



2026 HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER

A YEAR OF OUTREACH: COLLABORATIONS, MENTORSHIPS & YOUTH SPOTLIGHTS IN DATA SCIENCE & AI

A MESSAGE FROM THE WiDS TT AMBASSADOR

Reflecting on 2026 so far, I am proud of the continued growth of Women in Data Science Trinidad and Tobago (WiDS TT).

Since joining WiDS Worldwide in 2022, we have witnessed AI rapidly transform how we learn, work and solve problems.

We remain committed to advancing data literacy, collaboration and Caribbean talent, especially women, girls and young people, while preserving the empathy, creativity and ethical judgement.

This year, our spotlight speakers showed how data and AI can address Caribbean needs. Ms. Toni-Marie Noel explored creative and ethical data storytelling, Ms. Tamika Ramkissoon discussed equitable AI in Caribbean healthcare, and Mr. Mithra Ramoutar shared how Cari-Agri supports farmers and regional food security. In April, we also hosted a WiDS Worldwide Virtual Community Meetup focused on emerging trends and ethical challenges.

A special highlight was our partnership with UNFPA Caribbean and TTLAB for the NextWave Youth Climate Data Challenge. Through training and mentorship, our team helped young people develop data-driven solutions to regional climate challenges. We also highlighted Mr. Marlon Mc Carthy, whose youth-led work is strengthening digital resilience and cyber awareness.

My sincere thanks to our speakers, mentors, volunteers, partners and community members. Together, we are nurturing Caribbean talent and championing the responsible use of data and AI for positive change.



Dr. Letetia Addison (PhD, SFHEA),
WiDS TT Ambassador

*Yours in service,
Letetia*

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SPOTLIGHT TALKS:

OCTOBER 2025



Seeing Data Differently: Making Insights Meaningful with Online Tools

From Trinidadian Doubles Data Creation to ChatGPT Prompt Engineering, Toni-Marie showed how curiosity and creativity can turn local experiences into powerful data projects. She also highlighted ethical data use, API management, and storytelling with data, encouraging attendees to 'see beyond the numbers'.

Ms. Toni-Marie Noel, Data Quality Analyst and Blogger

[See more](#)

Beyond Risk Scores with Agentic AI for Caribbean Health

Tamika presented the EquiHeart Framework: a forward-looking approach designed to move healthcare beyond traditional risk scores towards adaptive, transparent and equitable systems. She also underscored why governance and equity can't be afterthoughts in health AI, emphasizing focus on the people behind the scores.



MARCH 2026

[See more](#)

Ms. Tamika Ramkissoon, Senior Product Manager, AI Engineer and WiDS TT Mentor

JUNE 2026



Cari Agri: A Unified Farming Ecosystem

Mithra shared the story behind Cari-Agri, an agriculture-tech solution designed to support Caribbean farmers through AI, market access, digital tools, and a more connected farming ecosystem. Food security in the Caribbean was also a point of discussion.

Mr. Mithra Ramoutar, Agri-Tech Innovator, AI Developer and Founder of Cari-Agri

[See more](#)

UNFPA NEXTWAVE: A YOUTH CLIMATE DATA CHALLENGE MENTORSHIP

FROM MAY 2026 (ONGOING)

WiDS TT partnered with the UNFPA Caribbean for mentorship of participants in the NextWave: A Youth Climate Data Challenge competition. Mentorship took different forms across the different phases of the competition.

In the training and innovation development phases, participants were required to submit a proposal for a data-driven climate solution. To aid in proposal development, participants attended several training modules. TTLAB and WiDS TT hosted the second of these modules, 'Designing Data Driven Solutions - Finding, Cleaning & Visualising Open Source Data', delivered by Dr. Letetia Addison, Ms. Lesley-Ann Jurawan, Mr. Nicholas Smith and Ms. Kavita Jattansingh. Mentors also produced a detailed YouTube playlist covering similar topics to aid participants.

Eight finalists were selected and were required to pitch their tools in July. In preparation for this, mentors from TTLAB and WiDS TT offered office hour sessions to the finalists. Following this, 3 winners were selected. These winners are currently developing their tools, with extensive advice available from mentors.



[See more](#)



[See more](#)

MENTOR MEETUP - AUGUST 2026

Pictured from left: Gregory Ollivierre, Denelle Mohammed, Lesley-Ann Jurawan, Daria Hypolite, Letetia Addison, Sophie O'Donoghue (UNFPA) and Abdullah Ali

Mentors from WiDS TT and TTLAB who provided support for participants in the NextWave competition met up for lunch. Tokens of appreciation from WiDS TT and UNFPA Caribbean were distributed to mentors.

CLIMATE CHANGE AI SUMMER SCHOOL

WiDS TT served as an ambassador for Climate Change AI Virtual Summer School 2026. This programme focused on introducing students to various applications of AI for climate action. Modules included machine learning, weather, biodiversity, ethics and sustainability, and more. It ran from July 20-August 22, 2026, with the opportunity to attain the certification until September 20.

WiDS TT hosted a study group comprising existing members and external persons, involving 26 participants in total. Several WiDS TT members have completed the requirements for the certification.



[See more](#)

WIDS TT VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETUP

In April 2026, Dr. Letetia Addison, a member of the WiDS Global Leaders Committee, hosted a quarterly WiDS Community Meetup that brought together community members from across the global network.

The open session provided an opportunity for participants to share local updates, discuss challenges and emerging trends in AI, data science and education, and explore opportunities for future collaboration. Key concerns included adapting to rapid technological change, navigating the growing number of AI platforms, selecting appropriate tools and addressing ethical considerations. Participants proposed several practical initiatives, including short video series on AI ethics, fundamentals and security; micro-credentials; networking activities; and educational content for working professionals and secondary school students. These ideas will be developed further at the next quarterly community meeting in September 2026.

What comes to mind when you hear 'AI in your community'?

small project big impact
efficiency change
ai agents for automations
a little fear slop
knowledge

steep learning curve

Snapshot of engagement moment during the virtual Meetup

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

Through his youth-led YCSIPT (Youth Cyber Security Incidence Prevention Team) initiative, **Mr. Marlon Mc Carthy** is helping young people become more digitally resilient, cyber-aware and prepared to navigate an increasingly AI-driven world. His vision is a powerful example of youth leadership in action.

[See more](#)



Dr. Letetia Addison and Mr. Marlon Mc Carthy

THANK YOU TO THE WIDS TT MENTORS AND VOLUNTEERS!

Contributing Mentors / Volunteers (in alphabetical order):

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| • Abdullah Ali | • Haddiyah Ali | • Malini Ramberran |
| • Daria Hypolite | • Johnny Tiu | • Nicholas Smith |
| • Denelle Mohammed | • Julie Koon Koon | • Priya Ramdial |
| • Faith Persad | • Kavita Jattansingh | • Tamika Ramkissoon |
| • Fazeeia Mohammed | • Kayla Boyce | • Vidya Ramnarine |
| • Gregory Ollivierre | • Lesley-Ann Jurawan | |

Special Thanks:

- TTLAB
- UNFPA

STAY CONNECTED - WIDS TT



Connected locally. Impacting globally.

WIDS TT is proud to be part of Women in Data Science Worldwide

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