**Caribbean Telecommunications Union**

# Accelerating Broadband Development in the Caribbean

**Update on Connected Caribbean Broadband Initiatives**

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Secretary General

# History of the CTU

- Established in 1989 CARICOM Heads of Government by treaty to be the inter-governmental telecommunications policy institution

- 2003: Defined a new strategic direction to address issues of information and communications technologies

- 2006: Established Connected Caribbean Initiative

  - To foster connectivity between governments, organisations and people.

# Mission

- To create an environment in partnership with members to optimize returns from ICT resources for the benefit of stakeholders

# Methodology

- Multi-stakeholder engagement (Public Private People Partnerships)

- Strategic partnerships

- CTU and CANTO work on complementary activities

# Accelerating Broadband Development....

It is about planting

# PEAS

# CTU's Activities

**P** -  Public Awareness and Education

**E** - Creating an enabling Environment

**A** -  Action – implementation

**S** - Skill development

# P - Public Awareness and Education

- Caribbean ICT Roadshow
  - All sectors of the national community
  - Focus:
    - Innovation and Entrepreneurship
    - Youth

- Strategic Ministerial Seminars
  - Ministers, technocrats, regulators and CEOs ICT Service Providers

- Technical Training
  - ICT stakeholders

# E - Enabling Environment - Harmonisation

- Caribbean Spectrum Management Policy Reform
  - Caribbean Spectrum Management Task Force
  - Harmonised Caribbean Spectrum Management Policy Framework

- Caribbean Internet Governance Policy Framework
  - Physical Infrastructure
  - Cybersecurity

# A - Action

- Facilitated the establishment of Internet Exchange Points
  - Curacao, St. Maarten
  - Grenada, British Virgin Islands...

- National ICT Policy, Strategy and Implementation Plans
- Policy Frameworks for
  - Spectrum Management
  - Internet Governance

- Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development
- Government Wide Area Networks
  - Assessment
  - Recommendation

# S - Skills Development

- Sponsored and facilitated the development of the Caribbean Network Operators' Group (CaribNOG)
  - Practical application of theory
  - Hands on practical training for IT engineers and technicians
  - Creating networks of expertise
  - Solutions oriented

# NEXT STEPS

- Creating Enabling Environment
  - Development of harmonised policies that foster broadband deployment

  - Spectrum Management
    - Establishment of the Caribbean Spectrum Management Task Force as a permanent body
    - Implementation of the Caribbean Spectrum Management Work Plan
    - Updating SM Policy Framework
    - Training

- Continuation of:
  - Government Wide Area Networks
  - Education, Awareness and Skills building programmes
  - Proliferation of Caribbean IXPs
- Establishment of the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Foundation
  - Training
  - Mentorship
  - Immersion

# Caribbean Broadband Development

- The Solutions can be
  - Coordinated
  - Functional
  - Beneficial
- Resulting in
  - Seamless Caribbean
  - Consistent  service delivery
  - Reduced costs
  - Emergence of Knowledge economies
  - Global competitiveness
  - Satisfied citizens

# Or…

- The Outcome can be
  - Uncoordinated
  - Expensive
  - Inefficient
  - Ineffective

- Resulting in
  - Disjointed Caribbean
  - Inconsistent service delivery
  - Increasing costs
  - Economic and social stagnation
  - Discontented citizens

# Accelerating Broadband Development....

PLANT

# PEAS