

Embassy of Japan Tonga

PRESS RELEASE

GGP/2017/05
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Japan GGP handover of the Technical Course Classroom for Tonga College

The Government of Japan and Tonga College celebrated the completion of their new technical course classroom, funds through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects, GGP on Tuesday afternoon, 3 October 2017.

His Excellency Mr. Yukio Numata, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Kingdom of Tonga congratulated the completion of the Project at a handover ceremony held at Tonga College, 'Atele. Hon. Penisimani Fifita, Minister for Education and Training along with Mr. Claude Tupou, CEO Ministry of Education and Mr. Maika Haupeakui, Deputy CEO Ministry of Finance and National Planning attended the handover ceremony along with government officials and the members of the Parents and Teachers Association of Tonga College, Teachers and students of Tonga College.

H.E Mr. Yukio Numata, who was greeted by over 800 students of the school and a large banner saying “ようこそ！！沼田大使(Welcome!! Ambassador Numata)” hung up on the new classroom building emphasized in his keynote address that he was happy to be able to take part in enhancing the quality of learning the technical course offers. He also expressed his joy and confidence that the warm and friendly relations between the school and Japan, which have developed through the dispatch of JICA volunteers and the rugby scholarship program benefiting students from Tonga College, will further strengthen with the completion of this project.

Hon. Penisimani Fifita, Minister for Education and Training thanked H.E Mr. Yukio Numata for Japan's significant assistance in fulfilling the dreams of the technical student of Tonga College. The Minister mentioned in his speech that the new classroom will help the school in enabling the students to take up studies that are relevant to their needs and interests as well as opening up new and alternative opportunities for their futures.

The Parents and Teachers Association for Tonga College sought for Japan's assistance to provide a safe and healthy education environment for the students of the technical course, which aims to lower the student dropout rate and equip the youth with technical and practical skills for their interest and future jobs.

Japans Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects was introduced in 1990 and to date have granted over 270 projects in different sectors throughout Tonga. The assistance epitomize also Japan's commitment to support efforts by the People and the Government of Tonga to achieve its National Strategic Planning Framework, and strengthen the warm and close relations between the people and the Government of Japan and the people of the Kingdom of Tonga.

END.

Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GGP)

Project Fact Sheet

Project Name	The Project for Upgrading of the Technical Course's Building for Tonga College
Recipient	Tonga College Parents and Teachers Association (Mr. Lamipeti Havea /Chairperson)
Grant Amount	USD\$74,247.00
Project Outline	- 1 new classroom building (4 rooms) (Contractor: KIWI TONGA)
Background:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The technical course had no theory classroom and had to conduct their classed under a tent or in practical classroom. About 95 student this year will benefit from Japan's GGP assistance. Courses offered by the technical course are; automotive, carpentry, welding, plumbing, electrical and horticulture.

Photos:



H.E Mr. Yukio Numata unveiling the sign board of the new technical course building funded by Japan's GGP aid scheme on Tuesday, 3 October 2017



New technical course building for Tonga College, 'Atele.



H.E Mr. Yukio Numata with Hon. Pesimani Fifita and guests inside the new technical course classroom.



A gift of appreciation from Tonga College presented by Hon. Penisimani Fifita.



Handover ceremony at Tonga College, 'Atele on Tuesday 3 October 2017



H.E Mr. Yukio Numata with Mr. Lamipeti Havea, Chairperson of the PTA and Hon. Penisimani Fifita.



A student of Tonga College felt lucky to shake hands with H.E Mr. Yukio Numata.



Group photo with stakeholders of the Tonga College GGP Project.



H.E Mr. Yukio Numata with Hon. Penisimani Fifita and the students of Tonga College on Tuesday 3 October 2017.