

Embassy of Japan Tonga

PRESS RELEASE

GGP/2018/12
December 17, 2018

Japan GGP formalized assistance to Four New Projects: Two Water Supply Systems and Two Community Halls

The Grant Contract formalizing the Government of Japan's assistance to four new Grassroots Human Security Projects were signed between H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan in Tonga and respective recipients on Monday, 17 December 2018 in Nuku'alofa.

Present at the ceremony was Hon. Penisimani Fifita, Minister of Education and Training who is also the Peoples Representative for Tongatapu Constituency # 9. Also present were Officials of the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Town Officer of Ha'ano Island, Ha'apai and Representatives from Fakatouato Kindergarten, Pelehake Village Water Community and 'Alakifonua District Water Community.

H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii in his keynote address emphasized that the Embassy prioritizes empowerment of communities through education for all ages, access to clean and plentiful water and disaster preventions. "I am glad to assist Fakatouato Kindergarten so that the early childhood education provided there will encourage the growth of children and their future educational performance, leading to the creation of a good foundation for national building." He also added that "access to water would be greatly improved for the people of Pelehake and 'Alakifonua, we are certain that the upgraded water system will help build strong and healthy communities, where the people can continue their efforts for further development." He was also delighted that the new community hall for Kauvai Island of Ha'ano will be used as an evacuation center from natural disasters and will also be used for trainings and other activities as a gathering point for a resilient community.

In noting Japan's GGP scheme benefitting numerous communities in Tonga, His Excellency stated that in ancient Tongan terms, GGP is like the old saying *si'i 'a uha. Neongo 'oku si'isi'i ka ko hono 'aonga 'oku mafola 'o hange ha uha. (Small rain may be small, but it is significant and wide spread.)* He sent his best wishes to the involved stakeholders in the successful collaboration of the new project, and wished them a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Mr. Lokuvalu Leha, Deputy Chairperson of the PTA for Fakatouato Kindergarten in the vote of thanks said that all the benefiting communities are honored and happy for the assistance from the people and the Government of Japan.

Japan's GGP was introduced in 1990 to directly and promptly meet the basic human needs at the grass-roots level and to date over 270 GGP projects have been handed over in Tonga. 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

Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GGP)

Project Fact Sheet

1) Project Title	The Project for Upgrading Fakatouato Community Hall, Ngele'ia
Recipient	Fakatouato Kindergarten PTA
Grant Amount	USD\$86,457

Project Outline

- Renovation to 2nd floor
- Renovation to ground floor toilet, shower and hand wash area

Photo:



H.E Tetsuya Ishii with Mr. Lokuvalu Leha who signed for the GGP assistance for the Fakatouato Kindergarten on Monday, 17 December 2018.

2) Project Title	The Project for Upgrading the Water Supply System for Pelehake Village, Tongatapu
Recipient	Pelehake Village Water Committee
Grant Amount	USD\$89,073
Project Outline	

- Electric Water Pump System
- 1 x Tank
- 2 x Tank Stand
- Main Water Pipes
- Audit

Photos:



H.E Tetsuya Ishii with Mr. Naipuka Manufekai formalized Japan's GGP assistance to upgrade the Water Supply System for Pelehake village.

3) Project Title	The Project for Upgrading the Water Supply System for 'Alakifonua District, Tongatapu
Recipient	'Alakifonua District Water Committee
Grant Amount	USD\$85,979
Project Outline	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electric Water Pump System - Main Water Pipes - Audit 	

Photos:



H.E Tetsuya Ishii with Mr. ‘Apai Moala formalized Japan’s GGP for and upgrade water supply system for ‘Alakifonua district.

4) Project Title	The Project for re-building the Community Hall for Kauvai Island, Ha’apai
Recipient	Ha’ano Community Committee
Grant Amount	USD\$85,769
Project Outline	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Community Hall - Audit 	

Photo:



H.E Tetsuya Ishii with Mr. Lisala Langi, Town Officer of Kauvai, Ha’ano Island formalized Japan’s GGP for the island on Monday, 17 December 2018

Event Photos:



H.E Tetsuya Ishii at the grant contract signing ceremony formalizing Japan's GGP assistance to four new projects, held at the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, St George Government Building, Nuku'alofa.



H.E Tetsuya Ishii with Hon. Penisimani Fifita and the four GGP project signatories on Monday 17 December 2018.



Fakatouato Kindergarten of Ngele'ia community to benefit from Japan's GGP assistance.



Representatives from the Pelehake Village Water Committee after the signing ceremony.



Representatives from the Alakifonua District Water Committee after the signing ceremony.



Kauvai, Ha'ano community to benefit from Japan's GGP assistance.