Chapter I: Puerto Rico Broadband Taskforce
The Puerto Rico Broadband Taskforce (PRBT) was formed with the conviction that broadband is a key driver of economic growth, competitiveness, and sustainability, as well as the general improvement of the quality of life of the people of Puerto Rico. The PRBT was also formed with the sobering acknowledgement that broadband adoption in Puerto Rico is lagging behind the U.S. and other similar jurisdictions and that lag will remain a tremendous hindrance to effectively competing in the twenty-first century economy unless a comprehensive plan and deliberate intervention is aggressively pursued. The PRBT was formed with the understanding that overcoming these challenges will require the direct, cooperative engagement of the private, public, and not-for-profit sectors.

The primary goal of the PRBT has been to design and facilitate the implementation of a pragmatic and actionable Broadband Strategic Plan that effectively minimizes the digital divide in Puerto Rico by promoting adoption of broadband and Information Technology (IT) and stimulating investment opportunities in ever-increasing broadband capacity infrastructure across the island.

The PRBT efforts are focused in attaining the following six general goals:

1. Based on data collected by Connect Puerto Rico, identify critical priority areas across the island’s geography and demographic communities where broadband is lagging.
2. To define, design, and develop an integrated development plan for Puerto Rico to secure the necessary funding sources to meet the plan’s goals. This may include, among others: grants, donations (cash or in-kind), fundraising activities, and other sustainability strategies.
3. To increase citizen awareness on the benefits and utility of broadband access for Puerto Rico through volunteerism and outreach activities aimed at maximizing broadband adoption.
4. To increase digital literacy through training and technical assistance in order to attain the skill set that allows successful implementation of the development plan and increased adoption of broadband in Puerto Rico.
5. To develop support systems to attain the plan’s objectives and enable strategies to instill broadband adoption and use as an island-wide, high-priority endeavor.
6. To identify barriers to broadband build-out and long term investment across the island and build consensus to address them.
The primary goal of the Puerto Rico Broadband Taskforce is to close the digital divide in Puerto Rico.

The goal of the PRBT is to identify and implement actionable strategies to promote investment in broadband infrastructure and capacity where it is lacking, and to expand broadband adoption and usage amongst digitally disconnected communities across Puerto Rico. To achieve all these goals, the PRBT has actively engaged support from public and private sector stakeholders. There is an important group of overlapping stakeholders in Puerto Rico as it relates to broadband access and adoption, from both demand and supply sides. These groups have worthy, recognizable, and visible achievements; however, they have been largely scattered. Harnessing the diversity of interests presented by each group requires PRBT to be composed of key stakeholders that represent the interests of all stakeholder groups within the Puerto Rico broadband ecosystem. The PRBT is composed of 12 members representing various sectors of the broadband ecosystem in Puerto Rico including the Office of Chief Information Officer, the Telecommunication Regulatory Board, the Internet Society of Puerto Rico, broadband providers, information and communication technology providers, K-12 and higher education, healthcare, local government, grassroots community groups, and private sector groups.

Connect Puerto Rico has supported the Puerto Rico Broadband Taskforce in the preparation of this Strategic Plan by providing research and analysis consulting services. Connect Puerto Rico is a subsidiary of Connected Nation, Inc., a non-profit corporation working with the Office of the Chief Information Officer of Puerto Rico to conduct comprehensive research and analysis of the broadband landscape in Puerto Rico as part of the State Broadband Initiative (SBI) federal grant program managed by the Department of Commerce under the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Puerto Rico Broadband Strategic Plan is a body of work that represents the core consensus held by PRBT members listed as follows and their participating stakeholder groups:
The PRBT is a public-private partnership comprised of government representatives and multiple private and not-for-profit stakeholders.

Members of the Puerto Rico Broadband Taskforce

Chairman of the PRBT
Juan E. Rodríguez de Hostos
Chief Information Officer
Government of Puerto Rico

Vicechair of the PRBT
Lcda. Sandra Torres
President
Junta Reglamentadora de Telecomunicaciones de Puerto Rico

Secretary of the PRBT
Eduardo Díaz
President
The Internet Society of Puerto Rico

Representative of Higher Education Committee
Luis Acosta Benítez
President
Automeca Technical College

Representative of Local Community Institutions and NGOs Committee
Beatriz Arroyo
Coordinadora / Voluntaria

Representative of the Healthcare Stakeholder Committee
Arthur Fernández del Valle
Director Planificación y Análisis Financiero
Centro Cardiovascular de Puerto Rico y del Caribe (CCPRC)

Representative of the Broadband Provider Committee
Karen Larson
Senior Vice President
Critical Hub Networks, Inc.

Representative of the Content Provider Committee
James Lynn
Graphic Designer / Multimedia Artist

Representative of the Private Sector Committee
Rodolfo F. Mangual Ramos
Executive Director
Professional College of Engineers and Land Surveyors of Puerto Rico

Representative of the IT Stakeholder Committee
Paul Maldonado
Account Manager
Cisco Systems, Inc.

Representative of the Municipal Consortia Committee
Nelson Perea
Executive Director
Puerto Rico Technoeconomic Corridor

Representative of K-16 Stakeholder Committee
Dr. Juan N. Varona Echendía
Rector
Universidad de Puerto Rico en Cayey
Members of the Puerto Rico Broadband Taskforce Working Committees

**BROADBAND PROVIDERS**

- Aeronet Wireless Broadband Corp.
- Atenas Internet
- AT&T Mobility Puerto Rico, Inc.
- AWV Communications, Inc.
- Ayustar Corporation
- Choice Cable TV – Puerto Rico
- Cibuconet Inc.
- Claro – Puerto Rico Telephone Company, Inc.
- Columbus Networks Puerto Rico, Inc.
- Culebra Wireless Net
- INTECO – Iniciativa Tecnológica Centro Oriental, Inc.
- IP Solutions, Inc.
- Liberty Cablevision of Puerto Rico, Ltd.
- Neptuno Networks, Inc.
- Nustream Communications
- OneLink Communications – San Juan Cable, LLC
- Open Mobile – PR Wireless, Inc.
- Optivon, Inc.
- Orizon Wireless, Corp.
- OSNet Wireless
- PREPA Networks, LLC
- Puerto Rico Webmasters
- Sprint Nextel Corporation
- Telefónica Empresas – Telefónica Larga Distancia de Puerto Rico, Inc.
- T-Mobile USA, Inc.
- VPNet, Inc.
- Wi-Fi Services Caribbean, Inc.
- WinPR, Inc.
- Worldnet Telecommunications, Inc.
- Xairnet Corp.

**CONTENT PROVIDERS**

- Xecure Communications, Corp.
- Zelllllus Telecommunications

- TNet Networks, Inc.
- The iOS Post
- infografica.net
- dgtallikä
- mrtechpr.com – Mr.Tech
- envivoyonline.com
- lachicagamer.com
- Qiibo
- esmandau.com
- Fundación Nacional para la Cultura Popular
- Red EducaPR
- EnVivoPR
- El Nuevo Dia
- Primera Hora
- WAPA TV and WAPA America in the U.S.
- Mi Puerto Rico Verde
- dianeris.com
- CaribeNews.net
- YoSoyMami.com
- jameslynn.com
- Radio Isla 1320
- NotiCel.com
- agrochic.com
- turelacionista.com
- Consultaconjcb.com
- mipodcast.tv
- Orcheed
- GTA Internet Marketing
- Oficina para el Financiamiento
- Socioeconómico y Autogestión (OFSA)
EDUCATION

Department of Education of Puerto Rico
University of Puerto Rico
Automeca Technical College
National University College
Flamboyan Foundation

HEALTHCARE

Puerto Rico Health Information Network (PRHIN)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STAKEHOLDERS

Cisco Systems, Inc.
IBM Corporation
Intel Corporation
Microsoft Corporation
Hewlett-Packard Company
Building Industry Consulting Service International (BICSI)
Chamber of Commerce – IT & Technology Commission

MUNICIPAL CONSORTIA

Iniciativa Tecnológica Del Norte (INTENOR), Inc.
Desarrollo Integral del Sur (DISUR), Inc.
Iniciativa Tecnológica Del Noreste (INTENE), Inc.
Iniciativa Tecnológica Centro Oriental (INTECO)
Puerto Rico TechnoEconomic Corridor (PRTEC)

NGOs

Aspira
The Internet Society of Puerto Rico
Boys and Girls Clubs of Puerto Rico

PRIVATE SECTOR

Professional Colleges of Engineers and Surveyors
Coalición del Sector Privado, de Puerto Rico, Inc.