

# **PRESS RELEASE**

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**Date: 20 February 2023**

## **Japan formalizes a Project with Ministry of Rural, Maritime Development and Disaster Management**

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth up to FJ\$ 248,000 (US\$ 110,709) for Construction of Footbridge in Saliadrau Village through its Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects (GGP).

H.E. Mr. KAWAKAMI Fumihiro, Ambassador of Japan, and Hon. Mr. Sakiasi Ditoka, Minister for Rural, Maritime Development and Disaster Management, will sign the grant contract to formalize Japan's assistance at a Grant Contract Signing Ceremony held at Ministry Office Complex, at 3:00 pm on 21<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

You are most welcome to attend the ceremony. For further queries, please contact Ms. Mele Raturaga on email address: [mele.raturaga@fj.mofa.go.jp](mailto:mele.raturaga@fj.mofa.go.jp) or [eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp](mailto:eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp) and phone number: 3304633.

### **Details for The Project for Construction of Footbridge in Saliadrau Village**

#### **1. Basis for Implementing the Project**

Saliadrau Village is located at Namosi Province, and the villagers, in order to reach the main road, have no alternative other than crossing the river on a daily basis. When the river is flooded, children cannot cross the river to go to school, people with special needs and pregnant women often find it hard to cross the river, and have to be carried across to have access to medical services. During flooding and strong currents, the villagers cannot access their farms or travel to the markets to sell their produce.

The construction of the new 60 meter long suspension footbridge, will ensure the safety and wellbeing of the people of Saliadrau. Principally, children, women and the elderly will not be compromised when crossing the river on a daily basis. This project will be managed and operated by the Office of the Commissioner Central Division.

#### **2. Basic Information**

- (a) Donor: Embassy of Japan in Fiji
- (b) Recipient: Office of the Commissioner Central Division
- (c) Total funding: US\$110,709 (FJ\$248,000)

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, IT, agriculture and fisheries since 1990. To date, 420 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value exceeding USD 32 million.

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