



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Formalizes Assistance to Labasa Town Council, Navuakece District School and Visama Village

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth US\$283,424 (FJ\$569,003) to Labasa Town Council, Navuakece District School and Visama Village through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. H.E. Mr. Masahiro Omura, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Fiji, will sign three grant contracts with the respective recipient representatives to formalize Japan's assistance at a signing ceremony that will be hosted by the Embassy, at Level 2, BSP Life Centre, Suva, at **11:00am on Wednesday, 12 December 2018**.

You are most welcome to join 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 Three Respective Projects

1. The Project for Provision of Garbage Truck to Labasa Town Council
 - (a) Recipient: Labasa Town Council
 - (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Mohammed Faiz Ali, Acting Chief Executive Officer
 - (c) Details: Labasa Town Council will receive up to US\$110,098 (FJ\$221,033) for the provision of a nine tonne garbage compactor truck. The Council has expanded its services for solid waste collection to include the per-urban and informal sectors as well. Although the Council has strived to provide excellent garbage collection services, the demand has proven to be challenging for the Council's limited manpower and garbage collection fleet. The nine ton compactor truck will improve the services of the Council by efficiently collecting kitchen and household waste in a timely manner. This project aims to improve waste management operations of the Council by providing an efficient, hazard free and timely waste collection service to the residents of Labasa Town.
2. The Project for Upgrading of Navuakece District School
 - (a) Recipient: Navuakece District School
 - (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Filipe Qio, Head Teacher
 - (c) Details: Navuakece District School will receive up to US\$85,724 (FJ\$172,100) for the construction of three classrooms. Navuakece District School serves the communities of Waitabolo, Naterumai, Waisere, Savuna and Nasaua. Currently, the school has 177 students and has turned down many requests from parents wishing to enroll their children into the school due to classroom space issues. The school is centrally located and is easily accessible to nearby communities. At present, classrooms are shared between Year 1 and Year 2 students and between Year 7 and Year 8 students as well. This has led to students studying in an overcrowded environment which is not conducive to delivery of quality education. Through the construction of classrooms, this project aims to enhance the access and delivery of quality education to the students of Navuakece District School.
3. The Project for Construction of Foot Bridge for Visama Village
 - (a) Recipient: Visama Village Development Committee
 - (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Timoci Bai, Chairman Visama Village Development Committee

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(c) Details: Visama Village Development Committee will receive US\$87,602 (FJ\$175,870) for the construction of a foot bridge in Visama Village which is located on the outskirts of Nausori Town with a population of about 300 villagers. The villagers and nearby community residents have been using coconut trunks as a foot crossing for several years where students, the elderly and those needing medical attention such as pregnant ladies use this impromptu bridge on a daily basis. This poses a huge health and safety risk. This project will provide funding to Visama Village Development Committee to construct a foot bridge which will ensure those using the bridge will be able to enjoy a hazard free access to education, health services and their farm lands as well.

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, 368 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value USD 25 million.

Current Sanitation Situation Pictures of Labasa Town



Open truck for garbage collection



Left over garbage in Labasa Town

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Current Situation Pictures of Navuakece District School



Year 1 and 2 classroom



Year 7 and 8 classroom

Current Situation Pictures of the foot bridge in Visama Village



Footbridge



Footbridge

END.