



1. What consideration have led CANTO to the theme Reimagining ICT as a tool for National Growth and Development.

- The theme focuses on using ICT and connectivity as the catalyst for national growth and economic development. We at CANTO believe that the onus is on all the stakeholders to encourage creators, developers and consumers to take advantage of the dynamism of ICT and expand their thought process to view all possibilities. This dynamism will require a paradigm shift, fostering an environment which stimulates creativity necessary for the development of our national and regional markets. The theme's objective is to connect more of what our stakeholders do with the goals and ambitions of the markets served for the benefit of the Caribbean people

2. The theme expresses on members to change their perspective on ICTs – why

- The ever-changing field of technology has made the world more accessible as information is easily and rapidly exchanged. It is quite clear that ICTs is affecting and reshaping our societies. ICT is a tool that establishes new infrastructures, changing the way our societies function, while its applications will give us totally new opportunities and better solutions to our existing problems. It is this all-inclusive approach that CANTO is encouraging its members to adopt as we reimagine ICT in all its different spheres to reap benefits which would promote national growth and development.

3. Is this a call on Governments also?

- Yes, this is a call on Governments also. As policy makers, governments role is critical to the success of this all-inclusive approach to the policies and regulations that impact ICT growth and development. It should be on every government's objectives to create an attractive environment to the growth and development of the ICT sector and this can be done in several ways. Governments can reimagine ICT as a tool for national growth and development by looking at how financial support can be provided to potential and existing investors through stimulus packages and alternative mechanisms. They can look at reducing the cost of doing business enabling operators to reduce capital and operational costs and increase their profits through direct financial incentives such as lower or deferred licence fees and indirect financial incentives such as use of universal service funds.

4. Is Reimagining already going on at CANTO member companies and is this satisfactory



- Yes. Reimagining how we do business is always at the forefront of CANTO member companies. The theme was developed in conjunction with the marketing committee which comprises the member companies of CANTO. Some of our member companies have started to discuss smart/safer cities with all the stakeholders in their respective nations.

5. The economies of scale challenges

- Because we are small island development states, economies of scale will always be a challenge for us. But with these challenges comes lots of opportunities – our strength lies in our diversity and that is why an association like CANTO provides an opportunity and a voice for the region. Individually we may be small but collectively we are strong.

6. Deliverables

- Collaboration with all stakeholders to advance the use of ICT for national growth and development

7. A year from now

- The discussions will have already taken place between all stakeholders and the projects emanating from these discussions will be implemented.
- Engaging stakeholders to encourage creators, developers and consumers to take advantage of the dynamism and attaining the theme's objective which i.s to connect more of what our stakeholders do with the goals and ambitions of the markets served will be readily seen
- The paradigm shift, fostering an environment which stimulates creativity necessary for the development of our national and regional markets will be widespread in the region.

8. CANTO's record

- Knowing that we have initiated the process that promotes reimagining ICTs as an all-inclusive tool for national growth and development and that the first conversations were induced by CANTO and the first discussions and synergies started at the CANTO AGM.