The CARICAD e-GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

In this presentation:

- Rationale for the Strategy
- The CARICAD E-government Facility
- Your comments/suggestions
Action-Oriented Strategy
Developed on the basis of:

- Five Ministerial Consultations 2000 – 2004
- Working Group on e-Government activities
- E-readiness survey – 9 countries tested
  Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Guyana, Jamaica, Belize and Saint Lucia.
- Other sources of data:- UNDESA, World Public Sector Report 2003 on E-government
- CARICOM Connectivity Agenda
- Independent Analysis
Endorsement of Strategy

June 2004

Strategy presented at the 5th Ministerial Consultation in Barbados.

The meeting:

- endorsed Strategy as framework for developing national strategies and formulating national and regional e-government programmes.
- recommended Regional E-Government Strategy serve as an important complement to the CARICOM ICT Connectivity Agenda
Built on Points of Consensus

- The need for Capacity Building for Public Sector Reform and Modernization

- The use of ICTs towards the improvement of the quality and delivery of public services

- The need to incorporate e-government programmes into mainstream development planning at the national level and particularly into ICT Strategies
Points of Consensus Cont’d

- The need to harmonize e-government efforts at the regional level

- The desire of individual countries to benefit from economies of scale.
Public Sector Modernization

- Support the advancement into knowledge based societies;
- ICT can contribute to enhanced government operations leading to good governance;
- Assist in the modernization of public administration;
- Open channels for more effective citizen participation, making gov’t more accessible.
Crucial Issues

- Scarcity of financial resources for e-Government development across the C’bean;

- Urgent need to enhance digitization of operations of public administration in the region;

- Need for a realistic approach to the existent ICT gap within and among Caribbean Countries;
Vision and Goals of the Strategy

- **Vision**: A better Government for all
  *serving the society whilst in transition to a knowledge based economy*

- **Goals**: -
  - Deepened, sustained dialogue between citizens and government
  - Increased access by the public to public services
  - Encourage and facilitate the process of knowledge development
Values

- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Accountability
- Diversity
Values cont’d

In keeping with the values of the UN Millennium Declaration (2000):

- Freedom
- Equality
- Solidarity
- Tolerance
- Respect for nature
- Shared responsibility
Critical for implementation

- Partnerships
  - Intra and inter-departmental, intra and inter-sectoral
  - Between Citizens and public Administrations
  - Between Private Sector, civil society and Governments
  - Between Governments of the region
  - Governments and Regional and International Organizations
Capacity Building
Institutional & Human Resources

e-Government development must:

- Change the posture of public administration in relation to citizens and customers of public services
- Facilitate long-term, sustained change in the nature, structures and human capacities and competencies within the organizations of public administration
Operational - The Caribbean E-government Facility

Aims:

1. To establish a facility at the service of national and regional e-government efforts
2. To provide a broad programmatic framework for activities deemed crucial to e-government development.
Caribbean E-government Facility

Location:

CARICAD

…based on the agency’s mandate for the development of the region’s public sector and hence the promotion and facilitation of e-government.
Deliverables

- Caribbean e-Government Observatory
- Sub-regional e-government for development project inventory:
  - Database of EG4D Project Proposals
  - Caribbean Forum on e-government
Deliverables

- Guidelines and Standards to facilitate harmonization and interoperability of e-government applications;
- Internet-based Portal of the Caribbean E-government Action Plan
Services

- Technical advisory services
- Facilitate the establishment of national e-government focal points
- Review e-government readiness at the nation/regional level
- Promote resource mobilization and partnership building in support of programmes and projects
Modalities of Operation

- Support and facilitation by CARICAD
- Advisory services provided by Steering Committee
- Support from regional and international technical experts
Sources of Support

- UNDESA
- CARICOM Secretariat
- In-house capacity enhancement through Learning Resources Institute (UK) with DFID support.
- Projected date of September 2005
Many Thanks