



## DEVELOPMENT OF ICT IN THE CARIBBEAN

Presentation by  
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### The Caribbean





## **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**

Caribbean Community (CARICOM) was established on August 1, 1973 to provide a continued economic linkage between the English speaking countries in the Caribbean.

CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) was established by the Heads of the Government of the CARICOM countries on July 5, 2001.



Caribbean ICT strategy as proposed by CARICOM:

- ❖ Expansion of accessibility of basic and advanced information and communication services e.g. voice, data, internet etc.
- ❖ Popularize ICT use
- ❖ Use of ICT for enhancing competitiveness in tourism, entertainment, cultural and agriculture.
- ❖ Promote effective use of ICTs for increased quality in education, health, trade facilitation, e-government, manufacturing and finance.
- ❖ Promote innovation and R&D in ICT applications and facilities



### High-priority areas:

- ❖ e-Entrepreneurship in the cultural Sector.
- ❖ Disaster Preparedness and Environmental Management,
- ❖ Participatory e-Government
- ❖ e-Inclusiveness
- ❖ Wireless Access Connectivity

International Index	Status/ Ranking	Score/ Index	Year	Indicators
Economics Intelligence Unit (EIU) e-Readiness	46th of 69 countries	Score 5.05	2007	Connectivity Business environment Consumer and business adoption Legal and policy environment Social and cultural environment Supporting e-services
World Economic Forum Network Readiness Index	45th of 122 countries	Score 4.05	2006 - 2007	ICT environment Readiness Usage of ICT
Orbicom Digital Divide Index	60th of 139 countries	Infostate 88.1	2003	Number of users Knowledge levels Skills and infrastructure
Human Development Report Technology Achievement Index (TAD)	49th of 72 countries	Score 0.26	2001	Creation of technology Diffusion of technology Human skills
International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Digital Access Index (DAI)	54th of 178 countries	Score .53	2007	Infrastructure Affordability Knowledge Quality and actual usage of ICTs
UNCTAD Index of ICT Diffusion	57th of 180 countries	Access index .598	2005	Access Connectivity
UN Global E-government Readiness Report	59th of 191 countries	Score .506	2005	Web measure Telecom index Human capital index

Country	ICT Readiness	ICT methodologies	E-Gov Readin.	ICT Strategies and Policy	ICT initiatives	E-Gov Strategies and Policy
Anguilla +				X		
Antigua ++				X		
Bahamas +				X		
Barbados +					X	
Belize +						
Bermuda						
BVI +						
Cayman Islands						
Cuba				X		
Curacao						
Dominica ++	X					
Dominican Republic						
Grenada ++				X		
Guyana +				X		
Haiti +						
Jamaica +	X	X		X	X	
Montserrat**						
The Netherlands Antilles						
St.Kitts and Nevis ++						
St. Lucia ++						
St. Vincent*-						
Suriname +						
Trinidad +	X			X		X

+CARICOM Member States


\* OECS Member countries



### ICT Projects undertaken by CAS:

- Application of ICT in secondary and tertiary education.
- Development of Open Access system
- R & D in the field of ICT



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- Challenges which need EU collaboration:
  - A transition plan to convert its broadcasting systems to digital audio and television.
  - Facilitate mobile broadband through the availability of required spectrum within a conducive regulatory environment.
  - Inadequacy of ICT education at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels.
  - Development of Jamaica's capacity for research and innovation in ICT which is limited by the overall expenditure on R & D.



- Challenges – continued
- Access to ICT in rural and low income households ensuring greater levels of e-inclusion and reduction of internet outbound connectivity.
- Phasing out of digital divide.



THANK YOU