

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan formalizes provision of generators for ice plants in Bua

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth up to USD62,511 equivalent to FJD129,229 to Bua Province Fisheries Service Centre for provision of two generators through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme.

The Minister for Fisheries Hon. Semi Tuleca Koroilavesau and H.E. Mr. OMURA Masahiro, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Fiji, will sign the grant contract to formalize Japan's assistance at a Grant Contract Signing Ceremony to be held at **8:30am**, **Tuesday 25 February 2020** at **Embassy of Japan**, **at Level 2, BSP Life Centre, Suva.**

We welcome your attendance at the ceremony, and for further queries please contact Mr. Peni Saurara on email address: <u>peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp</u> or <u>eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp</u> and telephone number: (+679) 3304633.

Details of the Project

The Project for Installation of Generators for Bua Province Fisheries Service Centre

- 1) Recipient: Bua Province Fisheries Service Centre
- 2) Grant Contract Signatory: Hon. Semi Koroilavesau, Minister for Fisheries
- 3) Project Details:

Bua Province Fisheries Service Centre has three fisheries service stations, Nabouwalu, Lekutu and Kubulau. Approximately 400 registered fishermen are engaged in coastal fisheries activities in Bua district and several communities there depend on its economic activities in terms of food security and livelihood. Bua Province Fisheries Service Centre has played a significant role in not only utilizing marine resources but also ensuring fishermen's livelihood by operating ice plants and cold storages, with which the centre has been properly selling ices at a low price to fishermen. However, the centre's operation rate per day is constrained by the limited access to public electricity and shortage of generators, while a demand for ice from fishermen is increasing. Recognizing this challenge, through this grant, the Government of Japan will provide two new generators in order to increase the annual ice production capacity of the centre by securing a stable electricity supply for Nabouwalu station and Lekutu station.

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, 384 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value of USD 26 million.

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