

ABSTRACT

An Approach to the Management of Country Risk in

Trinidad and Tobago in the 1990s and Beyond

Dexter Ed William Maitland

An examination is undertaken to determine whether the actors to which country risk is most relevant, bear similar or reconcilable notions and perceptions about country risk.

The specific aspects about country risk under scrutiny are the characteristics about a country under consideration when a statement is made about its risk factor or creditworthiness and how these characteristics are measured or quantified.

For purposes of investigation two sets of actors with corresponding perspectives are identified. The Domestic actors and the International actors. The domestic actors

are specific to the country and constitute the government sector and the private sector business and academic concerns. The international actors are the country's past, present and potential creditors. These include large private international banks and multilateral lending agencies.

A Key Informants Survey is utilised for the investigation and the questionnaire directly administered to representatives of the above-mentioned groups.

Emerging from the study is a distinct impression that there appears to be no significant differences of opinions among the actors as to the manifestations and measurability of country risk. The differences which become evident seem to suggest that a common understanding and consensus on country risk could be better attained primarily through negotiations initiated by Trinidad and Tobago with its creditors and, through increased rationality and sensitivity on the part of international creditors. It is to these ends the recommendations emerging from the investigation point.