



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Provides Assistance to 5 Institutions

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth FJ\$895,658 to Lovu Sangam School, Sunshine Special School, Nadi School for Special Education, Nausori Town Council and Levuka Town Council through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan, will sign five grant contracts with the respective recipients 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 Wednesday, 4 November 2015.

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 Five Respective Projects

1. The Project for Upgrading of Lovu Sangam School
 - (a) Recipient: Lovu Sangam School (Western Division)
 - (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Ms. Angili Devi Ratnam, Head Teacher
 - (c) Details: Lovu Sangam School will receive F\$175,250 for the reconstruction of its four-classroom block, which was destroyed by termite infestation in the year 2013. To cope with the resulting classroom shortage, classes were held in the staffroom, library, computer room and tool room, thereby hindering access to these facilities. Hence, this project aims to alleviate such difficulties through construction of four spacious classrooms with furniture. Unlike the original classroom block, which was made of timber, the new classroom will be made of concrete providing a stronger and safer learning environment for the students.
2. The Project for Provision of School Bus to Sunshine Special School
 - (a) Recipient: Sunshine Special School (Western Division)
 - (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Josefa U. Selo, Head Teacher
 - (c) Details: Sunshine Special School will receive F\$117,365 for the purchase of a 30-seater school bus to replace the school's two 17-year old 12-seater minivans. The school's roll has now grown to 75 students, which burdens the school's existing vehicles. The worsening condition of the minivans has rendered them unsafe and inconvenient to their passengers due to their frequent breakdowns. This affects the performance of the students who are unable to arrive in school on time and also causes parents to worry because of the high risk of accidents. Additionally, with the current minivans, the school is unable to reach out to other students in need of special education in the Lautoka area. This project aims to boost the daily transportation and outreach capabilities of the school by providing a new bus which has greater seating capacity with high safety standards.
3. The Project for Upgrading of Nadi School for Special Education
 - (a) Recipient: Nadi School for Special Education (Western Division)
 - (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Shiro Mani Felix, Head Teacher

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(c) Details: Nadi School for Special Education will receive \$180,000 for the construction of a 4-pan toilet block and a 3-classroom block equipped with school furniture. The school's existing 3-classroom wooden block is more than 26 years old and is now in a dilapidated condition due to shaky floors, cracked walls and leaking roofs. The rooms are also very small in size resulting in congestion problems. Similarly, the school's toilet block is very old and unsafe for the students to use. This project aims to provide a healthier and more hygienic environment for the school community through improvement of infrastructure and sanitation.

4. The Project for Provision of Garbage Truck to Nausori Town

(a) Recipient: Nausori Town Council (Central Division)

(b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Azam Khan, Chief Executive Officer

(c) Details: Nausori Town Council will receive F\$179,043 for the provision of a new garbage compactor truck. Nausori Town is the fourth most populous municipality in the country and is divided into 3 major wards, Naulu/Nakasi, Nausori Ward and Davuilevu Ward. Since 2004, the number of properties within the Nausori Vicinity has increased to an estimated 4,104; thus, the amount of waste generated has also increased. In addition, Nausori Town's new market and bus stand is also expected to further add to the current work load of the current garbage trucks. For the past 10 years, the council has using a 6-tonne compactor truck and two 5-tonne open trucks to provide house-to-house garbage collection services. The new garbage truck will enable safe and more efficient collection of waste, therefore minimizing health risks for the people of Nausori Town and the surrounding areas. The new rear loaded compactor truck not only has the capacity to carry more garbage but also minimizes any spillage of waste during transportation. Nausori 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 Nausori Town's increasing number of residents and investors.

5. The Project for Upgrading Levuka Seawall

(a) Recipient: Levuka Town Council (Eastern Division)

(b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Azam Khan, Acting Chief Executive Officer

(c) Details: Levuka Town Council will receive F\$244,000 for the upgrading of Levuka Seawall. Levuka, known as the old colonial capital, is a historical port town and officially became a World Heritage Site recognised by UNESCO in 2013. The areas around Levuka Town that are not protected by a seawall have been put under environmental strain causing erosion, vegetation loss, flooding and damage to communal infrastructures. The upgrading of the Seawall will provide Levuka Town and its surrounding areas with a proper coastal defence against the rising sea level caused by climate change. The Levuka Town Council is stepping up its efforts to ensure its colonial heritage site is protected along with its inhabitants; therefore, this project aims to assist Levuka Town towards accomplishing this goal for the benefit of the residents, tourists and its future generations.

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 330 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value exceeding USD 18 million.

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