



PRESS RELEASE: NATIONAL SERVICES EXPORTERS REGISTRY

There is an urgent need to assess the performance of the services sector in terms of exports in the Caribbean. Although we know that our services sector represents more than 60 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and over 65 percent of total employment in Trinidad and Tobago, there is a huge gap in statistical information with regard to services exports in terms of volumes, modes of exports and markets. More importantly, very little is known in terms of the challenges that firms face when exporting services to international markets and clients.

In response to this, the Ministry of Trade and Industry approved funding to enable the Trinidad and Tobago Coalition of Services Industry (TTCSI) to undertake a survey of exporters from the services sector of Trinidad and Tobago. The contract to execute the survey was awarded to the Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business, UWI in April of this year. The survey of exporters is geared to shed light on key issues related to the exports of services in Trinidad and Tobago, focusing on such issues as modes of exports, geographic spread, trade flows and the key challenges stakeholders experience in exporting their services. During the first stage the survey shall focus on seven targeted sectors, which are business and professional services, education, energy, creative, tourism, and Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) services.

The survey findings will be used by the TTCSI to identify opportunities for institutional strengthening which shall have strategic and policy related implications at both the private and public sector level. It will also support the development of policies for each specifically targeted sector. This will mean that key stakeholders and policy makers shall be fully equipped with the knowledge to make data driven decisions, aimed at improving the competitiveness of the national services sector.

The second phase of the project is the development of an online registry of services exporters. This registry is also intended to be used as a resource to inform business decisions and facilitate local as well as international B2B networking among service providers.

The TTCSI and the Centre of Strategy and Competitiveness at the Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business, UWI encourage your support and participation in this important project for the services sector of Trinidad and Tobago. Individual responses to the survey are confidential and no company information will be publicized, as all answers will be dealt with as statistical figures. The aggregate responses and analysis will be publicly released early next year.

Below is a simplified link to the National Services Exporter Registry:

To complete the online survey please follow the attached link bit.ly/ttcisurvey



For queries or assistance regarding this form, please call or email:

Mrs. Stephanie Lezama-Rogers, Lead Researcher, Centre for Strategy and Competitiveness, Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business at (1868) 645-6700 ext. 352; e-mail s.lezama-rogers@lokjackgsb.edu.tt OR

Mr. Lyndrison Lincoln, Project Coordinator, Trinidad and Tobago Coalition of Services Industries, via email at projects@ttcsi.org or 375-9332.