Dear Colleagues,

The abstract for the project that I have been working on (Climate Change and Sovereign Risk:

A Regional Analysis for the Caribbean), with Matthew Agarwala (Bennett Institute for Public

Policy, University of Cambridge), Matt Burke (Smith School of Enterprise and the

Environment, University of Oxford), Jennifer Doherty-Bigara (Climate Change Division, Inter-

American Development Bank), and Patrycja Klusak (Norwich Business School, University of

East Anglia) is below.

Abstract: Climate change is an existential threat to the world economy, with complex,

evolving and nonlinear dynamics that remain a source of great uncertainty. There is a

bourgeoning literature on the economic impact of climate change, but research on how

climate change affects sovereign risks is limited. This paper provides forward-looking regional

analysis of the effects of climate change on sovereign creditworthiness, probability of default

and the cost of borrowing for the Caribbean economies. Our results indicate that there is

substantial variation in the sensitivity of ratings to climate change across the region which is

due to the non-linear nature of ratings. Our findings improve the identification and

management of sovereign climate risk and provides a forward-looking assessment of how

climate change could affect the cost of accessing international finance. As such, it leads to a

suite of policy options for countries in the region.

Working Paper version: The IDB working paper version is available from <u>here</u>.

Submission: The paper is in preparation for submission to a journal.

Best, Kamiar

1/1