

The logo for Venturepoint 2003 features the word "Venturepoint" in a green serif font with a yellow swoosh above it and a yellow starburst above the "t". Below "Venturepoint" is the year "2003" in a purple sans-serif font.

Venturepoint 2003

Venturepoint 2003, which was the fourth Annual Regional Business Conference hosted by the Venture Capital Incentive Programme (VCIP) of Trinidad & Tobago, took place at Sherbourne Conference Centre, Barbados on January 16-18, 2003.

A sample of the information, which was fed back from entrepreneurs, financiers, consultants, policy makers and others, has heralded Venturepoint 2003 as a “great success”. The objective of the forum was to address issues critical to the transformation of business activity in the region and to ensure that there was a perfect fit between entrepreneurial demand and financial resource supply.

VCIP, along with the Venturepoint 2003 regional coordinator, Caribbean Business Enterprise Trust Inc. (CBET), would like to thank all those who participated to make our interactive session a success.

The primary sponsors were BWIA West Indies Airways, the Barbados Port Authority and Caribbean Equity Partners Ltd. The vision exhibited by these entities, along with supporting contributions from other sources, is an example, which we are sure others will emulate as VCIP continues to address the challenge of sustainable regional development.

The theme of Venturepoint 2003 was “Fostering Regional Development through Entrepreneurial Activity” and we are confident that, if we pursue a forward looking strategy which encompasses: the facilitation of new ideas and re-engineering of existing businesses towards global niche markets; the swift preparation of business plans; the identification of resources to champion, with passion, the cause of each individual business; the syndication of the optimal financial mix; the mentoring of management; the practice of preventive business health care to enhance the chances of business success; and advocacy towards a user friendly enabling environment; the future of the region will be secured.

The Entrepreneurial Showcase at Venturepoint 2003, where individual entrepreneurs met a panel of financiers, proved to be extremely stimulating to the extent that there was a cry for greater frequency of this event as more entrepreneurial innovations emerge to absorb the financial and management resources which are likely to be assembled in the Caribbean.

We now look forward to Venturepoint 2004, which may travel further north in the Caribbean next year.