

Contributors

Dr Nirmal Kumar Betchoo is Dean of Faculty of Business and Management at the Université des Mascareignes. He is the author of 11 books published nationally and internationally. He has published over 50 peer-reviewed articles in international refereed journals. He is external editor for the *Journal of Mass Communications* (USA) and editorial board member the *Journal of Management and Engineering Sciences* (JMEST), Germany, and the *European Scientific Journal* (ESJ). He has reviewed some 100 papers. He is panel specialist for the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) in Mauritius for post-graduate programmes in management.

Gina Bonne holds a MSc in Agronomy (Plant Protection). She has 26 years of professional experience in Agriculture, Environment and Climate Change including 12 years of experience in the public service and 14 years in regional co-operation. She has held several high-level positions at the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources of the Republic of Seychelles as Head of the Plant Protection Laboratory, Assistant Director of the Plant Protection Section and Director of Agricultural Planning. Ms Bonne is currently the Officer in Charge and Head of the Environment and Climate Department of the Indian Ocean Commission during which she has been developing and managing regional programs in pPlant protection, fisheries surveillance, marine pollution in relation to combatting oil spills, Earth observation for coastal and marine services, coastal zone management, biodiversity management, climate Change and disaster risk reduction.

Dr Barbara E Carby is the Director of the Disaster Risk Reduction Centre (DRRC) of the University of the West Indies. Formerly the Director General of Jamaica's Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), Dr Carby is credited with placing risk reduction on Jamaica's national agenda and pioneering the development of a national mitigation policy. She also expanded the hazard mapping programme and fostered the use of hazard maps by parish councils in their development planning. She was one of the experts selected to the UN's Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and a member of the Advisory Board for the UN Central Emergency Response Fund.

Dr Siddier Chambers is a gender and development practitioner and researcher with over 17 years of experience. She has contributed to the development of Jamaica's National Policy for Gender Equality, National Anti-Sexual Harassment Policy and the National Strategic Action Plan to Eliminate Gender-Based Violence in Jamaica 2017–2027. Dr Chambers is currently the Acting Director for the Community Liaison Branch at the Bureau of Gender Affairs in the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport. She is also a Research Associate with

the SALISES 50:50 – Sustainable Rural and Agriculture Development Group at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, University of the West Indies.

Denyse S Dookie is a candidate of the PhD program in Sustainable Development at the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University. A national of Trinidad and Tobago, Ms Dookie is interested in solutions to reduce local vulnerability and enhance resilience in the wake of disasters and climate change within the Caribbean and other small island developing states. Her recent research focuses on the role of climate information-sharing in the context of disaster preparedness and early action, as well as the value of remotely-sensed data in data-scarce regions and improving the general science-policy dialogue.

Dr Markus Enenkel is a Fellow at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative where he concentrates on the use of earth observation data to detect patterns between extreme weather/climate events, social conflict, food security and migration. He leads one of the World Bank's projects on drought risk reduction and related financial instruments. Dr Enenkel is the co-founder of an ESA-funded start-up named Perigee, which focuses on predictive emergency fundraising, and supports the Global Emergency Response Team of SOS Children's Villages International as disaster risk management co-ordinator. He has worked with other humanitarian aid organisations such as Doctors without Borders, Red Cross, UN WFP/OCHA, as well as space agencies, UNDP, UN FAO, and UN SPIDER.

Jean Paul Fabri is an economist who currently leads the Economic and Management Advisory Unit and the Digital Economy Unit at ARQ. Prior to joining ARQ, Mr Fabri formed part of the private cabinet of the Prime Minister of Malta and Governor of the Central Bank of Malta. He has international policy advisory experience having advised nine governments on economic development. Mr Fabri is a certified blockchain strategy advisor from Said Business School, Oxford University and holds an International Certificate in Investor Relations from the IR Society in the United Kingdom. He is also a visiting lecturer in economics and public policy at the University of Malta.

Dr Stephanie Fabri is an economist who works in both the private and public sectors. Dr Fabri forms part of the academic staff of the Department of Management at the University of Malta and has been lecturing in various departments at the university for more than eight years. Dr Fabri read for her PhD at the Warwick Business School where her dissertation looked at strategic management in British companies. In her dissertation, she applied mathematical models used in artificial intelligence (fuzzy-logic methods) to the social sciences. Prior to receiving her doctorate, Dr Fabri graduated with a MSc in Public Sector Economics from the University of York, and read for her first degree in economics from the University of Malta.

Dr Mathias Leidig is a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Portsmouth. He has over 10 years of experience in geographic information systems and remote sensing. Initially working in high mountain regions (Nepal), on erosion and river-profile modelling, he shifted

focus to coastal regions of developing countries (i.e. Sri Lanka and Dominica) during his PhD research. After receiving his PhD Dr Leidig worked as a catastrophe modeller for MS Amlin in London before returning to the University of Portsmouth. His current research focus is on data poverty and low-cost approaches to using satellite imagery for assessing hazards, vulnerability and risk. Since January 2018, Dr Leidig has been part of the Risk Science team in the CommonSensing project, which aims to use satellite imagery for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation applications in Pacific Small Island Developing States (Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu).

Roberta Lepre is currently the Managing Consultant at Weave Consulting, where she engages the business community to adopt sustainable practices to have a more positive impact on society and the environment and to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Graduated Doctor of Laws from the University of Malta in 2003, Ms Lepre has acquired substantial experience in the social sector in Malta, having served on public bodies, as well as in the non-profit sector. Her skills and expertise include legal drafting, policy development, project drafting and implementation.

Alastair Marke is currently the Director-General of the Blockchain Climate Institute and Regional Director for Western Europe of the Blockchain Commission for Sustainable Development, where he works with a number of UN agencies to deploy blockchain in achieving SDGs. In the UK, he chairs the Energy, Climate Change and Green Finance Committee of the British Blockchain Association and serves as an ad hoc Expert Advisor (Energy and Environment) to the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Blockchain. Mr Marke is a drafter of the ISO 14097 climate finance, as well as ISO TC307 blockchain use case and governance standards.

Dr John Laing Roberts is an international consultant on macroeconomics and sustainable development, working with the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), the Commonwealth Secretariat, COMESA and the Government of Mauritius. He has Master's and PhD degrees from University of Birmingham, and has been an adviser to the WHO, World Bank and the EU. He has contributed to the UNEP's Global and African Environment Outlook series, and case studies on malaria eradication and cyclones. He is a co-author of the several Commonwealth Secretariat and the IOC publications on small states including *Saving Small and Island States* (2010), *The Big Divide* (2012) and *The Divided Region* (2014). He is currently acting as an adviser to the IOC on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction.

Isotta Rossoni is a research associate at Weave Consulting. She holds an MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Oxford. Her main interests lie in the fields of gender, violence, victimisation and crimmigration. Between 2015 and 2018 she worked as researcher, project manager and consultant for various NGOs in Malta and at the University of Malta. At present, aside from her collaboration with Weave Consulting, she works as a researcher for the Bruno Kessler Foundation and for Transparency International Italy. She also collaborates with the Italian Centre for the Promotion of Mediation (CIPM) on a service for sex offenders and victims.

Christopher Sandland is a UK-based Research Officer at the Blockchain and Climate Institute. He specialises in studies on the application of blockchain in the green finance sector.

Dale Schilling is the Chair of the Insurance Working Group at the BCI. He is also the CEO and Founder of Hillridge Technology to help farmers mitigate the financial impact of extreme weather on their crops and livestock. Hillridge uses big-data—weather data, crop models, novel insurance-like products, mass-personalisation, and self-executing contracts based on blockchain—to enable automated quotes and settlement for weather-index and yield-index protection products, tailored for each farm.

Dr Ankie Scott-Joseph currently works as a Lecturer in Economics at the University of the West Indies. Previously she worked as an Economic Statistician in the Canada/Eastern Caribbean Central Bank Debt Management Advisory Services Unit (DMAS). Prior to joining the ECCB, she served as an economist in the Ministry of Finance, St Vincent and the Grenadines. As a consultant, Dr Scott-Joseph has published articles in regional and international journals on macroeconomics with emphasis on fiscal policy and debt sustainability. Dr Scott-Joseph currently serves as a Research Associate of the *Journal of Business, Finance and Economics in Emerging Economies*. In 2007 Dr Scott-Joseph received the International Association for Official Statisticians, New Zealand, prize for the best papers written by young official statisticians.

Jacqueline Spence has been employed at the Meteorological Service, Jamaica for over 15 years where she currently manages the Climate Branch. She has represented Jamaica at various international and regional meetings, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) meetings for which she is the Focal Point for Jamaica. Ms Spence's passion is working with the various sectors to create climate products and services to assist in decision-making in the climate change context and in so doing working to create a culture of dependency on research-driven solutions to become more resilient to climate change impacts. She holds an MSc degree in physics and climatology from the University of the West Indies, Mona.

Roopesh Kevin Sungkur is currently senior lecturer at the Department of Software and Information Systems, Faculty of Information Communication and Digital Technologies, University of Mauritius. He has been acting as consultant for major organisations such as the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative (GESCI) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. He has also been the team leader for 'Working Groups for ICT Project – ICT4DM, Disaster Management and Emergency Telecoms – Preparation, Mitigation and Recovery'. The project was carried out at national level in line with the government's vision to position the Republic of Mauritius as a regional ICT Hub and to better prepare the country towards disaster resilience through the proper use of ICT.

Dr Richard Teeuw runs the Crisis and Disaster Management MSc course at the University of Portsmouth. His research focuses on low-cost uses of remote sensing

for assessing hazards, vulnerability and risk, as well as geoinformatic capacity-building in low-income countries. His research includes industry-funded projects, from mapping of urban flood vulnerability, to satellite remote sensing of oil pollution in the Niger Delta. He led a NERC-funded team surveying impacts of Hurricane Maria in Dominica, using satellite data, drone photography and GIS for a forensic geomorphological analysis of fatality locations. He leads the Risk Science activities of the UK Space Agency-funded CommonSensing project, using satellite imagery for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction applications.