



**ARIN**  
American Registry for Internet Numbers

**The Role of IXPs in Accelerating 21st  
Century Government in the Caribbean**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

# ***ARIN-CTU Caribbean Webinar Series***

***Local IXPs – No Longer an Option, Now an  
Imperative for 21st Century Governments***

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# AGENDA



- History of CTU's Involvement in Caribbean IXPs
- About CTU IXP Projects
  - Why Caribbean IXP Proliferation and Enhancement Project?
    - Project Vision and Objectives
    - CARIBIX project (French Territories)
      - (Saint Maarten, Saint Barthelemy and Guadeloupe)
  - IXP Survey
- Project Methodology and Stages

# History of CTU's Involvement in Caribbean IXPs



## Found its genesis in

2006 - 2008



## Forged Partnerships

2009 - 2010



## Leverage Regional Capacity

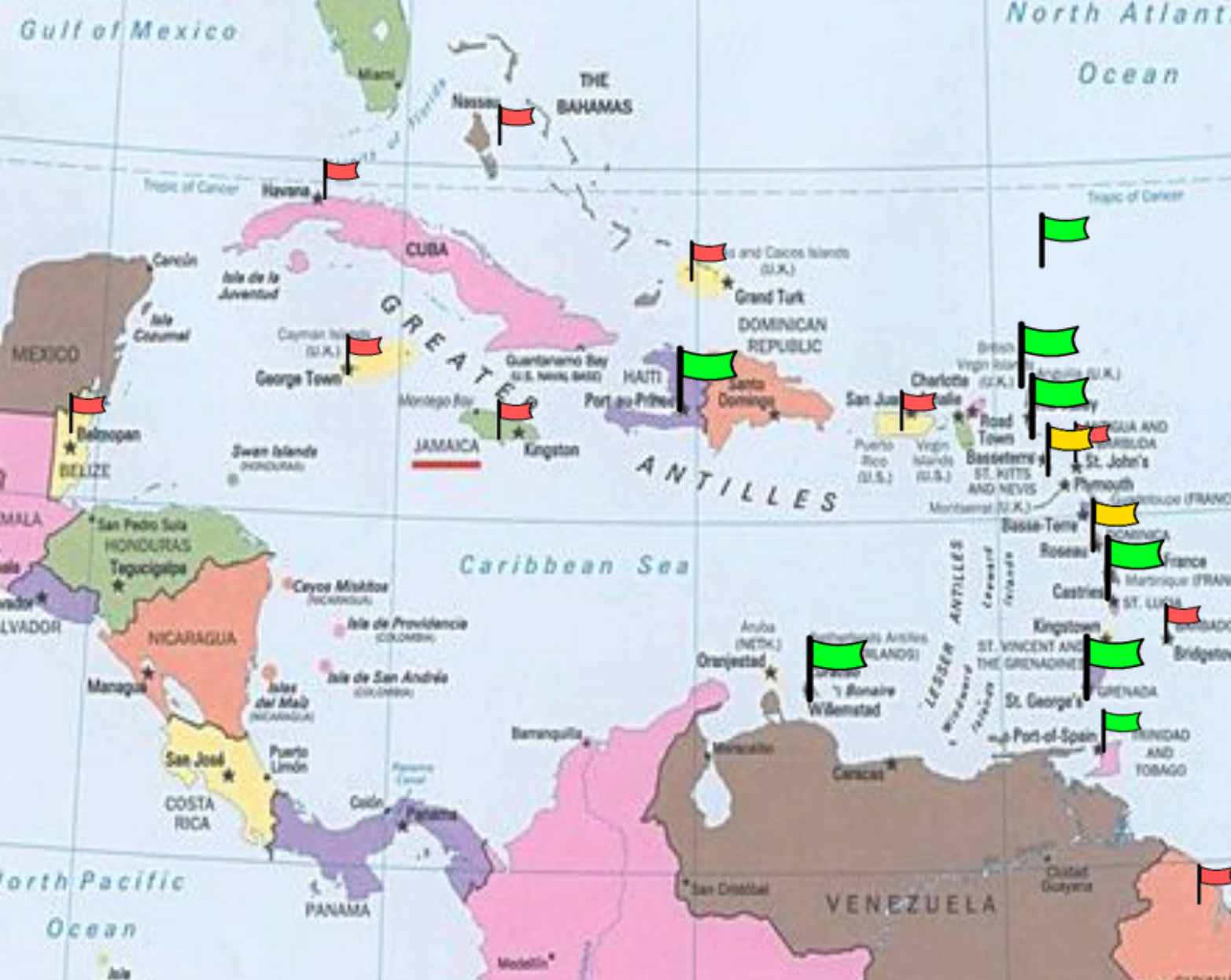
2011 - 2019



CTU began promoting IXPs as critical Internet infrastructure in keeping with the provisions of the Caribbean Internet Governance Policy Framework

Forged several strategic alliances with **CaribNOG**, and **Packet Clearing House** to raise awareness, educate and advance IXP development in Member States

Continued pioneering work with regional organisations like **CaribNOG** and **Caribbean Peering Forum** in Internet Governance to establishment 14 Internet Exchange Points in the Caribbean



**TERRITORIES**

**ACTIVE IXPs (16)**

- BARBADOS
- BELIZE
- CUBA (2)
- CURACAO
- DOMINICA
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
- GRENADA
- HAITI
- JAMAICA
- MARTINIQUE
- PUERTO RICO
- ST. LUCIA
- ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES
- SINT MAARTEN
- TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

**IN PROGRESS**

- ST KITTS AND NEVIS

**COMING SOON!**

**(FRENCH TERRITORIES)**

- SAINT MAARTEN
- SAINT BARTHELEMY
- GUADELOUPE

Internet Exchange Points in the Caribbean

# Why Caribbean IXP Proliferation and Enhancement Project?

## Some Success Stories!



- Currently, most of the IXPs merely exchange traffic but some have progressed to hosting content and services

## Opportunity for Growth



- To establish initiatives to strengthen and enhance the value of existing Caribbean IXPs and establish a new generation of IXPs

## Potential for Economic Development

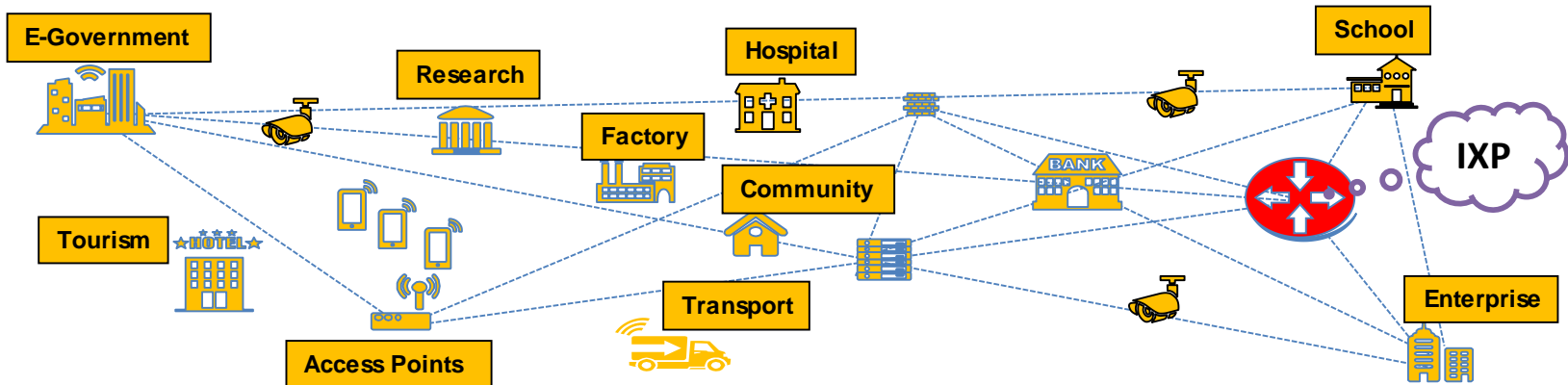


- Catalyze entrepreneurial activity and leap into the development of a Caribbean content industry

We believe that obstacles to the proliferation of strong and vibrant Caribbean IXP deployments can be overcome through collective and well-coordinated regional efforts.

# Project Vision and Objectives

**Effectively Connecting Public and Private Institutions, Touches All Aspects of Life**



**Clusters of National IXPs Facilitating Connectivity of Critical Broadband Internet Infrastructure**

## Harmony



- Enhanced routing infrastructure and services supported through enhanced regional collaboration and coordination
- Promote the social and economic benefits of IXPs among Caribbean Member States

## Efficiency



- Enhance regional traffic routing options in the Caribbean
- Improve the resilience, capacity and efficiencies of Caribbean networks (COVID-19 pandemic example)

## Entrepreneurship



- Local and regional facilities for content delivery to improve user experience
- Incentivise new regional Internet-based growth and development opportunities



## INTERREG CARIBBEAN - CARIBIX SPONSORS

- In keeping with the priorities of the INTERREG Caribbean program **CARIBIX** is a digital technology innovation sector project which aims to:
  - improve access to critical Internet infrastructure and in so doing;
  - create an environment for fostering social and economic development in French Caribbean countries.

# CARIBIX PROJECT - STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERSHIPS



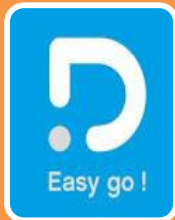
Coordinate implementation of IXPs in the French territories. provide programme management oversight, technical advise and guidance on all aspects of the set up and ongoing operations of the IXPs



Telem : In charge of the implementation of the bridge between SoualigaIX and OCIX



The Collectivity of Saint Barthélemy: In charge of the creation of Saint Barthélemy's GIX, BarthIX



Lead the implementation of the IXP Saint Martin, SoualigaIX



The Guadeloupe Tech Association : In charge of the implementation of the IXP of Guadeloupe, GuadIX



# CARIBIX FRENCH TERRITORIES PRIORITIES



Saint-Barthélemy is to create an internet exchange point on the island which is intended to improve the reliability and service experience of the operators and users of the telecommunications network



Guadeloupe and the association of Guadeloupe Tech is to create a simple and inexpensive tool to identify and route the internet traffic of the territory locally



Saint Martin and Sint Maarten is to create a digital bridge and connectivity to the existing Sint Maarten IXP, establishing one 'geographic unit' which will facilitate easy inter island traffic exchange

# Caribbean IXP Survey Results - IXP Governance Perspectives

**Q1: Is there an appointed dedicated IXP coordinator?**

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	66.67%	4
No	33.33%	2
TOTAL		6

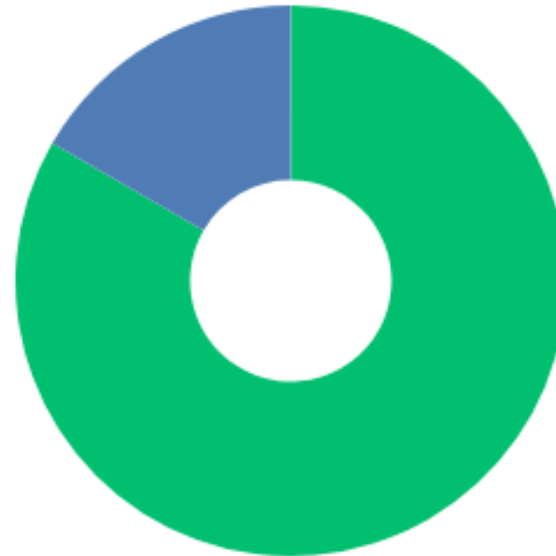


■ Yes ■ No

# Caribbean IXP Survey Results - IXP Governance Perspectives

## Q2: Is there an IXP oversight team?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	83.33%	5
No	16.67%	1
TOTAL		6



 Yes  No

# Caribbean IXP Survey Results - IXP Governance Perspectives

**Q3: If yes to question 2 above, how often does team meet?**

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Once a month	16.67%	1
Every quarter	16.67%	1
Every six months	16.67%	1
Once a year	33.33%	2
Not at all	16.67%	1
TOTAL		6

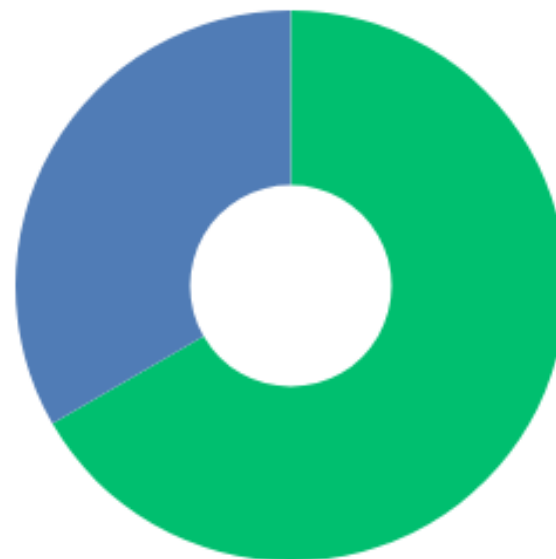


■ Once a month  
 ■ Every quarter  
 ■ Every six months  
 ■ Once a year  
 ■ Not at all

# Caribbean IXP Survey Results - IXP Policy Perspectives

## Q4: Is there a written peering agreement?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	66.67%	4
No	33.33%	2
TOTAL		6

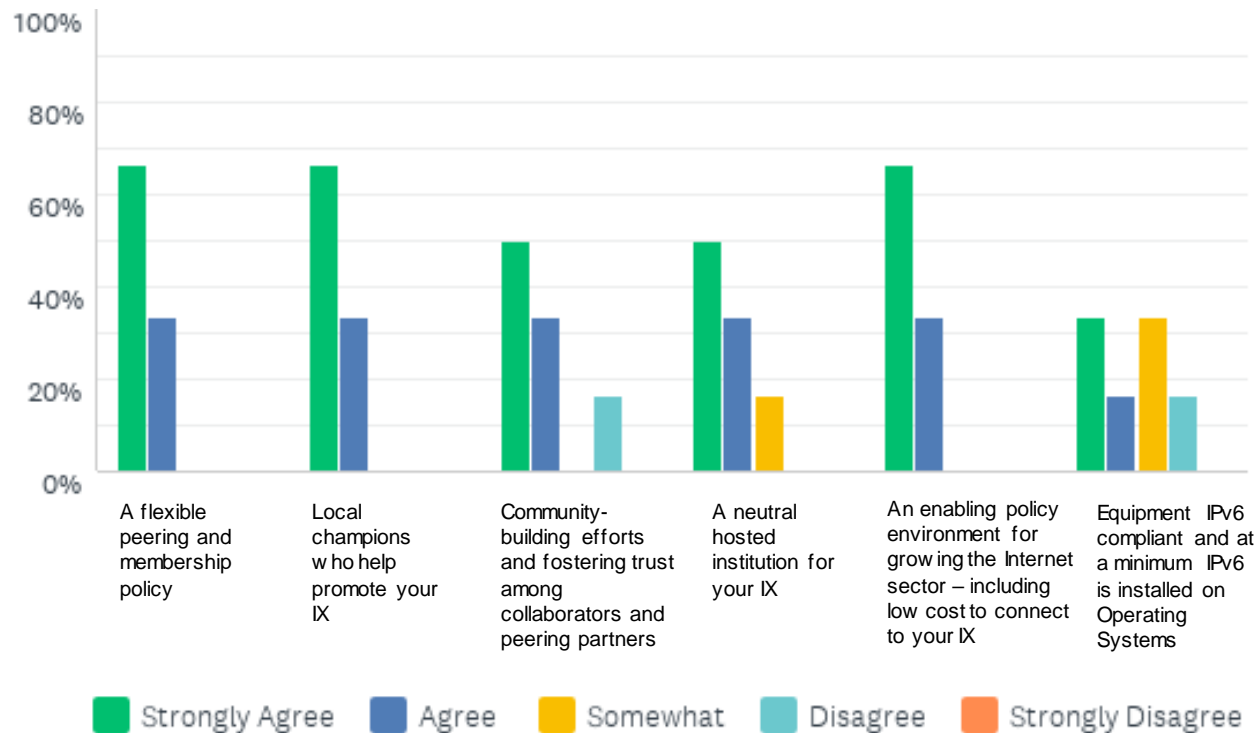


■ Yes ■ No

# Caribbean IXP Survey Results - Growth and Sustainability of IXP Operations:



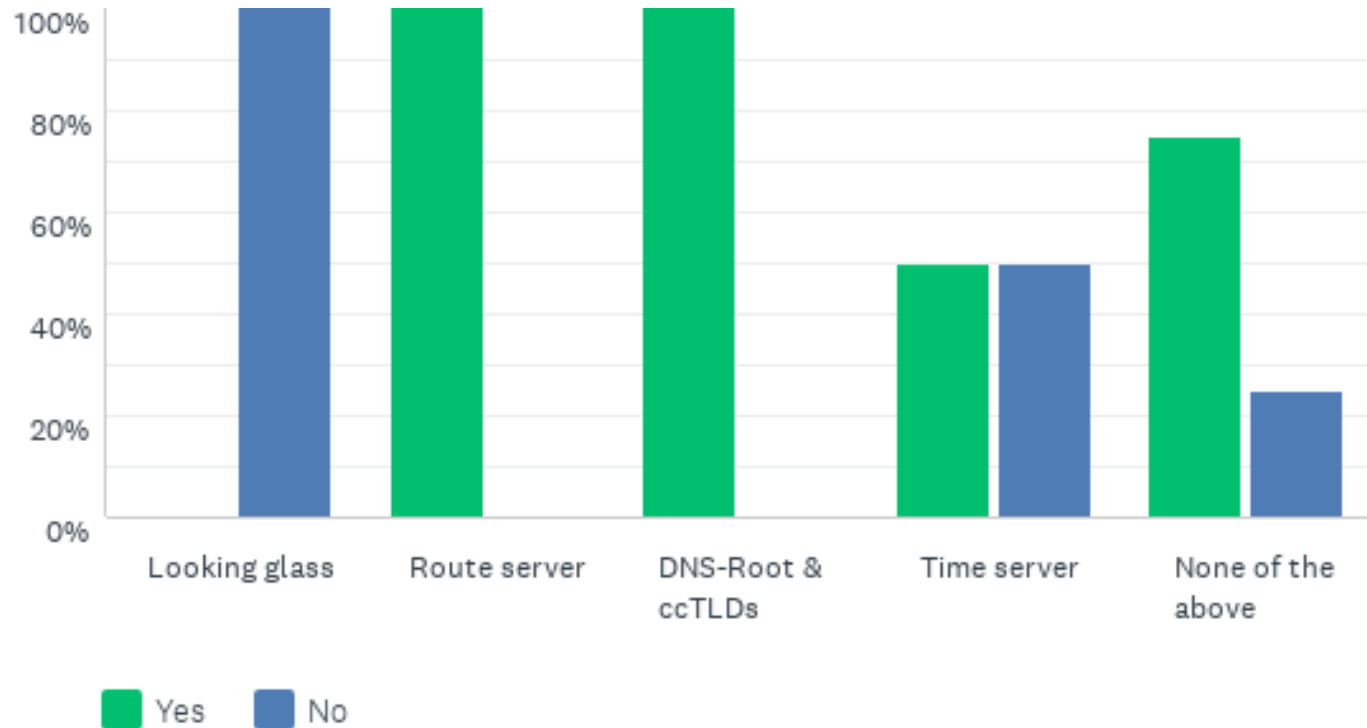
**Q5: To what extent do you agree that the following growth enablers have been adopted at your IXP?**



# Caribbean IXP Survey Results – Technical Considerations to support Caribbean IXP Development:

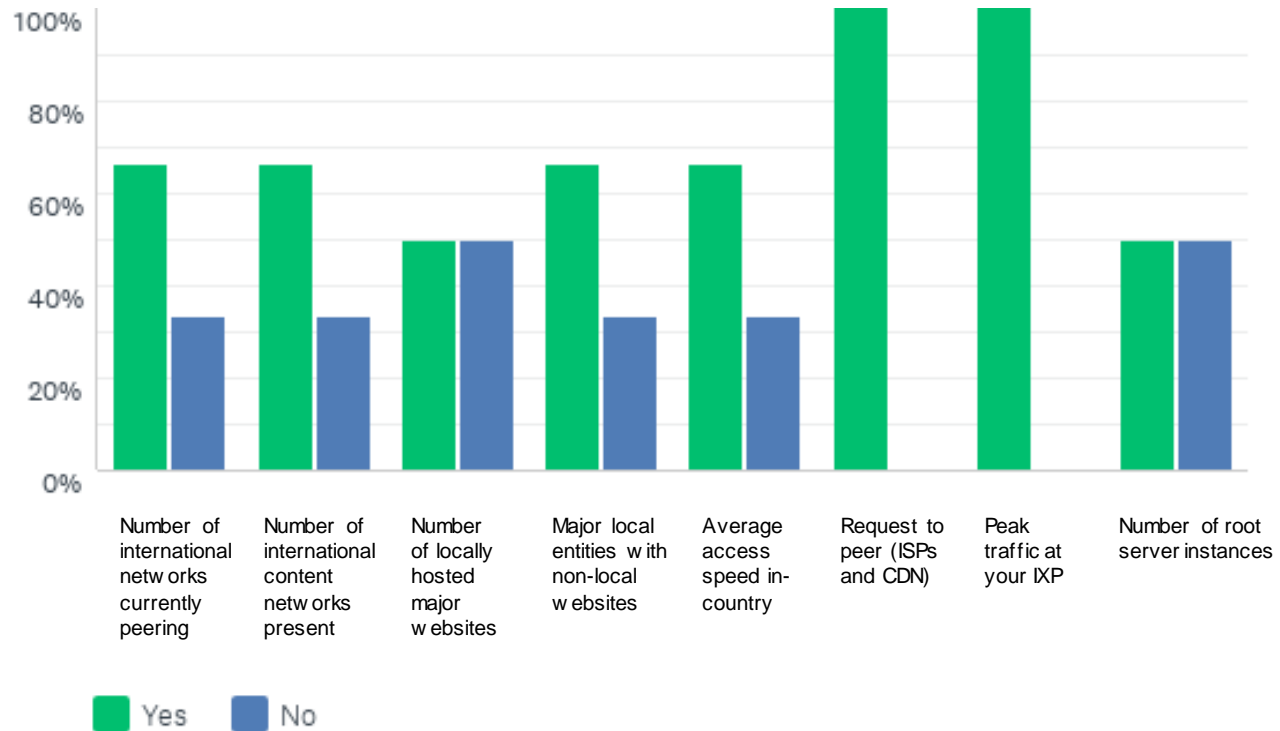


**Q6: Which of the following secondary services does your IXP provide?**



# Caribbean IXP Survey Results - Results-Based Measures of Impact on IXP:

**Q7: Are any of the following indicators used to aid in tracking the growth and impact of your IXP?**

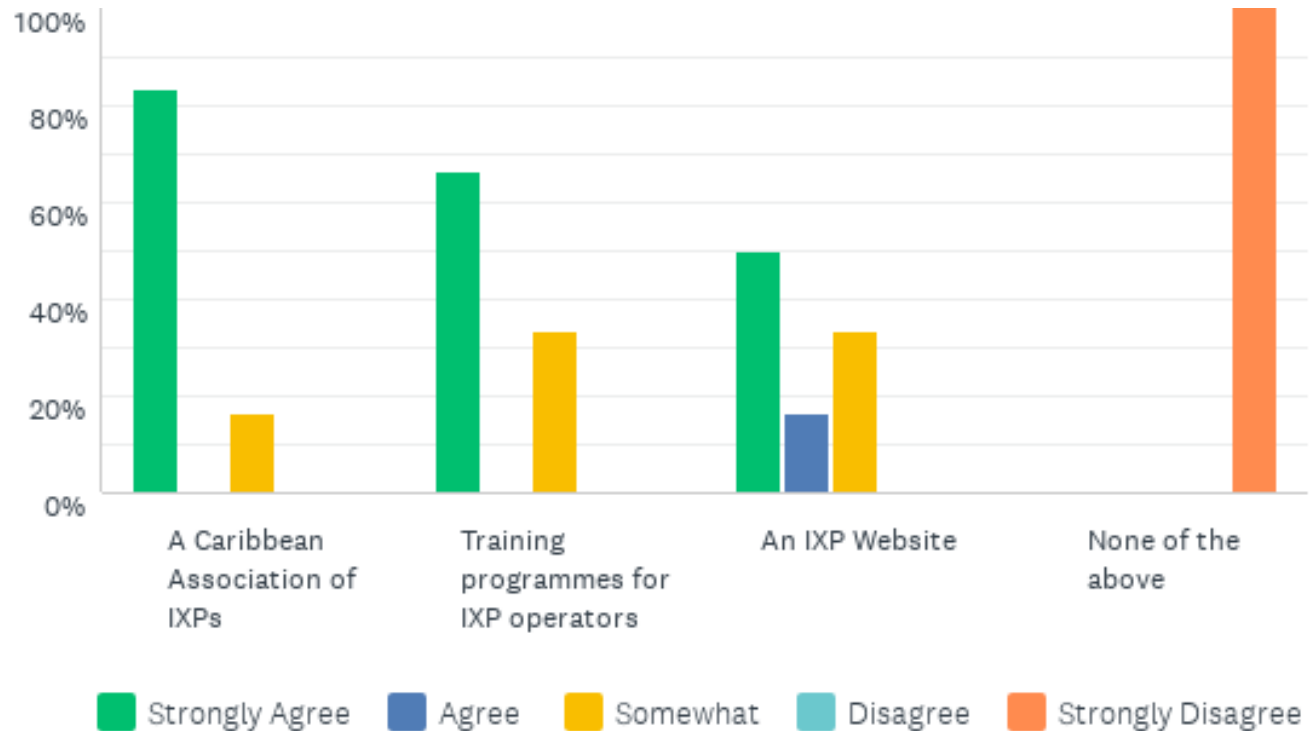




# Caribbean IXP Survey Results – Interest in Regional Collaboration:



**Q8: Please rate the extent to which you agree that any of the following will be beneficial for strengthening IXPs.**



# PROJECT STAGES & METHODOLOGY:



An initial survey was distributed to IXP Operators to establish baselines for our existing IXPs

Schedule a combination of discussions and focus group meetings, to strengthen regional networking and collaboration

Widening the discussions to include English and non-English speaking stakeholders (January 2020)

Policy proposals and prescriptions will be taken to the General Conference of Ministers for ratification and affirmative action as required.



**Thank you**  
**?**

RESOURCES ON CTU'S IXP PROJECTS:

<https://www.ctu.int/projects-initiatives/history-of-caribbean-internet-exchange-points/>

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