

# MY GEOGRAPHY JOURNEY: A CCRIF SPC TESTIMONIAL



Christal Benjamin, CCRIF Internship Forum 2021



# ABOUT ME

- I was born in Trinidad and Tobago, but I grew up in the beautiful island of Dominica.
- While growing up, I experienced the devastation of hurricanes and other disasters.
- I decided that I wanted to do something about it.
- This influenced my decision to study Disaster Risk Management.



Source: National Geographic, 2008

## MY PASSION

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I am a Geographer who has a passion for transformative disaster risk management. I have a keen interest in research, scientific innovation and practical action which aim to address the root causes of disasters and promote sustainable development.





# MY CCRIF SPC INTERNSHIP

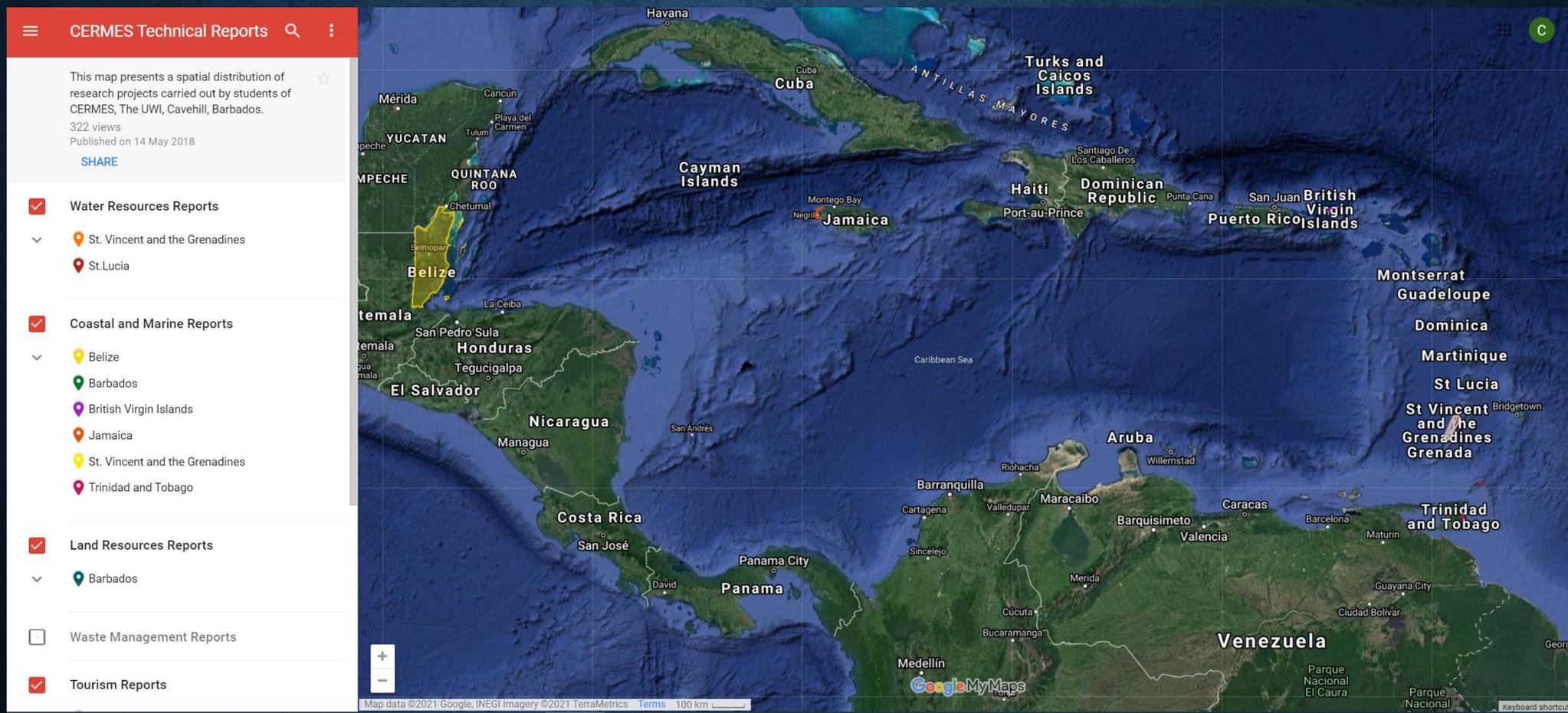
- In 2016, I was awarded a CCRIF SPC internship at the Center for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) in UWI Cavehill.
- My role was to create a geographically referenced database of research projects carried out by postgraduate students of CERMES.



Source: Looby, 2019



# MY CCRIF SPC INTERNSHIP: DATABASE





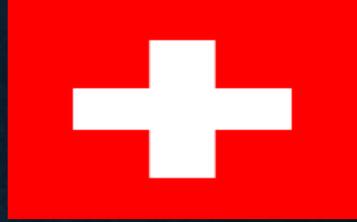


# CCRIF SPC SCHOLARSHIP EXPERIENCE



- In 2018 I was awarded a CCRIF SPC scholarship to attend King's College London.
- I pursued a Master of Arts in Disasters, Adaptation and Development.
- My research examined institutional capacity to manage flood risk in Trinidad and Tobago.
- I graduated with distinction in 2020.

# PARTICIPATION IN THE GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2019, GENEVA SWITZERLAND





# CURRENT WORK IN THE CARIBBEAN

- I currently work at the Association of Caribbean States
- I am a Research Assistant within the Directorate for Disaster Risk Reduction, Environment and the Caribbean Sea
- Some of my key responsibilities include conducting research and developing projects for the Greater Caribbean region, helping to plan and execute official meetings, translating documents and liaising with international partners of the ACS.



Source: ACS, 2013



# EXPERIENCE WITH OUR CCRIF INTERNS 2021

**DOMINICA**  
**NewsONLINE**  
**Independent. Immediate. Trusted**

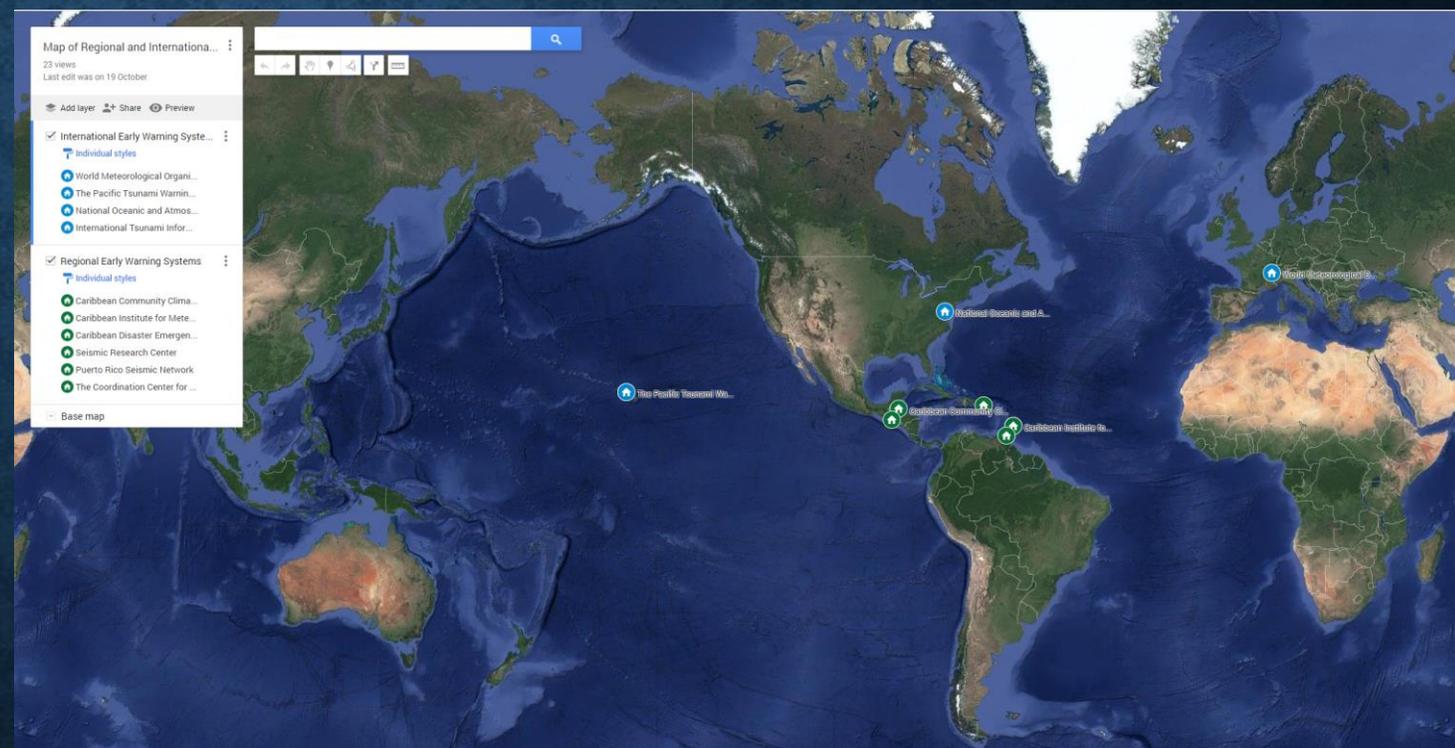
COMMENTARY: Only Together – Transforming disaster risk management in the greater Caribbean

Christel Benjamin and Edgell - Directorate for Disaster Risk Reduction, Environment and the Caribbean Sea at the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) - Wednesday, October 13th 2021 at 7:00 AM

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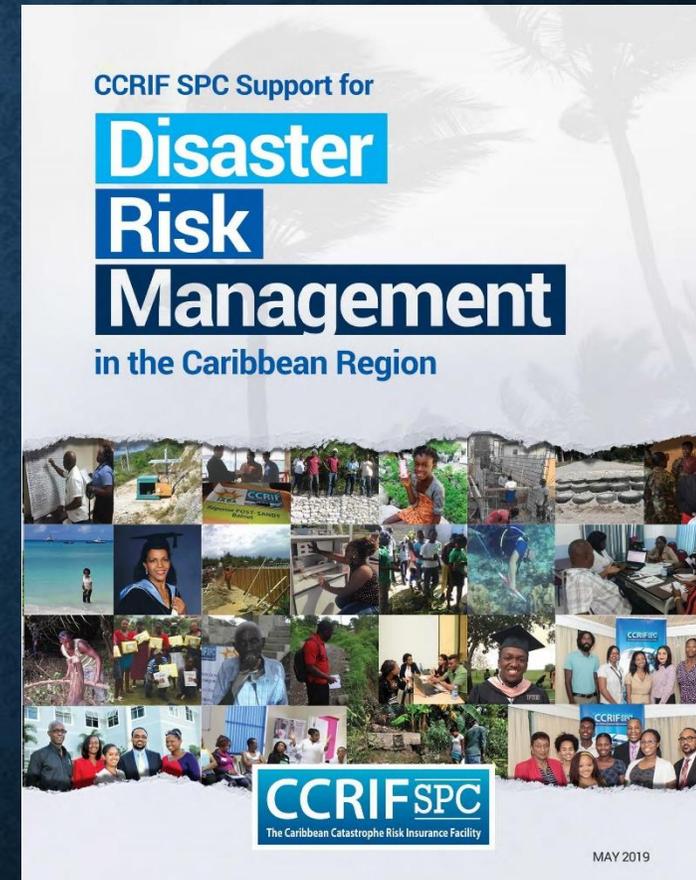


Christal Benjamin and Shauna Edgill



# CCRIF SPC: A LEADER IN DRM

- Congratulations to CCRIF SPC for your excellent work in the Caribbean region over the past 14 years!
- CCRIF SPC is surely a leader in Disaster Risk Management in the region.
- This is evident not only in its success as a parametric insurance company, but also in the emphasis that it places on the development of Caribbean youth.



Source: CCRIF SPC, 2019

# TO THE INTERNS

- Congratulations on a job well done! 😊
- The internship has given you an exceptional opportunity to network and showcase your skills and talents in the workplace.
- I encourage you to work hard to further develop your skills. Become an expert in your field.
- The Caribbean region is depending on you!



**CCRIF SPC**  
The Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR INTERNS OF 2021!**

CCRIF has placed **137 interns** in 29 national and regional organizations since 2015, with a total investment of about **US\$374,000**.

Host Organizations for 2021: CCRIF SPC • ACS • TTMS • CARICAD • CIMH • Tobago EMA • CCCCC • CDEMA • CMO • Barbados Department of Emergency Management  
CARICOM Secretariat • Department of Geography - UWI St. Augustine • Hazard Management Cayman Islands • Department of Geography and Geology - UWI Mona • DRRC - UWI Mona

Source: CCRIF, 2021

**Thank you!**



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