance as they grow. As Dunn (1999) purports, "in some families it is evident that the business serves the family, as opposed to the family serving the business". The paper discusses implications for future research investigating the characteristics and performance of family and non-family companies in Barbados.

MAKING TECHNOLOGY FIT: DESIGNING AN INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR MONITORING SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMMES IN ST. KITTS

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This paper reports on the development of an Information Management System to monitor and plan social protection programmes for the St. Kitts' Department of Social Work. Best practices for the design of such technologies require special consideration of users' needs; in the case of St. Kitts, this included meeting the constraints of the small island environment. The collaborative process between the software developers and users, wherein users explain what they need and the software is designed accordingly, was complicated by the existence of a disconnect between users' work practices and those supported by the proposed system. The challenge was thus to design a viable and sustainable information management system (IMS) relevant to the users' work, and responsive to local constraints. The project revealed cultural differences between department workers and software developers. It suggested new methodologies for assessing user needs, eliciting their preferences, and building their capacity in electronic recordkeeping. It also highlighted the need to develop communication strategies for both clients and developers of technology. The lessons learnt have implications for improved practice when introducing IMS technologies into work contexts in microstates where they are currently not used.

ABSTRACTS

CONSTITUTIONALISM IN POST-COUP FIJI: A CRITICAL APPRAISAL

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The house of constitutionalism that emerged out of the detritus of colonial rule in Fiji is haunted by the specter of racism. Built on the corpses of Indian indentured laborers and nourished by the humanist ideology of indigenous paramountcy in the service of colonial governmentality, constitutions have become the locus of enunciation for struggles over race, rights and recognition in its postcolonial itinerary. The intransigence of race as the predominant ideology animating constitutionalism is evidenced in the constitutional arrangements negotiated on the cusp of decolonization that crystallized the colonial cartography of racial anxiety under the 1970 Constitution, the coups of 1987 and the subsequent promulgation of the morally repugnant 1990 Constitution institutionalized race as 'fact' of life while the 1997 Constitution was committed to undoing the former's exclusivist tendencies. The 2006 coup and the abrogation of the 1997 Constitution, its architects claim, was executed to erase the ignominy of race from Fiji's public memory inaugurating a de-racialized political ontology as the preface of a new political future through the People's Charter. In the wake of the demise of the 1997 Constitution, a number of questions have surfaced about the disjuncture between the purported claims of constitutionalism as the guarantor of rights and those on the margins of society. Through a genealogy of constitutional developments, this paper charts the precarious life of race and its intersection with gender, geography and class in postcolonial Fiji.

IS THE TOURISM LED GROWTH THESIS VALID? THE CASE OF THE BAHAMAS, BARBADOS AND JAMAICA

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This paper seeks to investigate whether there is a causal relationship between tourism growth and economic growth in case of The Bahamas, Barbados and Jamaica. Several empirical studies have advanced evidence to support the idea that tourism growth promotes economic growth in a number of countries. Using the co-integration test and a vector auto-regression model, this paper was able to establish that no equilibrium exists between tourism receipts and Gross Domestic Product. The Granger Causality test, however does confirm the existence of a short term relationship.

ABSTRACTS

A FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CORPORATE GOVERNANCE INDEX FOR TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

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This paper outlines the construction of a corporate governance index for use in Trinidad & Tobago among firms listed on the local stock exchange. The index is constructed in an effort to assist investors and firms to determine the corporate governance status of firms. It will use public information only to gain an unbiased view of the firm's governance climate. The index is also divided into sub indices which cover the following areas: Board Responsibility, Board Structure, Shareholder Rights, Transparency & Disclosure, Audit Committee. Provisions are also made for conglomerates.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEMOCRACY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: AN ELUSIVE DREAM FOR TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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Small island states are increasingly articulating their adherence to the philosophy of sustainable development. Sustainable development represents a new developmental paradigm that includes environmental protection. Pivotal to the attainment of sound environmental and sustainable developmental objectives at the domestic level is the need to propagate a strong sense of environmental democracy. As small island states attempt to integrate environmental protection mechanisms in the economic developmental decision making process, there must be the vesting of the right in the public to have its views heard and considered. An analysis of the attempt of Trinidad and Tobago to enshrine principles of public participation and public consultation in economic developmental decisions having environmental consequences reveals the presence of the many challenges being endured by the public in seeking to participate in the decision-making process. The emerging story is what while the state and its many organs publicly embrace environmental democracy, policies and actions reveal a somewhat pusillanimous approach.

ABSTRACTS

TRADE POLICY BARRIERS VERSUS INSTITUTIONAL TRADE BARRIERS: AN APPLICATION USING “GOOD OLD” OLS

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Trade policy barriers are only one element of the overall trade costs. Due to the decrease in the influence of tariff barriers on trade, institutional barriers may be increasing in relative importance.

In this line, this paper compares and quantifies the impact that a number of institutional and policy trade barriers have on bilateral trade flows. Results indicate that institutional trade barriers have a greater impact on trade flows than tariff barriers. According to these findings, trade policy negotiation efforts should focus on facilitating trade processes and should be at the forefront of multilateral negotiations.

ENERGY SECURITY, SUSTAINABILITY AND SURVIVABILITY: CARIBBEAN INITIATIVES OR LACK THEREOF

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This paper underscores the need for a more robust renewable energy drive in the Caribbean. It explores the international and regional contexts and evaluates the impact on the security, sustainability and survivability of the region. Moreover, it assesses the recent regional and international initiatives undertaken by organizations such as the Caribbean Information Portal on Renewable Energy (CIPORE), the Caribbean Energy Information System (CEIS) and the Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Program (CREDP), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the United States Department of Energy (DOE). Finally, it examines Venezuela's PetroCaribe drive underscoring the challenges and benefits of its dual traditional hydrocarbon and renewable thrusts for the Caribbean. It concludes by analyzing the implications of renewable energy initiatives or lack thereof for the Caribbean and evaluating the impact on the security, sustainability and survivability of the region.

ABSTRACTS

AGEING IN THE CARIBBEAN: EXPLORING SOME MAJOR CONCERN FOR FAMILY AND SOCIETY

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The issues of the increased life expectancy in the Caribbean over the past fifty years and the implications of this longevity for persons 60 years and over, their families and the society are examined. The paper draws upon data from several countries of the region and most particularly from recent research in Trinidad and Tobago. It provides information on issues such as the state of health of older persons and notes the importance of chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and hypertension. The response of the health care services to the chronic health needs of these older persons is explored. Some aspects of the relationship between older persons and their offspring are examined and recognition is given to the economic role of offspring. The paper argues that older persons are an especially vulnerable economic group and makes mention of some of the financial provisions that are available to such persons. Questions are asked about the readiness of the region for this increased population of older persons and recommendations are made for a closer collaboration between governmental agencies and non-governmental agencies, to ensure that the needs of persons sixty years and older are determined and met.

LATIN AMERICAN EXPORTS: HAS BRAZIL DISPLACED THEM?

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This study makes use the gravity model in order to determine whether Brazil's exports growth has negatively affected the volumes exported by other countries in the region.

Estimations were made to define: a) whether the displacement effect has been uniform over the whole period; b) whether it has been the same one for all exporting countries; c) whether it can be verified that the importer is a country belonging to the LAIA and d) whether part of the effect has been compensated by redirecting exports to Brazil by the other ten Latin American countries.

The main conclusions for the 1989-2006 period is that there is no evidence of the displacement effect on the part of Brazil. However, such effect appears as relevant as from the year 2000 if two sub-periods are taken into consideration. Besides, if the Latin American countries are split into two clusters, it may be seen that there was only one displacement effect on the exports of the so-called cluster of monoexporting countries. Finally, limiting the importing countries to members of the LAIA, the results show that for the whole period, there was a displacement effect as the consequence of Brazil's exports rise. If the analysis is limited to manufactured goods, the displacement effect is higher.

ABSTRACTS

PUBLIC SECTOR REFORMS: THE CASE OF SUCCESSFUL REFORMS OF GOVERNMENT OWNED ENTERPRISES

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Since the early 1970's, 'Thatcherite' and 'Reganomics' doctrines both elevated the role of the market to the central place in resource allocation. Indubitably, reforms have taken many economies by storm. Fiji, a coup ridden yet one of the most developed of Pacific Island economies is no exception. This article, in particular examines the success factors as public entities in Fiji journey into reforms. Based on data obtained through in-depth interviews and various related documentary evidence, this paper investigates how the reform exercises compare between three successful Government Commercial Companies (GCCs) in Fiji. This theme is empirically based, exemplified by GCCs, namely Ports Authority of Fiji, Post Fiji Limited and Unit Trust of Fiji. The usefulness of this study draws from the gaps that exist in prior research, whereby past research on public enterprise reforms have been fewer in comparative accounts. This article has two goals. A complete account of the individual GCCs is discussed, as the first aim. The second aim unveils the success factors akin in the said public enterprises. The paper suggests that Fiji needs to realise the importance of similar success factors if it wishes for successful reforms in all public entities.

SOCIAL POLICY AND RESILIENCE. EUROPEAN AID AND DOMESTIC POLICIES IN GRENADA

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Social policy is a vital instrument in buttressing the resilience of a small nation such as Grenada. This is clear in the EU's post Ivan response to the crisis, which focuses on the human settlement programme, designed to re-house people living in a hazardous environment. It is even clearer in pro-active domestic social policies, initiated before 1983, but maintained to this day. This paper looks at the inclusion of Trade Unions, through the instauration of the Agency Fee, and the reinforcing of collective bargaining. It also examines the National Insurance Scheme, which contributes to reducing the uncertainties of life for the working population . The issue of health care, and Trade Union approaches of public services is also studied. If poverty policies combating exclusion are necessary, stabilizing the lives of the working population is also vital in reducing the stress of risk and reinforcing citizenship.

The paper is based on interviews of Trade Union and NIS officials in Grenada, as well as a review of domestic and EU literature.

ABSTRACTS

THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE CURRENT GLOBAL FINANCIAL\ECONOMIC CRISIS ON INTEGRATION “THE CARIBBEAN EXPERIENCE”

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The current financial crisis has brought with it a number of challenges for global economies. The impact of the crisis on the survival of regional blocs has attracted much attention in international circles. More so, the interdependence and interconnectedness of global and regional economies have increased their vulnerability and exposure to the contagion effects of the present crisis. Caribbean countries are no different in this respect. The challenges coming out of the crisis have exacerbated the already difficult economic conditions within the region. Reduced exports, foreign reserves, government revenues, remittances and employment are some of the challenges facing regional economies.

In light of the crisis and its associated challenges, the Caribbean is now at a critical decision point with respect to its drive for deeper regional cooperation. The crisis threatens the core of the region's integration initiative and also provides opportunities to strengthen regional ties. This paper, therefore, examines whether the strategic responses of individual CARICOM member states facilitates or hinders deeper integration within the region. The paper posits that the sustainability of the region's integration initiative lies in the adoption of a pragmatic and coordinated regional response to the crisis.

THE PILLAR OF ZAKAT: A LESSON FROM THE JAMAAT AL MUSLIMEEN AND MADRESSA

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Vulnerable populations, social exclusion, poverty and inequality.

At least since colonialism and the trans-Atlantic slave trade, men and women of African descent have been dehumanized, demonized, and criminalized. This racial stigmatization engineered by an imperial legacy of trade and traffic in human capital pervades contemporary Trinidadian society perpetuating the marginalization and social exclusion of racialised populations. The Muslimeen, members of the Jamaat al Muslimeen, men primarily of African descent, are marked as militant and threatening to state and national security. After the 1990 attempted Muslimeen coup in Trinidad and the bombings between July and October, 2005 which were also allegedly perpetrated by the Muslimeen, national distrust of this Muslim body ballooned.

Yet, from this jamaat, and others like it locally and globally, we can unearth patterns of economic sustainability. Although by no means exclusive to the Muslimeen, in an effort to help mitigate the hostility and apprehension the nation harbours for black Muslims, in an attempt to humanize them, in a mission to redraw boundaries between with borders around, I will focus one of the five pillars of Islam, *zakat*, as a means of community sustainability. *Zakat* intends to eradicate among Muslims gross economic inequalities, poverty, social exclusion, dehumanization.

ABSTRACTS

THE APPROPRIATENESS OF INTERMEDIATE MONETARY TARGETS ADOPTED BY CARIBBEAN ECONOMIES

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The question of the monetary policy strategy that Caribbean economies should adopt has recently gained prominence. Perspective on this issue stems mainly from the move towards the formation of a single market and economy and the performance of inflation under the current regimes. This paper reviews the intermediate monetary targets currently adopted by Caribbean economies, and assesses their applicability to regional integration. The study focuses on Jamaica, Guyana and Trinidad & Tobago, the three fully liberalized Caribbean economies, and concludes that the common intermediate target adopted by these economies is inappropriate and complicates monetary policy operations. An explicit inflation target is proposed as an alternative regime for these economies.

BUN OR FIRE BUN? WILY WOMEN, SURVIVAL SLACKNESS AND A POSSIBLE WILY SURVIVAL STRATEGY FOR READING

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Commentators on Jamaican dancehall music often bemoan the dearth of ‘conscious’ or ‘fire bun’ lyrics, in contrast to lewd immorality. ‘Bun’ can mean something entirely different, however. In dancehall diva Macka Diamond’s song “Bun Him”, the woman as victim of her partner’s infidelity is advised to do likewise – to ‘bun’ him. Such productions foreground the image of the ‘cunny Jamaica oman’ whose cunning has been touted as a survival response to oppression and victimization in a traditionally male-privileged society.

Inevitably, there are echoes, reverberations and other sound connections between dancehall music and other branches of popular culture. My particular interest is in popular Jamaican fiction. The figure of the cunning female protagonist who transcends victimhood appears in a number of recent popular Jamaican novels. Yet Macka’s novel *Bun Him!!!* plays a different version: Sandra is no victim. Against a background of raging societal amorality/immorality, in an environment of female ascendancy and male marginalization, *Bun Him!!!* reflects burning contemporary societal issues of gender relations and sexual politics, and disturbing trends of materialism, crumbling values and questionable attitudes.

Unsurprisingly, the book *Bun Him!!!* is a bestseller. Surprisingly, the book, seemingly fitting very comfortably into the category of ‘trash’ and often verging on pure, unadulterated pornography, in the end perversely emerges as a ‘fire bun’ moral tract. In a country with disturbingly low levels of functional literacy, the success of *Bun Him!!!* may, again perversely, signal new hope for the development of a tradition of reading and use of popular fiction as an educational tool.

ABSTRACTS

CHILD MALTREATMENT IN BARBADOS AND THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN: AN UNDER-RESEARCHED PROBLEM

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Child maltreatment (child abuse and neglect), is not a new problem but the toll that it takes on children their families and societies in general remains a cause for concern. Internationally, the problem has been receiving much attention from policy makers, researchers, educators, interest groups and the general public because of its negative impact on the well-being of children, their families and society in general. There is now a wide body of international research available on the problem, and these research findings have been invaluable in informing service delivery, legislative reforms and various other measures which are employed in stemming the tide of the problem and helping those impacted. However, there is a dearth of research on child maltreatment in the Caribbean, particularly the Eastern Caribbean. This presentation will give insights from existing research on child abuse and neglect in Barbados and other Eastern Caribbean States. A case will be made for research that will investigate the cultural nuances of the problem, provide theoretical insights on the etiology of the problem in the Caribbean, and supply data that can inform new policy and practice initiatives.

THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA IN VICTIMOLOGY IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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In Trinidad and Tobago, the media operates under the Constitution and in accordance with legislation. The public can lodge complaints against the media with the Media Complaints Council and a draft Broadcast Code is being considered to guide media output. However, the role of the media in victimology, that is, the exposure of victims, needs to be scrutinised because it is sometimes opposed to the interests of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) in ensuring the safety of citizens.

The paper examines the frequency with which details of victims are published in crime reports in the daily newspapers from October 22, 2009 to November 07, 2009. The subsequent analysis will be discussed in light of the standards set by the current legislation, the Council and the draft Code as well as the United Nations Handbook on Justice for Victims.

Recommendations are made for the training of journalists and the revision of the legislation and regulations governing the media in order to resolve the conflict between freedom of the press and victims' rights.

ABSTRACTS

ENHANCING GENDER VISIBILITY IN DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT: JAMAICA COUNTRY ASSESSMENT

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This country assessment on gender visibility in Disaster Management in Jamaica is done against the background of the Hyogo Framework for Action from the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2005 and the CDERA Action Plan and is a part of a larger project on gender, climate change and disaster risk management in the Caribbean, commissioned by the UNDP/CRMI.

The impact of climate change is evident as disasters have been occurring more frequently in Jamaica in recent years. Among the most vulnerable are men and women living in rural areas, coastal zones, and low-lying areas. In Jamaica, women comprise just over half the population but represent 70% of persons living below the poverty line. This indicates that poverty is a gender issue. With higher levels of poverty, poor women are more vulnerable to the impact of natural hazards. They are also likely to bear the heaviest burdens when there are disasters from these natural hazards. At the same time, women are more often overlooked and are not visible in Disaster Management.

Consistent with the objectives of the CRMI project, this report uses data from the last three most devastating hurricanes in the Caribbean which had a severe impact on Jamaica: Gilbert (1988), Ivan (2004) and Dean (2007). Consultations with three agencies involved in disaster risk management was done to assess the extent to which they are sensitive to gender as a cross cutting issue in their work. The report provides a socio-economic context for understanding issues of vulnerability related to gender inequality and the environment in Jamaica and presents the findings of consultations with each of the three agencies.

The results of this assessment show that while men and women both suffer when there is a disaster, the impact is greater on women, because of their socially prescribed roles and responsibilities and their unequal social and economic positions in the society. The impact of disasters on both men and women are influenced by factors such as age, race, ethnicity, ability, as well as urban and rural residence.

ICT IN TEACHER EDUCATION: THE USP EXPERIENCE

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Consistent with the world-wide trend, the Pacific island countries (PICs) are also attempting to introduce, develop and maintain information communication technologies (ICT) in their teacher education programs. This is done in the light of the potential that ICT has in the life-long learning process of an individual. However, owing to the scattered nature of these island nations, financial constraints and underdeveloped infrastructure, communication has always been difficult in PICs. ICT, nevertheless, has the capacity to cope with these factors, enabling students and teachers to study from where they are and at their own pace collaborating and cooperating with their counterparts and other members of the stakeholder families.

As a key player in ICT in PICs, the University of the South Pacific (USP), which is managed by twelve Pacific island countries, owns its own satellite network, provides Internet, phone and data links, video and audio conferencing and video broadcast services to students and teachers in these countries. Through its print mode of delivery, it tries to serve the 'distance' students in small island nations and the remote areas handicapped by poor infrastructure. Despite the ICT capacity at USP, providing quality distance education still remains one of the challenges. Furthermore, equal opportunity and accessibility to the benefits of ICT to students and teachers in these countries owing to their spatial nature are still a major concern.

At USP, ICT-driven pedagogy can be identified in three different teaching and learning styles: the traditional one where students and teachers are present in a classical classroom; distance teaching using a variety of multi-media as well as face-to-face tutorials; and virtual.

ABSTRACTS

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM, GOVERNANCE, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

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The process of constitutional reform is a difficult one. It has many aspects and in brief it must deal smartly with matters of governance, democracy and development. The constitutional reforms undertaken by Fiji in approximately 40 years of its post-independence were not entirely unsatisfactory. When examined critically it did no more than simply raise the political rating of the leaders. The constitution of 1990 was drawn to replace the then abrogated constitution of 1970. It appears mature deliberation was substantially lacking in its writing and discussion. It failed to fully address the governance, democracy and development issues for all people entitled to be constitutionally protected. The 1997 effort replaced the 1990 constitution. Although better thought and reasonably discussed it was marketed by Rabuka and Reddy to win back the pride of people. This it miserably failed to do. Both leaders lost the 1999 elections vide a landslide defeat. The drastic changes to the governance style, democracy and developmental approach could not put the two major races together. Subsequent political upheavals show that the reforms did not address the true conflicts of the nation. Both governance and democracy lost badly and so did the anticipated development of that era.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AS A DEVELOPMENT ISLAND STATE

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The T&T state claims that 'we're next' in terms of achieving the status of a developed economy. The second decade of the 21st century is crucial for the development of T&T: what results/potential by 2020? Its ambition is more problematic after than before the current global slow-down but its inheritance of energy-based industrialisation continues to serve it well: but what diversification in the second decade of the new century in terms of sectors & markets? What policies in terms of diasporas? SWFs? EITI? The case of T&T holds relevance in terms of overlapping, interdisciplinary discourses like development/developmental state/SIDS (vulnerable and/or resilient?)/climate change/new & old regionalisms etc. It resonates with local/regional/global debates.

PENSION PLAN ADMINISTRATION AND THE FREE MOVEMENT OF CAPITAL WITHIN CARICOM- ARE WE ANY CLOSER TO ACHIEVING FINANCIAL INTEGRATION?

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This paper explored the laws governing pension plan administration and the investment of pension plan assets in Trinidad & Tobago, Jamaica and Barbados. It sought to determine whether the laws in these countries are compliant with the CARICOM Single Market and Economy ("CSME") obligations relating to the free movement of capital. The paper also examined the current approaches to the supervision of pension plans in Trinidad & Tobago, Jamaica and Barbados, in light of the two common approaches for pension plan supervision, namely the "prudent person approach" and the "use of quantitative restrictions", with a view to determining which approach was utilized in these countries. The merits and demerits of each approach were also discussed. An examination of the laws concerning pension plan supervision was undertaken since there are hundreds of pension plans in these three jurisdictions, with assets totaling hundreds of millions of US dollars, so achieving freer movement of capital with respect to pension plan investment would be a major step towards achieving financial integration amongst CARICOM Countries and improvements in regulatory oversight would also benefit the Region as a whole.

ABSTRACTS

FACTORS DETERMINING HEALTH CARE PROVISION IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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Given the comprehensive set of information on health care provider, health insurance, level of satisfaction of care provider, travel time to health facility and cost of care, we will adopt discrete choice models such as multinomial logit/probit models to estimate the determinants of choice of provider in T&T. In addition, we propose to identify the factors affecting the amount of days an individual reports ill and was unable to carry out his or her functions and use count models for this part of the analysis. Preliminary results indicate that characteristics such as age, income, education level and regional location influence the choice of health care provider. Findings on factors influencing the amount of sick days taken include, age, income and ethnicity.

DEMOGRAPHIC AGEING IN THE CARIBBEAN SUB-REGION: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ELDERLY IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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On a global scale, the Caribbean has exhibited an ageing process that is gaining momentum faster than that of all other regions except Europe. With reference to Trinidad and Tobago, this paper seeks to trace the dynamic character of the demographic ageing process between 1950 and 2000 and project plausible population dynamics in the context of population ageing in Trinidad and Tobago up to 2025. Such efforts should provide novel insights directed toward improving the lot of future generations of elderly persons.

The study embraces secondary data analysis and hinges upon data from a number of sources including the World Population Prospects (Most Recent Version), Population Abstracts (Trinidad and Tobago – Central Statistical Office) and the National Population and Housing Censuses of 1990 and 2000. For the purpose of this study, the population projections have been based upon the Cohort Component Method and despite the generation of several different scenarios, hinges primarily on the medium scenario as the most plausible option.

Substantive implications are addressed in the context of prospective living arrangements, health outcomes, functional skills training, the use of leisure time, income-earning activities, and personal safety, all of which are likely to be transformed due to population ageing.

ABSTRACTS

PATTERNS OF CRIMINAL HOMICIDE IN CONTEMPORARY TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: A GENDERED INTERPRETATION

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Criminal homicide has emerged as a major problem in Trinidad and Tobago with the onset of the new millennium. Despite several attempts to explain the upsurge in criminal homicide, there has been little or no reliance on explanations rooted in a systematic analysis of the statistical data. The paper seeks to explore systematic linkages reflecting variations in patterns of criminal homicide across the sexes. In particular, it examines the statistical evidence in order to discern gendered nuances that underlie the homicide episodes.

Data are obtained from the Police Service of Trinidad and Tobago and have facilitated the establishment of a SPSS data file containing criminal homicide cases that have occurred between 2000 and 2009 in Trinidad and Tobago. Multivariate statistical techniques have been used to generate findings based upon such data.

Preliminary findings indicate that victimization through gang-related killings, drug related killings and to some extent altercations are almost entirely male phenomena, men being the victims and presumed to be the perpetrators. However, both men and women have been the targets of robbery while victimization through domestic upheavals is principally a female phenomenon as females are observed to be much more likely than males to victims due to domestic upheavals than to any other cause.

The paper is premised on a definite gender connection that is consistent with the data used in the study and concludes that the solution to the upsurge in criminal homicide is much more likely to be intergenerational rather than intra-generational.

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN CATASTROPHE RISK INSURANCE FACILITY (CCRIF)

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Among the challenges facing the governments of small island states in the aftermath of natural disasters is the need for immediate access to cash to implement urgent recovery efforts and maintain essential government services. This challenge is particularly acute for Caribbean countries whose economic resilience is limited by the combination of mounting vulnerability and high levels of indebtedness. In response to the liquidity gaps in the face of hurricane strikes in the region 16 members of CARICOM in conjunction with the World Bank set up the Caribbean Risk Catastrophe Insurance Fund (CCRIF), arguably the world's first multi-country joint reserve mechanism for governments and is arguably unique as an insurance operation in that it offers parametric insurance policies to its participants rather than the traditional indemnity policy. While the CCRIF must be applauded for its innovative nature in dealing with liquidity gap due to hurricane destruction faced by countries in the Caribbean, it needs yet to be assessed in terms of its current and potential effectiveness. This is the aim of the current paper. As such it will first review the workings of the insurance scheme. It will then use the current policy parameters chosen by members to assess how the CCRIF would have succeeded in alleviating the liquidity gap faced by countries in the past. To do so we will implement CCRIF's underlying windfield model to assess potential damages due to hurricanes, as derived from historical track data. Using data on government expenditure and revenues we will then estimate the liquidity gap faced by countries as a consequence of the events. This will then be compared to the actual payments that would have been made under a similar scheme if it had been implemented in the past.

ABSTRACTS

TOWARDS MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE THREATS TO SMALL ISLAND STATES COASTAL COMMUNITIES: GEOMATICS CONTRIBUTIONS IN A HOLISTIC GOVERNANCE APPROACH

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Coastal regions are of much importance to human socio-economic activities. As a result much of the world's population live along, or within 150 km of, coasts. Increases in average global ambient temperatures, thermal expansion of ocean waters, and increased melting of sea ice are just some of the possible deleterious impacts of climate change that, in various combinations, can contribute to sea level rise, threatening coastal communities, especially in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), seriously affecting their social, economic, cultural, and ecological foundations.

A community's ability to mitigate or adapt to the threat of sea level rise, depends on their vulnerability to change, resilience, and adaptive capacity as well as on access to relevant information that is the basis for the development of appropriate mitigation and adaptation strategies. The lack of collaborative, integrative, or cooperative governance models often mean that the information needed resides in sectoral or departmental databases without any easy sharing mechanism to facilitate informed and holistic decision making.

Spatial information is one important type of information, held by many government agencies, that plays vital roles in facilitating the development of mitigation and adaptation strategies to deal with climate change. Geomatics provide technologies that can allow for sharing spatial and thematic information in a manner that facilitates cooperative, collaborative, or integrative governance, which in turn can be more efficient in aiding coastal communities to mitigate or adapt to climate change threats such as sea level rise. This paper will explore these technologies within the framework of a holistic governance approach.

THE EECS BANKING SYSTEM: A RISK STUDY DURING THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS.

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We consider operational risk and market integration in the Eastern Europe banking system. The analysis will provide an interesting framework in relation to the effects of the global financial crisis in some European emerging banks. We decided to implement an econometric model which will take into account the level of integration of these banks in relation to most developed institutions, which are represented by the Dow Jones STOXX 600 index, and how this could be impacting the level of operational risk in the region. Therefore, we use the Dow Jones STOXX® Eastern Europe 300 to identify the banks to be included in this analysis. The main goal of this study is to provide new evidence that link market development and the level of risk associated with this region. As a consequence, we decided to consider the importance of market integration and causal effects into our discussion. In addition, we also look at entity size, country effect, and the importance of intangible assets, as these variables are considered of great relevance when analysing operating risk. So far, our results have provided clear evidence of high levels of correlation in the region; however, no integration with the major indices was detected, what reflects the lack of development of the banking system in the EECs.

ABSTRACTS

THE “MÉNAGE-À-TROIS” OF BIODIVERSITY, HUMAN WELFARE AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: CAN VALUATION TECHNIQUES REVEAL THE TRUE NATURE OF THIS RELATIONSHIP?

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The Millennium Development Goals explicitly recognise “sustainable development” as a target. A step towards this is a greater understanding of the significant role of biodiversity in rural communities of developing countries who depend most on the ecosystem goods and services and who as a result may suffer most from its continued degradation. Understanding the input of biodiversity in developing countries to the provision of the ecosystem goods and services (EGS) that are essential to their human well-being is seen as a significant first step in sustainable development, and environmental valuation is a necessary tool for achieving this objective. However, valuing biodiversity in a developing country context can be an intricate affair. While economic valuation literature yields a range of tried and tested methodological techniques for measuring biodiversity, the question remains as to whether these generalised techniques are capable of revealing the complexities of local environmental use in developing countries. A heterogeneous group, “developing countries” can be characterised by a range of factors existing in different intensities that can (1) impact the ways in which local communities interact with their environmental resources (2) impact the efficacy of the methodological and data collection process (3) impact the values obtained from the application of valuation techniques and (4) impact the implementation, success and sustainability of policy and management prescriptions. This paper attempts to address these issues by discussing the main characteristics of developing countries that can impact the biodiversity valuation process and, with specific reference to Small Island Developing States (SIDS), discussing how knowledge of these characteristics can assist the valuation process to better reveal the complex interaction between biodiversity and human welfare in a developing country context.

ABSTRACTS

THE ROLE OF TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN CORRECTING REGIONAL DISPARITIES THROUGH BUSINESS CLUSTERING: CASE STUDY OF A JAMAICAN HIGHWAY PROJECT

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Disparity in the geographic location of industrial activity is a major problem in Jamaica with 67 percent of companies located in two of the smallest parishes in the island. Rural poverty and increasing income inequality also present significant challenges for the country. The Government of Jamaica in an attempt to address these and other socioeconomic issues embarked on the construction of a major transnational highway with the hope that the highway would stimulate business clustering along its corridors. The policy intent is that changes in the spatial location of economic activities will facilitate socioeconomic convergence between urban and peripheral areas. However, the likelihood of such events occurring is low. A micro-level assessment of survey data from local firms using statistical analyses and logistic regression estimation techniques revealed that increased access to transportation networks and reduced transportation costs for internal trade, are not significant considerations in businesses' locational decisions. This is particularly so in a small island state with a well-developed road network. Policy initiatives to reduce regional disparities and income inequalities through increased road networks may therefore be ineffective, as such road networks are unlikely to stimulate industrial activities adjacent to a highway's corridors. More generally, the results indicate that Jamaican businesses' decisions as to where to locate their operations are not significantly driven by factors typically highlighted in the literature. Instead, the perception of the areas as being favourable for operating a business is critical. This has important policy implications which are discussed in the paper.

FACTORS IMPACTING ON WHETHER AND HOW BUSINESSES RESPOND TO EARLY WARNING SIGNS OF FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC TURMOIL: JAMAICAN FIRMS IN THE GLOBAL CRISIS

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Much of the debate surrounding the recent global crisis is narrowly focused on respective governments' policy responses to the financial and economic downturn. Much less attention has been placed on the manner in which private sector businesses, the engine of growth in most economies, responded to the crisis. Depending on the extent of the impact, successful businesses are typically able to weather the storms of financial and economic hardship by quickly adapting to changing conditions. The most dynamic firms identify and capitalize on opportunities arising in crisis. By contrast, some firms are largely unresponsive to the early warning signs of crisis, while others feel compelled to take drastic action with often adverse socio-economic outcomes.

This study analyses the results of a survey of 284 Jamaican businesses conducted in the first quarter of 2009, at a time when awareness of the global economic crisis was high, but the full impact on the country had not yet been felt. It identifies the responses to the crisis that were viewed as most likely at that stage, and uses logistic regression techniques to analyse the factors most likely to precipitate different types of responses. Basic business characteristics, and managers' experiences with and expectations of changing conditions in the finance, output and input markets were investigated as explanatory variables, along with perceptions of the government's crisis-stimulus package. The results presented are important, as the early response of businesses to economic and financial crisis often determines the extent of the ultimate outcome on the livelihoods of individuals in a country. The rigorous identification of factors which impact on the likelihood and nature of such responses is thus instructive.

ABSTRACTS

EVALUATION OF THE BASHY BUS HIV PREVENTION CLINIC IN JAMAICA

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The Bashy Bus is a mobile clinic that provides HIV/AIDS/STI information, skill-based counseling and services to vulnerable adolescents in Jamaica. Since 2006, this mobile clinic has been operating under the supervision of Children First Agency, in collaboration with the National HIV/AIDS Programme and UNICEF Jamaica, in four selected communities in Jamaica; selected on the basis of high HIV/STI prevalence levels. Three other communities, characterized by a high proportion of adolescents showing signs of being sexually active, were also selected to constitute a control group. Both the experimental and the control communities were surveyed in 2006 and 2008, using the same survey instrument.

The main objective of this study was to assess the extent to which the Bashy Bus had been effective in impacting on the knowledge, attitude and behavior of adolescents within the experimental communities in comparison with control communities. As the results of the study indicate, the knowledge, attitudes and behavior of adolescents surveyed in 2008 showed a great deal of improvement from those surveyed in 2006. What all this implies is that, within the two years of the Bashy Bus program, adolescents not only have become more aware of HIV prevention and how to avoid unplanned pregnancy, but also where to seek professional services for different sexual and reproductive health situations.

FISCAL STIMULUS: A NEOCLASSICAL PERSPECTIVE

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Germany

Can a large-scale deficit spending program speed up recovery after recession?

To answer that question we calibrate a standard neoclassical growth model with US data and assume that an exogenous shock has driven aggregate output far below steady-state level. We calibrate the model such that a permanent increase of government expenditure is effective in raising output. We then show that a "fiscal stimulus", i.e. a temporary increase of government expenditure is not only ineffective but detrimental. Even before the spending program expires, aggregate output is lower than it could be without fiscal stimulus. We show the generality of this result w.r.t. size and persistence of the shock, size of the government spending multiplier, and the scale and duration of the stimulus program. Using a phase diagram we provide the economic intuition for our unpleasant finding and explain why, generally, private capital stock reaches its lowest level when a deficit spending program expires. We also show how an accompanying temporary cut of capital income taxes helps to prevent the negative repercussion of deficit spending on economic recovery.

ABSTRACTS

THE FERTILITY TRANSITION AROUND THE WORLD – 1950-2005

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In this paper we analyze the distribution of fertility rates across the world using parametric mixture models. We demonstrate the existence of twin peaks of the world fertility distribution. In 1950 a group consisting of about two thirds of the world's countries formed the high-fertility peak whereas the rest of the world formed the low-fertility peak. By the year 2005 this picture has reversed. The average fertility rate declined for both the low- and the high-fertility group with a larger absolute decline within the high-fertility group; the two peaks moved closer together. Over time fertility rates of the low-fertility group moved closer together whereas just the opposite is true for the high-fertility group. The change of fertility is highly correlated with initial fertility in the low-fertility group but not in the high-fertility group. Thus, we find both β - and $\frac{3}{4}$ -convergence for the low fertility-group but no convergence pattern for the high fertility group.

ADVANCING REINALDO GONSALVES' MODEL OF GLOBAL ECONOMIC INSERTION: CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE ENGLISH SPEAKING CARIBBEAN

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IIL Brasil

In 1994, celebrated Brazilian economist Reinaldo Gonsalves produced what has now become his seminal work, *The Flagship of Brazil*. In this work, Gonsalves presented a model of Brazil's global economic insertion which was measured by the following:

- Commercial openness = coefficient of exports over GNP;
- Financial openness = ratio of foreign debt to GNP;
- Third level of openness
 - "real production"
 - the amount of foreign direct investment (FDI)
 - the portion of capital stock detained by multinational corporations (MNCs).

Since the English speaking Caribbean islands are well known for their economic openness, despite their smallness, it begs the question as to our 'real' degree of global insertion. Indeed, historians will argue that the very notion of the existence of today's Caribbean hinges upon the European capitalist experiment of 'new' economic frontier development and expansion, slavery and colonialism. In this regard, we share a similar, if not common, historical experience with continental Brazil.

This paper will therefore posit that within the context of the late 20th century and beyond, the notion of global economic insertion must include digital connectivity. This advancement of Gonsalves' model will take into consideration two new dimensions.

1. Connectivity as a fourth pillar to the traditional precepts of economic development. In other words, today we must add digital connectivity (broadband) to the infrastructural necessities of energy, water and transportation. This takes place at the domestic level.
2. When policies and programs of digital connectivity are in place, we must then seek to measure how this translates into international trade.

ABSTRACTS

HOW EXECUTIVE REMUNERATION PACKAGES DISTORT THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS IN MAJOR CORPORATIONS- AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE RECENT FINANCIAL CRISIS

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Financial Computing Consultant

Here we are in 2009 facing the greatest financial crisis since the Great Depression, unsure about the best remedies to this global malaise. Some countries are implementing massive stimulus packages hoping to spend their way out of problems. Some believe that the deficits needed to pay for such stimuli will create larger problems than the ones they're attempting to solve. And then we have the underdeveloped and developing nations who do not have the option of deficit spending, and must sit and wait helplessly – to be ravaged by the worst of the recession.

The range of solutions being considered point to a more fundamental issue, one that has been given virtually no consideration. It's well known that before a problem can be solved it must first be understood. In this case we're trying to devise solutions to a problem that we aren't even close to understanding. Yes, there are many pundits who ascribe this problem to lax credit, the housing bubble etc. It is my view that these are merely symptoms of a deeper problem, in fact a set of such problems. Understanding these underlying issues is an absolute pre-requisite to devising effective solutions.

QUANTIFYING MANAGEMENT'S ROLE IN BANK SURVIVAL USING DATA ENVELOPMENT ANALYSIS (DEA): CASE OF JAMAICA

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This paper presents a new approach for quantifying bank's management quality, using a data envelopment analysis (DEA) model that combines multiple inputs and outputs to compute a scalar measure of efficiency. This measure will seek to capture a fundamental and crucial element of a bank's success, which is its management efficiency. The results show that, on average, differences in management quality scores exist between institutions that failed during the 1996-1998 financial sector meltdown relative to banks that survived. Additionally, during this period, the technical efficiency scores for foreign-owned banks were higher in comparison to scores for indigenous banks. In examining the post-crisis period: 2002-2008, it was found that the three largest commercial banks, on average, exhibited lower management efficiency scores in contrast to smaller commercial banks.

ABSTRACTS

ETHNICITY, RACE, CLASS AND SOCIETY IN POST-COLONIAL BARBADOS

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Post-Colonial Barbados is a virtual theatre and laboratory of competing ethnic and class groupings. This economic diversity has attracted several diverse Caribbean and extra-regional ethnic groups to this small (430 sq km), but prosperous former British colony and Barbados has begun to resemble its larger neighbours, Trinidad and Jamaica in terms of having concentric clusters of polyglot and multi-hued communities.

These groups present a picture of a seemingly well-integrated mix of persons who practice "peaceful co-existence," but beneath this veneer there is a quietly seething cauldron of unresolved issues arising out of the interplay of race, class and ethnic affiliations.

This society, which was once nick-named "the Apartheid Community of the British Caribbean has never openly dealt with these issues and this paper explores the extent to which this "Apartheid" element is disappearing from this island, particularly at this point in its development when new ethnic communities are emerging in this high-density population.

ABSTRACTS

FROM MIGRANTS TO RETAIL SMALL BUSINESSMEN: PERSPECTIVES ON THE EAST INDIANS OF BARBADOS 1910 – 2010

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The study of labour migration within the Caribbean region is a new field of study, although it is one which may grow and bulk large within scholastic circles. By contrast, the examination of labour migration into CSME territories from beyond the Caribbean region is of long vintage.

By far the largest grouping of new citizens in these Anglo-phone Caribbean colonies were the Hindus and Muslims from the sub-continent of India, more popularly referred to in official literature as East Indians, although smaller numbers of Chinese, Syrian-Lebanese, Portuguese from Madeira and the Azores and liberated Africans were brought into these same territories. Until recently few persons in the wider commonwealth Caribbean were aware that Barbados has also been the host territory to measurable numbers of East Indians.

This is considered to be a necessary contribution to academic research, partly because it is a means of establishing concretely the number of such new activities in this island, and partly to differentiate this grouping from more recent East Indian sojourners to Barbados from Trinidad and Guyana respectively.

Secondly, we have undertaken this research in order to refute the ‘received wisdom’ that East Indians came to this island directly from the sub-continent to ‘cut sugar-cane till it burn their hand’; in other words, that they were indentured immigrant labourers in Barbados in the early 20th century.

The third and major point in this paper is that the East Indians of Barbados have in the main become nationalised citizens of Barbados, have progressed from being pioneer peddlers to successful businessmen across the spectrum of commercial life. The fourth point of focus is the interaction between these natives of the Asiatic sub-continent, on one hand and the other ethnic, cultural and racial groupings in the society over the period of 100 years.

ABSTRACTS

FREEDOM AND POWER IN THE CARIBBEAN: THE WORK OF GORDON K. LEWIS

RACISM IN BARBADOS IN THE 21ST CENTURY: FORTY YEAR BEYOND THE GROWTH OF THE MODERN WEST INDIES

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In this the first meaningful analysis of race relations in Barbados, the authors have embarked upon a line of research which has not been utilised by other scholars, except perhaps Linden Lewis. The writers have explored the theory of crypto racism in independent Barbados. ; and we argue that this form of discrimination and segregation has succeeded the apartheid-like conditions which Gordon K. Lewis encountered when he undertook his seminal research on the dynamics of Barbadian colonial society before 1966.

The writers will adduce quantitative and qualitative evidence to support their contention that what exists in Barbadian society in the first decade of the 21st century is crypto racism, which is a more insidious form as it is camouflage behind traditions of a commercial, agricultural and leisure time nature. In this connection the authors introduce a novel dimension in exploration of race relations in Barbados – investigating of the role of Hindu-Muslim East Indians who have now recorded a century of labour migration to Barbados and have established themselves as a disproportionately significant economic and social grouping.

RESEARCH PROPOSAL: BACK TO THE CARIBBEAN: NARRATIVES OF ADJUSTMENTS AMONG ADOLESCENT MIGRANTS RETURNING TO THE CARIBBEAN

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The process of Return Migration to the Caribbean is not a new phenomenon. It has always been part of the process of the migration circuit of the Caribbean. One of the limitations that have been identified is that literature on Caribbean migration has primarily concentrated on the movement of Caribbean nationals to the metropole and on the experiences of migrants within the metropolitan space. It can be noted that though the field of Return Migration is now emerging, the existing literature does not fully interrogate the different shades of the migration circuit of Caribbean nationals. There has been a dearth of academic literature on the process of migration of adolescent children returning to the ancestral homeland of their parents or grandparents. These are children who were born into Caribbean migrant families and have returned with their parents or have been sent to live with members of the extended family.

ABSTRACTS

THE DIGITAL DIVIDE IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO 2007

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The primary task of this study is the collection of data to allow for the calculation and analysis, at the level of 585 identifiable geographical areas or communities in Trinidad and Tobago, and for the country as a whole, of the Digital Opportunity Index (DOI) and the Digital Access Index (DAI). Three indices are calculated for the communities and for the country as a whole: the Digital Opportunity Index (DOI), an Alternate Digital Opportunity Index (DOI_ALT) and the Digital Access Index (DAI). The various indicators and category indices of the DOI, DOI_ALT and the DAI are also calculated and analyzed. Recommendations are made for improving indicators and indices for the country as a whole but especially for the less favoured communities.

THE IMPLICATIONS OF 'SOCIAL CAPITAL' FOR THE CARIBBEAN FOOD SYSTEM: A UNIVERSAL CONCEPT?

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According to Pierre Bourdieu's concept of social capital, present-day manifestations of culture and class are linked to historical processes of value-formation that exacerbate inequalities, an idea of social and economic space that undermines the so-called neutrality of 'networks'. While many movements have shifted Caribbean lifeways away from externally-imposed values and towards more autochthonous norms, the current neoliberal climate has arguably reinvigorated historical hierarchies that structure socio-economic networks in the Caribbean, as exemplified by fiscal and cultural emphases on ideas and practices of 'modernity', 'development', foreign education, etc. In Cuba, where socio-economic hierarchies may be as prevalent as in other Caribbean countries, the history of radical nationalism has inverted historical values or norms, as collectivism, work ethic and asceticism have replaced individualism, leisure and material consumption as dominant forms of social capital. Has this inversion of externally-imposed norms affected the options available to Cuba as a small island economy? In this talk, I will use Bourdieu's concept of social capital to analyze whether and how social hierarchies in Cuba differ from social networks in other Caribbean places, and how this inversion of Caribbean social capital may affect the future economic prospects of the island.

ABSTRACTS

EVIDENCE OF CAPITAL MOBILITY AMONG 15 CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES AND THE FELDSTEIN-HORIOKA (F-H) PUZZLE.

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The paper seeks to explore the connection between saving and investment among 15 Caribbean countries for the period 1960-2008. The empirical results suggest that a moderate degree of capital mobility exists among regional economies, thus, implying that the Feldstein-Horioka (FH) puzzle is absent. This finding is consistent with the observed macroeconomic performances of many of these countries during the period under review.

