Broadband Infrastructure Inventory and Public Awareness in the Caribbean Project

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The Rudiments…

- Project's Genesis – Nov 2011 Broadband Forum

- Financing Plan – Facility for the Promotion of Regional Public Goods

- Executing Agency

- Beneficiary Countries are Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Suriname, Belize, Guyana, Dominican Republic and Haiti

- Project budget – USD 840K in cash with USD 240K in in-kind support

- Project Duration

- Start Date – Mar 27, 2013

- Type of Consultants

BIIPAC Objective

○ Support the design of national broadband strategies in the Caribbean

○ Identify the regional aspects that need to be incorporated into these strategies to support the Caribbean as it evolves towards universality in broadband access and service, regardless of

  ○ the location (ubiquity) or the

  ○ social strata (equity)

Organizational Structure of Project

- IDB – Washington DC <Team Leader>

- Port of Spain IDB Office – <local overseer>

- CANTO – Port of Spain <Executing Agency>

- Regional Coordinator

- Beneficiary Countries – 8 in total <Counterparties>

- BIIPAC Steering Committee – meets once per year f2f

- BIIPAC Technical Team

Role of BIIPAC Steering Committee

- Ensure the overall coordination and decision making
- Facilitate cooperation among regional and national institutions in the provision of information & data
- Inform the members' countries and stakeholders, on issues concerning various aspects of the project
- Approve the work plan prepared by CANTO and the tentative schedule of meetings
- Analyze, harmonize and approve the national strategies in order to facilitate their future implementation in a regional context.
- Recommend potential technical resources for the project
- Take necessary action to support the activities and the work of the Technical Committee
- First f2f meeting was held Jul 14 & 16, 2013 in Aruba

Role of BIIPAC Technical Team

○ national coordination of the Technical Cooperation (TC) activities with other institutions and agencies that may be involved;

○ meet with the TC consultants and act as a link between them and other pertinent national institutions

○ provide all required information to the TC consultants to enable the completion of their tasks;

○ review and provide inputs on the deliverables submitted in the framework of the TC; and

○ maintain the SC and the respective authorities informed on the development of the TC

○ Transmit any observations, concerns and suggestions to ensure the achievement of the TC's objective.

The BIIPAC Project Components

- BIIPAC terms of reference exist on the CANTO website
- Define the activities to be undertaken and the products to be delivered under each component
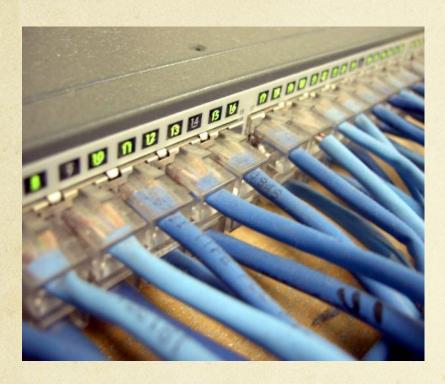
Broadband Diagnostic and Infrastructure maps	Review of legal and regulatory frameworks and current sector trends	ICT awareness and capacity building programs	Public Policy recommendations for the design of national broadband strategies

Laying of groundwork for increased broadband penetration

Broadband Diagnosis and Infrastructure Maps

Work on this Component commenced on Jan 23, 2014

- Detailed broadband diagnosis and infrastructure maps.

- Identification of country-specific socio-demographic variables.

- Classification of geographic areas based on their penetration rates

- Public policy recommendations for each government on how to accelerate the penetration rate and usage of broadband services.

- *Result:* Public Policies, Level of intervention necessary, PPP

Review of Regulatory and Institutional Frameworks and Current Sector Trends

- Review the current regulatory framework for the telecom sector in each country.

- Proposed revisions to the regulation will seek to increase the level playing field for sector competition in the Region.

- Review the institutional framework in each country related to the telecommunications sector.

- *Result:* Harmonized Regulatory framework, leveraging of private sector investment, effective implementation of broadband strategy

Recruiting for this component is currently in train

ICT Awareness and Capacity Building for the Caribbean

Recruiting for this component is currently in train

- A seminar for regulators and policy makers will be organized during the regional workshop for component 2 of this TC.

- Training materials developed under the framework of IDB's Broadband Platform on the impact of ICTs in different strategic sectors will be used and leveraged in the training.

- In addition, practitioners will be invited to present international best practices, in an effort to create a Community of Practice in the Caribbean.

- Design of a capacity building program for different actors in each country

- *Result:* increase the use of and the demand for broadband services

Public Policy Recommendations for the Design of National Broadband Strategies

- Recommendations for the design of national broadband strategies for each government

- Considerations to work towards a regional broadband strategy

- In an effort to facilitate the future implementation of the national broadband strategies and foster regional cooperation and coordination, recommendations of a governance model will be provided for each country.

- *Result:* accelerate the penetration rate and usage of broadband services among the different stakeholders

This component will commence upon the completion of component 1

BIIPAC Highlights of Completed Work & Lessons Learned

○ Revised Letter of Agreement, including key legal aspects

○ Conducted Consultations with stakeholders and consequently revised Scope of work.

○ Obtained consensus on the remit of the Steering and Technical Committees.

○ Revised project budget to include facility for in-person Stg Cmte mtgs

○ Conducted Procurement Methodology revision processes

○ Critical to take initiatives to ensure implementation of next steps

○ Many bureaucratic issues obtain when dealing with Pan-Caribbean projects

○ Disconnects can obtain between funders and beneficiary bodies

○ **Where there's a will, there is a way**

Expected results of BIIPAC

- Broadband diagnosis and infrastructure maps
  - conclusions and policy recommendations for each participating Caribbean country.

- Review of the regulatory and institutional frameworks
  - recommendations to address current sector trends.

- ICT awareness and capacity building in the Caribbean
  - Seminar and the creation of a Community of Practice of regulators, public officials and experts, and the design of national capacity building programs.

- Public policy recommendations for the design of national broadband strategies.

BIIPAC Phase II : OECS

- At the Feb 2013 BIIPAC Phase I Launch, members of the OECS expressed interest in the project

- IDB Funds can only be used to support IDB Member Countries

- A grant from the Compete Caribbean Programme will facilitate a 2nd phase of BIIPAC

- Beneficiary countries will comprise Antigua & Barbuda, Grenada, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Kitts & Nevis.

- The CCP will work closely with CANTO and the IDB in the administration of BIIPAC Phase II

- CCP – Executing Agency; CANTO – Project Coordinator

- Each beneficiary country is being asked to contribute US $20,000.00 of in-kind assistance to the financing structure of this project

- **Letters of Commitment** have been received from each country **confirming provision of in-kind support**

The Compete Caribbean Programme

Compete Caribbean is a private sector development program that provides technical assistance grants and investment funding to support productive development policies, business climate reforms, clustering initiatives and Small and Medium Size Enterprise (SME) development activities in the Caribbean region.

Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (US$18.7 m)	UK Department for International Development (US$16 m)	IDB (US$9.3 m, largely in kind)	Caribbean Development Bank (Waived admin fee for projects in OECS)

Eligible for Disbursement: August 2010
5-year execution period

With a total value of over US$40 million, Compete Caribbean is the largest technical assistance program targeting private sector development in the region

Components for BIIPAC Phase II

1. Broadband Diagnosis and Infrastructure Maps

2. Review of Regulatory and Institutional Frameworks and Current Sector Trends

3. Public Policy Recommendations for the Design of National Broadband Strategies

Each component will have the exact TOR as its Phase I counterpart

Basic Facts & Current Status of BIIPAC Phase II

1. Project timeline of 15 mths

2. Same governance structure and consultant model will be employed

3. Cash budget of USD 480K, In-kind support of $120K

4. Compete Caribbean is now seeking the go-ahead from its funding bodies for project implementation

5. The CCP will be responsible for the project procurement

Thank you!

Questions / Inquiries:

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