

A Partnership of:



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Planning, Economic Affairs and Development



Shaping the Future of **INNOVATION**

DRIVING INNOVATION THROUGH PPPs

Driving Innovation Through Public-Private Partnerships

Hosted Under Component 3 of the IDB-EU Project:
"Shaping the Future of Innovation"
Hyatt Regency Hotel | Friday 12th September, 2025

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Registration and Networking Breakfast
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Opening Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety Briefing• National Anthem• Welcome Remarks:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Hans-Erich Schulz, Chief Executive Officer, CARIRIo Vashtie Dookiesingh, Private Sector Finance Lead Specialist, IDB Labo Evelina Melbarzde, Chargé d' Affaires, European Union
9:30 AM – 9:55 AM	Keynote Address 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senator Dr. the Honourable Kennedy Swaratsingh, Minister of Planning, Economic Affairs and Development <i>The Imperative of Innovation in the Diversification process and the role of PPPs</i>
9:55 AM – 10:10 AM	Keynote Address 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vashti Guyadeen, CEO of The T&T Chamber of Industry and Commerce <i>Exploring the transformative power of PPPs in building sustainable, innovation-driven economies</i>
10:10 AM – 10:30 AM	Coffee Break & Informal Networking
10:30 AM – 11:15 AM	Plenary Session: Contributions of PPPs to building a vibrant Innovation and Entrepreneurship ecosystem. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Denise Ferguson, STFOI Project Chief - Initiatives taken under Component 3 of the STFOI.• Waltnel Sosa, UTC Scale Up programme - Experience in building the entrepreneurship ecosystem through the Scale Up programme and stakeholder collaboration.• Marc Persaud, Caribbean Dragons - Contribution of the Caribbean Dragons in building the innovation ecosystem.• Davin Jagessar, Ministry of Planning, Economic Affairs and Development - Role of collaboration in tackling regulatory inefficiencies and bureaucracy
11:15 AM – 11:25 AM	Presentation: Innovation Metrics: How Do We Measure Progress? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professor Roger Hosein, UWI
11:25 AM – 12:30 PM	Panel Discussion: The Ease of Doing Business and the Innovation Imperative. Moderator: Julian Henry, Programme Manager, Entrepreneurship Unit, UWI Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kriyaa Balramsingh, Senior, Trade Specialist Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism• Junior McIntyre, Deputy National Chief Digital Officer, Ministry of Public Administration and Artificial Intelligence• Emil Ramkissoon, Vice President, Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association• Crisen Maharaj, Manager - Capacity Building and Funding, Global Trinidad and Tobago• Marie Louise Norton-Murray, Executive Director and Director for European Affairs, EUROCHAM
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch and Networking
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Breakout Sessions: Designing the Future Together <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Main Facilitator: Joel Joseph, Co-Founder, GrapeVine
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM	Group Reporting Session
3:30 PM – 3:40 PM	Presentation: Unlocking Innovation Through Intellectual Property: Protecting and Leveraging IP in Public-Private Collaborations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Richard Aching, Manager, Technical Examination, IP Office• Lyrinda Lisa Persaud, Legal Officer II, IP Office
3:40 PM – 3:45 PM	Closing Remarks