

## **Dacia Leslie**

Dr Dacia L. Leslie is Senior Research Fellow at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social & Economic Studies (SALISES), The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. A Commonwealth Scholar, in 2016 she obtained her PhD in Criminology at Cardiff University, Wales, after completing an MSc in Governance and Public Policy and a BSc in International Relations with minors in Criminology and Social Policy Administration at The UWI.

Over her 17-year academic career, Dr Leslie has built expertise at the intersections of criminology, social justice, and monitoring & evaluation, with her research helping to shape national and regional policy frameworks in the Commonwealth Caribbean. She has authored and co-edited three books, including *Recidivism in the Caribbean: Improving the Reintegration of Jamaican Ex-Prisoners* (Palgrave Macmillan), and received multiple awards, including the UWI/Guardian Life Premium Teaching Award (2022), the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission Research Impact Award (2021), and the Principal's Award for Best Publication (2021).

Dr Leslie has co-led or contributed to consultancies for the United Nations Development Programme, the Caribbean Development Bank, the Organisation of American States, and Global Affairs Canada, with a focus on correctional reform, victims' rights, and social inclusion. She currently serves as Chair of the Juvenile Correctional Standards Working Group of the Bureau of Standards Jamaica's Correctional Services Technical Committee, and is a member of the Editorial Board of the *Caribbean Journal of Criminology*.

As a Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) specialist, Dr Leslie has trained over 100 postgraduate students and continues to support evidence-based policymaking across the region. Her work bridges scholarship and practice, offering globally relevant insights into correctional reform, reintegration, and access to justice from a Caribbean perspective.