



# Changing the Caribbean

CDB'S 2014 PROJECTS

## PURPOSE

“The purpose of the Bank shall be to contribute to the harmonious economic growth and development of the member countries of the Caribbean (hereinafter called the region) and to promote economic cooperation and integration among them, having special and urgent regard to the less developed members of the region”

*Article 1 – Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Development Bank*

## MISSION STATEMENT

CDB’s Mission is to be the leading catalyst in the reduction of poverty through the inclusive and sustainable development of our BMCs by mobilising development resources in an efficient, responsive and collaborative manner with accountability, integrity and excellence.

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# Foreword

Changing the Caribbean lays out the projects that were approved for 2014. Once completed, these projects, will be critical interventions which will positively transform the lives of the more than 16 million men, women, girls and boys in our Borrowing Member Countries (BMC's).

We were pleased to have approved 19 projects across eight sectors valued at USD243.8 mn. Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago and Belize were the three largest beneficiaries with projects valued at USD50 mn; USD40 mn and USD45 mn respectively. The first loan for Suriname, which joined the Bank in 2013, was approved in 2014.

The 'Great Recession' has had a significant impact on the small open economies of the Region. It has also had an impact on the men and women of the CDB. We understand too well the vulnerabilities of our BMCs and have been working feverishly to pursue sustainable solutions to help them through this crucial time. Today our Region needs us more than ever and we have responded and are focused on working harder than ever to improve the lives of children and families across the Caribbean.

Among our focus areas last year, was providing the tools to support policy reform to guide necessary changes to fiscal, economic, and social policy to achieve sustainable and inclusive economic and social development. The Board of Directors approved the use of the policy-based loan (PBL), a valuable and relevant facility, as a most appropriate solution at this time given the fiscal constraints faced by many of our BMCs.

Last year's programme of activities set the platform for 2015, which will see the Bank continuing its focus on reduction of abject poverty via focus on sustainable growth, competitiveness, private sector investment and job creation. The Bank has identified three cross-cutting areas of gender equality; regional co-operation and integration; and energy security for mainstreaming across the Bank's operations. This will help stimulate growth, leverage broader development assistance and improve CDB's role as a development partner. More importantly, these cross-cutting areas support and broaden the development impact of the Bank's interventions for reducing poverty in BMCs.

## **Nigel Romano**

Vice President Operations (Acting)

May 2014 – February 2015

THE PURPOSE OF THE BANK SHALL BE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE HARMONIOUS ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE CARIBBEAN ... AND TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION AMONG THEM, HAVING SPECIAL AND URGENT REGARD TO THE LESS DEVELOPED MEMBERS OF THE REGION.

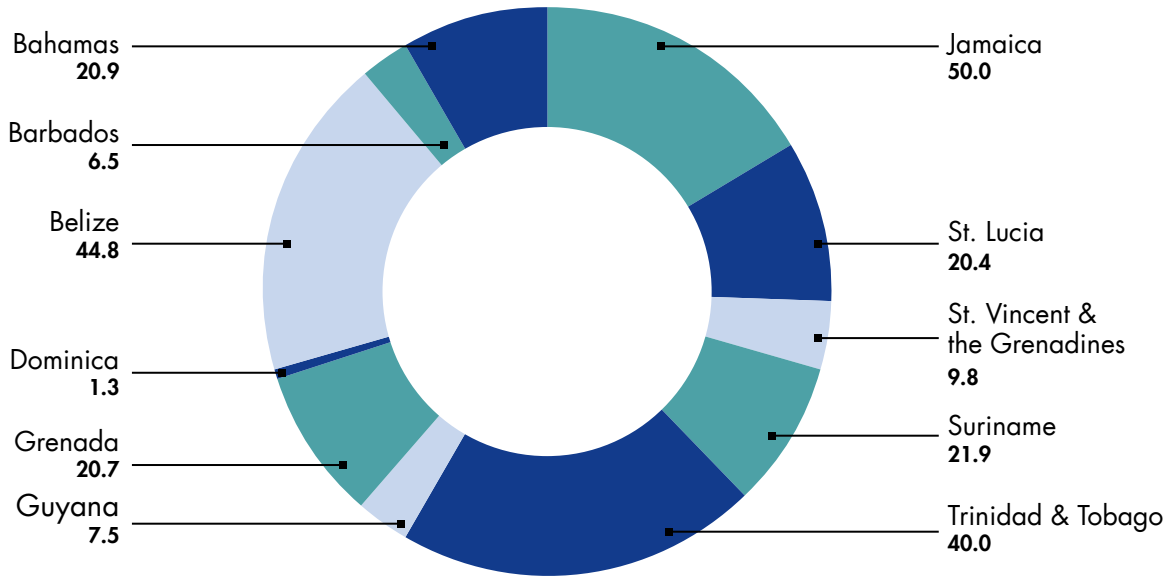
ARTICLE 1 – AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

# Approved 2014 Projects

COUNTRY	TYPE	USD MN
BA	BAHAMAS TECH. & VOC. INSTITUTE ENHANCE.	4.7
BA	COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS	16.2
BD	IMMIGRATION SERV. ENHANCEMENT	6.5
BZ	5TH ROAD - HIGHWAY UPGRADING	29.7
BZ	ROAD SAFETY (ADD. LOAN)	4.6
BZ	7TH CONSOLIDATED LINE OF CREDIT	10.5
DO	NDM - IMMEDIATE RESPONSE LOAN	0.8
DO	EE LINE OF CREDIT - PILOT	0.5
GR	POLICY-BASED LOAN	10.0
GR	SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	10.7
GU	SUGAR INDUSTRY MECHANISATION	7.5
JA	POLICY-BASED LOAN	35.0
JA	6TH INDUSTRIAL LINE OF CREDIT	15.0
SL	NDM - IMMEDIATE RESPONSE LOAN	0.8
SL	VIEUX FORT WATER SUPPLY	19.7
SV	NDM - IMMEDIATE RESPONSE LOAN	0.8
SV	NDM - REHAB & RECONSTRUC.	9.0
SU	TVET - LOWER SECONDARY SCHOOL	21.9
TT	POLICY-BASED LOAN	40.0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>243.8</b>

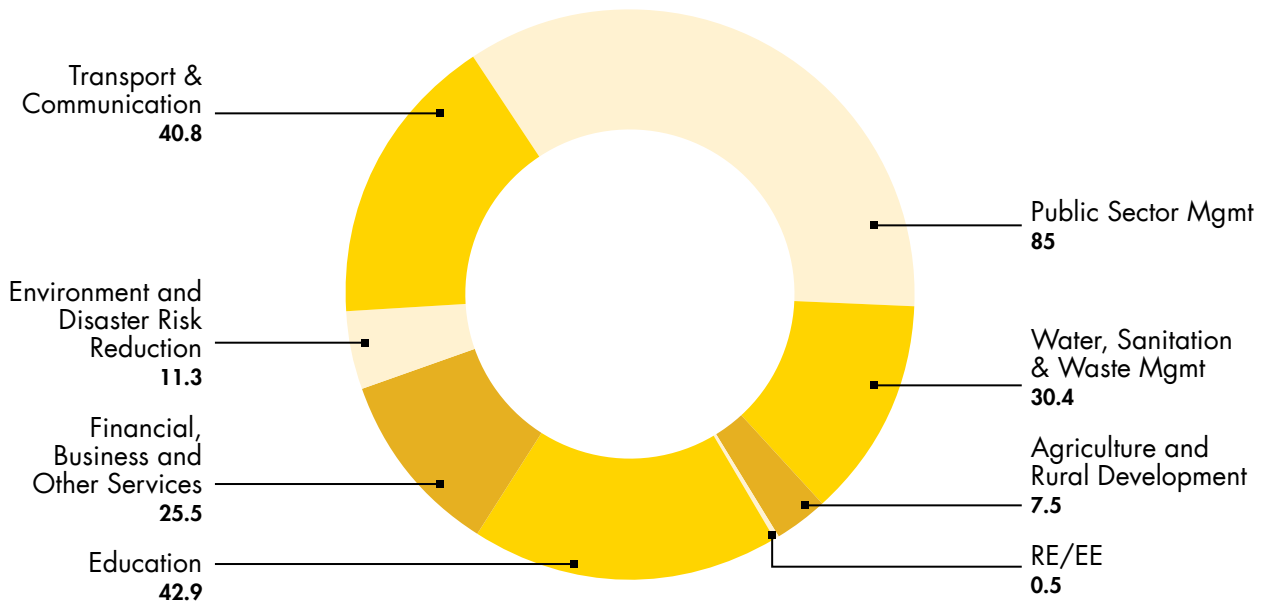
# Project Approvals by Country

Figures are quoted in USD mn



# Project Approvals by Sector

Figures are quoted in USD mn



# 2014 Projects

TRANSFORMING  
COMMUNITIES,  
IMPROVING LIVES



## Guyana gets USD7 mn loan from CDB to improve GuySuCo and sugar sector

Using lessons learnt over the past few years the Guyana government will apply a loan of USD7.5 mn from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to enhance the capacity of the Guyana Sugar Corporation Incorporated (GuySuCo) to produce and harvest sugar cane on selected estates. The loan was approved by CDB's Board of Directors on Thursday, December 11, 2014.

The goal of the project is to: reduce operational costs, improve mechanisation, improve maintenance of the extensive drainage system; secure irrigation and flood protection; and to provide for the development of critically needed non-sugar agricultural production such as rice. Rice production has been on a positive growth trajectory over the past five years.

The sugar industry, once the mainstay of the Guyanese economy, has generally been in decline but it still contributes around five per cent of GDP, and in 2013 it provided direct employment for approximately 16,000. The industry supports more than 300 services providers, and is the third largest contributor of foreign exchange. It also plays a critical socio-economic and environmental role in the predominantly low-income coastal communities where cultivation and processing are concentrated.

This loan marks CDB's third intervention in the sugar industry in Guyana and this project will address several considerations that should result in improved productivity of sugar cane cultivation and sugar production.



THE INDUSTRY SUPPORTS OVER

# 300

SERVICE PROVIDERS



## CDB grant to help FAO investigate feasibility of cassava cultivation in Suriname, Dominica and Trinidad & Tobago

With a food import bill of more than USD4 bn per annum, tapping into the potential of cassava can lead to foreign exchange savings, improved food security and revitalisation of farming in the Caribbean. This is the aim of a collaboration between the CDB and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) which will conduct essential groundwork to exploring the potential of this versatile crop.

The Board of Directors of the CDB on Thursday, December 11, 2014 approved a grant of USD1.2 mn to fund the investigation of evidence-based data on the viability of developing a cassava industry. The Project, which will be executed by FAO and has an estimated cost of USD1.795 mn, will be conducted in the Commonwealth of Dominica, Suriname and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

The project will include the identification, validation, and demonstration of improved cassava varieties and production systems. This is toward the goal of determining the capacity of stakeholders in the Caribbean to increase the productivity, and reduce the cost of production of cassava on a sustainable basis. A market assessment will also be conducted to determine the price elasticity of demand for cassava

CASSAVA CAN BE USED FOR A RANGE OF PRODUCTS INCLUDING:

ANIMAL FEED

SWEETENERS

GLUES

PLYWOOD

TEXTILES

PAPER

BIO-DEGRADABLE PRODUCTS

PHARMACEUTICALS

derived products such as composite bread, high quality cassava flour and cassava chips.

"The cassava value chain, producing flour, feed, beer and other products, has been identified by the Ministers of Agriculture and the agricultural lead agencies of the Caribbean as one of the future pillars of the economy across the region, contributing to both agricultural revitalization and the food import bill," said Deep Ford FAO Coordinator and Caribbean Sub-region Representative to Barbados and OECS.

A major impediment to the expansion of the cassava industry in the Caribbean is the relatively high cost

Dr. J.R. Deep Ford (left) Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) Coordinator – Caribbean Subregion Representative to Barbados and the OECS, paid a visit to Dr. Warren Smith, President of CDB on Friday, October 17 to update him on the work that is being done across the region to promote cassava as an import substitute for corn and wheat flour. He brought along two breads made with 30% and 50% cassava flour to show the progress that is being made in experimenting with cassava flour.





of production as compared to imported wheaten flour and corn. However, preliminary analysis by the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) and the FAO research, as well as global trends and experience suggest that cassava productivity in the Caribbean could be price-competitive in the production of composite breads and a variety of related products.

“Cassava has been grown in a number of Caribbean countries for centuries but has remained a subsistence crop. We are pleased to support further investigation into its viability as this could be a gateway to improved food security, employment and development of export and manufacturing sectors,” said Nigel Romano, acting Vice President Operations of the Caribbean Development Bank.

Over the past decade there have been several private and public sector led initiatives in the manufacturing of cassava derived products in the Caribbean. These include; cassava flour (as a stand-alone gluten free product and in the manufacture of composite breads), cassava chips, frozen cassava, cassareep and farine. In Trinidad and Tobago sliced bread made from cassava has been on supermarket shelves over the past few years.

FAO is currently working with local bakers in Barbados to substitute a percentage of wheaten flour with cassava mash and cassava flour. A brewery in Jamaica recently announced plans to invest USD10 mn over the next five years to establish a cassava value chain as part of ongoing efforts to utilise cassava as an input in the manufacture of beer.

## Energy sector in Trinidad & Tobago benefits from USD40 mn CDB Loan

Trinidad and Tobago has received a USD40 mn Policy Based Loan (PBL) from the CDB to assist in reinforcing policy changes in the energy sector, within the context of a sustainable energy programme which the country embarked on in 2011. A PBL is a special product from the Bank which offers resources



at extremely low interest rates.

The sustainable energy programme is designed to enhance the ability of the regulatory and legal framework to achieve efficiency, transparency and accountability; promote environmental sustainability of alternative energy fuels; and spur the efficient and rational production of fossil fuels.

Approved by the Bank’s Board of Directors on Thursday, December 11, 2014 the PBL will also help the government to fill an important gap in relation to its revised Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Programme.

Trinidad and Tobago’s CNG programme promotes the increased use of cleaner and less costly energy fuels by improving system efficiency and enhancing access to end users in the transportation sector. It will also result in a number of benefits to the government. These include the gradual reduction of the fiscal burden associated with the high cost of fuel subsidies, and gradual increase of foreign exchange earnings through exports of displaced fuels.

The PBL will be used to support Trinidad’s conversion of the fuel usage of vehicles in the transport sector from diesel and gasoline to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG). This will have positive impacts for the country through a reduction in the fiscal burden of rising fuel subsidies and also improve the environment via the switch to cleaner burning natural gas.

**TRINIDAD & TOBAGO’S CNG PROGRAMME  
PROMOTES THE INCREASED USE OF CLEANER  
AND LESS COSTLY ENERGY FUELS**



Image source: BTVI Facebook

## CDB funds upgrade of the Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute

The Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute (BTVI) is to get a state-of-the-art upgrade that will allow it to serve a larger number of students and deliver higher quality programmes. Set to be launched in the latter part of 2015, the upgrade will also enhance BTVI's outreach to support targeted skills development needs in the construction trades in the Family Islands of Abaco, Andros, Bimini and Eleuthera.

Funding for the project, of USD4.74 mn, was approved by the Board of Directors the CDB on December 11. The project is in keeping with the Government of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas' view that an enhanced, responsive technical vocational education and training (TVET) sub-sector is a critical transformational factor for economic competitiveness and social cohesion.

As the primary TVET institution in The Bahamas, the development of BTVI is central to workforce development in the country and its continued transformation as a high quality and accredited training provider is important for economic competitiveness. BTVI will be repositioned to offer more demand-driven programmes; which are more accessible by nationals and residents of The Bahamas, including those in the Family Islands; and more germane to the needs of the labour market.

Expected outcomes of the upgrade include: an en-

hanced learning environment; improved governance and management system; and enhanced capacity for quality TVET delivery. Within that, a classroom block, capable of accommodating 200 students and with eight teaching spaces to be used as smart classrooms, will be constructed on the Nassau campus; seven existing classroom and teaching labs on the Nassau campus will also be rehabilitated; 25 laboratories will be upgraded; new tools and equipment acquired; and the power supply and accessories improved to be energy efficiency and incorporate renewable energy.

With annual expenditure as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) and the national budget typically around 5 per cent and 16 per cent respectively, The Bahamas government has consistently placed high emphasis on Human Resource Development as a national development strategy. This level of invest-

A CLASSROOM BLOCK,  
CAPABLE OF ACCOMMODATING  
**200 STUDENTS**  
WILL BE CONSTRUCTED  
ON THE NASSAU CAMPUS

ment has resulted in the achievement of Millennium Development Goals targets as well as national policy goals including universal access and coverage in basic education with gender parity; and a quality teaching corps with 85% of trained teachers.

CDB's involvement in the TVET sub-sector is informed by its Education and Training Policy and Strategy which supports investments for increasing and broadening access, improving efficiency and effectiveness, strengthening institutional capacity and enhancing technological capacity. The Project complements initiatives in the TVET sub-sector in Borrowing Member Countries (BMCs) such as the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFA-TD)-funded CARICOM Education for Employment project, which seeks to strengthen regional institutional capacity to develop, implement and promote gender-sensitive occupational standards, workforce certification, and demand-driven TVET.

## CDB loan to fund new schools, improve TVET training in Suriname

New school buildings, improved access to technical vocational education and training (TVET) for girls; and higher quality service delivery are among the expected outcomes of the first project approved for funding to the Republic of Suriname by the Board of Directors of the CDB on Thursday, December 11.

Valued at USD21.94 mn the project is part of Phase Two of a programme of enhancement commenced by the Government of Suriname in 2011, to ensure that all students at the lower secondary school level (LSS) participating in TVET have access to skills development, as well as additional pathways for advancement in the education system.

VALUED AT USD21.94 MN,  
THE PROJECT IS PART OF A  
PROGRAMME  
OF ENHANCEMENT  
COMMENCED BY THE  
GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME



CDB President, Dr. Warren Smith (left) with Mr. Carlo Mike Ebecilio, Alternate Director for Suriname.

To support this, the loan will cover costs of constructing eight Practical Instruction Centres, and residential accommodation for seven teachers; as well as the provision of furniture, equipment and instructional resources. A portion of the loan will be used for consultancy services to prepare detailed designs and supervise the construction of these facilities.

The loan also provides for: the revision and development of curricula to facilitate Competency-Based Education and Training; enhancing of the services programme to expand options available to girls; development of second language acquisition strategies; and training for teachers in remote areas.

The Government is seeking to reorganise the LSS TVET system to provide additional years of schooling to some of its most vulnerable citizens and to bring that education to the communities in which they live. Approximately 47 per cent of the students transferring from primary school are placed in the general education track while around 48 per cent go to the TVET track.

In Suriname, TVET is a distinct track which runs parallel to a general education (academic) track. At age 12, students write a Primary School Exit Examination which determines whether they will follow the general education track, or whether they will be placed in a TVET track.

## Jamaica gets USD35 mn loan from CDB to assist in improving debt dynamics

Efforts by the Government of Jamaica to reform the country's economy by promoting sustainable growth and lifting per capita income are to be further supported by a USD35 mn Policy Based Loan (PBL) from the CDB. A PBL is a special product from the Bank which offers resources at extremely low interest rates.

Jamaica is currently in an extended fund facility with the International Monetary Fund and has performed well with five successful reviews, a return to positive growth and a reduction in unemployment.

A PBL IS A SPECIAL  
PRODUCT WHICH OFFERS  
RESOURCES AT EXTREMELY  
LOW INTEREST RATES

The PBL, which was approved by CDB's Board of Directors on Thursday, December 11, 2014, will help to improve Jamaica's debt dynamics by lowering the average effective interest rate on the debt stock.

The reforms on which the PBL disbursement would be based are:

- Fiscal consolidation
- Growth and competitiveness
- Social protection

These reforms are geared towards the achievement of fiscal and debt sustainability; improving the environment for doing business in an effort to achieve sustainable growth rates of around 2 per cent; and mitigating the potential adverse impacts of the programme on the more vulnerable groups in Jamaica.

The PBL will complement the other support being provided by the IMF, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), World Bank (WB) and the European Union (EU).

THESE REFORMS ARE  
GEARED TOWARDS THE  
ACHIEVEMENT OF FISCAL AND  
DEBT SUSTAINABILITY



## CDB Board approves loan to Barbados for enhancement of immigration department

The ability of the Immigration Department in Barbados to function effectively will be greatly enhanced by a loan of USD6.474 mn from the CDB. The loan was approved by the Bank's Board of Directors on Thursday, December 11, 2014.

Among the priorities identified by Government of Barbados as part of its Medium-term Growth and Development Strategy (MTGDS) 2013–2020 are: "enhanced international competitiveness, national productivity; efficiency and service excellence" and "more modern and efficient public and private sector institutions.

In keeping with that focus, the loan will provide for: the retrofitting, furnishing, and equipping of sections of the Princess Alice Highway Car Park Complex into new offices for the Immigration Department; information technology systems upgrade; legislative reform and institutional strengthening including organisational assessment; and training in operations and client centred approaches to service delivery.

The Project forms part of the reform of the immigration services currently being executed through a Compete Caribbean 2 programme, and was initiated by the recommendations of the Diagnostic Report which was the main output of the programme. Efficient immigration services are key to enhanced competitiveness and productivity as inputs to job-led growth and development.

Immigration services revolve around border control and security; issuing of passports; and processing of applications for various forms of immigration status. The effective functioning of that Department has implications for the main export-earning sectors of tourism, and the international financial services, as well as the business community.



## CDB grant to further develop Vieux Fort, St. Lucia water supply systems

The way is now clear for the next step in a collaborative process between the CDB and the Government of St. Lucia which will bring a reliable supply of potable water to over 19,000 people residing in the town of Vieux Fort.

CDB's Board of Directors on Thursday, December 11, 2014, approved a loan of USD19.675 mn for the redevelopment of the town's water supply system, a project that will cost an estimated USD24 mn.

THE COMMUNITIES SERVED  
CONSIST OF APPROXIMATELY  
8,600 HOUSEHOLDS

The project will provide an efficient, reliable, climate resilient and sustainable supply of potable water to Vieux Fort and its environs by December 31, 2018. Included in this will be the provision for 15 kilometres of new transmission mains and three new pumping stations. There will also be a treatment plant consisting of sedimentation tanks and rapid dual-media filters and chlorination facilities, as well as three new storage reservoirs totalling 4,000 cubic metres.

CDB will also provide a grant of USD335,000 to assist in financing consultancy services for capacity building of the Water and Sewerage Company Inc. and the Water Resource Management Authority; and for evaluating the impact of the Project on gender relations in Vieux Fort and its environs.

The Vieux Fort water system serves Vieux Fort, Laborie, and their environs. The communities served consist of approximately 8,600 households, with an estimated population of 19,500, as well as institutional and commercial enterprises in Vieux Fort and the surrounding areas.

According to Saint Lucia's Population and Housing Census (2010), just over four per cent of households (approximately 2,592 households) had access to water from a public standpipe. The census highlighted significant water-access challenges faced by residents in Vieux Fort and surrounding communities, and revealed that only one-fifth of households were in a

position to service their short-term needs. Only 20.8 per cent of the Vieux Fort households and 18 per cent of the Laborie households had tanks at their homes.

In this regard, a substantive percentage of the households in the project area have limited backup storage when there are water outages, or prolonged periods of interrupted service. Survey data confirms that some poor and vulnerable, and indigent households (including informal settlements) with limited or no access to potable water due to shortages or other factors, resort to the river and other sources. In St. Lucia, as in other Borrowing Member Countries (BMCs), the fetching of water from alternative sources and its utilisation in the domestic sphere are activities usually associated with women's work and have time-use implications.

In poor households, in particular, where women spend significant amounts of time on household work, they are less able to work in paid employment and to contribute to economic growth in the country.

Issues of water access also affect the business community in Vieux Fort. The challenges have become more acute during certain times of the year, including periods of drought, excessive rainfall, and hurricanes. The unreliability of the water supply system affects productivity and profitability with implications for business growth, investment, and job creation.



CDB in 2012, along with the Government of Germany, supported the Government of St. Lucia in funding the preparation of a technically and financially feasible programme of works to improve the water supply system. CDB's contribution was a grant of USD120,000.



## CDB approves loan for solid waste management improvement and recycling project in Grenada

The CDB is providing a loan of USD10.7 mn to the Government of Grenada to finance a project to improve and sustain integrated solid waste management in that country. The loan was approved by the Bank's Board of Directors on Thursday, December 11, 2014.

The Project includes the supply of equipment, the development of action plans, and a programme to build awareness of appropriate waste management practices. A major component of the project will include further development of the Perseverance Landfill which was commissioned in 2001.

Works will comprise cell development, as well as the closure of original cells at this facility. The old dumpsite at Perseverance will also be closed and new sanitary facilities be provided for people who derive their livelihood from recycling activities at the dump.

CDB will also provide a grant of USD300,000 to finance the institutional strengthening of the Grenada Solid Waste Management Authority.

Adequate waste management is crucial in economic terms to Caribbean economies because of heavy

dependence on natural resource bases to support activities such as: tourism, mining, agriculture and fisheries, which are usually the dominant sectors. These economic activities can be significantly reduced by a deficient solid waste management system. Maintenance of a clean and pleasant environment is also central to managing public health costs.

Over the period 2010–13, approximately 35,000 tonnes of solid waste were generated each year in Grenada, Carriacou, and Petite Martinique, with 96 per cent being generated on mainland Grenada. This represents an increase of approximately 17 per cent from a decade earlier, compared to an increase in population of around three per cent. The population of Grenada is 105,900.

**View of existing dump from site of proposed Perseverance Landfill, Grenada.**

## USD10 mn set aside for 8th cycle of CDB's Basic Needs Trust Fund

The Board of Directors of the CDB has approved USD10 mn from the Special Development Fund for the eight cycle of the Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF 8). This decision was made at the 264th meeting of the Board, held Thursday, December 11 at the Bank's headquarters in Barbados.

Belize, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada,

CDB WILL ALSO PROVIDE A GRANT OF

**USD300,000**

TO FINANCE THE INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF THE  
GRENADA SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and the Turks and Caicos Islands are the countries within the CDB membership which participate in the Fund. The governments of these countries will provide counterpart funding of USD546,000.

Key emphases of BNTF 8 will be: improved access to quality education; human resource development; water and sanitation; basic community access and drainage enhancement in low-income, vulnerable communities.

There has also been a progressive shift from a focus on infrastructure development managed by central government, to community managed sub-projects. Increased investments have been made to improve basic infrastructure and services and increase the potential for economic activity through skills training, capacity building and institutional development support.

The BNTF's vision supports a focus on meaningful community/citizen participation and empowerment and developmental change in communities where needs are greatest. It underlines the importance of creating opportunities for income generation and job creation.

The BNTF Programme began October 1979 and is a grant-funded poverty reduction programme managed by CDB which serves 10 countries. Its mission is to empower and equip communities with necessary resources, and improve their access to basic public services. Additionally, BNTF also directly targets youth-at-risk and promotes gender equality, environmental and disaster risk management, and maintenance and sustainability. Regionally, more than USD300 mn has been spent to date on projects which have benefitted more than 2.6 million people living in the poorest communities in these countries.

## Grenada receives USD10 mn in low-cost financing from CDB

The Board of Directors of the CDB has approved a USD10 mn Policy-Based Loan (PBL) to support the reform priorities of the Government of Grenada. This is the first in a series of three USD10 mn PBLs that have been proposed for Grenada.

Dr. Warren Smith, President of the Caribbean Development Bank said: "This PBL is a blend of 'hard' and

soft resources designed to support Grenada's policy reforms and to improve the country's debt dynamics."

It will provide support to the Government in the implementation of a programme of institutional and policy reforms to restore macroeconomic stability and resume sustainable private sector-led growth and development. Reforms are aimed at restoring fiscal and debt sustainability, strengthening resilience and enhancing competitiveness supported by better infrastructure and structural reforms in the tourism, agriculture and energy sectors that are expected to create conditions for higher economic growth that is sustainable, job-creating and inclusive.



Mr. Timothy N.J. Antoine, Director for Grenada (left) with CDB's Acting Vice-President (Operations), Mr. Nigel Romano.

With Grenada's economic transformation, CDB recognises that in the long term environmental and social challenges could emerge that may be indirectly associated with the sectors directly impacted such as; agriculture, tourism and energy. The Bank will continue to work with the Government of Grenada and other development partners, to support improved institutional arrangements and management of these issues, as identified in the approved Grenada Country Strategy 2014-2018.

Grenada has been a member of CDB since 1970 has a long-standing involvement in Grenada, with approvals over the period 1970-2013 totaling USD236.8 mn, which represented 5.6 per cent (%) of total approvals to its Borrowing Member Countries. Lending has primarily supported the development of economic infrastructure.





Acting Vice-President (Operations), Mr. Nigel Romano with Ms. Yvonne Hyde, Director for Belize.

## CDB provides USD10 mn loan to Belize's Development Finance Corporation

The capability of the Development Finance Corporation (DFC) in Belize to provide financing for priority sectors in that country has been given a boost by a loan of USD10.5 mn from the CDB.

Among the DFC's lending objectives are the improvement of home ownership, human development and the development of Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs).

MSMEs are fundamental to the economic landscape of Belize and are estimated to account for a significant share of economic activity and employment generation. However, they are usually faced with a number of challenges including limited access to, and the cost of financing.

The CDB loan will allow the DFC to provide finance for these MSMEs as well as student loans, credit for low-income housing and also for energy efficiency/renewable energy projects.

The DFC was originally established in 1963 to expand and strengthen the economy of Belize by providing funding on affordable terms to individuals or groups seeking to develop key economic sectors, who would otherwise be unable to access resources from other sources on reasonable terms. DFC is wholly owned by Government of Belize.

## CDB to fund upgrade of highways and river defence in St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Two major arteries in the road network in St. Vincent and the Grenadines are to be upgraded with a loan of USD9.046 mn from the CDB. The Bank's Board of Directors approved the loan at a meeting on Thursday, July 17, 2014, and it will be used for making the Windward and Vigie highways more resilient to natural disasters.

The loan will fund restoration of critical infrastructure at high risk of failure along both highways, including slope and embankment stabilisation, bridge repairs and construction. The upgrade programme also includes construction and rehabilitation of river defences along the Yarabaqua and Caratal rivers, and rehabilitation of sections of the feeder road network.

CDB is providing Technical Assistance for the landslide risk assessment and slope stabilisation aspects of the project as well as for remedial design study for selected sections along the highways – including three bridges.

Improvement of the two highways has become critical in the wake of damage done in December 2013, when two colliding trough systems dumped over 270 mm of rain over parts of the country causing significant flooding and also landslides.

CDB'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ALSO APPROVED A GRANT OF  
USD221,000

CDB's Board of Directors also approved a Grant of USD221,000 to cover the cost of equipment for rainfall and stream flow measurement, and training of hydrological technicians.

The Windward Highway connects all communities on the eastern half of the mainland St. Vincent to Georgetown and Kingstown, the principal centre economic and social activities on the island. The Vigie Highway is a south-west to north-east oriented transport corridor linking Kingstown to the Windward Highway at Peruvian Vale.

## College of the Bahamas to be improved – receives USD16 mn funding from CDB

The 40-year-old College of The Bahamas (COB) will get an institutional and physical makeover now that the CDB has approved a loan of USD16.18 mn to the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas. Among the initiatives for COB are a new Hall of Residence to house 100 students and a new Business Centre. The loan was approved at the two hundred and sixtieth meeting of the Board of Directors of CDB in Barbados on Thursday, March 13, 2014.

“The transformation of COB is part of a national strategic goal to enhance the human resource capacity of the country to meet its existing and emerging socio-economic development needs. And, this project is the first phase of a wider transformation programme to support COB’s transition to university status by 2015,” noted Deidre Clarendon, Officer in Charge, Projects Department, CDB.

Along with the construction of the Hall of Residence and Business Centre, the loan will fund energy efficiency enhancements, and consultancy services for development of the legislative framework for university status and for the development of Enterprise Risk Management and Quality Assurance systems. The project will also undertake the restructuring of the Business Finance and Human Resource Management systems, the establishment of a Research and Innovation Centre and expanded distance education capacity for learners in the Family Islands.

AMONG THE INITIATIVES ARE A NEW HALL OF RESIDENCE TO HOUSE 100 STUDENTS AND A NEW BUSINESS CENTRE

“CDB’s involvement in the tertiary education sector in the Caribbean is informed by its Education and Training Policy and Strategy. This strategy supports investments for increasing and broadening access, improving efficiency and effectiveness, strengthening institutional capacity and enhancing technological capacity,” Clarendon said.

The COB project in the Bahamas complements initiatives in tertiary education in the Bank’s Borrowing Member Countries such as the establishment of the Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network and the establishment of a regional accreditation system.



The children were very happy with their new facilities.

## Residents of Belize’s western district welcome new preschool facilities

Access to quality preschool education is no longer simply a dream, but a reality for parents and guardians of children in the San Ignacio/ Santa Elena area in Belize. On December 5, 2014, the Government of Belize officially opened the Arms of Love Preschool in Kontiki to serve residents of the Kontiki, San Ignacio and Santa Elena areas.

The newly built school which will cater to approximately 38 students, boasts of an open classroom area, students’ bathroom facilities, teachers’ lavatory facilities, storage space, a kitchenette and an access ramp.

Constructed at a total cost of USD133,136 through a loan from the Caribbean Development Bank’s Community Investment Programme, the project was implemented by the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF).

The project complements the Government of Belize’s poverty-reduction strategy, particularly its efforts to provide access to basic educational facilities across Belize.

## Over 2,500 residents to benefit from enhanced medical facilities

Residents of Clare Valley, Chauncey, Rillan Hill and Questelles in St. Vincent and the Grenadines now have greater access to quality primary health care services, free of charge, thanks to the refurbishment of the Clare Valley Clinic by the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the Caribbean Development Bank's (CDB) Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF). The Clinic was officially opened on December 4, 2014 by Prime Minister, Dr. the Honourable Ralph E. Gonsalves.

Renovated at a cost of USD174,000, Clare Valley Clinic offers a range of services including: emergency care, maternal and child health, puerperal visits, family planning, chronic disease clinics, and HIV counseling services. Upgrades included a roof replacement, the creation of larger examination and doctors' consultation rooms, improved sluice and laundry area, improved ventilation, enhanced patients' waiting areas, an asthma bay, and a larger pharmacy. In addition, the nurses' quarters was refurbished, the external water storage replaced and the perimeter fence upgraded.

The Clare Valley Clinic is one of several large infrastructure and educational sub-projects, as well as skills training programmes executed with funding from the BNTF's sixth programme (BNTF 6) allotment of USD1.78 million to the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

**67 PRESCHOOL TEACHERS  
WERE GIVEN BEST PRACTICES  
TRAINING IN EARLY  
CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND  
15 YOUTHS RECEIVED SMALL  
ENGINE REPAIRS TRAINING**

Other subprojects funded under BNTF 6 include the paving of village roads in Wallilabou and London, and renovations to Spring Village School and Questelles School. The VINSAVE preschool in Layou was completely rebuilt, while a new Health Centre was built in Port Elizabeth, Bequia. In addition, 67 preschool teachers were given best practices training in Early Childhood Education and 15 youths received small engine repairs training.



**Prime Minister of  
St. Vincent and  
the Grenadines,  
Dr. The Hon.  
Ralph E. Gonsalves**

The BNTF Programme began 35 years ago and is a regional grant-funded poverty reduction programme managed by CDB which serves 10 countries. Its mission is to empower and equip communities with necessary resources, and improve their access to basic public services. Additionally, BNTF also directly targets youth-at-risk and promotes gender equality, environmental and disaster risk management, and maintenance and sustainability. Regionally, more than USD300 million has been spent to date on projects which have benefitted more than 2.6 million people living in the poorest communities in these countries.

## CDB's BNTF programme celebrates 35 years of assisting poor and vulnerable communities

"Thirty-five years ago, the CDB Board of Directors approved the first allocation of funds to the Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF), a major poverty reduction program managed by the Social Sector Division in the Bank.

Back in October 1979, when the first BNTF allocation of USD6.7 mn was approved for seven borrowing member countries (BMCs), we had no idea that almost four decades later, the program would have touched the lives of some two million people in the region to date and become a major engine of the Bank for poverty reduction.

BNTF's total funding through eight cycles of the program is almost USD300 mn, including the government counterpart contribution. CDB ensured a steadfast presence by BNTF in the BMCs.

During the periods of structural adjustment, fiscal constraints and weak growth, BNTF was able to help meet basic needs, add value and strength to communities, and change lives of women, men, and children. We are proud to celebrate 35 years of BNTF in the region this month.



Initially, the program focused on small public works, especially schools, roads, and health facilities. After developing a broader policy agenda, that focus is on poverty reduction and emphasising the involvement of communities in the design and implementation of interventions. It is possibly the longest running regional poverty reduction program.

CDB recognises the governments, communities, women, men, youth, civil society and organisations, for making this a successful initiative.

As we look to the future, we will focus on harvesting the benefits of BNTF interventions and moving to another level of innovation in tackling development challenges and reducing poverty.”

## Haiti, CDB strengthening customer service delivery in tourism sector

The Government of Haiti plans to develop its tourism sector and, in this regard, is seeking to address the demand for training and technical assistance to improve service delivery capacity and operations within the hospitality sector.

To support this thrust, the Caribbean Development Bank’s Caribbean Technological Consultancy Services (CTCS) Network, through several workshops and training attachments, has provided training to 40 Haitian nationals in Customer Service Delivery, Front Desk Operations, Food and Beverage Management and Housekeeping.

As part of efforts to sustain ongoing training in Haiti, from October 27 to November 7, six Haitian nationals selected by the Association Touristique D’Haiti (ATH) participated in a two-week Train-the-Trainer Workshop/Training Attachment in Barbados at The Crane Resort.

The workshop’s aim was to develop a cadre of trained Haitian trainers to deliver training in the areas

of Front Desk Operations (FDO), Food and Beverage Management (FBM) and Housekeeping (HK). Two persons in each area of training were exposed to modern practices of hospitality services, as well as techniques to provide effective on the job training to workers in the sector.

Subsequent to the training, CTCS, in collaboration with ATH, will contract the persons trained to provide training to existing and potential hotel employees in Haiti. That training will be done over a two-year period and will benefit approximately 1,500 persons (60 per cent females and 40 per cent males). During the two weeks subjects covered included: case studies, guidelines, tips and activities related to FDO, FBM and HK to aid the trainees’ understanding of the skills needed to become successful trainers.

The training covered a wide range of topics and covered areas such as: the purpose and benefits of training to the trainee, the organisation and the customer; cost of training/cost of not training; and measuring training.

TRAINING WILL BE DONE OVER  
A TWO-YEAR PERIOD AND  
WILL BENEFIT APPROXIMATELY  
**1,500 PERSONS**

The six participants were sensitised and exposed to operational aspects of FDO, FBM and HK and they also participated in activities and interacted with employees in areas including: training: telephone courtesy; processing of reservation confirmations; occupational health and safety; water and energy conservation practices in guest rooms and laundry area; and the relationship between front desk department and HK department among other relevant subject areas.

In a second workshop held November 12 to 16 this year CTCS, conducted a Train-the-Trainer Workshop



on the topic: “Enhancing CS Delivery for MSMEs in Haiti” for a group of 15 Haitian nationals. The workshop was conducted in collaboration with the Société Financière Haïtienne de Développement S.A. (SOFIHDES), CTCS’ main Cooperating Institution (CI) and one of the foremost development banks in Haiti.

CTCS’ experience has shown that some MSMEs, including hotels, operate without a structured approach to customer service and this has resulted in them not putting into practice various fundamental controls required for the consistent delivery and quality of excellent customer service. This affects customer satisfaction, the level of repeat business, the capacity to attract new business based on reputation and, ultimately, the sustainability of the business.

**ORGANISERS ARE AIMING TO  
HOST FOLLOW-ON WORKSHOPS  
OVER THE NEXT 4 MONTHS**

The workshop was facilitated by a Haitian national, Ms. Giliane Joubert, Small Business Consultant, who used a CTCS Participants’ Manual and Instructors’ Guide translated into French. The manual which was developed by a group of specialists from the region, covered topics including: Service delivery versus customer service; Developing a customer promise; Building a service culture for MSMEs; Building a service delivery strategy; Customer retention strategies; Methods of measuring service levels; Obtaining effective customer feedback; Staff development towards a service culture and, Development of a customer service action plan.

Workshop organisers are aiming to host follow-on workshops over the next four months. “We plan to host, along with SOFIHDES and ATH six follow-on workshops, one in each of the six most developed departments in Haiti, and targeted at various MSMEs, especially within the hospitality sector, inclusive of hotels,” said Mr. Michel Thomas, CDB’s CTCS Operations Officer.

He added that: “These follow-on workshops, which are expected to benefit some 120 persons (70 females and 50 males), will be facilitated by the persons who have successfully completed the Train-the-Trainer Workshops and have demonstrated the capacity to function as customer service trainers.”

This workshop is consistent with Caribbean Development Bank’s strategic objective of supporting inclusive growth and sustainable development and its corporate priority of promoting private sector development in Haiti.

## **MSMEs receive assistance with management accounting systems from CDB**

The CDB hosted a three-day Sub-regional Train-the-Trainer Workshop (TTW) on “Management Accounting Systems for Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs)” during the period December 3-5, 2014 at the Accra Beach Hotel & Spa, Barbados.

The workshop was hosted by CDB’s Technical Cooperation Division via the Caribbean Technological Consultancy Services (CTCS) Network, the Bank’s primary technical assistance programme aimed at enhancing the managerial and operational capacities of MSMEs in its borrowing member countries (BMCs). The TTW was facilitated by QuickBooks Medic Inc., a Barbados based MSME consulting firm with nearly 10 years’ experience in providing training and technical assistance to MSMEs in the area of Management Accounting Systems.

Sixteen women and men from Anguilla, Antigua, St. Vincent and The Grenadines, British Virgin Islands, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis and Saint Lucia will participate in the TTW, which will equip participants with a common approach for training MSME operators in effectively using Computerised Management Accounting Systems.

“The aim of this workshop is to address the critical need for MSMEs to put in place appropriate Management Accounting Systems, particularly within the environment of a Computerised Management Accounting System. These Systems enable MSME operators to record, track and generate financial information in order to make informed internal decisions, generate better projections, and be able to provide relevant and timely information to financial institutions when seeking financing for working capital and to upgrade and expand their operations,” said Mr. Edward Greene, Division Chief for CDB’s Technical Cooperation Division.

Subsequent to the train the trainer’s workshop, the trained participants, with additional support from the CTCS Network, will facilitate workshops for MSMEs in the eight countries represented. They will also provide on-site assistance to assess the operations of participating MSMEs and assist them in instituting Management Accounting Systems tailored to their operations.

The goal is for the knowledge and skills of MSME

operators, as well as the overall management and operational performance (profitability and competitiveness) of participating MSMEs to be enhanced. The social impacts will be positive, as participating MSMEs are expected to sustain and/or expand their operations, generate higher incomes and increase employment opportunities for both men and women. Such outcomes will contribute to poverty reduction at the household level over the long term.

THE AIM OF THIS WORKSHOP IS TO ADDRESS THE CRITICAL NEED FOR MSMEs TO PUT IN PLACE APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS

This technical assistance intervention is, therefore, aligned to CDB's Strategic Objective of supporting inclusive growth and sustainable development and its Corporate Priorities of promoting private sector development leading to enhanced viability of MSMEs.

## CDB and BSIF host procurement workshop for contractors and consultants in Belize

Contractors and Consultants, who provide services to the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) under the Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF), the Youth and Community Transformation (YCT) project and the Social Investment Fund Loan II (SIF Loan II) of the CDB, participated in a four-day training workshop designed to address good procurement practice, contract management and accountability from December 2–6, 2014 at the George Price Center, Belmopan.

Some 60 service providers and BSIF staff are attending the event, which is led by CDB's Head of Procurement, Mr. Douglas Fraser. The workshop aims to provide participants with a deeper understanding of CDB's procurement guidelines, as well as broader areas of supervision of projects and sub-projects implemented by BSIF and other stakeholders.

The BNTF Programme which began 35 years

ago is a regional grant-funded poverty reduction programme managed by CDB which serves 10 countries. Its mission is to empower and equip communities with necessary resources, and improve their access to basic public services. Additionally, BNTF also directly targets youth-at-risk and promotes gender equality, environmental and disaster risk management, and maintenance and sustainability. Since implementation started in Belize in 1996, the BNTF programme, implemented by BSIF, has seen the execution of sub-projects in the areas of vulnerable groups; health; education; water and sanitation; and the construction of production-related infrastructure. Similarly, the SIF Loan II finances improvements in living conditions in poor communities. The YCT implemented by the Ministry of Human Development and Social Transformation focuses on the enhancement of basic literacy and numeracy skills, adaptive life skills and employability, as well as community support activities for children, youth and families; and community infrastructure development.

Consulting engineering firms which are engaged by BSIF and other bodies to help execute these interventions are expected to promote and practice true and open competition in procurement. CDB stresses conformity to transparency and integrity in tendering and contract award, and the proper use of grants and other funds.

Executive Director of BSIF, Mr. William Lamb Jr. said that Belize will continue to benefit significantly from these programmes since the overall objectives involve improvements in the human resource base of at-risk out-of-school youths; the promotion and strengthening of community organisations. They also target improvements in the responsiveness and efficiency of development strategies.



The workshop provides contractors and consultants with the opportunity to receive clarification on CDB's procurement process.



Students of the Corazon Creek Technical High School.

## BNTF grant helps provide access to education for over 200 students in Toledo District, Belize

Over 200 students from 11 remote villages in the Toledo District of Belize now have access to Vocational Education thanks to the extension of the Corazon Creek Technical High School. The CDB, through its Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF), provided a grant of USD240,000 and the government of Belize provided USD60,000 to construct the USD300,000 extension.

The project, which fell under the sixth cycle of the BNTF, was implemented by the Belize Social Investment Fund as part of its mandate to work in line with the Government's strategy to address the basic needs of Belizeans, in particular in the area of education.

Since the school opened its doors three years ago, Corazon has established a successful agriculture program that can serve as a model for other schools across the country. In recognizing the critical importance of education the community provided and delivered bush sticks for construction as part of their contribution to the school's extension project.

The new structure, which provides a comfortable teaching and learning environment, also includes bathroom facilities for both students and teachers, solar panels to provide electricity and space for storage.

## Rural Women in Belize get skill training

26 women from two northern rural communities in Belize are now qualified as seamstresses after graduating from a 10-month Garment Construction Training project which was financed through a loan of \$51,440.00 from the CDB.

The sewing project was implemented by the Social Investment Fund (SIF) as part of its mandate to work in line with the Government's poverty alleviation strategy.

Executive Director of SIF, Mr. William Lamb Jr., said the fund is working in collaboration with CDB to empower Belizeans with relevant skills training for employment, businesses and entrepreneurship.

"The women, who hail from the villages of San Jose and Guinea Grass, are now equipped with skills to access employment opportunities, generate income, be self-sufficient, and significantly contribute to further develop their communities and by extension the wider society of Belize," Mr. Lamb Jr. said.

Sewing was identified by the women's groups as a skill since many of them buy custom-made school uniforms or sometimes travel to other communities in search of a seamstress.

The sewing machines used for the training project – four industrial and 20 regulars – will remain at the Multipurpose Centers in the respective villages for future production and programs. Both groups have also received start-up material for production of items for sale and plan to partner with the Cooperative Department, Women's Department and the House of Culture.

26 WOMEN FROM TWO NORTHERN RURAL COMMUNITIES IN BELIZE ARE NOW QUALIFIED AS SEAMSTRESSES AFTER GRADUATING FROM A 10-MONTH GARMENT CONSTRUCTION TRAINING PROJECT WHICH WAS FINANCED THROUGH A LOAN OF \$51,440.00 FROM THE CDB





Minister of Transport and Works, Senator Julian Francis holds the contract signed by Permanent Secretary in that Ministry, Mr. Hudson Need (left), and Mr. Ian Singh, Dipcon Engineering. (IWN photo)

## South Leeward underway in St. Vincent & the Grenadines

Approximately 160 persons are expected to be employed during the upgrade of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines' South Leeward Highway which was scheduled to begin in June 2014.

The South Leeward Highway Rehabilitation Project is funded by a loan of USD13.6 million from the CDB, with a counterpart amount of USD2.5 million provided by the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

During the recent contract signing ceremony between the Government and Dipcon Engineering Services Ltd., Mr. Brent Bailey, Chief Engineer in the Ministry of Transport and Works (MTW), gave an overview of the project, describing the rehabilitation as a "very critical project." Upon completion, the upgraded roadway will feature improved line of sight for drivers, increased road widths, improved drainage and enhanced facilitation for pedestrian movement.

Mr. Albert Gillings, Operations Officer (Civil Engineer), Economic Infrastructure Division, CDB, said, "We are satisfied with the commitment of MTW on being on schedule with procurement of the physical works. Upon its completion, we look forward to having a safer, and more resilient transportation corridor that will benefit the communities it serves."

Director at Dipcon Engineering Services Ltd., Mr. Ian Singh, revealed the company hopes to complete drainage installation by the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital and shifting of the road in Questelles during summer.

The work is expected to last 21 months.

*Excerpts taken from: I-Witness News*

## 400+ students in Belize's Orange Walk District receive access to computer facilities

Over 400 students of San Jose Government School, Orange Walk District are benefiting from a more enabling learning environment thanks to a new computer lab and audio/visual room at their school, consisting of 17 computers, a printer, projector, and a digital camera.

The equipment valued at USD23,156, is part of the San Jose Multi-purpose Building Project, which was implemented in June 2013 by the Social Investment Fund, in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, Local Government, Rural Development and National Emergency Management, and financed by the Government of Belize through a USD243,695 loan from the CDB.



## Over 1,700 Persons receive improved access to potable water in Jamaica

More than 1,700 residents from the communities of Thornton, Sunning Hill, Seaforth, Mt. Pelier and Prospect in Jamaica now have access to a reliable water delivery system with the implementation of the Thornton Water Supply Completion Project; funded under the Caribbean Development Bank's Basic Needs Trust Fund and implemented by the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF).

Through the recently completed project, a pumping unit, motor control centre, 3,600 metres of iron pipes and laterals to individual homes were installed. The project also included the provision of a booster sta-



Site Supervisor of JSIF, Neville Williams turns on a pipe following the handing over ceremony for the commissioning of a water supply and booster station and tank in Thornton, St. Thomas. Sharing the moment are (L-R) JSIF Project Manager, Celia Dillon; Managing Director, Scarlett Gillings; Minister of Health, Fenton Ferguson; Minister of Water Land, Environment and Climate Change, Robert Pickersgill and Second Vice President of the St. Thomas Association of Branches, Rupert Scott.

JSIF Managing Director, Scarlett Gillings hailed the Thornton Water Supply Completion Project as a “true community effort” involving the Jamaica Agricultural Society; the residents of Thornton who assisted in site clearance, security and storage of materials and provision of land for the storage tank site; and the St. Thomas Parish Council which will manage and maintain the new system.

*Excerpts from: Jamaica Social Investment Fund Press Release*

tion, storage tanks, a chlorinator and a sand filter.

Ms. Elrech Dean, a resident of Thornton is elated. She noted, “In the days when we didn’t have any water we had to go down into a deep deep gully take turns in filling our buckets, then come back up with buckets of water on our heads. That water was to drink and to cook so we could not use that to wash. When the washing time came for the clothes we had to go to Plantain Garden River one mile away. If rain fell when we were down by the river we would have to put the clothes in the pan and take them home wet and it was very heavy to come back up the hill again.”

Golden Valley resident, Mr. George Cole said that the previous pump at Thornton pumping station did not work well. “Sometimes we did without water for one week sometimes six months. We used to have to go down to the reservoir to get water or when rain fell we would catch water in barrels and plastic containers to wash clothes. Sometimes only two periods of the year we would have water. We had to bathe in the river or the waterfall,” he explained.

Mr. Cole also noted that businesses suffered in the communities as they “used to rely on water trucks but they were not frequent and only came once or twice every two weeks.”

“Now everybody is happy, the new water system is functioning well”, he declared.

## CDB’s CTCS network hosts consultations in Guyana

The Caribbean Technological Consultancy Services (CTCS) Network, a programme within the CDB, hosted Consultation Meetings for both its Network Stakeholders and for operators of Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (MSME) during the Bank’s Forty-Fourth Annual Board of Governors (BOG) Meeting in Georgetown, Guyana in May.

Eleven Borrowing Member Countries (BMCs) including CDB’s newest member, Suriname, were invited to participate in the three-day Stakeholders’ Consultation Meeting scheduled for Monday, May 26 to Wednesday, May 27, 2014 at the Princess Hotel. Participants in the consultation include representatives of key Cooperating Institutions (CIs) in the participating BMCs. They were joined by several counterpart CI representatives and selected MSMEs, from regions across Guyana. The Stakeholders’ Consultation was geared towards fostering a stronger and more robust CTCS Network among CDB’s BMCs and to extend the range of effective CTCS coverage in Guyana.

The Stakeholders’ Consultation was followed by the two-day MSME Consultations on Thursday, May 29 and Friday, May 30, 2014. The local Institute of Private Enterprise Development (IPED) in Guyana,

one of the CTCS Network's longest standing members, provided on-the-ground support and logistics for mobilising local cooperating institutions and MSMEs for the consultation activities. The consultations will include site visits.

## CDB-funded West Coast Demerara Road improvement project launched

Students in over 30 schools in the Vreed-en-Hoop to Hydronie area and thousands of residents and road users in Guyana will benefit from the creation of a safer road network upon the completion of the USD 46.8 million West Coast Demerara Road Improvement Project which is being funded by the CDB and the Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.

The project includes approximately 30.7 kilometres of highway rehabilitation works; bridge replacement and repair; drainage works; and road safety works that install regulatory and warning signage, pavement markings and safety barriers along severe curves. In addition, pedestrians and cyclists will be separated from motorised traffic through several communities and additional street lighting will be provided.

Mr. Andrew Dupigny, Division Chief, Economic Infrastructure Division, CDB, revealed the infrastructural elements of the project will be complemented by road safety sensitisation sessions. "It is important that road users are equipped with knowledge on how to safely utilise the roads. As such, the public education aspect of the project will provide educational sessions targeting the communities, drivers and schools. Highway development and management training will also be provided for the Work Services Group, Ministry of Public Works," he said.

The West Coast Demerara Road Improvement Project was officially launched on Thursday, March 20,

THE PROJECT INCLUDES  
APPROXIMATELY 30.7 KM OF  
HIGHWAY REHABILITATION

2014 at the Pegasus Hotel, Georgetown, Guyana. The project is scheduled to be executed over a five-year period of five years, with tendering expected to commence in July.



Story time: Hon. Patrick Faber, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports entertained the students in the library with a story.

## CDB-funded library & multi-purpose centre in Belize inaugurated

Eight hundred boys and girls in the village of Guinea Grass, Orange Walk District, Belize, now have access to a safe community space which has been built with funds from Caribbean Development Bank's (CDB) Belize Social Investment Fund 2 Loan Project. The Guinea Grass Multi-Purpose Center, which was built at a total cost of USD185,235 houses the community library, the village council, the water board and a sewing facility.

The center was inaugurated on March 12, 2014 before government officials, community leaders and a wide-cross section of the community including students, teachers, and parents. Prior to the inauguration, 10 women received skills training in sewing, while approximately 20 persons underwent small business/entrepreneurship training.

The project was implemented by the Social Investment Fund (SIF), in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports through the Belize National Library Service and Information System (BNLSIS), and the community of Guinea Grass.





Construction has begun on the new USD373,665 health centre in Golden Springs, St. Andrew, Jamaica funded by Caribbean Development Bank's Community Investment Project. Image Source: JSIF

## Projected benefits for over 12,000 persons from CDB-funded health centre in Jamaica

About 12,900 persons are expected to benefit from the construction of a new health centre in Golden Springs, St. Andrew, Jamaica at the cost of USD373,665 by the CDB through its Community Investment Project. The project will be administered by the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF), and the community is contributing 18 per cent of the project cost.

Mr. Karl Pivott, Operations Officer (Civil Engineer), CDB noted that construction on the 3,423.3 square foot centre began on December 2, 2013 and is expected to be completed within six months of that date.

Services offered by the Type 2 health centre will include family planning, curative services, child health and immunization, health promotion and illness prevention, surveillance and disease control.

At the signing of the contract between JSIF and the Stock Farm Road Citizens Association, Health Minister, Dr. Fenton Ferguson noted, "Primary care is grounded in prevention and has a community focus. It is cheaper for persons to go to the health centre than to go to hospital. It relieves the pressure on secondary care and allows secondary care to focus on the major issues."

Describing the fulfilment of the health centre as "a demonstration of the power of community participation, advocacy and endurance," the Minister also

urged community members to take care of the facility.

*Excerpts from: Jamaica Observer*

## 2,000 Belizean youths to benefit from CDB youth and road safety capacity building project

Two thousand Belizean youths between ages 16–29 are expected to benefit from a USD157,000 Youth and Road Safety Capacity Building Project jointly funded by the CDB and the Government of Belize (GOBZ).

The project funded by a CDB-Grant of USD110,000 with a counterpart contribution of USD47,000 by the GOBZ, will be executed by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Road Safety Unit and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

Mr. Glen McCarvell, Operations Officer (Civil Engineer), CDB, notes, "Road traffic injuries are the fourth leading cause of death in Belize. Of these, youth comprise 30 per cent of road crash fatalities, with young males specifically, accounting for 90 per cent. Through this project we aim to increase youth's understanding of road safety, and youth-related issues surrounding the safe use of Belize's road network. In particular, the project seeks to catalyse behavioural change in young males, while equipping all participants with the knowledge needed, and assisting with the development of the skills required, to implement their own road safety activities."

The road safety capacity building programme for youths will be facilitated by Youth For Road Safety (YOURS), an international youth-led and youth-oriented, not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation focused on youth and road safety. The programme will utilise a train-the-trainer approach, while incorporating peer education and active learning.

It is expected that the project will also enhance the benefits to be realised from the ongoing USD8.844 million CDB-funded Road Safety Project launched in March 2013.

Belize has the highest road fatality rate of CDB's 19 borrowing member countries. The high death rate is disturbing from a public health point of view and also translates into significant social and economic impacts due to lost productivity and increased vulnerability to poverty. A study carried out in 2007 by Belize's Ministry of Health estimated that the cost of road traffic injuries to Belize's economy was equivalent to USD16 million.

# CDB's MEMBERS

## Regional BMCs

 Anguilla	 Guyana
 Antigua and Barbuda	 Jamaica
 The Bahamas	 Haiti
 Barbados	 Montserrat
 Belize	 St. Kitts & Nevis
 British Virgin Islands	 St. Lucia
 Cayman Islands	 St. Vincent & the Grenadines
 Dominica	 Suriname
 Grenada	 Trinidad & Tobago
 Turks & Caicos Islands	

## Other Regional

 Colombia	 Venezuela
 Mexico	

## Non-regional

 Canada	 Italy
 China	 United Kingdom
 Germany	



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