



Dr. David Smith

CO-ORDINATOR, INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

The Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD) operates an MSc programme in Environmental Management. Fifteen students are expected to graduate in 2017. For the 2017-2019 cohort, eight students registered for the two-year course. ISD staff teach in several other undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes: BSc Life Sciences, BSc Gender, MSc Tourism and Hospitality Management, MSc programme in National Security and Strategic Planning and MSc programme in Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

ISD staff supervise several research students who participate in fortnightly seminars under the guidance of Professor Anthony Clayton and with the participation of ISD staff. In addition, staff advises students and examines theses at The UWI and other

universities. Most MPhil students intend to upgrade to PhD. One PhD student presented a paper at the international Conference on Sustainable Development held at Columbia University in New York. Further ISD carries out research under specific themes detailed below.

Energy security

Construction of the Zero Energy Building was completed in the year under review. It will be the first building of its kind in the Caribbean. The project is funded by the Global Environment Facility, the Inter-American Development Bank and The UWI. The building, which was opened in October 2017, is being used for research and teaching in sustainable energy solutions for the tropics and other aspects of Sustainable Development. These activities will involve cooperation with researchers at Mona Campus and Farmingdale State College at SUNY.

Disaster Risk Management

Dr Barbara Carby, Director of the Disaster Risk Reduction Centre (DRRC) and Dr David Smith, ISD Coordinator, are the Principal Investigators for the *Enhancing Knowledge and Application of Comprehensive Disaster Management* (EKACDM) project funded by a CDN\$2.7 million grant from the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada (formerly Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development). The project has awarded six scholarships and assistantships to postgraduate research students at The UWI and supported the development of earthquake risk estimation software for the Caribbean. Dr Smith worked with Arpita Nandi from East Tennessee State University, Arpita Mandal from Department of Geography and Geology at the Mona Campus, Department of Geography in the St Augustine Campus to investigate landslides in the Rio Grande Valley in Jamaica.

Institute for Sustainable Development

National security

Professor Anthony Clayton conducted briefing and training sessions for the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF), Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), the Jamaican Passport Immigration and Citizenship Agency and other Jamaican government agencies, as well as regional police and security forces. He currently serves as Deputy Chairman of the JCF Oversight Committee. The ISD has active research and teaching collaboration programmes with the US Naval War College, the University of Surrey, Florida International University, the Police Service of Northern Ireland, Avon and Somerset Constabulary, the JCF and the JDF, coordinated by Professor Clayton.

OUTREACH

The ISD continues to work at the science–policy interface to promote Sustainable Development and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the national, regional and international level. It is active in advocacy with staff participation in intergovernmental, academic, scientific and civil society organisations at the highest levels. Dr Smith is a member of the Independent Group of Scientists tasked by the UN Secretary General to develop the Global Sustainable Development Report. This will provide the countries of the UN with an evidence-based assessment of progress towards the Development Goals and scientific inputs on solutions to development problems. The ISD and the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network arranged for the Prime Minister of Jamaica to present the keynote address at the International Conference on Sustainable Development held at [Columbia University](#) in September.

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ISD Coordinator Dr David Smith Chairs the Caribbean chapter of the **Sustainable Development Solutions Network** (SDSN) which is based at Columbia University, New York and is a member of the SDSN's Academic Committee and Leadership Council. In June 2017, the ISD and the SDSN in association with SALISES, the UNDP and the Government of Jamaica sponsored the Caribbean Action 2030 Forum which focussed on ways to help the Caribbean achieve the SDGs. ISD and SDSN arranged the attendance of several delegates including youth representatives and speakers from PEMANDU Associates in Malaysia. This included Dr Idris Jala, former Minister in the Government of Malaysia and head of PEMANDU, the government entity responsible for Malaysia's economic and governance transformations. ISD arranged for Professor Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University and Director of the SDSN to attend the forum and deliver the keynote address. Professor Sachs also attended a round table meeting with heads of delegations including several Caribbean Ministers of Government, members of the UN and NGOs from the region.



Caribbean Action 2030 Conference

SDSN, the ISD and the Caribbean Policy Research Institute (CAPRI) worked together on a project to improve the data on SIDS included within the SDG Index and Dashboard, an international instrument for measuring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. The work was presented at the Caribbean Action 2030 meeting. As a result of this research, more Caribbean SIDS have been included in the SDSN SDG assessment and Dashboard; and are able to use the Dashboard to monitor their achievement of the SDGs.

INTERNATIONALISATION

ISD supports the development of The UWI-SUNY Institute for Leadership and Sustainable Development; particularly in terms of developing online courses in Sustainable Development to be offered by the Institute. As part of its work with The UWI-SUNY Institute for Leadership and Sustainable Development, the ISD developed a graduate Certificate in Sustainable Development. This degree programme is being approved by the two universities and will be offered online and taught jointly by faculty from UWI and Empire State College (SUNY). ISD worked closely with CERMES and the Open Campus to develop the programme.

ISD staff are members of the following international groups:

- International Science Council (ICSU)
- UN-Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- The World Academy of Sciences
- World Humanitarian Summit
- The Independent Group of Scientists appointed by the UN Secretary General to write The Global Sustainable Development Report 2019

ISD staff work at the regional level in the following:

- Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)

- Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) Caribbean Islands Hotspot
- Professor Clayton is a founding editor and serves on the Editorial Board of The Caribbean Journal of Strategic and Security Studies
- Dr Smith is a member of the Editorial Board of Caribbean Quarterly

National input of staff takes place in these groups and agencies:

- Hazard Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Thematic Working Group of *Vision 2030 Jamaica*
- Project Steering Committee for The Adaptation Fund Project On Climate Change Adaptation of the Planning Institute of Jamaica
- Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience: Improving Climate Data and Information Management Project (Planning Institute of Jamaica)
- Jamaica Red Cross
- Broadcasting Commission for Jamaica
- Jamaica Constabulary Force Oversight Committee
- Rule Of Law Committee for The Government Of Jamaica
- Cannabis Industry Advisory Board, Jamaica
- Jamaica National Nutraceuticals Committee
- University Council of Jamaica
- Student Loan Bureau of Jamaica
- Agricultural Credit Board of Jamaica
- Scientific Advisory Committee For The UNESCO National Committee For Jamaica
- Environmental Foundation of Jamaica



Zero Net Energy building UWI