

# Embassy of Japan Tonga

## **PRESS RELEASE**

*GGP/2017/06  
October 17, 2017*

### **Japan GGP handover of a Classroom Building for Havelu/Tofoa GPS**

The Government of Japan and the Government Primary School of Havelu/Tofoa celebrated the completion of their new classroom building, funded through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects (GGP) on Tuesday afternoon, 17 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 hand over ceremony which was attended by Hon. 'Akilisi Pohiva, Prime Minister of Tonga. Present also at the ceremony were Hon. Penisimani Fifita, Minister for Education and Training, Hon. Semisi Sika, Minister for Infrastructure and Tourism, Government Officials, Parents and Teachers Association of Havelu/Tofoa, Teachers and the students of the GPS Havelu/Tofoa.

This handover ceremony was the final GGP engagement for H.E Mr. Yukio Numata before returning to Japan later the week. He reiterated in his address that Japan places education very high on the list of its priorities as education is base for developing ones capacity. "It is my delight that we have completed a project that will strengthen the learning quality for the children here in GPS Havelu/Tofoa,"

"We hope that these classrooms will help improve your learning environment, so that all of you will grow into strong and responsible individuals to uphold the future society of Tonga and the world," said the Ambassador.

Prime Minister Pohiva conveyed on behalf of the people and the Government of Tonga their heartfelt gratitude for Japan's assistance which will accommodate the growing number of students entering the school each year. "The need for these new classroom are not only necessary, timely but crucial," stated Prime Minister Pohiva. Hon. Penisimani Fifita, Minister for Education and Training thanked H.E Mr. Yukio Numata for responding favorably to development projects of the Ministry of Education and supporting Tonga's vision for Education in its Strategic Development Framework.

The Parents and Teachers Association of GPS Havelu/Tofoa sought for Japan's assistance prioritizing an improved learning, healthy and safe environment for their children.

Japans Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects has been granted to over 270 projects to date 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.

Attachment: Project Factsheet & Photos

## Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GGP)

### Project Fact Sheet

Project Name	The Project for Upgrading of the Government Primary School of Havelu/Tofoa
Recipient	Havelu/Tofoa GPS Parents and Teachers Association (Ms. Ngaluafe 'Akau'ola /Chairperson )
Grant Amount	USD\$82,660.00

#### Project Outline

- 1 new classroom building (3 rooms)  
(Contractor: KIWI TONGA)

#### Background:

- The school experienced shortage of classroom to accommodate growing number of students – one class had over 30 students.
- The school was also in need of a hall for assemblies and functions, hence the new building is serve in this purpose with moveable partition walls.
- The assistance will benefit 640 students of Havelu/Tofoa GPS.

#### Photos



Commissioning of the new classroom building for GPS Havelu/Tofoa by H.E Mr. Yukio Numata, Ambassador of Japan to Tonga on Tuesday, 17 October 2017



Hon. 'Akilisi Pohiva, Prime Minister of Tonga and H.E Mr. Yukio Numata inside the new classroom building funded through Japan's GGP Aid Scheme.



H.E Mr. Yukio Numata with Hon. Penisimani Fifita, Minister of Education and Training along with the Principal and PTA President of GPS Havelu Tofoa.



Handover ceremony of the new classroom building for GPS Havelu/Tofoa



Handover ceremony of the new classroom building for GPS Havelu/Tofoa



New classroom building for GPS Havelu/Tofoa



The new classroom building constructed with partition walls to also serve as a hall.