CANTO
Caribbean Focus... GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

INNOVATION CHALLENGE
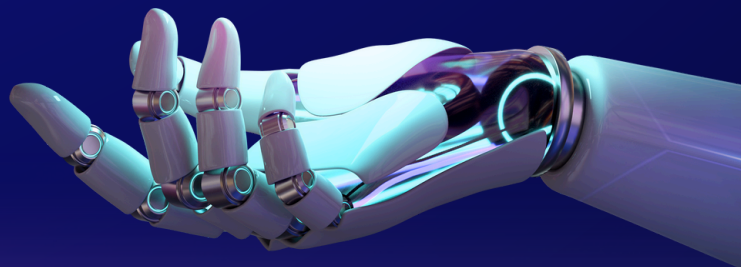## Caribbean *Youth* ICT Showcase

Let the Creativity shine!

www.canto.org

APPLICATIONS CLOSE:

JUNE 5TH, 2024

The Challenge

CANTO's Technology & Trends Committee spearheads this Innovation Challenge, aimed at igniting transformative progress in the Caribbean's ICT landscape. By promoting innovation and facilitating collaboration, this challenge encourages young innovators to showcase groundbreaking solutions to regional challenges, fostering partnerships and knowledge-sharing among stakeholders to leverage collective intelligence for industry advancement.

Problem Statement

Develop and present a working innovation product or solution that addresses a specific need or opportunity within the ICT landscape of the Caribbean region. Participants are encouraged to think creatively and leverage emerging technologies to create impactful solutions that have the potential to transform industries, improve quality of life, or drive socio-economic development.

The proposed solutions can take the form of:
- Web applications, data tools, apps etc.
- Potential integration of Artificial Intelligence/Machine learning
- Could be embedded on www.canto.org

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Eligibility

Participants must be between the ages of 18 and 23 and reside in the Caribbean region.

Each team must be comprised of 2 to 4 members.

ENG

Team members should have working proficiency in English.

Two (2) members must possess valid passports & visa (if applicable) with an expiration date extending beyond March 2025.
Note: Visa application & on-site costs will be borne by the participants.

How to Apply:

To apply for the CANTO Innovation Challenge, fill in the application form here before

Be sure to review eligibility requirements before submitting your application. If you have any questions our team can be contacted at: canto@canto.org.

Guidelines

- ## Innovation focus

  Solutions should fall within the realm of ICT, including but not limited to software applications, hardware devices, digital platforms, and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, Internet of Things (IoT), blockchain, cyber security, etc.

- ## Practical Application

  Submissions should address a specific challenge or opportunity within the Caribbean context, demonstrating potential for practical implementation and positive impact.

- ## Working Product

  Entries must include a functional prototype or demonstration of the innovation product/solution.

- ## Presentation

  Participants will be required to present their innovation to a panel of judges during a two phased judging process, highlighting its features, benefits, and potential impact.

- ## Originality

  Submissions must be original work created by the participant or team, with proper attribution for any third-party assets or resources used.

- ## Ethics and Compliance

  Solutions should adhere to ethical standards and legal regulations, with due consideration for privacy, security, and inclusivity.

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Judging Procedure

The judging process will consist of two phases:

Phase 1: Initial Screening

- Evaluation Criteria: Relevance to the Caribbean ICT landscape, Innovation, Feasibility, Potential Impact.
- Documentation Required: Project Proposal (including problem statement, solution overview, target audience, and expected outcomes), Conceptual Design or Wireframes, Team Bios and Roles.
- Models Needed: Conceptual Models, Mockups, Prototypes.
- Selection of Top Entries for Phase 2.

Phase 2: In-depth Evaluation

- Evaluation Criteria: Technical Implementation, User Experience, Scalability, Sustainability.
- Documentation Required: Detailed Project Documentation (including technical specifications, development process, challenges faced, and solutions implemented), User Testing Reports, Business Model Canvas, Market Analysis.
- Models Needed: Working Prototype, User Interface Design, Business Model.

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Recognition & Rewards

1

✓ Monetary Reward of $2000USD

✓ Trip for two (2) team members to CANTO CONNECT 2025 in Curaçao

✓ Mentorship Program with Industry Experts

✓ Access to Funding Opportunities.

2

✓ Monetary Reward of $800USD

✓ Networking Opportunities with Industry Professionals

✓ Promotion through CANTO Channels

3

✓ Monetary Reward of $400USD

✓ Access to CANTO Resources and Workshops

✓ Exposure at CANTO Events

Note: 1. Winners will be selected based on combined scores from both phases of evaluation

2. All participants will receive certificates of participation and feedback from the judging panel.

Timeline

April 29th	Launch of call for applicants
June 5th	Closing of applications
June 17th	Announcement of Top 10
June 20th-25th	Phase 1 Presentation week
June 28th	Announcement of Top 5
July 1st	Launch of Phase 2
July 31st	Submission deadline
Aug 19th-23rd	Phase 2 Presentation week
Sept 2nd	Winner announcement

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