



## **JAMAICA SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND**

**ISO 14001:2004 CERTIFIED**

### **Press Release**

**January 27<sup>th</sup> 2014**

#### **PRP Provides 10 Schools with Furniture and Equipment worth \$24.6million**

The Poverty Reduction Programme (PRP) has made yet another significant investment in the nation's children by equipping several schools in Kingston, St. Andrew and Clarendon with the requirements to aid academic and physical development and improve the overall learning environment.

Responding to a lack of adequate furniture for students and teachers, the Poverty Reduction Programme (PRP) has invested \$24.6m. The equipping included desks, chairs, filing cabinets, refrigerators, stoves, patty warmers, deep fryers, sewing machines and play equipment along with the fencing of the school grounds in its most recent School Equipping and Fencing project.

Over 6000 students and 300 staff members are beneficiaries of the Project implemented in Allman Town Primary Central Branch All Age, Charles Chin Loy Basic, Hazard Primary, Melrose Infant Primary & Junior High, St. Michael's Infant

,St. Michael's Primary, St. Mary's Early Childhood Development Centre, St. Simon's Basic ,Windward Road Primary & Junior High.

Althea Simmonds, Principal of Hazard Primary School is one of those already singing the praises of the Poverty Reduction Programme after receiving furniture and two new classrooms through the project.

Simmonds said that the furniture received improved the school a whole lot. "I think this is a great help for us. Our capacity for holding the students has increased greatly with the new classrooms and we can now accommodate two grades on full day shifts, consistent with the Ministry requirements", she declared.

At Chin Loy Basic School, Principal Veronica Sewell-Morgan was equally appreciative of the fencing of the school and the stove, deep freeze, refrigerator, student desks and chairs, filing cabinets and book shelves received from the PRP. She declared: "They changed the face of the school and uplifted the community. As soon as you enter our community the first thing you see is the school and it draws the attention of the residents here to see what is happening and take in all the improvements."

The PRP has also made significant contributions in a number of complementary areas including youth development workshops, remedial education training, summer camps, vocational and tertiary scholarships, and sports development. The PRP is funded by the European Union and the Government of Jamaica and is implemented by the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF).

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