

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Provides Assistance to 9 Projects

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth FJ\$1,354,354 to Nadi Town Council, Rotary Pacific Water for Life Foundation, Christian Helps, Vinaka Fiji, Homes of Hope Fiji, Lautoka Andhra Sangam College, Ba Provincial Free Bird Institute, Namosi Catholic Primary School and Chevalier Training Centre through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan, will sign nine grant contracts with the respective recipients to formalize Japan's assistance at a signing ceremony that will be hosted by the Ministry of Finance, at Level 2, Rolalabalavu House, Victoria Parade, Suva, at 2:30pm on Friday, 11 March 2016.

You are most welcome to the ceremony. For further queries, please contact Mr. Peni Saurara on email address: <u>peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp</u> or <u>eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp</u> and phone number: 3304633.

Details for the Nine Respective Projects

- 1. The Project for Provision of Garbage Truck to Nadi Town Council
- (a) Recipient: Nadi Town Council
- (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr.Robin Ali, Special Administrator
- (c) Details: The Nadi Town Council will receive \$179,043 for the provision of a new Garbage Truck. The provision of a garbage truck to Nadi Town Council will assist further to its collection capacity as the township is set on becoming a 'City' in 2017. With the increasing population and influx of tourists, the Nadi Town Council is stepping up its efforts to ensure its environment remains clean through effective waste management. This project aims to contribute towards accomplishing this goal for the benefit of the residents, investors, tourists and future generations of Nadi.
- 2. The Project for Water Supply to 4 Communities in Macuata Province
- (a) Recipient: Rotary Pacific Water for Life Foundation
- (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Ms. Monifa Fiu, Manager
- (c) Details: Rotary Pacific will receive F\$177,806 to upgrade and improve water supply systems to 4 communities in the Macuata Province. Raranibulubulu requires a new borehole and pipelines; Coqeloa Central needs two 10, 000 litre water tanks and upgrading of its pipelines; Coqeloa No.3 needs two water tanks and upgrading of its pipelines while Naqumu Village requires 4 new 5,000 litre water tanks which will be connected to the guttering of the new Village church and used for rain water harvesting. On recognizing these communities' urgent need for assistance, the Embassy of Japan committed to provide funding assistance to the Rotary Pacific Water for Life Foundation for the installation of water supply systems in the four aforementioned communities.
- 3. The Project for Construction of Nalauwaki Village Spring Box
- (a) Recipient: Christian Helps
- (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Narayan Nair, Director
- (c) Details: Christian Helps will receive F\$94,962 for the construction of a spring box. Currently the

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water supply for the village comes from a ground spring from high up in the mountains. The water from the spring is captured in a cave that acts as an open dam; the water is piped to the installed storage water tanks. However water is often contaminated by feral pigs and goats, further when it rains undesirable run off gets washed into the storage dam. Contamination of the water was initially addressed by the installation of filters but with the increase in population, these filters can now only supply sufficient water for cooking & drinking. When the contaminated water is used for personal washing and drinking, the Village suffers from various water-borne diseases such as skin infections, boils, tropical ulcers and diarrhoea. The aim of project through the construction of a spring box will allow water to be caught below ground level, eliminating contamination by animals and will provide clean water for the entire Village.

- 4. The Project for Water Supply to Soso Village
- (a) Recipient: Vinaka Fiji
- (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mrs. Elenoa Nimacere, Operations Manager
- (c) Details: Vinaka Fiji will receive F\$49,878 for the provision of a new solar water system equipped with three 10,000 litre water storage tanks which will be implemented in Soso Village in the Yasawas. Currently the village is using a diesel generator to pump water from the existing borehole; the village cannot financially cope with the high cost of running the diesel plant that powers the water pump on a daily basis. Water shortages in the Yasawas are exasperated and become critical during the dry seasons (which can last for about 6 months). During these dry periods, water is carted to these islands via barge after wells and water tanks have run dry. The aim of this project is to provide assistance by which the new water system will enable the community to have access to water and the tanks to store the water during the dry season.
- 5. The Project for Upgrading of Homes of Hope Training Centre
- (a) Recipient: Homes of Hope
- (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Mark Roche, Director
- (c) Details: Homes of Hope Fiji works with young women and children who are victims of, or are vulnerable to situations of forced sexual encounters, sexual exploitation, child sexual abuse and violence. Homes of Hope will receive F\$184,720 for the upgrading of their cookery and bakery building equipped with equipment, construction of a chicken coop and the installation of solar lights. The aim of this project is to provide these women with facilities that will not only house their training, but improve their livelihoods through various skills.
- 6. The Project for Upgrading of Lautoka Andhra Sangam College
- (a) Recipient: Lautoka Andhra Sangam College
- (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Azam Khan, Chief Executive Officer
- (c) Details: Lautoka Andhra Sangam College will receive F\$176,305 for the construction of a three classroom blocks equipped with furniture. The school offers two streams of classes for Year 9-13 students and within those 2 streams, the school offers various parallel classes. Currently the two streams of Year 13 students are sharing one classroom which has become overcrowded and there are no extra classrooms available for the parallel classes to conduct separate lessons. The 2 new classrooms will be used to conduct ongoing parallel classes while the other classroom will be used to accommodate one of the two streams of Year 13's. The three classroom blocks will be equipped with furniture to allow the school to better cater and facilitate the classes, providing students with a proper learning environment.
- 7. The Project for Upgrading of Ba Provincial Free Bird Institute
- (a) Recipient: Ba Provincial Free Bird Institute
- (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Meli Tora, Head Teacher
- (c) Details: Ba Provincial Free Bird Institute will receive F\$151,640 for the construction of a two

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classroom block equipped with furniture and a 4-pan ablution block for both boys and girls. To cope with the resulting classroom shortage, classes are held in the dining hall and library, thereby hindering access to these facilities. Similarly, the students are using the staff toilet and toilets situated in the girl's dormitory. This project, therefore aims to alleviate such difficulties through the construction of two spacious classrooms with furniture and to provide a healthier and more hygienic environment for the school community through improvement of its sanitation infrastructure.

- 8. The Project for Upgrading of Namosi Catholic Primary School
- (a) Recipient: Namosi Catholic Primary School
- (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Atonio Semesa Tupua, Head Teacher
- (C) Details: Namosi Catholic Primary School will receive \$160,000 for the construction of a two classroom block, office and a library, all equipped with school furniture. The primary students have been using the secondary school's dormitory and the primary school's dining hall for their classes, this has not only put a strain on the current facilities but on the students and staff who do not have a proper learning environment. Through alleviating the difficulties faced by the school, the facilities provided by this project will ensure the delivery of quality education and at the same time provides a conducive learning environment for the students.
- 9. The Project for Upgrading of Chevalier Training Centre
- (a) Recipient: Chevalier Training Centre
- (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Fr. Simon Mani, Director
- (c) Details: The Chevalier Training Centre was established by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart to help break the cycle of poverty and assist young men from underprivileged family backgrounds to gain a trade skill, discouraging them from resorting to crime & teaching them to become responsible people who can contribute to society. Chevalier Training Centre will receive F\$180,000 for the construction of 1 cement classroom, dining hall & kitchen. With only one classroom, most theoretical classes are held in the workshops. By adding another classroom to the existing facilities this will enable management to properly organise the students practical and theory programmes making it more suited & conducive for learning. The current kitchen is situated outside the dormitories and constructed from local materials; similarly the dining hall is too small to cater for all students. The construction of a proper kitchen & dining hall will ensure food is prepared in a safe and hygienic environment; also students will be able to enjoy their meals in a proper and comfortable eating area.

The GGP Programme is part of the overall Japanese ODA implemented by the Embassy of Japan in order to empower the people and the community from the grassroots level. The GGP Programme in Fiji has been widely implemented in areas such as education, water supply, health, transportation, IT, agriculture and fisheries since 1990. To date, more than 340 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amounts to an approximate value exceeding USD 19 million.

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