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

***Caribbean ICT Ministers' Forum
on Leveraging ICT for Development in the Caribbean***

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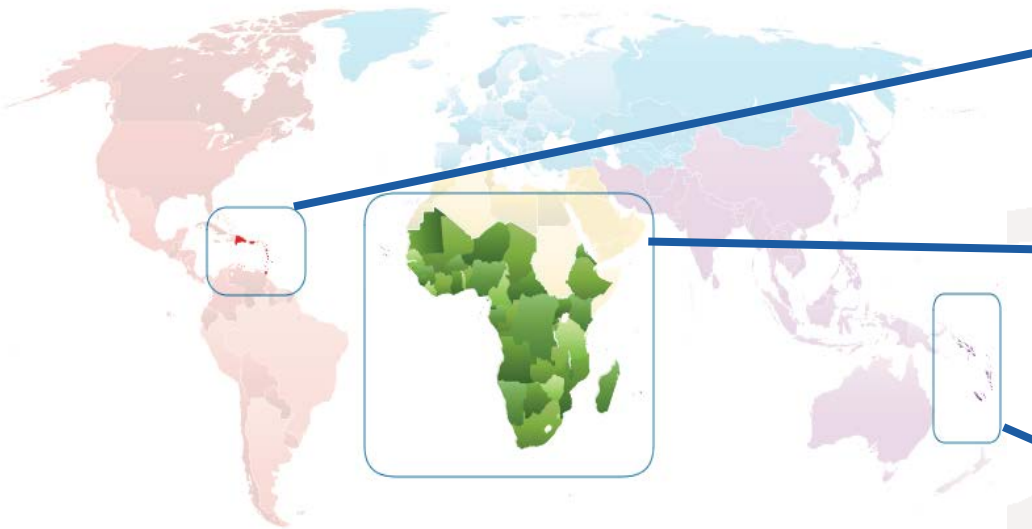
ITU-EC-ACP Project Manager

Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

A global Project for the ACP countries

- An effectively functioning **ICT sector** is a key driver for development, growth and employment
- **ITU and European Commission** signed a global project to provide “*Support for the establishment of **harmonized policies for the ICT market in the ACP states***” end 2007
- Component of “ACP-Information and Communication Technologies” programme (@CP-ICT) within the framework of the 9th European Development Fund
- **3 regional sub-projects** addressing specific needs of each region: **2008-2013**



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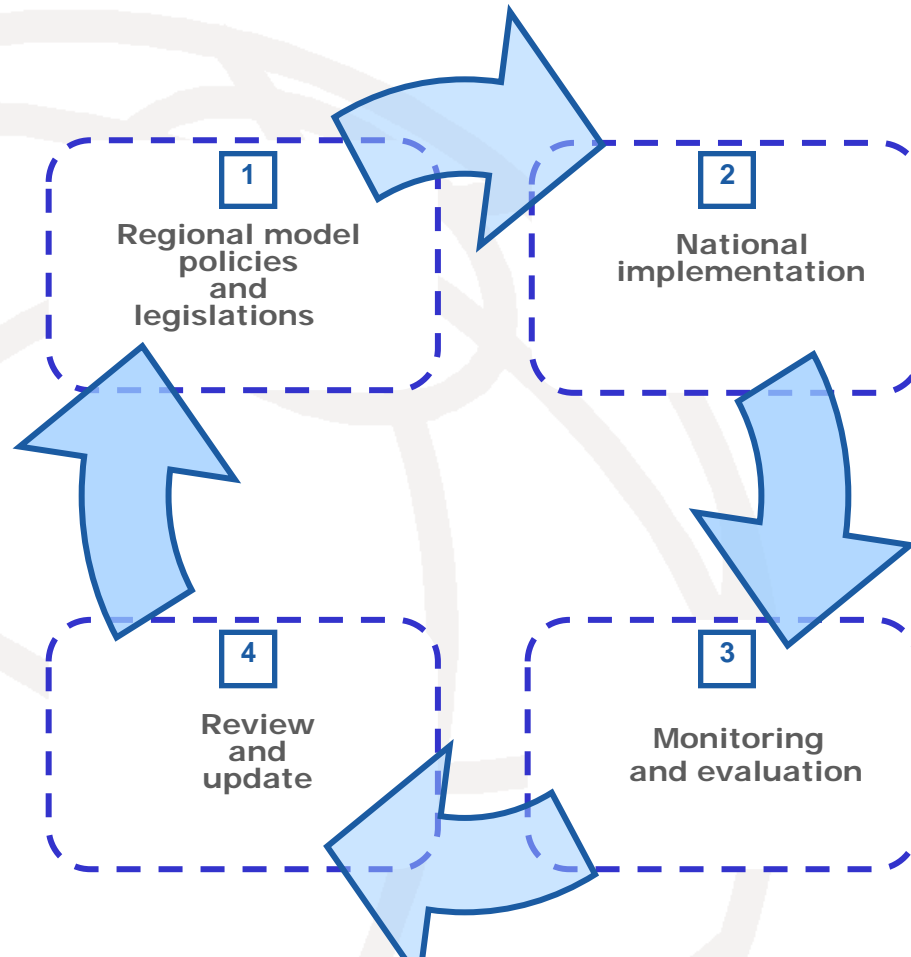
Enhancing competitiveness in the **Caribbean** through the harmonization of ICT Policies, Legislation and Regulatory Procedures (5 years)

HIPSSA

Support for harmonization of the ICT Policies in **Sub-Saharan Africa** (5 years)

ICB4PAC

Capacity Building and ICT Policy, Regulatory and Legislative Frameworks Support for **Pacific Countries** (4 years)



- Harmonization stands for similar responses to similar problems and different responses for different problems.
- The ITU-EC-ACP Project focuses on stages 1 and 2 while 3 and 4 will need to be considered over the time to ensure quality and update



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8 priorities

Licensing

Universal service

Numbering

Cross Border Frequency
Management - HCM

Interconnection

Cost Modeling
Open Sub Marine Cable

Cyber-security

Cyber-criminality / Data
Protection / E-
transactions

Analog to Digital
Migration

Regional Statistics

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9 priorities

1) Telecommunications

- Licensing
- Universal Service
- Interconnection

2) Information Society

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

ICB4PAC

7 priorities

Licensing

Universal service

National ICT Policy

Numbering

Interconnection

Cybercrime

International
Roaming



- For each priority, **assessment** of the current situation in all the countries.
- Identification of **regional best practices and failures**.
- Comparison with **international best practices**.
- Input for discussion with country focal points and regional organizations on the **pros and cons of each model** (stakeholders deciding on the best model suited for their region).
- Draft regional model **policy** (building blocks).
- Documents circulated for comments before regional **workshop**.
- Draft regional model **legislation** aligned with policy objectives.
- Documents circulated for comments before regional **workshop**.
- Regional model policy and legislation.



Further to the completion of the Regional Guidelines the project moves to **In-Country Support (National Transposition)**

- Transposition into national frameworks of beneficiary countries in coherence with the national strategies of each of them
- An opportunity to expose a larger audience to the provisions of the new draft policy & legislation and to receive press coverage:
 - Representatives from ICT ministry and regulator.
 - Representatives from various other ministries (home affairs, finance, etc.) and AG's office.
 - Police.
 - Parliamentarians and magistrates, etc.
 - Civil society among them consumers associations, NGOs, etc.
 - Private sector among them business council, professional associations, operators and internet service providers, etc.



The philosophy of a National Transposition

(to be adapted to each country)

- Pairing of **national expert** (local knowledge) with **international expert** (regional model policy and legislation know-how);
- **Comparison** of the national legislation with the regional models;
- **Drafting** by a national team with the support of the experts:
 - Preparation of a first draft for comments;
 - Second draft taking into account relevant amendments;
- **Validation workshop**
 - **Institutional and human capacity building**



HIPCAR - Caribbean

- Phase 1- Regional Model Policies and Legislations - Completed
 - Universal Service
 - Licensing
 - Interconnection
 - Cybercrime
 - Electronic Transactions
 - Electronic Evidence in e-commerce
 - Privacy and Data Protection
 - Interception of Communications
 - Access to Public Information (Freedom of Information)

- Phase 2 - In country Support
 - On going - available for all interested countries
 - End date: September 2013



- Bottom up **regional** approach with robust deliverables:
 - **Assessment** of the current situation in all the countries to identify **regional best practices** and past errors;
 - Before comparing with **international best practices**;
 - Regional model **policy**;
 - Regional model **legislation**;
- Directly followed by in-country support with national and international experts;
- Link substance of policy and legislation to human & institutional **capacity building**
- ...is progressively creating a regional harmonisation dynamism and improve exchanges of best practices
- This being said, there have been challenges:
 - Requests for in-country support came towards the end of the project;
 - Change of Governments (elections);
 - Local skills.

Thank you for your attention

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http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/projects/ITU_EC_ACP/index.html