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Executive summary

This deliverable presents the results of the WINDS@Antilles 2008 conference, which took place the 11th and 12th December 2008, on the Schoelcher campus of the University Antilles Guyane in Martinique.

The main objectives of WINDS@Antilles 2008 were:

- To present the context of ICT R&D in the Antilles from several perspectives.
- To present current financial support opportunities for research and development projects with FP7.
- To present the WINDS Caribe project and the Internet tools made available to the community.
- To validate the set of common themes for EU - Caribbean collaboration in ICT R&D identified by the WINDS-Caribe initial mapping exercise. The four workshops of the conference were organised along these themes.
- To explain how to get involved in FP7 and to discuss project ideas.
- To present other EU programming for 2007 - 2013 which can be of interest to the participants

In the opinion of the organizing committee, the main goals previously established for the conference were attained since a community of around 60 persons was gathered; among them top researchers in Antilles. Two countries, three islands, four regions were represented. A very high interest was shown during the event, and after.

Three themes of ICT RD in Antilles were validated : fundamental research on data acquisition and analysis, sustainable development and capacity building.

The conference helped to identify critical issues from the various selected topics that need to be explored and shared in the the building of research proposals. It was not just talking – but talking about “*what matters*” about collaborative high-level research

An action plan to give continuity to several activities engaged during the event was established and is now under way.

Notes

- The WINDS@Antilles Conference was held in French, thus most of the annexes are in this language.
- The speakers presentations are not included in this report because they are in many formats (.pdf, .ppt, .mp4, etc..). They are available at www.winds-lac.eu.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The WINDS@Antilles 2008 conference took place the 11th and 12th of December 2008, on the Schoelcher campus of the of the University Antilles Guyane in Martinique.

It was the first in a series of Regional Conferences and Seminars to promote and disseminate the ICT component of the EU Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), and to develop EU-Caribbean collaborative research networks :

- WINDS@Antilles, December 2008
- WINDS@Santo Domingo, February 2009
- WINDS@Jamaica, March 2009

The conference was organised by WINDS Caribe, a project supported by the European Community under the 7th Framework Programme aiming at deepening strategic cooperation in research and development between the Caribbean and the European Community in R&D ICT topics for the 7th Framework Programme (FP7).

The main objectives of the WINDS@Antilles conference were :

- To present the **context of ICT** R&D in the French Caribbean (Antilles) from several perspectives.
- To present current and future ICT-FP7 **financial support** opportunities for research and development projects.
- To present the WINDS Caribe **project** and the **tools** made available to the community.
- To **validate** the set of common **themes** for EU - Caribbean collaboration in ICT R&D identified by the WINDS-Caribe initial mapping exercise. The four workshops of the conference were organised along these themes.
- To explain how to **get involved** in FP7 and to discuss project ideas.
- To present other EU programming for 2007 - 2013 which can be of interest to the participants

The conference was open to all R&D ICT actors. In order to allow participants to shape as much as possible the Conference agenda, their participation in the workshops and consequently the precise content of the workshops was not planned in detail in advance (only the macro themes were identified). Some original findings of these workshops were exposed for the first time the second day of the conference; it is thus a goal of this report to record and disseminate these findings.

The conference was held in French and no translation was provided. Some discussions and the visual support of some presentations were in English but this did not pose a problem for participants.

The program of the conference can be found in Annex 1. The presentations of all the speakers are available on the web site <http://www.winds-lac.eu>. All Conference registered participants will receive these documents along with other material on a flash disk :

- conference report with annexes
- presentations of all speakers
- FP7 materials
- other material of interest (ex: ICT studies in French Antilles)
- videos of the event (a 30mn documentary and a 3mn clip)
- photos of the event



2. PLANNING OF THE EVENT AND PARTNERS

Planning of the conference began in January 2008 at the launch of the WINDS Caribe project. Promotion of the event started as soon as February 2008 with an initial contact with key policy and research actors in the French Caribbean.

The first concrete step was to obtain their support after presenting the project during the preparatory visit of **Ulises Cortés (UPC)**, **Cristina Urdiales (UPC)** and **Fabio Nascimbeni (MENON)** in May 2008. In September we sent a more direct demand for support, including financial assistance to enable us to do a better and bigger conference (see Annex 2).

Support was indeed received from almost all of the partners who had been approached initially :

- **The University Antilles-Guyane**, the strongest ICT R&D actor in the French Caribbean, was of course the event strategic partner. We must particularly thank the strong commitment from Dr. **Fred Célimène**, Director of CEREGMIA, an important UAG laboratory. Mr Célimène also accepted to be on the Advisory Board of the WINDS Caribe project. We also thank M. **Olivier Portecop** and Dr. **Richard Nock** for their support and participation in the event.
- **The Prefecture of Martinique** was our second most important partner, whose financial support permitted us to sponsor travel and accommodation for participants coming from Guadeloupe, Guyane and Haiti. We must particularly thank M. **Jean-Philippe Pancrate** who really worked hard to make the event a success. The financial support was in the form of a subvention FNADT-BOP 112-02 - CPERD 2007-2013 - axe 2.2
- **The General Conseil of Martinique** participated actively in the conference through the intervention of M. **Jean-Paul Jouanelle** who animated the workshop on ICT for Sustainable Environment.
- The **Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Martinique (CCIM)** was also supportive of the event by sending a professional photographer.
- The **Regional Conseil of Martinique**, unfortunately, did not agree to support the event. We strongly regret that this actor who is spending important public resources on building a new ICT infrastructure in Martinique and is a partner of UAG did not recognise the opportunity of this conference.

The programme was elaborated from September to December 2008 mainly with the participation of Ulises Cortés, Fabio Nascimbeni, Fred Célimène and Diane Taylor, and with the validation of Klaus Pendl from the European Commission. To give the maximum flexibility for an "open" conference, all supporting documentation was distributed by electronic means. This allowed us to make last minute changes in the programme and to distribute almost all of the speakers presentations. This also allowed the propagation of important documents on FP7 and ICT in the Antilles (equivalent to thousands of printed pages).

The most important planning was to determine the themes of the workshops. They were adapted from the findings of the "R&D Agenda Report" and the seven challenges of FP7. Each workshop was presented, animated and followed up by one important actor / partner. They were :

- **Global and Local Research in ICT** – coordinated by **Didier Puzenat**, Maître de conférence en informatique à UAG, Membre du GRIMAAG.
- **ICT for Sustainable Environment** - coordinated by **Jean-Paul Jouanelle**, Chargé de Mission, Conseil Général de la Martinique.
- **ICT for the New Business Environment** - coordinated by **Remy-Robert Joseph**, Maître de conférence en Sciences de Gestion à l'UAG, Membre du CEREGMIA.

- **ICT for Capacity Building** - coordinated by **Tayana Etienne**, Responsable de Projets à SOLUTIONS, Coordonnatrice du Master MBDS de la Faculté Des Sciences, Université d'Etat d'Haïti.

We can also count as partners other actors who contributed to make this conference a success by bringing different perspectives. We will mention for instance **Raymond Noël**, Director of PNUD Project "Haïti et Société de l'Information", for his speech and **Daniel Pimienta**, from Funredes, for his advice on communication and the preparation of the new web site launched during the conference.

We also thank the members of the Association **Rivelo** for their work, in particular **Diane Taylor**, **Nicolas Campello** and **Beatriz Conde**. Diane and Beatriz were in charge of planning the general logistics of the event. Nicolas's contribution was fundamental because he is a member of Rivelo and also works at UAG as a Computer Engineer and Computer Science Professor. He promoted the conference in UAG and verified the conformity of the conference with UAG guidelines and assured the TIC logistic of the event (wifi, visio, etc..).

At last but not least, we also thank the Association of UAG students, **AMIE**, in particular the president M. **Stéphane Auguste**. They worked beyond duty by burning 70 CDs the night before the conference because the Flash Disks had not been delivered in time by the supplier due to a strike with airline freight services.



3. PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES AND MEDIA COVERAGE

Preliminary meetings with researchers and policy actors

The basic promotional activity was to meet actors and talk to them about the project and the upcoming conference. Direct contact, whenever possible, is still the most effective way to communicate. On a small island like Martinique it's not only easy, it's very polite to do so. It was important to pass the message from a trustworthy source, i.e. senior researchers or well-known actors in ICT. In this respect, the support of UAG and the May visit of our European partners was essential in gaining support for the conference.

Direct meetings were obviously limited by the circumference of the island. Other means were used to promote the event in Guadeloupe, Guyane and Haiti, such as telephone calls to talk about the project and the upcoming conference and referrals by key actors to their colleagues (e.g. DRRT).

Image for the conference promotion

For all visual materials, we used the same photo and text. The photo contained both a telecommunication antenna to symbolise ICT and a view of the Caribbean Sea. The colours of the Winds Logo were recalled. This photo was then used on: leaflets, posts, invitations, CD-ROMs for supporting documents, web sites, etc... It was even printed in 5m x 2m large.



Mailing Lists and Web sites

We sent over 250 invitations through e-mail to addresses from various sources. This technique is not as effective as it used to be because of all the filters in place to combat the increasing volume of spam. Thus we were obliged to send the mailing from three different domains : @winds-lac.eu, @ravelo.net, and even @martinique.univ-ag.fr. This campaign gave a relatively low return (around 5%).

The invitation to the conference and the programme were posted on the web sites www.winds-lac.eu and www.ravelo.net. When searched on Google the keywords "R&D ICT Antilles" or "R&D TIC Antilles" or even "R&D Antilles" lead to these sites (top positions).

Promotional Leaflet and posters

200 leaflets (see Annex 3) and around 50 posters (see Annex 4) were printed and used mostly at UAG. This mainly reinforced the other communication canals but also served to bring some people to the conference that had not been contacted directly.

Electronic distribution of the programme and supporting documents

The program of the conference, along with the presentations of some speakers were distributed to all participants via a CD-Rom. The CD also contained materials on FP7 and other materials of interest (i.e.: ICT studies in French Antilles).

Media Coverage

We invited the general public press only during the event and not before to avoid prior publicity for a conference reserved for a very special audience. There is no media in Martinique that could have been used for communication to the R&D ICT target.

During the event, a very popular radio "Radio Caraïbes International" (RCI) broadcasted three interviews by Olivier Moreau. He spoke of the project and the conference during the news at peak hours (6pm).

A major portal with daily news "www.infoantilles.com" also covered the conference when it happened.

Photos of the event

The conference photo coverage was done by a professional on contract with the CCIM. Here is an example of this work.



Videos of the event

The conference was recorded by a professional engaged by Rivelo. Six hours of material were produced in the full version. A documentary (about 30min) was produced to summarize the best of the conference. A clip (about 3mn) was also produced as future promotion material available for the WINDS Caribe project. The enterprise "Sardy Production" was chosen for this work given it's experience with documentaries on French TV.

4. CONFERENCE LOGISTIC

Travel arrangements

Twenty-three participants of the conference came from abroad. Travel arrangements were done either directly by them or through Rivelo. Advice on travel conditions to Martinique were given to all participants through email (see Annex 4). General strikes and roadblocks in protest against rising oil prices disrupted operations in Guyane and Guadeloupe. The flight from Guyane was detained for five hours, arriving in Martinique at 2am Thursday morning.

Hotel accommodation

We made arrangements for an interesting group price for participants. Again reservations were made through Rivelo or by the participants directly with the hotel citing the group WINDS as reference. The "Hotel Valmenière", located between the airport and the UAG, has good facilities and some staff members who speak English and Spanish. There were no problems with accommodations.

Local transportation

A taxi was reserved on a daily rate from December 10 to 13, to be used by all participants for trips to/from the airport or other places. Travellers were accompanied from their arrival at the airport to their departure. A bus was also used for group transport from the hotel to UAG and back. Besides a bus problem on the first day (some participants were forgotten), everything went smoothly and we provided local transportation at a good price.

Amphitheatre DSI and workshops rooms

The new building for the Interfaculty Department of Science at UAG (financed by the EU) was chosen for the site of the conference because the amphitheatre is well equipped and comfortable rooms were available for the workshops. The amphitheatre can contain up to 300 people and consequently an impression of relatively small participation was induced by the empty chairs. Smaller conference rooms at UAG were unavailable due to examinations being held at the same time. We only ran into minor problems with the projector and the microphone because of empty batteries, besides that the site was quite satisfactory.

Internet connexion

Full Internet connexion during the conference was provided in the amphitheatre DSI through a customised local wifi network. This was used by some speakers (notably M. Richard Knock who made a virtual appearance) and the participants to satisfy their needs to quickly check their emails for urgent matters or to obtain information. This was much appreciated by the participants.

Lunch at UAG

The first day we provided a meal to all participants in the university restaurant reserved for this purpose. This encouraged participants to network around a good meal (very French tradition). A small walk (1 Km) on the campus to get from the DSI building and back permitted further informal discussions while enjoying the local sunshine.

Lunch and seminar in restaurant Blue Fish

The second day a lunch was also offered to the participants of the afternoon seminar who wanted to discuss specific projects. A seaside restaurant not far from UAG was selected and provided a good lunch. It was such a pleasant spot that the participants decided to finish the conference right there rather than heading back to UAG for the afternoon seminar. The room was quickly rearranged for a round table for about 2 hours of informal discussions. Many very good contacts were made at his occasion.

Cocktail at Valmenière

The same hotel used for accommodation provided an exceptional site and very attractive cocktail with musical animation by a local Jazz Beguine trio. The ambiance was very cool and the travellers appreciated a lot to be able to regain their rooms whenever they felt tired after the first day of the conference. This has been possible thanks to the financial subvention of the Martinique Prefecture, which permitted us to have this relaxing moment.

Extra activities

Given the restricted frequency of flights and the positioning of the conference just before the weekend, several travellers stayed on one or two days in Martinique for leisure. Rivelo gave advice and arranged extra activities for them. These of course were not at all covered by the conference budget and no reporting is necessary.



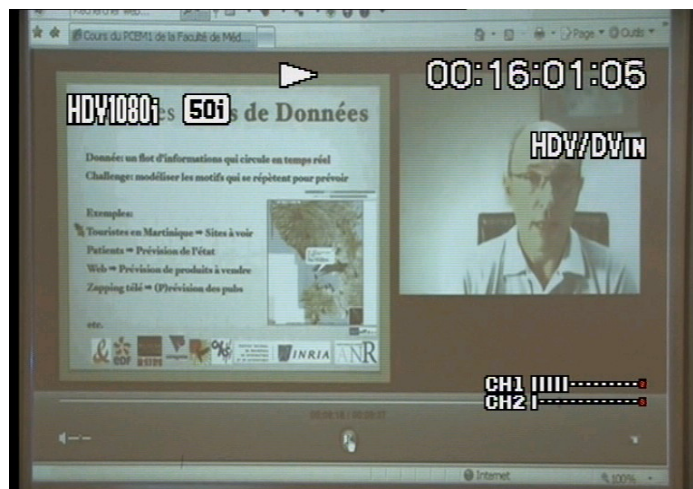
5. CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOPS

The "WINDS@Antilles 2008" conference was directed by Nicolas Campello who also prepared a slide show on UAG which he presented while people were taking their places in the amphitheatre (Presentation 01). The conference began with a welcome address given by M. Fred Célimène, Director of CEREGMIA. Unfortunately M. Georges Virassamy, President of University Antilles-Guyane at the time the conference agenda was established, was not re-elected to the post by the Administrative Council just the day before the conference. Consequently, he did not show up to make his welcoming address.

5.1 Presentation of the context of ICT R&D in the Antilles.

Four different perspectives were drawn of the context of ICT R&D in the Antilles.

Richard Nock, a researcher at CEREGMIA, presented a few research projects going on at UAG (Presentation 02). From his perspective, most research at UAG is oriented towards new tools to explore and exploit reality, i.e. Data Mining- a key technology for the 21st century. The massive collect of information from different sources and sensors, followed by the transfer, storage, treatment and analysis of the collected data present many challenges. A first example was given in the field of biological systems where the challenge is to automatically reconstruct the network of interactions between genes. A second example was to find patterns and objects in any kind of raw data (images, text, etc..). A third example was the modellisation of patterns in data flow, i.e. visits made by tourists, in order to predict future behaviour. All of this research is being carried on with European partners mostly in France. The intervention of M. Nock was done by streaming on Internet because he was on mission in Canada.



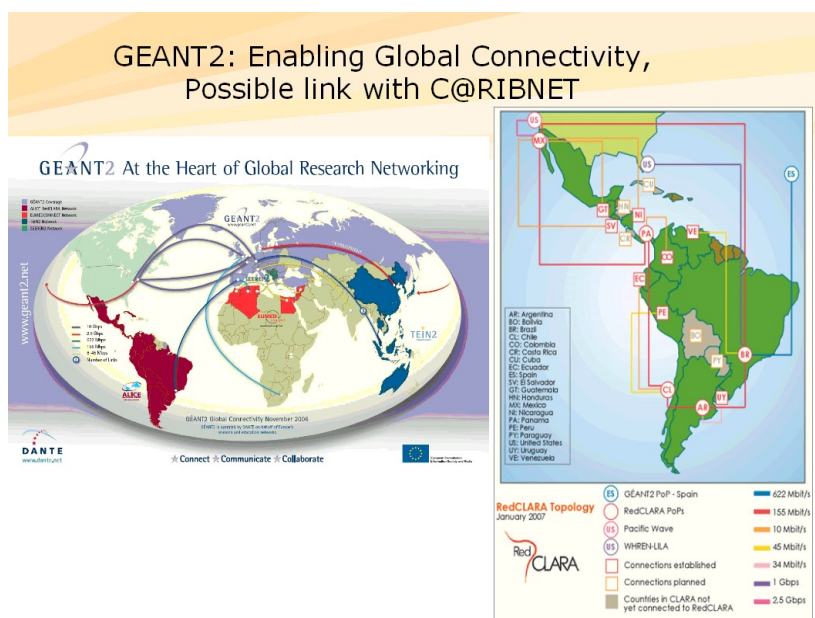
Jean-Philippe Pancrate, NTIC expert at the Prefecture of Martinique, explained the importance of R&D ICT for the development of the economy of the Overseas French Departments. He regretted that there was not yet enough projects given the opportunities. He recognized the potential of project support by FP7 and also briefly described other sources of financing available in Martinique i.e. FEDER, FSE, etc.. See Presentation 03.

Olivier Portecop, Director of CRI-M, presented the laboratories of UAG and supporting structures such as the CRI-M (Presentation 04). He identified the main themes of UAG research: assistance for decision-making in economic development, network of sensors for sustainable development, and applied mathematics. The research is done in collaboration with partners from Europe, France and the Caribbean.

Raymond Noël, Director of PNUD Project «Haiti and the Information Society » described the context of ICT in Haiti (Presentation 05). In this country, there is not much fundamental research but a lot of applied research in the domains of ICT4D and commercial applications. He briefly listed the products of that research and the actors : Public policies (HT), Education (Turbo School, Magister,..), Health (Portail National M&E Sida), Formation (MBDS, LPI,..), Universal access (PIC), Governance (SYSDEP), Equitable trade (Cap rouge Numérique), Lobbying (Forum TIC, Sommet HT,..). Since 1995, the development of ICT has been made mostly by the private sector, the Universities and International Cooperation but very little by the state.

5.2 Presentation of FP7 cooperation opportunities.

Klaus Pendl from the European Commission gave a very interesting presentation of FP7-ICT and of the upcoming cooperation possibilities (Presentation 06). He presented what has been done in the Caribbean under the Framework Program 6, and what has changed with FP7. He explained the rules and the amount of finance available. He concluded that a new impetus to cooperation was possible through multiple means: the continuation of general programme openings, targeted openings in key areas, encouragement of international cooperation, new action supporting dialogues, a new scheme to extend constituencies (ETP, ...), a new scheme to broaden international cooperation in existing projects, and a new action under e-Infrastructures. The activities of WINDS Caribe should produce an increase in Caribbean participation.



5.3 Presentation of the WINDS Caribe project

Olivier Moreau, President of Rivelo, presented the WINDS Caribe project, the Internet tools made available for the community, and the communities of actors (Presentations 07). There is no need to expand on the presentation of the WINDS Caribe project in this document. The web site www-winds-lac.eu was presented to explain what was available there. An invitation to register on the database was extended. The conference was also the opportunity to officially launch a new Internet tool made available by Funredes for the community- it's Web 2.0 site made with the GPL software "Moodle" that should permit us to develop a community of researchers in the Caribbean in 2009. A Goggle map developed by UPC and showing where the actors are located was also presented for the first time. Moreau's presentation was done with an original software used to draw "mental maps". "FreeMind", available in GPL , was distributed to the participants and can be used by them to create the outline of future projects. Finally Moreau presented briefly the themes and the objectives of the afternoon workshops.

5.4 Validation the R&D ICT Themes

A set of common themes for EU - Caribbean collaboration in ICT R&D were identified by the WINDS-Caribe initial mapping exercise. Thus, the four workshops of the conference were organised along these themes.

The animators of the workshops presented the themes at the end of the first morning of the conference and explained the findings the next morning. Global and Local Research in ICT was covered by **Didier Puzenat** (Presentation 08 and 12), ICT for Sustainable Environment by **Jean-Paul Jouanelle** (Presentation 09 and 13), ICT for the New Business Environment by **Remy-Robert Joseph** (Presentation 10 and 14), and finally ICT for Capacity Building by **Tayana Etienne** (Presentation 11 and 15).

During the workshops, some participants made formal presentations with supporting slide show, for instance Gilles Enée (Presentation 21), Erol Elisabeth (Presentation 22), and Rosette Jasmin (Presentation 23). However most of the presentations of the participants were only verbal and were reported the following morning by the animators of the workshops. The titles of the presentations are kept in French in this report.

Workshop #1 - Global and Local Research in ICT

This workshop was a link between the 7 challenges of FP7 (global) and the fundamental research carried on in the Antilles (local). For recall the challenges are :

- Challenge 1 - Pervasive and Trustworthy Network and Service Infrastructures
- Challenge 2 - Cognitive Systems, Interaction, Robotics
- Challenge 3 - Components, systems, engineering
- Challenge 4 - Digital Libraries and Content
- Challenge 5 - Towards sustainable and personalised healthcare
- Challenge 6 - ICT for Mobility, Environmental Sustainability and Energy Efficiency
- Challenge 7 - ICT for Independent Living, Inclusion and Governance

The challenges 4, 5 and 7 were more specifically covered in workshop 4 and challenge 6 in workshop 2

The workshop was attended by 14 participants and 5 interventions were made :

- Gilles Enée, McF en informatique UAG : "Prévision de la vulnérabilité aux vents des bâtiments de la Guadeloupe en cas de cyclone". (Presentation 21)
- Murielle Tramis, entreprise Avantilles : "Immersion en environnement 3D via un simple navigateur".
- Hossein Mehdaoui, CHU Fort de France : "Monitoring avancé de patients et alertes intelligentes".
- Nathalie Dessart, thésarde UAG : "Réseau de capteurs en environnement médical".
- Didier Puzenat, McF en informatique UAG : "Instrumentation de jeux vidéos et d'environnement virtuel".

These 5 interventions combined with the presentation of current projects made by Richard Nock at the beginning of the conference demonstrates that there are some fundamental research done in the Antilles following the same challenges of FP7.

Workshop #2 - ICT for Sustainable Environment

This new objective for economic development is very significant and full of opportunities in the Caribbean. The United Nations Conference in Mauritius Island in 2005 defined a strategy in this respect. This workshop covered mainly two topics :

ICT and Natural Disasters : ICT role in natural disasters management (forecast and alerts, coordination of actors, diagnostic, localisation and traceability of the activity) and risk management.

ICT and Biodiversity : ICT role in the acquisition of data and knowledge management for the needs of biodiversity conservation.

The workshop was attended by about 20 participants and 8 informal interventions were made :

- Météo France and DIREN : "Système d'alerte des crues dans les conditions particulières du fleuve Maroni en Guyane"
- UAG : la plateforme PLUVIUS sur "Impact en temps réel des événements tels que les cyclones sur les milieux et les zones à risques"
- UAG : "Biodiversité et l'environnement liant la chimie et l'informatique"
- UAG, projet CESA sur la classification des espaces forestière
- CRM : "Réseau numérique autonome pour la gestion des catastrophes naturelles"
- IRD / CARAIB ICOS : "Observation du cycle de l'eau dans des îles de la Caraïbe"
- IRD / CAREWOIS : "Système caribéen d'observation et d'information satellitaire sur l'eau et l'environnement"
- CG972 : "Cluster caraïbe des risques naturelles et de la mer"
- CG972 : "Observatoire des environnements humains et biophysique de la Martinique"

This was the most important workshop in the number of participants which clearly confirms that the theme is of the utmost importance for local research.



International business has an impact in the French Antilles at the level of infrastructure and at the level of problem solving for enterprises and communities. This workshop was aimed at :

ICT Infrastructures : development on land, at sea and in space for the expansion of ICT in the Caribbean and worldwide.

ICT and Economy : ICT Research for economical development and a better understanding of related problems.

The workshop was attended by 5 participants and 2 interventions were made :

- Erol Elisabeth : "Optimisation de l'offre touristique par la fouille de données géo-localisées" (Presentation 22)
- Laurent Linguet : "Prédiction de l'exploitation de la ressource solaire à partir de données satellitaires"

This workshop was the smallest of the conference but the presentations showed that commercial activities can sometimes spin off from ICT R&D.

Workshop #4 - ICT for Capacity Building

It is evident that the Information Society requires the Caribbean to build skills- through modern ICT (e.g. via the UN Millennium Development Goals) and to advance its economy. As a result, the themes of this workshop concern these main topics :

On-line Government Services : Usage by the public sector of ICT to improve information and services supply, and encourage citizen participation towards a more responsible, transparent and efficient government.

E-Learning : using ICT to improve the quality of learning by 1) facilitating access to resources and services, and 2) collaboration at a distance

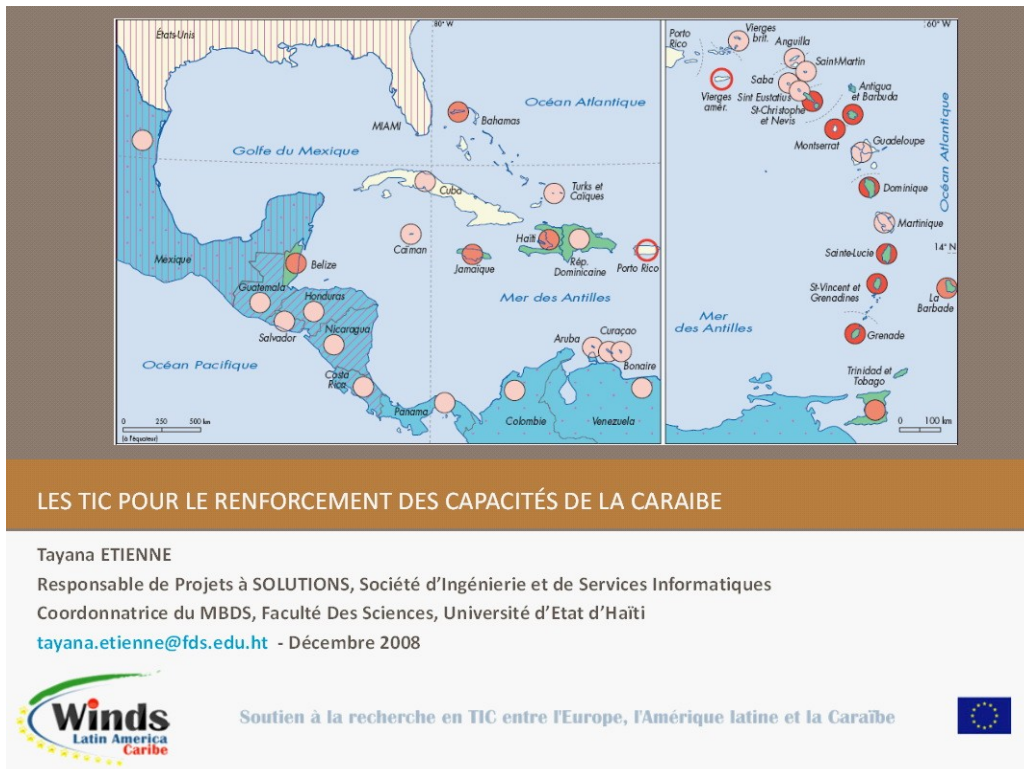
E-Health : 1) activities, services and systems linked to health, 2) doing things from a distance through the use of ICT, 3) for the needs of the planet in promoting health, healing and controlling epidemics, 4) management and applied research regarding healthcare.

The workshop was attended by 15 participants and 4 interventions were made :

- Rosette Jasmin, Responsable e-learning à la Direction Générale l'Institut Universitaire de Formation Continue (IUFC) : "Projet de recherche (Blended Learning) permettant de répondre aux objectifs de formation des entreprises de nos régions." (Presentation 23)
- M. Hasler , REALMA – Réseau Europe Amérique Latine en Mathématiques Appliquées : Présentation du REALMA, Réseau de chercheurs très actif, coordonné par l'UAG
- Jean-Marie Raymond NOEL , Professeur, Faculté Des Sciences, Université d'Etat d'Haïti : "Importance du renforcement des capacités dans la Caraïbe pour l'éducation, la santé, l'administration publique."
- Fabio Nascimbeni, Research & Development Manager, MENON : "Présentation d'initiatives importantes sur le e-learning en Europe"

The workshop showed that capacity building is a very strong concern in the Caribbean in general and in Haiti in particular. R&D in ICT4D has a very good potential in this part of the world.

Caribbean Networks of researchers and facilitators (net workers) is a must.



The image contains a map of the Caribbean region, divided into two panels. The left panel shows the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean, with labels for 'États-Unis', 'MIAMI', 'Bahamas', 'Cuba', 'Turks et Caïques', 'Haïti', 'Rép. Dominicaine', 'Porto Rico', 'Mexique', 'Belize', 'Guatemala', 'Honduras', 'Salvador', 'Nicaragua', 'Costa Rica', 'Panama', 'Colombie', and 'Venezuela'. The right panel shows the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, with labels for 'Porto Rico', 'VIARGES BRIT.', 'Anguilla', 'SAINT-MARTIN', 'VIARGES AMÉR.', 'Saba', 'Sint Eustachius', 'St. Christophhe et Nevis', 'Antigua et Barbuda', 'Gradeloupe', 'Montserrat', 'Dominique', 'Martinique', 'Sainte-Lucie', 'Porto Rico', 'St Vincent et Grenadines', 'La Barbade', 'Grenade', 'Trinidad et Tobago', 'Aruba', 'Curaçao', and 'Bonaire'. Below the map is a brown banner with the text 'LES TIC POUR LE RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITÉS DE LA CARAÏBE'. Underneath the banner, the text reads: 'Tayana ETIENNE', 'Responsable de Projets à SOLUTIONS, Société d'Ingénierie et de Services Informatiques', 'Coordonnatrice du MBDS, Faculté Des Sciences, Université d'Etat d'Haïti', and 'tayana.etienne@fds.edu.ht - Décembre 2008'. At the bottom left is the 'Winds Latin America Caribbe' logo, and at the bottom right is the European Union flag logo. The text 'Soutien à la recherche en TIC entre l'Europe, l'Amérique latine et la Caraïbe' is centered at the bottom.

LES TIC POUR LE RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITÉS DE LA CARAÏBE

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Winds
Latin America
Caribbe

Soutien à la recherche en TIC entre l'Europe, l'Amérique latine et la Caraïbe

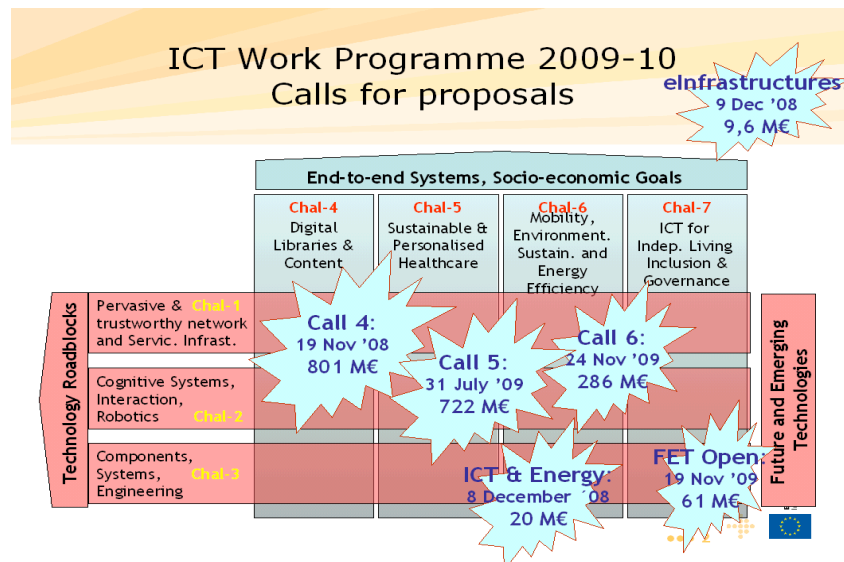
Beside all these presentations the discussions in the workshops revealed the difficulty for busy researchers to assume the role of project managers and fund seekers. Training to acquire those skills or even assistance from other actors was proposed as solutions to this problem. The support possibilities of FP7 were very well perceived and many researchers started to dream what could be done in their lab with proper funding !

5.5 Explanation on how to get involved in FP7

Two very lively presentations were made to explain concretely how to get involved in the program, what it takes to build a good team, how to get the process started, etc...

Klaus Pendl first explained the upcoming calls for proposals in FP7 with dates, amounts, objectives (Presentation 16). An important concept taken from his presentation was that *"International Cooperation should exploit synergies in the global science and technology scene, to increase impact and to raise the level of excellence world-wide"*. The presentation covered also what it takes to make a good FP7 team using the Rugby analogy, was amusing as well as enlightening.

Soraya Hidalgo carried on to explain how to build an FP7 Proposal (Presentation 17). She emphasized the importance of choosing strong partners and getting efficient support to build the project. Then the project must be sold, demonstrated and executed. The project proposal is the key document to build a project. This presentation was very interactive and anticipated the afternoon seminar.



A working seminar to discuss project ideas, animated by Klaus Pendl, Ulises Cortes, Soraya Hidalgo, Olivier Moreau and Fabio Nascimbeni concluded the conference. About 20 people spent a few hours considering how they could get involved in FP7.

5.6 Presentation of other EU programming for 2007 - 2013

FP7 is one of many programs that can be of interest to the participants. **Marco Carulli** briefly described all the EU Programming for 2007-2013 (Presentation 18). Direct programs like EIE, LIFE +, MEDIA, Culture, and Tempus use ICT for project development. Indirect programs i.e. Cohesion Fund, Social Fund and FEDER can also be interesting. A very good example of an operational program financed by structural funds is called "Caraïbes".

This presentation was of particular interest for participants from Martinique, Guadeloupe and Guyane because they are a part of the European union, but it is not applicable to all Caribbean countries. Many local participants really appreciated this general vision of EU programs.

6. LIST OF ATTENDEES AND PARTICIPANTS FEEDBACK

285 actors were contacted to attend the WINDS@Antilles conference, most of them (178) were researchers. 67 actors (23,5%) responded which is a good answer considering the economic crisis. Concurrent activities such as the University Administrative Council's crucial elections, university examinations and the annual "Fête de la Science" given by the CCSTI-Centre de culture scientifique, technique et industrielle, occupied a number of researchers. Major strikes in Guyane and Guadeloupe also blocked or restricted travel.

The objective of 50 local participants was attained. It is important to note that we reached that number because Ravelo managed to obtain additional funding from the FNADT program to cover some travel costs and accommodation for participants. The initial budget covered the expenses of only two guest but we managed to help finance the participation of :

- 2 actors from Haiti
- 5 actors from Guadeloupe
- 4 actors from Guyane

Among the 67 participants, we had 30 researchers and 21 policy stakeholders. 2 countries, 3 islands, 4 regions were represented. The list of attendees with signatures are joined in Annex 6.

The feedback from the participants was pretty good. An evaluation form (see Annex 7) was filled in by only 13 attendees (25%). The results are as follows:

Event Objectives and Expectations (1 = being strong disagree, 5 = strong agree).	
The purpose and potential benefit of the event were clear :	4,23
The event lived up to my expectations :	3,85
I'm pleased that I decided to attend the event and would do so again if it were held again :	4,38
Logistics and Organisation (1 = poor, 3=average 5 = good).	
The quality of information received prior to the event was	3,62
The quality of materials / information received at the event was	3,85
The quality of infrastructure / surroundings and logistics at the event was	4,15
The quality of the content of the workshops at the event was	4,08
The opportunity for networking / discussion / starting collaborations was	4,46
OVERALL	4,08

Best of the free text answers (free translation)

Most Positive Outcomes of the event : Exchanges, presentations, networking.

Most Negative Outcomes of the event (and/or things missing) : Lot's of problems, few answers.

General Comments : Very interesting meeting that reconciles me with the UE hyper-structure.

I would like to propose a specific project idea : Yes but I need expertise in building European projects

Follow Up Questions

I am interested in cooperating with European partners in the following areas:

	0	2	1...7	3	4,6	7	4	4	1,6,7			2,7	5,6
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2 for Challenge 1 - Pervasive and Trustworthy Network and Service Infrastructures

3 for Challenge 2 - Cognitive Systems, Interaction, Robotics

2 for Challenge 3 - Components, systems, engineering

4 for Challenge 4 - Digital Libraries and Content

2 for Challenge 5 - Towards sustainable and personalised healthcare

4 for Challenge 6 - ICT for Mobility, Environmental Sustainability and Energy Efficiency

4 for Challenge 7 - ICT for Independent Living, Inclusion and Governance

It is reminded that the results are not statistically significant given the data sample size.

To summarize the evaluation : Participants didn't really know what to expect but they liked it, want to stay connected, and have projects in mind.



7. RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE

“Those who offer their knowledge feel honoured to be asked. Being selected to assist is an acknowledgement of their expertise. Those who receive the assistance also share what they know. They feel respected for the knowledge they have drawn together and for their analysis and interpretation. They recognise that the people who have come to assist leave even more knowledgeable than when they came because of the exchange”

Dixon

Fabio Nascimbeni, WINDS-Caribe project coordinator, started to analyse the results in the last discourse of the conference (see annexe 19). His first reflections on the subject were as follows:

- Excellent research capacities do exist in the French-speaking Caribbean (as witnessed by the Workshops content)
- Policy interest on ICT research is high (has shown by Mr. Pancrate opening speech)
- Interest was demonstrated from different stakeholders & from different French speaking regions & countries (as witnessed by the multistakeholder participation in the event)
- Sensitivity was shown towards basic research and applied research (as stated by R. Noel in his intervention)
- The strategic position of Martinique, Guadeloupe, Guyane (politically Europe, geographically in the Caribbean) was recognised as an important asset for the sub-region
- RIVÉLO (in partnership with UAG) was confirmed as an “articulator” capable of animating the sub-region
- A clear follow-up strategy & tools are in place to be implemented right after the end of the Conference.

With some time past, more feedbacks from participants, analysis of all presentations, watching of the 6 hours of video, the conference results can be elaborated :

The conference promoted the FP7 program from the European Union and validated the themes of researches done in the Antilles. Participants who could attend the event were pleased to discover the opportunities provided by FP7. The main themes coming out locally for ICT R&D are:

- **fundamental research on data acquisition and analysis,**
- **ICT for sustainable development,**
- **ICT for capacity building.**

Many participants expressed some concern on FP7 project creation and management. Expertise, assistance and training were requested to start the process. The possibility to meet other researchers and policy stakeholders during these two days permitted the participants to envision the partnerships required for such projects. It is well understood that researchers in the French Overseas Departments can be used as the European partner for EU - Caribbean projects. This is of course a wonderful opportunity for projects involving, for instance, UAG and Haiti.

It is estimated that around 300 people are somehow involved with ICT R&D in the Antilles. The event invitation was sent to over 250 researchers and policy stakeholders considered and more than 50 persons attended the event. The first target to make the FP7 program known is therefore estimated to have been reached.

Again it must be stressed that the financial support of the Prefecture of Martinique through the FNADT program was essential to get this level of participation under good conditions. This support also clearly shows that policy stakeholders interest is very high for ICT.

Overall, the conference was considered as a special opportunity to be informed about FP7. Presentations and workshops were of good quality and created a real two-way exchange of information between the EU and the Antilles. The conference facilitated knowledge sharing among participants as it was designed to stimulate thinking about the creation of new research problems that can be used to build project proposals. The conference helped to identify critical issues from the various selected topics that need to be explored and shared in the the building of research proposals. It was not just talking – but talking about “*what matters*” about collaborative high-level research.

At last, but not least, the possibility for networking and discussion offered by workshops, lunches, cocktail and a walk on the UAG campus was very well perceived by all participants.



8. FUTURE WORK AND UNDERGOING TASKS

The WINDS@Antilles 2008 conference was the first in a series of Regional Conferences and Seminars and will be followed by :

- WINDS@Santo Domingo, February 2009
- WINDS@Jamaica, March 2009

After all these conferences there will be a synthesis done and a final dissemination seminar in Brussels.

Other similar events should be organised in places like Haiti given the difficulty for many researchers and stakeholders to attend the conference in Martinique because of cost and travel difficulties. Obviously there is no budget allocated for this in the current package but perhaps UAG could help to organise such an event.

The participants of the conference who are interested in FP7 opportunities for their research have been invited to register in the WINDS database on the www.winds-lac.eu web site. Of course other stakeholders who could not come to the conference can still join the community. Beside the database, the site also contains a tool for creating a virtual community (done with Moodle, a Web 2.0 software). Its purpose is to develop a network of ICT researchers, with the mapping of their ITC capacities, discussion of projects and coaching the development of project proposals through experienced researchers, as well as matchmaking (partner search).

During the conference it was noted that research groups who are not familiar with FP7 projects should start by being a partner of an existing project and not directly a project leader. Consequently, it is of utmost importance for them to present their expertise and capacities to potential project leaders looking for partners through actions such as registering in the database and participating in the virtual community.

As requested by many participants, we should also provide expert advice and answer specific questions like :

- Can M. Laurent LINGUET and his project "Prédiction de l'exploitation de la ressource solaire à partir de données satellitaires" use FP7 Call "ICT 2009.6.3 ICT for Energy Efficiency" ?
- Can M.Hasler and his project " REALMA" use FP7 Call "ICT 2009.9.2 Supplements to support International Cooperation" ?

It is however reminded that the WINDS-Caribe project cannot go all the way to help researchers to develop FP7 projects proposals. The association RIVELLO will try to position itself for such a assistance mission with the support of the local authorities and the EU.

ANNEXES

The annexes do not include page numbers coherent with this report. The number of pages for each annexes are :

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Annex 2: Demand of support for the Conference	13
Annex 3: Invitation leaflet	2
Annex 4: Poster WINDS@Antilles 2008	1
Annex 5: Travel advice	3
Annex 6: Presence sheet	14
Annex 7: Conference Evaluation.....	28
Annex 8 : French Summary Report.....	3