

8 June 2021

PRESS RELEASE

**Commissioning Ceremony for Multi-Purpose Center Project in Grenada**

A Commissioning Ceremony for the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project (GGP) entitled “The Project for the Construction of Multi-purpose Center” was held at 4:30 pm on Tuesday 8 June 2021 at the newly constructed Multi-purpose Center in La Mode, Grenada, with virtual participation from Port of Spain by the Embassy of Japan.

Faith Community Church of Grenada received US\$86,026 in support from the Government of Japan, for the construction of the multi-purpose center that will now serve as a pre-school and skills training center for the community of La Mode. This project is expected to improve the standard of education, increase productivity and decrease the rate of unemployment in the community, by creating a dedicated space for pre-school education and vocational training for youth.

Ambassador of Japan, Tatsuo Hirayama, brought remarks on behalf of the Government of Japan. Also in attendance were: the Honourable Emmalin Pierre, Minister of Education, Human Resource Development, Religious Affairs & Information; Bishop Joseph Atherley, Regional Bishop of Christian Union Church of the WI Global; Mrs. Maudlyn James, Faith Community Church Administrator and Project Manager; and other stakeholders.

In his remarks, Ambassador Hirayama recognised that the partnership between Grenada and Japan, one based on shared principles and aimed at jointly grappling with common challenges, has remained strong and intact. He also highlighted the education sector as one of the areas most seriously affected by the pandemic and commended the team behind the project for persevering to bring the project to fruition, despite the many challenges. He reiterated that the opening of the center is just the beginning of the project and voiced his hope that it will be effectively utilized so that the community will benefit to the fullest extent.

Remarks were also delivered by Honorable Emmalin Pierre, who thanked the Government of Japan for its partnership and contribution to the project, noting that the Ministry will continue to support the project wherever it can. She also applauded the team that worked on the project, expressing that small groups can achieve great things. In her address, Mrs. James shared that, starting in July, the church will begin vocational training at the center with a 6-week training in sewing. In the future, they plan to offer trainings in baking and food preservation and will also host remedial classes.

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

*For further information, please contact:*  
Economy and Development Cooperation Section  
Embassy of Japan in Trinidad and Tobago  
Tel: (868)-628-5991/3 Ext. 219/234  
E-mail: ecocoop@po.mofa.go.jp





Youth Member, Aaron Pierre delivers welcoming remarks



Ambassador Hirayama delivers remarks



Hon. Emmalin Pierre delivers remarks



Multipurpose Center



Unveiling of the sign and plaque



Children in the pre-school classroom

**END**

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