



GREETINGS BY

MRS. SCARLETTE GILLINGS

MANAGING DIRECTOR

JAMAICA SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND

AT

THURSDAY JANUARY 12, 2012

SIGNING CEREMONY FOR CRYSTAL CITY

BLUMAH PALACE, PROSPECT, ST. THOMAS 11:00

Salutations

- HON DR. FENTON FERGUSON MP EASTERN ST. THOMAS AND
MINSTER OF HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE
- MR.COTCHESTA WATSON ST. THOMAS SERVICE STATION
NATIONAL HOUSING TRUST (NHT)
- CHAIRMAN
- COMMUNITY MEMBERS
- THE MEDIA

Good day to you all

I bring you greetings on behalf of the board, management and staff of the Jamaica Social Investment Fund.

The New Year signals new beginnings and this is indeed true for the residents of Crystal City, as we are about to embark on this sanitation project which has been 7 years in the making. This would not be possible without the following: funding from the Caribbean Development Bank's Community Investment Project (CIP); collaboration with the National Housing Trust and Food for the poor which provided the land and the 22 houses which will receive the sanitary units and the residents that worked tirelessly and never gave up faith that this day would come.

The JSIF has recognized the link between poor sanitation and poverty reduction and in so doing ensured that sanitation projects are implemented as a part of our menu of sub-project. Recently the Community Investment Project also started sanitation projects in three schools in rural Jamaica.

With this project, I might add, JSIF is also working in accordance with the National Strategic Plan: Vision 2030. It specifically speaks to the National Outcome on “A Healthy and Stable Population”. The national strategies associated with this outcome include: the “Strengthening of disease surveillance, mitigation, risk reduction and the responsiveness of the health system.” This project is therefore can be considered a risk reduction initiative, as the absence of a sanitation system to any margin of population is a health hazard.

This project will be implemented using both the Community Based Contracting (CBC) approach and the traditional modality of JSIF procurement and supervision support; and the works will be undertaken at a total cost of \$44,063,402.00 with JSIF providing \$38,806,702.00 and the community contributing a commendable \$5,256,700.00 million.

This community contribution includes provision of two employment coordinators, land for construction, bushing and clearing of roadway in preparation for rehabilitation, venue for Signing and Handing over ceremonies and Site Meetings and Provision of security for material and equipment.

The sanitation project will also address a number of issues that will see improved living conditions for 225 residents and their environment; as the scope of works involves the construction of bathroom facilities for 22

houses inclusive of a water closet, lavatory basin, shower and multipurpose outdoor wash area.

As a thrust to ensure maintenance and sustainability of these facilities, the direct beneficiaries to this investment will participate in a series of maintenance and hygiene training exercises that will equip them with the necessary skills geared towards proper sanitation practices. A key component of the training will be sensitization in regards to the importance of bill payments for water to ensure that access to a consistent water supply to attend to your sanitation needs is never denied.

We are very pleased to be making this investment and we encourage you to continue to work together to uplift the community of Crystal City. The JSIF looks forward to the successful completion of this project and handing over ceremony.

I Thank You