

Appendix 17

CarISnet REPORT Survey of donors and agencies supporting Regional/Caribbean ICT4D projects

Draft v. 3. January 07.

1	Background:.....	2
2	Main findings.....	3
3	Few recommendations	5
4	Detailed tables.....	6
4.1	International Development Research Centre (IDRC).....	6
4.2	European Commission.....	8
4.3	Centre for the Development of the Enterprise (CDE)	9
4.4	Commonwealth Secretariat.....	9
4.5	Canadian International Development Agency CIDA	10
4.6	Agence de la Francophonie and Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie	10
4.7	French government (Foreign Affairs).....	11
4.8	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization - UNESCO.....	11
4.9	United Nations ICT Task force.....	11
4.10	UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	12
4.11	United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)	12
4.12	United Nations Development Programme UNDP	12
4.13	Caribbean Development Bank CDB.....	13
4.14	Government of Italy: Ministry for Innovation and Technologies.....	13
4.15	Worldbank / Infodev	14
4.16	Inter-American Development Bank IDB.....	15
4.17	International Telecommunication Union ITU	15
4.18	United States Agency for International Development USAID.....	15
4.19	Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO).....	16
Annex 1	: Template letter sent to agencies and donors	17

1 Background:

Objectives

This survey was conducted within the framework of the CarISnet project activities (see <http://carisnet.org>), and its objectives were to:

- Identify regional donor funded projects and agencies/donors currently supporting regional ICT4D projects
- Identify their interest in support Regional collaborative ICT4D projects that would come out of CIVIC membership

This activity originally was to be conducted by Funredes and included a matchmaking (or regional collaborative project brokering) activity. After Funredes' withdrawal and having part of budget been already spent, the consortium coordination meeting agreed to downgrade the scope of the activity to a survey of donor supporting ICT4 D projects in the region, and the provision of recommendations on a possible collaborative funding mechanism

Note: Survey includes only ICT projects which are regional in scope (not those in one country only) and Caribbean specific (Global and Hemispheric project recorded only if they have very specific Caribbean activities)

Data Collection

The data and information was gathered from

- Review of all latest studies made on ICT in the Caribbean
- Web searches, CarISnet clearinghouse
- Direct email responses and/or telephone conversation with officer of the following organisations: ITU, IDRC/ICA, UNDP (NY), CDE and CDB
- Previously collected information UE, French Government, CARDICAD, Worldbank, ECTEL projects.

Correspondence to agencies such as CDB, UNDP, CARICOM, ITU, CIDA, CDE, and IDRC/ICA, asking for updates or phone interviews (See Annex 1 for template letter sent).

Despite our efforts, there are some agencies/donors from which we did not receive answer to our update request. As such the information may not be complete or fully up to date. Nonetheless, web sites were searched extensively.

2 Main findings

Were identified 59 different projects, donor supported, and regional in scope (involving more than one country), and most of them are ongoing.

Most of the projects are implemented by regional agencies and organisations (including UWI as a regional university). Another characteristic emerging from this survey is that projects implemented in partnership by several organisations (regional and collaborative) are very few.

Sectors

As shown in the table 1, most projects are concentrated in the areas of Telecommunications Policy, regulation and infrastructure, as they were, and are still, accompanying the telecommunications liberalisation process in most of the region. E-government and education, as well as support to private sector (especially SMEs) seem to be the other main areas of interest.

In the areas of Software industry, ICT for agriculture, health and disaster management we identified only one regional project or activity, denoting lack of good regional ideas and/or capacity in developing solid ICT4D proposals (and/or a lack of donors' interest in these areas?).

Table 1 Sector / Main focus of regional ICT projects

Sector / Main focus	Number of projects
Telecommunications Policy / Regulation / universal service funding / infrastructure	11
e-government	7
Education	5
General / transversal ICT	5
Private sector SMEs	5
Access : telecentres	3
Infrastructure	3
Access / Multimedia	2
Culture / content/ access / diversity	2
Distance education	2
Health	2
Research	2
Agriculture	1
Diaspora	1
Disaster management	1
e-commerce	1
ICT industry development	1
ICT Policy	1
ICT training	1
Information dissemination	1

Networking	1
Software	1

Donors and sectors:

The following table shows the distribution agency/donor sector.

The IDRC and its programmes (as ICA and telcentre.org) are the most supportive or regional projects, in a wide range of sectors (see table 2) followed by the Commonwealth Secretariat, the European Commission, UNESCO and the Worldbank. The rest of the agencies and donors usually concentrate in a single area/sector of ICT projects.

Table 2: projects per donor / agency

Agency or donor	TOTAL Regional projects supported	Transversal general ICT or networking	e-gov ICT policy	software	Education, health, agriculture, culture DM, etc	Telecom Policy regulation and infrastructure	telecentre, multimedia	Private sector support SMEs ecommerce
IDRC programmes (institute for Connectivity in the Americas (ICA) and Telecentre.org)	17	4	2	1	5		1	4
Commonwealth Secretariat	6	1	1		2			1
European Commission	5	1			1	1		1
Worldbank / Infodev	5					4		1
UNESCO	4		1		1		2	
CIDA	3				1	2		
UNDP	3	1				1	1	
Italy: Ministry for Innovation and Technologies	3	1	2					
ITU	3				1	1	1	
Centre for the Development of the Enterprise (CDE)	2							2
Agence de la Francophonie and Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie	2				2			
French government (Foreign Affairs)	2				1		1	
UN-ECLAC	2	1	1					
Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO)	2							
UN ICT Task force	1	1						
UNDESA	1		1					
Caribbean Development Bank CDB	1					1		
Inter-American	1					1		

Development Bank (IDB)								
United States Agency for International Development USAID	1					1		

Donor collaboration and interest and mechanisms for funding

As shown by the project list there are already some level of collaboration among donors and agencies, particularly in the areas of telecommunication policy/regulation (strengthening of national capacities and regional networking), and in the field of e-government.

The few institutions surveyed directly (email or telephone calls) expressed interest in participating in some kind of co-funding arrangement, but needed more information on the mechanisms, the areas of focus and leadership of the process.

3 Few recommendations

The following recommendations are formulated after the analysis of this survey:

- Further work is needed to get indication of particular trends in donors inclinations toward projects they want to support, and check if the procedures for applying for funding are readily accessible to all stakeholders Also need to see if some donors focus more on govt, or Civil society, or private sector
- There is a strong need to strengthen the capacity of development actors (governments, NGOs, researcher) in the different social areas (education, health, environment, etc.) To conceive, design and develop ICT4D projects. In general there is a lack of ICT4D specialists in the region. A capacity building exercise in project development and proposal writing should be integrated in next CarISnet activity, if any.
- Although of great benefit, the regional collaborative projects are scarce and seem to be very difficult to get going. It is recommended to advocate for some facilitation resources at initial stages of regional project development, and an additional “collaboration” overhead to be included in the project’s budgets.
- As IDRC has a very good image both among agencies/donors and grassroots, and also significant experience in setting up collaborative venues, and engaging strategic partnerships, it is recommended that it calls for, and manages, a formal donors’ articulation/networking mechanism (twice in the past it failed to work formally), and also liaise with stakeholders (possibly via CIVIC) to encourage the development of regional collaborative proposals and make the link with the funding sources.

4 Detailed tables

4.1 International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

And its programmes as Institute for Connectivity in the Americas – ICA- and Telecentre.org

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
1.	Needs Assessment for the Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network	CKLN/College of North Atlantic	Completed 2003	link	Education	
2.	Caribbean ICT Roundtable	ICA / consultants	Completed (October 2002)	link	General / transversal ICT	ITU
3.	Caribbean Networking, Post Barbados phase: Building up Regional Actions (Caribbean ICT Virtual Community, CIVIC)	ICA / consultants	Completed 2003		General / transversal ICT	
4.	Development of the ICT Business Sector in the Caribbean (Caribbean Business Enterprise Trust) Workshop	CBET	Completed 2003	link	E-business / SMEs	
5.	Strengthening IS Networking in the Caribbean	CarlSnet consortium	To be completed December 2006	link	Networking	Agency de la Francophonie
6.	“Network of e-Government Leaders of Latin America and the Caribbean” (RED GEALC). – specific Caribbean activities	OAS	Phase I Completed. Phase II Ongoing	link	E-government	OAS
7.	Caribbean FOSS Human Infrastructure and Network Capacity Development	Caribbean Linux and Open Source Foundation, Linux Professional Institute	Approved 2005 Discontinued	n/a	Software	
8.	The Use of ICTs in Enhancing the Competitiveness of Small, Medium and Micro Tourism Enterprises in Small Island Developing States.	The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine	Commencement date 2007	n/a	E-business/ SMEs	

9.	Caribbean Telecenter Workshop (support by telecentre.org)	Fundación Taigüey	July 2006 – follow up phase in definition	link	Access : telecentres	Unesco, UNDP, Indotel, DPD, CarISnet
10.	e-Government Caribbean Pilot Project	Under the leadership of the Caribbean Centre for Development Administration (CARICAD)	Commencement date 2007		e-government	Organization of American States, UNDESA and the Development Gateway Foundation
11.	Computers for Schools in Latin America and the Caribbean – Refurbishing Computers for Universal Access Two projects to start 2007: - Jamaica : “Computers for Communities Pilot Project” presented by the Youth Division of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Culture - Guyana – Project: “Computers for Schools Guyana,” presented by the Ministry of Education -		Started 2005 Two pilot projects to start 2007	link	education	Organization of American States (OAS) with the support of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and Industry Canada
12.	Linkage for Education and Research in Nursing (LEARN): A Caribbean ICT4D Initiative (Barbados, St Kitts, Dominica and Dominican Republic)	conducted by the Barbados Community College in collaboration with the University of Saskatchewan (Canada)	Ongoing		health	
13.	Telework and Economic Competitiveness in the Caribbean	University of the West Indies (UWI),	ongoing		Research	
14.	Latin American Network of Education Portals (Relpe)		In 2006-2007 the Network will be expanding into the Caribbean, and will	link	education	

			be exploring collaboration with Canadian portals for English and French content.			
15.	ICT tools and services in support of organic agriculture in the Caribbean	Networked Intelligence for Development and the Jamaica Organic Agriculture Movement	May 2006		Agriculture , rural development	
16.	Bursary for Small Entrepreneurs: Promoting innovative technology partnerships in the Caribbean, Novatech2005	Pro-Invest / Novatech consortium	November 2005	link	SME / ICT industry	
17.	Diaspora and ICTs in the Caribbean Regional Study	consultants	Completed 2006	link	Diapora	

4.2 European Commission

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
18.	Caribbean Information Society Programme CARIB-IS	CARICOM	Not started yet, scheduled for 2007	link	General / transversal ICT	?
19.	CKLN	CKLN	2 M Euro support agreed, implementation to start in 2007	link	Tertiary Education	WB OEA CIDA ICA
20.	INTERREG 3b: support for the eastern caribbean optic fibre cable	Global Caribbean Network (GCN)	ongoing	Link	Infrastructure	Private sector investments

21.	Windward Islands Regional ICT Incubator Project + Regional network of e-incubators	St Lucia, Dominican, St Vincent and Grenada Govs.	Start in 2007		Private sector SMEs	Infodev
22.	Caribbean Telecommunications Union capacity building	CTU	Ended 202		Telecommunications policy and regulation	

4.3 Centre for the Development of the Enterprise (CDE)

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
23.	E-commerce Platform to support SMES of the tourism sector (includes cultural sector/creative industries)	CHA	Ongoing definition phase		e-commerce	
24.	CDE-Pro-invest Novatech 2005	PWC consortium	First Novatech B2B meeting held in n 2005	Link	ICT industry development	

4.4 Commonwealth Secretariat

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
25.	Pan-Caribbean SME ICT Project	Com. Secretariat and CAIC, Mega Ace consulting	Ongoing	Link	SMEs/ private sector support	CAIC
26.	Commonwealth Regional Workshop on "e-Government and Sectoral Development"	ST Lucia's National Council for Science and Technology for Development	St. Lucia, 10th - 12th February 2004	Link	e-government	
27.	Workshop on Sectoral Planning for Information Technology, Jamaica	Jamaica CITO	held 3 - 5 April 2001	Link	e-government	
28.	sponsored study on the e-Readiness of CARICOM Member States in 2002		2002	Link	study	Caricom

29.	The Canada Caribbean Distance Education Scholarship Programme (CCDESP)		2000?	Link	Distance education	UWI
30.	Support for the Caribbean Association for Distance and Open Learning (CARDOL),	Jamaican Association for Distance and Open Learning; the Trinidad & Tobago Distance Learning Association; Office of Continuing Education and Distance Learning at the University of Technology	COL assisted in its which was launched in early 2005 in Trinidad & Tobago.	link	Distance education	UNESCO Japan trust Fund

4.5 Canadian International Development Agency CIDA

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
31.	Carioca HIV/AIDS project (Caribbean Region)—Caribbean AIDS Telecommunications and Information Network	CAREC	established in 1996	link	health	US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), + DFID.
32.	Activities to support telecom regulators and telecom policy makers - Regional Seminars/Workshops , Consultancies and Regional , and Advisory Services	CTU and other	3-year period (2002 – 2004).		Telecommunications policy and regulation	CDB UNDP ITU CIDA Canada TSTT - GovTT
33.	Supported the creation of the Organization of Caribbean Utility Regulators (OOCUR).	National regulators	Around 2004	link	regulation	In conjunction with ITU-CDB – IDB and UNESCO

4.6 Agence de la Francophonie and Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie

	Project name	Implemented	Status	Web	Sector / area	Other donors
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		by		page		/ agencies
34.	CARDICIS: Information Society and diversity	Funredes	Ended in Dec. 05	link	Culture / divesirty	
35.	Transfer-TIC	AUF	Periodic Training workshops	link	ICT training	

4.7 French government (Foreign Affairs)

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
36.	OECS Culture project	OECS	Finished 2006	link	Culture / content/ access	OECS
37.	Community Resource and Internet Centers (CoRICs)	UNDP and OECS governments	Ongoing	link	Access / telecenters	UNDP / ITU

4.8 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization - UNESCO

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
38.	Specialized Course on Local e-Governance in the Caribbean	UWIDEC	ongoing	link	e-government	
39.	Multimedia Caribbean Communities centres	UNESCO	Ongoing	link	Access / Multimedia	
40.	Caribbean Universities Project for Integrated Distance Education – CUPIDE	UWI - Caribbean Association for Distance and Open Learning	scheduled for completion in December 2006.	link	Education	Japanese Trust Fund – COL
41.	Caribbean Internet Radio Portal (CIRP)	Zink Link and Container project	Started Oct 2006		Multimedia / Radio	

4.9 United Nations ICT Task force

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
42.	Caribbean Digital Diaspora	UN ICT task force	One meeting then not continued	link	General / transversal ICT	UNDP CARICOM ITU

4.10 UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
43.	Study and workshop "Information Society and Public ICT Policies in the Caribbean"	UN-ECLAC	2006, study to be published	link	ICT Policy	
44.	Online Caribbean Digital Library	UN ECLAC	Ongoing	link	Information dissemination	

4.11 United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
45.	Caribbean E-government initiative: Five Ministerial Consultations 2000 – 2004 Working Group on e-Government activities, E-readiness survey New project : The Caribbean E-government Facility	CARICAD / UNDESA	2000-2004 phase closed New phase ongoing	link	e-government	Gov of Italy Learning Resources Institute (UK) with DFID support

4.12 United Nations Development Programme UNDP

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
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46.	Community Resource and Internet Centers (CoRICs)	UNDP and OECS governments	Ongoing	link	Access / telecenters	ITU (?)
47.	Project for Linking Caribbean Community Secretariat and Governments of Member States	Caricom	Ended 2006		Infrastructure	Gov of Japan
48.	CARICOM/UNDP/ Italy Project support on ICT activities: Information Repository/ Website for Decision / E-Government / Governance / E-Learning E-Commerce	CARICOM and agencies	Start Date: September 1, 2004 Estimated Budget: \$9M Jan 07 UPDATE: STILL in discussion, some progress , brief proposal will be OUT DSOON doing e-governance ABOUT 2M euros		General ICT	ITU / French Gov

4.13 Caribbean Development Bank CDB

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
49.	Activities to support telecom regulators and telecom policy makers in the reform processes	CTU	?		Telecommunications policy and regulation	CDB UNDP ITU CIDA Canada TSTT - GovTT

4.14 Government of Italy: Ministry for Innovation and Technologies

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
50.						
51.	CARICOM/UNDP/ Italy Project	CARICOM	Start Date:		General ICT	UNDP

	support on ICT activities: Information Repository/ Website for Decision / E-Government / Governance / E-Learning E-Commerce	and agencies	September 1, 2004 Estimated Budget: \$9M Jan 07 UPDATE: STILL in discussion, some progress , brief proposal will be OUT DSOON doing e-governance ABOUT 2M euros			
52.	e-Justice project Budget: \$ 150,000	?	Stage: project under way. It is expected to be completed by May 2006 .	link	e-government	International partner: IDB Trust Fund
53.	Caribbean E-government initiative: Five Ministerial Consultations 2000 – 2004 Working Group on e- Government activities, E-readiness survey New project : The Caribbean E-government Facility	CARICAD / UNDESA	2000-2004 phase closed New phase looking for funding	link	e-government	Gov of Italy Learning Resources Institute (UK) with DFID support

4.15 Worldbank / Infodev

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
54.	OECS Telecommunications Reform Project	OECS / ECTEL (consultants)	2000- 2002	link	Policy / Telecommunications	USAID, World Bank, OECS
55.	The “Universal Fund” project looking at creating universal service funds to finance a universal service projects.	ECTEL (consultants)	Ongoing	link	Policy / Regulation / universal service funding	
56.	“Extending the Use of Broadband Applications by Governments and the Private Sector	ECTEL (consultants)	Ongoing	link	Policy / Regulation / private sector support	
57.	Study: Improving Competitiveness and Increasing	ECTEL	Finished	link	Policy / Private sector	EU funding

	Economic Diversification in the Caribbean: The Role of ICT	Infodev Consultants	early 2005		support	
58.	Telecommunications Reform in the OECS: Impacts on Prices and Services	Global ICT Department	June 2005	link	Policy / Telecommunications	

4.16 Inter-American Development Bank IDB

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
59.	Study: Promoting Investment in Information and Communication Technologies in the Caribbean.	P.A. Stern (consultant)	Finished May 2006	link	policy and regulation	

4.17 International Telecommunication Union ITU

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
60.	Activities to support telecom regulators and telecom policy makers (workshop et all)	CTU	2002-2004		Telecommunications policy and regulation	CDB UNDP ITU CIDA Canada TSTT - GovTT
61.	Community Resource and Internet Centres (CoRICs)	UNDP and OECS governments	Ongoing	link	Access / telecenters	UNDP / French Gov
62.	ICT for Effective Disaster Management - Caribbean Forum	CTO	Nov 06 (event)		Disaster management	CTO

4.18 United States Agency for International Development USAID

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
63.	multi-component information and communications technology (ICT) project with the Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (ECTEL), its five member states, and Barbados	CARANA	Ended 202		Telecommunications	Ectel World Bank

4.19 Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO)

	Project name	Implemented by	Status	Web page	Sector / area	Other donors / agencies
64.	Support to event as VOIP Caribbean 2005		event	link	Telecommunications	CTU
65.	ICT for Effective Disaster Management - Caribbean Forum		event	link	Disaster management	ITU

Annex 1 : Template letter sent to agencies and donors

Dear XXX

As you may know the CarISnet project aims to strengthen regional Caribbean networking of the ICT / Information society stakeholders in the Caribbean, building a Caribbean wide multi sectoral dialogue on the different aspects of ICT4D and the information society (via the vibrant Caribbean ICT Stakeholders Virtual Community - CIVIC), developing common perspective and encouraging regional collaborative actions/projects. See www.CarISnet.org web site for more information.

As part of this project, supported by the Institute for Connectivity in the Americas (ICA) we are conducting a survey of the supporting agencies and donors institutions to identify:

- What are the regional (projects implemented in at least 2 different Caribbean countries/territories) initiatives they currently support in the Caribbean. Also the ones supported in recent past, and what is planned in the near-future
- What areas / themes / sectors would they prioritise for support in the future
- Their receptiveness to provide joint support with other agencies/donors to regional collaborative projects.

This analysis will later be matched with the potential projects emerging from the CIVIC led discussion and priority identification.

We have started with the project identification and you fill attached a summary table of the projects that according to our findings your organisation is/was supporting.

We would be thankful you if you

- Review the attached table and correct any error and add any missing information/project (only Caribbean regional project are listed, not those in one single country)
- Indicate us your priorities for support in terms of thematic areas, type of organisations, countries, etc.
- Indicate us if you will be willing to work with other donors to support collaborative regional projects, and the usual process/tools for project identification and submission.

If you prefer to interact via a telephone conversation, please indicate us the phone number and best time for us to call you.