

PRESS RELEASE

Japan Pledges USD 33 Million Concessional Loan for Guyana's Water Management Systems

On January 22, 2026, His Excellency Dr. Akima Umezawa, Ambassador of Japan to the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, and the Honourable Hugh Todd, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, signed the Exchange of Notes for a concessional loan valued at approximately thirty-three million and sixty thousand US dollars (USD \$33,060,000) to co-finance the Guyana Climate Resilient Water and Sanitation Infrastructure Improvement Programme with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

The programme, which will be carried out by the IDB in conjunction with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), includes the construction of a water treatment plant and water transmission and distribution network in Guyana's Diamond District. This will help to manage the country's capacity to address non-revenue water, in addition to improving access to safe drinking water while meeting the increasing yearly water demand.

Ambassador Umezawa acknowledged that Guyana's unprecedented economic expansion necessitated a shift to world-class water management systems, and expressed his hope that this project will fully leverage Japan's technology and experience in the field. He further emphasised that this project represented more than just infrastructure since it also served as a symbol of the power of the people to build their own future.

Minister Todd highlighted Japan's longstanding development philosophy of prioritising human development and quality of life, noting its alignment with Guyana's national development agenda which similarly places people at the heart of progress. He recognised that the Diamond District's growing population required more reliable water systems, and expressed appreciation for the Government of Japan's support in meeting these needs.

The Government of Japan welcomes further opportunities to work with the Government and people of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, with a view to advancing sustainable development through continued cooperation.



(Photo Credit: Department of Public Information of Guyana)

H.E. Dr. Akima Umezawa, Ambassador of Japan, and the Honourable Hugh Todd, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, sign the Exchange of Notes.



(Photo Credit: Department of Public Information of Guyana)

Ambassador Umezawa and Minister Todd after signing the Exchange of Notes.

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