

Side By Side

THE NEWSLETTER
FROM CROWN AGENTS
ISSUE 1 2012

PAGE 2

Supporting natural disaster management
in Ghana with Japanese aid

PAGE 3

Strengthening HIV/AIDS prevention
and treatments in Zimbabwe

PAGE 5

Building capacity in the Niger Delta with
a private sector organisation



African governments back effective grant management to boost development /

Whether Governments in both developed and emerging nations are under increasing pressure to account for how they manage and disburse funds in order to achieve the greatest impact for their people.

Crown Agents' broad expertise in trade, health, financial management and work with the private sector is helping governments to address these challenges.

Over the past year Crown Agents has helped to improve public financial management in over 30 nations including many in Africa.

Last year alone, heavy rains devastated 950 communities, 20,000 acres of farmland and 744 schools /

As part of Japan's ongoing grant support for Africa, Crown Agents delivered 62 rescue operation vehicles to Ghana in April to help the country respond quickly and efficiently to natural disasters.

Every year, the cost of damage to properties, businesses and farms in Ghana runs into billions of dollars.

Crown Agents has managed Japan's Grant Aid for Environmental and Climate Change (GA ECC) grant to procure vehicles and equipment for Ghana's National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) since 2010, helping the country to better cope with ever increasing flood conditions.

Ghanaian vice president John Dramani Mahama thanked the Japanese government during a handover ceremony in April, which was also attended by Japanese Ambassador to Ghana, His Excellency Naoto Nikai, Crown Agents Ghana country manager Sam Brandful and GA ECC project manager, Stella Addo. "We are most thankful to the government and people of Japan for this massive injection of aid into our disaster and mitigation response system," said Mahama.

NADMO's rescue operations previously consisted of just four pick-up trucks for the whole of Ghana. Now the country has bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks and tankers to desilt and dredge drains, river channels and waterways; remove debris from collapsed buildings, bridges and culverts and transport relief goods and potable water to flooded communities.

NADMO's national coordinator Mr Kofi Portuphy commended the seamless procurement process under the remaining grant: "The Japanese did not just supply to us any goods on the market but manufactured the equipment and trucks

to our specification. This high regard for us requires special mention," he said. In July this year, Crown Agents will deliver the remainder of the assistance package to NADMO, including six station wagons and seven pick-up trucks, to further strengthen Ghana's ability to respond to future natural disasters.



"We are most thankful to the government and people of Japan for this massive injection of aid"

John Dramani Mahama

FOCUS ON STELLA ADDO

Project manager Stella Addo discusses achieving success on the GA ECC grant



I have worked for Crown Agents Ghana for 12 years; 10 on the Japanese Non-Project Grant Aid (JNPGA) and two on the new Environment grant. This project has really sharpened my managerial skills and I've recently received a qualification from the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply. As project manager, I liaise between the Japan office, Ghana office, end users and stakeholders, explaining all grant procedures, Crown Agents' procurement processes and managing queries relating to the project. I also manage all communications, problem solving and reporting. I work alongside the grant managers for the forestry, natural disaster and solar grants; a procurement officer and our Ghana country manager

Sam Brandful on policy issues. Our team manages all grant issues including tendering, contracting and chasing suppliers for deliveries from inception to closure of the grant in partnership with the Japanese team.

Externally, we have built strong client relationships with the Forestry Commission, Nouguchi Memorial Institute and the National Disaster Management Organisation, which has enabled us to successfully deliver equipment and commission vehicles to contain natural disasters. I look forward to more challenges and sharing the experiences with my colleagues.

ZIMBABWE

THE CHALLENGE

Zimbabwe has one of the highest rates of HIV/AIDS in the world, responsible for more than 62,000 deaths each year.

OUR ROLE

Crown Agents ensured that all ARVs and other medicines have been procured on time, helping Zimbabwe to manage the HIV/AIDS epidemic and save lives.

THE RESULTS

74,404

people living with HIV gained access to antiretroviral therapy



By the end of January 2012, 74,404 people living with HIV gained access to antiretroviral therapy /

Zimbabwe has one of the highest rates of HIV/AIDS in the world and although the number of cases is declining the disease remains accountable for more than 62,000 deaths in the country each year.

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