

## **Grenada's Initiative**

### **Women and Girls in ICT 2013**

#### **Activity Overview**

International Girls in ICT Day, backed by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), was observed on April 25, 2013 to create a global awareness that empowers and encourages girls and young women to consider opportunities within the growing field of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

In observance of this occasion and continuing its initiatives in 2012, the National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC) Grenada embarked on an Open Day in collaboration with the St. George's University (SGU) and ICT Companies (Cable & Wireless Grenada Limited, Columbus Communications Grenada Limited and Digicel Grenada Limited). The purpose of this Open Day was to provide an opportunity for girls in secondary schools to learn about careers in ICT, engage female professional in ICT companies to share their experiences, speak about their job and their role in the development of the ICT Company in an effort to empower and encourage girls to consider careers in this growing field.

#### **Open Day Activity**

A total of sixty students and eleven teachers from eleven secondary schools participated in the Open Day. The activities were conducted over a period of two days commencing on April 25, 2013.

The activity (Open Day) commenced with a short opening ceremony coordinated by the NTRC at the St. George's University Campus where the students were given an overview of the programme, the objective of the programme and the participating companies. Thereafter the Open Day officially commenced with a presentation by the St. George's University. Ms. Cummings, Educational Technology Specialist at the SGU spoke to the students about the different careers within the field of ICT, the prerequisite for someone who wish to pursue a career within the highlighted fields. Ms. Cummings also used the opportunity to highlight her role in ICT at the St. George's University and her experiences in becoming involved in the field.

The students also learnt about the academic opportunities available at the St. George's University to become qualified to take advantage of the jobs within the field of ICT.

After completion of the presentation at the St. George's University, the students were separated into groups and taken to one of the ICT Companies; LIME, FLOW or Digicel, where they were given a tour of the premise; engage female professionals in the ICT Company to share their experiences, learn about their jobs and their role in the Company. The students also got the opportunity to learn about the career opportunities in the ICT companies.

The tour ended with a visit to the office of the NTRC where the students gave feedbacks about their various tours. Some of the students had a clear idea about the field they wanted to get involved in, the requirements (academic and experience) to be qualified for the field, while many were very interested in seeking employment with the companies with which they toured.

### NTRC's Initiatives

The Girls in ICT initiative was a continuation from the previous activities held in 2012 where the NTRC, in observance of ITU theme for 2012 Women and Girls in ICT held a series of activities where women and girls in parishes throughout Grenada were engaged through educational sessions/workshops, computer skills training and an essay writing competition. The purpose of these activities in 2012 were to educate women about the use of ICT as a tool for economic development, increase technical skills in the field of ICT and increase awareness about Children Online Protection.







Girls in ICT