



GREETINGS BY

MR ANDREW NEITA GENERAL MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE AND

CIVIL WORKS JSIF

Sponsor Signing Ceremony

Raymoth Notice Basic School Expansion and Sanitation Upgrade

Joe Hut, New Testament Church of God

Trelawny

FRIDAY JULY 18, 2014

2:00 P.M.

Salutations

- Mrs. Marissa Dalrymple-Philibert Member of Parliament
Southern Trelawny
- Mr. Paul Patmore Councillor
- Mr. David Foster Development Officer- MOE
- Miss Paula Barrett Parish Manager, S.D.C, Trelawny

I bring you very special greetings on behalf of the Board, Management and Staff of the Jamaica Social Investment Fund.

In partnership with community based organizations such as the very energetic Parents Teachers Association of Raymoth Notice and our multilateral funders, the Government of Jamaica invests in projects which are aimed at delivering sustainable development to selected communities and which, additionally, foster public safety.

This particular partnership was one developed between the government, the Caribbean Development Bank - under the Community Investment Project which is implemented by JSIF - and the Joe Hut community, as we identified the critical importance of improving the teaching-learning environment at Raymoth Notice Basic.

The National Vision 2030 document which outlines Jamaica's hopes for a better developed nation, states that the investments in

education particularly early childhood development, will lead to better performance of our children at all levels and better-qualified and more productive citizens in the future.

The problem we face is that many of our children's educational journey is plagued with deficits and disadvantages. At Raymoth Notice, basic health, safety and the general learning environment is far from adequate. The school will see improvements in sanitation by the addition of flush toilets. The only flush toilet available was initially made for teachers; however this is now used by children as they are

afraid to use the pit latrines as many have water closets in their own homes. The school has no fencing which currently poses serious security concerns as a road runs directly in-front of it.

Indeed, there is a high level of discomfort and distractions within the classroom setting at this school. Three classes are being hosted in an area that should accommodate only one classroom. Additionally, there is no area to accommodate the thematic play areas in the classroom and the teacher's desk is placed in a small passageway to make space for the

children. The confined space hampers the learning process.

At a total Project Cost of J\$24 million, of which JSIF will pay J\$22 million and the community will contribute \$1.94 million in land and services, the proposed upgrade for Raymoth Notice Basic includes ;

- Construction of Two (2) fully equipped classrooms.
- Upgrading and equipping of kitchen: Fridge,

Stove, Cupboards

- Renovation of Sick bay
- Construction of Administrative area
- Upgrade of sanitation facility to include 4 toilets for girls & 3 toilets and 1 urinal for boys
- Construction of play area with equipment (Jungle Gym, Slides, Swings)
- Installation of Perimeter fencing
- Installation of 1 Water Tank and electric pump

This investment is expected to reap significant results as this is a community with high social

capital despite the challenges faced. The administration and the community have taken action to help them which indicates that if the investment is made the community is very likely to maintain it. Additionally the current school building is used extensively for community meetings, polling station in elections and to facilitate all other community activities.

The sponsor body, administration and community members will be trained in project maintenance and will also receive Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) training which will also benefit the student body.

You have our best wishes as we sign on the dotted line today to work together on a project which will have a lasting impact on our children, and all concerned.

I thank you.