

# JAMAICA SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND

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## **WATER WOES OVER FOR CATADUPA**

**JSIF News, March 16, 2010:**

The water woes of the Catadupa community in St. James are finally over as yesterday the Catadupa Water Supply system was commissioned giving residents much needed relief after nearly 10 years without sufficient potable water.

The project which is a collaboration between the Jamaica Social Investment Fund and the Ministry of Water and Housing through the Rural Water Supply Limited saw a total investment of J\$22.7 million. More specifically, J\$15.9 from the JSIF from Government of Jamaica funds and J\$6.8 from the Rural Water Supply Limited.

According to State Minister in the Ministry of Water and Housing the Hon. Everald Warmington, the project was initially started by the Jamaica Social Investment Fund in 2001, however there were technical problems with the system which were addressed. This resulted in upgrading and rehabilitation work including the replacement of the then existing pumping equipment with electro-mechanical pumping units and the laying of pipes. However, another challenge was encountered due to the lack of necessary electricity. This aspect of the project was undertaken by the Rural Water Supply Limited and enabled the completion of the works under the project. He also highlighted JSIF's intervention in rural communities across Jamaica noting that "JSIF has been doing exceptional work in bringing water to some of our rural communities".

Omar Sweeney, JSIF's General Manager for Technical Services gave much commendation to the Catadupa Benevolent Society for their perseverance in seeing the

project through to completion despite the challenges. He further encouraged the residents to continue showing ownership of the water supply system and playing their part in its maintenance.

Councillor Gladstone Bent of the Catadupa Division in his address emphasized the need for residents to pay their water bills to enable the water system to operate efficiently.

The Catadupa Water Supply System is now the responsibility of the St. James Parish Council.

Additional information on the JSIF and its projects can be found on the JSIF's website at [www.jsif.org](http://www.jsif.org)

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