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# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Japan formalized The Project for Improvement of Health and Environment in Nikierere Primary School in the Republic of Kiribati**

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth up to AU\$ 131,272 to Te Maeu Projects for the construction of six compost toilets through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. Mr. IKEDA Hirotsugu, Chargé d'affaires ad interim of Japan to the Republic of Kiribati, will sign the grant contracts with Mr. Eritai Kateibwi, Project Manager, Te Maeu Projects to formalize Japan's assistance at a Grant Contract Signing Ceremony witnessed by Ms. Reetina Katokita, Director, Ministry of Education, **at 10.00a.m. on Wednesday, 1st March 2023, at MOE, Kiribati.**

For further queries please contact Ms. TIROI NANOUA [nanoua.tiroi@tw.mofa.go.jp](mailto:nanoua.tiroi@tw.mofa.go.jp) and Mr. Peni Saurara [peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp](mailto:peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp) and telephone number: **730-15314**.

### **Details of the Project**

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

Nikierere Primary School has around 250 students and is located in Marakei Island, which is 48 miles north of Tarawa, in the Northern Gilbert group of islands. Toilets used in Kiribati particularly the outer islands runs a high risk of contaminating scarce ground water, as these toilets are housed with thatched walls and roofs and built close to water sources. The students in this school are suffering from the conditions of these toilets, because they are not hygienic and often have a strong foul smell. In addition, there is no sense of privacy when using these toilets. Some students even opt to relieve themselves in the bushes, which increases the risk of contaminating water sources. Recognizing these challenges, the Government of Japan has agreed to fund this project in order to provide a sanitary environment for students and of equal importance, to protect the water tables as well. Residue from the compost toilets will be used as manure for agriculture purposes as well.

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

- (a) Donor : Embassy of Japan in Kiribati
- (b) Recipient : Te Maeu Projects
- (c) Total funding : US\$90,569 (AU\$131,272)

The GGP Programme is one of Japan's ODA schemes implemented by the Embassy of Japan in order to empower grassroots communities. The GGP Programme in Kiribati has been widely implemented in areas such as education, water supply, health and education, transportation and IT, agriculture and fishery since 1995. To date, about 64 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value of USD 4.6 million.

**END.**