

21 December 2017

PRESS RELEASE

Handing over Ceremony for Aquaponics Education Project in Antigua

The Handing over Ceremony for the Grant Assistance for the Grass-roots Human Security Project (GGP) entitled “The Project for Development of Agriculture Education through Aquaponics” was held at 11:30 a.m. on Monday 18 December 2017, at the St. Mary’s Secondary School in Bolans, Antigua.

A grant totaling US\$ 83,070 was received by St. Mary’s Secondary School from the Government of Japan for the construction of an aquaponics facility which includes vegetable grow beds, fish tanks, water filters and other equipment for its functioning. The facility is expected to be available for use by students of Antigua and Barbuda as well as farmers and other individuals. St. Mary’s Secondary School was selected by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology as a model school to introduce this facility for aquaponics for further enhancement of Agricultural Science Education and as a lead institution to implement this initiative.

Among the attendees were Mr. Shinichiro Kobayashi, Second Secretary, Embassy of Japan; the Honourable Michael Browne, Minister of Education, Science and Technology; the Honourable Samantha Marshall, Minister of Social Transformation and Human Resource Development; Mr. Casey Phillip, Principal of St. Mary’s Secondary School, accompanied by other staff and students. In his remarks, Minister Browne expressed appreciation to the Japanese Government for the grant, which he recognized as a form of investment in the future and the youth of Antigua and Barbuda. Mr. Kobayashi acknowledged the ceremony as marking the start of a new chapter in agricultural education for the country’s students and general population.

The Government of Japan welcomes further opportunities to work with the Government and the People of Antigua and Barbuda, with a view to strengthening the bonds of friendship and mutual understanding which exist between the two countries.

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For further information, please contact:
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St. Mary's Secondary School



Aquaponics equipment at St. Mary's Secondary School



Aquaponics facility at St. Mary's Secondary School



Left to right: Mr. Shinichiro Kobayashi, Second Secretary, Embassy of Japan; Hon. Michael Browne, Minister of Education, Science & Technology; Hon. Samantha Marshall, Minister of Social Transformation & Human Resource Development; and Mr. Craig Cole, Education Officer



Mr. Shinichiro Kobayashi and Minister Michael Browne with staff and students of St. Mary's Secondary School



Ceremonial cutting of the ribbon at Handing over ceremony for St. Mary's Secondary School Aquaponics facility

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