



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No: 41/2018

Date: 17 December 2018

Japan Formalises Grant Aid for the Procurement of Maritime Safety and Security Equipment for the Fiji Police Force

The Government of Japan will provide funding to the Government of Fiji to support the procurement of Maritime Safety and Security Equipment for the Fiji Police Force, valued at 300 million Japanese Yen (App. US\$2.6m or FJ\$5.5m) under its Grant Aid titled 'Economic Social Development Programme' (ESDP).

Mr. Yogesh Karan, Permanent Secretary of the Office of the Prime Minister and H.E. Mr. Masahiro Omura, Ambassador of Japan, will formalize Japan's assistance to the Government of Fiji at an Exchange of Notes signing ceremony hosted by the Government of Fiji, at **10:00am, on Tuesday, 18 December 2018, at Level 4 Conference Room, New Wing, Government Buildings, Suva.**

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 of the "Economic Social Development Programme"

1. *Purpose:* Procurement of Maritime Safety and Security Equipment
2. *End-User:* Fiji Police Force
3. The nature of Fiji Police Force's operations covers the whole of Fiji which consists of 330 islands that are spread across its maritime zone. Most of these islands are vulnerable to natural disasters including cyclones, earthquake and flooding. Fiji's recent experience of category 5 TC Winston in 2016, which affected over 540,000 people has enforced the need to have a more capable and well equipped search and rescue operations facility serving coastal maritime areas. To enhance Fiji Police Force's capacity in search and rescue operations, this grant aid will support the procurement of maritime safety and security equipment such as life boats, lifesaving launcher, equipment for scuba diving etc. and further enhance disaster prevention and reduction in Fiji.
4. Background of the Economic Social Development Programme
Japan's grant aid, the 'Economic Social Development Programme' is a type of assistance which supports the socio-economic development efforts, including poverty reduction, of developing countries. The ESDP has a facility through Japan's International Cooperation Systems (JICS) to enable import of goods, machinery and other amenities (industrial materials such as petroleum and steel products etc.) necessary to promote national development efforts of recipient countries.

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