E-Government in Regional Perspective

From Concept to Action

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Caribbean cooperation on e-Government: why?

- E-government not equally pronounced within region
- Risk that inequalities may further increase
- High cost of e-government implementation
Caribbean cooperation on e-Government: why?

- Physical dispersion and smallness
- Human resources limited and difficult to retain
- Need to improve government services to trade, industry and citizens
- Need to accelerate and enhance government reform, democratization and development
The Benefits from Regional Cooperation

- Effectiveness
  Interdependent benefits and risks

- Efficiency
  Split development costs

- Inventiveness
  Sharing experience
The Benefits from Regional Cooperation

- Raise awareness
- Facilitate dialogue
- Build political consensus
- Develop common vision
- Identify bottlenecks
- Address inequalities in critical success factors
Implementation of common vision

- Harmonization in strategy and policy development and implementation
- Regulatory frameworks
- Open standards
- Interoperability
The Benefits from Regional Cooperation

- Social capital development
- Overcome market size, reach critical mass and economies of scale
- Resource mobilization and pooling of resources
- Stronger voice in international negotiations
UNDESA in regional cooperation

- Initiatives
  - Caribbean
  - Central America
  - Africa
UNDESA in regional cooperation

- Components
  - Awareness raising
  - Readiness assessment
  - Development of regional strategy and plan
  - Networking infrastructure
The process of developing e-government

- Understanding key factors
- Assessing readiness
- Setting strategic goals
- Involving key stakeholders
- Secure sustainable funding
- Establishing implementation plan
- Monitoring and evaluation
E-government readiness

Core Areas

Institutional Capacity

- Cultural and Human Resources Conditions

ICT Capacity

- Political Conditions

Enabling Factors

- Administrative Structures
- Civil Service Reforms
- Policy and Implementation Coordination

- IT Education and Outreach programs
- New Managerial Skills in the Public Sector
- Citizen – centric Public Administration

- Communication environment
- Technological Infrastructure
- Information and Knowledge Management

- Committed and visionary Leadership
- Citizen participation
- Good Governance
E-government strategy and plan of action: Elements

- Political willingness, leadership
- Harmonization and convergence of legislation, regulations, policies
- Organizational processes
- ICT infrastructure (connectivity)
- Human resources (education)
E-government strategy and plan of action: Elements

Financing e-government

- Strategic public investments
- Public-private partnerships
- ODA for regional projects

- Areas of particular regional interest
  (Custom services, tourism, culture, transport, trade, migration...)

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E-government strategy and plan of action: the “how to”

- Need for national contextualization
- Involving all stakeholders in planning
- Sequencing
- Scaling
- Achieving quick wins
- Taking a staged approach
UNDESA Forthcoming Products

- World Public Sector Report (Nov. 2003)
UNDESA Upcoming Events

- Global Forum on Reinventing Government - (Mexico, Nov. 2003)
- Fifth Caribbean Ministerial Consultation (early 2004)
If you want to know more about UNDESA & e-government log on to

www.unpan.org/dpepa-kmb.asp
Thank you

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