

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Hands Over Equipment for Early Warning System to the National Disaster Risk Management Office (NDRMO)

The Government of Japan, in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), will officially hand-over early warning system equipment, along with Starlink Communication devices and tsunami warning signs, to the National Disaster Risk Management Office.

The Hand Over Ceremony will take place at **3pm on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at Level 1, Ramarama Building, 91 Gordon Street, Suva** where H.E. Mr. Rokuichiro MICHII, Ambassador of Japan to Fiji, will hand over the equipment to Mr. Isoa Talemaibua, Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management. This initiative represents a key milestone in the ongoing collaboration between Japan and Fiji to promote sustainable development and enhance community preparedness against climate-related hazards.

We welcome your attendance at the ceremony. For further queries please contact Mr. Peni Saurara on email address: peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp, and eoconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp and telephone number: 3304633

Details of the Project: Early Warning System Scale Up in the Pacific

1. Background

In early 2023, Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin severely impacted Fiji. These powerful storms caused widespread damage and displacement, affecting an estimated 200,000 people, approximately one-fifth of the population. Critical infrastructure was damaged, and livelihoods were disrupted, highlighting Fiji's vulnerability to climate related disasters.

The Government of Japan, through its supplementary budget, provided funding of approx. 1.5m USD to IOM for the **Project of Upscaling Early warning Systems in the Pacific**. In alignment with the Secretary General's Early Warning for All Initiative (EW4ALL), this project focuses on enhancing disaster risk reduction and early warning actions not only in Fiji, but also Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu.

2. Basic Information

- (a) **Donor:** Government of Japan
- (b) **Recipient:** Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu
- (c) **Implementing Agency:** International Organization for Migration
- (d) **Amount:** App. USD\$1.5 Million