



## Press Release January 17, 2018

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### Government of Belize Providing Educational Opportunities For Over 185 Students in the Corozal District

An Official Ceremony to inaugurate a new school building for Escuela Secundaria Técnica México High School will be held on the school's compound in San Roman, Corozal District at 2:00 PM on January 19, 2018. This is as a result of the Government of Belize recognising the critical role of Secondary education for social, economic, cultural, environmental and political development by way of empowering future leaders with knowledge, skills, and values to enhance Belize's socio-economic development.

The Government funded the completion of a two (2) storey ferro-concrete substitution building courtesy of a **grant of \$1,077,214.00** from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) under the Basic Needs Trust Fund, BNTF's Education & Human Resource Development Sector with counter-part funding from the Government and the school community.

The School project is aimed at increasing access and providing enhanced quality education for students in a more conducive learning environment in the Northern District. It would also enable the school to address the increasing demand of enrollment and over-crowding.

The Scope of Works included but not limited to the completion of six (6) new classrooms, new administrative spaces, male and female lavatories for students and teachers, janitor's equipment storage room, two staircases, and an access ramp for persons with diverse abilities. Specifics of the new building is 30 feet wide by 125 feet long encompassing 6,300 sq. ft. The completion of the school's project will also benefit residents of San Roman village and surrounding communities since the building can serve as a disaster shelter.

*The school project demonstrates the unwavering commitment of the Government in meeting Sustainable Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning*



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The Government in facilitating the empowerment of students by way of educational excellence also provided state of art school supplies namely materials and equipment for the Chemistry, Biology and Physics Laboratories with respect to meeting CSEC standards. In order to meet the Agri-business and Vocational technical, Food and Nutrition and Agriculture Curriculum, a prefabricated Greenhouse measuring 48 ft. x 162 ft. with UV plastic and anti-insect screen mesh was also constructed.



The Social Investment Fund (SIF) is an implementing agency of the Government of Belize, and in this context, collaborated with the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture in implementing this school project as part of its mandate to work in line with the Government's strategy to address the basic needs of Belizeans in the area of education, water, sanitation, health, human development and social transformation.

The media is invited to this momentous occasion.

**“Social Investment Fund...*Breaking the Cycle of Poverty*”**