

2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2021

PRESS RELEASE

Kick off Meeting

“Support the Development of Solar Floating Photovoltaic Energy in Suriname”  
funded by the IDB-managed Japan Special Fund

The Kick-off Meeting for the Technical Cooperation “Support the Development of Solar Floating Photovoltaic Energy in Suriname”, funded by the Japan Special Fund through the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), was held virtually at 10:00 am on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2021.

The meeting was led by Ms. Mariko Russell, IDB Chief of Operations in Suriname. The Embassy of Japan was represented by Ambassador Tatsuo Hirayama, who delivered remarks on behalf of his Government. Also in attendance were Mr. Eddy Frankel, Director, Staatsolie Power Company, Ms. Iris Sandel, Director of Development Financing, Ministry of Finance of Suriname, and Mr. Shigeo Shimizu, IDB Executive Director (Japan).

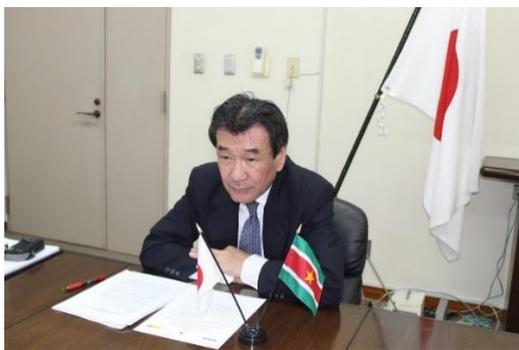
In his remarks, Ambassador Hirayama expressed his appreciation to the IDB and the Government of Suriname for launching the project by utilizing the IDB-managed Japan Special Fund. Ambassador Hirayama extended his hope that more regional projects would be realized in the future by utilizing the said Fund in order to optimize Japan’s expertise and experiences in a number of areas. He stressed the importance of introducing renewable energy in Suriname, considering the country’s anticipated economic growth, and believed that the project would open a way for the utilization of renewable energy in Suriname more broadly.

After acknowledging all the efforts of those involved in launching the project, Executive Director Shimizu stressed the importance of addressing global climate change issues and stated that the IDB will continue to support the introduction of renewable energy to achieve sustainable development.

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

(About the Project)

The objective of the project is to promote the development of renewable energy in Suriname by supporting the establishment of a proper strategy, policy and regulatory framework in the field of solar floating photovoltaic (PV) energy, and also by preparing a feasibility study for a floating solar PV installation in the Afobaka hydropower dam, making use of the expertise developed by other countries. The project will be implemented with a budget of US\$300,000.



Ambassador Tatsuo Hirayama



Virtual Kick off Meeting participants

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