



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

Jointly issued by the Embassy of Japan and JICA Fiji Office
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Japan Formalizes Support for Project for Improvement of Meteorological Services and Disaster Risk Reduction in the Pacific Islands

1. The Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Fiji will sign Exchange of Notes and Grant Agreement to formalize the “Project for the Development of Regional Centre for the Improvement of Meteorological Services and Disaster Risk Reduction in the Pacific Island” **worth up to 1.739 billion Japanese Yen or approximately FJ\$27 million.**
2. H.E. Mr. Rokuichiro MICHII, Ambassador of Japan, and Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau, Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport, will formalize the above-mentioned project at an Exchange of Notes signing ceremony to be held at the **Fiji Meteorological Service, Laucala Bay Office** on **Thursday 27 March 2025, at 11:00AM.**
3. Following the Exchange of Notes signing, Mr. WAKASUGI Satoshi, JICA Resident Representative for JICA Fiji Office will sign the Grant Agreement with Ro Filipe Tuisawau, Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport.
4. We welcome your attendance at the ceremony, and for further queries please contact Mr. Peni Saurara at the Embassy of Japan (peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp) and telephone number: (+679)3304633) or Ms. Nila Prasad at the JICA Fiji Office (NilaPrasad.FJ@jica.go.jp) or telephone number: (+679) 3302522) .

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Details of the “Project for the Development of Regional Centres for the Improvement of Meteorological Services and Disaster Risk Reduction in the Pacific Island”

Background of the Program:

The Fiji Meteorological Service was established in 1975, with the construction of a new Meteorological Bureau headquarters and the provision of observation, forecasting, and communication equipment (1995 and 1996) through Japanese grant aid. Since 2015, it has been receiving meteorological data from the Japanese meteorological satellite Himawari-8 and providing cyclone forecasting and warning services to each country in the region. In addition, FMS has been continuously providing training to Pacific Island countries through JICA's technical cooperation and provides human resource development related to basic meteorological work and calibration services for meteorological observation instruments.

The Ministry acknowledges the FMS's lack of space to expand its services in the region hence the need for a state-of-the-art facility to not only serve the meteorological needs of the Fijian Government but also serve the Governments in the Pacific region. The project will include but limited to the construction of a;

- i Training facilities compliant with WMO guidelines;
- ii Calibration facility for meteorological instruments in accordance with WMO guidelines (including ISO certification) and instrument calibration services within Fiji and the Pacific countries.
- iii Library for Storing and viewing books, records, etc. related to meteorology.

1. Basic Information

- (a) **Donor:** Government of Japan
- (b) **Beneficiary:** Fiji Meteorological Services
- (c) **Implementing Agency:** Ministry of Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- (d) **Total Funding Assistance:** up to 1.739 billion Japanese Yen (App. FJ\$27 Million)

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Please kindly note that the photos below are for illustration only.



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