



**Call for Expressions of Interest for
Identification of Research Topics
for
The Caribbean ICT Policy Rapid Response Initiative**

1. Overview of the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU)

The Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) is a Caribbean intergovernmental organisation dedicated to facilitating the development of the regional telecommunications sector. The CTU's Mission is "To create an environment in partnership with members to optimise returns from ICT resources for the benefit of stakeholders."

The vision of the CTU Secretariat is "To position the CTU to be the prime catalyst facilitating regional cooperation, economic, social and cultural development of the peoples of the Caribbean through the provision of efficient and advanced information and telecommunication services."

2. Purpose of the Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI)

The Caribbean ICT Research Program of the Canadian International Research Development Centre (IDRC), in collaboration with the CTU, will spearhead a regional rapid response initiative designed to provide quick, expert advice to regional policy makers, regulators and other groups in the area of information and communication technologies. The initiative seeks to target areas in which the absence or lack of timely and relevant information is currently resulting in significant challenges to the formulation of appropriate policies and regulations and negatively impacting on the implementation and operation of ICTs and related development. It is imperative that the parties who are aware of the nature of these challenges and most immediately affected by them are involved in developing an appropriate response.

To this end, the CTU is issuing a call to all interested Caribbean ICT policy makers, regulators, other interested persons and institutions to support this initiative by the identifying and reporting the critical areas in their respective fields of operation which would benefit from research information. The provision of this information will be vital to the success of the initiative ensuring that pertinent research is conducted, resulting in the formulation of accurate and relevant policies and regulations.



3. Purpose of the Initiative

Throughout the region, Government and regulatory agencies are often ill-equipped to respond to the need for relevant research on policy issues in a timely manner. Often, this results in delayed actions, which have negative repercussions in terms of impact on ICT development. The main objective of the Rapid Response Initiative is to provide timely, relevant and accurate advice to policy makers, regulators and other relevant stakeholders in response to selected crucial policy issues related to the development of the Information Society in the Caribbean.

4. Invitation to submit Expressions of Interest (Eoi)

The Caribbean ICT Research Program in collaboration with the CTU invites Caribbean policy makers, regulators, other interested persons and institutions in the field of ICT to submit topics and areas for consideration using the prescribed format provided on Page 3

5. Submission of Eoi

Respondents are asked to submit their documents via email for the Attention of:

Mr. Renique Murray
Research Coordinator
Caribbean ICT Policy Rapid Response Initiative

To:

Renique.Murray@ctu.int

Respondents may submit their documents by fax to: +1 (868) 623 1523

The final date for submission of responses is 11th June, 2010.

6. Disclaimer

The CTU reserves the right to select the areas to be considered for further investigation and to reject any Eoi that is not consistent with the goals of the project.



**The Caribbean ICT Policy
Rapid Response Initiative**

Format for Expression of Interest

Section 1. Respondent's Information

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Designation: _____

Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Country: _____ **E-Mail:** _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Briefly Describe the area and nature of your current responsibilities

Section 2. Identification of Research Topics

1. Provide details of the policy and/or regulatory challenges
2. What is the urgency and criticality of the challenges described
3. How does this challenge relate to any existing regulations or policies, or the lack thereof?
4. Describe the nature of the research that is required
5. How will this research assist in resolving the policy/regulatory challenge
6. Provide practical examples/scenarios to demonstrate the nature of the issues involved.
7. Further Comments

The final date for submission of responses is 11th June, 2010.