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# PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No: 04/2018

Date: 14 February 2018

## Japan Hands Over New Training Centre to Ba Women's Forum

The Government of Japan is pleased to announce the completion of construction works of the Ba Women's Forum Training Centre. The total value of assistance is FJ\$492,900 which is funded under Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. In presence of the Honourable Rear Admiral (Retired) Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, Prime Minister and Minister for iTaukei Affairs, Sugar Industry and Foreign Affairs, H.E Mr. Masahiro Omura, Ambassador of Japan, will hand over the new training centre, located in Ba Town, to the Ba Women's Forum, at 12.00 pm, on Thursday, 15 February 2018.

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

### Details for the Project for Construction of Ba Women's Forum Training Centre

1. Basis for Implementing the Project  
Ba Women's Forum is an umbrella organisation composed of 79 women's clubs in Ba District. Since its inception in 2011, the Ba Women's Forum consistently aims to empower women at the grassroots level through improving their skills with the resources that are readily available to them. In 2010, the Ba Town Council built a bure at the Ba market area to cater for women vendors coming in from the interior of Viti Levu to sell their products. Due to space limitations, many times the bure was fully booked and the Forum was unable to utilise the facility for planning projects, training and workshops. This had huge impact on the operations of the Forum as it was unable to expand into their other training needs and capabilities. Recognising the urgent need for the construction of a new training centre, the Embassy of Japan decided to provide funding assistance under Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme aimed at addressing challenges faced by the Forum.
2. Basic Information
  - (a) Donor: Embassy of Japan in Fiji
  - (b) Recipient: Ba Women's Forum (Western Division)
  - (c) Total Value of the Funding Assistance: FJ\$492,900 for the construction of a two-storey training centre with office, hall, sewing room, kitchen, two other training rooms, 10 sewing machines and 3 gas stoves with ovens.
3. Long Term Benefits of the Project  
The new training centre will increase the overall productivity of women by providing up-to-date training and facilitating their access to improved technologies. The various training and skills attained at the Centre will ensure that the women will improve their employability, entrepreneurial livelihood opportunities, therefore reducing poverty and their dependence on others as well as promoting sustainable and equitable socio-economic development.
4. Overview of the GGP Programme in Fiji  
The GGP Programme is part of the overall Japanese Official Development Assistance 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 359 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value exceeding USD 24 million.

**END.**