



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Digital Transformation

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Thursday 28 July, 2022

Work Commences Towards TT National Digital Transformation Strategy

Four (4) Technical Working Groups (TWGs) comprising skilled nationals and members of our diaspora met on Wednesday 27th July, 2022, to officially begin the preparatory work towards our new National Digital Transformation Strategy for the period 2023 – 2026.

Speaking at the virtual launch this morning, Minister of Digital Transformation, Senator the Honourable Hassel Bacchus emphasised that the strategy is not only about transformation but about ensuring that no one is left behind. "Everything that we are doing is for our customers - this means citizens, public officers, business-persons, the diaspora - all stakeholders. This is for Trinidad and Tobago." He thanked the members of the Technical Working Groups who said "YES" to the call to contribute, "YES", to the call to serve the country, and "YES" to the challenge to carve out a new way of creating a pathway for the future for T&T.

The new Digital Strategy will take into account the gains achieved by previous strategic documents which have guided national ICT strategy - *fastforward* (2003-2008), *smarTT* (2014-2018), and the ICT Blueprint, which covered the period 2018 to the end of 2022. It will also seek to incorporate the principles of co-creation, collaboration and communication.

In the coming weeks, members of the public will be invited to contribute their ideas, comments and feedback through different public engagement channels. The Working Groups will utilise all of the ideas coming in to create the vision. They will also source strategic information, advice and guidance from various digital assessments and reports, including the Digital Readiness Assessment (DRA) conducted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) this year.

Initial findings of the UNDP DRA Assessment report, which were shared with the TWGs at the session on Wednesday, show that there is a strong foundation for digital transformation and several opportunities exist for enhancement of our digital landscape. The UNDP, IDB, along with other local, regional and international agencies and stakeholders have committed to partnering with TT in its ambitious vision to have the National DT Strategy ready for implementation by January 2023.

Mr. Devindra Ramnarine, Digital Transformation Advisor, in his brief remarks commented that the MDT and by extension T&T will achieve its digital ambitions by being agile and learning from its mistakes, by building on the natural creativity of our people and by taking "moko jumbie steps" that will propel us forward in the shortest time possible.

Engagement and Behavioural Communications Unit



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Digital Transformation

More information on the public engagement will be provided soon. In the meantime, persons are invited to engage with the Strategy team by sending ideas, comments or queries to transformtt@mdt.gov.tt, and visit the Ministry of Digital Transformation's website mdt.gov.tt for more info.



###

Engagement and Behavioural Communications Unit

Ministry of Digital Transformation - Level 7, National Library Building, 23 Abercromby Street, Port-of-Spain 100509, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.
Office: 623-4724 | Fax: 623-8636 | email: mdt-corporatecommunications@gov.tt