



GREETINGS BY

MRS. SCARLETTE GILLINGS

MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE JAMAICA SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND

AT THE

CONTRIVANCE ROAD REHABILITATION SPONSOR SIGNING CEREMONY

AT SHARON GOSPEL ASSEMBLY

ON

FRIDAY JULY 5, 2013 AT 11 A.M

Salutations:

Mr. Audley Shaw, MP, Manchester North Eastern

Elder Ronald White

Mr. Wright (Councilor)

Mr. Oren Osbourne (S. D. C)

Mr Leroy Mitchell (caretaker)

Winston Brown (Assistant President)

Community officials Mrs. Grace Jones, Miss Denise McNamee

And Mr George Jones

Specially invited guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Day to you all.

I bring you greetings on behalf of the Board, Management and Staff of the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF).

The Contrivance feeder road has been in a deplorable condition for over 15 years. According to the Social Development Commission profile, those most affected are the farmers and those with health problems. Approximately 75% of the surveyed households have members living with long standing health problems. It is therefore a justifiable assumption that the rehabilitation of this road should provide greater access for socio-economic activities in the community. The poor road condition limits the access of vital services in the community, as none is located there.

The 2008 PIOJ Poverty Map classifies the community as having approximately 21.80% - 32.90% percent of the population living below the poverty level.

The socio-economic reality of the community is in line with JSIF's targeting methodology which caters to the provision of basic services for the communities which are most in need.

Due to the deplorable condition of the roadway, residents are forced to travel a much longer route and pay up to 5 times more if they want taxis to enter the community. The regular fare from Christiana is \$100, however if the taxi enters the community they charge \$500. The main schools that they attend are in Christiana and Spaulding. Due to the extra walking that children have to do, especially early mornings and late evenings, there is a fear expressed by parents that they will be abducted.

The farmers are a main sub-set of the population who suffer intensely from the virtual `absence` of a roadway. There is a lack of transportation to take goods to the market and in times of drought, the water truck is unable to bring water into the community because the roadway is not easily traversed.

The Community Investment Programme (CIP) funded by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) is the only portfolio at the JSIF that funds rural farm feeder road rehabilitation and owing to the fact that the project fits CIP criteria, funds have been applied accordingly.

The scope of JSIF`s intervention in this community will include:

Bushing	2.5 km
Road Formation	5000 m2
Sub-Base Material	1800 m3
Base Course Material	2212.5 m3
Double Surface Dressing	14,750 m2
V-Drains	2000m

An investment in this community will increase access to social and economic services all of which are located outside of the community.

Considering that the farmers of the community are the primary beneficiaries, JSIF will also offer an Agro-Business training project that the farmers in this community will benefit from. This training project

will expose the farmers to more efficient agricultural and marketing practices.

The maintenance training that JSIF will provide for the group will enable the community to coordinate better with the Parish Council in order to maintain the road.

The total project cost is \$28,490,600.00 with the amount requested of JSIF being \$26,690,600.00 and the community contribution being \$1,800,000.00

As part of the condition for approval for funding, the community is required to make a minimum of 11% of the total project cost as contribution which in this case includes bushing and clearing of roadway in preparation for rehabilitation and the provision of security for material.

The project is expected to last for three (3) months.

Beneficiaries are the estimated 1200 residents of Contrivance who are mainly farmers.

You have our best wishes as we begin to implement this project. We at JSIF look forward to continuing collaboration with community members in every corner of Jamaica, in bringing development to their doorsteps.

I thank you.