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the People of Japan

# PRESS RELEASE

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**Date: 05 October 2023**

## **Japan Formalises Grant Aid for the Procurement for Oil Spill Equipment for the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji**

The Government of Japan will provide funding to the Government of Fiji to support the procurement of Oil Spill Preventative Equipment for the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji, valued at 100 million Japanese Yen (App. FJ\$1.6m) under its 'Economic Social Development Programme' (ESDP).

Mr. TANAKA Kenichiro, Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of Japan and Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau Minister of Public Works, Transport and Meteorological Services, will formalize Japan's assistance to the Government of Fiji at an Exchange of Notes signing ceremony hosted by the Government of Fiji, at **11:00am, on Friday, 06 October 2023**, at the **MSAF Conference Room, Level 4 Kadavu House, 414 Victoria Parade, Suva**. We welcome your attendance at the ceremony, and for further queries please contact Mr. Peni Saurara on email address: [peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp](mailto:peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp) or [eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp](mailto:eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp) and telephone number: (+679)3304633.

### **Details of the "Economic Social Development Programme"**

1. **Purpose:** Procurement of Oil Spill Preventative Equipment
2. **Ministry:** Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Meteorological Services
3. **Agency:** Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji

The Government of Japan will be providing oil spill preventative equipment to MSAF to support one of the Authority's mandated responsibilities which is to protect Fiji's marine environment. This assistance is Japan's first grant aid support to MSAF. In addition to the oil spill preventative equipment, the grant will also support the procurement of specialised four-wheel drive trucks to support MSAF operations. The new oil spill equipment will be utilised in Levuka, Labasa, Lautoka and Suva ports.

The importance of a healthy ocean cannot be understated as it provides Fijian communities with food, income and is a source of life to other living species. It is for this reason that Japan maintains the view that preserving and maintaining a healthy ocean is an important pillar to promote sustainable socio-economic development.

Japan understands the devastating impact of an oil spill to the marine environment and will have long-term consequences to the marine ecosystems and consequently it will affect the communities. This project aims to support MSAF's core responsibility to minimise the impact such incidents in the future.

The project is aligned to Fiji's national development plan and Japan's new vision for a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific".

# **PRESS RELEASE**

## **4. ESDP In Fiji**

This project is the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) project to be implemented under this scheme. The total funding allocated under this scheme, including this project amounts to **2.6B JPY approximately FJ\$50.12M**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Items</b>
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)	848m JPY FJ\$17M	Office of Prime Minister	1) Tsunami Early Warning Systems 2) Dredger 3) Ice Plant ( <b>Handed over</b> )
2020 (Handed Over)	500m JPY FJ\$10M	Ministry of Health	Medical Equipment
2021 (Ongoing)	300m JPY (App. FJ\$6M)	Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, and Ministry of Waterways	Procurement of heavy equipment
2022 (Ongoing)	(i) 150m JPY (App. FJ\$2.4M)  (ii) 100m JPY (App. FJ\$1.6M)	(i) Ministry of Health and Medical Services  (ii) Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Meteorological Services	Procurement of Medical Container  Procurement of Oil Spill Equipment

**END.**