

JICA Newsletter

—Leading the “Caribbean” World with Trust —

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JICA is a **Japanese** government agency responsible for executing **Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA)**. JICA has **96** overseas offices (as of July, 2020) and conducts ODA projects in **150** developing countries (during fiscal year 2019). JICA has offices in St. Lucia, Jamaica, Belize and Dominican Republic in the Caribbean. We are enhancing the capacity of DR office to serve better to Caribbean people.



JICA Headquarters dispatched a mission to the region from March 5 to March 8, 2023 along with the expert team on the project, **Marine Litter Management in the Caribbean Region**. JICA’s mission visited related agencies in Jamaica, Guyana and the CARICOM Secretariat and discussed a further cooperation on the sector. Other countries included in the project are Antigua and Barbuda, St. Lucia and Grenada. JICA’s project team at the CARICOM Secretariat in Guyana.

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JICA’s Regional Development Advisor attached to Sistema Integral de Centro America (SICA) , Ms. Mami Sakurai, visited the CARICOM Secretariat on March, 9, 2023 and discussed with the team from Foreign and Community Relations (FCR) the possible collaboration between the CARICOM Secretariat / Regional Institutions and the counterparts of SICA.

More information : [Agencia de Cooperación Internacional del Japón \(JICA\) - Portal del SICA](https://www.jica.go.jp/portal/sica/)



The CARICOM Secretariat and Guyana benefitted from JICA’s grant project, **Project for Renewable Energy and the Improvement of Power System, 2018-2023**. After the installation of the solar panels, there were a few issues, but finally the project was completed successfully. The last part of the project was a soft component, which comprised a workshop for the maintenance of the PV system and BEMS (Building and Energy Management System). Both systems were installed at the Secretariat. This project is a showcase for the region. Visit the CARICOM Secretariat to see these systems. You all are welcome!

The Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP)

JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Programs are a form of technical cooperation that JICA carries out in Japan. Some of the knowledge that Japanese society has accumulated, including its background in areas such as organizational know-how and social systems, can only be understood through first-hand experience. The programs are an important means of technical cooperation which supports human resource development and resolving issues in developing countries.



Haitian Trainee participated in a JICA's training course! Mr. Sylvain SAMA, Director of the Northeast Agricultural Department at the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR), joined in "Participatory Irrigation Management System for Paddies", Hokkaido, Japan.



The General Assembly of **JICA Alumni Association in Jamaica (JAAJ)** was held in Kingston, Jamaica. Alumni association is a group of ex participants of the JICA's KCCP. In Jamaica, there are 650 members registered in the association. In the assembly, association's activities were presented and the board members were elected for FY2023. For more information : [JAAJ Annual Report 2022 \(jica.go.jp\)](https://www.jica.go.jp/jaa/)

JICA Alumni Association

Each year, around 60-70 government officials from each member states participate in the KCCP. Up to now total of more than 1,000 government officials from CARICOM region have participated in KCCP from the year of 2000. The alumni association is a network of the to expand knowledge learnt in Japan or conduct cultural events. Long-lasting relationship with the alumni is our hope.

Mr. OTA Yuzo, Disaster risk reduction and management, attached to National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO), St. Lucia, supports liaison work with the 18 local disaster management and also supports the holding of evacuation drills and workshops to raise residents' awareness of disaster prevention.



Ms. Kudo Mutsumi, welfare and Education for person with disabilities, works at Sufriere Special Education and Rehabilitation Centre, St. Lucia and suggest individualized support method and teaching materials utilizing familiar materials.

JICA Volunteer

JICA's volunteer programs support activities by Japanese citizens who wish to cooperate in the economic and social development as well as the reconstruction of developing countries. Through these cooperation activities, participating volunteers can not only contribute to the development of partner countries but also gain valuable experience in terms of international goodwill, mutual understanding and an expansion in their international perspectives. 1,071 volunteers have been working with Caribbean people so far (as of June 2023).

The Project for Strengthening Sustainable Use and Management of Coastal Fisheries Resource in CARICOM Countries covers 6v(Six) member states, namely St. Kitts and Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia and Grenada. **Mr. MIYAHARA Tetsuya**, a Japanese expert, had a meeting with Choiseul Sea moss Farmers Group (photo on the left), a Praslin Sea moss farmer teaches sea moss planting to Choiseul Sea Moss Farmers Group (on the right). For more information : <https://www.facebook.com/jicasaintluciaoffice?mibextid=LQQJ4d>



Mr. NAKAMURA Hayato, Expert on Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction for CDEMA, handed over emergency equipment to the selected schools through Ministry of Education in St. Lucia.



Joint mission with CDEMA CU and Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM) in Trinidad and Tobago to share the good practices for establishing a disaster information dashboard.

Grant Aid in the Region
Mr. KOMIYA Shohei, Assistant Director of Grant Aid Project Management Division 1 of JICA HQ along with Mr. MIMURA Ichiro, Resident Representative of JICA St. Lucia discuss on **The Project for Reconstruction of Bridges in Cul-De-Sac Basin, St. Lucia** with Mr. Ivor Daniel, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Infrastructure, Port Services and Transport.



UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2023 Eight(8) short term volunteers arrive in St. Lucia
Oct.23-25, 2023 Project Completion Seminar: project's accomplishment and future application to the waste management in the Caribbean region will be held in Georgetown, Guyana