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the People of Japan

# **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Japan formalizes provision of High Frequency Radios for Northern Division**

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth up to USD87, 054 (FJD179, 968) to National Disaster Management Office for provision of high frequency communication system through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme.

The Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the Embassy of Japan, Mr. HADA Tsuguyoshi and the Director of National Disaster Management Office, Ms. Vasiti Soko will sign the grant contract to formalize Japan's assistance at a Grant Contract Signing Ceremony to be held at **2:00pm, Tuesday 04 February 2020** at the **National Emergency Operations Centre, Level 3 Nasilivata House, 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](mailto:peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp) or [oejeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp](mailto:oejeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp) and telephone number: (+679) 3304633.

### **Details of the Project**

#### **The Project for Upgrading of High Frequency Communications to National Disaster Management Office**

- 1) Recipient: National Disaster Management Office (NDMO)
- 2) Grant Contract Signatory: Vasiti Soko, Director for NDMO
- 3) Project Details:

The National Disaster Management Office was established in 1978 and part of its core functions is to initiate formulation of policies for development of disaster management organisations and activities, deal with disaster management related issues at national level and co-ordinate disaster management training and public education. Fiji is a country that is susceptible to natural disasters. In times of these crisis, communication and accurate information is critical in dispatching assistance, rescue and relief work. NDMO conducted a recent survey of its radio communication systems in the Northern Division and confirmed the current radio communication systems untenable due to the age of the system and unavailability of parts.

Fiji's commitment to the Sendai Framework prompted NDMO to improve its communications system not only for times of natural disasters, it also provides a platform to disseminate weather forecast and impending weather conditions. This information is useful for rural communities who rely on agriculture and fishing. Recognizing this importance, through this grant, the Government of Japan will provide nine High Frequency Radio sets for nine selected sites in Vanua Levu to NDMO.

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 and transportation since 1990. To date, 387 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value of USD 26.9 million.

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