

## INVITATION

Conference and Gathering:  
**Dialogue and collaboration venues for construction of the Caribbean Information Society**

Date: Thursday 13 of November of 2008  
Hour: 6:00 p.m-7: 30 p.m  
Place: Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE) University

In the framework of the regional Caribbean ICT Stakeholders Virtual Community - CIVIC 2.0 Event, you are kindly invited to participate in a networking meeting with the key actors of the development and promotion Caribbean Information Society. Our objective is to present to Dominican stakeholders, the different opportunities for their participation in regional dialogue and actions towards the construction of the Caribbean Information Society.

The activity will promote the **engagement of Dominican ICT stakeholders in Caribbean networks**, especially in multistakeholder venues that include governmental entities together with regional organizations, civil society groups, the academic institutions and the private sector.

Presentations will be made on behalf of CIVIC as well as various regional actors who will highlight initiatives within the Caribbean that network stakeholders to support ICT development and growth. Following this, there will be a welcome cocktail which will provide an opportunity for CIVIC 2.0 event participants and local stakeholders to meet and network.

### Conference agenda (provisional)

6:00 p.m	Welcome words by Minister Rafael Vargas, <b>President of the National Information Society Commission</b> and INDOTEL president,. (5') Welcome words by the <b>UNIBE</b> : Darwin Muñoz (5') Welcome words of Angelica Ospina representative of the <b>International Development Research Center</b> (IDRC, Canada,). (5')
6:20	Presentation of <b>Caribbean ICT Stakeholders Virtual Community - CIVIC 2</b> , by Yacine Khelladi (15') representative of Caribbean Information Society Networking consortium (CarISneT)
6:40	Presentation of the <b>Regional ICT Steering Committee</b> , by Mr. Ken Sylvester, Chairman of the Committee and CEO of the Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network (CKLN) (15')
7:00	<b>Caribbean Internet Governance and Regional ICT Harmonization</b> by Mr. Nigel Cassimire, Specialist, Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) (10')
7:10	Questions and answers
7:2	Closing words by Amparo Arango CNISC-RD:
7:30	Cocktail in the Spanish Patio of UNIBE
8:30	End of activity

This event is being organized and supported by the Dominican Institute of the Telecommunications (INDOTEL), that presides the National Information Society Commission (CNSIC), the Latin American University (UNIBE) and the Caribbean ICT Stakeholders Virtual Community (CIVIC) within the framework of event CIVIC 2,0 organized with financial support of the International Development Research Center (IDRC, Canada)

## **About CIVIC**

CIVIC, the Caribbean ICT Stakeholders Virtual Community is a regional multistakeholder permanent virtual network of around 300 members comprising individuals from all sectors (Governments, Academy Business, Development cooperation, Civil Society, regional organisations etc.) that have an interest in promoting the use of ICTs in the region. It was created in November 2002, and has been since a very active permanent mechanism of knowledge sharing, carrying out thematic discussions, promoting regional projects and taking Caribbean collective positions in global forums (like a the World Summit on Information Society).

The CIVIC 2.0 event, to be held November 11-14 in Juan Dolio, opens a new stage of CIVIC life. It has 3 main components: (a) a CIVIC consultation process that will identify and elaborate the components of a 2-3 year strategic plan for CIVIC to address the challenges facing ICT for development in the Caribbean (through enhanced capacity for advocacy, knowledge production, ICT4D projects design and evaluation, regional collaborative projects, among others). (b) A Two day training seminar on ICT4D policy, and (c) a one day training workshop in the moderation and facilitation of thematic channel/web sub-groups. This workshop will feature the launch and introduction of the new CIVIC 2.0 platform.

More information on the event: <http://www.carisnet.org/en/civic2008>

To join CIVIC: <http://www.carisnet.org/en/node/2>

## **About the Regional ICT Steering Committee**

The Regional ICT Steering Committee serves as an advisory and support body to the CARICOM Secretariat identifying issues relevant to ICT4D and the Information Society and providing technical advice and briefs. The Regional ICT Steering Committee, which was established in 2004, brings together a range of expertise

## **About CTU**

The Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) was established in 1989 by the Heads of CARICOM Governments, to rationalize the telecommunications policy framework for the region and to address the problems of regional spectrum frequency incompatibilities. In 2004, recognizing the rapid pace of technological innovation and convergence the CTU expanded its remit to address matters relating to information and communication technologies (ICT). Membership was also expanded to include private sector entities, civil society organizations, academic institutions and non-CARICOM countries in the Caribbean. The Union's present focus is on ICT policy formulation, capacity building and representation of the region at various ICT fora. The CTU has initiated projects to reform and harmonize approaches to spectrum management in the Caribbean also to create a harmonized policy framework for Caribbean Internet Governance. In addition, the CTU is collaborating closely with the International Telecommunication Union on a project to harmonize ICT policies, legislation and regulations in the Caribbean.

CTU has adopted a practice of multi-stakeholder engagement in advancing its work to promote the development of information societies and to ensure that Caribbean citizens derive tangible benefits from the ICT revolution.