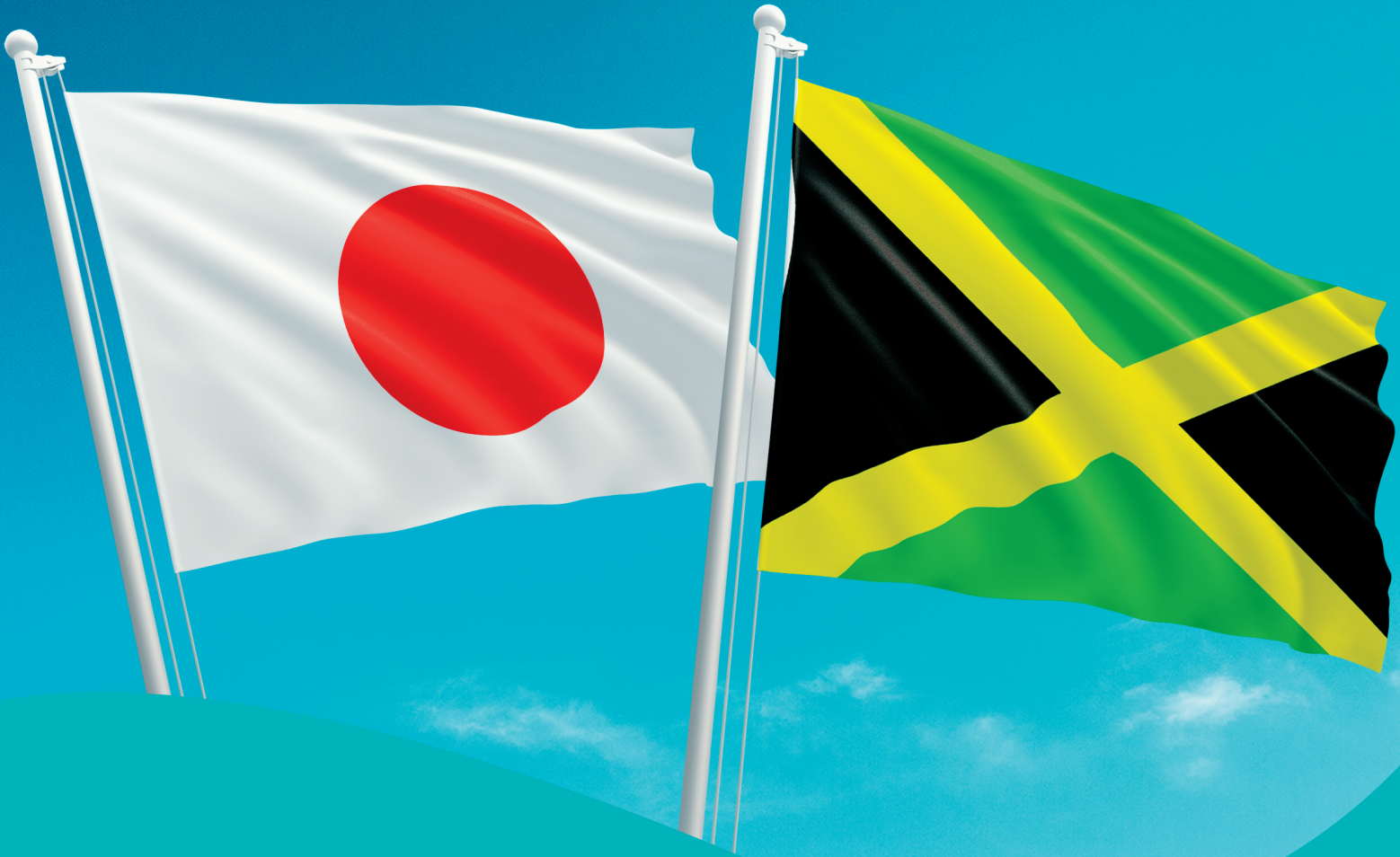




Japan International
Cooperation Agency



2022

JICA Jamaica Newsletter

Message

Resident Representative, JICA Jamaica

While the coronavirus pandemic is still affecting the world, there has been a resumption in JICA's volunteer programme. One of the overseas cooperation volunteers who went home to Japan in March 2020 returned in November 2022, and the general dispatch of volunteers has continued since then. While we continue to have online meetings with Jamaica's governmental agencies, in August 2022, we resumed face-to-face meetings with our main governmental partner, the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ). I feel that we are now able to see the range of new collaborations while continuing with the thorough implementation of coronavirus countermeasures.

In terms of development issues, by observing the movement to strengthen cooperation with agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing, etc. in the tourism industry and the "Grow Smart and Eat Smart" policy launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, we can feel that the Jamaican government is aiming to build a resilient social infrastructure that is resistant to disasters, and JICA's response to such a strong commitment from Jamaica is an urgent issue.

The "Data Collection Survey on Development Cooperation With/Post COVID-19 Society in Central America and the Caribbean Region" which is being conducted by JICA for two phases until the end of FY2022 is the first of JICA's response and both sides (Japan and Jamaica) have agreed on the formulation of the following new projects.

- 1 Enhancement of Sharing experience/knowledge and partnership with Caribbean region countries on tourism crisis management (third-country training); and**
- 2 International Training Course on the Community Police-KOBAN System (third country training).**

In addition, we are earnestly working on the formation of new collaborative projects in the fields of Education, Fisheries and Regional Branding. We are looking to greatly rebuild for children, fishermen and small and medium-sized Enterprises who have been severely affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

I ask myself: In the nearly half a century since the development cooperation between Japan and Jamaica began, have we been able to build a Flagship project that we can be proud of?

We hope to progress to the launch of flagship projects, which will lead to a brighter future.

JICA is coming back!



Mr Mitsuyoshi Kawasaki,
Resident Representative,
JICA Jamaica



JICA volunteer, Ms. Mikiko Takeda with JICA's volunteer coordinator, Ms. Tomoki Ashihara



Mr. Andre Adman, Acting Dean of School of Music, Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts with JICA volunteer, Mrs. Yuko Aoki



JICA volunteers, Ms. Natsumi Nagamura and Mrs. Yuko Aoki

JICA Volunteers are Back!

Re-assigned as a Japanese Language Instructor, Mikiko TAKEDA, marks the return of the JICA Volunteer Program in Jamaica. On Monday, November 28, 2022 Ms. Takeda officially resumed duties at the University of the West Indies, Mona, following a few days of re-orientation to the island. Ms. Takeda served for under three months before all Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) in Jamaica returned to their home country at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. She has extensive experience in international affairs both in her home country and overseas.

After Ms. Takeda's arrival, JICA continued to welcome incoming JOCVs to the island. At the end of January, 2023, two more volunteers were re-dispatched to continue their services to the island. They are Mrs. Yuko Aoki and Ms. Natsumi Nagamura.

Mrs. Aoki, a veteran musicologist with a special love for the piano, although an expert with other musical instruments. She is thrilled about the opportunity to return to Edna Manley College of the Performing and Visual Arts to impart knowledge to learners attending the college and youth at risk from peripheral communities.

Ms. Nagamura will once again serve the people of St. Ann at the St. Ann 4-H Club in Brown's Town. She is an avid environmentalist who shares her passion for a clean and healthy environment with everyone and anyone who cares to listen.

Volunteers are usually dispatched for two years in various fields from education, agriculture, occupational therapy, tourism and sports. Since 1989, the Japan International Cooperation Agency in Jamaica has been deploying volunteers to the island under its Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) program. Prior to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in Jamaica in March 2020, four hundred and fifty (450) served in various sectors across the island. The program dispatches enthusiastic Japanese citizens who wish to participate in assisting developing countries while deepening mutual understanding and co-existence in cross-cultural societies.

JICA Chair

JICA Chair's second symposium was held on Tuesday, February 21, at 10:00 a.m., jointly with the University of the West Indies (UWI) MONA Campus. There were approximately 100 participants in attendance including the UWI faculty members and students. Professor Kayo Takuma, Graduate School of Law and Political Science, Tokyo Metropolitan University was invited to speak on "Transformation of Global Health Governance and the Role Japan Plays". The discourse was timely considering the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Having been confined to a computer screen for two years, it was very stimulating and impactful meeting face-to-face. After the lecture, a lively Q&A session ensued with participants.

As the UWI continues to develop human resources in the field of international politics and other disciplines, we hope that this will lead to the continued growth of JICA Chair and the development of international cooperation between Japanese universities and the University of the West Indies.



Professor Kayo Takuma, Graduate School of Law and Politics, Tokyo Metropolitan University with Dr. Kavita Johnson, Lecturer at the UWI, Department of Government.



JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Program

JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP) is a development cooperation initiative with emphasis on a mutual learning process that suits partner countries, while respecting ownership, intentions and intrinsic characteristics of the country concerned. It has also maintained the approach of building reciprocal relationships with developing countries in which both sides learn from each other, grow, and develop together.

The key concept underpinning JICA's operations since its establishment in 1974 has been the conviction that "capacity development" is central to the socioeconomic development of any country. The courses under the Knowledge Co-Creation Program are usually conducted in Japan. Participants acquire useful knowledge and build on their existing expertise and that of their organization. Japan has an adoption and adaptation process with its own share of failures and errors behind numerous success stories. Jamaicans who mainly work with the government of Jamaica benefit from the training each fiscal year. Three courses were held in Japan for the first time since the outbreak of the COVID 19 pandemic. Six(6) other courses were held online.

2022



TPDCo: Jul 4 – Aug 8

Branding & Marketing of Products Utilising Local Resources

Water Resources Authority: Sep 5 – Oct 7

Integrated Water Resources Management



Water Resources Authority: Sep 5 – Oct 7



Integrated Water Resources Management

Ministry of Economic Growth & Job Creation: Sep 26 – Oct 12

Policy Planning Skills for Implementation of REDD+ (For Govt. Execs)



Jamaica Defence Force: Sep 9 – Nov 5



Maritime Search & Rescue, Maritime Disaster Prevention and Marine Environment Protection for Coast Guard Officials

National Solid Waste Management Authority: Aug 30 – Sep 29

Environment Management (Marine Litter Control)



National Environment & Protection Agency: Aug 30 – Sep 29



Environment Management (Marine Litter Control)

Jamaica Constabulary Force: Dec 6 – Dec 8

Community Policing



Jamaica Constabulary Force: Dec 6 – Dec 8



Community Policing

2023

Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries: Jan 10 – Feb 2

Human Resource Development on Private-Public Academia for Agriculture and Rural DX/ Smart Food Chain Co Creation



National Water Commission: Jan 10 – Feb 8



Operation & Maintenance of Urban Water Supply System (Water Quality & Purification)

Ministry of Tourism: Jan 25 – Mar 3

Human Resource Development for Creating Tourism Destination for Sustainable Tourism



JICA's Ongoing Projects

Advisors for Marine Plastic Litter Management

DEC 2021 - JAN 2024

Target Countries: Jamaica, Antigua & Barbuda, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Guyana

PROJECT PURPOSE: To strengthen the capacity of target countries to address waste management priorities that focus on the prevention of plastic waste from entering the ocean, and results and lessons learned from national efforts will be shared with the Caribbean region.



Technical Cooperation Project: to Promote Energy Efficiencies

MAY 2019 - MAY 2023

PROJECT PURPOSE: To enhance human and institutional capacities for the introduction of Renewable Energy and Promotion of Energy Efficiency.



Grant Project: Improvement of Emergency Communication System

APR 2017 – FEB 2024

1.4 Billion JPY (1.6 Billion JMD)

SCOPE OF EQUIPMENT PROVISION: Disaster-Emergency Communication System, Early Warning System, Maintenance Equipment, tools, etc.



Loan Project: Energy Management and Efficiency Programme

NOV 2017 – DEC 2025

15 Million USD (Co-financed with IDB)

SCOPE OF PROGRAMME: Retrofitting of Government facilities, Installation of UTMS (Urban Transport Management System), Training of Facilities' Managers & Operators



2018

Jamaican lecturer from the Caribbean Maritime University selected as recipient of “the Future Leaders in Latin America and the Caribbean Programme” scholarship for a doctoral degree in Marine Engineering in Tokyo.



2019

[Technical Cooperation](ON-GOING) Commencement of “The Project to Promote Energy Efficiency in Caribbean Countries” to improve energy security through the introduction of renewable energy and promotion of energy efficiency. Period: 2019 - 2023

Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Most Honourable Andrew Holness, ON, MP, paid an official working visit to Japan and met with JICA’s President Dr. KITAOKA Shinichi.



20

[Data Collection Survey] “Collection Survey on Marine Resources”
Re
KCCP facilitated short-term sessions for Jamaica and



2017

[ODA Loan](ON-GOING) Commencement of “Energy Management and Efficiency Programme” to introduce energy-saving technologies and equipment. Amt: 15 Million USD
[Grant Aid](ON-GOING) Commencement of “The Project for Improvement of Emergency Communication System” to improve digital radio communication system. Amt: 1.4 Billion Yen

2015

[Cultural Grant] “The Project for the Improvement of the Exhibition and Audiovisual Equipment of the Institute of Jamaica” Amt: 58 Million Yen
Visit of then Prime Minister ABE Shinzo, first Japanese Prime Minister to visit Jamaica.

2013

[Cultural Grant] “The Project for the Improvement of Japanese Language Learning Equipment of the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus”.
Amt: 27 Million Yen



1989

Establishment of JICA Jamaica Office in Kingston. The first three JICA volunteers arrived in Jamaica under the JOCV Programme.



1991

[ODA Loan] Commencement of “North Coast Development Project” to improve sewerage, roads, ports and drains. Amt: 8.6 Billion Yen



1997

[Technical Cooperation] Commencement of “The Improvement of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)”. Period: 1997 - 2002



1988

[ODA Loan] Commencement of “Montego Bay Water Supply (Great River) Project”. Amt: 4.7 Billion Yen



1987

Exchange of Notes between the governments of Jamaica and Japan for dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV)

1984

[ODA Loan] Commencement of “Blue Mountain Coffee Development Project”. Amt: 5.9 Billion Yen



Japan International Cooperation Agency

2020
 North and Latin America Data
 e Plastic Litter in the Caribbean
 egion”
 n online courses- seven training
 one for the Bahamas. [KCCP]



2021
 Data Collection Survey]“Cooperation for Development with Post-
 COVID-19 Society in Central American and the Caribbean Region”
 [Information Collection and Confirmation Survey]
 ”Development Needs and Potentials for the Introduction of
 Hydrogen Technology and Value Chain in Latin America”



2022
 Re-dispatch of the first JICA volunteer after
 Covid-19 pandemic



2008
 JICA merged with the development
 assistance section of Japan Bank for
 International Cooperation (JBIC) making
 JICA then the world’s largest bilateral
 development agency.

2007
 [Technical Cooperation] Commencement
 of “Capacity Building of Water
 Maintenance”.
 Period: 2007 - 2010

2004
 “Human Security” became one of the
 three important pillars of JICA’s reform
 plan

1998
 [Technical Cooperation] Commencement of
 “Strengthening of Health Care in the South Region
 of Jamaica” to prevent and control chronic non-
 communicable diseases. Period: 1998 – 2003
 JICA Alumni Association of Jamaica (JAAJ)
 voluntarily established by former participants of
 JICA’s training programme.

2001
 Dispatch of the first batch of
 Senior Volunteers to Jamaica.

2002
 [ODA Loan] Commencement of “The
 Kingston Metropolitan Area (KMA) Water
 Supply Project” Amt: 6.6 Billion Yen



1977
 The first Jamaican
 participants accepted for
 JICA’s Technical Training
 Programme in Japan.

1974
 Establishment of the Japan International
 Cooperation Agency in Japan.

1964
 Establishment of diplomatic relations
 between Jamaica and Japan.

Knowledge Co-Creation Programme: Face to Face and Virtually in Japan



RECIPIENT 1 **Sharon Williams**

POSITION: Customer Relations Officer

ORGANIZATION: Western Parks & Markets, WPM Waste Management Limited/National Solid Waste Management Authority

KCCP COURSE: Environmental Management, (Marine Litter Control) – Young Leaders

DURATION: August 30, 2022 to September 29 2022



My experience was the absolute best. Not only was I able to experience and enjoy the rich Japanese culture but I also learnt a great deal about Environmental Management and Marine Control and how to use drone technology as well as a variety of computer applications that can help in the study of solid waste. I also learnt about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and how they can be incorporated in the various community related activities that I am responsible for implementing in my company. While coastal debris was a huge part of the course, I also learnt about general environmental activities being undertaken by the citizens in Japan such as how waste is handled at music festivals, within various municipalities, recycling centres (such as Coop Sapporo) and government offices. ”

RECIPIENT 2 **Johnil Morgan**

POSITION: Environmental Management Systems Officer

ORGANIZATION: National Environment and Planning Agency

KCCP COURSE: Environmental Management, (Marine Litter Control) – Young Leaders

DURATION: August 30, 2022–September 29, 2022



The Sound Material–Cycle Society is a concept that resonated with me from my experience with the training programme. This concept highlighted that the principles of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle are the foundational basis of the waste management legislations in Japan which in turn informs the everyday waste separation habits and principles of the local Japanese people. Garbage and waste sorting/separation into multiple categories for the best environmental management is a natural streamlined process for the Japanese and a process I dream will one day be adapted in Jamaica. ”



RECIPIENT 3 **Commander Alvin Gayle**

POSITION: Brigade Executive Officer

ORGANIZATION: Maritime Air and Cyber Command, Jamaica Defence Force

KCCP COURSE: Maritime Search and Rescue, Maritime Disaster Prevention, and Marine Environment Protection for Coast Guard Officials

DURATION: September 9, 2022–November 5, 2022

“ Via this course participants learnt about best practices as experienced by Japan. Particularly instructive was our exposure to the ‘public/private’ Oil Spill Response Training and Recovery System, employed by the Government of Japan and operated by their Maritime Disaster Prevention Centre.”

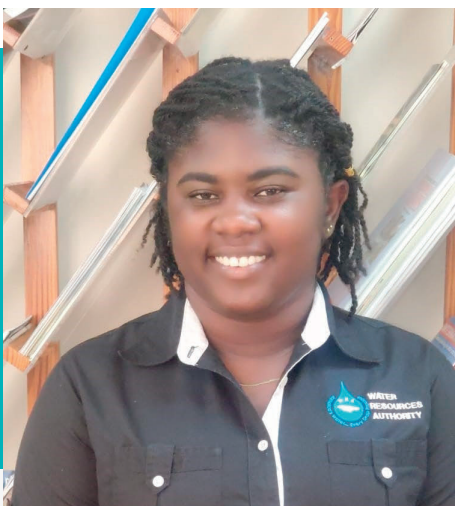
RECIPIENT 4 **Maurice Wallace**

POSITION: Hydrogeologist

ORGANIZATION: Water Resources Authority

KCCP COURSE: Integrated Water Resources Management (A)

DURATION: September 5, 2022 – October 7, 2022



RECIPIENT 5 **Shavel Watson**

POSITION: Assistant Hydrologist

ORGANIZATION: Water Resources Authority

KCCP COURSE: Integrated Water Resources Management (A)

DURATION: September 5, 2022 – October 7, 2022

“ Our participation in the JICA short-course on IWRM has been really beneficial to our professional lives. We obtained some understanding of the water-related problems in Japan and other nations, as well as the ongoing efforts to address these issues.”

Sustainable Development Goals Scholarship Programme



Jovi Joanna Williams

ORGANIZATION: Planning Institute of Jamaica
POSITION: Programme Administrator
UNIVERSITY: Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
DEGREE: MSc. in International Cooperation Policy
ARRIVAL DATE: March 18th, 2022
END DATE: August 2023
PREFECTURE: Oita Prefecture

One insight I have acquired during my studies is the need to create more marketable industries. Identifying niche markets and building an industry out of them has worked successfully for the Asia Pacific countries. Although each country has its own unique profile, this would enlist effective market assessment and public-private partnerships.

I am also very interested in ways economies can create new markets consequently creating employment opportunities for its labor force, I aspire to participate and contribute to the knowledge exchange and technical discussions about creating the space to introduce new industries to Jamaica's economy as a forward push towards our National Development Plan.



Kellie Gough

ORGANIZATION: National Environment and Planning Agency
POSITION: Environmental Economist
UNIVERSITY: Sophia University
DEGREE: Global Environmental Studies
ARRIVAL DATE: September 29, 2022
END DATE: July 2024
PREFECTURE: Tokyo

Living in Japan has been amazing so far. The people are incredibly polite and kind. The environment is clean and feels safe and Japan's level of infrastructural development is a breath of fresh air. I am grateful to be a SDGs scholar and the experience of living and studying in Japan.

My degree program in Japan has opened my eyes to the possibilities of an effective environmental framework and I am eager to share the tools and strategies I've learned so far. I am looking forward to experiencing more of Japanese culture and learning more about environmental management and strategies so I can be better able to contribute to Jamaica's environmental initiatives.

JICA Alumni Association in Jamaica

Building Partnerships, Strengthening Connections.

ACTIVITIES EXECUTED BETWEEN APRIL 2022-MARCH 2023

INTRODUCTION

The JAAJ was established in March 1998, with the support of the Embassy of Japan in Jamaica and JICA Jamaica Office and is one of over one hundred Associations globally, comprised of former participants of JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Training Program in Japan. Each year a number of events are executed engaging the membership. The following are highlights:

NATIONAL TREE PLANTING EXERCISE

The JAAJ's National Tree Planting Exercise was carried out on Tuesday October 11, 2022 at the Red Hills Primary School in St Andrew. Twenty-five seedlings, donated by the Forestry Department, were planted on the school grounds.

From left: Mr. Garfield Murray, JAAJ past president, VP Rachael Reid, Ms. Noriko Oshima- First Secretary & Director of Economic Cooperation, Embassy Japan, Mr Mitsuyoshi Kawasaki, Resident Representative of JICA Jamaica, Mrs. Marilyn Mckoy- President of JAAJ, Mrs. Karen Bailey Coleman, Economic Affairs Department, Embassy of Japan, Former student of Red Hills Primary School, Mr. Paul Messam, Principal of the Red Hills Primary School.



NATIONAL TREE PLANTING EXERCISE

The JAAJ participated with The Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme Alumni Association of Jamaica (JETAA Jamaica) and the Jamaica Environment Trust in the International Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, 17th September 2022 at the Palisadoes Go-Kart Track.



JAAJ/JETAA JOINT COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECT

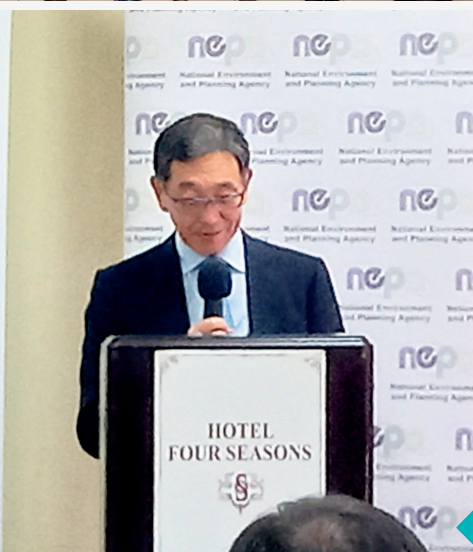
This activity was executed on Saturday February 18, 2023 at the Early Childhood Education and Therapeutic Centre for Children with Disabilities, located on Monk Street, Spanish Town under the management of the Community-based Rehabilitation Jamaica (CBRJ).

JAAJ'S PRESIDENT'S PARTICIPATION IN JICA'S REGIONAL ALUMNI CONFERENCE – FECCEBEJA





2022 IN PICTURES



About JICA

As one of the world's largest bi-lateral cooperation organization, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is an incorporated administrative agency of the Japanese Government with a network of 96 Overseas offices and projects in more than 150 countries including Jamaica. JICA uses an array of development assistance schemes to support each partner country's socioeconomic development such as:

- Technical Corporation
- Official Development Assistance Loans
- Official Development Assistance Grants
- Dispatch of Japanese Volunteers
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Emergency Disaster Relief



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Mission

JICA, in accordance with the Development Cooperation Chapter will work on human security and quality growth.

Vision

“Leading the World with Trust”

JICA, with its partners, will take the lead in forging bonds of trust across the world, aspiring for a free, peaceful and prosperous world where people can hope for a better future and explore their diverse potentials.

Actions

- 1 COMMITMENT**
Commit ourselves with pride and passion to achieving our mission and vision.
- 2 GEMBA**
Dive into the field (“gemba”) and work together with the people
- 3 STRATEGY**
Think and act strategically with broad and long-term perspectives
- 4 CO-CREATION:**
Bring together diverse wisdom and resources.
- 5 INNOVATION**
Innovate to bring about unprecedented impacts.