



## LUNCHTIME SEMINAR SERIES

*Presents*

### **Exploring Intersecting Scales of Climate Change Responses in SIDS: Does Mitigation Matter?**

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Small Island Developing States (SIDS) contribute less than 1% of greenhouse gas emissions (in absolute terms) on a global scale. This has led some to believe that responsibility for taking action on the issue of Climate Change rests with larger nations that possess a greater ecological footprint. Moreover, in contrast to our relatively minuscule contribution to the problem, SIDS are expected to be affected more severely than most.

If our contribution to climate change is indeed minuscule, should SIDS pay any attention to mitigation at all and should we try to reduce our own carbon footprints on an individual level?

The relatively small contribution of SIDS to climate change has in some contexts, contributed to a sense of helplessness among those expected to be worse affected. Moreover, some island jurisdictions have limited the scope of their response to climate change to be focused solely on adaptation (i.e. they have chosen to devote very little attention, if any, to climate change mitigation).

This presentation will explore the implications of climate change and climate change policy for SIDS in the Caribbean and Pacific. The role of SIDS in shaping the international response to climate change will be highlighted. Arguments for ignoring mitigation (in SIDS) will also be explored. Finally, the actions that can be taken by the state and on an individual level in SIDS, will be outlined.

**Keywords:** Climate Change; Mitigation; Adaptation; SIDS; Caribbean; Scale

**Thursday March 16, 2017**

FFA-W, John Spence Building  
Department of Geography  
1:00-2:00pm  
*Light refreshment provided*