



VCIP HOSTS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL VENTUREPOINT CONFERENCE

Venturepoint, the premiere event of the Venture Capital Incentive Programme of Trinidad and Tobago (VCIP), has again proved to be an excellent platform for interactive and meaningful dialogue on issues pertinent to regional entrepreneurial development. More than one hundred (100) delegates from throughout the region and North America collaborated at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre on *January 29th-30th, 2004*.

Judith M.S. Mark, Administrator of the VCIP stated that **“sooner than later, the concept of entrepreneurial development will dominate the global environment, by becoming the stated culture, and as a region, we must be fully prepared, to address and deal with any challenges, which confront us.”**

Honourable Kenneth Valley, Trinidad & Tobago’s Minister of Trade and Industry and Minister in the Ministry of Finance, indicated in his feature address, **“that regional entrepreneurial or Caribbean entrepreneurship, must consider as necessity, the opportunities available, not only within the Caribbean Single Market and Economy, but more so, within the overall context of the coming of FTAA.”**

Youths participate in Venturepoint 2004:

A major highlight of the conference this year, was the participation of young students. Viewed by the VCIP, as one of the many initiatives to inculcate an entrepreneurial culture within the education system, this involvement is in keeping with the Trinidad and Tobago’s government **“Vision 2020”** philosophy, in which youths have been identified as instrumental in the economic transformation process.

Entrepreneurs from within the CARICOM region, also had the opportunity to present profiles of their businesses, to a select panel of regional and international agencies, with the objective of obtaining funding.