

A Partnership of:



Shaping the Future of **INNOVATION**

Presents

The Innovation Challenge Facility (grant funding)

managed by:



News

Issue 9, September – October 2022

Welcome to the ninth issue of the Shaping the Future of Innovation newsletter. Our aim is to contribute to building a culture of innovation and an innovation eco system by sharing news of the project as well as information from Partner programmes and relevant topics around innovation. We hope the content will inspire the local community to put creativity to work for a better quality of life for all.

Innovation must lead to a better quality of life for all. It must be inclusive.

The Innovation Challenge Facility Project Update

Component 1 – The Innovation Challenge Facility (grant fund for business innovation)
CALL 2 – has launched

The Innovation Challenge Facility **Second CALL FOR PROPOSALS** for grant funding support for business innovation projects is now open until Wednesday **23rd November 2022 at 23.59**.

To learn more, register for the information session on 20th October 2022, 11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. Register in advance:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsfu_yoqT0jG90rcP0ZyTKkWP8JLoEPwVCJ

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the information session.



Shaping the Future of Innovation and the Innovation Challenge Facility (grant fund)

Partners - Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the European Union (EU) and IDB LAB in collaboration with the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI) as the executing agency.

Aim: to contribute to a diversified economic base in Trinidad and Tobago.

Actions: **Component 1:** The Innovation Challenge Facility (grant fund for business innovation); **Component 2:** Building Industry and Academic Linkages (support for further research and development towards commercialization); **Component 3:** Building the Innovation Network (towards a sustainable innovation eco system).

Funding: over Euro 8 million provided by the European Union and the IDB LAB to support this innovation project in Trinidad and Tobago.

The impact expected: job creation, new skills, increased efficiency / productivity and competitiveness, new markets, export growth, business growth / profit potential and positive environmental, social and inclusive impacts.

Visit: Shaping the Future of Innovation website at: <http://future.cariri4.com/> .

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What's Different from Call 1:

1. Both large businesses and SMEs may respond to this second Call

Lots	Description	Grant Amount	% Of Project Total Costs which the Applicant must contribute
Lot 1: small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs)	No. of Employees: ≤ 50. Assets: ≤ TTD\$ 5 million (excluding real estate). Annual Sales: ≤ TTD\$ 10 million.	Minimum USD 50,000 – Max. USD 75,000	Minimum 25%
Lot 2: large firms	No. of Employees: > 50. Assets: > TTD\$ 5 million (excluding real estate). Annual Sales: > TTD\$ 10 million.	Minimum USD 50,000 – Max. USD 250,000	Minimum 50%

2. Applications must be submitted through a Platform (no paper-based applications). To register as a user visit:

<https://stfoicariri.aimsgrants.com/>

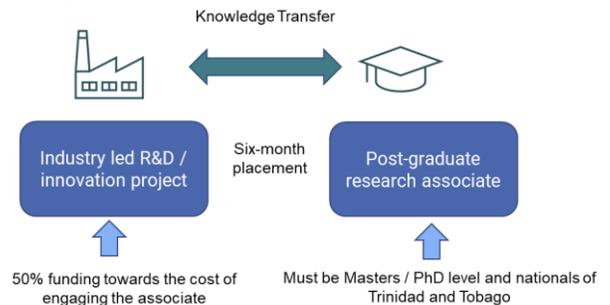
3. There is emphasis on higher levels of technology readiness. For example, TRL 7 - *proven, tested, ready to be piloted, or ready to be fully operationalised or commercialised.*

Interested businesses may also visit the Shaping the Future of Innovation (STFOI) website at: <http://future.cariri4.com/> for information on the Facility and News. For responses on questions about the call for proposals, scope and for technical support with applications, businesses may send questions via email to innovationchallengefacility@gmail.com up to Wednesday 9th November. The helpdesk will reply to all questions within a reasonable timeframe but no later than 5 business days prior to the Concept

Note submission deadline (Wednesday 23rd November 2022 at 23.59).

Component 2 is now open for Expressions of Interest – no deadline.

Concept:



Benefits to Participating Businesses:

- Access to part funded resource to undertake a specific innovation / R&D project (would not be able to do otherwise)
- Access to new skills and expertise – knowledge is transferred into the company
- Opportunity to 'try before you buy' if considering a longer-term role for this level of skilled employee (may not currently employ anyone past graduate level education)
- Opportunity to develop closer links with CARIRI, UTT and other universities
- Projects have impact on the bottom line and future sustainability

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Benefit to Participating Post-graduates:

- Opportunity to work in a business / industrial environment – gaining new skills and experience
- Opportunity to put their academic knowledge into 'practice' / real application
- Potential opportunity to publish work
- Makes them more attractive to future employers.

For details, please contact
stfoi@betatechnology.co.uk.

Global Innovation Index 2022

https://www.wipo.int/pressroom/en/articles/2022/article_0011.html

Trinidad and Tobago's ranking in the Global Innovation Index has fallen further from 97 to 101 out of 132 countries in 2022. It is important to note that unless there is a policy initiative which includes the collection and reporting on the specific information requested for the GII, information may be pulled from more general sources and databases. Notwithstanding a lack of policy, the report does reflect some reality.

The criteria where Trinidad and Tobago scored lowest are:

- Research & Development - Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP – 109
- General infrastructure - Logistics performance – 110
- Ecological sustainability - GDP/unit of energy use – 130

- Trade, diversification, and market scale - Domestic market scale, bn PPP\$ - 119
- Trade, diversification, and market scale - Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., % - 109
- Innovation Linkage – University Industry R&D Collaboration – 107
- Knowledge Absorption - High-tech imports, % total trade – 100
- Knowledge Absorption - FDI net inflows, % GDP – 123
- Knowledge Creation - Patents by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP – 125
- Knowledge Impact - Labor productivity growth, % - 105
- Knowledge Diffusion - ICT services exports, % total trade – 125.

Network News

Learn what is happening in Innovation from Partner Organisations.

Horizon Europe:

About Horizon Europe

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en.

European Research and Innovation Days 2022 took place on the 28 - 29 September 2022.

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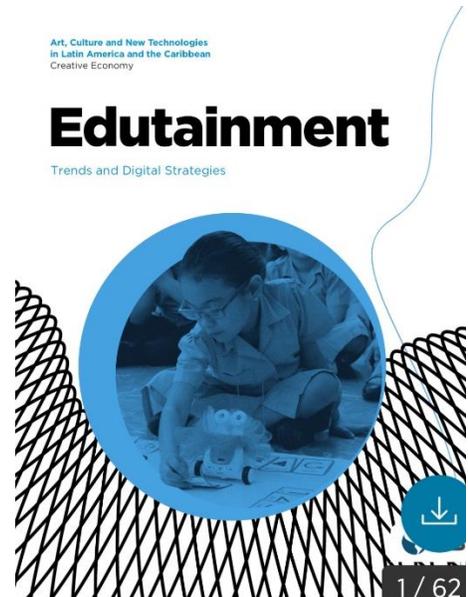
It is the European Commission's annual flagship Research and Innovation event, bringing together policymakers, researchers, entrepreneurs and the public to debate and shape the future of research and innovation in Europe and beyond.

The sessions' recordings are available on the [event platform](#) and [Flickr](#) will host the event's photo coverage.

IDB <https://www.iadb.org/en>

Edutainment

<https://publications.iadb.org/publications/english/document/Edutainment-Trends-and-Digital-Strategies-Art-Culture-and-New-Technologies-in-Latin-America-and-the-Caribbean.pdf>



The IDB Lab has just published, Edutainment, Trends and Digital Strategies a publication looking at **the opportunities for how entertainment and digital content Creators** can positively impact education.

Here are some highlights:

The study maps Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) educational and entertainment business' companies, **devoted to producing game-based learning content.**

It raises questions about different ways of learning and teaching effectively. It has been recognised, especially during COVID, that using digital technologies in education is not just about replacing the physical classroom and books with virtual tools but also about engaging learners. Enthusiasm and passion about doing tasks make students motivated to learn.

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The IDB study also looked at the increasing use of some of the digital tools in education including:

- Extended reality – virtual and augmented reality.
For example:
 - Microsoft's augmented reality glasses, 'Hololens'. Medical students are learning about human anatomy with Hololens, navigating the human body in 3D.
 - Google Expeditions. Teachers can take guided tours with their students or build their own expeditions using 360° or 180° photos and even Street View panoramic images on their browsers.
 - the University of Arizona in partnership with the Dreamscape studio launched the Dreamscape Learn project, a series of video games designed for the university campus. One of them, called *Alien Zoo*, replicates the environment of a science fiction video game using a futuristic setting to learn about evolutionary biology. The key of the project is that students adopt the role of a scientist who must research and conduct tests, while scoring points and getting bonus items, and interacting with other classmates.
- Video games.
 - Video games are already recognized as tools for teaching transversal skills such as teamwork, self-regulation, and collaboration, through project-based learning. They also serve as tools to teach critical thinking and problem solving in subjects such as history, mathematics, and physics, among others.

- Storytelling:
 - One of the main features of edutainment is its reliance on powerful narratives to engage learners. This may include use of fiction characters, influencers, comics and videos to connect emotionally with audiences.
- Streaming and broadcasting platforms: Instagram, Facebook and YouTube
 - Google reported an estimated 50% growth of "how-to videos" views, year over year since the onset of the pandemic. Searches including words "for beginners" or "step by step" increased by 65%.
- TikTok
 - During the health crisis, TikTok launched the brand campaign #LearnOnTikTok, tagging different tutorials on topics such as cooking, history, science and environmental education.

CARIRI

<https://www.facebook.com/caribbeanindustrialresearchinstitute>

CARIRI will host the Corporate Innovation Conference 2022 on 28th October 2022 at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre.

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CORPORATE INNOVATION CONFERENCE 2022
Growth | Adaptability | Resilience

Friday 28th October 2022
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Hilton Trinidad and Conference Center

Innovation is critical in the fast-paced landscape of contemporary business. In today's dynamic and ever-changing economic climate, innovation is less of a choice and more of a business imperative. Forward-thinking managers know that a strategy for innovation must become an integral part of an organization's primary operation. Innovation is about identifying a new way of thinking, implementing new systems, and reintegrating a business to create value.

Corporate innovation refers to the intentional fostering of out-of-the-box thinking within corporate environments.

Similar to entrepreneurship, innovation requires a context of engagement and interconnection between people, stakeholders, and ecosystems in order to flourish. CARIRI's Corporate Innovation Conference will explore this and more as we tap into the innovation powers within the organization, and learn how to innovate in a way that is profitable, creates value, and in a way that your customers will care about. At the conference, we'll discuss the successes, the stumbling blocks, and the tools required to innovate.

Participants will gain valuable insights into

- Lessons learned from Corporate Innovation experts and innovation-centric organizations
- Understanding Corporate Innovation
- Marketing Trends that will Drive the Future
- Social Innovation and Impact Investment
- How to foster a culture of innovation in your organization
- Technology product management
- Economics of Innovation
- Intellectual Property for Corporate Innovation
- Marketing Innovation: Making Your Influencer Ecosystem Work for Your Business

COST

Early Bird Special- \$375 (25% off)
Group Discount (3 or more)- \$300
Original Price- \$500

For more information contact Jessica Ramoutar at jramoutar@cariri.com www.cariri.com

spin out from the University of Sheffield. Its mission is to connect people and knowledge to promote innovation. Beta has worked for over 35 years supporting innovative SMEs across Europe on their innovation journey – from making grant applications to commercialisation and market development.

www.betatechnology.co.uk



EUROCHAMTT was established in February 2013 as a non-profit company and supports companies in three principal areas: (i) advocacy (ii). trade support and (iii). promoting and supporting its members and

To register please go to::

<https://forms.gle/jB1W8hog458UuMCt6>

Management Firm

The Consortium led by Beta Technology Limited and EUROCHAMTT have been contracted by CARIRI to provide support in the management of components 1 and 2.

Working closely with CARIRI, who are leading the initiative, the ethos of the team is to build capacity for the future and deliver high quality support to businesses, academia and other stakeholders, to unlock the innovation potential in Trinidad and Tobago.

Beta Technology Limited (Beta) is a small innovation company based and registered in the UK. Beta was founded in 1984 by an entrepreneur as a

The Management Team is available to support businesses with queries about the facilities and have set up a dedicated email address for this purpose: innovationchallengefacility@gmail.com

partners in climate action initiatives. EUROCHAMTT is part of a worldwide network of European Business Organisations (EBO Worldwide Network) and is in close contact with other European networks facilitating access to expertise, benchmarking and market.

<https://eurochamtt.org/>



EUROCHAMTT