

The Grant Contract Ceremony for the Renovation of Giddy Hall Community Centre under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects

On March 18th, 2016, H.E. Mr. Masanori Nakano, Ambassador of Japan to Jamaica, attended the Grant Contract Signing Ceremony of “The Project for the Renovation of the Giddy Hall Community Centre” at Official Residence of the Ambassador of Japan to Jamaica. The Project is funded by the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects by the Government of Japan.

The Community Centre was built in 1952. Renovation of the centre has been needed due to deterioration of the building. Hence, this grant funding will be used to rebuild the center which will contain 3 rooms: a Computer Lab, a Sewing room and a Library. They are planning various training and study programmes, including IT, fashion, language arts and mathematics for students and adults, agriculture workshop and health-related informational workshops.

It is expected that upon completion, this new facility will offer a wide range of educational and lifelong training opportunities for the residents in the community who will be able to pursue or create job opportunities.

Among approximately 40 people present at the signing ceremony are Hon. Floyd Green, Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information, Mr. Everton Fisher, Mayor of the Black River, members of St. Elizabeth Parish Council and members of Giddy Hall Community Development Committee.

Minister of State Green, other guests and participants expressed their appreciation for the grant funding support provided by the Government of Japan and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in its quest to provide an improved educational facility, and expectation of job opportunities in remote rural communities such as Giddy Hall.

Ambassador Nakano noted the importance of education to ensure human security and expressed the Government of Japan’s intention to continue supporting the field of education in Jamaica. Ambassador Nakano also commended the efforts of a Japan International Agency Cooperation (JICA) Volunteer who used to work within this community. The Ambassador noted that his hard work and the bonds of friendship formed within the community have made this project thus far successful.



(left) Ambassador hands over the cheque to President Smith



(right) Speech by Ambassador



Minister of State Green expresses his appreciation for the grant