



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Formalizes Funding for Rehabilitation of Medium Wave Radio

Transmission to Fiji

The Government of Japan formalizes funding for rehabilitation of medium wave radio transmission to the Government of the Republic of Fiji. Total value of assistance is about 865 million Japanese Yen (Apx.FJ\$15million), which will be funded under Japan's Grant Aid Programme.

H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan, and Hon. Rear Admiral(Retired) Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji, will formalize Japan's assistance to Fiji at an Exchange of Notes signing ceremony hosted by the Government of Republic of Fiji, at Conference Room, Level 4 (Office of the Prime Minister), New Wing, Government Building, Suva, at 10:15 am on 31 August 2015 .

We welcome your attendance at the ceremony, and for further queries please contact Mr. Peni Saurara on email address: peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp or eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp and telephone number: 3304633.

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Details for the Rehabilitation of Medium Wave Radio Transmission

1. Background of the Project

The current Medium Wave Radio (AM) broadcast is provided by Fiji Broadcasting Corporation (FBC) through the transmitter it had acquired in 2000. However, the transmitter has faced continued breakdown due to aged deterioration and once resulted into broadcast interruption, in July, 2013. FBC broadcasts medium wave radio most importantly for emergencies and warnings on a national scale but unfortunately such functionality has become unstable now. In addition, the corrosion seen in the medium wave transmission antenna built in 1953, needs to be addressed urgently. On the other hand, FBC's FM broadcast continues unhindered but quick restoration of medium wave radio broadcast is of national importance because it has for greater reach across the country, especially to the remote regions. In times of natural disasters and emergencies such coverage could save countless number of Fijian lives

2. Basic Information

- (a) Donor : The Government of Japan
- (b) Recipient : The Government of the Republic of Fiji
- (c) Implementing agency:
Fiji; The Ministry of Public Enterprises (Fiji Broadcasting Corporation(FBC))
Japan; Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- (d) Total Value of the Funding Assistance : Apx.FJ\$15million (865 million Japanese Yen)

3. History of Japan's Assistance for Disaster Risk Management

Japan's assistance for disaster risk management in Fiji dates back to 1995 starting with the project for construction of the Fiji Meteorological Services Head Office. Since then, such cooperation also includes upgrading of meteorological observation and forecasting system as well as enhancing capacity development for disaster risk management implemented through various projects under JICA's Technical Cooperation.

END.