



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

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Ground Breaking Ceremony for Japan's Grant Aid for "The Project for Reconstruction of the Nippon Causeway"

The Government and people of the Republic of Kiribati will soon witness the ground breaking ceremony that will begin the reconstruction of the Nippon Causeway. In the presence of His Excellency Taneti Maamau, Te Beretitenti (President) of the Republic of Kiribati and Madam Teiraeng Maamau, Mr. Tsuguyoshi Hada, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Japan, will witness the ground breaking ceremony in Tarawa, Kiribati at 3:30pm, on Friday, 28 July 2017.

The Government of Japan provided funding for "The Project for Reconstruction of the Nippon Causeway" worth 3.8 billion Japanese Yen (approximately US\$37m or AU\$49m) under its Grant Aid Programme in July 2016.

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: (+679)3304633.

Details for the Project for Reconstruction of the Nippon Causeway

1. Basis for Implementing the Project

The Nippon Causeway is the only link between the two most populated towns in Tarawa namely, Betio, where the country's only international port is located, and Bairiki, an administrative centre that has most of the Government Ministries and offices. The causeway was constructed in 1987 through Japan's Grant Aid Programme, but through time as well as by encroachment of the sea it has deteriorated. In March 2015, the causeway was heavily damaged by heavy rains and storm surges, prompting the need for repairs which forced the authorities to impose a load restriction and limit traffic to one lane, thereby hindering the transportation of goods and people.

Based on addressing such difficulties faced by the people of Kiribati, the Government of Japan decided to fund the reconstruction of Nippon Causeway in line with Kiribati's national development framework.

2. Basic Information

(a) Donor: The Government of Japan

Implementing Agency: JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)

(b) Recipient: The Government of the Republic of Kiribati

Implementing Organization: Ministry of Public Works and Utilities

(c) Total Value of the Funding Assistance: AU\$49million (JPY 3.805 billion)

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