

COMMUNITY e-LINK

"Inna di community"



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The Official Community News!

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Canadian International
Development Agency





Rebuilding lives under ERP

The Emergency Recovery Project (ERP), formerly the Hurricane Dean Emergency Loan is currently funded by the European Union and administered by the World Bank to support the rehabilitation of community infrastructure facilities including early childhood, primary and all-age schools, community health clinics and critical feeder roads which have been damaged by Hurricanes and other weather events.

Additionally the project supports capacity building activities to increase the ability of the communities to respond to natural disasters. To date 94 per cent of the 71 subprojects have been “finally completed” under the original Hurricane Dean programme.

The newer, EU funded T.S. Gustav Emergency Recovery loan (ERL) programme comprises 12 projects all of which are now in practical completion.

Total bank financing for the ERL is US \$7.335 million with \$0.580 million assigned to capacity building and the remainder to technical assistance, infrastructure upgrades and administration. Based on the progress of the work for the Gustav project it expected that all projects will be completed by December 2011.

New Year Surprise for Riversdale

The flowing waters of the Rio Cobre river are the centerpiece of life in Riversdale St. Catherine, but in the rain forest-like conditions created by the body of water, and under destructive weather events, many buildings decay, especially where the community



The Newly refurbished Riversdale Health Centre

cannot afford to maintain them. Such was the case for the Riversdale health centre. Programme manager for the Emergency Relief Fund, Rudyard Williams recalls that up to the middle of 2011, “roof, windows, electrical and infrastructure were in very poor condition.” Now, however, the centre which offers child health (immunization) services, maternal, curative, family planning, anti-natal and postnatal care is being rehabilitated by the government through the Jamaica Social Investment Fund’s Tropical Storm Gustav Emergency Recovery Project. At a cost of \$10, million financed by the European Union and administered by the World Bank, the Riversdale Type III Centre is being renovated to create better operating conditions for staff and community who number just over 5000. Williams notes that the centre was experiencing a series of problems of leaking

and damaged roof that resulted from the passage of successive hurricanes in the last five years, termite infested wooden structures, broken and missing windows a dilapidating, dysfunctional kitchen, inadequate bathroom facilities, no eating area, no incinerator, no dental facilities, and no special bathroom facility for staff members.

“There was also a lack of proper bathroom facilities for the physically challenged and sponging area for fever patients, especially babies and children.”

It could be observed that rotting ceilings and zinc roofing caused several parts of the roof to leak during rain. The leaking roof reduced the number of patients on days when it rained, damaging important dockets with patients medical records. Wet floors also presented safety risk and unsanitary conditions for and patients. The kitchen was

also too small with old and malfunctioning equipment. The ongoing upgrade includes replacement of windows and doors. Repair of the roof, installation of ply-board ceilings, electrical and plumbing upgrades, painting of the building, boundary fence repair, provision of

stove, micro wave, refrigerator for the kitchen, construction of dining area for staff and patients and installation of shelves for filling dockets. Filing cabinets will also be provided.

“They also used to burn rubbish on the compound. We have provided bins for the disposal of garbage,” Williams states.

The programme will also see the installation of bath and shower fixtures for sponging of fever patients especially babies and children, construction of bathroom for physically challenged, new bathrooms for staff and patients, dressing room and the building of an incinerator. In the New Year, when you follow the flowing Rio Cobre to Riversdale, what you will see is a health centre fit for the care of newborns, infants and the elderly. They will be serviced in a fully rehabilitated facility which will also be able to serve as emergency shelter in times of disaster.

Photo Gallery Captions

From Page 1 ...

1. Norman Gardens Primary and Junior High Handing Over Ceremony . From left Mrs. Sharon Brown-Burke Councillor (Norman Gardens Division) , Marco Alemani Head of the EU Delegation, Hon Philip Paulwell -MP East Kingston and Port Royal, Giorgio Valentini -World Bank Representative for Jamaica and Mrs. Scarlett Gillings, Managing Director JSIF.

2. Rehabilitation work on the roof at the Alexandria Health Centre in St. Ann.

3. Students and teacher enjoy their newly painted classroom at the Norman Gardens Primary School and Junior High.

4. Patients in the waiting Area at the Moneague Health Center in St. Ann .

5. Helen Jenkinson; Head of the Economic and Social Development Section, Delegation of the European Commission to Jamaica, Former World Bank Representative in Jamaica Badrul Haque and Mrs. Scarlett Gillings Managing Director JSIF at the signing ceremony TS GUSTAV.

Safety improved for Bybrook Basic

*Rain, rain, go away,
Come again another day;
Little Johnny wants to play
Rain, rain, go away.*

The sound of infants' chanting voices inside the Bybrook Basic school in St. Catherine will soon be echoing from walls and roof which are much more able to withstand weather events than ever before. At a total project cost of J\$5,642,839.80, the basic school is being rehabilitated under the Tropical Storm Gustav Emergency Recovery Project implemented by the JSIF and funded by the European Union with administration by the World Bank. The school building has suffered from impacts of tropical storm Gustav and preceding storms in the last 5-7 years with no repairs to the building. The entire roof was infested with termites and is now being replaced. The school, located in close proximity to railway lines used by the bauxite company, is not fenced and so teachers have to be on constant look out for students who play on the lines

Bybrook Basic School before rehabilitation



TS Gustav Project intends to fence the perimeter of the school to address this serious safety risk. There is also no appropriate play equipment or safe and conducive play area at the school. Three teachers, principal and 50 students including 26 girls and 24 boys students are directly affected by the unsuitable learning environment. Work to be done at this school include installation of 180m of chain-link perimeter fence 2.1 m high ; construction of play area on the school grounds to include swing, jungle gym, see-

saw and 1200mm high chain link fence and gravel. The schools is also being repainted, windows and doors changed, security grills installed and computers, refrigerators, cooking stove and new desk and chairs put in. The sewer system was also dilapidated and is being upgraded. Soon, when the rain comes again, the little ones and their teachers will be working under a more beautiful and secure environment. New weather events and interlopers will be less likely to cause harm.

A new ambulance, upgraded health centre for Moneague

It is not often that Jamaicans outside of urban centres see an ambulance in use every day in their community. For the residents of Moneague in St. Ann, the local health centre will be receiving a brand new vehicle in the New Year, as part of a total upgraded work at the health facility.

The Type II health clinic is being renovated under the Jamaica Social Investment Fund's Tropical Storm Recovery Grant funded by the

European Union and administered by the World Bank. Total project cost is \$7,678,569.22. It serves an



estimated population of more than 10,000 persons was damaged by the passage of Hurricane Gustav which destroyed the roof and medical

records. In cases of extreme weather conditions, the centre had to remain closed. The scope of work under the TS Gustav upgrade includes roof repairs, fencing (160m), painting of entire building (740 sqm) and bathroom repairs. Improvements to the building include work on the pharmacy - grillwork, shelving, provision of computer and refrigerator, electrical works, termite treatment, with landscaping for the wider grounds. Improved quarters for medical staff will also provide a solution for doctors who do not live in the community.

Information Corner

What are the eligibility criteria for community projects?

- Project must be on the JSIF menu (i.e fall within the types of Community Projects considered for funding).
- Project must respond to a priority development need supported by the majority of the community.
- Project must be proposed by a community-based group, either on its own or in partnership with NGOs, service clubs, private sector or local government entities.
- Willingness of the community to provide a contribution to the total cost of the project in cash or kind and to maintain the facility/ services.



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The Tropical Storm Gustav Recovery Programme has rehabilitated critical infrastructure such as schools and health Centres.

Upcoming Projects

January 2012

- Crystal City Signing Ceremony
- Alexandra Health Centre Handing Over Ceremony
- Moneague Health Centre Handing Over Ceremony

The New Kitchen Facility at Elim Basic School



Next Project Feature



Jamaica Social Investment Fund

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