

RUTH H. POTOPSINGH
ruthpotopsingh@gmail.com

EDUCATION

PhD Sustainable Development (awarded with High Commendation)

Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Studies **University of the West Indies Mona (2006)** Thesis “Multilateral Environmental Agreements: Lessons from their Implementation in the Caribbean”

Executive Masters in Business Administration (EMBA) Mona School of Business, **University of the West Indies Mona) (1996)**

Master of Science, Urban Development Planning (Distinction)
University of London (UCL) Bartlett School of Architecture and Planning (1982)

Diploma in Education, University of the West Indies, Mona) (1976)

Bachelor of Arts (General) Second Class Honours (Geography, History), University of the West Indies (Mona), (1975)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director of Sustainable Energy – University of Technology
November 2010- Present

Independent Consultant
May 2010 - Present

Group Managing Director - Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica, (PCJ)
January 1, 2006 - April 14, 2010

Deputy Group Managing Director - PCJ
May 1996 - December 2005

Manager, Energy Resources Manager, Environment and Development - PCJ
September 1993 – May 1996

Development Planner - PCJ January 1988 – August 1993

Part-time Lecturer and External Examiner

University of Technology, Jamaica (formerly College of Arts, Science & Technology (C.A.S.T) on the BSc Degree in Physical Planning and Environmental Resource Development
September 1991 - 1997

Coordinator, National Land Policy for Jamaica

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister's Advisor on the National Land Policy
- Office of the Prime Minister
February 1990 - 1991

Senior Scientific Officer, Head of Lands Branch, Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI)
1983 - 1988

Physical Planner, Town Planning Department, Ministry of Finance and Planning
1976 – 1983

Geography Teacher , Camperdown High School 1975-1976

AD HOC CONSULTANCIES

Environmental and Planning Consultant - Specialising in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Development Planning

CAPACITY BUILDING ACHIEVEMENTS

Established the Centre of Excellence for Renewable Energy as a Department of the PCJ (2006)

Introduced and implemented a series of Environmental Guidelines in the Petroleum Sector through the ARPEL (Asistencia Recíproca Petrolera en Latino America y el Caribe)

Introduced a Certificate Course in Energy Management through partnership with the Mona Institute of Applied Sciences (2006)

Coordinated various technical programmes through the PetroCaribe Economic Cooperation Programme between Jamaica and Venezuela to develop language exchange, energy efficiency and Liquefied Natural Gas

Developed and implemented bilateral programmes in energy and environment with Mexico, Colombia and Brazil

Facilitated various training programmes, seminars and workshops in environmental management, renewable energy, climate change and energy efficiency and conservation

Secured grant funding from the international community (CIDA, IDB, CARICOM, UNDP, SEAF, ARPEL) to undertake a wide range of studies relating to renewable energy including hydropower feasibility studies, biofuels study, wind mapping, energy efficiency projects and energy audits. (2006-present)

Facilitated the ARPEL/CIDA Environmental Audit Training Programme under the direct technical assistance (DTA) from ARPEL where all the operating facilities of PCJ Group were audited. This created the opportunity for training in Environment Management Systems and technology transfer (2008-2009).

Built collaboration with the University of the West Indies Physics Department for joint research in Wind Studies and Energy Efficiency

OUTSTANDING PROJECTS

Participated in successful negotiations for the sale of 49% shares in Petrojam Limited to Petr leos de Venezuela, S.A. and the upgrade plans for the Petrojam Refinery (2006)

Participated in the expansion plans for the commercial wind farm at Wigton in Manchester, Jamaica and negotiated the commercial loan agreements (2008)

Member of the steering Committee which spearheaded the roll-out of 10% ethanol in 87 and 90 octane gasoline nationally in 2009

Fostered negotiations for the registration of Wigton Windfarm in Manchester as a CDM project which is earning carbon credits

Coordinated the National phase-out of lead in gasoline and the introduction of two octane levels of gasoline in Jamaica in 2000

Chaired the Gender Analysis Working Group of ARPEL-recognising the role of women in the Oil and Gas Industry in Latin America and the Caribbean

Coordinated Jamaica's first National Land Policy

Developed the Font Hill Beach Park as a best in class public beach in the Caribbean- A PCJ owned facility and worked to have the Font Hill Wildlife Sanctuary designated as a protected wetland area.

Initiated biomass research on five quick growing fuel wood species in Jamaica in response to deforestation threats as a result of charcoal burning

Founder of the Jamaica Solar Energy Association
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) - Caesars Rose Hall, Montego Bay

EIA (Socio-economist) - Sangster's International Airport, Montego Bay
EIA (Socio-economist) - Back Rio Grande Hydroelectric Power Feasibility Study

EIA (Socio-economist) - Spanish River Hydroelectric Power Feasibility Study

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

World Bank Energy Week – Washington 2009

Jamaica Stock Exchange Conference – Rose Hall, Jamaica, January 2009

PetroCaribe Energy Ministers Meeting – Caracas, Venezuela, 2008

Trinidad and Tobago Energy Conference – February 2007

World Renewable Energy Congress – Florence, Italy, 2006

Platts Caribbean Energy Conference – January, 2007

Chaired and presented at various prestigious local and international seminars in Energy and the Environment

RECENT BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

Member: Natural Resources Conservation Authority/Town and Country Planning
Authority/Land Development and Utilization Commission (since 2008)

Member: Board of Management, PetroCaribe Development Fund (since 2006)

Director: Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica (since 2006)

Director: Petroleum Company of Jamaica (Petcom) (since 2006)

Jamaica's Representative: ARPEL Environmental Managers Committee

(ARPEL is the Latin American Oil Company's Association for Reciprocal Assistance)

OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

National

Chairman: Town and Country Planning Authority (2006-2007)

Chairman: Land Development and Utilization Commission (2006-2007)

Director: Petrojam Limited (2006-2008)
Director: Wigton Windfarm Limited (2006-2009)
Member: Cabinet's Energy Task Force (2007-2008)
Member: Board of Graduate Studies, Research & Entrepreneurship (BGSRE),
University of Technology, Jamaica (2008-2009)
Member: The Negril Green Island Area Local Planning Authority (1991 - 1993)
President: Town and Country Planning Association of Jamaica (1990 - 1993)
Member: The University of the West Indies Steering Committee on Planning Education
(MSc Programme - St. Augustine Campus) 1992

International

Secretary General: Commonwealth Association of Planners, 1994
President: Women's Aglow International, Central Caribbean Area Board (1990 - 1993)

PUBLICATIONS

Bio-energy Resources Assessment Study (1992). Prepared for the Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica (PCJ) 1992

Back Rio Grande Socioeconomic Study (1990). Prepared for PCJ Engineering Ltd. SWECO, 1990

JBIC Journal Vol. 4 1986 "The Management of Bauxite Lands in Jamaica - A Sketch"

The Builder Vol. 4 No. 6 December 1992 "Charcoal - A Biomass Fuel with Potential for Development in Jamaica"

"Font Hill Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan" - PCJ Publication 1991

AWARDS

Kiwanis Club of New Kingston Woman of Excellence Award (2007)

Jamaica Institute of Planners Award for outstanding and dedicated service in the field of Urban and Regional Planning (2006)

Commonwealth Split Site Scholarship (2004/2005)

Jamaica Bauxite Institute Award for Professional Excellence (1988)