



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No: 09/2021

Date: 22 February 2021

Japan formalizes provision of 2 Cooler Trucks for Ministry of Health

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth up to FJ\$374,310 (US\$183,530) to the Ministry of Health and Medical Services through the provision of two Cooler Trucks through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

H.E. Mr. KAWAKAMI Fumihiro, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Fiji, and Hon. Ifereimi Waqainabete, Minister for Health and Medical Services will sign the grant contract to formalize Japan's assistance at a Grant Contract Signing Ceremony to be held at 10 am, Wednesday 24 February at Ministry of Health HQ, at Level 3, Dinem House, Amy Street, Toorak, Suva.

1. Basic information

- (1) Project title: The Project for Provision of Cooler Trucks for Fiji Pharmaceutical & Biomedical Service Centre
- (2) Donor: Embassy of Japan in Fiji
- (3) Recipient: Ministry of Health and Medical Services
- (4) Grant amount: FJ\$374,310 (US\$183,530)
- (5) Purpose: Provision of 2 Cooler Trucks to strengthen FPBS cold chain system

2. Project outline

The Fiji Pharmaceutical & Biomedical Service Centre (FPBS) is Fiji's main procurement and distributor of medical vaccines and supplies. In 2002, the Government of Japan funded the construction of FPBS for the purpose of proper storage and distribution of medical vaccines.

As part of the Fijian Government's plan to strengthen vaccination, three kinds of vaccines are scheduled to be introduced by 2022. However, due to the current economic strain on Government finances, the FPBS does not have the cold chain capacity to cater for this new plan. And with the current pandemic of Covid-19, the development of refrigerated vehicles is now an urgent issue.

This project aims to assist the FPBS in meeting the WHO cold chain standards, and strengthen Fiji's cold chain capacity in ensuring the quality distribution of vaccines around Fiji. It will make quality vaccines more accessible and available for the residents and visitors to Fiji.

Since 1990, the Embassy of Japan in Fiji has widely implemented GGP Projects in areas such as education, water supply, health and transportation. To date, the Embassy has formalized 395 GGP projects, which amount to an approximate value of US\$28.7 million.

We welcome your attendance at the ceremony, and for further queries please contact Ms. Mele Raturaga on email address: mele.raturaga@fj.mofa.go.jp or eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp and telephone number: (+679) 3304633.

END.

Issued by the Embassy of Japan. G. P. O. Box 13045, Suva, Fiji. Ph: 3304633