

JICA Newsletter

—Leading the “Caribbean” World with Trust —

September 30, 2023

Volume 2

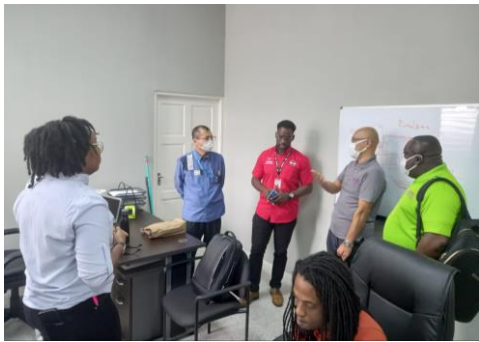
Email: tatsuya.morita@caricom.org



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.



Grand Anse Bay, Grenada



Mr. NAKAMURA Hayato, an Expert on Comprehensive

Disaster Risk Reduction for CDEMA visits the sites (office) of the JICA's Grant aid project for "Improvement of the emergency communication system in Jamaica", which is implemented with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM). Whilst the CDEMA and some selected countries in the region are enhancing "Early Warning for All" initiatives in the Caribbean region, JICA Jamaica and CDEMA Expert urge the ODPEM to share the project implementation experience in the region. More information: <https://www.odpem.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/JICA-Project-brief.pdf>

Mr. Tatsuya Morita, CARICOM Advisor, visited ministries of Agriculture and farmers in Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Dominica.



The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Enterprises in Belize (MAFSE), commenced the **Advisory services on With/Post COVID-19 Agricultural Value Chain Improvement in Belize** in February 2023. The project aims to improve the value chain of potatoes, coconut, and pitahaya, targeting different markets, import substitutes, export, and domestic tourism industries. In August 2023, JICA and MAFSE jointly conducted coconut tree management training and financial literacy training for potato farmers with the assistance of the Caribbean Agricultural Research & Development Institute and Sembrando Vida.

**25 %
by 2025
Vision**

**Reduction in
Regional Food
Import Bill**



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.



Mr. Haseley Straughn, Digital Development Coordinator of the Ministry of Industry, Innovation, Science and Technology in Barbados, participated in “Capacity Building in International Law and Policy Formation for Enhancement of Measures to Ensure Cybersecurity” held in August 2023 in Japan. **Ms. Elvinette Wilson, program officer of JICA St. Lucia**, is in charge of JICA’s training courses. She coordinates debriefing sessions with the participants of the training courses.



Mr. Dwayne Cenac, General Manager of the Grenada Electricity Service Ltd. shared the training experience. Please visit JICA St. Lucia office on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/100064574060668/post/s/707304694765326/?mibextid=I6gGtw>

Mr. Ichiro Mimura, Resident Representative of JICA St. Lucia, visited **St. Kitts and Nevis** and paid a courtesy call to **Ms. Kaye Bass, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**.



Mr. Mimura also visited **Old Road Fisheries Complex** accompanied by **Mr. Asim Jenkins, Manager of the Complex**. More information: <https://dmrskn.com/completion-of-the-fishery-equipment-and-machinery-project-in-st-kitts-and-nevis/>

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.

JICA Alumni Association in Jamaica (JAAJ) participated in the Institute of Jamaica, East Street Junior Centre Summer School Programme, focusing on aspects of Japanese culture; storytelling, music and fashion. Children between 6-17 yrs. participated in the programme.



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).



Ms. Natsumi Nagamura, one of JICA Volunteer, doing craft work with students from the Edgehill School of Special Education, located in St. Ann, Jamaica

Mr. Hayato NAKAMURA, JICA Individual expert for Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction for the CDEMA Coordinating Unit **completed his assignment** on 16th September. He started deployment amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and sat together with the region for the new normal of the hazard situation in the region; the complexity of the disaster risks. In such a situation, he has worked in various areas on DRR- advocacy on the updated risks and opportunities with Japan for both Japan and the Caribbean side, development of tourism resiliency seminars and workshops, conducting dialogue with various stakeholders for further capacity enhancement against disasters in the region, etc. **Thank you very much, Nakamura san. We'll miss you!**



The Project for Strengthening Sustainable Use and Management of Coastal Fisheries Resource in CARICOM Countries:

Mr. Tetsuya Miyahara, Statistics / Seamoss cultivation / Project coordination, conducted a regional seminar and visited CRFM in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



CARICOM Advisor visited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in **Suriname**. Significant discussions were held on the development of Suriname. He also visited Korps Politie Suriname (Suriname Police Force) to check on the security situation in **Suriname**.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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