

Advancing Digital Inclusion Through Data and Measurement

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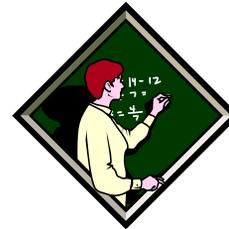
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CTU Core Activities

1.  **ICT Harmonised Policy Formulation**

2. **Capacity Development**



3.  **Regional ICT Project Coordination**

4. **Caribbean Representation**



5.  **Industry Watch**

CTU's Progress on ICT Indicators

- March 2022 - workshop on the 'Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for ICT Indicators in the Caribbean', which sought to outline a process for Member States to identify ICT indicators and targets that align with the goals and objectives of their national ICT strategic plans.
- March 2023 - "Measuring The Digital Society For Digital Inclusion" in partnership with the United Nation's Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).
- ICT indicators will measure the levels of digital inclusion in the region, which will serve as an input into evidence-based policy formulation and decision-making
- CTU-ECLAC conducted a research study in June 2023 on "Measuring the digital society through ICT indicators to advance digital inclusion: A Caribbean assessment". Eleven Member States participated in the study.
- The study examined priorities for, and challenges and capacity-building needs related to the collection and analysis of data on ICT indicators to measure the digital society and digital inclusion in the Caribbean
- The results of the study were presented to participants as a part of the peer review process and the final report is being finalised for publication in 2023.
- This study will assist the CTU in developing an ICT Indicators dashboard for the Caribbean

ITU's International Development Index (IDI)

- In October 2022, ITU's Plenipotentiary Conference 2022 in Bucharest adopted a revised text of [Resolution 131](#). defines, inter alia, the main features of the process for developing and adopting a new IDI methodology and of the IDI itself.
- The ITU held two major events in 2023 to revise the IDI both of which the CTU participated in:
 - [Joint meeting of the Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators \(EGTI\) and the Expert Group on ICT Household Indicators \(EGH\) on the ICT Development Index \(IDI\)](#), 13-15 June 2023, virtual meeting
 - Joint meeting of the [Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators \(EGTI\)](#) and the [Expert Group on ICT Household Indicators \(EGH\)](#) on the ICT Development Index (IDI), 18-19 September 2023, Geneva, Switzerland (allowed virtual participation)
- The joint meeting in September was held to discuss and improve methodologies for measuring digital development.
- At the September meeting, the challenges faced by Member States, particularly in data collection and limited resources were emphasised, and the importance of accurate, relevant, and coherent statistics was stressed
- Next steps: Preparation of a document containing the IDI methodology and sharing with Member States for final approval

Some definitions

- **Internet measurement:**
To provide unprecedented understanding of the state of the Internet in real time
- **Reach:**
Achieved through, different access technologies such as wired(fixed), wireless, satellites, mobile, etc.
- **Reliability:**
The Quality of Service (QoS) provided by the operators, and the Quality of Experience (QoE) as perceived by the end-users
- **Resilience:**
The ability to recover, self-heal, or converge to restore normal operations after a disruptive event (natural disasters and cyberattacks included)

The big challenge: Access in a Secured and Reliable Way

➤ Access:

- ❑ *The Caribbean's Internet penetration is very diverse:*
 - ✓ *38.9% (Haiti) as of February 2023*
 - ✓ *85.8% (Barbados) as of February 2023*
 - ✓ *60 – 65% Caribbean average as of March 2023*

➤ Security:

- ✓ *The Caribbean is still being used as "test bed" by bad actors*
- ✓ *Large number of websites don't have DNSSEC enabled*
- ✓ *Large number of network routes are not RPKI enabled*

➤ Reliability:

- ❑ *Needs a holistic approach:*
 - ✓ *Deployment of resilient telecoms and Internet infrastructures*
 - ✓ *Natural disasters (too much above the ground infrastructures are still being deployed)*
 - ✓ *Electricity (telecoms and Internet go hand in hand with resilient electricity provisioning)*





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What is CTU doing about it? --Access--

➤ Access:

- ✓ *Promote innovative access solutions such as CNs, LEOs, especially for rural and underserved areas*
- ✓ *Within the Spectrum Task Force, promote spectrum for innovative access solutions*
- ✓ *Raise awareness with Governments and policymakers regarding the need for these solutions*
- ✓ *Collaborate with partners and donors to promote investments in telecoms and Internet infrastructures*

What is CTU doing about it? --Security--

➤ Security:

- ✓ *Collaborate with ICANN through the GAC – DNS Abuse, Public Safety, etc*
- ✓ *Collaborate with ARIN and LACNIC - Executive Briefings*
- ✓ *Collaborate with the OAS, regarding National Cybersecurity Strategies implementation*
- ✓ *Participate at the Global Conference on Cyber Capacity Building, seeking collaboration with global actors – GFCE, ISACA, Global Cybersecurity Forum*
- ✓ *Reaching out to member states raising awareness on the challenges related to this topic*

What is CTU doing about it? --Reliability--

➤ **Reliability:**

- ✓ *Collaborate with CANTO on the need for its members to deploy resilient infrastructures*
- ✓ *Collaborate with regional natural disasters organizations such as CDEMA*
- ✓ *Collaborate with global organizations such as ISOC, ITU, ECLAC focusing on the need to "measure" the Internet.*

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