



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Digital Transformation

M E D I A R E L E A S E

October 10th, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MINISTRY OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION CELEBRATES INNOVATION AT THE D'HUB CHALLENGE CONCEPT AWARDS 2023

PORT OF SPAIN: October 10, 2023:

The Ministry of Digital Transformation celebrated a landmark event on Friday, 29th September, 2023, at the Inaugural D'Hub Challenge Concept Awards Ceremony.

The event, which was held at the Trinidad Hilton Hotel and Conference Centre, brought together visionaries, tech enthusiasts, and government officials to recognize the developers who were evaluated as having met the requirements for each of the 5 Challenges. 15 developer teams will receive monetary awards to support the development of their proofs of concept—a pivotal step in the D Hub Challenge. This was highlighted by Senator the Honourable Hassel Bacchus, Minister of Digital Transformation, in his address.

Minister Bacchus emphasised the significance of this initiative, stating, "In the ever-evolving world of technology, Trinidad and Tobago must stay ahead of the curve. The D'Hub Challenge is our commitment to nurturing homegrown talent and providing them with the tools and support they need to innovate. Today, we are recognizing and celebrating the innovative spirit of our local developers."

Minister Bacchus also reaffirmed the Ministry's dedication to further developing the ICT sector locally, indicating that this was just the beginning of a series of initiatives. The event preceded the presentation of the national budget on October 2nd, 2023 and underscores the government's commitment to investing in technology and innovation as essential drivers of economic growth and sustainability.

These Challenges represent one of the many ambitious initiatives driven by a vision of harnessing local talent to revolutionize the nation's digital landscape.

For media inquiries, please contact: Ms. Kionna Hall, at kionna.hall@gov.tt

END

About the Ministry of Digital Transformation:

The Ministry is dedicated to fostering innovation, technological advancement, and digital transformation in Trinidad and Tobago. By collaborating with local and international partners, the Ministry of Digital Transformation aims to create a thriving digital ecosystem that empowers individuals and enhances the nation's competitiveness on a global scale.

END

Supplementary Information

D'Hub Challenge Highlights:

Innovative Solutions:

The event showcased a diverse range of innovative solutions proposed by local developers, addressing various aspects of societal needs.

Community Involvement:

The next phase of the D Hub Challenge will involve community-based challenges, encouraging participation from local communities and educational institutions, including Form 4, Form 5, and Form 6 students.

Capacity Building:

Developers were urged to take advantage of training opportunities and certification, to enhance their skill sets and promote innovative thinking.

Transparency and Opportunity:

The D Hub Challenge was hailed for its transparent evaluation process, ensuring a level playing field for all participants. The winners will now develop their concepts into functional software solutions.

The event also recognized the dedication of individuals and committees who contributed to the success of the D'Hub Challenge, including representatives from AMCHAN and the T&T Chamber of Industry and Commerce, international partners, and dedicated members of the Ministry.

As Trinidad and Tobago continues its digital transformation journey, initiatives like the D'Hub Challenge are set to drive innovation, create employment opportunities, and contribute to the nation's long-term economic prosperity.

Ministry of Digital Transformation

Level 7, National Library Building, 23 Abercromby Street, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, W.I.
Tel: (868) [623-4724](tel:8686234724) | Email: communications@mdt.gov.tt | Website: mdt.gov.tt

   @digitaltransformationtt |  @MDT_TT



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Digital Transformation



Pioneering Trinidad and Tobago's Digital Renaissance: Senator the Honourable Hassel Bacchus, Minister of Digital Transformation, stands side by side with developers at the recently held D'Hub Challenge Concept Awards, where the Ministry unveiled the trailblazers selected for the Proof of Concept stage.



Rewarding Excellence: Senator the Honourable Hassel Bacchus, Minister of Digital Transformation, presents an award to a tenacious female developer, in recognition of the innovative talent driving the D'Hub Challenge forward.

Ministry of Digital Transformation

Level 7, National Library Building, 23 Abercromby Street, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, W.I.
Tel: (868) [623-4724](tel:8686234724) | Email: communications@mdt.gov.tt | Website: mdt.gov.tt

[f](#) [@](#) [v](#) [@digitaltransformationtt](#) | [t](#) [@MDT_TT](#)



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Digital Transformation



Inspiring Innovators: Devindra Ramnarine, Digital Transformation Advisor, Ministry of Digital Transformation, captivates a gathering of innovators and distinguished guests at the D'Hub Challenge Concept Awards.



Driving Change: Franka Costelloe, Chair of the Adjudication Committee, articulates the rigorous yet rewarding journey of the D'Hub Challenge Concept Awards, shedding light on the meticulous evaluation process while celebrating the burgeoning digital acumen amongst the lauded developers.

Ministry of Digital Transformation

Level 7, National Library Building, 23 Abercromby Street, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, W.I.
Tel: (868) [623-4724](tel:8686234724) | Email: communications@mdt.gov.tt | Website: mdt.gov.tt

   @digitaltransformationtt |  @MDT_TT



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Digital Transformation



Bridging Aspirations: Carina Cockburn, the Country Representative for the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in Trinidad and Tobago, demonstrates a pivotal alliance at the D'Hub Challenge Concept Awards, underlining the collective endeavour to propel Trinidad and Tobago into a new era of digital sophistication.