



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CONFERENCE 2022

..... PORT OF SPAIN

OCTOBER 25th -26th

presented by
IAMovement
and
The National Gas Company
of Trinidad and Tobago Limited



**GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
CONFERENCE 2022**

..... **PORT OF SPAIN**



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CARIBBEAN

Investing to Scale

The Vetiver System (VS)
Case Study

IAMC  MOVEMENT



**THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED**

SPONSORS

PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER



COMMUNITY





CONFERENCE BRIEF AGENDA AND SPEAKERS

Updated 19th Oct '22



BACKGROUND

IAMovement has been working alongside its partners over the past six (6) years towards the promotion and use of the Vetiver System (VS) solutions as a green infrastructure tool in a myriad of applications for treating with a suite of climate-related development challenges. Efforts that have been focused on Trinidad and Tobago and the greater Caribbean over the past few years has led to unique collaborations and developments working with Government and private sector. Through IAMovement's IDB Lab supported Building on Vetiver! (BOV) project there are now over 100+ benefitting partners showing support toward Green Infrastructure including stakeholders from private and commercial sectors, academia, NGOs, and key Government Ministries and Regional Corporations. In addition, there are a number of strong regional partnerships in Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada and Saint Lucia with other development agencies, NGOs and governmental entities – where headway has also been made in Guyana and Suriname towards the use of training programmes like the Vetiver Education & Empowerment Project (VEEP) model, green infrastructure interventions, and green business development.

The National Gas Company of Trinidad & Tobago Limited (NGC) has been at the fore of the local energy industry for over 45 years playing a leading role in driving and advocating for the sustainable energy transition, based on their recognition of this holding some of the greatest potential social, economic and environmental benefits for T&T. In addition NGC has led key conservation and reforestation efforts through their '**No Net Loss**' initiative which they commenced in 2005 which has resulted in 100,000 seedlings planted in Rousillac, Moruga, Mayaro and Rio Claro. Through this initiative NGC has seen more than 38,000 tonnes of carbon sequestered as of 2021. As a supporter of the Paris Climate Agreement, NGC recognizes the critical shift which is needed now and in the coming decades by companies and nations to achieve carbon neutrality, and that this must be done through various approaches including both emissions reduction and carbon sequestration. NGC also recognizes that green infrastructure approaches will have an important role to play in this, such as landscape regeneration and reforestation, Vetiver System (VS) approaches, organic waste transformation and composting, and mangroves to name a few – since these all assist with sequestering both above and below-ground carbon, help avoid emissions through reduced need for carbon-heavy steel and concrete, and also build climate resilience for vulnerable communities and society at large. Additionally, to support the implementation of green infrastructure solutions which can result in the carbon sequestration we need a more sustainable and resilient future for our societies – new and more greatly available forms of green finance are required.

Through the partnership, IAMovement and NGC birthed this first ever Caribbean Green Infrastructure Conference. The hybrid forum is intended to serve as a space for the sharing of technical knowledge and opportunities for widescale adoption and scaling of green infrastructure across the region. The successes of VS as a green infrastructure solution achieved through the BOV project will serve as one example among many; introducing technical guidelines to core governmental stakeholders in the Planning and Infrastructure Ministries; while also providing parallel technical reports, academic studies, panel discussions and technical Insights by international experts on Green Infrastructure initiatives and Green Finance mechanisms. While the Vetiver System (VS) is presented as a case study for uptake of green infrastructure, the forum itself will feature international experts from key regional and global partners able to provide technical insights to local and regional decision-making toward investment into green infrastructure technologies with discussions on the return on investment (ROI) of such approaches, through ecosystem service value and cost-savings in contrast to traditional hard-engineered solutions. Speakers contributions will cover opportunities and approaches to access local, regional and global funding; and will feature green infrastructure projects and technologies currently being implemented or accessible for consideration in the Caribbean. The forum specifically hopes to introduce attendees to the uses and applications of green infrastructure technologies; quickly build interest and capacity through shared technical knowledge and applications; and create a unique, rich environment for networking and sharing of information related to green infrastructure approaches, and financing mechanism opportunities available locally and regionally.

featuring speakers from



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT



The Caribbean Green Infrastructure Conference (CGIC) 2022 will deliver key technical and demonstrative presentations on the different project sites and impacts in Trinidad and Tobago completed under the Building on Vetiver! IDB Lab Project, including; a presentation on the Vetiver System (VS) technology, 30+ local and regional application cases, five (5) academic studies being completed with the UWI on different soil, water, carbon, biodiversity and ecosystem functions; technical guidelines for the use of Vetiver System (VS) solutions; and speakers from elsewhere in the Caribbean region and internationally presenting on regional and global Vetiver System (VS) use and applications, other green infrastructure approaches such as watershed restoration, reforestation, mangroves, check-dams and other Nature-Based Solutions (NBS). It will also feature presentations and discussions on novel and innovative green finance mechanisms such as green bonds, carbon finance, traditional investment finance, grants and other development agency approaches which are available regionally and internationally to support green infrastructure projects; and may be considered by stakeholders and projects in need of such finance in the Caribbean region.



DELIVERED



SESSION & AUDIENCE

The Conference, delivered as a hybrid event with both virtual and in-person participation, is being hosted in two (2) full-day sessions on the 25th and 26th October, 2022 with **200+ in-person attendees**, and **300+ online participants** and **25+ high-level decision makers** able to influence the adoption and integration of green infrastructure technologies and finance at the governmental and country level.

Participating stakeholder include members of NGOs, civil society, government and private stakeholders from over ten (10) other Caribbean countries, with a target of **500+ participants** in total.



Partnership

The success of the Conference hinges on partnerships to truly revolutionize green infrastructure use within the region at large. The partners involved share a common vision for the value of building green finance mechanisms which can support the use of green infrastructure across the region, starting immediately with projects in Trinidad and Tobago.

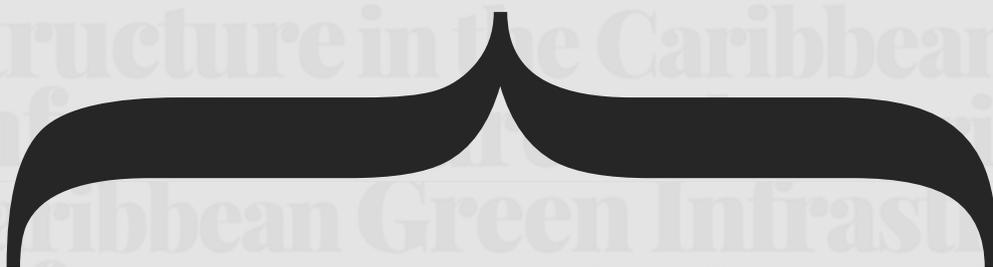
Why this Conference is unique

The Conference features locally, regionally and internationally renowned speakers who are working in their own ways to support sustainable development transitions, providing a shared tapestry crossing many disciplines with curated content in the two (2) key areas of (i) **Green Infrastructure Technologies**, and (ii) **Green Finance**. The CGIC 2022 also enables and showcases networks and opportunities for strong collaborations to support scaling opportunities in the areas above. On the Green Infrastructure Technologies front, the Conference recognizes many “firsts”, such as: the Launch of the “ME-WE Green Project”, a first of its kind national-scale initiative in the Western Hemisphere, which is driving Vetiver System (VS) education and access as a green infrastructure and climate resilience technology, and which is supported by the GORTT Ministry of Planning and Development’s Green Fund; new unique Circular Economy models being developed in the Caribbean to regenerate lands, transform waste into value added products, while sequestering carbon and developing new regional carbon finance mechanisms; case studies on the adoption of green infrastructure specifications by government for mainstream projects, and more. The Green Finance element of the event will feature important local, regional and international financing mechanisms available to support Green Infrastructure and Nature Based Solutions (NBS) projects, including government partnerships, regional and global grant and private finance facilities, green bonds, cluster development opportunities, among others. The event will also support the launch and sharing of key research findings which are locally based or relevant to the LAC region: Case Studies; Technical Reports and Technical Insights which support institutionalization of green infrastructure approaches. The two (2) day event takes a strongly supported on-and-offline hybrid approach, with in-person participation at the Hilton Hotel and Conference Centre in Trinidad & Tobago on Day-1, alongside virtual participation for local, regional and global stakeholders. In addition on Day-2, a fully virtual morning session will feature an esteemed panel of presenters focusing on regional and global forms of climate finance to support green infrastructure scaling, followed by public in-person Green Expo event at Nelson Mandela Park, and site visits to select Green Infrastructure case study sites around Port of Spain, for attendees who register for this activity. The site visits will also be captured on film with technical commentary which will allow these to be available afterwards to the wider network of virtual participants.

Beyond the Conference

IAMovement and other partners are working to advance green infrastructure and finance in a real way with two (2) game-changing projects in-train (i) Closed Loop models and (ii) Socialized Climate Participation through technology (App) with Green Finance pilots (tokens/blockchain for impact).

THE CONFERENCE DETAILS



The purpose

The main purpose of the Conference “Green Infrastructure in the Caribbean - Investing to Scale: The Vetiver System (VS) Case Study” will be to provide a common regional space and avenue for promoting and encouraging smart and sustainable investment into green infrastructure within the region and more so to peak interests of local and regional decision-makers toward longer-term investment into green infrastructure technologies. Green Infrastructure is our gateway to a more sustainable future and this forum will encompass a plethora of knowledge which will encourage leaders in the private and government sector to move towards recognizing and adopting Green Infrastructure approaches, and Green Finance opportunities where applicable to support their implementation.

The objectives

- To introduce attendees to the wider overarching benefits and cases for green infrastructure
- To highlight impacts from the uses and applications of the Vetiver System (VS) as a regional case study for Green Infrastructure
- To build capacity of attendees in their technical knowledge and technical applications of green infrastructure technology and green finance mechanisms
- To create an environment for encouraging green-blue thinking into national policy through networking and sharing of related information locally, regionally and internationally.
- To facilitate engagement and discussions around Green Infrastructure and Green Finance towards charting our next steps to a more sustainable future.
- To both encourage long-term investment and build trust, confidence and technical capacity of decision-makers in the global green technology movement toward a pathway to a cleaner, greener and more sustainable future.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

IAMOVEMENT 



THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

Day 1

8:30-9:00	Arrivals Registration and Seating
9:00-9:05	Welcome Address
9:05-9:10	Lead and Platinum Sponsor Videos
9:10-9:20	Opening remarks and Conference Overview – Kevan Kalapnath Maharaj, IAMovement
9:20-9:30	Opening remarks – The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC), Vice President Operations – Ramesh Harrylal

Keynotes

9:30-9:40	Remarks from the Minister of Planning and Development – The Honourable Pernelle Beckles-Robinson
9:40-9:50	Remarks from the Minister of Works and Transport – Senator the Honourable Rohan Sinanan
9:50-10:10	Vetiver System (VS) and VEEP Model, local and regional projects - Jonathan Barcant, IAMovement
10:10-10:30	Feature Presentation - Tracey A Weekes, NGC

10:30-10:50 Coffee Break

Panel I: Green Infrastructure Approaches for the Caribbean

Moderator: Ardene Sirjoo, Broadcaster

10:50-11:05	VS Projects and development in Latin America – Yorlene Cruz
11:05-11:20	Ecosystem Based Adaption projects in the Caribbean – Ulrike Krauss, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund
11:20-11:35	Degraded Lands and Watershed Regeneration – Ian McNeel, WIRRED
11:35-11:50	Presentation on Green Infrastructure – Alfred Hans Grunwaldt, IDB

Panel Discussion I

12:20-1:30	Lunch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead partners video Platinum sponsor video IDB Green Infrastructure Films Looped
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1:30-1:35	Tropical floriculture, Sacred Ecology and Regenerative design – Rheanna Chen, Ajoupa Gardens
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Panel II: Idea to Reality - Innovation Finance for Exploration and Experimentation

Moderator: Omar Mohammed, The Cropper Foundation

1:35-1:50	Republic Bank Limited – Michael McQuilkin
1:50-2:05	Close the Loop Caribbean - Vandana Mangroo
2:05-2:20	IDB Lab - Vashtie Dookiesingh
2:20-2:35	European Union - Zé Alves-Pereira
2:35-2:50	Syntegra-ESG - Axel Kravatzky

Panel Discussion II

3:30-3:50	Coffee Break
3:50-4:50	Terra Sapians 'Regeneration' Short Film + Q&A Guided Ideation
4:50-5:00	Closing Remarks

Networking Cocktail

5:00-7:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead partners video Platinum sponsor video IDB Green Infrastructure Films Looped
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Day 2

8:30-9:00 Interactive Morning – Artistic Take & Impact Piece

9:00-9:05	Introductory remarks
9:05-9:10	Lead and Platinum Sponsor Videos
9:10-9:20	Remarks from Country Head for IDB Trinidad and Tobago, Carina Cockburn

Panel III: Exploring regional and global climate finance

Moderator: Anaitee Mills, ITACA Solutions

9:20-9:35	Will Sarni, Water Foundry
9:35-9:50	Lizzie Masters, World Resources Institute
9:50-10:05	Gina Sanguinetti Phillips, CCRIF SPC
10:05-10:20	Una May Gordon, Senior Environment and Climate Change Expert

Panel Discussion III

10:20-10:50	Preface remarks for Academic Vetiver System Case Studies
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UWI Vetiver Case Studies Presentation

11:00-11:30	Logistical Remarks re Green Expo and Closing
11:30-11:35	'A Thin Green Line in Grenada' Short Film

11:35-11:55	Arrival at Public Green Expo and Networking Event + Pre Field Trip Lunch at Nelson Mandela Park
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11:55-12:50	Remarks by Deputy Mayor, Councillor Hillan Morean
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12:50-1:05	Greenheart Mission
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1:05-1:10	
1:20 - 4:00	<i>Group 1 - Site Visits - Green Infrastructure Around POS. Buses Leave at 1:20 pm</i>

1:40 - 4:20	<i>Group 2 - Site Visits - Green Infrastructure Around POS. Buses Leave at 1:40 pm</i>
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5:00	
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Day 2 - Virtual Morning Sessions

Green Expo

Venue for Day 2 (Nelson Mandela Park)

Student Conference

** Green Expo will be open to Conference participants and the Public, with lunch-snack and beverage provided to participants prior to Green Infrastructure Field Trips for those who register to participate in this activity
 * Buses will leave Green Expo Venue (tbc) in two (2) groups at above specified times and will return to drop off participants at the end of this activity

LIST OF SPEAKERS



Minister Pennelope Beckles-Robinson

commonly referred to as Penny, the honourable Minister of Planning and Development is a Trinidad and Tobago diplomat, politician and attorney-at-law currently serving as Member of Parliament for Arima. Penny has had a longstanding history of committed community service and is a true servant of the people with an childhood upbringing that laid the foundation of service and activism through both parents. This has panned out into the portfolios held in her extensive political career; entering the Trinidad and Tobago Parliament in 1995 as an Opposition Senator to then serve as MP for the constituency of Arima, holding several ministerial portfolios including Minister of Public Utilities and the Environment, Minister of Culture and Tourism and Minister of Social Development, and more recently, Minister of Housing and Urban Development; all of which are an extension of her passion for youth development, gender, equality and justice. She is a strong advocate for the increased participation of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics having also been the first female elected as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives in 2007. Her advocacy extends to other influential spheres; also named Co-Chair President of the Executive Board of UN Women in 2019, having served also as Vice President of the 74th Session of the General Assembly and is now Trinidad and Tobago's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. With a career as a true servant of the people, Penny continues to steer a mammoth portfolio for several aspects of national strategic direction and development while still finding the down-time to connect with her community being a lover of culture and the arts.



Minister Rohan Sinanan

Born in the community of Sangre Grande, Minister Sinanan entered the world of business and entrepreneurship over 36 years ago, eventually becoming the Chief Executive Officer of a large and dynamic holdings company. In his capacity as CEO, Senator Sinanan has extensively worked in diverse areas of finance, insurance, real estate and the food industry. His pursuit into the dynamic world of business developed as a consequence of his attentiveness in his father's long history and career as a well know businessman in the food industry in the community. Senator Sinanan holds an MBA in Business Administration and has served as the Deputy Chairman of the Tunapuna /Piarco Regional Corporation. His successful career in business did not limit his passion for helping people and over the last 20 years Senator Sinanan has been involved in charities and several volunteer organizations. Senator the Honourable Rohan Sinanan also holds substantial political experience. As a long-standing member of the People's National Movement, he as well serves as the party's current Deputy Political Leader.



Carina Cockburn

being an Economic Development professional and Change Leader with over 20 years' experience in the public and private sector, Carina's core competencies include Strategic Planning, Change Management and Project Portfolio Management. For over 10 years, Carina has served in a variety of positions at the Inter-American Development Bank and was appointed Country Representative for Trinidad and Tobago in April 2021. She has also worked extensively across the Caribbean region as a project manager and consultant, including assignments with the Lascelles Group and Prime Asset Management in Jamaica and the Sagicor group in Barbados. She has worked with the Canadian International Development Agency (now DFATD), the UK's development agency DFID and also served as the Technical Advisor to the Minister of Finance in Jamaica.



Will Sarni

Will is the founder and CEO of Water Foundry a water strategy consultancy, and the Founder and General Partner of The Future of Water Fund, a water technology venture fund focused on addressing water scarcity, quality and equitable access to water. He has been a sustainability and water strategy advisor to multinationals, water technology companies, investors, and non-governmental organizations for his entire career. Prior to Water Foundry, he was a managing director at Deloitte Consulting where he established and led the water strategy practice. He was the founder and CEO of DOMANI, a sustainability strategy firm, prior to Deloitte. Will is an internationally recognized thought leader on water strategy and innovation. He was ranked as A Key Player Pressuring Businesses to Care About Water and one of the Top 15 Interviews In Smart Water Magazine 2019. Sarni is the author numerous publications on water strategy and innovation including the Corporate Water Strategies (2013), Water Tech – A Guide to Investment, Innovation and Business Opportunities in the Water Sector (2013), Beyond the Energy – Water – Food Nexus: New Strategies for 21st Century Growth (2015), Water Stewardship and Business Value: Creating Abundance from Scarcity (2018), Creating 21st Century Abundance through Public Policy Innovation: Moving Beyond Business as Usual (2018), Digital Water: New Technologies for a More Resilient, Secure and Equitable Water Future (2021), and he is the co-author, with Tony Dunning, of a children's book on water, Water, I Wonder (2022). Sarni is a co-founder of WetDATA and a host of the podcast, The Stream with Will and Tom. He is a board member of Silver Bullet, Project WET and the Rocky Mountain Rowing Club. He was the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board for the WAITRO Global Water Innovation Summit 2020 and was on the Scientific Program Committee for Stockholm World Water Week from 2013 through 2019. His advisory work includes working with the 2020 X-PRIZE (Infinity Water Prize), as a Bold Visioneer for the 2016 X-PRIZE Safe Drinking Water Team and a Technical Advisor for the Climate Bonds Initiative: Nature- Based Solutions for Climate and Water Resilience. He is also on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Water Security.



Lizzie Marsters

As an Environmental Finance Manager with the Natural Infrastructure Initiative, Lizzie works to advance the pace and scale of natural infrastructure projects by unlocking access to capital. She works with municipalities, utilities, impact investors, infrastructure operators, non-profit institutions, businesses, and civil society to identify green infrastructure investment opportunities to build stronger, more resilient communities and ecosystems. Lizzie brings a unique perspective to natural resource management as she has worked on these issues from both the private and public sectors. Prior to joining World Resource Institute, she was the Program Director for Forests and Ecosystem Services at a Pacific Northwest non-profit focused on market differentiation for sustainable timber and helped develop a unique tribal-based payment framework called the Forest Bank concept for the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, that bridges conventional forest management while optimizing ecosystem and community health. She also served as the Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary at the Department of the Interior, where she focused on the economic, environmental, and social challenges of managing public lands and evaluating the federal trust relationship with First Americans. During her earlier years, studying at Yale's School of Management and School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Lizzie also developed a woman's empowerment impact investment fund presented to industry expert judges in Yale's friendlier version of a shark-tank styled event, called Women Innovators from Yale University 'Dolphin Tank'.

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Alfred Hans Grunwaldt

Alfred is a Climate Lead Specialist and currently the focal point on climate for the IDB's Infrastructure Department. He has over 15 years of combined experience on climate and sustainability issues in the energy, water, and environmental sectors. His current role includes providing technical advice to project teams on the effective integration of climate change and sustainable infrastructure concepts into the design of development operations. Alfred currently represents the IDB in the MDB Adaptation Finance Working Group, chairing it between 2018 and 2020. He has led and co-led at least 50 operations with substantial contributions to the IDB Group's financial objective on climate change. He is the author and co-author of numerous technical publications on adaptation, climate resilience, and GHG emission mitigation with an emphasis on the water, transportation, and energy sectors. Over the last ten years, Alfred has devoted a large part of his work to water resources, ecosystem-based adaptation, and climate-resilience metrics in the LAC region, leading key studies on these topics. Before joining the IDB, Alfred worked as a consultant in the Latin American Region Sustainable Development Department at the World Bank. He graduated in Mechanical Engineering from the Universidad del Norte in Colombia and has a master's degree in Computational Mechanics of Materials and Structures from Universität Stuttgart and a master's degree in Environmental Planning and Management from Johns Hopkins University.



Yorlene Cruz

Yorlene is the Associate Director of the Vetiver Network International (TVNI), an international non-profit network that promotes the worldwide use of the Vetiver System (VS), and has also been the Costa Rican coordinator for the TNVI since December 2016. She has worked with Vetiver for more than 20 years with a local network small farmers in the area of San Ramón de Alajuela to create sustainable nurseries and diversify livelihoods and has also managed several Vetiver mega-projects, most notably the Finca Isabel, in Breñón, Panama. Within Costa Rica, she has consulted extensively with the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MOPT), which is experimenting with using the grass along highways to guard against landslides. She also has been a consultant to the Costa Rican Electricity Institute (ICE), which has planted the grass near hydroelectric plants to prevent sedimentation of reservoirs. Her most significant recent undertakings involve the spearheading of efforts to institutionalize Vetiver System specification within the Government of Costa Rica.



Ian McNeel

Ian McNeel is a social entrepreneur, impact investor, permaculturalist and responsible business leader. Always challenging the limits of what's possible, Ian is leveraging his 21 years as an entrepreneur and successful international business executive to lead the transition of Walker's Sand Quarry into Walker's Reserve. In 2011, his family history on Barbados combined with a lifelong passion for environmental stewardship, culture and agriculture, led to the co-founding of Slow Food Barbados. Slow Food Barbados is helping to facilitate a reconnection to "good, clean and fair" food on the Island. Through Ian's leadership, Walkers Reserve also strives for food security, resource protection and climate resilience for the Island and the Caribbean region. Ian is an active member of the Barbados community sponsoring permaculture design courses, installing school gardens and working with the community to regenerate the quarry, actively engaged with the social, economic and environmental systems in the St. Andrew Parrish and Barbados



Una May Gordon

As a Senior Environment and Climate Change Expert, and former Principal Director, Climate Change at Government of Jamaica Una May Gordon has continued to be a Climate Change and Environmental Management professional at heart with successful experiences in international development cooperation and the moulding and management of sustainable relationships with policy makers and the private sector throughout Jamaica and wider Latin America and the Caribbean Region. She is also the Founder and Governing Trustee of the Institute of Sustainable Livelihood Leadership and Exchange (ISLEx) and is the Convener for Caribbean Women in Leadership – the Jamaica Chapter (CIWiLJA). She has been featured extensively as part of Women Climate Leaders and has had extensive involvement in Climate Change policy making, crafting adaptation strategies, disaster risk assessment, analyses, design, management and implementation of multi-stakeholder, inter-sectoral technical assistance and capacity development projects. She has also been the Green Climate Fund (GCF) focal point for Jamaica given her experience and past substantial governmental post, providing an interface between the country and the Fund, responsible for supporting channeling of GCF financing instruments for implementation through its Accredited Entities (AEs).



Ulrike Krauss

As a dedicated, passionate professional to natural resource management and sustainable development, Ulrike has focused much of her years in less developed countries, through technical research, development, capacity-building, and outreach. For 20 years, she has helped manage, develop, implement, monitor and evaluate agronomy and biodiversity conservation projects in English- and Spanish-speaking developing countries, particularly in the Caribbean and Latin America such as Costa Rica, Peru, St. Lucia, Dominica, Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. She has also helped manage, coordinate and implement invasive species-related projects in the Caribbean and Latin America; regional GEF projects and UNEP CEP-commissioned studies on the same.. As the current Program Manager of the Climate Change Program, Ulrike now helps guide the realization of the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund's (CBF) bold vision to create reliable, long-term funding for conservation and sustainable development in the Caribbean region.



Vashtie Dookiesingh

Vashtie Dookiesingh is a Private Finance Operations Lead Specialist at IDB Lab, the innovation Lab of the IDB Group where she has facilitated the development and management of multilateral loan and grant operations for IDB Lab in Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, St Lucia, Suriname and Guyana. Her career experience spans over 28 years in professional service delivery to a range of organizations in Trinidad and Tobago and the wider Caribbean, including 13 within the private sector and 15 within the dominant multilateral financing institution and development partner in Latin America and Caribbean. Over the course of her career Vashtie has worked on a broad range of topics including the Future of Work, Business Climate Improvement, ICT adoption by SMEs, Climate Smart Agriculture, Climate Resilience, Financial Inclusion, Cultural Industries and Innovation. In her role at the IDB, she is responsible for the design and supervision/oversight of investments, loans and technical co-operation (grants) financed by the Multilateral Investment Fund to support private sector development in Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados, and she also supports identification and design of projects in Guyana and Suriname

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Axel Kravatzky

Dr. Axel Kravatzky is Managing Partner of Syntegra-ESG, advising and guiding leaders on how to develop, activate and amplify the power of their brand and people to positively impact society and the natural environment profitably. As the practice lead for Integrated Governance and Strategy he has been working with Boards of Directors, Board Committees and Executives for over 20 years. His specialties are the financial, state-owned enterprise, utilities, and non-for-profit sectors. Axel was the founding Chairman of the Caribbean Corporate Governance Institute (CCGI) and lead the development of the first and only accredited Corporate Governance training programme in the Caribbean region. Axel is the Vice Chair of ISO/TC309 Governance of Organizations. He also serves as the co-convenor and technical editor for ISO/TC309/WG1 which developed the global benchmark on good organizational governance: "ISO 37000:2021 Governance of Organizations — Guidance". Axel is currently also project leader of "ISO 37006 Indicators of effective organizational governance – Guidance". He is a member of the European Corporate Governance Institute (ECGI) and the Romanian Association of Independent Directors.



Zé Alves-Pereira

Zé Alves-Pereira is Portuguese and joined the European Commission in 1996 at the Research, Technology & Development Directorate-general. By 2005 he was attached to EU's external affairs and since then has been posted in Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Angola, Algeria and Trinidad & Tobago. A macroeconomist by training specialized in Public Financial Management and Science Communication, he was gladly recycled in 2020 towards fighting climate change and implementing the EU Green Deal. His main projects and activities are related to green diplomacy, renewable energy and energy efficiency.



Micheal McQuilkin

Mr. McQuilkin has +5 years of capital markets experience including prior roles in equity research at Canaccord Genuity and asset management at Republic Wealth Management. Prior to his roles in finance, he worked as a Professional Geologist for seven years in Calgary AB, with Talisman Energy and Repsol Oil and Gas Canada Ltd. Mr. McQuilkin is a CFA Charter holder and holds a Bachelor's of Science in Geology and a minor in Geophysics from the University of Calgary.



Rheanna Chen

An Ecologist, Food Justice Advocate, Community Worker, and Mindfulness teacher, this passionate, highly motivated leader has a lifelong commitment to sustainable development in the Caribbean; using strong systems thinking, capacity building and communication skills to design inclusive spaces for food sovereignty, climate resilience and community empowerment. Rheanna is more specifically, Former Community development officer at World Food Programme and Farm Outreach Manager at Green Market Santa Cruz.



Ramesh Harrylal

Mr. Harrylal has 31 years' experience in the Oil and Gas sector. He is currently the Vice President - Operations at The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited. He has also worked at Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited (PPGPL) since 1991 and held various positions, including Senior I&E Engineer, Instrument & Electrical Superintendend Maintenance Manager, Vice President Engineering (Ag.) and Vice President Operations. Mr. Harrylal has also attained international experience at ConocoPhillips where he was assigned to several Gas Processing and gas gathering projects in West Texas and New Mexico USA. Mr. Harrylal have also participated in several Plant Expansion projects in various roles at PPGPL from conceptualization, Front End Loading, FEED, Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Commissioning, and start-up. His experience includes project development and engineering for expansion projects associated with gas processing plants and gas gathering facilities together with fourteen (14) years leadership experience.



Tracey A Weekes

Tracey A Weekes is an Actuary and CFA Charterholder and is currently Manager, Financial & Strategic Investments at The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC). With her technical expertise in treasury, finance and investments, pension management and actuarial science and a willingness to learn and innovate, Tracey has led and contributed to managing change in financial systems in organisations over the years. Presently, Tracey is focused on identifying, assessing and recommending equity investments in the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) space as part of NGC's evolving investment portfolio. As the company embarks on its "Green Agenda" initiative, Tracey has taken steps to deepen her technical knowledge and skills in this emerging field to guide the company's future growth in sustainability. She is also sharing her new knowledge with colleagues as NGC seeks to build a strong ESG team. Tracey recently participated in a multi-video series titled "New Energy Conversations" as NGC partnered with One Caribbean Media to influence and educate the national and regional landscape on topics such as "Financing the Energy Transition", "Methane Measuring and Satellite Monitoring" and "Renewable Energy and its relevance today".



Gina Sanguinetti Phillips

Gina Sanguinetti Phillips is a consultant with the Technical Assistance Manager and Corporate Communications Manager teams for CCRIF SPC. CCRIF is the world's first multi-country risk pool providing parametric insurance coverage for hurricanes, earthquakes, excess rainfall, fisheries and electric utilities to 22 Caribbean and Central American governments and one regional electric utility. Ms. Sanguinetti Phillips has over 20 years development experience in the Caribbean region, in the areas of environmental education, policy development, strategic planning, project management and communications in areas related to environment and sustainable development, energy, disaster risk management and climate change, among others. Also, she has lectured in environmental communication and environmental science at the University of the West Indies, Management Institute for National Development (Jamaica) and the University of Phoenix (USA). Ms. Sanguinetti Phillips has master's degrees in Environmental Management and Policy and in Computer Science.



LIST OF SPEAKERS



Vandana Mangroo

Vandana is the Founder and Managing Director of Hello Green, an established entrepreneur, recipient of the 2018 EY Entrepreneur of the Year Startup Award, 2020 BPTT's "Best Carbon Sequestration Project" winner, and holds a Bachelor in Commerce (B.Comm) from Ryerson University with a focus on Entrepreneurship, Marketing and Finance; and Master's in Small and Medium Enterprise Management MSMEM (Hons.) from the UWI. She is also certified in Principles of Waste Reduction, Recycling and Solid Waste Management, from SBCS; and Digital Automation in Warehouse and Inventory Management, from SHEL. She is also Founder and Managing Director of the NGO Institute of Environmental Research and Empowerment (IERE) and co-founder of Close the Loop (CTL) Caribbean. Vandana is an advocate for environmental policy and has worked with various public and private stakeholders such as the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards (TTBS), the Ministry of Planning and Development, the Inter-American Bank (IDB) SWMCOL, CARIRI, EuroChamTT, TRIBE Carnival amongst others.



Jonathan Barcant

A civil engineer who now specializes in soils, water and environment, Jon found himself switching from "gray" conventional engineering methods to greener approaches after working on a megaproject in Panama, witnessing firsthand the damages to thousands of acres of forest. He then co-founded a Caribbean-based NGO called IAMovement and has led the organization as Managing Director for over seven (7) years with a passion and unwavering optimism for the collective human power in reversing Climate change. He has helped nudge small changes for large impacts and helped IAMovement become one of the leading civil society voices in the Climate Change space within Trinidad and Tobago. After leading the first T&T People's Climate Marches (2014 and 2015), IAMovement has since partnered with 100+ local and international companies, government agencies and organisations on environmental and climate action in the Caribbean through a breadth of interventions including Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy awareness, Climate Talks, Green Infrastructure technologies, Education and Empowerment programmes, Quarry Rehabilitation, Waste Management, Climate Democracy and Blockchain for Impact. He also co-founded the Vetiver Education & Empowerment Project (VEEP) model which features the Vetiver System (VS) as a simple, cost-effective green infrastructure solution that also introduces livelihood opportunities to communities and countries through carbon-negative handicrafts and green business startups.



Damian Siqueiros

Multidisciplinary Artist for impact Damian Siqueiros uses art to create positive narratives about the future that lead to healing social and ecological environments. His current project, Terra Sapiens, focuses on representing viable positive futures that stem from the convergence of science, traditional indigenous knowledge, philosophy, art and design. He approaches social and ecological challenges looking for solutions through a synergetic approach. Siqueiros's has 20 years of career and multidisciplinary practice: photography, expanded film, art direction and art education. He has exhibited internationally including at the Carrousel du Louvre, the Frost Museum, Mexico, South Korea, Canada, and New York.



Ardene Sirjoo

With over 15 years' broadcast experience, Ardene is a popular voice on news and current affairs station i95.5FM. She is also co-founder and a director of Trini Good Media, a digital media company specialising in audio production. Ardene is preparing to take up her role as Communications Lead at The Cropper Foundation in November, 2022.



Omar Mohammed

Omar is the Chief Executive Officer of The Cropper Foundation, a technical non-profit organisation advancing sustainability in the Caribbean region. Prior to this, he was the Foundation's Programme Officer in Education for Sustainable Development from 2009 - 2014. During his original tenure at the Foundation, he also coordinated the first Latin American/Caribbean Hub of the Sub- Global Assessment Network, the follow up global programme of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. He has significant experience in the field of development and sustainability education and management, having served as the Coordinator of the UNESCO Schools Network, leading national and regional efforts at sustainability and diversity in education. He has also been a consultant with the University of the West Indies, various United Nations Agencies and other National Civil Society Organisations. In addition, he currently serves as a Director of CAISO: Sex & Gender Justice, one of the leading LGBTI+ NGOs in the Caribbean. He has a BSc in Environmental and Natural Resource Management (University of the West Indies) an MBA – Innovation Specialisation (U.W.I.), and an MST in Sustainability Leadership (University of Cambridge), with professional certification in Project Management, Environmental Human Rights and Climate Change Communication.



Anaitee Mills

Anaitee Mills is a sustainable development expert with over 15 years of experience consulting in topics related to sustainable energy, climate change adaptation, climate finance, disaster risk financing, and climate risk for highly reputable organizations such as the World Bank Group, the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Resources Institute, USAID and the NDC Partnership; as well as the University of West Indies and the University of Oxford, private sector specialized consultancy, and for governments in Latin America and the Caribbean. Prior to launching her international development career, Anaitee worked for the public sector in Guatemala City where she conducted policy analysis and stakeholder engagement in the energy, water, and agriculture sectors. Within the IDB, she spent almost 8 years in the Energy and Climate change Sector Divisions providing research, technical, and project implementation oversight for projects in Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Belize, Barbados, and Guyana. She has established herself in Jamaica as a climate consultant and collaborates with multiple public sector agencies facilitating sectoral consultations in the implementation of climate targets, conducting stakeholder management, and international resource mobilization. Anaitee is a co-founder of Panamanian-based ITACA Solutions, a technical services provider focused in promoting innovation, training, and climate change adaptation in coastal areas in the Caribbean. ITACA believes in building climate ready, transformative, and inclusive Caribbean communities led by motivated and prepared local champions who are empowered to "Build Back Better", lead the recovery post-disasters and create a climate-resilient culture for a low carbon transition.



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