

March 24, 2016

PRESS RELEASE

Japanese Government Funds Project for the Renovation of Traditional Clinics in Indigenous Communities, Suriname

The signing ceremony for the Grant Assistance for the Grass-roots Human Security Project (GGP) entitled “The Project for Renovation of Traditional Clinics in Indigenous Communities” took place at 9:00 a.m. on March 21, 2016, at the Jacana Amazone Wellness Resort, Jacana Vacation Club, Commewijnestraat 35, Zog en Hoop, Paramaribo. The Amazon Conservation Team Suriname received a grant of up to US\$88,851 from the Government of Japan for the renovation of three traditional clinics in the southern communities of Sipaliwini, Tepu and Apetina.

Mr. Masatoshi Sato, Minister Counsellor & Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Japan, and Ms. Jornell Vinkwolk, Acting Chairman, Amazon Conservation Team Suriname, were in attendance for the ceremony. Also in attendance at the signing ceremony were, Mr. Hugo Bromet, Honorary Consul-General of Japan, Mr. Wilco Finisie, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Regional Development and Mrs. Innocentia Soentik, Foreign Service Officer, Bilateral, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Masatoshi Sato, during his speech, highlighted that through this project, the Amazon Conservation Team Suriname will focus on the improvement of traditional health care services through the renovation of clinics and procurement of medical supplies such as wheelchairs, electronic beds and first aid supplies for these clinics. He also stated that the government of Japan recently decided to provide United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) with the grant of US\$ 250,000. With a view to assisting with the measures taken to gather information about the infection, improve the treatment of pregnant women, raise awareness to prevent further infection and improve the situation of water sanitation in Latin America and the Caribbean including Suriname.

The Government of Japan welcomes further opportunities to work with the Government and the people of the Republic of Suriname, all with a view to strengthening the bonds of friendship and mutual understanding which exist between the two countries.

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