



## THE BUSINESS REGULATION PROGRAM IN LAC PHASE II BUSINESS ENTRY REFORM - DOMINICA

### Phase II OF THE BUSINESS ENTRY REFORM OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED!

On July 03, 2015, the Phase II of the Business Entry Reform Program was officially launched at the Fort Young Hotel. Present were the Honourable Rayburn Blackmoore, Minister for Justice, Immigration and National Security, members from the public and private sector, media, ministries, heads of division, and project team.



The Launch commenced once the Minister for Justice, Immigration and National Security, Rayburn Blackmoore arrived. The programme began with the national anthem being sung by Steering Committee Deputy Chair Member, Ian Michael Anthony from Inland Revenue Division, followed by a prayer by the Permanent Secretary from the Ministry of Justice, Immigration and National Security. Welcoming and Opening remarks was done by Cecillia Carr from the Reform Management Unit, where Ms. Carr informed the audience on the importance and need for this project.



During the overview of Phase II presented by Registrar, Sandra Julien, the audience was provided with a background and the need for the enhancement/upgrade. They were also able to get a view of the system, the new website launched and the capabilities within the system.

A user perspective was executed by Bar Association, Noelize Knight-Didier where she informed the audience the impact this project has on the Bar Association, business overall and importance of the private sector.

Remarks by WBG Project Leader, Océane Seuleiman provides the audience with a clear understanding of the World Bank Group involvement in Dominica and throughout the Latin American and Caribbean Region. Ms. Seuleiman informed the audience of the commitment from the World Bank Group in ensuring that Dominica is provided with the tools and guidance in elevating their status in making the process for doing business easy for all public and private sector.

Minister for Justice, Immigration and National Security, Rayburn Blackmoore remarks centered on the commitment of the government in seeing this project successful and welcomes the partnership which has been forged with the World Bank Group and DFTAD - Canada. There was a question/answer session where the invitees participated. The Launch ended with the Vote of thanks conducted by Steering Committee member Patrickson Victor.

Cocktail was enjoyed afterwards where networking among the public and private sector was seen.



Phase II Business Entry Reform Launch was able to sensitize the public and private sector & emphasize the quick wins of the project; informed the public and private sector of the project and what it means for them (overall improvement of business entry in Dominica); and communicated the updates to the public, kept the dynamic to ensure quick wins and comply with expected work plan and timeline.



## Project Objectives

The objectives of Phase II is to enhance and upgrade the online business registration system which will accelerate sustainable business entry of firms in the Commonwealth of Dominica, and improve user experience, stability and reliability for the online business registration community. It will streamline procedures to include social security registration, commercial registries, notary registries, operating licenses and tax registries and integrating these processes via electronic platforms at a national level (one stop shop).

**Phase II Business Entry Reform Project duration is from April 2015 to December 2015.**

## Project Benefits



- ✓ Entrepreneur will be able to enter information, payment and obtain business entry certificate online.
- ✓ Eliminated the need for separate registration with the Inland Revenue Division and Dominica Social Security
- ✓ Easy to access information on registered companies and other businesses online
- ✓ There will be seamless interoperability with IRD and DSS, management tools (dashboard and reports) in a technical and organizational environment conducive to confidence and trust.

## Project Highlights

**Implementation of the project plan is in progress where 100%** of the Short Term Activities are completed and Medium Term Activities. Activities completed include the following:

- **Official Launch of the Project on July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015**
- **Finalized the requirements and business process workflows**
- **Procurement of Software Vendor**
- **Development of User Test Cases**
- **Firm assessment of Business Registry system at CIPO and its exchange of information with external agencies (including security and data integrity review) is 90% complete**

## Software Vendor



dotGov Solutions, LLC is the principal designer, developer, implementer and supporter of the automated business registration system.

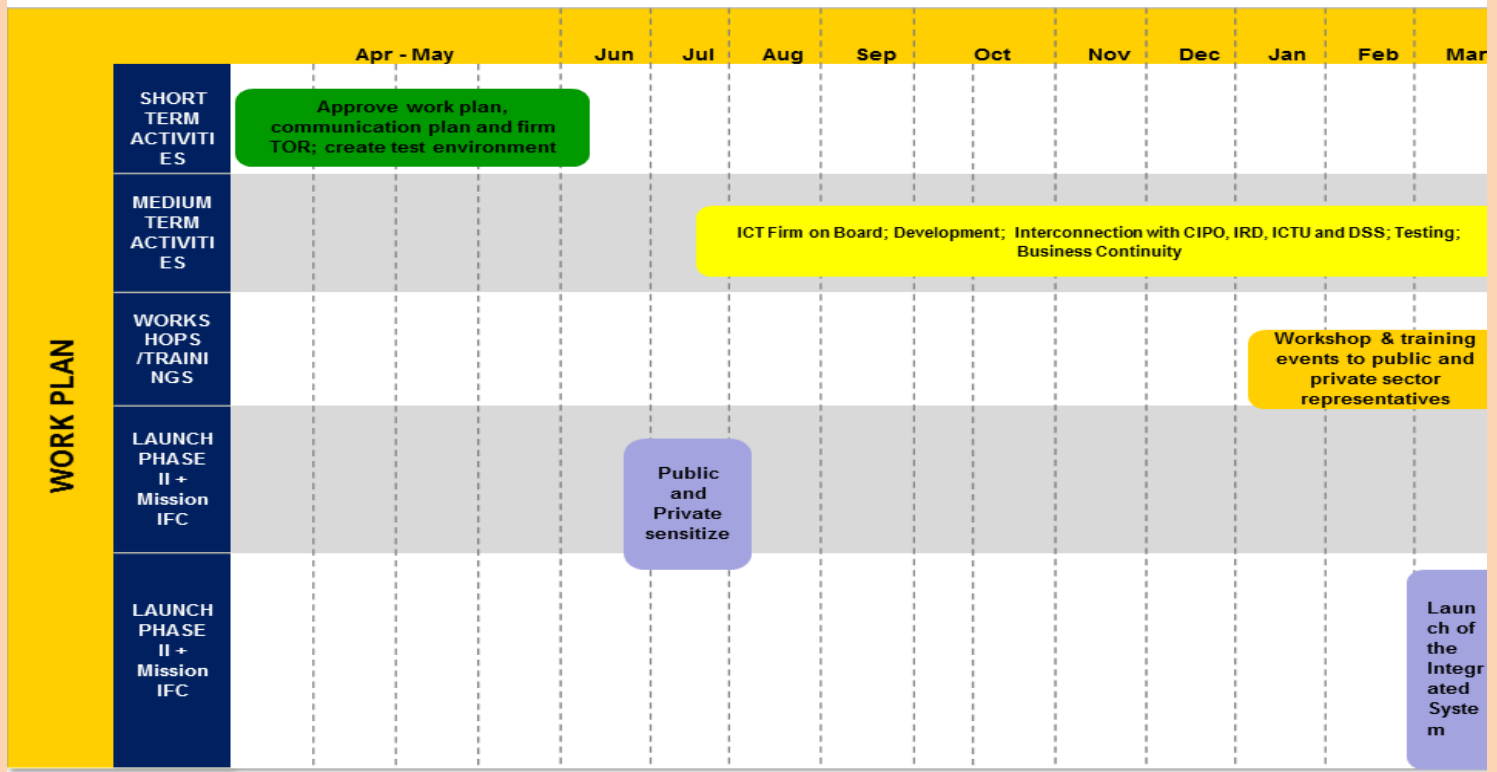
**CARICOM is currently working on a similar initiative** which involves the building of a secure regional database network among the Company Registries in twelve (12) Member states (of which Dominica is part) and connects to a central repository at the CARICOM Secretariat CSME Unit in Barbados. The local Project Team will be working with CARICOM to ensure synergies for the similar initiatives being undertaken by both parties.

For more information on the stakeholders visit:

- CIPO: [www.cipo.gov.dm](http://www.cipo.gov.dm)
- IRD : [www.ird.gov.dm](http://www.ird.gov.dm)
- DSS : [www.dss.dm](http://www.dss.dm)
- IDA: [www.investdominica.com](http://www.investdominica.com)
- DotGov Solutions: <http://www.dotgovsolutions.net>

Work Plan

**Business Regulation Program in LAC- Phase II Business Entry Reform – Dominica**



Next Steps



- Deliverable 1 - complete Gap Analysis
- Execute Radio Program planned
- Firm development of enhancement/issues
- System Testing
- Continue working with CARICOM on synergy activities

Steering Committee Members

- Registrar of Companies and Intellectual Property - CIPO
- Inland Revenue Division – IRD
- Dominica Social Security – DSS
- Information Communication and Technology Unit – ICTU
- Reform Management Unit – RMU
- Dominica Association of Industry and Commerce- DAIC
- Dominica Bar Association
- Invest Dominica Authority - IDA

For further Information, please contact  
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