

Entrepreneurship Program for Innovation in the Caribbean Newsflash

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Welcome to the first edition of the EPIC Newsflash!

The Entrepreneurship Program for Innovation in the Caribbean (EPIC) is a 7-Year program implemented by the World Bank's *infoDev*, and supported by Canada. It was created to improve the innovation environment for high-growth startups in CARICOM countries, and assist entrepreneurs on their journey from "mind to market". EPIC leverages *infoDev's* expertise, networks and global reach to strengthen the Caribbean innovation ecosystem. This newsletter was created to keep you up-to-date on the latest World Bank activities supporting innovation and entrepreneurship in the Caribbean. We hope you find it useful!

EPIC Highlights



Enhancing the innovation ecosystem in the Caribbean

The Entrepreneurship Program for Innovation in the Caribbean conducted its first high-level forum for policymakers and other innovation ecosystem stakeholders in the Caribbean in October. 27 participants from 11 Caribbean countries took part in the 3-day forum, which was designed to increase their understanding and know-how of the business incubation process. [Learn more...](#)



**VentureOut
CHALLENGE**

VentureOut announces 3 finalists from Caribbean

Three Caribbean startups have been selected by the VentureOut Challenge—an initiative of *infoDev* and CRDF Global—to compete before a live audience and a panel of mobile experts in Chisinau, Moldova on November 1, 2013. The VentureOut initiative brings together *infoDev's* global network of business incubators to help mobile app entrepreneurs to expand internationally. [Learn more...](#)



Women entrepreneurs attend first Grow your Business workshops in the Caribbean

Forty-five innovative and growth-oriented women entrepreneurs from 12 islands attended *infoDev's* first Grow your Business (GyB) workshops in the Caribbean. Held in Barbados and Jamaica in September, the workshops were designed to encourage creativity and innovation, and strengthen entrepreneur networks. [Learn more...](#)



Jamaica dialogues support innovation and entrepreneurship

The World Bank will be hosting a series of Development Dialogues in Jamaica through the end of the year. The discussions will explore a wide range of topics, including Developing an Affirming Ecosystem for Investment & Growth. [Read more...](#)



Animation in Jamaica: the birth of an industry

KingstOOn Fest brings together the biggest international players in the animation industry and the best Jamaican youth talent. A joint project of the Jamaican Government, the Government of Canada, and the World Bank, the event puts Jamaica on the map of a 21st century, multi-billion dollar industry. Learn more [here](#) and [here...](#)

infoDev Spotlight



Climate Innovation Center in Kenya informs Caribbean efforts

The World Bank is helping to create a Climate Innovation Center in the Caribbean (CCIC), which will support SMEs creating locally-appropriate solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Through its activities, the CCIC will provide a country-driven approach to climate change and support the region's economic development, job creation and industrial competitiveness in clean technologies. infoDev's first CIC in Kenya recently celebrated its one-year anniversary, providing insights on what's to come in the Caribbean. [Learn more...](#)

Coming Soon...



- Report: Diaspora Investing in the Caribbean (November)
- Soft launch of the Caribbean Climate Innovation Center (December)
- Several events in Kingston strengthening the mobile innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in Jamaica and the Caribbean between November 2013 and May 2014. Stay tuned for announcements.

For more information on EPIC, please visit our [website](#), download our [latest Fact Sheet](#), or email [John Paul](#) with enquiries. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). www.infodev.org