

PRESS RELEASE

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<u>Japan Hands Over New School Building (1 Classroom and Library) and</u> <u>Dormitory with Furniture to Vunisea Secondary School</u>

The Government of Japan provided FJ\$600,041 to Vunisea Secondary School for the construction of a New School Building (1 Classroom and Library) and a Dormitory with furniture, under Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. H.E. Mr. KAWAKAMI Fumihiro, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Fiji, will hand over the new facilities to the school on Wednesday, 23rd March 2022 at Vunisea Secondary School, Kadavu.

You are most welcome to attend the ceremony. 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 for the Project for Upgrading Vunisea Secondary School

1. Basis for Implementing the Project

Vunisea Secondary School was established in 1969 in central Kadavu and has continuously served students from nearby communities for more than 50 years. Cyclone Keni and Cyclone Harold directly affected the school in April of 2018 and 2020 and the school sustained a lot of damages to most of the school buildings. The school library and the vocational training room were completely destroyed after Cyclone Keni, and as a result, the school had no choice but to suspend vocational training courses and, limit books and information gathering classes. Furthermore, Cyclone Harold caused extensive damages to one of the dormitories, resulting in the decrease with the number of students who could board .

For that reason, the Government of Japan funded the construction of a school building(1 Classroom and Library) with furniture (40 sets of student desks and chairs, 1 teacher's desk and chair, 6 long tables and benches, and 8 tall bookshelves), as well as a dormitory with 20 double bunks. Not only has this assistance provided the students with an opportunity to study in a conducive learning environment, it will also serve as a reliable evacuation centre for the surrounding communities.

2. Basic Information

(a) Donor: Government of Japan

(b) Recipient: Vunisea Secondary School(c) Total funding: FJ\$600,041 (US\$299,641)

The GGP Programme is part of the overall Japanese ODA implemented by the Embassy of Japan in order to empower the people at 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, 415 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value of USD 31 million.

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