

# CARIBBEAN IXP UPDATE

- *By Claire Craig  
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# Networking for Caribbean Development

## Challenges / Priorities

- Network Resilience
- Network Autonomy
- Network Security
- Technical Capacity Building

# 101: What's An IXP

The  
primary  
role of an  
Internet  
exchange  
point is to

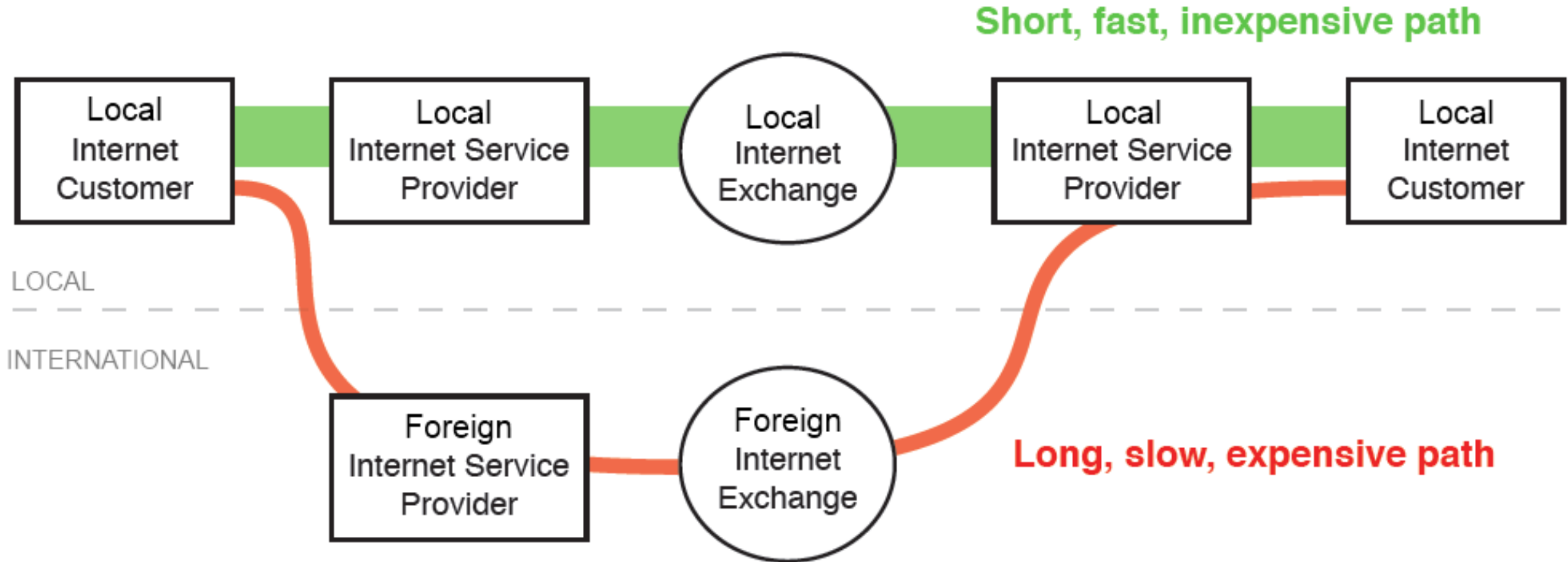
- *keep local Internet traffic within local infrastructure and*
- *to the reduce costs associated with traffic exchange between Internet Service Providers (ISPs).*

# The Efficiency of the Internet



For any two parties who wish to exchange Internet traffic, **there must be a pair of Internet exchanges**, one near each party.

# 101: What's An IXP



# The Manifestation of Inefficiency



Countries which have not yet built IXPs disadvantage themselves, and **needlessly export capital** to countries that already have

# The Caribbean Scenario

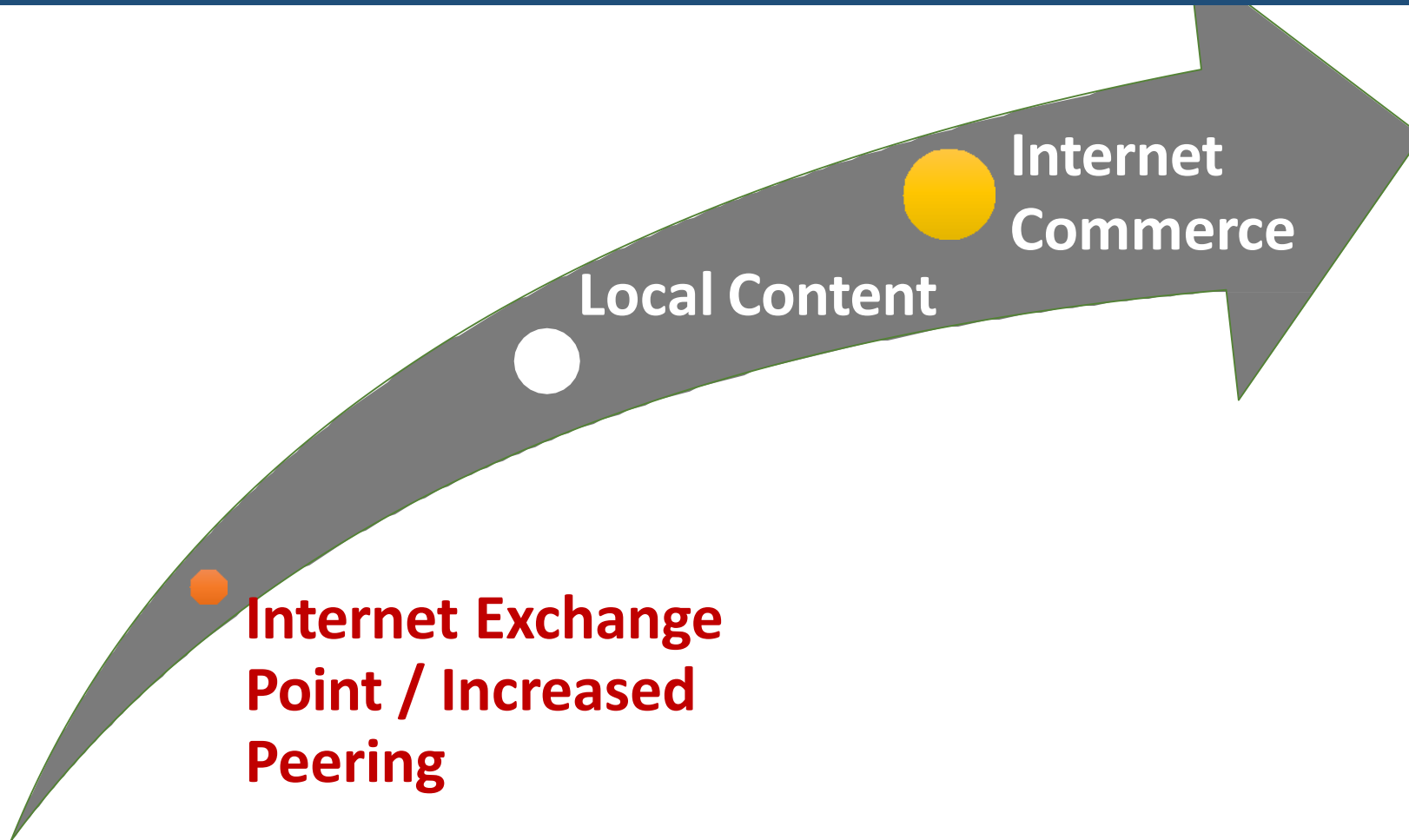
• *Majority of Caribbean Internet traffic still routed through external networks*



## • **NEGATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

- Network performance
- Costs
- Reliability
- Consumption patterns
- Production patterns
- Security

# The IDEAL PROGRESSION



**DOMESTIC  
INTERNET  
ECONOMY**



# A BRIEF HISTORY

- 2007

- Initial Discussions @ CIGF Curacao

- 2007-2012

- Education
- Resistance from incumbent operators
- CTU and PCH initiatives

# A BRIEF HISTORY

- 2007-2012

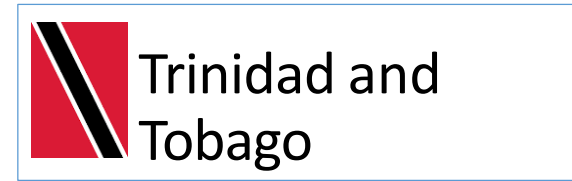
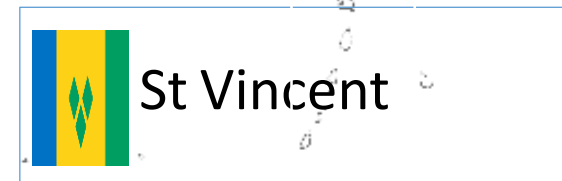
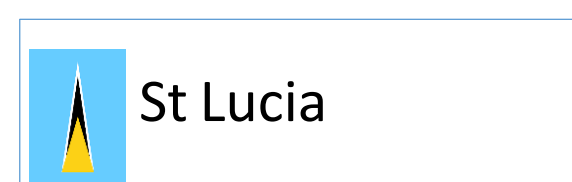
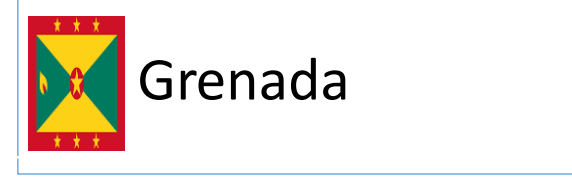
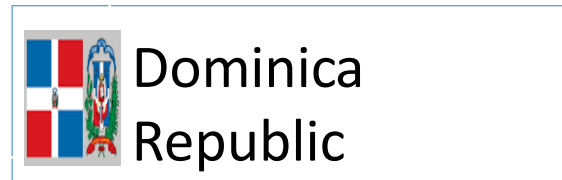
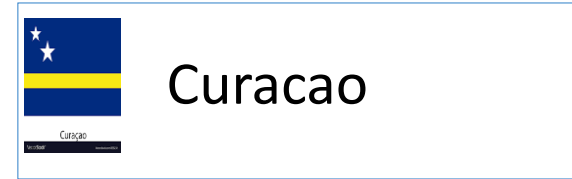
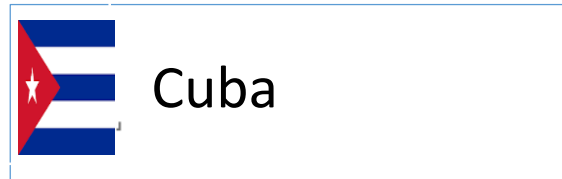
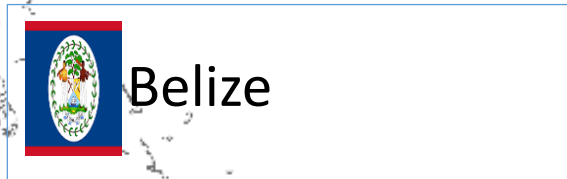
- First IXs: Curacao, St Maarten, Haiti
- Momentum: BVI, Grenada, Dominica, St Kitts, St Lucia

- Present

- Infrastructure improvement: switch fabric, IP space, redundancy
- Focus on local content
- ISOC, CaribNOG, CARCIP initiatives

# ACTIVE IXPs:

# Caribbean Internet Exchange Points



# Building the Caribbean Internet Economy

## LOCAL CONTENT

E-Services, Web and Mobile Apps, Streaming Services etc.

## SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

Legislation, Investment, Education, Policy, (Caribbean ICT Roadshow), Media Attention, etc.

**IXPs**

## LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

DNS, DNSSEC, Cyber Security, Anycast, etc.

## HR DEVELOPMENT

CaribNOG, CarPIF, CaribTLD: Technical and Non-Technical Skills

# 5 KEY LESSONS

1. Dedicated Coordinator Matters
2. Local Digital Content Does Not Come Automatically
3. Collaboration is Key
4. Monopolistically-minded Operators Still Exist
5. IXP Development is an ongoing effort

# WHAT'S NEXT?



Peering  
Forum

Caribbean  
Cloud  
Services



Capacity  
Development

Competition

# SAVE THE DATE



**CarPIF**  
CARIBBEAN PEERING &  
INTERCONNECTION FORUM

# 2020

9 – 11 June 2020

Willemstad,  
Curaçao

[www.carpif.net](http://www.carpif.net)



# SAVE THE DATE



# 2020

**CaribNOG 19**  
**5 – 8 May 2020**  
**Basseterre**  
**St. Kitts & Nevis**

**CaribNOG 20**  
**5 – 8 Oct 2020**  
**Kingstown**  
**St. Vincent & the**  
**Grenadines**



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