



JAMAICA SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND

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Press Release

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Braes River Primary gets new classrooms and Administrative Block.

The community of Braes River in North East St. Elizabeth is to boost its capacity to offer education at the primary level, with the construction of two additional classrooms and an administrative block at the Braes River Primary School.

The total investment cost of the project was 28 million Jamaican dollars and was funded by the Caribbean Development Bank, CDB under the Jamaica Social Investment Fund, JSIF run Community Investment Project, CIP.

The scope of the work included:

- The construction of two Classrooms.
- Construction of a Sanitation Block housing 4 bathrooms for girls and 3 bathroom plus urinals for boys and a sewerage system.
- Roof Rehabilitation and Termite Treatment of Roof.
- Expansion of Principal's Office to include storage area and additional bathrooms for Teachers.

Before the completion of the construction there were issues with accommodation at the school, as the building was partitioned by chalk boards which caused major disruption of classes.

The school also experienced major sanitation issues as it had bathroom facilities and hand washing troughs far away from the classrooms.

A major termite problem also plagued the school.

At the official handing over ceremony held yesterday (January 14, 2016) Education Minister Rev Ronald Thwaites commended JSIF for its work in collaborating with the community for the expansion of the school.

He pointed out that JSIF has done well historically in the in the execution and implementation of the projects throughout Jamaica and Braes River was no exception.

The education minister implored the community to use the institution wisely in propelling themselves forward, he added that rural schools such as Braes River Primary should strive to be centres of excellence.

The school which was opened in 1929 now has a school population of 242 students.

Keisha-Ann Sleight

Senior Communication Officer

Jamaica Social Investment Fund, JSIF

11 Oxford Road, Kingston 5

Email:keishaann.sleight@jsif.org

Telephone: 968-4545; ext: 2285 cell: 276-8390

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