

ITU-EC HIPCAR Project

Enhancing Competitiveness in the Caribbean through
the Harmonization of ICT Policies, Legislation and
Regulatory Procedures

Presentation at the
4th Meeting
of the HIPCAR Steering Committee

Barbados, 15 December 2010

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Agenda

- **Project objective**
- **Project areas of work**
- **Project implementation**
- **Overview of the outcomes of Stage I:** development of model regional ICT policies and legislative texts
- **Presentation & discussion of the elements of a strategy for Stage II:** transposition of the models into national ICT policies and legislation
- **Discussion of ideas for a possible extension of the HIPCAR Project**

HIPCAR Project

Objective is to assist CARICOM / ACP countries in the Caribbean to harmonize their ICT policies, legislation and regulatory processes, and create an enabling environment for ICT development and connectivity

Funded by EU and ITU, and implemented by ITU in collaboration with CTU, CARICOM Secretariat & other regional and national stakeholder organizations in the Caribbean

Part of a broader project covering also ACP countries in sub-Saharan Africa & the Pacific



HIPCAR's 9 Work Areas

Decided by stakeholders at the project launch meeting
...& endorsed by HIPCAR's Steering Committee

Information Society Issues

- e-Commerce (Transactions)
- e-Commerce (Evidence)
- Privacy and Data Protection
- Interception of Communications
- Cybercrime
- Access to Public Information (Freedom of Information)

Telecommunications

- Universal Service/Access
- Interconnection
- Licensing



Project implementation – two phases

Phase I - Development of regional models

(based on int'l best practices & country experiences)

a) ICT policy guidelines

b) Draft model legislative texts to support these policies

Phase II - Country implementation

Transposition of these models into national policies, laws & regulations, including implementation assistance & capacity building



Stage I: Implementation overview

Activities and deliverables achieved:

- a) Organization of teams of experts and Working Groups (incl. country focal points) covering the 9 work areas and involving a range of country & regional stakeholders

Through 5 consultation workshops for Working Groups with 14 out of 15 beneficiary countries participating over the period:

- b) Preparation & review of Assessment Reports on the current situation and needs in the Caribbean
- c) Development, review & adoption by broad consensus of Model ICT Policy Guidelines based on int'l best practice & the region's requirements
- d) Development, review & adoption by consensus of Model Legislative Texts (with Explanatory Notes) for implementing these policies
- e) Circulation of the above documents and publishing on HIPCAR website



Stage I: implementation overview (cont'd)

List of documents completed & being readied for publication on the HIPCAR website:

Information Society Issues

- e-Commerce (Transactions)
 - Model Policies and Legislative Text (with Explanatory Notes)
 - Annex: Assessment Report
- e-Commerce (Evidence)
 - Model Policies and Legislative Text (with Explanatory Notes)
 - Annex: Assessment Report
- Privacy and Data Protection
 - Model Policies and Legislative Text (with Explanatory Notes)
 - Annex: Assessment Report
- Interception of Communications
 - Model Policies and Legislative Text (with Explanatory Notes)
 - Annex: Assessment Report
- Cybercrime
 - Model Policies and Legislative Text (with Explanatory Notes)
 - Annex: Assessment Report
- Access to Public Information (Freedom of Information)
 - Model Policies and Legislative Text (with Explanatory Notes)
 - Annex: Assessment Report



Stage I: implementation overview (cont'd)

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Telecommunications

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 - Annex: Assessment Report
- Licensing
 - Model Policies and Legislative Text
 - Annex: Assessment Report

Generic Regulatory Harmonization Cycle

(Adapted from original prepared by and with the courtesy of Sandro Bazzanella, ITU - EC Project Manager)

1. Regional Harmonization

(HIPCAR Phase I)

- Policy objectives
- Legal framework
- Regulatory guidelines
- Regional training

2. National Implementation

(HIPCAR Phase II)

- Technical assistance
- Validation and adoption
- National training

3. Monitoring and evaluation

(Not covered by HIPCAR)

- Implementation status
- Regional Data base of Best Practices
- Analysis of interaction between regulation and ICT markets



International
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Union

Stage II – Strategy overview

Transposition into national ICT policies and legislation

Two parallel tracks:

Endorsement / support to the HIPCAR models by relevant regional bodies: CARICOM Ministers & CTU Council

Country Assistance Requests

Formal requests already received from Suriname, SVG

Expressions of interest already received from 8 other countries

Design of Country Action Plans

Prepared jointly by HIPCAR and the concerned country authorities

Approval of Country Action Plans

By corresponding Government and ITU (re HIPCAR inputs)

Implementation

Led by country authorities with HIPCAR support

Design of Country Action Plans

Elements to be included, tailored to each country:

1. **Priority work areas** (selected from the 9 HIPCAR work areas).
2. **National task force (leader and members)** to lead the process in the selected area(s), involving local ICT and legal specialists and other key stakeholders.
3. **Proposed drafting methodologies** for the new national policies & legislation based on the HIPCAR models (e.g. organizing consultation and / or drafting workshops, team-based work, etc.)
4. **Proposed adoption mechanisms for adoption** of the finalized new policies & legislation by the relevant country authorities
5. **Capacity building plan** in relation to the above
6. **Inputs to be provided by the country and by HIPCAR** for the implementation of the country Action Plan

Types of inputs typically to be provided by the country and by HIPCAR when implementing the Action Plans:

Country inputs:

- Designation, organization of and support to the country task force
- Identification, recruitment & support to national experts, including covering any applicable fees
- Organization & implementation of any local meetings, workshops, etc., including arrangement of facilities
- Taking necessary action as necessary to adopt & implement the new policies & legislation

HIPCAR Project inputs:

- Translation of model documents into local language, where applicable
- Identification, recruitment & support to HIPCAR international & regional experts, including covering their costs of fees & travel
- Monitoring & reporting on project outputs / outcomes

Possible extension of the HIPCAR Project

Preliminary ideas for extension (beyond the current termination date of 31 August 2011)

- a) *Complete the assistance in the current 9 work areas to HIPCAR beneficiary countries requesting assistance (wherever not yet completed)*
- b) **Extend this assistance to additional interested countries in the region that are not currently HIPCAR beneficiaries (e.g. Anguilla, BVI, Montserrat,..)**
- c) **Extend the project into new work areas, e.g.:**
 - **Spectrum management**
 - **Conversion from analog to digital TV**
 - **Number portability, etc.**
- d) **Other suggestions...**

THANK YOU

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