

## PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No: 08/2018 Date: 23 February 2018

## **Japan Formalizes Assistance to Nasinu Town Council**

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth up to FJ\$449,542 (US\$232,237) to Nasinu Town Council through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. H.E. Mr. Masahiro Omura, Ambassador of Japan, will sign the grant contract with the Special Administrator of Nasinu Town Council Mr. Mosese Kama to formalize Japan's assistance at a signing ceremony, at Level 3, Fiji FA House, Gladstone Rd, Suva, at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, 26 February 2018. The Honourable Praveen Kumar Bala, Minister for Local Government, Housing and Environment, Infrastructure and Transport, will also be present to witness this occasion.

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

## **Details for the Nasinu Town Council Project**

- 1. The Project for Provision of Garbage Compactor Trucks to Nasinu Town
- (a) Recipient: Nasinu Town Council
- (b) **Grant Contract Signatory:** Mr. Mosese Kama, Special Administrator of Nasinu Town Council
- (c) **Details:** Nasinu Town Council (NTC) will receive FJ\$449,542 (US\$232,237) for the procurement of two 9 tonne garbage compactor trucks to supplement the current fleet of trucks that is being used by the Council. In 2013, the Government of Japan through its GGP scheme supported NTC for the procurement of a 5 tonne garbage compactor truck worth FJ\$192,912, which is still being used by the Council. NTC serves the largest township in Fiji with an estimated total population of 130,000, an increase from 76,000 in 2007. In addition to the challenges of serving a rapidly increasing population, the Council has shouldered the responsibility of servicing the informal settlements. As a result, with the current fleet of trucks, the Council if facing a lot of difficulties in accommodating the waste disposal demand. The Council has resorted to hiring open trucks to ensure the waste collection schedule is aptly covered. These hired open trucks are very costly to the Council, unhygienic and also pose a health risk to the garbage collection workers.

The two new 9 tonne garbage compactor trucks is expected to provide greater efficiency as more garbage can be carried on fewer trips to the Naboro Landfill and at the same time provide a more conducive working environment for garbage collectors who are usually exposed to the stench of garbage, bacteria and toxic substances. This project aims to improve waste management operations of the Council by providing an efficient, hazard free and timely waste collection service to the people of the Nasinu.

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, 359 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value exceeding USD 24 million.

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