



Committee for Caribbean Research on Social Security

Patricia Edwards-Wescott

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Core Members of CCROSS

- Chair: Dr. Valda Henry, Deputy Governor at the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB).
- Deputy Chair: Mr. Reginald Thomas, a Distinguished Expert in Social Security within the region,.
- Dr. Althea LaFoucade, the Director, The University of the West Indies, HEU, Centre for Health Economics (UWI-HEU),



Other Committee Members

- Mr. Stewart Haynes, National Insurance Services in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (NISSVG & ISSA);
- Joana Borges, International Labour Organization (ILO);
- Mr. David Matthias, Antigua and Barbuda Social Security Board (ABSSB);
- Professor Karl Theodore, UWI-HEU;
- Mr. Derek Osborne, LifeWorks;
- Mr. Shernell Thompson, ECCB;
- Ms. Patricia Edwards-Wescott, UWI-HEU;
- Dr. Christine Laptiste, UWI-HEU; and
- Ms. Alison Drayton, CARICOM.

Broad Objectives of the CCROSS

1. Establish a Caribbean, Social Security Research Unit which will:

- (i) develop a regional targeted research agenda for social security to support policy action; and
- (ii) develop databases of existing research, policy documents, position papers and technical briefs on issues related to Social Security.

2. Support the CARICOM Heads of Social Security in:

- (i) facilitating greater regional collaboration, policy dialogue and engagement to engender policy action and safeguard the future of social security systems in the Caribbean;
- (ii) creating an enabling environment to build stronger relationships among social security organizations, professionals, and other key stakeholders; and
- (iii) ensuring the longevity and sustainability of regional action on social security through interventions specifically targeting young persons.



Achievements to date

- Held its inaugural meeting on August 15th, 2023
- Developed its Research Agenda
- Identified dates for webinars in 2024

Proposed Research and Webinar Agenda

- A series of papers on Pension Reform covering different angles by June 2024.
 - The what, why, when, and who of pension reform?
- Hosting of two (2) webinars/seminars in 2024
 - Governance and Social Security (April –May 2024)
 - Pension Reform (November 2024)