

About the authors

Professor Lino Briguglio directs the Islands and Small States Institute of the University of Malta. He was formerly head of the Economics Department and of the Banking and Finance Department at the University of Malta, as well as director of the University Gozo Campus. For a time he was also chief executive officer of the Foundation for International Studies at the University of Malta. His main area of interest is islands and small states studies, in particular economic aspects, and he has authored many publications on resilience building in small states covering the conceptualising and measurement of economic resilience. Professor Briguglio is known internationally for his seminal work on the ‘vulnerability index’, which led to worldwide interest and to many quantitative studies on economic vulnerability and resilience. He has also pioneered studies on economic resilience.

Dr Prakash NK Deenapanray holds a Bachelor of Systems Engineering (Interdisciplinary Program) from the Australian National University (ANU), an MSc in physics from the University of Pretoria (South Africa), a PhD in Semiconductor Physics, ANU, and an MBA in Technology Management from LaTrobe University (Australia). He has published more than 130 research articles, technical papers and policy papers, and has generated patents while developing novel thin-film silicon solar cell technologies for photovoltaic applications.

Dr Deenapanray has worked for the Mauritius Research Council and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). With the UNDP he managed the climate change (mitigation and adaptation) portfolio for Mauritius, and provided technical backstopping to the UNDP Regional Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Capacity Development Program in Eastern and Southern Africa. Dr Deenapanray is currently a director of Ecological Living In Action (ELIA) Ltd. He is also a member of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs’ (UNDESA) Technical Advisory Group supporting the development of the Vulnerability–Resilience Profile (VRP) methodology for small island developing states (SIDS). Since 2012, he has been a member of the UN Environment Programme’s (UNEP) Expert Group for developing an Inclusive Green Growth Index. He was recently nominated as a member of the Mauritius Sustainability Index Supervisory Committee.

Jean Paul Fabri is an economist by profession, specialising in governance and public policy. Having worked within the private cabinet of the Maltese prime minister, Mr Fabri was responsible for co-ordinating a number of initiatives and campaigns. He also served as a speechwriter for the prime minister of Malta. Mr Fabri is a visiting assistant lecturer in economics and public policy at the University of Malta. Additionally, he is a registered expert on governance with the European Centre

for Workers Questions and has worked as an external consultant on evaluating European-funded projects. Mr Fabri graduated in economics from the University of Malta and pursued postgraduate studies in economics at the University of Malta and the London School of Economics. Today he serves as an economist in the Private Office of the governor of the Central Bank of Malta.

Derrick Oderson is an environmental policy analyst, a trained physical planner and a qualified attorney-at-law. He has a background in the areas of earth sciences, including physical geography, geology, physical planning, environmental management, and law. Mr Oderson has more than 22 years' public sector experience, where he has held the positions of assistant town planner, senior town planner, environmental officer, senior environmental officer, and tutor (geography) and lecturer. Mr Oderson currently lectures in physical geography at the Barbados Community College; as well as in the Masters Programme at the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill.

Dr Denny Lewis-Bynoe is an economic adviser for small states at the Commonwealth Secretariat. She is an economist with more than 20 years' experience and her research interest is in the area of development economics broadly, and more specifically trade, labour markets, finance, growth, and tourism in small states. A former director of economics at the Caribbean Development Bank, Dr Lewis-Bynoe has held several other posts during her career including the assistant director of research at the Central Bank of Barbados, lecturer and research fellow at the University of the West Indies and adviser to the executive director for Canada, Ireland and the Caribbean at the International Monetary Fund (IMF). She has researched and published numerous papers, including studies on the potential for South–South trade, determinants of growth for small states, labour market flexibility in the Caribbean and growth strategies for small developing countries.

Dr Godfrey St Bernard is a senior fellow at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, the University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. He obtained his BA in mathematics and economics from the University of the West Indies, St Augustine, in 1980 and his PhD in social demography from the University of Western Ontario in 1993. His current academic interests include problems relating to population and development, applied statistical analysis, research methodology, evaluation research and social policy. His current research interests focus upon youth and development, Caribbean population policy and the measurement of social phenomena.

Previously, Dr St Bernard worked as a statistician in the Central Statistical Office, Trinidad and Tobago, during the period 1980–87. He has also served on a number of cabinet-appointed committees and technical advisory groups within the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. Dr St Bernard has travelled widely, presenting numerous scholarly papers at international conferences and acting as a resource person at several regional and international workshops.