



## Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago

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# Media Release

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2020

## MoU Signed for National 2021 Digital Inclusion Survey

The Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (the Authority) is pleased to announce its key partnerships with both public and private sector entities in its conduct of the national 2021 Digital Inclusion Survey (DIS).

The Authority signed yesterday, December 17, 2020, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Central Statistical Office (CSO) to provide technical assistance in the rollout of the Authority's DIS. The Authority is also happy to announce that it has engaged the professional services of an independent consultant, Kairi Consultants Limited, to conduct the 2021 DIS on its behalf.

In attendance and signing on behalf of CSO was Mr. Andre Blanchard, Director of Statistics (Ag), Ms. Lystra-Ann Johnson, Managing Director, Kairi Consultants Limited signed on behalf of that company and Mrs Cynthia Reddock-Downes, Chief Executive Officer on behalf of TATT.

This 2021 DIS will build on the two previous Digital Divide Surveys conducted by the Authority in 2007 and 2013 which were geared towards the assessment of the digital divide within Trinidad and Tobago. The digital divide is broadly defined as the gap that exists between those who have access to Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and those who do not.

*Directors: Mr. Gilbert Peterson, S.C. (Chairman), Dr. Kim Mallalieu (Deputy Chairman), Mr. Nikolaiski Ali,  
Dr. Beverly Beckles, Mrs. Kalana Prince-Wilson,*

The Authority aims to expand on the concept of digital inclusion, which goes beyond the traditional assessment of the digital divide, by considering the factors necessary for the citizens of a country to use ICTs effectively, such as their skills, motivation and trust.

This DIS forms one of the critical components in the GoRTT's National ICT Plan 2018-2022 and the Authority's Strategic Plan (2019 – 2022) which is aligned to the following strategic theme: **“Universal Service, Connectivity and Digital Inclusion.”** To execute this strategic objective, the Authority aims to measure the digital divide and identify those geographical areas and population groups that are unserved or underserved *vis-a-vis* accessing and affording basic telecommunications services.

The results of the overall DIS are intended, *inter alia*, to provide the ICT data that is necessary for international reporting and benchmarking, guiding the GoRTT's ICT policy formulation and the Authority's regulation of the sector, as well as inform the choice of universal service and digital transformation initiatives to be implemented in Trinidad and Tobago going forward.

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Corporate Communications Department  
Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago