



GREETINGS BY

MRS. SCARLETTE GILLINGS

MANAGING DIRECTOR

JAMAICA SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND

**SIGNING OF THE MOU FOR THE JAMAICA SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND
COLLECTION AT THE WESLEY HUGHES DOCUMENTATION CENTRE**

Offices of the PIOJ, 16 Oxford Road @ 10:30am

Salutations:

- **SENATOR THE HON. SANDREA FALCONER IS THE MINISTER WITHOUT**
- **PORTFOLIO IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER**
- **COLIN BULLOCK DIRECTOR GENERAL PLANNING INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA**
- **Mr. Kirk Philips Deputy Director General**

Governance and Management

- **Ms. Barbara Scott Deputy Director General External Cooperation
Management Project Development**
- **Mr. Easton Williams Director Social Policy, Planning and Research Division**
- **Mrs. Sandra Ward Head, Human Resource Management**
- **Mrs. Vivienne Kerr-Williams Librarian/ Documentalist**
- **Mrs. Sheneico Allen Morgan Librarian**
- **Mrs. Janelle Cox Chief Information Officer**
- **Members of the Jamaica Library Service**
- **Other Members of the Academic Community**
- **JSIF Staff**
- **Media**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen**

Good Day to you all.

I bring you greetings on behalf of the board of directors and the entire team of the Jamaica Social Investment Fund.

We are delighted to be here for the signing of this MOU between the JSIF and the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ). Over JSIF's 18 years existence we have cemented a deep relationship with PIOJ resulting in the Director General of the PIOJ also being Board Chairman of the organization.

Today we further fortify the JSIF / PIOJ relationship with the signing of the MOU to establish the JSIF collection of documents and material at the Wesley Hughes Documentation Centre located at the Planning Institute of Jamaica.

I wish to place on record our thanks to the Caribbean Development Bank who are funding the establishment of this collection, including the acquisition of 2 desktop computers, 1 dvd cabinet, a 3-piece shelving unit as well as the conversion of

all our old VHS tapes and cassettes to DVDs by CARIMAC. They have provided funding of over JMD\$ 2.8 million.

Through the Bank's sponsorship JSIF related research papers, manuals, conferences proceedings, photographs, CDs and DVDs and other information resources will be made available to members of the public and local and foreign researchers.

During our 18 years of operation, we at the JSIF have acquired a rich body of data that can be used for research and reference by members of the academic community. Let me take this opportunity to remind you about the work of JSIF. It is an agency of the Government of Jamaica which mobilises resources and channels these to community-based socio-economic infrastructure and social services projects in underserved communities. Through a national partnership between central and local government, communities and private and public organizations, the JSIF addresses the immediate demands of communities in a manner that is quick, efficient, effective, transparent and non-partisan

Notwithstanding the fact that the JSIF is an implementing agency, we have always recognized the value data collection. Our monitoring and evaluation unit provides critical guidance to the JSIF's operation.

The reports prepared by our cadre of consultants are a virtual data mine of information.

Whilst our professionals are constantly analyzing data for our own needs, there is plenty of potential for the academic community to study our body of work and to extract valuable information for other needs.

The establishment of this collection is long overdue as both organizations recognize the value of research information and agree that there is a need to make it accessible to the public at large.

I am particularly keen for our data to be used in an interdisciplinary way.

The realization of this vision will preserve the results of the JSIF work for posterity and allow other organizations to learn from

the Fund's experiences and be guided by its achievements when the outcomes of our endeavors far exceeded the dream of what could happen. We look forward to persons utilizing the information and been more informed about the work of the organization.

I Thank You