

The logo consists of two interlocking 'C' shapes, one in a lighter blue and one in a darker blue. To the right of the logo is a vertical circuit board pattern with various lines and nodes. The background of the slide is a gradient from light blue at the top to dark blue at the bottom, with a bright circular glow in the upper center.

OPENING REMARKS

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM) SECRETARIAT

ITU CBS 2018

JUNE 18-20, 2018

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



CARICOM POLICY DEVELOPMENT

- The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has a long history of doing well on critical global issues.
- We have had several successes with the MDGs and we anticipate the same with the SDGs
 - In the midst of graduating from the MDGs – the region has developed a CARICOM Strategic Plan – built on the Resilience model (Economic, Social, Technological and Environmental – which is a big deal for us) and based on Results based management;
 - The Technological resilience pillar is premised on the successful completion of the CARICOM Single ICT space by 2022;
 - In our planning – we have also linked inextricably the success of the CARICOM Single ICT space with our Human Resource strategy 2030
 - Supported by many other sectoral policies



REALISATIONS...

- Well aware that the SDGs demand a new type of engagement
- Capacity building programming – emphasises enabling and strengthening of
 - individuals,
 - groups,
 - organisations,
 - networks and
 - institutions
- to increase their ability to cope with crises and to contribute long-term to the elimination of poverty;
- ~ how to self-organize to determine success...



CHALLENGES...

- WRESTLING MATCH...
 - Who instigates, who owns, who executes, who complies ,who takes responsibility?
 - Where, when should these conversations take place?
 - Which policies should be first and why?
- National, regional and International imperatives
- Assumptions
 - SDGs & the word Technology
- Preserving (and capitalising from) our Caribbean Cultural heritage
 - Cultural Diversity
 - Innovation



WHAT IF?...

- Committed to Demystifying the narrative – for the under-served and the excluded;
- What if we really dismantled – the word INCLUSION and how it applies to all in society?
- What if we re-examined what we mean by the ‘HAVES’ and the ‘HAVE-NOTS’?
- What if we translated local level – would it include us as Policy-makers?
- What if we applied a very high value to inclusion – would our policies be different?
- What if we really placed those human beings at the centre of our policy planning, development and delivery?



MORE QUESTIONS...

- How to get national attention for regional and international processes?
- Where should our capacity building processes and policies be focused?
- How to keep up with the changes in technology?
 - Countries at different levels of maturity
 - Different entry points
- Role of intergovernmental institutions – regional and international?
- What if – the ‘Institution’ divide is only in my mind?
- What if we pushed past our Fear? Disregarded our ‘Turf’?
 - Made our institutions and processes like the Internet – borderless?
- What if we came to every policy planning meeting purposing to embody Trust & Truth



CLOSING THOUGHTS

- We are all convinced of the power of the technology and the great promises for the future–
- However, we are not building a future – we are building it for human beings, people and more particularly – the young people.;
- Public policy –as –a– service : PPaaS
- Sobering reality – if one country is unconnected – we would have failed on delivering “ **Connectivity for All**”