

The Governments of Dominica, Grenada and St. Lucia have each received soft loan financing in the amount of 1.5 Million Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), equivalent to US\$ 2.4 Million, from the World Bank for implementation of the OECS Electronic Government for Regional Integration Project (EGRIP).

The loans are being provided under a special facility of the concessional lending arm of the World Bank, the International Development Association (IDA).

The World Bank is currently in negotiations with St. Vincent and the Grenadines, which is contemplating joining the Project in the very near future. Two non-IDA countries, St. Kitts and Nevis, and Antigua and Barbuda, may in the future be eligible for World Bank financing, but are likely to participate initially on the basis of donor grants that are yet to be negotiated.

The Project became effective on 18th June 2009 and is being implemented by the Regional E-Government Unit (REGU) of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Secretariat. The project seeks to address some of the huge challenges of size and isolation faced by small island developing states.

The Development Objective of EGRIP

To promote the efficiency, quality, and transparency of public services in the beneficiary countries, through the delivery of regionally integrated e-government applications that take advantage of economies of scale.