

Country Assistance Policy for Grenada

April, 2014

1. Relevance of Assistance

(1) Relevance of Assistance to CARICOM (the Caribbean Community¹)

Grenada is a member state of CARICOM, which is comprised of a number of Caribbean countries. These countries have commonalities with Japan, such as frequent natural disasters, like hurricanes, earthquakes and tsunamis. Another commonality the CARICOM has with Japan is its focus on promoting the sustainable use of living marine resources.

These CARICOM countries are vulnerable to climate change and natural disasters; they have small populations and economies; and, their economies are based on industries, which are susceptible to external factors, such as agriculture, fisheries and tourism.

To overcome common challenges faced in the Caribbean region, such as natural disasters, it is important for promoting socio-economic stability and sustainable growth across the region that the CARICOM utilizes the experience and knowledge of Japan in overcoming natural disasters.

(2) Relevance of Assistance to Grenada

Grenada and Japan share similar values, such as democracy and rule of law, and are closely cooperating with each other in the international arena. Grenada is a small volcanic island nation located in the eastern Caribbean Sea and a member of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), which is comprised of eastern Caribbean nations.

The economy of Grenada is heavily dependent on tourism and agricultural products such as spices like nutmeg, mace, banana and cacao.

Therefore, its economy is liable to be severely affected by natural disasters

¹ CARICOM (Caribbean Community) was formed by dissolving CARIFTA (Caribbean Free Trade Association) into a new organization for the purpose of economic integration of the Caribbean countries; coordination of foreign policy; the promotion of cooperation in health-care and education, etc. in 1973. Its Secretariat is located in Georgetown, Guyana. Members are 14 States and 1 overseas territory.

including hurricanes, and economic stagnation in the EU.

Overcoming the economic vulnerabilities is necessary for socioeconomic development of the country. The Government of Grenada is taking measures to address climate change, modernize agriculture and fisheries and promote tourism.

Japan's assistance for the economic and social development of Grenada is expected to enhance bilateral relations and can also have positive effects on relationships with the other OECS countries as they can benefit from knowledge sharing.

2. Basic Policy of Assistance : Overcoming Vulnerability (common to all CARICOM member countries)

On the basis of "Partnership for Peace, Development and Prosperity between Japan and the Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)²", which was adopted in the 2nd CARICOM foreign ministers' meeting in September 2010, the Government of Japan supports environment-friendly sustainable social development efforts and disaster risk management efforts of CARICOM member countries, thus helping them to overcome the vulnerability to climate change.

3. Priority Areas

(1) Environment and Disaster Risk Management

Mitigation and adaptation measures for natural disasters and measures for climate change are urgent issues for Grenada, which has suffered recurrent natural disasters, such as hurricanes and floods. The Government of Japan continues to assist the country in reducing disaster risks and coping with climate change, taking its bio-diversity into consideration.

Solid waste management is an important matter for small island nations in which tourism is the main industry and the Government of Japan supports improvement in solid waste management, focusing on promotion of "three Rs (3R)" (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle), and improvement in disposal site management.

² This partnership consists of six pillars which indicate the future direction of the Japan-CARICOM relationship i.e. "Overcoming Vulnerability and Promoting Human Security"; "Integration into the Global Economy"; "Environment and Climate Change"; "Assistance for the Reconstruction of Haiti"; "Cooperation in International Fora"; and "Dialogue and Exchange between Japan and the CARICOM".

(2) Fisheries

The fisheries is an important industry for Grenada from the viewpoint of improving the nutritional situation and providing food for its nationals, facilitating foreign currency earnings through export, creating job opportunities, and generating income in rural communities. The government promotes modernization by establishing fisheries development plans and focuses on developing the fishing industry.

The Government of Japan continues to provide assistance for sustainable development and management of fisheries with a view to promoting sustainable use of marine living resources, which is also a priority for Japan.

4. Points to be considered

The Government of Japan recognizes that there is the need to develop renewable energies and to promote energy efficient technology.

Annex: Rolling Plan