



Project no: 216721
Project acronym: WINDS-Caribe
Project title: Widening IST Networking Development Support – Caribe
Instrument: SSA

**D5.4 Roadmap for ICT R&D
Europe – Caribbean Cooperation**

Due date of deliverable: M24
Submission date: M24

Start date of project: 01/01/2008
Duration: 24 months

Organisation name of lead contractor for this deliverable: MENON

Deliverable Fact Sheet

Deliverable Version:	2.0
Deliverable Type:	Report
Current Release Status:	Public
Final Release Status:	Public
Workpackage:	WP5
Organization Responsible:	MENON
Primary Contributor:	Fabio Nascimbeni
Internal Reviewers:	Daniel Pimienta and Roderick Sanatan

Change Log

No.	Date	Sections	Change	Editor
1	15/11/09	All	Creation of the document	Nascimbeni
2	21/11/09	All	Improvement of the document	Aceto
3	9/12/09	All	Improvement of the document	Cortes
4	10/12/09	4	Adding of the matrix	Moreau
5	10/12/09	All	Internal review	Pimienta
6	13/12/09	All	Internal review	Sanatan
7	18/12/09	All	Document Consolidation	Nascimbeni

Actual Date of Delivery	22/12/2009
Audience	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Internal

Version number	1.0
Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Draft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WP leader accepted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality checked <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project coordinator accepted
Action requested	<input type="checkbox"/> To be revised by partner in charge of the deliverable <input type="checkbox"/> To be reviewed by the appointed partners <input type="checkbox"/> For approval of the quality assurance leader <input type="checkbox"/> For approval of the project coordinator

Executive Summary

This deliverable introduces the WINDS-Caribe Roadmap for EU-Caribbean Cooperation in ICT Research and Development, which represents a long-term and policy-oriented outcome of the WINDS-Caribe project.

The aim of the Roadmap is to propose a strategy to improve existing collaboration among researchers, research stakeholders and policy makers from Europe and the Caribbean in the field of ICT R&D, and at increasing the importance of the Caribbean region as a S&T partner for the EU, in furtherance of the existing schemes such as the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific countries) or the LAC Region (Latin America and the Caribbean), where the Caribbean region shall enhance its strategic importance.

This Roadmap stems from a number of consultation activities that the WINDS-Caribe project, an action supported by the EU FP7, has conducted, in the period 2008-2009, by involving a relevant number of European and Caribbean actors active in ICT research. In particular, WINDS-Caribe carried out four consultations in the Caribbean during four events that were organised in Martinique, Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Cuba, complemented these results with a number of interviews with key ICT research stakeholders, and finally facilitated a high level stakeholders debate in Brussels in October 2009.

The present document comprises three sections:

- **Section 1. Vision and challenges** presents very briefly the vision of ICT R&D collaboration proposed by WINDS-Caribe and the existing barriers and problems in the way to reach this vision.
- **Section 2. Recommendations** proposes a number of strategic recommendations accompanied by some practical actions and ideas that shall be able to contribute to reach the desired vision presented in section 1.
- **Section 3. Planning and implementation** is proposing some timing for the different recommendations, as well as some mechanisms to implement the proposed actions, and a timeline to follow the future developments of EU-Caribbean cooperation in the area.

The views expressed in this document are solely those of the WINDS-Caribe project partners, and are, under no circumstances, those of the European Commission. While due care has been taken to provide data which is both accurate and up-to-date, the WINDS-Caribe consortium is not to be held responsible for information which is inaccurate, incomplete or out of date, nor be held liable for decisions made by the user based upon the data, analysis, conclusions and recommendations contained in this publication.

Finally, it must be said that although the present document is delivered to the European Commission as a final outcome as far as the work of WINDS-Caribe is concerned, it is by nature a dynamic piece of work and might evolve in future versions outside the scope of the project.

Table of contents

1. INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY	5
2. VISION AND CHALLENGES	6
2.1 A VISION FOR EU-CARIBBEAN COOPERATION IN ICT R&D	6
2.2 PROBLEMS AND BARRIERS	7
3. RECOMMENDATIONS.....	8
4. STAKEHOLDERS-INDICATORS-MEANS OF VERIFICATION MATRIX	11
5. PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION.....	14
ANNEX 1. STAKEHOLDERS.....	15
ANNEX 2: ACRONYMS.....	17

1. Introduction and methodology

The aim of this document is to propose a strategy to improve the level of cooperation between the European Union and the Caribbean region in the field of ICT research and development, and to increase the importance of the Caribbean region as a S&T partner for the EU, in furtherance of the existing schemes such as the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific countries) or the LAC Region (Latin America and the Caribbean), where the Caribbean region can enhance its strategic importance.

This document seeks to improve the dialogue among decision makers, donors and research leaders on how to make Europe-Caribbean Cooperation on ICT Research and Development more relevant, effective and meaningful. This improved dialogue would have a number of positive effects on reducing fragmentation between the EU and Caribbean research agendas, improving the articulation between multilateral and bilateral cooperation level, improving the capacity to monitor cooperation progresses, responding to the need for persistence/continuity/sustainability and facilitating benchlearning among Caribbean countries.

This Roadmap stems from a number of consultation activities that the WINDS-Caribe project has conducted in the period 2008-2009 by involving a relevant number of European and Caribbean actors active in ICT R&D:

- a) The context analysis carried out by the WINDS-Caribe consortium across the Caribbean region, available at www.winds-lac.eu in the form of a Complete Report on ICT research in the Caribbean region;
- b) The consultations performed in the Caribbean during four events that the project organized in Martinique, Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Cuba between December 2008 and March 2009;
- c) The consultation work that WINDS-Caribe carried out with its Advisory Board and with key ICT R&D stakeholders directly and through online conferences;
- d) The final WINDS-Caribe Seminar, organized in Brussels in October 2009.

The recommendations proposed in the present report are targeted to all the stakeholders involved in ICT research across Europe and the Caribbean, and specifically to the decision makers and decision shapers both in Europe and in the Caribbean region. In Annex 1 a list of these stakeholders is presented.

The WINDS-Caribe Roadmap comprises three sections:

Section 1. Vision and challenges

It presents briefly the vision of ICT R&D collaboration proposed by WINDS-Caribe and the existing barriers and problems to reaching this vision.

Section 2. Recommendations

It is the core part of the document as it contains a set of strategic recommendations and a number of connected practical actions that shall be taken to improve the situation presented in section 1.

Section 3. Planning and implementation

It is about “*how fast to move*” and proposes some timing for the different recommendations, as well as a timeline to follow the future development of EU-Caribbean cooperation in the area.

2. Vision and Challenges

2.1 A vision for EU-Caribbean Cooperation in ICT R&D

The WINDS-Caribe vision of how ICT R&D collaboration across the two regions should work is based both on the present ICT research scenario in the Caribbean¹ and on the current European thrust for innovation, novelty and collaboration in R&D. These two components create somehow the momentum for an unwavering regional process for ICT development, where the Caribbean should be able to take up the participation challenge proposed by the EU, mainly through the opportunities offered by FP7, which promises highly-competitive positioning with important social and economic benefits to be derived for EU Member States. All Caribbean may benefit from the EU-ICT thrust, as the region develops its capacity and systems of ICT modernization.

Gathering and analyzing all the inputs received during its two years of work, the WINDS-Caribe consortium has come up with a proposed vision for EU-Caribbean cooperation in ICT R&D, hereby presented.

The WINDS-Caribe vision for EU-Caribbean cooperation in ICT R&D

EU-Caribbean cooperation in ICT R&D should be open, inclusive and reciprocal and should aim at supporting competitiveness and social inclusion of both Europe and the Caribbean. ICT research should drive the innovation discourse and foster benchmarking and integration between both regions and especially among Caribbean countries.

Furthermore, due to the specific nature of ICT, EU-Caribbean collaboration in ICT R&D should:

- pay attention to the impact of its results on final users, especially but not only in the Caribbean;
- build on the existing links represented by the Caribbean researchers working in Europe, so to leverage on the scientific diaspora issue;
- involve all the stakeholders of R&D: from policy makers in charge, to users representatives, researchers and entrepreneurs;
- keep a balance between support to commercially exploitable research activities and open knowledge based activities;
- respect cultural and linguistic diversity.

Moving toward this vision would have a number of positive effects on optimizing:

- bilateral and reciprocal collaboration through smart and enabling partnerships that integrates the Caribbean linguistic regional groupings, including the development of cooperation projects taking advantage of EU funding opportunities, such as Seventh Framework Programme (FP7);
- the Caribbean particular structures of actual ICT Research functions, namely, in Science and Technology organisations, in universities, in national and regional specialised bodies, in industry.

¹ The scenario is described in detail in D2.2 ICT R&D in the Caribbean, as well – more synthetically – in D5.3 Consultation Document on EU-Caribbean ICT research cooperation. These two documents are available in the Reports section of www.winds.lac.eu.

2.2 Problems and barriers

WINDS-Caribe has identified a set of challenges to successful, fluid and consistent cooperation between EU and the Caribbean in ICT R&D and the participation of Caribbean researchers in European research projects. These are of two kinds of challenges, and they represent the starting point of the WINDS-Caribe Roadmapping work for EU-Caribbean cooperation in ICT R&D.

A) General challenges:

1. Large differences according to several parameters (size, political status, socio-economic situation, culture) among the 24 Caribbean countries. For example, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and other countries are independent; Martinique and Guadeloupe are part of the EU; and Puerto Rico is part of the USA.
2. Lack of continuity in supporting mechanisms – the well-known syndrome of *reinventing the wheel* in terms of supporting EU-Caribbean cooperation research-requires a shift from programmes in existence for a limited time (normally 2 years) to cooperation programmes with a longer duration.
3. Insufficient articulation of the different research agendas gravitating around the Caribbean region (World Bank, UNESCO, Commonwealth, ITU, UNDP, European Commission, the Organisation of American States, Bilateral Agreement agendas, National agendas, etc.), bringing sometimes to fragmentation and apparent separateness in development dynamics.
4. The difficulty of building on the connections between the many Caribbean researchers resident around the world and the incapacity to transform this scientific Diaspora into opportunities for advanced knowledge and applications.
5. The Caribbean is challenged to provide sufficient R&D capacities (quantity and quality), institutional capacities, and research management capacities.
6. Networks of thematic centres of research excellence across the region allow the concentration of expertise and the use of scarce resources effectively to offer rollout for regional ICT Research skills-bases.

B) Functioning bottlenecks:

1. Scattered knowledge in the EU on the heterogeneity and potentials of the Caribbean, especially in interesting sectors such as biodiversity, energy, health.
2. Insufficient awareness and know how in the Caribbean on existing cooperation possibilities with Europe.
3. Disadvantage of the European funding and cash schemes: generally, institutions wishing to participate in FP7 research are asked to produce funds in advance, which is either very difficult in most cases as the Caribbean universities' financing systems do not allow the possibility of advancing funds to participants in projects.
4. Insufficient level of skills in the Caribbean ICT research sector in terms of fund-raising, research management, and regional research articulation. .

3. Recommendations

In order to keep a balance between the need to maintain a strategic attitude and the necessity to act quickly, WINDS-Caribe is hereby proposing six strategic recommendations that shall guide the medium and long term cooperation process. They are complemented by some concrete actions that can be taken in the short term to improve the present situation.

Recommendation 1. The EU should take into account the peculiarity of the Caribbean

EU-Caribbean difference in size, experiences, resources and administrative support systems can jeopardize, if not taken fully into account, the participation of Caribbean actors in EU research, especially because research operations in the area are not normally associated with strong commercial outfits.

Short Term Proposed Actions:

- The EU research (FP7) and development agendas should converge as much as possible towards the Caribbean.
- In the frame of the APC (Africa – Pacific - Caribbean) Group of States, the importance and specificity of the Caribbean should be guaranteed with respect to other growing regions, such as Africa.
- Whenever possible, specific FP7 calls for proposals shall be targeted to the Caribbean region, within and beyond the ACP scheme, in line with the research priorities emerging from the region.

Recommendation 2. International cooperation should be used as a leverage to raise the importance of ICT research in the Caribbean policy agendas

The openness of FP7 and the great development possibilities offered by its funding should be used by Caribbean national and international stakeholders to advocate for a more relevant role of S&T and ICT in the Caribbean national agendas. Research should be understood as a pillar of ICT for development, together with other areas: a) national ICT strategies; b) Regulatory and legislative harmonisation; and c) Capacity Building and trade expansion.

Short Term Proposed Actions:

- Work with the Caribbean national governments and regional institutions to strengthen the presence of ICT and research in national policies, as key components for development and poverty reduction.
- Support the involvement of research centers and university representatives and networks in national and regional agenda consultations and meetings in the Caribbean, so to provide evidence of the importance of ICT for national agendas.

Recommendation 3. Foster inter-regional collaboration as a way to increase the Caribbean research critical mass and to mainstream existing excellence

While organisations may join a FP7 consortium on an individual basis, FP7 can bring opportunities to consolidate regional efforts. Furthermore, working at the regional level can break the rule for which benefits are only for strong countries of the region. Creating the capacity to respond to international cooperation opportunity as a region, taking into account existing trade arrangements, including the recent Economic Partnership Agreements, regimes and enabling the ongoing development of ICT policies, infrastructure, commercial activity, services provision and social inclusion in the Caribbean, is key to the regional development.

Short Term Proposed Actions:

- Further support the existing efforts in terms of regional ICT R&D portals and regional ICT university programmes, and promote those efforts outside the Caribbean.
- Create a regional research programme to support excellence research units, networks, and centres in the Caribbean.
- Build and support, possibly along the thematic lines proposed by WINDS-Caribe, a limited number of excellence research centres with regional relevance.

Recommendation 4. Strengthen local support to FP7 participation and international collaboration in research

Even if support actions (such as WINDS-Caribe project) exist as well as some FP7 National Contact Points in Jamaica and Cuba, resource challenges still remain: efforts of awareness-building, identification of prospective projects, evaluation and then preparation of proposals are being significantly constrained. Structuring and strengthening the support scheme at the local level would bring several advantages: dedicated resources could be assigned to the process; the Caribbean knowledge base in this area would be enhanced and made available for similar ventures in the future. This would enhance patent knowledge and processes, which require appropriate institutional routines, especially for ICT R&D disciplines.

Short Term Proposed Actions:

- The role and capacity of the FP7 ICT NCPs have to be enhanced, new NCPs should be created, Caribbean NCPs should be better connected with more experienced NCPs in Latin America and with existing Liaison Offices (ABEST in Argentina, B-BICE in Brazil, CHIEP in Chile, and UEMEXCyT in Mexico).
- A network of *incubators* of R&D proposals should be built, for screening, preparing and maturing Caribbean proposals in readiness for calls, including an IPR helpdesk. The Technology Incubation Centre in UTECH, Jamaica and the CEREGMIA Lab in UAG, Martinique could be pilot experiences. CARIMAC, UWI is willing to be the centre actor to grow this project for the Caribbean.

5. Build on Caribbean R&D capacities abroad, leveraging on the Caribbean scientific diaspora

Brain drain and the diaspora of Caribbean researchers (especially to UK, USA, and Canada) are very difficult issues to be solved since they result from structural reasons, such as salary differences, lack of research facilities in the Caribbean, etc. The fact of having a relevant number of researchers working abroad, on the other hand, can be seen as an opportunity to work with them as natural links for international cooperation projects.

Short Term Proposed Actions:

- Use EU mobility schemes (such as Marie Curie, IRSES, and Erasmus Mundus) to facilitate the work of diaspora researchers coming back to the region, even for limited periods.
- Pave the ground for the set up of a virtual network of “Caribbean ICT researchers abroad”, able to map the status of researchers outside the region and to strengthen links with their home countries.

6. Foster articulation among the existing collaboration schemes dealing with ICT and ICT R&D in the region

A number of international organisations do support actions focusing on ICT and ICT-research in the Caribbean Region (World Bank, UNESCO, Commonwealth, ITU, UNDP, European Commission, and the Organisation of American States, among others), to which the bilateral cooperation schemes between Caribbean and European Countries must be added. Communication in international cooperation is based on the availability and free flow of information between organizations and disciplines at and between the local, national and international levels.

Short Term Proposed Actions:

- Enable resource support to organise periodic meetings among all donors working in the Caribbean to know who is doing what and to foster efficiency and collaboration.
- Identify examples of ICT successes or best practices either within the Caribbean to adjust them as needed to fit the region’s unique circumstances.
- Plan the collection, coordination and distribution of best practices information, which could constitute a permanent helpdesk source for new beginners and actors who need to contact Caribbean initiatives. These may be effective in tandem with workshops and seminars in the main of committed ICT R&D work.

4. Stakeholders-Indicators-Means of verification Matrix

In order to structure the proposed recommendations and to provide a synopsis of the way they are related to each other, in the following table each recommendation and proposed action is linked to the main stakeholders to which it is directed, with some possible indicators and means of verifications able to show its impact on the level of EU-Caribbean cooperation, and with some external factors that might influence (and sometimes jeopardize) the effect of the actions themselves.

Recommendations/objectives	Main targeted stakeholders	Improvement indicators	Means of Verification	External Factors
1. The EU should take into account the peculiarity of the Caribbean				EU-Caribbean difference in size, experiences, resources and administrative support systems can jeopardize participation of Caribbean actors in EU research. Other interesting partnerships like Europe / Africa are considered more important. The FP7 emphasis on pure ICT research is unlikely to switch to ICT R&D and ICT4D.
<i>1.1 The EU research (FP7) and development agendas converge towards the Caribbean.</i>	European Commission (indirectly Caribbean Governments and Caribbean research stakeholders)	FP7 opens to some development approaches Funds from International Development Fund are used for research and ICT	Documents reflecting the EU position towards the Caribbean. Future FP Calls, future EuropeAid Programmes	
<i>1.2 In the frame of ACP, the importance and specificity of the Caribbean is guaranteed with respect to other growing regions</i>	European Commission (indirectly Caribbean Governments and Caribbean research stakeholders)	Political attention towards the Caribbean in comparison with other ACP states (creation of NCPs, new bilateral and multilateral Agreements...)	Documents reflecting the EU position towards the Caribbean	
<i>1.3 Whenever possible, specific FP7 calls for proposals are targeted to the Caribbean region, within and beyond the ACP scheme, in line with the research priorities emerging from the region.</i>	European Commission (indirectly Caribbean Governments and Caribbean research stakeholders)	New FP7 (or FP8) calls specific for EU-Caribbean cooperation (SICAs)	Future FP Calls	
2. International cooperation should be used as a leverage to raise the importance of ICT research in the Caribbean policy agendas				The openness of FP7 is not used by Caribbean stakeholders to advocate for a more relevant role of S&T and ICT in the Caribbean national agenda. Consensus on the creation of a regional sustainable observatory of ICT policies is not found.
<i>2.1 Development of ICT polices, infrastructure, commercial activity, services provision and social inclusion in the Caribbean is included in national policies.</i>	Caribbean Governments (indirectly Caribbean research stakeholders)	Changes in national policies concerning ICT	Caribbean national policies documents	
<i>2.2 Research centres, Universities and other ICT networks are involved in international agenda consultations and meetings.</i>	Caribbean Governments (indirectly Caribbean research stakeholders)	Number of consultations and effective participation of Caribbean stakeholders	Information gathering among main Caribbean research networks	

Recommendations/objectives	Main targeted stakeholders	Improvement indicators	Means of Verification	External Factors
3. Foster inter-regional collaboration as a way to increase the Caribbean research critical mass and to mainstream existing excellence				The opportunity to consolidate regional efforts and to respond to international cooperation as a region is not taken by the Caribbean countries. Excellence centres are mainly focusing on local or national needs.
<i>3.1 Regional ICT research portals and regional ICT university programmes are well supported and promoted outside the Caribbean.</i>	Caribbean Governments, European Commission, other donors	Level of visibility of Caribbean ICT research programmes and actors outside the region	Presence of Caribbean research actors in international ICT research events and projects	
<i>3.2 A Regional Research Programme is created to support excellence research units, networks, and centres in the Caribbean.</i>	Caribbean Governments, European Commission, other donors	Launch of the Regional Research Programme and support mechanism in place	Regional Research Programme Strategy and website	
<i>3.3 A limited number of excellence research centres with regional relevance is built and/or supported.</i>	Caribbean Governments, European Commission, other donors	Effective creation of excellence regional research centres	Excellence Centres creation documents and development news	
4. Local support to FP7 participation and international collaboration in research is strong				Caribbean governments are not investing in the creation of stable entities; the job is left to FP support actions and to few and not really connected FP7 NCPs.
<i>4.1 The role and capacity of the FP7 ICT NCPs is enhanced, new NCPs are created, Caribbean NCPs are connected with more experienced NCPs in Latin America.</i>	Caribbean Governments, possible NCP hosts	Number of new NCPs Quantity of FP7 projects involving Caribbean	Activity report of the NCPs	
<i>4.2 A network of "incubators" of research proposals are built, for screening, preparing and maturing Caribbean proposals in readiness for calls, including an IPR helpdesk.</i>	Caribbean Governments, possible incubators hosts (starting from CARIMAC and UAG)	Number of incubators established, networking capacity among them Quantity of FP7 projects involving Caribbean	Activity report of the incubators	
5. Caribbean research capacities abroad is leveraged by the Caribbean scientific diaspora				The issue of brain drain and the diaspora of Caribbean researchers is considered impossible to be solved by Caribbean actors.
<i>5.1 EU mobility schemes facilitate the work of diaspora researchers coming back to the region, even for limited periods.</i>	Caribbean Governments, European Commission, other donors, Caribbean research actors	Number of diaspora researchers coming back, effective collaborative work	Statistics from the EU mobility schemes	
<i>5.2 A virtual network of "Caribbean ICT researchers abroad", maps the status of researchers outside the region and strengthen links with their home countries.</i>	Caribbean Governments, European Commission, other donors	Establishment, size and results of the virtual network	Statistics of frequentation of the network	

Recommendations/objectives	Main targeted stakeholders	Improvement indicators	Means of Verification	External Factors
6. Articulation among existing collaboration schemes dealing with ICT and ICT research in the region is achieved.				Difficulties are found in communication based on the availability and free flow of information between organizations and disciplines at and between the local, national and international levels.
<i>6.1 Periodic meetings among all donors working in the Caribbean are organised to know who is doing what and to foster efficiency and collaboration.</i>	Major donors active in the region (EC, COMSEC, CDB, UNDP, CARICOM...)	Number of meetings and attendance, practical results	Meetings proceedings	
<i>6.2 Examples of ICT successes or best practices are identified within the Caribbean and adjusted to fit the region.</i>	Major donors active in the region (EC, COMSEC, CDB, UNDP, CARICOM...)	Quantity and quality of identified examples, level of dissemination	Activity reports by the actor that shall take the lead	
<i>6.3 The collection, coordination and distribution of best practices information, constitute a permanent helpdesk source for new beginners and actors who need to contact Caribbean initiatives.</i>	Major donors active in the region (EC, COMSEC, CDB, UNDP, CARICOM...), Caribbean governments	Depth and breath of the helpdesk	Activity report of the helpesk	

5. Planning and implementation

The recommendations presented in the previous chapter want to serve both as inspirations and as practical implementation ideas for the European Commission, the European and Caribbean governments, and for the main national and international stakeholders involved in ICT research in the Caribbean.

In this final chapter, some adoption strategies are proposed that would allow taking the recommendations and considerations put forward by the WINDS Roadmap into account for future EU-Cooperation cooperation in ICT research.

Depending on the level of readiness of the different actors as far as the adoption of each recommendation, two complementary and non-exclusive take-up possibilities exist:

Take up by policy makers

The Roadmap is delivered to the EC and to key officers from Caribbean governments in charge of ICT research (both directly and through the Caribbean Embassies in Brussels). In parallel, the Roadmap will be delivered to a number of network and “intermediaries”, such as CYTED, VIT@LIS, COMSEC, Caribbean Development Bank, CARICOM, in order to keep them informed on the operation and to ask for support in getting the message through.

Ideally, the recommendations and proposed actions contained in the Roadmap should be taken into account by the actors in charge of shaping future policy and collaboration strategies, both at bilateral and at multilateral level, and should serve as inspiration for future actions.

The WINDS-Caribe partners are available to provide more information and some follow up advice, if needed.

Take up by support platforms

Due to the fact that the WINDS-Caribe project is finishing at the end of 2009, the Roadmap will be delivered to two new EU-Caribbean support mechanisms that will run in the next years, with the offer to take up the follow-up work of the Roadmap.

The support platforms to which the Roadmap will be delivered are:

- The EUCARINET project, a EU-supported INCONET platform that can take up the indications of the Roadmap and bring them forward along its activities (more information on EUCARINET will soon be available at www.eucarinet.eu).
- The Brussels Liaison Office for S&T cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean, a long-term structure being created at the moment that that will include a strong support of “structural” cooperation as far as S&T is concerned.

Also in this case, if needed the WINDS-Caribe partners will be available to provide more insight to the Roadmap and some follow up services.

Annex 1. Stakeholders

The recommendations presented in the present document, although they can be targeted to all stakeholders involved in EU-Caribbean cooperation in ICT research, are mainly directed to the following stakeholders:

<p>CARIBBEAN NATIONAL AUTHORITIES</p> <p>They are leading the ICT development strategy in their countries, and coordinate cooperation policies at national, regional and international level. They have a pivotal role in the decision-making procedures, programme implementation and funds allocation/management. This group of stakeholders is represented in the consultation either directly, as in the case of Martinique, Jamaica, Cuba and the Dominican Republic or indirectly, through the Embassies of all the Caribbean Countries in Brussels.</p>
<p>EUROPEAN COMMISSION</p> <p>It is interested in longstanding relationships with the Caribbean region for ensuring growth, stability and development in the region, and aims at strengthening the economic and political partnerships and at assisting all the countries in the Caribbean region to achieve regional, long-term development goals in a self-sustaining manner. Both DG Information Society and DG Research shall be involved in the consultation.</p>
<p>EUROPEAN MEMBER STATES' GOVERNMENTS</p> <p>They have strong interests in the region for economic, political and historical reasons (for example, the Départements d' Outre-Mer, form an integral part of France, or the territories linked to the UK and the Netherlands) and are committed in addressing regional needs through national actions, programmes and projects. They are reached through the different Liaison Offices for research in Brussels.</p>
<p>ACP –AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC GROUP OF STATES- Secretariat</p> <p>It is interested in strengthening the partnerships and cooperation strategies with the EU, as well as in fostering economic relations between the two regions, thus contributing to the development of local civil society.</p>
<p>COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT</p> <p>It represents a key stakeholder with good overview of dynamics and programmes for the Commonwealth English- Speaking region and is deeply committed in promoting and supporting economic and social development there, responding to demands for assistance and implementing programmes in the field.</p>
<p>UNDP – UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>It represents a key international actor in the region, active in the field of ICT research and ICT for development. It is committed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and advocates the development of civil society. Its focus is on R&D but rather on ICT for Development, in a region where the research initiatives taking place in the region are done for direct social impact.</p>
<p>CARICOM SECRETARIAT</p> <p>It plays a fundamental role in the coordination of Caribbean countries' economic and social development, as well as in expanding trade and economic relations with other countries and regions, including the EU.</p>
<p>CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK</p> <p>An international donor working providing expertise, trust, lending and financing for the reduction of poverty in the Caribbean region and having a deep knowledge related to local needs, as well as the region's potential.</p>

CKLN - CARIBBEAN KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING NETWORK

A regional mechanism established by the CARICOM Heads of Government and interested in the outcomes and results achieved in aspects of the framework of ICT R&D cooperation in the region and in the relation between the EU and the Caribbean. Although it is not a player in the overall ICT cooperation, CKLN has specific subsets of ICT work.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COUNCIL – JAMAICA

A public National body involved in fostering and coordinating scientific research and in promoting its application for the benefit of the Jamaican research community. It has a broad overview and knowledge on Jamaican strengths and constraints in the field of research and it is the only FP7 National Contact Point in the Caribbean Region.

CARIBBEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION

The CTU is a Caribbean intergovernmental organisation dedicated to facilitating the development of the regional telecommunications sector. The CTU's Mission is to create an environment in partnership with members to optimize returns from ICT resources for the benefit of stakeholders.

Annex 2: Acronyms

ABEST: Argentina Bureau for Enhancing Science and Technology Cooperation between Argentina and the European Union

ACP: African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States

B-BICE: Brazilian Bureau for Enhancing the International Cooperation with the European Union

CARIMAC: Caribbean Institute of Media and Communication, Jamaica

CDERA: Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency

CEREGMIA: Center for Research and Studies in Economics, Marketing, Modelisation and Applied Computer Science, Martinique

CHIEP: Oficina de Enlace para la Promoción de la Cooperación entre Chile y la Unión Europea en Ciencia y Tecnología

CKLN: Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network, Jamaica

COMSEC : Commonwealth Secretariat

CYTED: Programa Iberoamericano de Ciencia y Tecnología para el Desarrollo

VIT@LIS: Red Europa-América Latina y Caribe para la Sociedad de la Información

DG: Directorate General

DOM / TOM / COM: French overseas departments and territories (Départements d'Outre-Mer, Territoires d'Outre-Mer, Communautés d'Outre-Mer)

EC: European Commission

ESIH: École Supérieur d'Informatique de Haïti

EU: European Union

FP7: Seventh Framework Programme

FUNREDES: Networks & Development Foundation, Dominican Republic

GATS: General Agreement on Trade in Services

ICT: Information and Communication Technologies

IRD: Institut de Recherche pour le Développement

ITLA: Instituto Tecnológico de las Americas

ITU: International Telecommunication Union

LAC: Latin America and the Caribbean

NCP: National Contact Point

OAS: Organisation of American States

R&D: Research and Development

SICA : Specific International Collaboration Action

UAG: Université des Antilles et de la Guyane, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Guyane

UCI: Universidad de las Ciencias Informáticas, Cuba

UEMEXCyT: Oficina de Enlace para la promoción de la Cooperación entre México y la Unión Europea en Ciencia y Tecnología

UK: United Kingdom

UN: United Nations

UNCTAD: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNDP: United Nations Development Programme

UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNIBE: Universidad Iberoamericana, Dominican Republic

UPC: Universidad Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain

USA: United States of America

UTECH: University of Jamaica

UWI: The University of the West Indies, Jamaica

WB: World Bank

WINDS: Widening IST Networking Development Support

WTO: World Trade Organization