



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No: 10/2017

Date: 3 March 2017

Japan Formalizes Assistance to for Habitat for Humanity Fiji, Fiji National Blood Service and Hilton Organisation

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth FJ\$307,530 to Habitat for Humanity Fiji, Fiji National Blood Service and Hilton Organisation through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan, will sign three grant contracts with the respective recipient representatives to formalize Japan's assistance at a signing ceremony that will be hosted by the Embassy of Japan, at Level 2, BSP Life Centre, Suva, at 2:30pm on Friday, 3 March 2017.

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

Details for the Three Respective Projects

1. The Project for Rehabilitation for Water Supply to Naviti
 - (a) Recipient: Habitat for Humanity Fiji
 - (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Masi Latianara, National Director
 - (c) Details: Habitat for Humanity Fiji will receive FJ\$17,300 for rehabilitation works on the water supply system at Marou Village on Naviti Island. In December 2014, the Embassy of Japan provided funding assistance to Habitat for Humanity Fiji for a water supply project at Marou Village. The project was successfully completed but was damaged by Tropical Cyclone Winston in February, 2016. TC Winston damaged the solar panels, controller unit and two 10,200-litre water tanks. Due to financial constraints, Habitat for Humanity Fiji again sought Embassy's assistance for the rehabilitation works for the water project at Marou Village. Recognising the plight of Habitat for Humanity Fiji and importance of water supply to Marou Village, the Embassy of Japan decided to assist Habitat for Humanity Fiji in the rehabilitation works. The rehabilitation works will be carried out to cyclones standards so that water supply to Marou Village will be minimally affected during and after a cyclone in the future.
2. The Project for Provision of Blood Donor Bus to the Northern Division
 - (a) Recipient: Fiji National Blood Service
 - (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Josefa Bolaqace, National Manager of Blood & Ambulance Service
 - (c) Details: Fiji National Blood Service (FNBS) will receive FJ\$195,023 for the purchase of a new blood donor bus. To date, FNBS in the Northern Division has not owned a blood donor bus. Therefore, FNBS is relying on the transport from Labasa Hospital to carry out its blood drive activities. Sometimes, FNBS has to cancel the blood drives because of the need to prioritise other medical activities of the hospital. As a result, FNBS has been hiring a vehicle which is becoming a financial burden. This makes it difficult for FNBS to meet the demand from blood banks at hospitals and clinics in the Northern Division. This project therefore aims to increase the number of blood donations from voluntary non-remunerated blood donors in the Northern Division.

PRESS RELEASE

3. The Project for Upgrading of Facilities for Children with Disabilities in Hilton Organization

(a) Recipient: Hilton Organization

(b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Ritesh Dass, Board President

(c) Details: Hilton Organization will receive FJ\$95,207 for the upgrading of facilities for children with special needs in its institutions. The roofs of the building, sewage system and fence of Hilton Special School is in a deteriorated state. Specifically, roofs of the building are not compliant to cyclone standards and there is high risk of it being blown away in the future. The school's sewage system leaks, which is not hygienic and poses risk of diseases. The fence of the school is also in a depleted state; hence, it requires upgrading work to ensure students' safety. In addition, Hilton Special School does not have a heater system to warm the pool for the students to undertake hydro-therapy. As with Hilton Special School, the Hilton Early Intervention Centre's roof is also non-compliant to cyclone standards and the fence is also in a deteriorated state. Recognising the urgent need for upgrading work and to ensure that the students are equipped with proper facilities, the Embassy of Japan has decided to provide funding assistance to Hilton Organization. This project will provide the school with a safe, hygienic and conducive learning environment for its children with special needs.

The GGP Programme is part of the overall Japanese ODA implemented by the Embassy of Japan in order to empower the people 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, 345 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value exceeding USD 20.6 million.

END.