



SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY



**EnGenDER**

Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery,  
Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean



# Resilient, Inclusive, Smart and Safe (RISS) Caribbean SIDS

## Launch Event

31st October 2022

UN House Barbados



World  
Cities  
Day October 31  
BETTER CITY, BETTER LIFE



---

# From The Caribbean to the World: Inclusive planning for resilient communities

## Launch Objectives

- Accelerate momentum in the Caribbean for participatory, inclusive and gender responsive urban planning approaches.
- Share knowledge on and celebrate local innovative and gender transformative urban planning solutions in the Caribbean that have involved local communities and local action to build resilience.
- Discuss better practices in empowering local and regional governments to create greener, more equitable and sustainable cities.
- Highlight better practices on inclusive policies and raise the voices of the most left behind. Launch the RISS Model to support development of Resilient, Inclusive, Smart and Safe Caribbean SIDS.

---

**Access The Caribbean RISS Model here**



# Agenda

Time	Topic	Details
10:00–10:03	Welcome	Moderator: UN Women MCO–Letitia Nicholas, Human Rights and Law Advisor
10:03 –10:10	Opening Remarks	Didier Trebucq, Resident Coordinator, Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean
10:10-10:30	Keynote–Setting the scene for the event	Professor Michelle Mycoo, Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine
10:30 –10:40	Presentation of the Caribbean RISS Model	Heather Pinnock, RISS Advisor, UN Women Consultant (Virtual)
10:40–10:50	Launch of Caribbean RISS Model	Tonni Ann Brodber, UN Women MCO Caribbean
10:50 –10:55	Break	
10:55 –11:45	Round of presentations on local solutions & approaches	<p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Dr. Deborah Thomas-Austin, Managing Director, East Port of Spain Development Company Limited (Trinidad and Tobago): Experiences from East Port of Spain(In-person)</li> <li>•Lennox O'Reilly Lewis, Division Chief, Economic Infrastructure Division, Caribbean Development Bank (Regional) (In-person)</li> <li>•Travis Graham, Executive Director, GoldenEye Foundation (Jamaica) (In-person)</li> <li>•Andrea Dempster-Chung, Cofounder and Executive Director, Kingston Creative (Jamaica): Civil society led urban solutions(Virtual)</li> <li>•Adriana Campelo, UNDRR Regional Coordinator for 'Making Cities Resilient 2030'–Experience from Tobago(Trinidad and Tobago)(Virtual)</li> </ul>
11:45 –11:55	Moderated Q&A	
11:55–12:00	Closing remarks	UN Women MCO –Tonni Ann Brodber
Lunch is served after the event		

# Remarks

## Mr. Didier Trebucq

### Resident Coordinator

UN RCO Barbados and the OECS



Mr. Didier Trebucq, an economist, was appointed by the UN Secretary-General as UN Resident Coordinator (RC) for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean in January 2019. He brings more than 20 years of experience in the development and humanitarian realm working with the United Nations and international NGOs. As Resident Coordinator he leads the United Nations Sub-regional Team and is the highest-ranking official of the United Nations development system at country level. Prior to becoming the Resident Coordinator for Barbados and the OECS, Mr. Didier Trebucq served as UNDP Country Director in Brazil. Previously he was the Deputy Resident Representative for UNDP in Peru and Deputy Resident Representative for UNDP in Guyana. He also worked in UNDP India as Programme Officer & Team Leader of Crisis Prevention and Recovery. Before joining the UN, Mr. Trebucq worked as Head of Delegation of the French Red Cross in Colombia and Ecuador. Also, he was Administrator of "Medecins Sans Frontieres" in Kyrgyzstan and Tadjikistan and previously worked as an Executive in the private banking sector in France for five years. Mr. Trebucq is an Economist and holds a Master of Science in Sustainable Development, with specialism in Environmental Economics from Imperial College London (UK) and a Master in Business Administration from the "Institut Français de Gestion" in France. He speaks fluently four languages: French, English, Spanish and Portuguese.

## Tonni Ann Brodber

### Representative

### UN Women MCO Caribbean

Tonni Ann Brodber is the Representative of the UN Women Multi-Country Office- Caribbean. Prior to her appointment in August 2020, Ms. Brodber served as Deputy Representative from 2015 -2020 with the MCO Caribbean. Before this Ms Brodber was the Team Leader for the Advancing Gender Justice in the Pacific programme with the UN Women Fiji Multi-Country Office. Ms Brodber served as the Gender Specialist for the United Nations Development Programme in South Africa, as well as briefly with the UN Women South Africa Multi-Country Office and established what is now the UN Women Country Office in Haiti. Ms. Brodber's work experience also includes lecturing in International Relations and Development Studies at Yanshan University in China, and directing and co-producing, a film on Haiti. Ms. Brodber received her first degree from the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus and has post graduate degrees in Development Studies and Business Administration from the London School of Economics and ESADE Business School in Barcelona. Ms. Brodber is raising two sons with her husband.



# Keynote Speaker

## Professor Michelle Mycoo



Professor Michelle Mycoo is the Professor of Urban and Regional Planning in the Department of Geomatics Engineering and Land Management. She holds a Ph.D. in Urban Planning, a M.Sc. in Urban Planning and a B.A. in Geography and Social Sciences. She received The University of the West Indies/ Guardian Group Teaching Award for Teaching Excellence in 2014 and the same year was awarded The University of the West Indies/ National Gas Company Research Award for the Most Outstanding Researcher in the Faculty of Engineering. Professor Mycoo is a Coordinating Lead Author for the Small Islands Chapter 15 of the Working Group II Sixth Assessment Report on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation, which is being prepared for the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change. Since 2011, she has written 16 publications which address the complex challenges of climate change and offer insights into adaptation and resilience in the context of small islands. Professionally, Professor Mycoo has 31 years experience as an Urban and Regional Planner. Before joining academia, she was a Chartered Town Planner of the UK Royal Town Planning Institute and worked at the Town and Country Planning Division of Trinidad and Tobago, the Urban Division of the World Bank, Washington D.C. USA and as a private consultant on national and regional projects. She has been a Professional Member of the Trinidad and Tobago Society of Planners since 1991 and has served as President, Vice President and Secretary. She was also a member of the International Society of City and Regional Planners for over a decade

## Heather Pinnock

**Senior RISS Advisor**

**UN Women MCO Caribbean**

Heather Pinnock is a Jamaican PlaceMaker and Champion of Sustainable Tropical Living. She is a development professional with formal training in Architecture, Urban Design and Project Management, as well as over 23 years of experience in construction and real estate. She is a graduate of the Bartlett Development Planning Unit at University College London and the Caribbean School of Architecture at University of Technology, Jamaica.

Heather has worked across Jamaica as well as in Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago. Her experience includes working with the Ministry of Water and Housing, the University of the West Indies, the United Nations Development Programme Multi-country Office in Jamaica, and the environmental non-profit, CARIBSAVE among others. In 2021 she concluded a successful stint leading one of the Government of Jamaica's largest implementation agencies, the Urban Development Corporation, where she championed the cause of 'making development happen sustainably'.

Heather is also a certified SCRUM Master, an EarthCheck Design Accredited Professional and a licensed realtor associate in Jamaica. Since leaving the public sector, she launched LUCEA Caribbean, a company with a focus on sustainable development and conscious living for tropical regions to further her Work for an Equitable and Resilient Future.



# Panelists

---



## Dr. Deborah Thomas-Austin

Dr. Deborah Thomas-Austin is the Managing Director of the **East Port of Spain Development Company**, a special purpose State Enterprise established by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, a position she has held since the Company became operational in 2006. Previously, she served as the Assistant Coordinator and Town Planner with the Town and Country Planning Division of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago from 2003 to March 2006. She holds a BA (Hons) in Planning Studies and an MSc in Urban Planning from Oxford Polytechnic (now Oxford Brookes University), UK, and a PhD in Land Economy from the University of Cambridge (Wolfson College), UK.

Dr. Thomas-Austin serves as a part-time lecturer on the MSc Planning and Development programme in the Department of Surveying and Land Information at the University of the West Indies, Trinidad since 2002 and for the past nine (9) years has also lectured in Land Use Planning on the MSc programme in Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health in the Department of Chemistry at UWI St. Augustine. She is a former President of the Trinidad and Tobago Society of Planners.

Dr. Thomas has consulted for the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Centre for Human Settlements as a land use planner/project manager, working with the governments of Anguilla, Montserrat and Antigua and Barbuda between 1992 and 2001. She has also provided consultancy services to the Organisation of American States in the field of hazard mitigation in the Caribbean and participated in designing a hazard risk management course for the Caribbean Development Bank.

Dr. Thomas is also a voluntary, trained tutor with the Adult Literacy Tutors Association of Trinidad and Tobago (ALTA) for the past eleven (11) years.

Dr. Thomas served two terms (2011-2015 and 2015-2019) as President of the World YWCA (a global movement of women and girls with a presence in over 125 countries advocating for, defending and promoting women's rights, leadership and empowerment and working for justice, peace, health, human dignity, freedom and the environment) and is a former President of the YWCA of Trinidad and Tobago.

---

## Lennox O'Reilly Lewis

Lennox O'Reilly Lewis is The Division Chief (DC), Economic Infrastructure Division (EID) of Caribbean Development Bank. He is an accomplished Environmental Engineer with over 20 years of experience in infrastructure development, team leadership, and organisational management. He has led the identification, design, appraisal and delivery of water and sanitation projects across the Caribbean and supported environmental planning and policy development at the national, regional and international level. He is proficient in multi-lateral financing procedures as well as in the conduct of climate vulnerability assessments for development projects.



# Panelists

---

## Travis Graham



Travis Graham is the Executive Director of the **GoldenEye Foundation, Oracabessa Bay, Jamaica**. He manages the implementation of the Foundation's Planet and People programs, and is a Director of the Oracabessa Marine Trust. He is a Community Development Specialist and a Sustainable Tourism Consultant, with over 13 years experience in research, community and environmental development, sustainable blue economy, social enterprise development, research, grant writing and project management.

---

## Andrea Dempster-Chung

Andrea Dempster-Chung is the Cofounder and Executive Director of **Kingston Creative**, a movement to transform Downtown Kingston, Jamaica through the Arts, and the founder of Bookophilia, a bookstore and cafe on Hope Road that promotes Caribbean authors. Over the past 20 years, she has held senior roles in strategy development and project management within the Government of Jamaica, Digicel and GraceKennedy and has served on the boards of Jamaica Social Investment Fund, The National Land Agency and the Public Health Committee of Jamaica. Andrea managed the Arts portfolio for the British Council in Jamaica, where she developed strategy and implemented key projects in film, literature, and visual arts. She is a business consultant and has supported creative entrepreneurs in Jamaica National's SEBI programme, the Branson Centre of Entrepreneurship Caribbean and in ASPIRE, Barbados. She holds a Master of Science in Structural Engineering, a Prince2 Certification in Project Management and a Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering. Andrea has studied Art & Finance at the Sotheby's School of Art in London and Finance at the Stanford School of Business in California. She was also featured in Forbes magazine as one of 10 women leading the charge for a sustainable future for the Caribbean.



# Panelists

---

## Adriana Campelo



Adriana Campelo is the **Regional Coordinator for the Making Cities Resilient MCR 2030** initiative for Americas & The Caribbean UNDRR. She has international experience and a proven record in urban resilience, climate change, sustainable economic development and place making. As well as comprehensive experience working in government administration, academia and dealing with private sector and philanthropic initiatives both at national and international levels. She is skilled in strategy and project development, public policy, intercultural communication, research design, lecturing, and academic writing, and is a Fellow of Higher Education Academy focused in Business Administration, Management and Operations in recognition of attainment against the UK Professional Standards Framework.

## Letitia Nicholas

**Event Moderator**

**UN Women MCO Caribbean**

Letitia Nicholas is the Human Rights and Law Programme Analyst, for the UN Women MCO Caribbean. Ms. Nicholas is an international development practitioner, with interdisciplinary experience in areas ranging from environmental sustainability; poverty reduction; human rights, with special interest in vulnerable populations; and gender equality. She has worked for 15 years in project and programme management, with multi-country expertise through her work with the UN and other Caribbean Intergovernmental Organizations. This work has afforded her the opportunity to live in Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, and Saint Lucia.

Ms. Nicholas holds a first degree in Development Studies from the University of East Anglia in the U.K. and holds post graduate degrees in Social Policy and Administration from the University of Nottingham, and in Management of International Organizations from the SDA Bocconi School of Business in Milan.





---

# Background on the Caribbean RISS Model

UN Women Multi Country Office Caribbean has initiated a Resilient, Inclusive, Smart and Safe (RISS) Cities programme to advance the development, promotion, and adoption of inclusive, gender sensitive, planning standards for the region. The project aligns with the Global Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs) with particular focus on Goal #5 – Gender Equality and Goal #11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities. The Caribbean RISS Model has been developed in consultation with government agencies and civil society organizations in the Bahamas, Belize, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago as well as regional partners. Aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda, it draws on lessons learned from the several global best practices on urban planning and gender equality.

---

The RISS programme is grounded in a human security approach, to enhance safety, capacity, resilience and opportunity for whole communities. It recognizes the intersections of climate change and disaster risk resilience, gender-based violence and economic empowerment and strives to build resilience through strategic, integrated interventions.

Specifically, the programme will integrate the following cross-cutting themes:



The programme has also developed a community assessment methodology to understand community realities and aspirations for development of the community and its public spaces. The methodology follows high ethical standards and has protective measures in place to ensure safety and security of the community participants who participate in the assessment.

The Theory of Change (ToC) for achieving this goal is:

<p><b>If</b></p>	<p>(i) Women, girls, men, boys, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI+) persons, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV, youth, the elderly, indigenous persons, have increased influence on development of the public spaces and enhanced capacities for livelihood development.</p> <p>(ii) Cities and towns invest in the resilience, safety, accessibility and economic viability of public spaces including in physical improvements to abandoned public spaces, markets, green spaces and transportation systems by prioritizing the needs of marginalized groups.</p> <p>(iii) Youth are engaged in growth industries through employability and entrepreneurship; and</p> <p>(iv) Social norms, attitudes and behaviors are transformed, and communities are mobilized to promote citizens right to enjoy safe cities and safe public spaces free from violence and sex- or gender -based, class or any other form of discrimination.</p>
<p><b>Then</b></p>	<p>Marginalized groups and all people in the Caribbean will have increased resilience and there will be a significant reduction in crime and violence in public spaces, and all people can enjoy their rights to sustainable and accessible public spaces and transport systems.</p>
<p><b>Because</b></p>	<p>Public spaces are climate resilient and safe; communities are empowered and have healthy creative expression, and violence is being prevented before it happens or re-occurs.</p>

By using gender equality and equity as an entry point and catalyst for resilience building and economic empowerment, the programme will contribute to the pledge of ‘Leaving No One Behind’ and support the creation of public spaces and communities that are climate resilient, inclusive, smart and safe for everyone.



## Acknowledgements

We thank you for your support and participation at our Resilient, Inclusive, Smart and Safe (RISS) Caribbean SIDS project launch event.

A special thanks to our keynote speaker and panelists for sharing their knowledge, and thank you to the UN Women staff who supported the planning and execution of this event.

## Project Contacts

**Ms. Kyana Bowen**  
**Programme Officer - Humanitarian, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Resilience**  
[kyana.bowen@unwomen.org](mailto:kyana.bowen@unwomen.org)

**Ms. Isabel Auld**  
**Programme Assistant - Climate Change & Disaster Risk Resilience**  
[isabel.auld@unwomen.org](mailto:isabel.auld@unwomen.org)

