

8 December 2021

PRESS RELEASE

Commissioning Ceremony for Medical Service Centre Project in Guyana

The Commissioning Ceremony for the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) entitled "The Project for the Construction of a Medical Service Centre" was held on Wednesday 8th December, 2021 in Georgetown, Guyana. The Iwokrama International Centre for Rainforest Conservation and Development received a grant totalling US\$89,900 from the Government of Japan to construct a medical centre in the Rupununi District. The project will improve access to trained medical services for communities in the hinterland, benefitting over 600 persons in and around the Iwokrama forest.

Counsellor Yasuhiko Kamada of the Embassy of Japan attended the ceremony together with Ambassador George Talbot, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Mr. Kashir Khan, Honorary Consul General for Japan in Guyana, Bradford Allicock, Chairman of North Rupununi District Development Board, Dane Gobin, CEO of Iwokrama and other stakeholders.

Counsellor Kamada expressed that it was his pleasure to be able to mark the completion of the project. He shared his sincere appreciation to the Iwokrama team for their dedication and hard work in completing the project even under extremely challenging circumstances caused by COVID-19. Counsellor emphasised the significance of the project as it serves a basic human need for more timely, accessible and adequate healthcare and communicated his hopes that it will lead to improved health outcomes and quality of life for community members of North Rupununi.

In his remarks, Ambassador Talbot conveyed his honour to be present at the completion ceremony given his 30-year relationship with Iwokrama. He shared his sincere gratitude for this expression of Japan's cooperation and support for Guyana's development by advancing healthcare for citizens far and wide and stated his hope to strengthen relations between Japan and Guyana.

The Government of Japan welcomes further opportunities to work with the Government of Guyana, with a view toward strengthening the bonds of friendship and mutual understanding.



Left to right: Ambassador Talbot, Bradford Allicock, Counsellor Kamada, Dane Gobin and Honorary Consul Kashir Khan



Counsellor Yasuhiko Kamada delivers remarks



George Talbot, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, delivers remarks



Bradford Allicock, Toshao, Fairview and Chairman, North Rupununi District Development Board delivers remarks



Dane Gobin, CEO Iwokrama, delivers remarks



Vanessa Benn, Iwokrama, delivers closing remarks

For further information, please contact:
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