

## Consultant Profiles:

### DRM INTERNATIONAL - NATIONAL DIASTER RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN AND DAMAGE ASSESSMENT PLAN – (SENOR ARTURO LOPEZ-PORTILLO CONTRERAS – LEAD CONSULTANT AND MS. HEATHER STAGER - ASSOCIATE)



**Mr. Arturo López-Portillo** Contreras has 30 years of professional experience in Disaster Management (DM) in 35 countries in four continents. He has conducted DM projects in the Caribbean Region for the last 18 years in all 18 CDEMA countries. He is acquainted with DM organizations, initiatives and projects in the region, with the DDME, with TCI institutions, and with hazards TCI is prone to. Mr. López-Portillo has experience in working in disaster management offices in SIDS (Saint Lucia, Grenada, Seychelles Islands) for 6 years, so he understands the functions and limitations of an NDO. Mr. López-Portillo has extensive experience in the design of Disaster/Emergency response plans in the Caribbean, particularly for natural phenomena such as tropical cyclones, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc. He has designed National Disaster Plans for Saint Lucia, Grenada, Montserrat and St. Kitts-Nevis. Mr. López-Portillo has been to TCI four times conducting DM projects in recent years.



#### HEATHER STAGER

**Ms. Heather Stager** has 7 years of experience in Disaster Management (DM) focused mainly in the Caribbean. She has contributed to DM policy and practice reviews and research in 15 Caribbean islands, including the TCI. Ms. Stager has experience in community-based vulnerability assessment, and further has worked in Barbados, Saint Lucia, Tobago and Jamaica on disaster and climate change projects. Additionally, Ms. Stager has experience working at the CDEMA Coordinating Unit where she contributed to the review of the CDM Strategy and Framework during the transition from CDERA to CDEMA and she participated in the CARICOM Disaster Response Unit training. As a result of this professional experience, Ms. Stager understands the diverse local contexts in which the Regional CDM Strategy is applied and her training in DM permits her to effectively translate policy into action.

## **DR. BALFOUR SPENCE LEAD CONSULTANT- NATIONAL OIL SPILL PLAN AND PORT CONTINGENCY PLAN**

**Balfour Spence** is currently a Professor in the Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies Department at Brandon University where he applies 23 years of active academic research and scholarship to the delivery of the Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies programme. Balfour has worked extensively throughout the Caribbean region as an academic researcher and practitioner in disaster risk management and has also spent short stints working in this capacity in Indonesia and the Philippines. He joined the staff at Brandon University in 2008 from the University of the West Indies where he taught for 16 years. During his graduate years at the University of Manitoba, Balfour was also employed as an Instructor in the Geography Department. Balfour holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Geography and Economics with a research focus on food security issues in the Caribbean region. He has published extensively on a wide range of disaster and environmental management issues and has supervised 5 PhD and a number of Masters dissertations. He has published 25 papers in referred journals and presented numerous conference papers on issues related to disaster risk management and environmental management. In addition, he has prepared several technical reports related consultancy/research projects. Balfour has also secured research grants from a number of international funding agencies.



## **LEARN AND LEAD CONSULTANCY- EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PLAN**

**Jamell Robinson M.Sc., B.A:** Comprehensive Disaster Management Expert. An inspirational, skilled, energetic and action-oriented leader who has demonstrated both personal and career development at every level, while also leaving a mark of sustainability, empowerment and betterment of those in his charge. Never shied away from hard work due to impeccable work ethic and ability to adapt to diverse situations highlighted by being appointed the Youngest National Disaster Coordinator in the Region.

A strong critical and strategic thinker with a proven track record of policy, program, and project development and implementation, who is also a noted presenter, trainer, and public speaker for all organizations with whom he has been associated. Demonstrates prudent financial management which ensures efficiency and maximization of productivity, while also managing broad and complex stakeholder relationships both locally and regionally.



## MR. PAUL SAUNDERS – MARITIME / CRUISE SHIP ACCIDENT PLAN

**Paul H. Saunders** is a Disaster Risk Management professional with over 20 years' experience in the field. A Jamaican by birth, he has served the Caribbean region in leadership positions in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago as the Deputy Director General and the CEO at the National Disaster Management offices. Also in Jamaica, Paul served as the National Coordinator for the Haitian Refugee Management Programme before re-locating to Trinidad and Tobago. Since 2008 he has been an independent disaster risk management consultant working closely with numerous regional bodies such as PAHO, UNDP and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA). Most of his time is spent visiting the various countries in the region advising the governments as well as building capacity in a number of their entities. He is a member of the USAID OFDA Regional SURGE Team and the PAHO Regional Response Team. He holds an MSc. in Natural Resources Management from UWI, Jamaica. He is also an Associate Business Continuity Planning professional. Paul is a recipient of the Prime Minister's Medal of Appreciation for Service to Jamaica.

