

World Forum on
Small Island Developing States

CHALLENGES, PROSPECTS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

January 10th & 11th, 2005
Port Louis, Mauritius



Organized by
THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

In partnership with
THE UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

World Forum Venue:

The World Forum on Small Island Developing States will be held at the University of Mauritius in Reduit. Our UN Parallel Event will be held at the Freeport Exhibition Centre in Port Louis.

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CONFERENCE GUIDELINES & INFO

Instructions for Sessions

The majority of the sessions are one-and-one-half-hour to one-hour and forty-five minutes in length. Depending on the number of presenters in a session, the moderators should manage the time (both presentations and discussions) accordingly. The allocated time should be used for a productive discussion giving equitable time for all the participants in the audience, depending on the situation. One or two people should not be given the opportunity to dominate the entire discussion.

All sessions should be conducted in a professional manner. Diverse views and opinions of political nature can be presented within the bounds of UN parameters. All opinions and views, perspectives, analyses, suggestions and recommendations expressed by individual presenters do not necessarily represent the views of IRFD. However, IRFD welcomes diverse viewpoints and treats them as valuable ingredients for an integral approach.

The International Research Foundation for Development will maintain neutral with regard to all politically sensitive issues. Therefore, each moderator must ensure professionalism in all discussions and dialogues. Any dialogue or discussion outside the parameters of professional ethics must be curtailed.

The International Research Foundation for Development operates within the framework of consultative status granted by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC), hence all moderators must maintain the dignity of that institution and comply with the ethics and code of conduct stipulated by the United Nations.

Participant Information

During this event, all IRFD registrants/participants are recognized as IRFD representatives for the United Nations International Meeting in Mauritius (UN MIM). All information regarding participants' institutional affiliations outside of this event are listed in this conference package as they are submitted.

Parallel Event to the UN International Meeting

Our Parallel Event will take place at the Freeport Exhibition Centre in Port Louis. This meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 10th at 1:15 pm and will last until 2:45 pm. Please allow adequate time to transfer to the Freeport Exhibition Centre from the University of Mauritius for travel and UN admission procedures. You will need to take your Pre-registration Confirmation Letter from the United Nations and two forms of photo identification to obtain access into the meeting facilities.

Format: IRFD Speaker: 15 minutes presentation; University of Mauritius Speaker: 15 minutes presentation; Policy reflections-Mauritian Perspective; Panelists: 3-4 minutes presentation by each panelist on their specific topic (total 35 minutes); Questions/comments from the audience and response from the panelists (25 minutes).

Logistic Arrangements

Transportation will be arranged for participants to travel from the University to the Freeport Exhibition Centre and back for the Parallel Event scheduled on Monday, January 10th. Please check with the University for transport schedule and allow adequate time for lunch and travel. Transportation at all other times and places is the responsibility of the participants.

Refreshments will be provided to all registered participants of the World Forum on Monday and Tuesday. Participants can have lunch on their own at the University restaurant/cafeteria.

Publication of Conference Proceedings

Participants should submit a copy of their paper, if they have not yet done so, via e-mail as a Microsoft Word document attachment to sids@irfd.org by January 30th, 2005 for the publication of conference proceedings. These proceedings will then be compiled by session and available for download from the IRFD website: www.irfd.org.



INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Dear Colleagues

The International Research Foundation for Development would like to welcome all of you to the World Forum on Small Island Developing States: Challenges, Prospects and International Cooperation. This World Forum consists of three key events: Mauritius conference 2005, UN Side Event, and Online Virtual Conference in view of the United Nations International Meeting in Mauritius on Barbados +10, which is taking place from January 10-14, 2005. IRFD organizes Mauritius Conference 2005 in partnership with the University of Mauritius, with several other affiliated institutions. The prime objective of the IRFD World Forum is to contribute to the United Nations effort of reviewing the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, which was agreed a decade ago at a Global Conference in Barbados, and to contribute to resulting implementation of programs and projects.

The momentum of international support for tsunami relief efforts needs to be extended to address all SIDS development issues beyond immediate relief and reconstruction. How we carry this momentum beyond an initial emotional response and find real solutions for small island developing States within the framework of the Barbados Plan of Action are our major concerns and challenges.

To this effect, IRFD is continuously strives to mobilize the Scientific Community to engage in research, policy analysis, and design programs of action to solve major problems faced by small island developing States; raise Global Public Awareness on issues through research, education, and dissemination of new knowledge; policy advocacy and mobilization of the international community into action in small island developing States.

On behalf of the International Research Foundation for Development, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the University of Mauritius for their collaboration, professional contributions, and for hosting this conference. Also, I thank all the other collaborative partners, and each and every one of you presenting papers at this conference. IRFD hopes to develop strong professional relationships with all stakeholders in the near future.

I would like to recognize the following individuals for their special efforts:

Professor Vinesh Y. Hookoomsing,
Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research & Consultancy)
University of Mauritius

Paul V. Horsman, Climate Change Campaigner
Greenpeace International

The University of Mauritius Academic Organizing
Committee:

Professor Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, Dean,
Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius

Dr Kheswar Chandan Jankee
Dr Thanika Devi Juwaheer
Dr Ponnadurai Ramasami
Vimla Luchmun

The conference secretariat:
Nafisah Hossenally
Colette Catherine

Sincerely,

Dr. Neville S. Arachchige Don
President/CEO
International Research Foundation for Development

University of Mauritius



Dear Colleagues,

As host and partner institution, the University of Mauritius is pleased to welcome you all to the World Forum on SIDS: Challenges, Prospects and International Cooperation for Sustainable Development, organized by the International Research Foundation for Development, together with other affiliated institutions.

From its initial mission of a training institution created in the late 1960s to respond to the human resource needs and to the development priorities of the country, the University of Mauritius has progressively moved forward to become a full-fledged higher education and research institution committed to the advancement of knowledge at the national, regional and international level, and responsive to social and development issues of global dimension.

The World Forum on SIDS comes at a crucial moment of unprecedented world mobilization for relief and reconstruction of the Tsunami stricken countries of the Indian Ocean. It thus constitutes a unique platform for universities and research organizations to address the challenges and prospects inscribed in the theme of the meeting, strengthen existing international partnerships and develop new ones with a renewed sense of commitment.

The University of Mauritius is thankful to the International Research Foundation for Development and to its affiliated partners for bringing together participants from a variety of horizons and places, to share their experience and develop collaboration on a number of related themes, with a sense of urgency imposed by the natural and human drama unfolding in this part of the world.

On behalf of the University of Mauritius, I wish to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Neville S. Arachchige Don, to his team of IRFD collaborators, and to all the participants. I look forward to the fruitful outcome of our meeting.

With my best wishes,

Professor Vinesh Y. Hookoomsing
Pro Vice-Chancellor (R&C)
University of Mauritius

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Monday - January 10, 2005

Registration **8:00 - 8:30 am** **University of Mauritius**

Welcome and Opening Remarks **8:30 - 8:45 am**

Chair: Vinesh Y. Hookoomsing, Professor & Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research & Consultancy)
University of Mauritius

University of Mauritius Welcome

Vice Chancellor Goolam Mohamedbhai, University of Mauritius

International Research Foundation for Development Welcome

Paul Horsman, on behalf of IRFD

Session 1 **8:45 - 10:15 am**

Climate Change, Fragile Eco-Systems and Biodiversity

Moderator: Randy R. Thaman, Professor, University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji Islands

- a. The Long Winding Road from Barbados to Mauritius: Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing the BPoA with Special Reference to Biodiversity
Sanjay Persand, Biologist/Student-at-Law, Faculty of Law, McGill University, Montréal, Canada
- b. The sustainable use of biodiversity-Industry and the CBD
Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
- c. The Earth's "Cool Spots" Under Threat:
The Conservation Status And The Priority Need for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Atoll Biodiversity and Ethnobiobiodiversity in the Pacific Islands
Randy R. Thaman, Professor, University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji Islands
- d. Developing Small Islands and Climate Change
Soonil D. Rughooputh, Professor, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius, Mauritius
- e. Assessment of Yam Cultivar Diversity, and Women's Role in the Conservation of Yam Genetic Resources in Yap State, Federated States of Micronesia
Murukesan Krishnapillai, Researcher, Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Micronesia, Federated States of Micronesia

Coffee/Tea Break **10:15 - 10:30 am**

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Session 2 **10:30 - 11:45 am**

Population, Economies, Sustainability, and Market Access

Moderator: Andy Thorpe, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom

- a. Integrating Fisheries into the National Development Plans of Small Island Developing States (SIDS):
Ten Years from Barbados
Andy Thorpe, Professor and Chris Reid, Professor; Department of Economics, University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom; Raymon van Anrooy and Cecile Brugere, Fishery Policy and Planning Division, Fisheries Department, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Rome, Italy
- b. The Potential Benefits of Agricultural Biotechnology and the Problems of European Attitudes to Biotechnology for the Economies of Small Island Developing States
Yousouf Ismael, Research Fellow; and Richard Bennett, Professor
Department of Agricultural and Food Economics, The University of Reading, Reading, United Kingdom
- c. Multilevel Governance for Sustainable Development in Small Island States
International, Regional and National Levels of Environmental Policy and their Integration
Nicholas Watts, Education Advisor, Commonwealth Human Ecology Council and Principal Lecturer, Department of Applied Social Sciences, London Metropolitan University, London, United Kingdom
- d. The Double Edged Sword to Conservation on an Island Paradise
Rachel Atkinson, Plant Projects Coordinator, Mauritian Wildlife Foundation, Vacoas, Mauritius
- e. Emerging Shades of Green Marketing Conscience Among the Population of a Small Island Economy -
A Case Study of Mauritius
Thanika Devi Juwaheer, Senior Lecturer & Head, Department of Management, Faculty of Law and Management, University of Mauritius

Lunch Break

11:45 am - 12:30 pm

Transfer to

Freeport Exhibition Centre

12:30 - 1:00 pm

UN MIM Parallel Event

1:15 - 2:45 pm

Freeport Exhibition Centre

Small Island Developing States: Challenges, Prospects and International Cooperation - Need for Comprehensive Policy Framework and an Integrated Approach*

Presented by the International Research Foundation for Development and the University of Mauritius

IRFD Speaker: Paul V. Horsman

Moderator/University of Mauritius Speaker: Vinesh Y. Hookoomsing

* Policy document prepared by Dr. Neville S. Arachchige Don, President, International Research Foundation for Development and Professor, Cambridge Campus - Minnesota Universities and Colleges, USA; and Nishantha S. Arachchige Don, Managing Director, International Research Foundation for Development

(Panelist information on this Parallel Event continued on next page)

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

UN MIM Parallel Event *(Continued from previous page)*

Small Island Developing States: Challenges, Prospects and International Cooperation - Need for Comprehensive Policy Framework and an Integrated Approach

Panelists:

Nicholas Watts, Education Advisor, Commonwealth Human Ecology Council and Principal Lecturer, Department of Applied Social Sciences, London Metropolitan University, London, United Kingdom

Andy Thorpe, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom

Randy R. Thaman, Professor, University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji Islands

Yousouf Ismael, Research Fellow; and Richard Bennett, Professor
Department of Agricultural and Food Economics, The University of Reading, United Kingdom

Sarah Grimes, Advisor, South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), Fiji Islands

Anand Rangarajan, Executive Vice President, WorldWater Corporation, Pennington, NJ, USA

Elizabeth Thomas-Hope, Professor, Department of Geography and Geology,
University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica

Paul V. Horsman, Climate Change Campaigner, Greenpeace International, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Murukesan Krishnapillai, Researcher, College of Micronesia, Federated States of Micronesia

Session 3

4:00 - 5:45 pm

University of Mauritius

Managing Natural Resources, and Renewable Energy

Moderator: Sarah Grimes, Advisor, South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), Fiji Islands

- a. Photovoltaic Powered Systems: Water and Power for Remote Island Communities
Anand Rangarajan, Executive Vice President, WorldWater Corporation, Pennington, NJ, USA
- b. The Positive Energy Store:
A Concept for Providing Clean Affordable Energy for Small Island States
Paul V. Horsman, Climate Change Campaigner, Greenpeace International, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- c. Significance of Palaeo-environmental Research and Implications for Sustainable Ecological Management in Solomon Islands and the Tropical Pacific
Sarah Grimes, Advisor, South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), Fiji Islands
- d. Oceanographic Monitoring for Sustainable Development in Pacific Island Nations
Sarah Grimes, Advisor, South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), Fiji Islands
- e. Access to Energy: The Key to Poverty Alleviation
Khalil Elahee, Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering, The University of Mauritius

Coffee/Tea Break

5:45 - 6:00 pm

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Session 4

6:00 - 7:30 pm

Global Economy, Finance, Trade and Investment

Moderator: Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, Professor, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius

- a. Bridging the Gap Between TRIPs and the CBD
Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, Professor, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
- b. Financial Globalization and Financial Sector Developments in Small Island Developing Economics: The Case of Mauritius
Kheswar Chandan Jankee, Senior Lecture, Department of Economics and Statistics, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
- c. The Mauritian Textile and Clothing Industry: Facing the Challenges Associated with Globalization
Satyadev Rosunee, Faculty of Engineering, University of Mauritius
- d. Globalisation and Sustainable Livelihoods in Mauritius
Vimla Luchmun, Lecturer in Sociology, Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities, University of Mauritius

Tuesday - January 11, 2004

Session 5

8:30 - 9:45 am

University of Mauritius

Health Issues

Moderator: Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, Professor, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius

- a. Validating Ethnomedicine with a View to Developing New Drugs
Ameenah Gurib-Fakim and A. Hussein Subratty, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius
- b. Measuring the Quality of Service in the Public Health Care Sector in Mauritius: A Study of Patients' Satisfaction
Hemant Kassean, Lecturer, Department of Health and Management, University of Mauritius
- c. Health, Mobility, and Politics in a Small Island: The Case of Hong Kong's Post-SARS Revival Programme
Ma Shu-Yun, Associate Professor, Department of Government and Public Administration, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Coffee/Tea Break

9:45 - 10:00 am

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Session 6 **10:00 - 11:45 am**

Tourism, Cultural Assets

Moderator: Elizabeth Thomas-Hope, Professor, Department of Geography and Geology, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica

- a. Modeling Tourism Impacts on Small Island Economies: Evidence from Cyprus, Malta, and Mauritius
M. Thea Sinclair, Professor of Economics, Christel DeHaan Tourism and Travel Research Institute, Nottingham University Business School, Jubilee Campus, Nottingham, United Kingdom
- b. Assessing the Effects of an Increase in Tropical Cyclone Activity on the Tourism Sector - The Case of Mauritius
Sanjeev K. Sobhee, Associate Professor, Department of Economics and Statistics, University of Mauritius
- c. Public Cultural Expenditures and Tourism Industry: The Case of Mauritius
Kheswar Chandan Jankee, Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics and Statistics, University of Mauritius
- d. Islanders Exoticism: Case Stories from Mauritius Island
Khemraj Sooknah, Projects Coordinator, Mauritius Wildlife Club
- e. Taking More than it Gives?
Implications of Tourism for the Sustainability of Caribbean Small Island Developing States
Elizabeth Thomas-Hope, Professor and Adonna Jardine-Comrie, Department of Geography and Geology, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica

Lunch Break **11:45 am - 1:15 pm**

Session 7 **1:15 - 3:15 pm**

Information Technology, Communication and Linking

Moderator: Ponnadurai Ramasami, Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemistry, University of Mauritius

- a. Submarine Cable Connectivity for Island States
Jim Schweigert, Executive Consultant, & Robert S.C. Munier, Tyco Telecommunications, Singapore
- b. Regulatory Reform in the Mauritian Telecommunication Sector: A Vain Quest for Embedded
Sandiren Jaganaden Reddi, University of Technology, Mauritius
- c. Customer Relationship Management (CRM) - As an Emerging Paradigm - Myth or Reality?
A Study of the Mauritian IT Sector
Hemant Kassean, Lecturer, Department of Health and Management, University of Mauritius
- d. Sexuality on the Mauritian Chat Room: An Internet Mediated Research (IMR)
Komalsingh Rambaree, Lecturer in Social Policy, Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities, University of Mauritius
- e. Changing Culture with Virtual Meetings
Ponnadurai Ramasami, Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemistry, University of Mauritius

Coffee/Tea Break **3:15 - 3:30 pm**

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Session 8

3:30 - 5:15 pm

Education, Human Resource Development and Capacity Building

Moderator: Soonil D. Rughooputh, Professor, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius

- a. Small Island Challenges in Educational Reforms: The Case of Mauritius
Soonil D. Rughooputh, Professor, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius
- b. Challenge and Change: The Impact of International Intervention on Human Resource and Organizational Capacity within Tuvalu NGOs
Emma Tappin, Senior Lecturer in Rural Affairs and Environment, Harper Adams University College, Newport, United Kingdom
- c. Small, Intelligent and Connected: The Future Face of the Mauritian Workforce
Roukaya Kasenally, Head of Communication Unit, Faculty of Social Studies & Humanities, University of Mauritius
- d. Reversing the Decline - Smallness and Human Capital in Mauritius
Sheila Bunwaree, Associate Professor, Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities, University of Mauritius

Coffee/Teak Break

5:15 - 5:30 pm

Session 9

5:30 - 7:15 pm

Population, Sustainability Development and Managing Natural Resources

Moderator: Roshan T. Ramessur, Senior Lecturer in Coastal Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius

- a. Population and Economics – A Case Study of Mauritius
Vimla Hanoomanjee, Consultant, Curepipe, Mauritius
- b. Emerging Shades of Green Marketing Conscience Among the Population of a Small Island Economy - A Case Study of Mauritius
Thanika Devi Juwaheer, Senior Lecturer & Head of Management, Faculty of Law and Management, University of Mauritius
- c. ICZM Framework Development: Proposal for Small Islands
Soonil Rughooputh, Professor; Camilla Jeetoo, Professor; and Deolall Daby, Professor; Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius
- d. Towards Introducing the Blue Flag Ecolabel in SIDS: Case of Mauritius
Bye Salim Aliraja, Professor, and Soonil Rughooputh, Professor, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius
- e. Global Environmental Change Affecting Sustainable Development of the Coastal Zone in Mauritius
Roshan T. Ramessur, Senior Lecturer in Coastal Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Mauritius
- f. Upscaling Terrestrial EcoSystem Restoration on Mauritius within Available Resources
Claudia Baidier, Technical Officer, Mauritius Herbarium, MSIRI; and Vincent FB Florens, Lecturer, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius

Mission

The mission of the International Research Foundation for Development, Inc. is to establish and maintain an integrated global network for scientific policy research, advocacy and action on contemporary development issues. This system of novel interface aims to create a global community of cooperation and partnership for human concerns of sustainable development: socioeconomic, politico-cultural, and educational and scientific. The outcome of this effort should generate original and transcendental thought: cross-cultural, cross-nationalistic, cross-regionalistic, and cross-disciplinary. The thrust of this mission is to empower the marginalized countries and segments of the world population so that global policy making is affected generating global peace and sustainable development for the new millennium.

Objectives and the Scope of Operation

- Promote and conduct research of humanistic and comparative endeavors.
- Develop a global network between and among development practitioners, policy makers, civil society actors, and contemplative thinkers.
- Develop a global community in human concerns for sustainable development.
- Promote cooperation and coordination among diverse groups at the grass roots level to affect global policy- making.
- Promote public awareness of the problems and needs of the socially marginalized and disadvantaged people.
- Promote and facilitate educational and training programs to maximize the potential of marginalized and disadvantaged people.
- Participate and facilitate educational and training programs to maximize the potential of marginalized and disadvantaged people.
- Emphasize a broad spectrum of issues ranging from global peace and national security to political and social development, from human rights to malnutrition and starvation.
- Bridge the gap between knowledge and action.
- Carry out a productive consultative relationship with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations within the parameters of the UN Charter Article 71.

Methods of Operation

- Establish IRFD country chapters and regional networks in order to promote a global interface network between policy makers, development practitioners, contemplative thinkers, and grass roots actors.
- Mobilize non-governmental organizations and community based organizations through the global interface network to become an integral and productive component of the policy making and implementation bodies that are engaged in improving human living standards around the world.
- Organize conferences, seminars, workshops, and training programs to promote the interface network for exchanging views on contemporary development issues.
- Promote and undertake community based comparative action research, and transfer that knowledge on sustainable development, and conflict resolution and building peace.
- Lobby for international support for grass roots development and for the needs of the disadvantaged and marginalized groups of the world.
- Publications: biannual journal Contemporary Development Analysis, newsletters, books, conference proceedings, etc.

WORLD FORUM PARTICIPANTS

Ariwa, Ezendu Ifeanyi, London Metropolitan University, London, UK
Atkinson, Rachel, Mauritian Wildlife Foundation, Vacoas, Mauritius
Baider, Claudia, Mauritius Herbarium, Reduit, Mauritius
Bennett, Richard, The University of Reading, Reading, UK
Brown, Oliver, International Institute for Sustainable Development, Geneva, Switzerland
Bunwaree, Sheila, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Bye Salim, Aliraja, Sebastopol, Mauritius
Chand, Satish, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia
Elahee, Khalil, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Florens, Vincent FB, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Gilman, Eric L., Blue Ocean Institute, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
Mohamedbhai, Goolam, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Gooroochurn, Nishaal, Nottingham University Business School, Nottingham, UK
Grimes, Sarah, South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), Fiji Islands
Gu, Ming, National University of Singapore, Singapore
Gurib-Fakim, Ameenah, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Hanoomanjee, Esther, Curepipe, Mauritius
Hookoomsing, Vinesh Y., University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Horsman, Paul, Greenpeace International, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Ismael, Yousouf, The University of Reading, Reading, UK
Jankee, Kheswar Chandan, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Juwaheer, Thanika, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Kassean, Hemant, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Kesenally, Roukaya, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Krishnapillai, Murukesan, College of Micronesia, Federated States of Micronesia
Kutay, Nilgun, Dokuz Eylul University, Turkey
Luchmun, Vimla, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Ma, Shu Yu, Chinese University of Hong Kong, HK
McAlpine, Patrick, States of Guernsey, UK
Mizzi, Leonard, Malta Business Bureau, Belgium
Munier, Robert S.C., Tyco Telecommunications, Morristown, NJ, USA
Persand, Sanjay, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Ramasami, Ponnadurai, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Rambaree, Komalsingh, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Ramessur, Roshan Teewary, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Rangarajan, Anand, WorldWater Corporation, Pennington, NJ, USA
Reddi, Sandiren Jaganaden, University of Technology, Phoenix, Mauritius
Rosunee, Satyadev, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Rughooputh, Soonil, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Schweigert, James, Tyco Telecommunications, Singapore
Sinclair, Thea, Nottingham University Business School, Nottingham, UK
Sobhee, Sanjeev, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Sooknah, Khemraj, Mauritius Wildlife Club, Mauritius
Subratty, Anwar Hussein, University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius
Tappin, Emma, Harper Adams University College, Newport, Shropshire, UK
Thaman, Randolph, The University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji Islands
Thomas-Hope, Elizabeth, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica
Thorpe, Andy, University of Portsmouth, Portsmouth, Hants, UK
Watts, Nicholas, London Metropolitan University and CHEC, London, UK
Wong, Poh Poh, National University of Singapore, Singapore
Yeoh, Caroline, Singapore Management University, Singapore