

# Embassy of Japan

## Tonga

### **PRESS RELEASE**

GGP/2018/01  
March 15, 2018

#### **Grassroots Assistance, Japan formalized Three Educational and One Water Supply Projects**

The Grant Contract formalizing the Government of Japan's assistance to four new Grassroots Human Security Projects in total were signed between H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan in Tonga, and respective recipients on Thursday, 15 March 2018.

Present at the ceremony held at the conference room of St. George Government Building were Hon. Dr. Pohiva Tuionetoa, Minister of Finance and National Planning, Hon. Penisimani Fifita, Minister of Education and Training, Hon. Poasi Tei, Minister of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Communications and Climate Change and Fr. Mafi of the Catholic Church along with representatives of the project recipients from Hofoa Government Primary School, Takuilau College, St. Francis of Assisi Primary School and Kolonga village water committee.

H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii in his key note address first conveyed his sympathy to all that had been affected by Cyclone Gita last month, and emphasized that education and safe water are priority areas for a community and a nation's growth. "The Government and the people of Japan believe in the unlimited possibilities that education will bring. Indeed till today, over 50% of the GGP projects that have been implemented are in the education sector, and in the aftermath of cyclone Gita, we are committed to the continuation of our assistance not only to rebuild the learning environment, but also to help improve the resilience of schools with disaster preparedness infrastructures," stated His Excellency.

His Excellency also emphasized, recalling his own experience of having no access to water for a while after the cyclone, that, "24 hour access to water is the basis for a safe and healthy life, and we look forward to assisting and strengthening the Tongan communities by upgrading your water supply systems."

Mr. Sitani Paulo Mahe, Principal of Takuilau College extended on behalf of the project recipients their heartfelt appreciation for the generous assistance from the people and the Government of Japan. New classroom buildings will be constructed each for Hofoa GPS, St. Francis Primary School, and the Technical and Vocational facility for Takuilau College, while the Kolonga village water supply system will be upgraded. Over 400 students currently enrolled in the schools, and 1,168 people living at Kolonga village will benefit from Japan's assistance.

The assistance epitomized Japan's commitment to support efforts by the people and the Government of Tonga to ensure Human Security and continue to enrich the existing warm and close relations between the people and the Government of Japan and the people of the Kingdom of Tonga.

END.

Attachment: Project Factsheet & Photos

## Project Fact Sheet

### Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GPP)

1) Project Title	The Project for Upgrading St Francis of Assisi Primary School
Recipient	St. Francis of Assisi Primary School PTA
Grant Amount	USD\$73,965.00

#### Project Outline

- 1x New Classroom Building (2 classrooms)
- 1x Toilet Block

Photos;



Signing ceremony formalizing Japan's GPP assistance for St. Francis of Assisi Primary School by H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii and Mr. Warrick Veal- Chairperson of the St. Francis PTA.



H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii and Mrs. Ishii with St. Francis of Assisi Teachers and Parents Association.

2) Project Title	The Project for Upgrading the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) facility of Takuilau College
Recipient	Takuilau College
Grant Amount	USD\$84,331.00
Project Outline	
- 1x New Classroom Building (4 classrooms)	

Photos;



Mr. Sitani Paulo Mahe, Principal of Takuilau College signed for Japan's GGP assistance on Thursday, 15 March 2018.



H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii with Hon. Pohiva Tu'ionetoa, Hon. Penisimani Fifita and the Takuilau College PTA.

3) Project Title	The Project for Upgrading the Water Supply System of Kolonga Village
Recipient	Kolonga Village Water Committee
Grant Amount	USD\$64,908.00
<b>Project Outline</b> - 2x Diesel Generator and Pump - 1x Water Tank (5,000gal) - 1x Tank Stand - Pipe and Fittings	

Photos;



Mr. Tai Langi, Chairperson for Kolonga Village Water Committee signing for Japan's assistance for the upgrading of Kolonga water supply system.



H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii with Hon. Pohiva Tu'ionetoa and the Kolonga Village Water Committee.

4) Project Title	The Project for Upgrading the Government Primary School of Hofoa
Recipient	GPS Hofoa, PTA
Grant Amount	USD\$81,238.00
Project Outline	
- 1x New Classroom Building (3 Classrooms)	

Photos;



Hon. Poasi Tei with the PTA of Hofoa Government Primary School appreciating the assistance from Japan.



The signing ceremony for Japan's GGP project at the Ministry of Finance, 15 March 2018.