

ARIN-CTU WEBINAR SERIES: Accelerating 21st Century Government in the Caribbean

***DIGITAL
TRANSFORMATION***

ARIN-CTU Webinar Series: Accelerating 21st Century Government in the Caribbean

Weekly Webinars – 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th July 2020

CONTEXT

The rapid spread of COVID-19 has had a profoundly disruptive impact on global commerce, government and society. For Caribbean states, the existing small population sizes, resource constraints and vulnerable infrastructure have only amplified the challenges of confronting this once-in-a-century crisis. However, the current pandemic is not the only threat to Caribbean economies and society. There is also the reality of an annual hurricane season, showing that for the region, each crisis contributes to a cumulative vulnerability to sustainable Caribbean development. How can information and communication technology (ICT) be employed to mitigate these vulnerabilities? Can the Internet and its resources contribute to a more secure and thriving region?

By focusing on the principles of 21st Century Government, the ARIN-CTU Webinar Series will provide answers to these and other questions relating to ICT-enabled development, and sensitize policy makers and leaders both within governments and in the private sector, on actions that can be taken to mitigate risks and maximize opportunities for regional societies. 21st Century Governments are citizen-centric, seamless, resilient and make effective use of ICT to deliver services securely to their citizens.

The webinars will therefore present information on 21st Century Government; explore the role of ICT, the Internet and critical infrastructure in the efficient delivery of government services; the potential for digital transformation in the public and private sectors and in civil society; and security issues in an increasingly hyper connected world. The webinars will also assess/examine the importance of policy, regulation and good governance in safeguarding our economies and society.

INTERACTIVE FORMAT

The Series will incorporate a combination of online, on-demand content and weekly interactive webinars featuring CTU State members and regional and international ICT stakeholders and partner organisations.

The online sessions will be hosted by the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) and the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN), with support from other regional and international partners such as the Caribbean Network Operators Group (CaribNOG), the Caribbean Internet Development Foundation (CIDF), the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission, the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Registry (LACNIC), the Internet Society (ISOC), and the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).

Join us and help define how we, together, navigate the new Caribbean normal.

The ARIN-CTU Webinar Series will cover how to accelerate 21st Century Government in the Caribbean by exploring four key streams:

1. 21st Century Government, Public Sector and Policy Issues;
2. Local IXPs – No Longer an Option, Now an Imperative for 21st Century Governments;
3. Are we succeeding? Measuring Caribbean Digital Transformation – A Data Driven Approach; and
4. Network Security for Public Safety in a 21st Century Government environment.

Together, these streams will provide Government Ministers, public service leaders, regulators and other senior business leaders with access to knowledge, insight and practical guidelines to address the challenges of transitioning to a 21st Century Government.

BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION

The Series will provide participants with information on the principles of a 21st Century Government as they relate to the CARICOM Heads of Government issued policy directive for the establishment of a Single ICT Space. It will also explore the challenges, solutions and best practices to address the current spike in demand and future requirements for network services and digital services delivery.

PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN:

- ✓ The principles of 21st Century Government;
- ✓ Policy considerations for accelerating 21st Century Government objectives;
- ✓ Critical Infrastructure for the Caribbean Single ICT Space; and
- ✓ Strategies and trends in Internet policy development from the Caribbean and across the world.

VALUE TO PARTICIPANTS

- ✓ Understand the urgent need for 21st Century Governments in Caribbean countries.
- ✓ Obtain guidance for designing effective policy strategies to support secure, resilient, affordable and inclusive access to the Internet and digital services.
- ✓ Understand the role of CTU, ARIN and other relevant organisations play in supporting Internet and ICT-enabled development in the Caribbean.
- ✓ Engage with peers and strengthen the network of relationships to expand knowledge, stay ahead of emerging Internet trends and fine-tune national and regional digital strategies.
- ✓ Be part of a vibrant regional community of action and solution-oriented leaders.

ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

About ARIN

ARIN is a nonprofit member-based organization, incorporated in 1997 in the Commonwealth of Virginia to support the operation of the Internet through the management of Internet number resources throughout its service region. ARIN coordinates the development of policies by the community for the management of Internet Protocol number resources; and advances the Internet through informational outreach. There are over 20 independent Caribbean territories in the ARIN service region and in 2018 the ARIN Caribbean Forum was created as a dedicated space to address the Internet development needs and priorities of the Caribbean.

About CTU

The Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) is an inter-governmental organisation dedicated to supporting the development of the Caribbean information and communications technologies (ICT) sector. The CTU has been able to create a multi-stakeholder platform that actively promotes collaboration among all ICT stakeholders and public-private partnerships. Through its expanded membership, the private sector, civil society and regulators are actively engaged in the policy formulation processes. The CTU, by its work over the last 30 years, is uniquely positioned to accelerate the establishment of 21st Century Caribbean Governments and facilitate digital transformation.

About CaribNOG

The Caribbean Network Operators Group, CaribNOG, is the region's only not-for-profit, volunteer-based, community dedicated to strengthening the region's computer networks and critical telecommunications' infrastructure. CaribNOG's membership includes senior network and technical professionals, telecommunications regulators, computer engineers and software and hardware specialists from across the region and around the world.

CaribNOG was founded in 2009 with the support of the Caribbean Telecommunications (CTU). CaribNOG's mission is to support public and private network operators and related stakeholders in the Caribbean, with technical advisory services and capacity building initiatives. This mission includes improving the Caribbean's capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to and recover from all hazards and damage.

About CIDF

In 2017, the CTU established the Caribbean Internet Development Foundation (CIDF) as a non-profit organisation to execute a new approach for addressing Caribbean Internet governance and digital transformation issues.

The CIDF will coordinate the activities associated with the different facets of IG to engineer and ensure beneficial and sustainable outcomes for all and will ultimately foster the development of a thriving Caribbean digital economy.

About OECS

The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) is an International Inter-governmental Organization dedicated to economic harmonization and integration, protection of human and legal rights, and the encouragement of good governance among independent and non-independent countries in the Eastern Caribbean. The Organization, formed on June 18th 1981, now the full Member States of Antigua and Barbuda, Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines, with the British Virgin Islands, Anguilla and Martinique as associate members of the OECS.

Supporting Organisations:

The Internet Society, The Latin American Internet Registry, The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers and Packet Clearing House.