



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No: 02/2021

Date: 08 January 2021

Japan provides financial assistance to Sigatoka Town Council

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth FJ\$170,504 (US\$85,593) to Sigatoka Town Council for the procurement of a five-ton garbage compactor truck through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme.

Mr. HADA Tsuguyoshi, Charge d'Affaires ad interim of Japan to the Republic of Fiji, will sign a grant contract with Mr. Anand Sami PILLAY, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Sigatoka Town Council, to formalize Japan's assistance, at Level 2, BSP Life Centre, Suva, at 11:00am on Monday, 11 January 2021. Hon. Premila KUMAR, Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development, will also present as a witness of the contract.

You are most welcome to join the handing over ceremony. For further queries, please contact Ms Emily Dutt on email address: emily.dutt@fj.mofa.go.jp or eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp and phone number: 3304633.

1. Basis for Implementing the Project

- 1) Sigatoka Town is a township in Fiji that caters for approximately 59,000 people from the province of Nadroga/Navosa including an estimated urban population of 10,508. Sigatoka Town Council has to take responsibility of providing waste collection service to cover such a large population. However, the Council has been facing a great in accommodating the heavy demand for waste collection service, as the Council does not have its own garbage compactor truck yet.
- 2) The garbage compactor truck will provide a more efficient waste collection service to the people in Sigatoka. It will also create a more conducive working environment for garbage collectors, who would be exposed to the stench of garbage, bacteria and toxic substances.

2. Japan's assistance toward grass-roots communities

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, agriculture and fisheries since 1990. To date, the Embassy of Japan has implemented 392 GGP projects worth more than USD 28 million. Furthermore, it has provided 12 garbage compactor trucks to Fiji Municipals since 1993.

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