

Commissioning of the Ruimveldt Life Improvement Centre on September 29, 2014

The community of East Ruimveldt, in Georgetown Guyana will now benefit from services offered via the Ruimveldt Life Improvement Initiatives (RLII) Multi-Purpose Business and Recreational Centre. The programme is funded under the European Union's Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in Development (NSA/LA) thematic budget line which aims at encouraging non-state actors and local authorities, both from the EU and in developing countries, to get more involved in development issues. Partnering with the Assemblies of God Religious Institution the EU has channelled GYD 41.7 Million (83.16% of total cost of the programme) towards the realisation of this project. The RLIC's construction is part of a vision to empower and equip youth, women, and unemployed residents with the relevant abilities to enhance their entrepreneurial and developmental capabilities and by extension the development of the community.

This will be achieved through training and services in the areas of barbering, beauty care, video-graphics and culinary arts in the multi-purpose building. The four storeyed facility will have a recreational room which will encourage residents of the community to engage in socially acceptable activities under the guidance of the dedicated team from the Assemblies of God Church.

Giving brief remarks at the commissioning Head of Cooperation at the EU Delegation in Guyana Mr Ewout Sandker said, "I think this project is about hope. Hope for a better future for the Community, especially for youth, women, and the elderly. It will provide opportunities for training, perspectives on jobs, and a recreation environment. A meeting place. A safe place. A learning place. And an earning place, let's not forget about that because our funding will dry up at some point and then the initiative will need to finance itself. I will be happy to come back for a haircut and a snack to help with that!"

Mr Sandker was joined by Minister of Local Government the Honourable Norman Whittaker and Minister of Public Works the Honourable Robeson Benn at the opening ceremony.



Head of Cooperation at the EU Delegation in Guyana making remarks at the opening ceremony.



Minister of Public Works the Honourable Robeson Benn giving brief remarks.



Minister of Local Government the Honourable Norman Whittaker giving brief remarks.



Ceremonial cutting of the ribbon to open the centre.



Inside the centre

