



THE SMART SEAS TOOLKIT (SST) FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE PROJECT

PROJECT BRIEF

The Smart Seas Toolkit (SST) for Disaster Resilience (“Smart Seas”) project is a joint initiative of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) and the Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT), supported by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago which aims to increase the resilience and ultimately preserve the lives of Caribbean small-scale fishers (SSF) through information and communications technologies (ICTs), with emphasis on the enabling environment.

The project will identify gaps which may exist in the maritime communications enabling environment, from which gap-filling recommendations will be produced under consultation with key stakeholders within the region. These recommendations, along with other resources produced during the course of the project, will form part of an online toolkit to strengthen the enabling environment. The project is initially being implemented in Trinidad and Tobago, which serves as the Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (MRCC) for: Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, as well as Trinidad and Tobago. The project outputs and outcomes are expected to be transferable to other Caribbean countries.

Furthermore, the project aims to facilitate the establishment of an international community to tackle the ongoing challenge of inaccessible communications at sea, through technological, service and market innovations. Subsequent phases of the Smart Seas project will introduce a certification program for marine very high frequency (VHF) radio- operation and increase SSF capacity. Later phases will also feature the utilization of cutting-edge communication technologies to close data gaps in the maritime sector that are essential for boosting resilience across the mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery phases of the disaster risk management cycle.

BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES



Trinidad and Tobago



St. Vincent & the Grenadines



Barbados



Grenada

DESIRED OUTCOMES



Capacitated Ecosystem



Improved Enabling Environment

KEY OUTPUTS

OUTPUTS	
Policy & Regulatory Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gap analysis report• Policy brief• Compliance checklist & regulatory tracker
Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Radio & cellular coverage data• Radio & cellular coverage maps• MRCC & coast station maps• MRCC & coast station database• Ecosystem maps
Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maritime band VHF radio curricula• Radio guides & templates
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• International comms@sea community• Agenda for accessible comms@sea

PROJECT TEAM



Dr. Kim Mallalieu **Technical Advisor (Pro Bono)**

Dr. Kim Mallalieu (BS MIT, MS UR and PhD UCL) is a senior lecturer and the leader of the Communication Systems Group in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at The University of the West Indies. She is a past Head of Department, and developer of the Master's in Telecommunications Regulation and Policy, MRP (Telecommunications), having coordinated its delivery to participants from over thirty developing countries around the world.

As Principal Investigator of the Caribbean ICT Research Programme (CIRP), founding member of Diálogo Regional sobre Sociedad de la Información (DIRSI), and Leader of the ICT4Fisheries Consortium, Dr. Mallalieu is engaged in multidisciplinary action research on context appropriate strategies for the purposeful application of information and communications technologies (ICT) for human good; with an emphasis on building the resilience of underserved populations. She is a regular speaker, chair and multichannel contributor to international fora on topics relating to development-focused technology, policy and regulation. As a keen advocate for gender equality for development, her works include the ITU/ETC report on Women, ICT and emergency telecommunications. In other capacities she has led national, regional and international initiatives variously designed to build capacity in ICT policy, regulation, development, application and use.

Dr Mallalieu is Deputy Chair of the Board of the Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT) where she served as an inaugural member. She otherwise has a rich service portfolio, having sat on several commissions, committees and panels at regional, national and institutional levels in operational as well as advisory roles. She is a Fulbright Fellow and the recipient of local, regional and international teaching and research awards, and other awards of distinction. Dr Mallalieu is a licensed amateur radio as well as GMDSS short range operator, and member of Radio Emergency Associated Communication Teams (REACT).

PROJECT TEAM CONTINUED



Renasha Cassar
Radio Engineer (Technical Lead & Research)

Renasha Cassar holds a BSc. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of the West Indies (UWI) and currently works as a radio engineer consultant under the SST project. Her areas of interest include the use of ICTs for development, bridging the digital divide, programming and IoT.



Tariq Mohammed
Radio Engineer (Development)

Tariq is a radio engineer consultant for the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), a Generation Connect Youth Envoy for the ITU's Americas region, as well as an MPhil student in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of the West Indies. Born and raised in Trinidad and Tobago, Tariq has an avid interest in tackling issues such as digital exclusion and ICT inaccessibility through multi-dimensional approaches which span both technical and social domains and is keenly interested in applying his knowledge and skills to further national and regional development within the ICT sector. His interests also include the development of telecommunications policies and regulations to create a more inclusive digital future.



Daniel Goitia
Radio Engineer (Quality Assurance)

Daniel Goitia is a radio engineer consultant for the ITU and PhD. candidate at The University of the West Indies. He received his BSc and MASc in Electrical and Computer Engineering from The University of the West Indies and is currently a Teaching Assistant at the UWI St. Augustine Campus. His interests include wireless communication with an emphasis on 5G and Open-RAN

Ranissa Mathura
Administrative Assistant

Ms. Ranissa Mathura holds a BSC in Geology from the University of the West Indies, Mona Jamaica. Ms. Mathura began her career at the UWI Seismic Research Center and subsequent to this, she entered the teaching career where she taught English A and Geography. She has experience in seismology, and geophysics, as well as significant academic experience in Diplomacy and continued into Tertiary Education Management and Curriculum Development for Awarding Bodies in the United Kingdom.

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