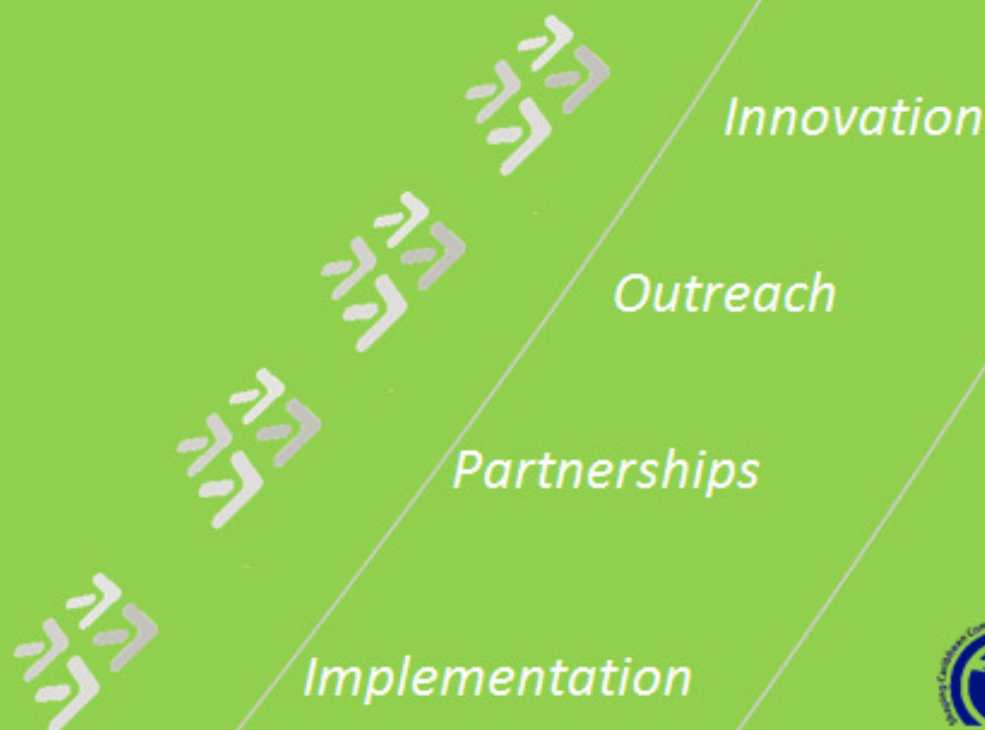




CARIBBEAN **ICT** Roadshow

*ICT Innovation for
Caribbean Development*





Prospectus for the CTU

Caribbean ICT Road Show

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Prospectus for the CTU's

The Caribbean ICT Road Show

*Harnessing the power of **Innovation**: the engine for ICT-enabled development*

1. Introduction

Caribbean countries are under undeniable threat. Size, rising crime, porous borders, the effects of climate change, the flight of intellectual capacity and the dismantling of preferential trade arrangements with the resultant negative impact on the export of traditional products, are but a few of the vulnerabilities of the region. These challenges have been further compounded by the contagion of the global financial crisis and deepening economic fragility.

Caribbean leaders, having noted the shift to knowledge-based economy [are](#) determined to accelerate the use of Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) for advancing the economic and social development of the region.

No one can escape or ignore the phenomenal impact of information and communication technologies on every facet of human endeavour. As a region whose citizens are consumers of technology, it is imperative that we maximize the return on the investments we make in ICTs and that we exploit its potential to the fullest.

A study of the diffusion of new technologies will show that *innovation* is a significant factor for deriving maximum benefit from new technologies. If the Caribbean is to successfully incorporate ICTs in mitigating its vulnerabilities, capitalizing on its strengths and promoting its development, then a concerted effort must be made to be innovative in the application of ICTs to challenges of 21st century social and economic advance.

Many Caribbean governments by their policies and programmes have already embarked on activities designed to stimulate and encourage ICT growth and development. For example, the Antigua and Barbuda's ICT Fest and Trinidad and Tobago's Fast Forward programme are testimony to their respective Government's commitment to ICT-enabled development. National initiatives notwithstanding, however, harmonized regional approaches to ICT development are necessary to maximize the use of scarce human and financial resources for the Caribbean to reap tangible and sustainable benefits for its citizens.





2. The CTU's Mission

The Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) was established in 1989 by the Heads of CARICOM Governments to rationalise the telecommunications policy framework for the region. The Union was given the mandate to coordinate and harmonise approaches to telecommunications development and to promote the general awareness of telecommunication technologies in the region.

The CTU's mission is "...to optimize returns from ICT resources for the benefit of stakeholders."

Its focus is on policy formulation, capacity building and representation of the region at various telecommunications fora. With members drawn from regional governments and the private sector, the CTU now plays a pivotal role in facilitating the development of the Caribbean's information and communications technologies (ICT) industry.

The CTU will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary on 28th April, 2009. In keeping with this mandate and to commemorate this milestone the CTU proposes to embark on a Caribbean-wide programme to continue the promotion of ICT innovation, the development of harmonised policies and preparation of citizens of the region to reap tangible benefits from the ICT evolution.

3. Caribbean ICT Road Show

The **Caribbean ICT Road Show** has been developed to raise awareness within the public sector, the private sector, civil society and academia, of the innovative approaches possible and necessary for the effective use of ICTs in government, business and social development.

The CTU proposes to work collaboratively with its members, partners and other interested organisations and institutions to deliver a programme designed to educate and demonstrate the transformative power of ICT innovation.

The programme, dubbed the **CIRS**, will take the form of a series of country visits across the region, designed to foster a spirit of innovation in the development of ICT-based practical solutions, to raise awareness and to encourage harmonization of efforts in the adoption of ICT solutions for inclusive economic and social development.

The theme, **Harnessing the Power of Innovation - the engine for ICT-enabled development**, is reflective of the objectives we hope to achieve.

The CIRS will culminate in a regional ICT Symposium on 28 – 29 April 2010 to highlight and celebrate regional innovators and innovations and build consensus on collaborative approaches to achieving measurable national and regional advance through effective utilization of ICTs.





4. The Invitation

The CTU invites Caribbean governments, organisations, institutions and individuals with an interest in ICT innovation to partner with it by supporting and participating in its 20th Anniversary Caribbean ICT Road Show. Support of this event would be a tangible demonstration of commitment to innovative in an ICT-enabled transition to knowledge-based economies and societies.

5. Caribbean ICT Road Show Objectives

The purpose of the Caribbean ICT Road Show is to promote innovation in ICT as an engine for all aspects of Caribbean development. It will also demonstrate the transformative power of innovation in ICT policy formulation; entrepreneurship and business development; education; and government service delivery for the Caribbean Community.

The main objectives of the Caribbean ICT Road Show are as follows:

1. To foster innovation in the application of ICT to Caribbean problems in government, the private sector and civil society through activities which include:
 - Showcase of ICT innovators and entrepreneurs and Demonstrations of ICT innovation
 - Youth-focused ICT-based programs
 - Executive Lectures for leaders in government, business and civil society
2. To build regional awareness among the public sector, the private sector and civil society in the innovative and effective use of ICTs in every aspect of Caribbean life through presentations on
 - ICT infrastructure and services
 - The Internet, its resources, institutions and issues
 - Internet Exchange Points (IXPs)
 - ICT in business, entrepreneurship, banking and community development
 - The benefits of a Caribbean Network Operators' Group
3. To accelerate the effective use of ICT by regional governments in the delivery of public services and transparent governance through open discussion between policy makers, regulators and other stakeholders on the topics including Spectrum Management Policy Reform, Internet Governance and Business Incubators
4. To encourage greater regional collaboration in the development of regional ICT solutions through the presentation of Caribbean and International ICT Best Practices.
5. Promote the work, role and programmes of the CTU as a resource to the region
6. To forge closer relationship between Caribbean ICT stakeholders and the regional internet communities and to encourage participation in international ICT fora.
 - Creation and support of regional Special Interest Group
 - Promotion of fora for ongoing collaboration and stakeholder relationship development

It is envisaged that the knowledge, exposure and relationships forged from the Road Show would result in an increased awareness available resources and current and planned ICT initiatives. It will also aid positively in the effective use and management of ICT resources and services. Together, these would redound to increased economic and social development of Caribbean peoples.





6. The Schedule and Structure

The Caribbean ICT Road Show is proposed to be held from June 2009 to April 2010 under the auspices of the Member States of the CTU and supported by national, regional and international ICT institutions and organisations. The American Registry of Internet Names and numbers (ARIN), Congress WBN (C-WBN), The Latin America & Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry (LACNIC) and Packet Clearing House (PCH) have already confirmed their support.

The Road Show has been designed to be educational and structured to enable interactive participation and the free exchange of ideas, knowledge and experiences from all sectors and stakeholders of the Caribbean national citizenry.

Each national event would be held over a period of two and a half days and will include key aspects of ICT development in industry, regulatory environment, government and civil society. The programme will consist of

- lectures,
- technology demonstrations,
- hands-on workshops,
- case studies,
- showcase of ICT innovation,
- youth-focused programs and
- stakeholder consultations.

The CTU will be working in partnership with stakeholders in respective Caribbean countries to customize the event to meet the priority needs of the host country. Select sessions will also be video recorded for re-broadcast at other country stops and for publication on appropriate regional portals as a publicly-accessible resource.

The details of the generic structure and schedule of the Road Show are provided in Appendices 1 and 2 respectively. Appendix 3 provides information on the competitions.

7. Management Plan

Coordination of all aspects of the Caribbean ICT Road Show will be done by the CTU Secretariat based in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. The CTU has demonstrated capabilities and prior experience in such work and will co-opt expertise as might be required from among its membership and partners. Financial management of subventions and expenditures related to the seminar will be directly controlled on a continuous basis by the CTU's accounting and administrative staff.





8.The Audience

Each Road Show stop will include features specifically designed for:

- ICT Stakeholders and professionals
- The Private Sector
- The Public Sector
- Leaders
- Youth
- The general public and civil society

It is anticipated that regional ICT Government Ministers and other senior policy makers, legislators, regulators, the private sector and ICT practitioners from the Caribbean would participate in targeted sessions of the Road Show.

In addition, educational institutions, civil society and the general public would be invited to the general sessions.

9.Anticipated Results

The following results are anticipated.

- Greater understanding of the need for adoption of ICT tools by the public and private sector especially Small and Medium Enterprises (SME's) to enhance productivity, efficiency and quality
- Commitment to innovation in ICT development
- Strengthening ties between the CTU Secretariat and its Member States
- Securing support for indigenous talent development in ICT innovation
- Encouraging support for relevant regional research
- Increased contribution by local/regional companies in directly facilitating knowledge sharing and the development and the creation of ICT capacity
- Greater awareness and understanding among stakeholders of the impact of the Internet in national development
- Improvement in the quality of decision-making for Internet Governance in respective administrations
- Improved policy-making and regulatory function for sustainable development of regional Internet infrastructure and services
- Greater participation by the Caribbean in international Internet fora
- Strengthening regional ICT bodies.

These goals and aspirations are directly congruent with the CTU's mandate for ICT coordination, harmonization and promoting greater understanding of ICT issues as they relate to social and economic development.





10. Request for Support and Participation

The goals of ICT Development cannot be accomplished by a single organisation but requires the collective efforts and collaborative work by multidisciplinary organisations, institutions and stakeholders. In recognition of the diverse nature of ICT innovation and the need for multi-stakeholder participation, the CTU is requesting the support of regional organisations to participate in the Caribbean ICT Road Show.

Interested parties may support the CTU by delivering an address in a relevant forum, presenting a workshop, demonstrating innovative use of ICT, facilitating a discussion or consultation, advertising, providing information publications and donating prizes for competitions.

Prospective partners in the CIRS may suggest other activities or items which are in keeping with the theme of the CIRS for inclusion on the programme.

11. Request for Financial Assistance

The CTU is a non-profit inter-governmental organization whose operations are financed by contributions from its members. The cost for activities such as this Caribbean Road Show is defrayed through contributions of donor organizations and sponsors.

Financial assistance is therefore being requested to help meet the cost of organizing and delivering the programme in each country, the travel, accommodation and expenses for a limited number of experts, speakers and participants; advertising, secretariat services and other activities associated with the event





12. APPENDIX 1

Generic Programme of National Activities*¹

DAY 1			
08:30 – 09:45	Opening Ceremony*² National Anthem Opening Prayer Welcome address Remarks from Lead Sponsor Feature Address Vote of Thanks		
10:00 – 12:00	Policy Makers & Regulators’ Forum 1. Overview of the CTU 2. Presentation of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caribbean Spectrum Management Policy Framework Internet Governance Policy Framework IPv4 to IPv6 Migration Handbook Connected Caribbean Information Request 	ICT Innovator’s Forum Demonstrations of ICT Innovation	Youth Outreach Forum Software Development Competition: The Netizen Challenge: Code Jam
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch		
13:00 – 16:00	The Internet Forum Presentations by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICANN ARIN LACNIC ISOC LACTLD 	SME Business Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICT tools and Services for SME Get on Line - Domains of the Caribbean Business Incubators 	Youth Outreach Forum Software Development Competition: The Netizen Challenge: Code Jam



17:30 –
19:30

Executive Lecture Forum

Business Leaders, Regulators, and Government Officials, Public and Private Sector leaders, and innovators

The Power of Innovation

- Cocktails
- Introduction
- Welcome and Opening by PM/ Minister
- Speaker 1
- Speaker 2
- Discussion Panel

Q&A.



APPENDIX 1: Generic Programme of National Activities

DAY 2			
08:30 – 10:00	Operators Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caribbean Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) Regional Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) Caribbean Network Operators’ Group (CARIBNOG) 	ICT Innovator’s Forum	Youth Outreach Forum Presentations from: The Cybernaut Challenge: Web Site Development
10:00 – 12:00	IP Forum <i>ISPs, Operators, Regulators and ccTLD Managers</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IPv6 Workshop IPv6 Experiment Adoption of IPv6 	Banks and Business Forum	
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch		
13:00 – 15:00	ICT Forum on Innovation		
15:30 – 16:30	Best Practices for Driving Development		
16:45 – 17:50	Closing Ceremony		

***NOTES:**

The programme will be customized for each country and structured not to exceed 2½ days.

The Opening ceremony may be held on the evening prior to the first day’s activities.



13. APPENDIX 2:

Proposed Schedule of Country Visits*¹

Week	Country
June 29	St Vincent and the Grenadines Grenada
July 13-17	St Lucia Dominica
August 10-11 August 12-14	St. Kitts and Nevis Antigua and Barbuda
September 7&8	Turks & Caicos
September 28	Guyana
October 5-8	Suriname
October 19 -21	EC Meeting
November 02	Belize.
November 11-20	British Virgin Islands Cayman Islands
December 02 -05 December 07-09	Jamaica Cuba
January 11	Bahamas
January 25	Barbados
February	Anguilla St. Maarten
March	Montserrat
April 28	Trinidad and Tobago

NOTES:

This schedule is subject to confirmation after consultation with the respective host countries.



14. APPENDIX 3: Competitions

The Cybernaut Challenge (Net Citizenship)

As a Cybernaut in the final frontier, you know the power and potential of being a netizen. You exist on-line in a virtual world where the possibilities are endless – limited only by your imagination.

There are several million Caribbean citizens who have not experienced nor know the value of traveling in Cyberspace and your mission, should you accept it, is to make true netizens of them all.

The Mission:

- To create a web presence for a local company which does not yet exist in Cyberspace
- To demonstrate the power and potential of having a presence in Cyberspace in improving the bottom line

The Challenge:

- To complete your mission by XXth Month , 2009

The Interface:

- Go to www.ctu.int for rules of engagement.

The Reward:

- US\$ X000.00
- The Caribbean Telecommunications Union's Cybernaut Challenge Trophy
- Full Fellowship to present their project to the CTU's 13th General Conference of Ministers.

The Netizen Challenge (Code Jam)

As a Netizen in the final frontier, you know the power and potential of being able to exist on-line in the virtual world where more people are conducting more and more of their lives and are finding solutions for real problems.

There are several million Caribbean citizens who have not experienced nor know the value of existing in Cyberspace and your mission, should you accept it, is to develop an application in cyberspace to improve an aspect of the lives of the citizens or achieve a common good.

The Mission:

- To develop an application that simultaneously provides a solution for a particular problem and encourages non-netizens to visit Cyberspace.

The Challenge:

- To complete your mission by XXth Month , 2009

The Interface:

- Go to www.ctu.int for rules of engagement.

The Reward:

- US\$ X000.00
- The Caribbean Telecommunications Union's Netizen Challenge Trophy
- Full Fellowship to present their project to the CTU's 13th General Conference of Ministers.



Caribbean Telecommunications Union

Caribbean ICT Road Show

Harnessing the power of Innovation – the engine for Caribbean development

COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT

Please complete and submit by 15th May, 2009 to the CTU for the attention of Ms. Allison Magloire – CTU Executive Assistant: E-Mail: Allison.Magloire@ctu.int Fax No: (868) 623 1523.

Organization: _____
Last Name : _____
First name : _____
Designation: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Country: _____ Fax: _____
Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Participation

Please describe how you would like to participate

Sponsorship Categories

Please tick (√) Category

Table with 4 columns: Lead Sponsor, Platinum, Gold, Silver. Includes monetary contribution minimums for each category.

Sponsor Commitment

The above-named organization has committed to partner with the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) as a Sponsor in the category indicated and is committed to remitting the sum of US\$ _____ to the CTU for the Caribbean ICT Road Show.

Signed _____
Organisation's Representative

Date _____