

30 October 2019

PRESS RELEASE

Completion ceremony for Multi-purpose Centre in Region 9, Guyana

The Completion Ceremony for the Grant Assistance for the Grass-roots Human Security Project (GGP) entitled “The Project for the Construction of Multi-purpose Centre” was held at 1:30pm on Wednesday 30 October 2019 at the St. Ignatius Village Benab located in Lethem, Region 9, Guyana.

The project was recently completed by Special Needs for Life (SNL), which was one of three Guyanese organizations that received GGP funding from the Government of Japan, following a grant-signing ceremony at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in February 2018. SNL received a grant of US \$89,813 for the construction of the Multi-Purpose Centre, which can now serve as a hub for the provision of social services to residents of Kuma and other nearby villages, in the areas of education, health and culture. It is expected that the project will enhance the overall quality of life for residents.

The Honourable Sydney Allicock, Minister of Indigenous Peoples’ Affairs, attended the ceremony and delivered remarks on behalf of the Government of Guyana. He thanked the Government of Japan for its support and highlighted that the center has great potential to utilize for the community development and to enhance leadership for the indigenous people in Guyana. Mr. Toshihide Kanaya, Second Secretary at the Embassy of Japan, expressed his appreciation for the hard work that went into the completion of the centre and the importance of maintaining the facility as more people would be benefit from this project in the long term. Also in attendance at the ceremony were Ms. Sherie Samantha Fedee, Permanent Secretary of Indigenous Peoples’ Affairs; Mr. Vincent Henry, CEO of Region 9, and other project stakeholders.

The Government of Japan welcomes further opportunities to work with the Government and the People of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, with a view to strengthening the bonds of friendship and mutual understanding between the two countries.

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Mr. Toshihide Kanaya, Second Secretary, receives local handmade craft



Mr. Sydney Allicock, Minister of Indigenous Peoples' Affairs, delivers his remarks



Mr. Toshihide Kanaya, Second Secretary, delivers remarks on behalf of the Government of Japan



Traditional dance performance at the ceremony



The Multi-purpose center



Mr. Kanaya and other participants at the project site

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