

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Growth and Resilience Dialogue with Social Partners

*“Building Resilient Institutions and Infrastructure for Sustainable Growth”*



Sir Cecil Jacobs Auditorium, ECCB Headquarters, St Kitts and Nevis  
14 February 2019







# Welcome to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Growth and Resilience Dialogue with Social Partners





# **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Growth and Resilience Dialogue with Social Partners**

## **14 February 2019**

**The *3<sup>rd</sup> Growth and Resilience Dialogue* brings together key social partners from across the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU) under the theme: “Building Resilient Institutions and Infrastructure for Sustainable Growth”.**

**ECCU territories continue to face myriad challenges including low levels of growth, high unemployment and mounting fiscal and debt pressures. This is exacerbated by the effects of climate change which continue to bring about more frequent and violent storms, resulting in billions of dollars in damages and losses. Given the confluence of these factors, it is critical that ECCU territories come up with concrete measures to help improve their resilience, raise growth levels and safeguard the hard won gains of the past decades.**

**This year’s dialogue will see social partners, government officials and representatives of financial institutions discussing and devising action plans for enhancing growth and increasing resilience with focus on the two critically important thematic areas of strengthening infrastructure and strengthening institutions.**

**The first two sessions will be devoted to expositions on strengthening the institutions for governance and ‘Doing Business’ to improve the member states ranking globally. The final plenary session will address the role of a fit for purpose infrastructure to ensure trade facilitation, logistics and connectivity, with a view towards a long-term solution commencing with a viable fast ferry service for the region.**





# What happened at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Growth and Resilience Dialogue with Social Partners

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Growth and Resilience Dialogue was held 15 February 2018 at the ECCB Headquarters in St Kitts and Nevis. Three experts from regional and international organisations presented their perspectives on the theme: *'Working Together to Raise Growth Levels and Building Resilience in the ECCU'*, and engaged the over 100 social partners on the main challenges to growth and development in the ECCU.

Following the February forum, national consultations were held in seven of the eight member countries of the ECCU (Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saint Lucia and St Kitts and Nevis) to populate the action plan within the key thematic areas, to:-

1. Focus the minds of all stakeholders on the need for paradigm shifts to improve competitiveness while becoming more adept at advancing our region's Doing Business performance;
2. Repeat and reinforce methodologies and best practices and mitigate bottlenecks in the regional transportation, connectivity and logistics systems;
3. Devise policies and processes for good governance amidst the several factors constraining the development of climate smart sustainable national and regional infrastructure; and
4. Continue with the implementation of the Growth Action Plan.





# What to expect at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Growth and Resilience Dialogue with Social Partners

**3<sup>rd</sup> Growth and Resilience Dialogue with Social Partners**

***“Building Resilient Institutions and Infrastructure for Sustainable Growth”***

**The objectives of this year’s Dialogue are:**

- i. To focus, with greater intensity, on two of the key thematic areas: Institutional Strengthening and Infrastructure;**
- ii. To share effective best practices for growth and resilience from practitioners in other small states;**
- iii. To encourage the exchange of ideas while providing clarity from present and past implementers of methodologies and technologies of productivity; and**
- iv. To forge further consensus on the key elements of the Growth Action Plan.**





# Agenda

**Thursday, 14 February 2019**

<b>8:30 – 9:00 a.m.</b>	Registration
<b>9:00 – 9:30 a.m.</b>	Official Opening <i>Remarks – Timothy N. J. Antoine, Governor, ECCB - H E Dr Didacus Jules – Director General, OECS Commission</i>
<b>9:30 – 10:45 a.m.</b>	<b>PANEL 1</b> Building Resilient Governance Frameworks: The Prince Edward Island experience <i>Moderator: Clive Bacchus – Federation Media Group Speaker: Dr Jim Randall – Professor, University of Prince Edward Island</i>
<b>10:45 – 11:10 a.m.</b>	Break
<b>11:10 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.</b>	<b>PANEL 2</b> Building Resilient Institutions: A New Paradigm in Doing Business <i>Moderator: D Tracy Polius – Chief Director (Policy), ECCB Speakers: Abha Prasad – The World Bank; and Dr Kieron Swift – Compete Caribbean</i>
<b>12:45 – 2:00 p.m.</b>	Lunch
<b>2:00 – 3:15 p.m.</b>	<b>PANEL 3</b> Building Resilient Infrastructure for Sustainable Growth: Plans and Prospects for Regional Fast Ferries <i>Moderator: H E Dr Didacus Jules – Director General, OECS Commission Speakers: S Brian Samuel – Caribbean Development Bank; and Judith Green – International Finance Corporation</i>
<b>3:15 – 3:45 p.m.</b>	Plenary Discussions
<b>3:45 – 4:00 p.m.</b>	Summary of key takeaways and conclusion <i>Dr the Rt Hon Keith C Mitchell - Chairman of the ECCB Monetary Council</i>

# Panel 1

## Moderator



**CLIVE BACCHUS**

**Clive Bacchus** has worked in media in the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis since 1998 when he joined the St Kitts-Nevis Observer newspaper. He is currently the Managing Director of Federation Media Group, the owners and operators of the privately owned WINN FM 98.9.

Bacchus is a past president of the Association of Caribbean Media Workers (ACM) and the Media Association of St Kitts and Nevis. He has worked extensively in regional media as a correspondent for the Caribbean News Agency (CANA), BBC Caribbean Service, Voice of America and the Associated Press.



## Speaker



### **DR JIM RANDALL**

**Dr Jim Randall** is Professor of Island Studies at the University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI) and serves as Coordinator of the Master of Arts in Island Studies (MAIS) Programme and the Undergraduate Island Studies Minor.

He is also the co-holder (with Dr Godfrey Baldacchino at University of Malta) of the UNESCO Chair in Island Studies and Sustainability. His background training is as an economic and social geographer. He has been the Principal Investigator, Co-investigator, or Collaborator on peer-reviewed grant and contract applications totalling almost \$5 million (CAD) and has written more than 35 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters in the area of quality-of-life indicators, economic and urban geography, and community-university research collaboration. Since joining the Island Studies programme at the UPEI, he has written on quality-of-life issues in small island jurisdictions and biotechnology-based entrepreneurship on Prince Edward Island. He is currently writing an introductory Undergraduate Island Studies eTextbook to accompany an online version of the 2nd-year Introduction to Island Studies course at UPEI.



# Panel 2

## Moderator



## D TRACY POLIUS

**D Tracy Polius**, a national of Saint Lucia, assumed the position of Chief Director (Policy) at the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank on 7 January, 2019.

Polius is an economist with a blend of experience in public policy, commercial banking and academia. She has worked with the Government of Saint Lucia in various capacities including: Deputy Director of Economic Affairs from 2002-2007 and Permanent Secretary, Planning and National Development from 2014 to 2017. Immediately prior to her appointment at the ECCB, Polius served as Permanent Secretary in the Departments of Housing and Physical Planning (2017-2018).

During her tenure with the Government of Saint Lucia, Polius served on the following boards:

- Saint Lucia Development Bank
- Saint Lucia Social Development Fund
- Trade and Export Promotion Agency
- National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission
- Development Control Authority
- Caribbean Development Bank

Polius has also worked as a Research Fellow at the Caribbean Centre for Money and Finance, UWI, where she served as co-editor of the Journal of Business, Finance and Economics in Emerging Economies among other duties. She functioned as Group Economist/Strategy analyst for CIBC FirstCaribbean with responsibility for production of the quarterly intelligence publication on CIBC/FCIB territories. Her appointment as Policy Chief marks her second stint at the ECCB, having previously worked as an Economist from 1999-2002.

Polius has published regionally and internationally in the areas of reserve pooling, financial sector stability, price formation and labour markets.

Polius holds an MSc in Economics from the University of the West Indies (Saint Augustine).



## Speaker



### ERNESTO FRANCO TEMPLE

Ernesto Franco-Temple is a Senior Private Sector Specialist with the Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation Global Practice of the World Bank Group. He works on advisory and lending operations for improving investment climate and business environment with the IFC and the IBRD, and he has been leading for the last 5 years the Regional LAC Program that provides advisory services to countries in the region on how to improve their investment and business climate, especially in the areas covered by the Doing Business Report of the WBG.

Ernesto has field global experience working in Latin America in countries such as Argentina, Ecuador, El Salvador, Paraguay, Peru, and Mexico, and in the Caribbean in Dominica, Saint Lucia, Haiti, and Jamaica. In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa, working in Kosovo, Cameroon, Congo, Niger, and Nigeria. He is also engaged in lending operations to strengthen the system for innovation, science and technology, on projects to improve business regulation, as well as studies on the gender perspective of business regulation in the Caribbean.

Prior to joining the World Bank Group in 2006, Ernesto worked as an economist and management consultant for several international and technical cooperation institutions, as well as in the Peruvian regulatory agencies on competition policy, water and sanitary regulation, national quality infrastructure, consumer protection, and agribusiness and food processing projects.

Ernesto is an Economist with BSc in Social Sciences from the Catholic University of Peru, and holds a MSc in Agri Economics from Reading University (UK), MBA in General and Strategic Management from Maastricht School of Management (Netherlands) and from the School of Management of the Catholic University of Peru. Also counts with specialization studies on different areas such as International and Commercial Negotiations from ENA (France), and Project Management from ProjektStirning (Sweden).



## Speaker



### **DR KIERON SWIFT**

**Dr Kieron Swift** is a Project Development Consultant with the Compete Caribbean Partnership Facility (CCPF) - a multi-donor private sector development facility that is funded by the United Kingdom's Department of International Development (DFID), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

His current focus is supporting the development of the Caribbean private sector by strengthening the region's capacity to stimulate innovation in firms, while addressing key constraints on the business climate side. This includes identifying and coordinating projects that fund innovation and productivity-enhancing activities at the firm level utilising different instruments such as innovation funds, corporate venturing, and entrepreneurship support programmes, as well as working with governments to enhance the environment in which firms invest and operate through legislative and regulatory reform, and the integration of technology-enabled systems.

Dr Swift formerly worked for the Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) – an advisory body to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago – where he led the EDAB's innovation and competitiveness work stream.

His experience spans both policy development and programme management, having managed the Idea2Innovation (i2i) Grant Funding Programme for three years, co-developed the revised National Innovation Policy of Trinidad and Tobago, and during a previous stint at the National ICT Centre (now known as iGovTT), conducted research that informed the execution of the country's first National ICT Strategy, FastForward.

Dr Swift has a BSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering (with specialisation in Computer Systems and Communication Systems) from the University of the West Indies, St Augustine, an MSc in Public Policies for Science, Technology and Innovation, and a PhD in Science and Technology Policy from the University of Sussex in the UK.

# Panel 3

## Moderator



### **HIS EXCELLENCY DR DIDACUS JULES**

**His Excellency Dr Didacus Jules** assumed the post of Director General, of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) in May 2014. In this capacity he is responsible for driving the regional integration thrust towards a single economic and social space involving 10 Eastern Caribbean States.

Dr Jules has had extensive regional and international experience, most of it focused on education, social policy and organisational transformation. He served as Registrar and Chief Executive Officer of the Caribbean Examinations Council (2008-2014) leading a thorough modernisation of the Council. He has also served as Vice President, Human Resources, Cable and Wireless St Lucia (2005-2008); Permanent Secretary for Education and Human Resource Development, St. Lucia (1997-2008) as well as Permanent Secretary for Education and Chief Education Officer in revolutionary Grenada from 1981-1983.

He has provided consultancy services to national governments, regional and international organisations in the Caribbean, Africa, Europe and North America. He chaired The World Bank's Vision 2020 Committee on Education in the Caribbean and has served on many private sector, educational, and philanthropic boards. He holds a BA (hons) and an MBA from the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, an MSc in Curriculum and Instruction and a PhD in Educational Policy and Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr Jules has authored numerous articles on educational policy, educational reform and adult education in the Caribbean and in small island states, as well as other publications on public sector reform, organisational transformation and cultural studies. His work includes chapters in several books published by Routledge (1991, 1994, 2010), SUNY Press (1993), and Nova Publications (2006).



## Speaker



### **S BRIAN SAMUEL**

**S Brian Samuel** is the Head of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) at the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), where he spearheads the Bank's initiatives to improve the enabling environment for PPPs in the Caribbean, and to build up a pipeline of bankable projects.

Prior to joining the CDB, Samuel worked for 20 years with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), where he led project financing, privatisation and PPP deals in the Caribbean and Africa. Notable projects included the privatisation of Haiti Flour Mill, Trinidad and Tobago Methanol Company, Uganda Telecoms, Air Tanzania; and the tendering of eco-tourism PPPs for South African National Parks (SANParks).

Samuel was Vice-President at Castalia Strategic Advisors, where he led consultancy assignments for The World Bank and other multilateral agencies. Earlier in his career, Samuel worked in public utilities, shipping, agriculture, aquaculture and tourism. He is a Grenadian national whose interests are reading, writing, sailing and travelling off the beaten track.

## Speaker



### JUDITH GREEN

**Judith Green** rejoined the International Finance Corporation in April 2016 as the Head for the English-speaking Caribbean, with responsibility for overseeing and expanding the IFC's regional development impact by identifying investment and advisory opportunities.

Judith previously worked with the IFC from 2011-2013 as a Senior Investment Officer prior to taking external service leave from the IFC to head the Government of Jamaica's Coordination and Implementation Unit, which was responsible for overseeing the implementation of the 2013 4-year Extended Fund Facility with the International Monetary Fund. Judith also has extensive capital markets and corporate banking experience, having held senior management positions in RBC Bank Jamaica Limited, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. (New York) and Citibank N.A. Jamaica. Judith holds a BSc in Accounting from the University of the West Indies and is a fellow of both the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (UK) and the Institute of Chartered Accountants Jamaica.



# Administrative Details



## **VENUE**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Growth and Resilience Dialogue with Social Partners will be held at the Sir Cecil Jacobs Auditorium, ECCB Headquarters, Bird Rock, St Kitts and Nevis.

**Please be advised that the ECCB campus is a non-smoking environment.**



## **DRESS CODE**

Business attire.



## **REGISTRATION**

All participants must register upon arrival at the venue. ECCB ushers will be on hand to guide the process.



## **TRANSPORTATION**

Round-trip transportation will be provided on 14 February 2019 from the designated hotel to the ECCB Headquarters. Pick-up time is 8:15 a.m. Participants will be responsible for their transportation arrangements from and to the airport.



## **LUNCH AND REFRESHMENT**

Lunch and refreshment will be provided for all participants.

# Administrative Details



## RESOURCES

### ✓ **WIFI**

Wireless internet connection is available in the Sir Cecil Jacobs Auditorium, foyer of the Auditorium and the Executive Dining Room. Passwords will be made available on arrival at the ECCB.

### ✓ **Online link**

You may access background information and details about this and previous sessions of the Growth and Resilience Dialogue via the link below:

**<https://www.eccb-centralbank.org/p/growth-and-resilience-dialogue>**



## MEDICAL SUPPORT

Should medical attention be required, a senior nurse from the Joseph N France Hospital will be stationed in the sick room adjacent to the foyer of the Sir Cecil Jacobs Auditorium.



## SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat of the Growth and Resilience Dialogue is located in the foyer of the Sir Cecil Jacobs Auditorium.

Contact:

Coordinator	Daniel Arthurton – Adviser, ECCB
Administration	Karina Phillips-Somersall – Corporate Relations Officer, ECCB
	Wendy George - Senior Administrative Assistant, ECCB
	Cosilia Jeremiah – Senior Administrative Assistant, ECCB
Contact information	sppd-sec@eccb-centralbank.org 1 869 465 2537 Ext 3817



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## About the ECCB

### ***Mission***

Advancing the good of the people of the Currency Union by maintaining monetary and financial stability and promoting growth and development

### ***Vision***

To be a model institution delivering exceptional service and influential policy advice to support the development of a thriving Currency Union

### ***Core Values (STAR)***

**Service Excellence**

**Teamwork and Truth Telling**

**Accountability**

**Results**

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