

# INDOTEL Meeting- Dialogues and venues for Collaboration



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# AGENDA



- ❑ **Caribbean Context**
- ❑ **Conditions for Self Organisation and the Emergence of a Caribbean Information Society**
- ❑ **Mechanism for creating the enabling environment for the Self Organisation and Emergence of the Caribbean Information Society (Role of the ICT Steering Committee)**
- ❑ **Areas of Partnership and Collaboration between CARICOM and the Dominican Republic**

# Large Geographic Space With Small Island State





**Sun, Sand and Sea...**



# The Caribbean Economic Landscape Today

- Small Island States
- No economies of scale
- The demise of Agriculture
- Decline in Tourism
- Climate Change (Natural Disasters)
- Brain Drain



# Population and GDP



Country	Population October 2006	GDP (real) growth rate (%)	Year
Antigua and Barbuda	81,000	3.80	2007 est.
Bahamas	323,000	2.80	2007 est.
Barbados	279,000	4.00	2007 est.
Belize	288,000	3.00	2007 est.
Dominica	79,000	3.20	2007 est.
Grenada	103,000	0.90	2005 est.
Guyana	738,000	4.50	2007 est.
Haiti	8,528,000	3.50	2007 est.
Jamaica	2,651,000	1.50	2007 est.
Montserrat	4,000	-1.00	2002 est.
Saint Kitts and Nevis	43,000	6.00	2007 est.
Saint Lucia	161,000	5.10	2005 est.
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	119,000	4.40	2007 est.
Suriname	458,000	5.10	2007 est.
Trinidad and Tobago	1,305,000	5.80	2007 est.

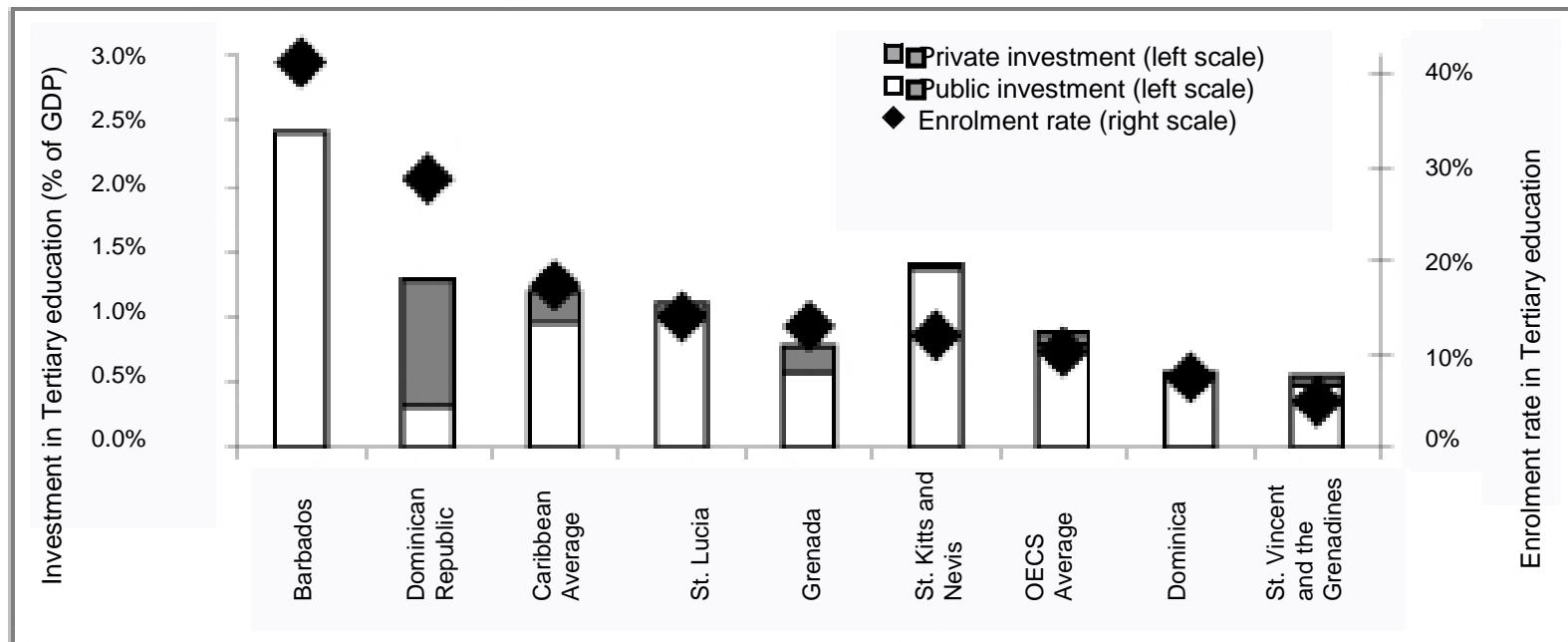


Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Caribbean\\_island\\_countries\\_by\\_population](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Caribbean_island_countries_by_population)  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_countries\\_by\\_GDP\\_\(real\)\\_growth\\_rate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_(real)_growth_rate)

# Tertiary Education Institutions in the Caribbean



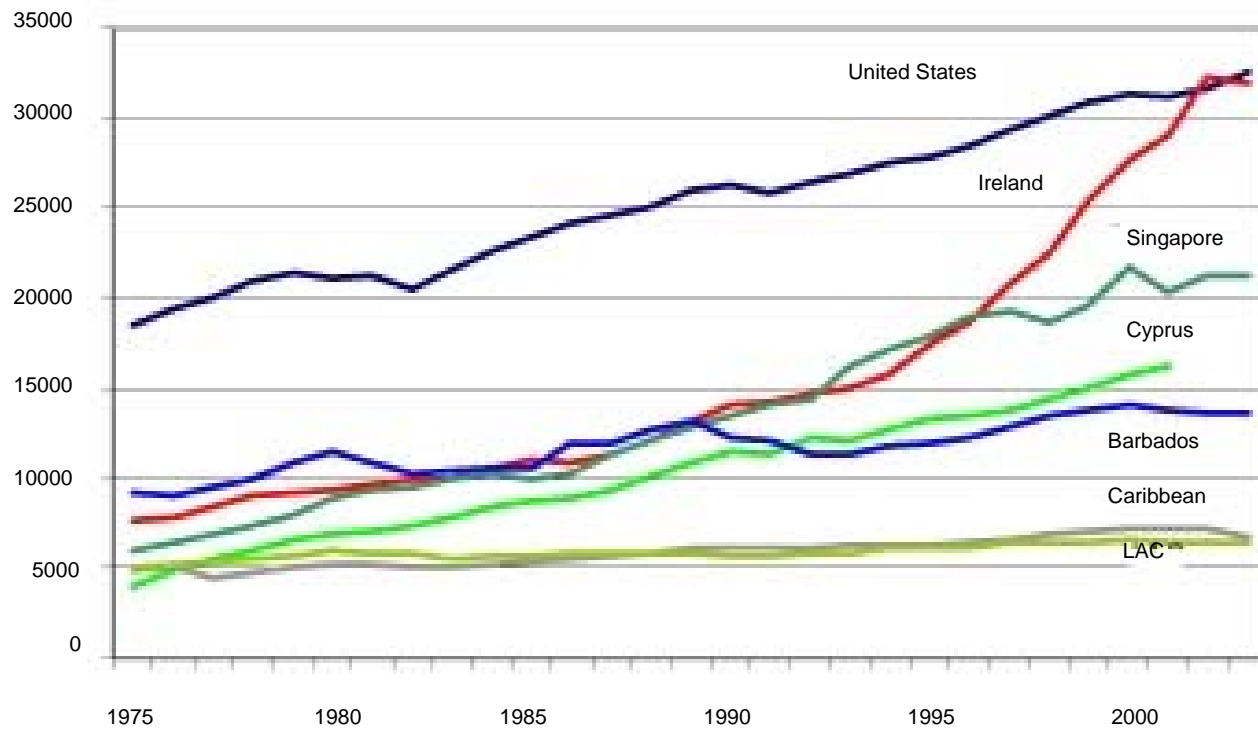
Figure 7.7: Tertiary Education: How Investment and Enrollment relate



Source: Authors' own calculation based on UNESCO and country sources

# Per Capita Income

Figure 1: Per Capita Incomes (PPP) 1975-2002

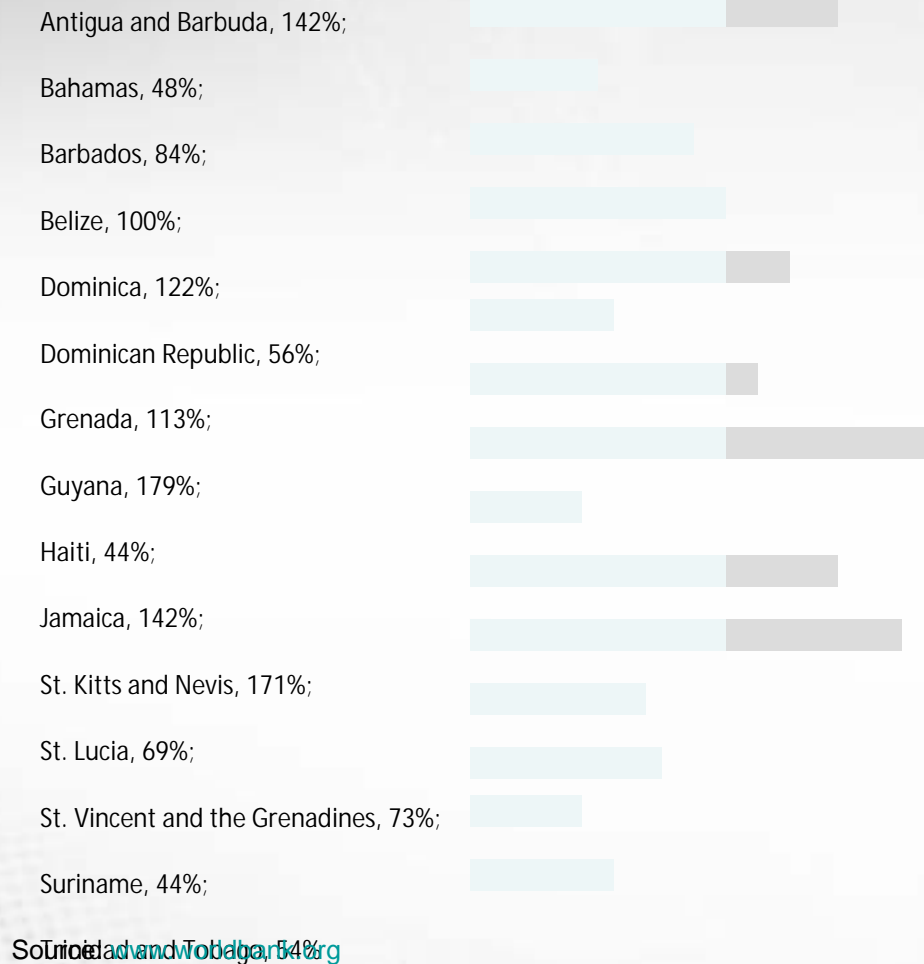


Source: World Development Indicators (WDI)

# Public Debt



In 2003, the average debt for Caribbean countries was 96% of their respective GDP

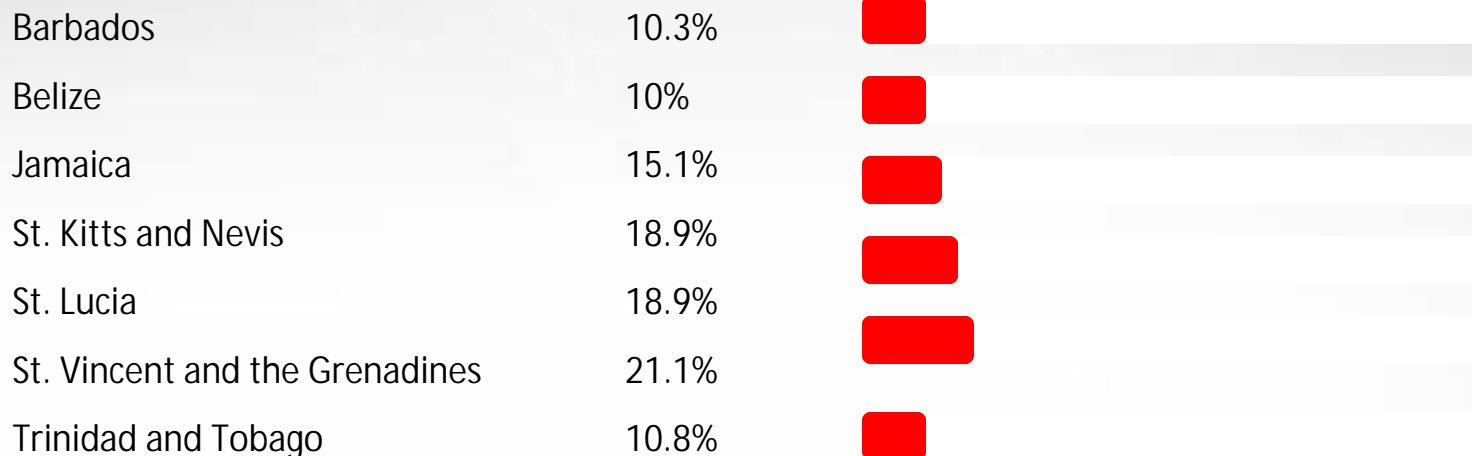


- The very high debt has placed seven Caribbean countries among the 10 most indebted countries in the world, and 14 among the top 30, which exacts a toll on sustainable growth and worsens expectations about macro stability.
- Improvement of the debt profile will have significant payoffs, especially for Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda, and Belize.

# Unemployment



Despite some decline over the last decade, unemployment rates in most countries tend to be high



High levels of open urban unemployment prevail in the larger countries while rural unemployment and underemployment exist in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

Source: [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)

# Strategic Objective



To enhance global competitiveness of the Region by upgrading and diversifying the skills and knowledge of human resources in the region through greater regional collaboration and connectivity.

# A Desired Future – The Caribbean



An economy that is globally competitive and growing,

a citizenry that is fully literate continuously learning and growing with a significant reduction in poverty and diseases such as HIV/AIDS,

a society that feels secure and free from the scourge of crime and where justice is seen to be applied,

a leadership that exercises good governance encourages democracy and protects the individual rights and the creation of an environment that encourage trust between government and citizens.

# Prescription for Economic Growth



## Economic Growth

- ❑ **Countries do not compete, ONLY Firms compete**
- ❑ **ICT must contribute to the global competitiveness of firms**
- ❑ **ICT must facilitate the creation of new firms**

# The G7 Leaders, February 2005



Ministerial Conference Conclusions stated:

- ❑ “Progress in information and communication technologies is changing the way we live: how we work and do business, how we educate our children, study and do research, train ourselves and how we are entertained.....”

A “New society” was **emerging** where the tools of production are no longer ploughs and lathes but information and knowledge. They called this society “**the Information Society**”

# Information Society coming into being



**Shaped by several connected communities of interest and individuals from all corners of the society participating in innovative activities, constantly collaborating and sharing ideas at the speed of thought.**

***When This Happens.....The Society **Self-Organises** and new possibilities for Emergence of a new society***

# Information Society



Comes into being when conditions are created where a society  
**Self Organises** and **Emergence** occurs.

# Enabling Environment



**Self Organisation** and **Emergence** into an Information Society require *economies of scale* in the important areas of:

- Skills and competencies
- Infrastructure and use
- Reusable business processes
- Legislation
- Funding

\* Donor Agencies engage with the Caribbean Region based on the premise of **Scale**

# Framework for Achieving Economies of Scale



Heads of Government of CARICOM treat with the issue of scale through **CSME and Functional Cooperation**

**Donor Agencies preferences are to deal with us as one Region**

# Implementation Mechanism



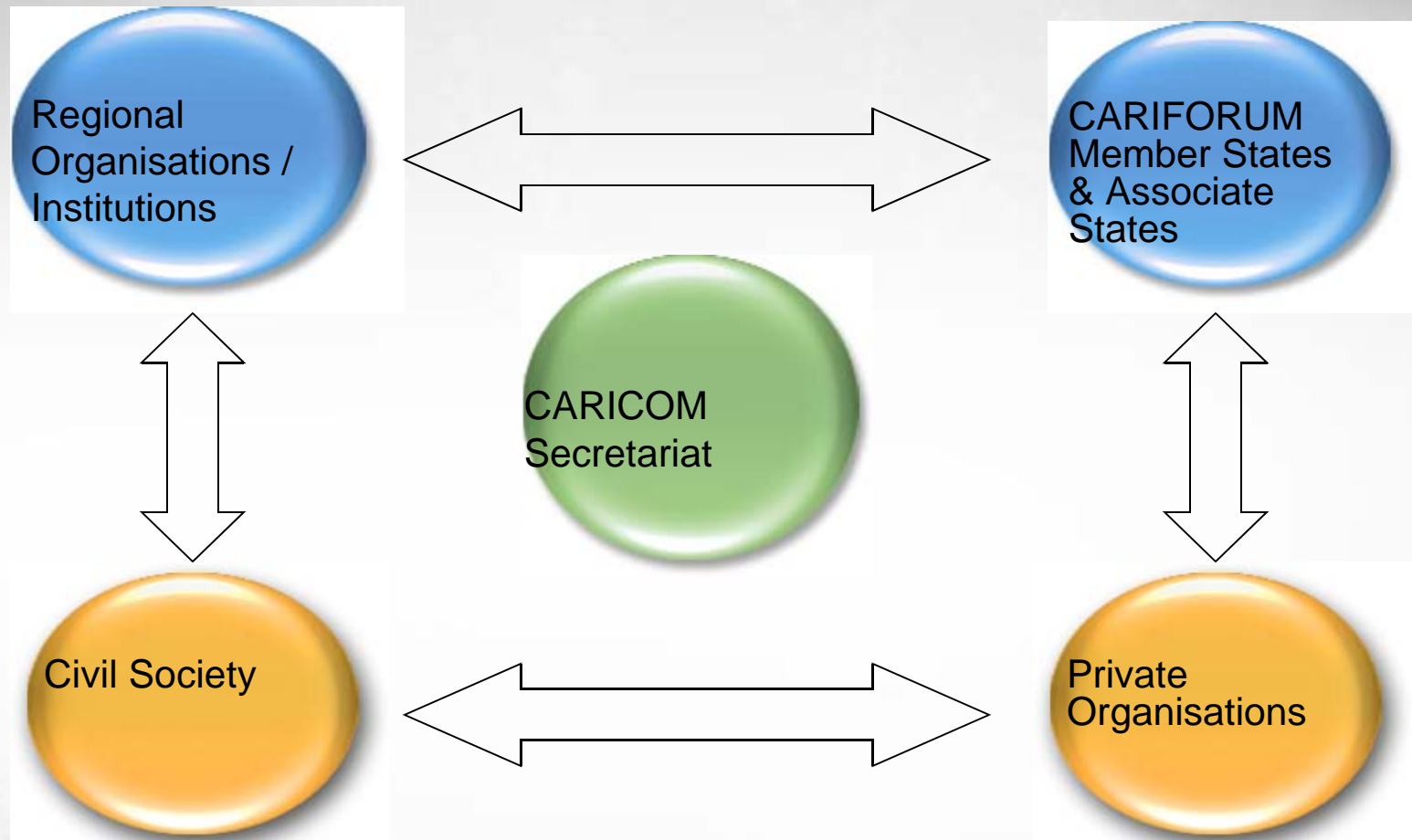
- CARICOM Secretariat mandate (2004) from Ministers responsible ICT:
  - ❑ To coordinate and implement all activities pertaining to the development of the Caribbean Information Society
- The Regional ICT Steering Committee advises the CARICOM Secretariat (Formed in January 2005)

# Strategic Intent of the Regional ICT Steering Committee



Assist the Caribbean Region in creating an enabling environment within which the current society can **self – organise and emerge** into an information society

# Membership (1/2)

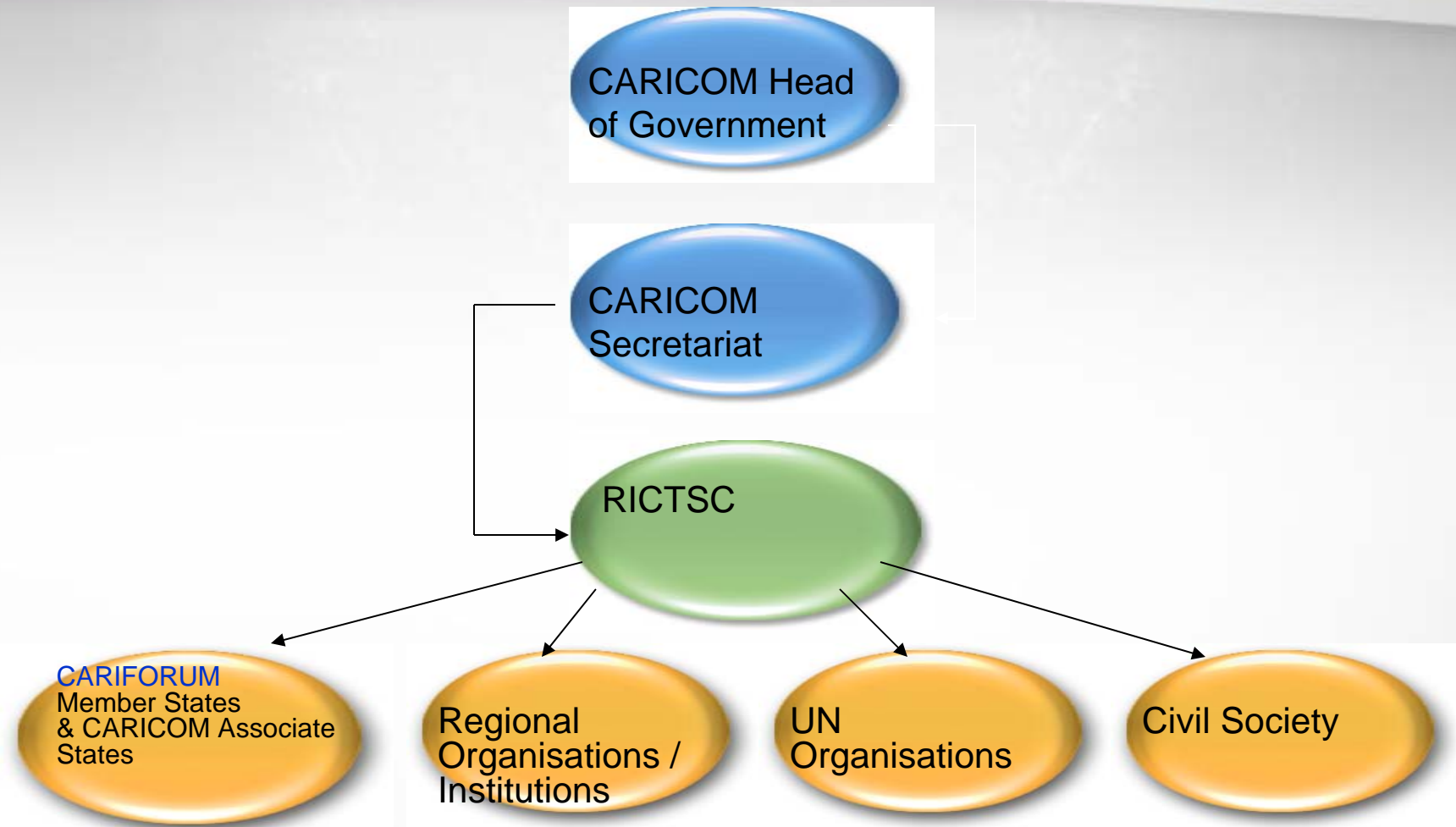


# Interface / Interaction With The RICTSC



- RICTSC positioned to be the highest ICT4D /IS regional resource,
- It is important to note that:
  - National ICT4D initiatives should be encouraged and the process should be ongoing
  - Country representatives on the Committee is responsible for reporting to the national body about regional plans of the RICTSC and vice versa

# Structure Of RICTSC



# CARICOM MECHANISM (Intergovernmental Agencies)



- **CCCCC** – Caribbean Community Centre for Climate Change
- **CANTO** – Caribbean Association of National Telcoms Operators
- **CROSQ** – CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality
- **CAIC** – Caribbean Association of Industry & Commerce

# CARICOM MECHANISM (Intergovernmental Agencies)



- **CARICAD** – CARICOM Centre for Development Administration
- **CTU** - Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU)
- **CDERA** – CARICOM Disaster and Emergency Response Agency
- **CKLN** - Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network

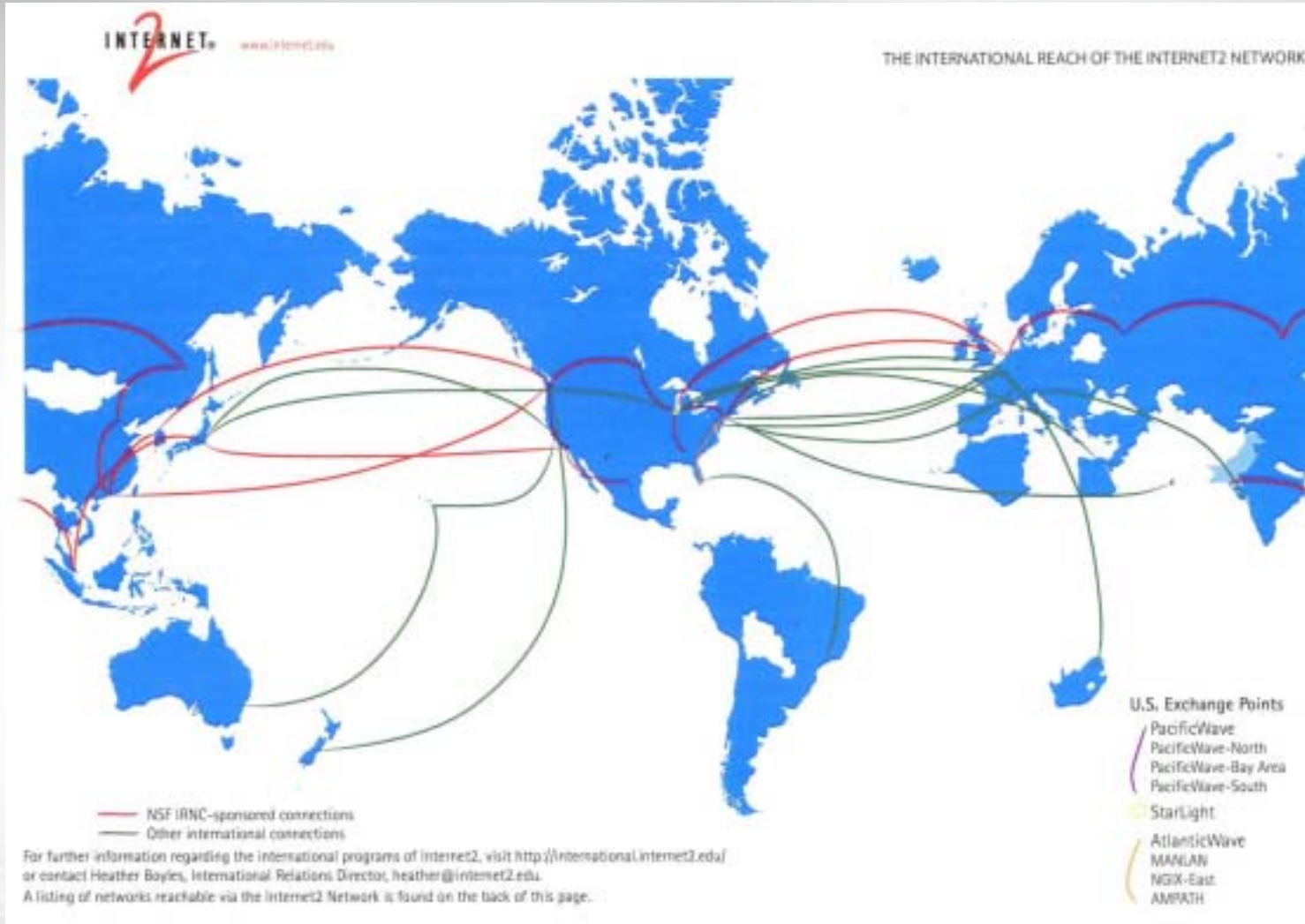
# The Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network (CKLN))



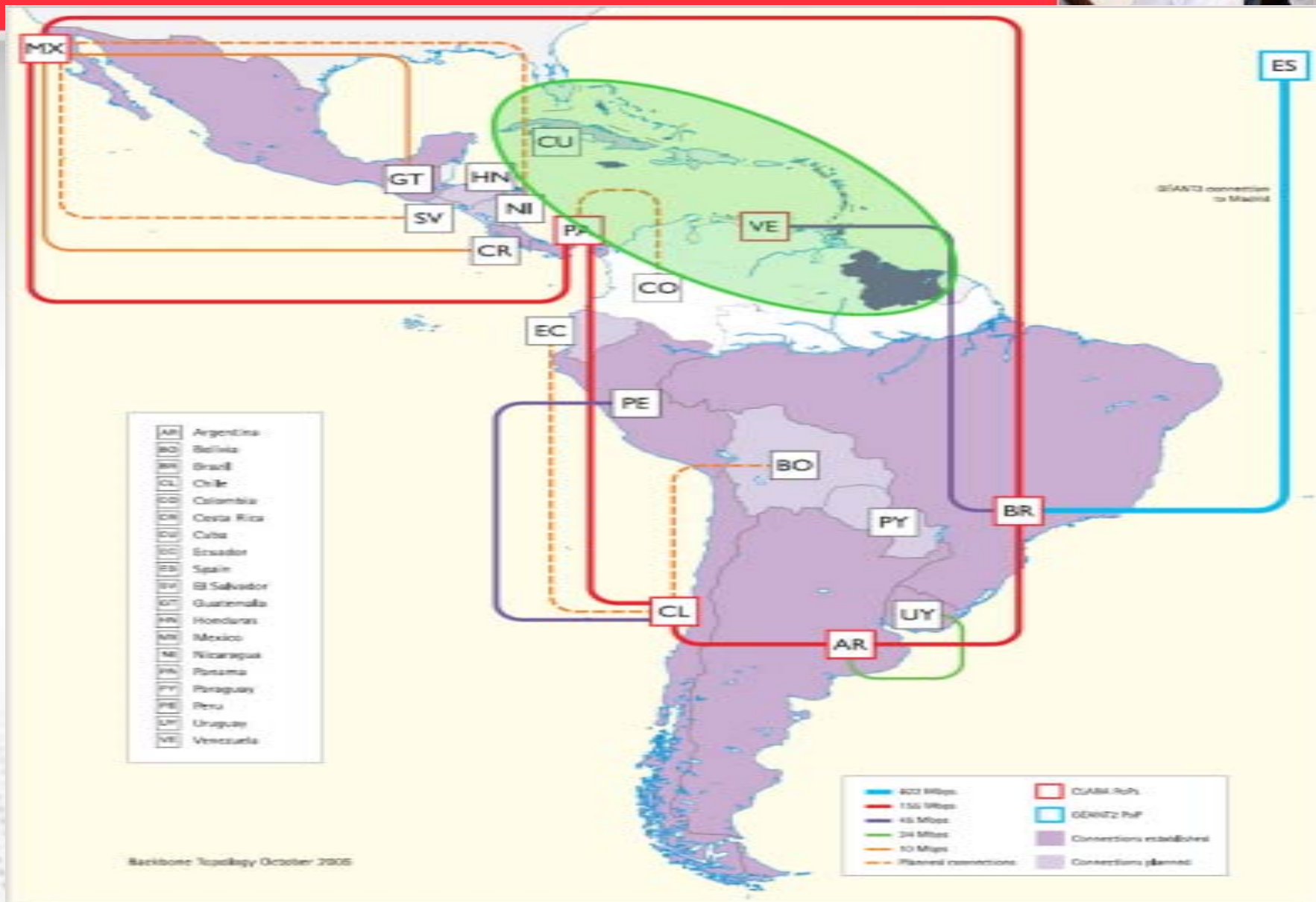
A Regional Mechanism, Created by the Heads of Government of CARICOM to:

3. Work with all Tertiary Education Institutions in the Caribbean to strengthen their capacity to develop and deliver e-learning programmes and courses at a distance to Caribbean nationals wherever they may live.
- To provide a Regional Education and Research Network (**C@ribNET**)

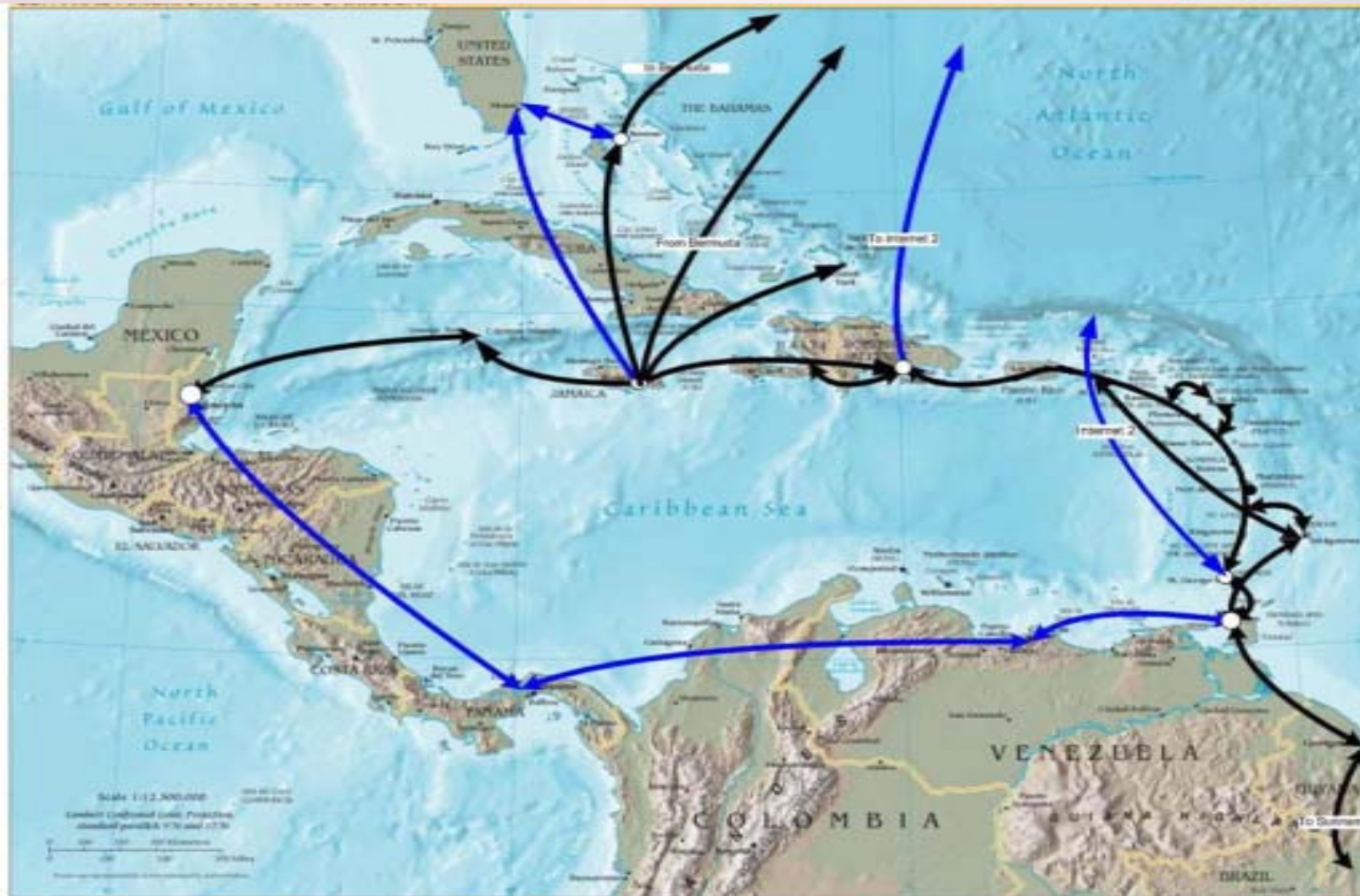
# We Are Not Connected



# The Digital Hole



# Proposed Caribbean Educational Knowledge and Research Network (C@ribNET)



# C@ribNET

## (A CARIFORUM Project)



- Enable Collaboration and Partnering amongst Tertiary Education Institutions in the Caribbean in the development and delivery of online and Distance Education and Research
- Commercial Internet for Schools and other educational Institutions?
- Connectivity to other Regional and Global Research and Education Networks
- Facilitate collaborative research in relevant areas such as: Tropical Medicine, Agriculture etc.

# C@ribNET

## (A CARIFORUM Project)



- Facilitate inclusion of the Diaspora in the Caribbean development Agenda
- The Catalyst for development of NERNS and National Backbone
- Facilitate Regional Integration an the Caribbean Single Market and Economy through **Functional Cooperation** amongst CARICOM Member States and its Regional institutions
  - E-Government
  - E-Health
  - Disaster Management
  - Regional Security
  - E-Inclusion (Bridging the Digital Divide)

# C@ribNET Implementation Process



3. Situation Analysis and Needs Assessment of Member States, National and Regional Institutions: (January 2009)
  - National Network Infrastructure
  - Human Resource and Management capacity
  
6. Engagement, Awareness and Mobilisation of National and Regional Institutions and the wider public(March, 2009)

# C@ribNET Implementation Process



2. Development of Strategic Business Plan for C@ribNET (May, 2009)
  - ❑ Development an appropriate Business Model for C@ribNET
  - ❑ Design of Membership model
  - ❑ Development of Operational Plan for C@ribNET
  - ❑ Support for the development of Institutional and National Networks
  - ❑ Development of strategic links and partnerships

# C@ribNET Implementation Process



2. Network Design and procurement (May 2009)
5. Commence Network Implementation (September 2009)

# C@ribNET Implementation Mechanism



Regional Technical Advisory Committee  
( Dominican Republic Represented)



**THANK YOU !!!!**