

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No: 24/2023 Date: 29 August 2023

Japan Hands-over Ice Making Machine to the Ministry of Fisheries

The Government of Japan will hand-over an ice making machine worth approximately FJ\$1.3 million to the Government of Fiji through its Economic Social Development Programme (ESDP).

Mr. YAMADA Yosuke, First Secretary at the Embassy of Japan, will hand over the new equipment to the Permanent Secretary for Fisheries Mrs. Atelaite Rokosuka at a handing over ceremony hosted by the Ministry of Fisheries, **at 10:00AM**, **on Wednesday**, **30 August 2023**, **at the Lautoka Fisheries Port**.

We welcome your attendance at the ceremony, and for further queries please contact Mr. Peni Saurara on email address: <u>peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp</u> or <u>eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp</u> and telephone number: (+679)3304633.

Details of the "Economic Social Development Programme"

- 1. Purpose: Procurement of Ice Making Machine
- 2. Ministry: Ministry of Fisheries
- 3. The Government of Japan will hand-over ice-making machine worth FJ\$1.3m funded under Japan's Economic Social Development Programme or ESDP. The ice making machines aims to complement the existing Japanese support to the Ministry of Fisheries in Lautoka and more importantly promote disaster resilience and food security in nearby communities. This project will enable fishermen in the area to preserve their caught and add value, therefore improves the fishermen's income and livelihoods.
- 4. This assistance was one of the Disaster Risk Reduction related projects worth approximately FJ\$17M which was aimed to promote disaster resilience in communities and food security in the aftermath of natural disasters. The other two Disaster related equipment that will be handed over at a later date will include the provision of tsunami earlier warning systems to the National Disaster Management Office and a dredger for the Ministry Waterways.
- 5. In 1986 the Government of Japan provided a funding of US\$7.8M for Lautoka Fishing Port Improvement Project and other collaborations such as; (a) Technical cooperation by JICA and OFCF, (b) construction of a Lautoka Fish Market worth US\$116,672 and (c) the implementation of the Project on Pacific Islands Capacity Enhancement for Achieving SDG 14, under which JICA recently supported the provision of equipment to Lautoka Fishers Cooperative Limited.

6. ESDP In Fiji

Fiji has implemented 7 ESDP projects since 2016 worth 2.5 Billion JPY or approximately FJ\$48.52M

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Year	Amount	Recipient	Items
2016 (Handed Over)	300m JPY (FJ\$5.8M)	Ministry of Rural Maritime Development and National Disaster Management Office	Heavy Machineries including boats with engine
2017 (Handed Over)	100m JPY FJ\$1.82M	Office of Prime Minister	Machineries including excavators, tractors and Chainsaws
2018 (Handed Over)	300m JPY FJ\$5.5M	Fiji Police Force	Maritime Safety and Security Equipment
2019 (ongoing)	848 JPY FJ\$17M	Office of Prime Minister	 Tsunami Early Warning Systems Dredger Ice Plant ☆☆
2020 (Handed Over)	500 JPY FJ\$10M	Ministry of Health	Medical Equipment
2021 (Ongoing)	300 JPY (App. FJ\$6M)	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, and Ministry of Waterways	Procurement of heavy equipment
2022 (Ongoing)	150 JPY (App. FJ\$2.4M)	Ministry of Health and Medical Services	Procurement of two Medical Container

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