

March 1, 2018

PRESS RELEASE

Official Development Assistance (ODA) Seminar:

Japan's Cooperation Policy to the Commonwealth of Dominica

A seminar on Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) policy to the Commonwealth of Dominica took place at 12:00 p.m. at the Financial Centre, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and CARICOM Affairs of the Commonwealth of Dominica. The presentation was made by His Excellency Mitsuhiro Okada, Ambassador of Japan to the Commonwealth of Dominica.

The aim of the seminar was to enhance understanding of Japanese assistance amongst relevant officials in the Commonwealth of Dominica and to pave the way for future cooperation. Ambassador Okada's presentation focused on Japan's policy for assistance and the various forms of assistance available. In his presentation, Ambassador Okada indicated that priority areas for assistance to the Commonwealth of Dominica include disaster risk reduction and environment.

Ambassador Okada also provided an overview of regional projects which are funded by Japan and coordinated by the UNDP, the most recent being the "Project for Strengthening Disaster Management Capacity of Women in the Republic of Guyana and the Commonwealth Dominica". Japan is providing five million US Dollars (US \$5,000,000) in aid for the project, which aims to develop the capacities of vulnerable groups reliant on agriculture in Dominica and Guyana, namely women and indigenous groups, in disaster preparedness and mitigation.

The seminar was attended by representatives from various ministries and agencies, including Dominica Export and Import Agency (DEXIA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and CARICOM Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture and Constituency Empowerment, Ministry of Planning, Economic Development and Investment, Ministry of Social Services, Family and Gender Affairs, Ministry of Commerce, Enterprise and Small Business Development, Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development, Ministry of Tourism and Urban Renewal, Ministry of Health and Environment, Ministry of Trade, Energy and Employment, and the UNDP.

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The Government of Japan welcomes further opportunities to work with the Government and people of the Commonwealth of Dominica, all with a view to advancing sustainable development through continued cooperation.

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Ambassador Okada presents Japan's ODA Schemes



Participants from various ministries and organizations reading information on Japan's ODA