

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

### PROFILES OF UNDP/SGP NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2007-2009

#### Non-Government Organisations (NGOs)

**Mr. Sterling Belgrove** – NSC Chairperson

Sterling Belgrove was educated in industrial and international relations and certified in labour and social sciences. He continued his education in the United Soviet States of Russia (USSR) and was the youngest practitioner of industrial law before the industrial courts of Trinidad and Tobago. In this field, he pioneered constructive dismissal. He is a minister of religion and a missionary and travels extensively. He is a motivational speaker and is in demand globally.

He is the Executive Chairman of the Rose Foundation, a human development civil society Non-Governmental Organisation which specialises in community development, poverty reduction and capacity building programmes. He has been a facilitator for social and community development in the Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, together with his wife, Marcia.

Mr. Belgrove is a member of the technical planning committee for the World Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (WANGO) and the national representative of WANGO in Trinidad and Tobago. He has been appointed by the European Union Poverty Reduction Programme to the Regional Social and Human Development Council for the city of Port of Spain and also holds the position of Secretary General of the Port of Spain Civil Society Network. Mr. Belgrove holds advisory positions on many boards, regionally and internationally, and is a transformer of lives, an avid community worker and a strong promoter of transformation and development.

**Mr. Carrall T. Alexander** – NSC Deputy Chairperson

- \* Retired Senior Geologist -Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (1973- 2001)
- \* Currently - Consultant Geologist/Environmentalist

NGO Activities:

- \* President: The Trinidad & Tobago Field Naturalists' Club
- \* Chairman : Council of Presidents of the Environment (COPE)
- \* NGO Board Member: Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) Barbados
- \* Chairman : National Steering Committee, UNDP/SGP (2004- Feb. 2005)
- \* Represented the NSC at the UNDP/SGP Regional Workshop in Santiago, Chile (Nov 2004)
- \* Represented the NSC on the UNDP/GEF/SGP Ex-Post Study, (2004)

**Ms. Hazel Brown**

Hazel Brown has spent most of her adult life as a consumer and women's affairs advocate because of her strong belief that citizens should speak-up on decisions, which affect their

lives. She is also motivated by the conviction that democracy is strengthened in a society where citizens participate actively in the decision-making process.

An outspoken advocate of women's rights, Ms. Brown was a founding member of the Network of NGO's of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women, a comprehensive national umbrella organization formed in 1985 to present the position of women in Trinidad and Tobago at the End of Decade Conference in Nairobi. The Network is an advocate and support for women's organisations in Trinidad and Tobago and is part of many regional and international networks of women.

***Mrs. Patricia Henderson-Browne***

Mrs. Patricia Henderson-Browne, member of the Board of Directors, Trinidad and Tobago Citizens Agenda Network (TTCAN), has been actively involved in the Social Transformation process in Trinidad and Tobago for over thirty (30) years. Apart from her involvement in TTCAN as an active member, Mrs. Henderson-Browne is a member of the senior directorate of the Community Development Division, Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs. Her skills include Project Planning and Implementation, Project Monitoring and Evaluation Trainer.

Mrs. Henderson-Browne is a member of a Regional Task force and was instrumental in the organisation of this country's civil society symposium and country report in preparation for Caricom's "Forward Together" Conference in Guyana 2002.

***Mr. Kamau Akili***

A resident of Tobago. He is a former secondary school teacher (24 years) and Vice Principal. Mr. Akili is presently the Deputy Coordinator of the Tobago Council for Sustainable Development that was established by the Tobago House of Assembly. His professional qualifications include a Certificate in Education (Distinction) from U.W.I. , Mona and a Bachelors Degree in Education Management and Administration (1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours) from U.W.I. , St. Augustine. His participation with civil society organizations includes being the Vice President of Environment TOBAGO and an Advisor to the Buccoo Reef Trust. Mr. Akili has received a Green Leaf Award from the Environmental Management Authority (2001), and also an Independence Award (2002) from the Tobago House of Assembly, in recognition of his contribution to environmental conservation.

**Scientific / Research and Development**

***Mrs. Grace Talma***, MSc, BA is the Principal Consultant and owner of Grace Talma Associates & Company Limited. She is also an Adjunct Professor in Leadership and Organizational Transformation at Springfield College, Tampa, USA and has now spearheaded a Masters Programme in Leadership and Organizational Transformation with Springfield College here in Trinidad and Tobago. Ms. Talma is an active community leader, the President of the United Nations Association of Trinidad & Tobago and member of several community organizations.

## Private Sector

**Mrs. Nandini Narine**, Representative of the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Narine is the Manager,, Corporate Responsibility, Communicatrion & External Affairs, bpTT.

**Mrs. Laila Kalipersad** is a Project Officer with the Corporate Communications Department of Republic Bank Limited. Her work focuses mainly on project evaluation, planning and implementation. Formerly a primary school teacher, Mrs. Kalipersad joined the corporate field as HR/Administration Manager for 15 years before joining the banking industry.

At present , she is pursuing studies in the field of marketing at the Institute for Training and Development (INTAD) as well as improving her oral Spanish skills with the Venezuelan Embassy. She is also an active member of the Assumption Church choir and The Love Movement.

## Foundations / Trusts

**Ms. Michelle Jules**, Philanthropic Advisor is responsible for the design, implementation and management of grantmaking programs to improve health, education, and livelihoods in Trinidad and Tobago. Her work focuses on increasing family economic security through job creation, entrepreneurship, skills training, community empowerment, and enterprise development. Michelle has over a decade of experience in working with NGOs in areas such as strengthening citizen participation, network development, increasing capacity of local government and strengthening civil society organizations in the Caribbean. Michelle serves on the board of Kids in Distressed Situations, Inc., and on the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) National Steering Committee, which provides policy and technical guidance to the UNDP. She has extensive experience in program planning, monitoring, and evaluation both in the U.S. and internationally. Michelle graduated with honors from Metropolitan College of New York, holding a BPS in Human Services and a Masters in Administration. She received the Metropolitan College of New York Distinguished Alumni Award.

## Government Ministries and Agencies

**Ms. Cheryl Ramsubeik**, B.A., Dip. Library Studies, MA. M. Sc

Presently a Sustainable Development Specialist in the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) Unit at the Ministry of Public Utilities and the Environment, Ms. Ramsubeik holds a M.Sc., in Natural Resources Management from the University of the West Indies. Ms. Ramsubeik has also completed the coursework component of her Environmental Law programme and is currently working on her thesis. A member of the Cabinet appointed Committee on Climate Change and Sea Level Rise and a former law librarian at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, her unique combination of ministerial experience has well positioned Ms. Ramsubeik for work related to the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements. The environmental research that she has worked on includes but is not limited to:

- ✍ Arbitrations at the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs on the fishing agreement between Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados
- ✍ Requests for information on international agreements such as MARPOL, Law of the Sea Convention, Basel Convention, the Cartagena Protocol and other environmental agreements
- ✍ Drafting and debating legislation on the Environmental Management Act, 1995 and Occupational Health and Safety Legislation as well as a
- ✍ Thesis entitled "The Assessment of Two Successfully implemented Marine Protected Areas on the Livelihood of Stakeholders in Belize." Published in Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) report 2004.

Ms. Ramsubeik thoroughly enjoys her post as Sustainable Development Specialist and is passionate about environmental issues facing the Caribbean region. She has also proudly, prepared briefs, minister's speeches and represented her home country of Trinidad and Tobago at conferences and workshops both regional and international in scope. Further to her attendance and participation at these events, Ms. Ramsubeik has also coordinated a number of seminars and workshops such as the CARICOM Heads of Government Meeting, the Meeting of CARICOM Attorneys General and members of Regional Affairs and Commonwealth Law Ministers Meetings.

**Ms. Gwyneth Morris-Alexander**, Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs

**Ms. Diann Cooper-Mark**, Senior Project Officer, Policy, Programme Planning and Development Division, Ministry of Social Development

**Mr. Gladstone Solomon**

- \* Assistant Director, Management Services Unit, Office of the Chief Secretary, Tobago House of Assembly (on contract).
- \* Pursuing Masters of Science Degree in Agriculture and Rural Development, UWI.
- \* Bachelor of Applied Arts, Hotel & Tourism Management.
- \* Diploma, Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Administration.
- \* Inter American Development Bank workshops in Logical Framework, Project Management, Environmental Analysis and Procurement Policies and Procedures.
- \* Attended tourism conferences/workshops in Costa Rica, British Virgin Islands, Guadeloupe, Margarita.
- \* Attended beekeeping conferences/workshops in South Africa, Tanzania Canada, England Wales, Switzerland, Belgium, Costa Rica Nevis, Jamaica.
- \* President, Tobago Apicultural Society.
- \* Chairman, Steering Committee, Association of Caribbean Beekeepers' Organisations.
- \* Commercial Beekeeper.

## UN System

***Mr. Willard Phillips***

Programme Specialist, Energy and Environment, UNDP, Trinidad and Tobago.