The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has a long history of doing well on critical global issues.

We have had several successes with the MDGs and we anticipate the same with the SDGs:

- In the midst of graduating from the MDGs – the region has developed a CARICOM Strategic Plan – built on the Resilience model (Economic, Social, Technological and Environmental – which is a big deal for us) and based on Results based management;
- The Technological resilience pillar is premised on the successful completion of the CARICOM Single ICT space by 2022;
- In our planning – we have also linked inextricably the success of the CARICOM Single ICT space with our Human Resource strategy 2030;
- Supported by many other sectoral policies.
REALISATIONS...

• Well aware that the SDGs demand a new type of engagement
• Capacity building programming – emphasises enabling and strengthening of
  • individuals,
  • groups,
  • organisations,
  • networks and
  • institutions
• to increase their ability to cope with crises and to contribute long-term to the elimination of poverty;
• ~ how to self-organize to determine success...
CHALLENGES…

• WRESTLING MATCH…
  • Who instigates, who owns, who executes, who complies, who takes responsibility?
  • Where, when should these conversations take place?
  • Which policies should be first and why?

• National, regional and International imperatives
• Assumptions
  • SDGs & the word Technology
• Preserving (and capitalising from) our Caribbean Cultural heritage
  • Cultural Diversity
  • Innovation
WHAT IF?...

- Committed to Demystifying the narrative – for the under-served and the excluded;
- What if we really dismantled – the word INCLUSION and how it applies to all in society?
- What if we re-examined what we mean by the ‘HAVES’ and the ‘HAVE–NOTS’?
- What if we translated local level – would it include us as Policy-makers?
- What if we applied a very high value to inclusion – would our policies be different?
- What if we really placed those human beings at the centre of our policy planning, development and delivery?
MORE QUESTIONS...

- How to get national attention for regional and international processes?
- Where should our capacity building processes and policies be focused?
- How to keep up with the changes in technology?
  - Countries at different levels of maturity
  - Different entry points
- Role of intergovernmental institutions – regional and international?
- What if – the ‘Institution’ divide is only in my mind?
- What if we pushed past our Fear? Disregarded our ‘Turf’?
  - Made our institutions and processes like the Internet – borderless?
- What if we came to every policy planning meeting purposing to embody Trust & Truth
CLOSING THOUGHTS

• We are all convinced of the power of the technology and the great promises for the future –

• However, we are not building a future – we are building it for human beings, people and more particularly – the young people.;

• Public policy –as –a– service : PPaaS

• Sobering reality – if one country is unconnected – we would have failed on delivering “Connectivity for All”