

Contributing to Caribbean Disaster Resilience and Cultural Exchange

JICA Expert Mr. and Mrs. Matsumura Depart Barbados After Two Years of Service

JICA Expert Naoki Matsumura has successfully completed his two-year assignment with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA).

Over the past two years, Mr. Matsumura has been dedicated to advancing technical cooperation aimed at strengthening disaster resilience across the Caribbean region in the medium to long term. In addition to supporting emergency response efforts during disasters, his work focused on strengthening disaster risk management systems, enhancing institutional capacities, promoting collaboration with international organizations and development partners, and contributing to the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between the Government of Japan and CDEMA in the field of water related disaster risk reduction and water management. Through these efforts, Mr. Matsumura made significant contributions not only to strengthening CDEMA's institutional capacity, but also to enhancing regional resilience, and advancing international cooperation through the sharing of Japan's knowledge and experience in disaster risk reduction.



A scene following the activity report at the Ambassador's Residence
(From left) Ambassador Miyasaka, Ms. Midori Matsumura, Mr. Naoki Matsumura, and First Secretary Ms. Urushihata.

Furthermore, Mrs. Midori Matsumura, spouse of Mr. Matsumura, made valuable contributions to cultural exchange between Japan and the Caribbean region. She played a key role in establishing a Japanese language program at the University of the West Indies (UWI) Cave Hill Campus in Barbados, and served as a Japanese language instructor for approximately one year. Through her dedication to promoting Japanese language education and introducing Japanese culture, she helped foster greater mutual understanding among students and local communities, thereby contributing significantly to strengthening cultural ties between Japan and the Caribbean.



Mr. Matsumura (front left) after a meeting with CDEMA officials.



A glimpse into Ms. Matsumura's Japanese class.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Matsumura for their two years of dedicated service and invaluable contributions. Their achievements in strengthening disaster resilience in the Caribbean and fostering closer relations between Japan and the region will remain a lasting asset.

We wish them continued success in their future endeavors and look forward to maintaining a strong and lasting partnership with them as valued members of the Japan-Caribbean community.