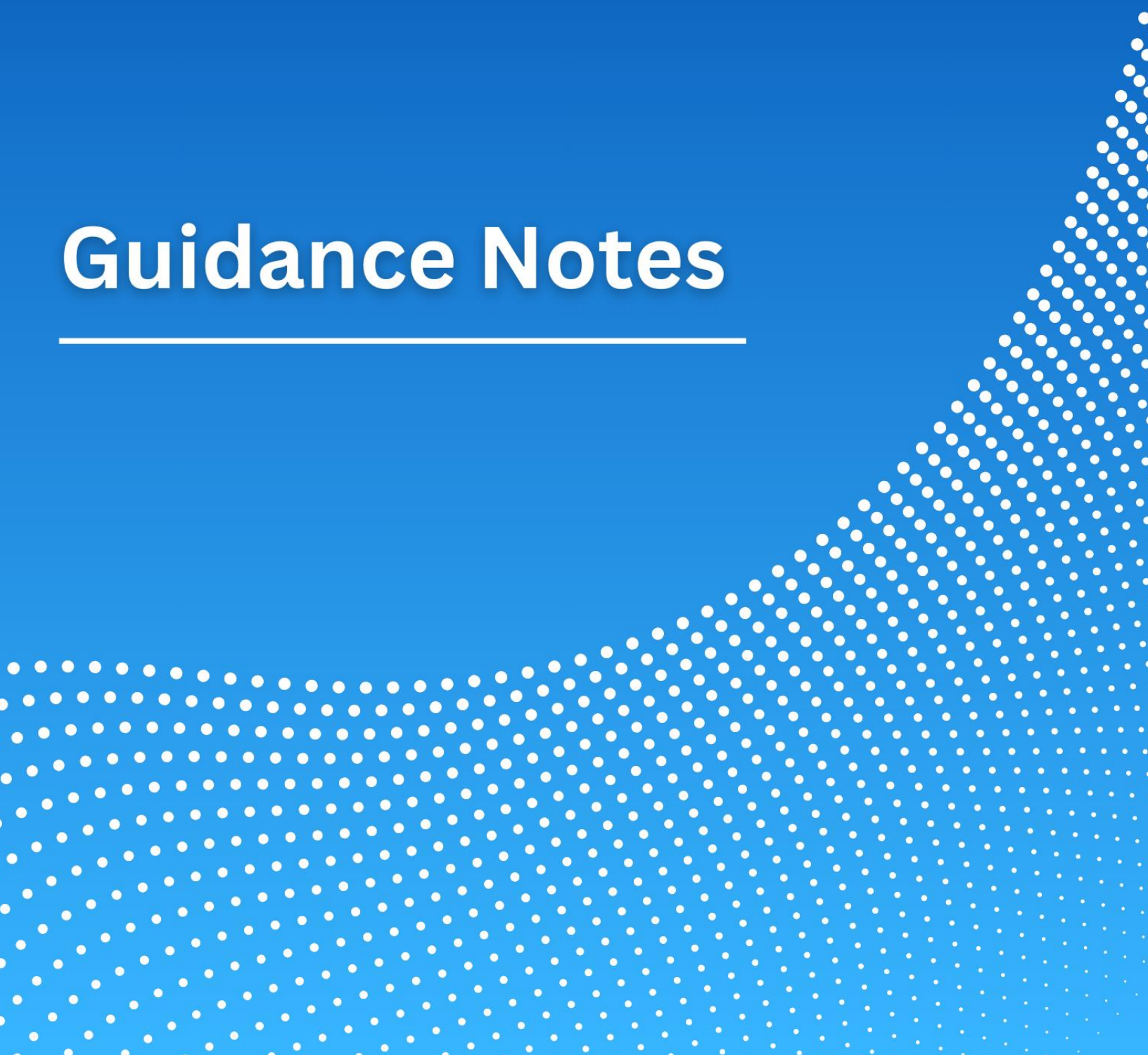


Guidance Notes



Webinar 1 on Changing Mindsets for Innovation and Digital Government

Background

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies that provide equal access to justice and that are based on respect for human rights, effective rule of law and good governance at all levels and transparent, effective and accountable institutions, in line with Goal 16. Indeed, institutions play a critical role in the achievement of all the SDGs and targets. However, the COVID-19 pandemic and other global challenges, including climate change, geopolitical tensions, food insecurity, increasing levels of inequality, have strongly disrupted the implementation of the SDGs and the regular functioning of (public) institutions and affected key government functions and processes, undermining the effectiveness of government action.

As the Caribbean region grapples with inter-locking crises, it is essential to rethink governance systems and public sector arrangements, with SDG 16 as a key pillar for transformation. The public sector in the Caribbean region continues to face a capacity challenge in delivering change and transformation, with particular challenges being experienced in relation to mindsets, capacity, processes, and right skill sets. Public sector transformation is "a continuous process of leading and managing change in the public service for innovative adaptation to enable the delivery of services and results in a resilient and sustainable manner" (CARICAD, 2021) and includes new cultures, capacities, and knowledge. Recovering from COVID-19 and other events will require strengthening competitiveness through knowledge and skills upgrading. Also, innovation at national and local levels is needed to create innovative, technology-driven economies and societies. One of the greatest challenges for public servants is to change their mindsets. Changing public servants' beliefs and attitudes (that is, the mindset) for innovation and digital transformation is essential to ensure institutional effectiveness for implementing the SDGs.

This webinar will explore the topic of why changing mindsets in the public sector is critical to promoting innovation and digital government transformation, what new competencies and skills are needed to implement the SDGs, and what are some of the strategies at the institutional, organizational and individual levels that can be pursued to help a mindset shift towards a more agile, innovative and future - oriented public service.

Objectives

- To explore the requirement for changing mindsets as foundational to innovation, digitalization and public sector transformation.
- To explore various mindsets, i.e. digital mindset, innovative mindset and examine the relevant frameworks.
- To deepen participants' understanding of innovation, and the role of digitalization in public sector transformation.

Guiding Questions for the Webinar



Webinar Series on **Innovation, Digital Government and Changing Mindsets for Public Sector Transformation**

1. Why do public servants need to change mindsets and embrace new competencies to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?
2. What are some of the strategies to change mindsets and develop capacities at the institutional, organizational and individual levels across government?
3. How can public administration education and training institutes support a change of mindsets in the public sector? What are some of the main challenges to changing mindsets for SDGs implementation in the Caribbean region? How have some of those challenges been addressed? What can we learn from those experiences?

