



National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission

Request for Project Proposals / Updates

Ensuring Access to Affordable Telecommunication Services throughout Underserved Communities in St Lucia.

The Universal Service Fund (USF) was established in 2009 by the Telecommunications Act ('The Act').

In accordance with the *Telecommunications (Universal Service Fund) Regulations 2008*, Universal Service includes the provision of:

- Public voice telephony;
- internet access;
- telecommunications services to schools, health institutions and similar institutions and the physically challenged; or
- Other service by which people access efficient, affordable and modern telecommunications.

The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission, (NTRC) has been tasked with its management, while its source of funding is from the Telecommunications Providers as specified by The Act. The Fund supports the expansion of telecommunication services particularly to the underserved who currently do not have sufficient access. The aim of the Fund is to provide telecommunication services which are readily accessible and affordable.

Any legal entity, group or person serving the needs of the above target groups/areas may submit a proposal for funding.

All Project proposals are to be submitted on the approved application form which may be obtained from the office of the Commission or on the Commission's website at <http://www.ntrc.lc/other-forms.html>. Project Proposals should **be addressed to:**

The Chairman
National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission
Rajana Group of Companies Building
Bois d'Orange
Gros-Islet
P.O. Box GM 690
Castries
Saint Lucia

For further information, the Commission's Universal Service Fund Office can be contacted as listed below:

The Universal Service Fund Administrator
Telephone Number: (1758) 458-2035 or (1758) 452-6871
Facsimile Number: (1758) 453-2558
Email address: ntrc_sluc@candw.lc and copied to: sjones@ectel.int

The Universal Service Fund has so far implemented the following projects with the aim of improved broadband connectivity, community Wi-Fi and computer equipment to enable adequate access. The broadband for all projects will be subsidized by the NTRC over a period of five (5) years.

1. Soufriere community Access centre and environs

Project Start date: November 08th 2013
 Subsidy until 2018

| Location | Deliverables | Status |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| Soufriere | - 18 Access Points - Improved broadband internet - Access Devices | Third year of subsidy |

6. The Holy Family Children's Home-Cicéron

Project Start date: June 14th 2016
 Subsidy until 2021

| Location | Deliverables | Status |
|----------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Cicéron | - Improved broadband internet | completed |

2. Babonneau library and environs

Project Start date: December 01st 2014
 Subsidy until 2019

| Location | Deliverables | Status |
|-----------|---|------------------------|
| Babonneau | - 18 Access Points - Improved broadband internet - Access Devices | Second Year of subsidy |

7. Digicel Payphones-increasing the existing fleet of payphones by fifteen (15) in underserved communities

Project Start date: May 05th 2014
 Subsidy until 2019

| Location | Location cont'd | Location cont'd | Deliverables | Status |
|---|---|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| Bocage Boguis Cicéron Choiseul Desruisseaux | Jacmel Laborie Deniere Riviere Fond St Jacques | La Croix Maingot Micoud Mon Repos Pierrot Richfond Saltibus | Fifteen (15) payphones | Second Year of subsidy |

3. Cicéron Secondary School and environs

Project Start date: March 19th 2015
 Subsidy until 2020

| Location | Deliverables | Status |
|----------|---|------------------------|
| | - 16 Access Points - Improved broadband internet - Access Devices | Second Year of subsidy |

8. Improved access to the differently abled

Project Start date: September 09th 2016
 Subsidy until 2021

| Location | Deliverables | Status |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Special Education Units -Soufriere and Vieux Fort | - Access Points | Implementation in progress |
| St Lucia Blind Welfare Association- Castries | - Improved broadband internet | |
| Dennerly Development Centre | - Specialized Access Devices | |
| Donnottar School and vocational Centre | | |

4. The libraries and Community Access Centres throughout St. Lucia

Project start date: December 08th 2015
 Subsidy until 2020

| Location- Libraries | Libraries cont'd | Community Access Centres | Deliverables | Status |
|---|---|---|--|---------------|
| Central Anse La Raye Canaries Choiseul Dennerly Derisseaux Entrepot | Gros Islet Micoud Monchy Mongouge Laborie Roblot Soufriere Ti Rocher Vieux Fort | National ICT Centre Vieux Fort Micoud | - Access Points - Improved broadband internet - Access Devices | 90% completed |

5. Sir Arthur Lewis Community College -Southern Campus

Project Start date: September 16th 2016
 Subsidy until 2021

| Location | Deliverables | Status |
|------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Vieux Fort | - Access Points - Improved broadband | internet Implementation in progress |

The Edu Connect and GI net project including all Secondary Schools throughout St. Lucia.

| Location | Deliverables | Status |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| All Secondary Schools | - Access Points - Improved broadband internet | Approved / Procurement to commence soon |