CREATION OF AN ICT ECOSYSTEM

OVERVIEW OF GUYANA

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BACKGROUND

- Rich History of ICT

- Potential

- Industry Slowdown (1990s-2000s)

- Lack of Focus/Other priorities

- Re-emergence (2013-Present)

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT / OUR SITUATION

National and Economic Crossroads

Need for diversification

The Need to meet the demands of the 21st Century Environment

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

- On the cusp of hemispheric giant as a result discoveries in oil and gas

- Facing economic challenges because of over dependency on legacy productive sectors

- It is the technology driven, knowledge management industries that will be the future of Guyana.

- Need to be prepared fully for the demands of a 21st Century environment

STATUS/CHALLENGES

- No ICT legislation currently in effect

- Legislation needs to be modernized

- Education Curriculum need to be updated

- Government and related services are still paper based

- Small ICT Enterprise Level ICT Sector

- Not enough of an advanced ICT skillset

KEY CONCEPTS

- Accept that ICT is critical to the nation's development and economic advancement.

- Integrate ICT as a key crossing component of any national plan/strategy

- Accept that we live in a world that is flat

- Either we adapt or….

THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

Manipulation of information has become the most significant economic and cultural activity.

Used to measure ICT utilization

INFORMATION SOCIETY TARGETS (WSIS)

- Connect villages and establish community access points

- Connect schools and universities

- Connect scientific and research institutions

- Connect libraries, archives, museums,

- Connect Health centres/hospitals

- Connect all local and central govt departments

- Adapt all school curricula to meet the challenges of the information society

- Access to television and radio services

- Encourage the development of content

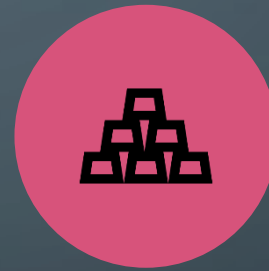- Ensure that more than half the world's inhabitants have personal use of ICT

FOUR PILLARS OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

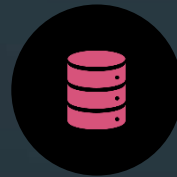HEALTH

EDUCATION

WEALTH/PROPERITY

SECURITY

ICT AS A CROSS CUTTING COMPONENT

ELECTRONIC RECORDS

CONNECTIVITY

DATABASE MANAGEMENT

ANALYSIS AND STATISTICS

EASY ACCESS TO EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL ASSETS

SMART CLASSROOMS

SMART CITIES

VISION

- Knowledge based society which is globally competitive and productive, and giving rise to the strategic placement of Guyana as a premier ICT hub in the region.

- Creation of a viable technology private sector that will create wealth, employment, revenue and contribute significantly to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

CRITICAL IMPERATIVES

The creation of an enabling environment that will support

- The effective utilization of ICT by Government to provide services more efficiently to its citizens and businesses.

- The growth of a stand alone ICT private sector that will contribute to the economy in terms of revenue, employment and wealth creation.

- Initiatives that will ensure ICT is an effective cross cutting component of all the productive sectors.

GOALS AND DIRECTION

- The development of an ICT literate society that enables all segments of society to participate fully in the Information Society

- The utilisation of ICTs to encourage and promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.

- The availability of ICT to all Guyanese

- The Transformation of the public and business sectors into an e-environment

- The implementation of modernised legislation to support industry and innovation

ANATOMY OF A NATIONAL STRATEGY

- Strengthening the legal, regulatory and policy environment

- eGovernmment –transforming service delivery and effectiveness

- Universal Access and Connectivity

- E-inclusion

- ICT business facilitation and development

AREAS OF FOCUS

The creation of an enabling environment that will support

- Increased connectivity/infrastructure

- Modernisation of existing legislation/new legislation

- Nationwide wide training/Curriculum Review for ICT

- Entrepreneurship /Startups

- Policy for Business Facilitation

CRITICAL FACTORS

- Buy In

- Champions

- Incorporation within the nationwide development Strategy

- Orientation and Outreach

- Collaboration

- Commitment

WHERE ARE WE?

- Creation of an ICT Specific Agency

- Access via 170 hubs

- Hackathons

- Draft Framework for a national strategy

- Orientation and Outreach

- Increase in ICT Private Sector Firms

- Commitment

KEY NEXT STEPS

- Telecoms Liberalisation

- E-Commerce

- Electronic Payments

- Intellectual Property

- Connectivity Projects

- ICT Stakeholder Roundtables

THANK YOU MOST KINDLY

- Questions?

- Comments?