

Ms. Joanne Persad is a graduate of the University of Leicester, England having read for a Masters Degree in Risk, Crisis and Disaster Management; also the University of the West Indies, both Mona in Jamaica and St. Augustine in Trinidad and Tobago having acquired her first degree in Geography and an Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from the Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business in Trinidad respectively. Ms. Persad is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) with the Project Management Institute, USA. She also possesses a Master's Certificate in Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting from the University of Laval, Canada.

She has over 21 years' experience in the field of Disaster Management serving as a generalist in mainstream Disaster Management and as a specialist in sector specific areas. She is a certified disaster management instructor. She has served at the national level in Trinidad and Tobago and at the regional level with PAHO and CDEMA.

Ms. Persad is now the Programme Manager Preparedness and Response at CDEMA CU, where her initiatives include the development of the deployment mechanisms, coordination systems among many others. She has been deployed for the CDEMA System for the post impact response operations in Dominica 2015 and 2017, Bahamas 2015 and 2016, Antigua 2017, Bahamas 2019 and Grenada 2004.