## **PRESS RELEASE**

GGP/2019/08 November 27, 2019

#### <u>"Receiving clean and stable water every day"</u> Japan's GGP handover for 'Alakifonua's Upgraded Water Supply

The Government of Japan and the people of 'Alakifonua celebrated the completion of their upgraded water supply system funded by Japan's Grant Assistant for Grass-Roots Human Security Project on Wednesday, 27 November 2019. His Excellency Mr. Tetsuya Ishii, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan handed over the project during the handover ceremony attended by Mr. 'Alipate Matekitonga, a representative of the estate holder.

H.E. Mr. Tetsuya Ishii congratulated the completion of the project and emphasized Japan prioritizing water supply project in their list of development priorities. "We recognize that a clean and stable supply of water is vital for our everyday life," stated the Ambassador in his keynote address. He said the new upgraded water supply system will eradicate households suffering from water shortage and malfunctions in the supply of water, and requested the people of 'Alakifonua to take good care of the new system for the wellbeing of future generations.

Mr. Samiu 'Aho, 'Alakifonua's Town Officer, thanked the Ambassador and the people of Japan for their assistance in assuring every household at 'Alakifonua now have access to a much cleaner and stable water supply system 24hours.

The village water committee sought for Japan's assistance to upgrade a deteriorating system installed in 1980 which was heavily damaged by Cyclone Gita in 2018. With Japan's assistance a new electric pump system was installed along with a new pump house and replacements of water pipes throughout the village.

The Government of Japan's GGP scheme was introduced in 1990 to respond directly to basic human needs at the grassroots level, and over 280 projects have been handed over in the Kingdom of Tonga.

END. Attached; Project Factsheet & Photos

1) Project Title	The Project for Upgrading the Water Supply System of 'Alakifonua
Recipient	'Alakifonua District Water Committee
Grant Amount	USD \$85,979.00
Project Outline:	

- 1x Electric Water Pump System

- 1x Water Pipes

- 1x Pump House

Photos;



H.E. Mr. Tetsuya Ishii with Mr. 'Alipate Matekitonga and the community of 'Alakifonua at the new pump house and new upgraded water supply system funded by Japan's GGP on Wednesday, 27 November 2019.



The Keynote Address at the handover ceremony for 'Alakifonua's new water supply.



Women of 'Alakifonua dance to an upgraded water supply funded by Japan's GGP scheme.

# Embassy of Japan

Tonga



H.E. Mr. Tetsuya Ishii with 'Alipate Matekitonga and Samiu 'Aho, the Town Officer at the handover of 'Alakifonua's water supply project.



Handover ceremony for 'Alakifonua's Upgraded Water Supply System, 27 November 2019.



with a new electric water pump system for 'Alakifonua handed o 27 November 2019.