Embassy of Japan Tonga

PRESS RELEASE

GGP/2021/05 September 8, 2021

Japan's GGP Handover of Waste Collection Vehicles to Waste Authority Limited

The Embassy of Japan in Tonga and Tonga's Waste Authority Limited marked the handover of new waste collection vehicles funded through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass Roots Human Security Project, known as GGP on Wednesday, 8 September 2021.

His Excellency Mr. MUNENAGA Kensaku, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Tonga handed over the 3 vehicles (a compactor and two trucks) to Lord Lasike, Chairman of the Waste Authority Board during the ceremony at the Lakalakaimonu Complex, Matatoa. Hon. Viliami Manuopangai Hingano, Governor of Ha'apai attended the ceremony along with Hon. Veivosa Taka, Ha'apai 13 Peoples Representative to the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Paula Ma'u, CEO for MEIDECC, Waste Authority Board Members and Government Officials, and Mr. Malakai Lomu Sika, CEO of Waste Authority Limited.

H.E. Mr. MUNENAGA was pleased to handover the vehicles which will be transported to the Ha'apai Islands to assist the waste collection service in the Ha'apai islands. "These vehicles will enable Waste Authority Limited to collect garbage more efficiently in all villages from Lifuka to Foa. I believe that the living standards and environmental conservation in Ha'apai will be surely improved and I also trust that the people in charge will take good care of the new vehicles and drive safely," said the Ambassador MUNENAGA.

The vehicles were originally donated from the cities of Kochi, Noda and Yoshikawa through the Society for the Promotion of Japanese Diplomacy and these vehicles were reconditioned and transported to Tonga under the GGP assistance.

Lord Lasike, thanked the people and Government of Japan for the significant assistance, which the people of Ha'apai will highly appreciate. In 2017, Tonga's Waste Authority Limited received its first waste collection vehicles having utilized in Vava'u islands.

Japan also through the Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management, commonly known as the J-PRISM, improved the waste management system in the outer islands of Tonga.

END Attached: Factsheet & Photos

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1) Project Title	The Project for strengthening the waste management of outer island through
,	the deployment of waste collection vehicles
Recipient	Waste Authority Limited
Grant Amount	USD \$85,000 (maintenance, transportations etc)

Project Outline:

- 3 Waste Collection Vehicles (1 compactor truck & two flatbed trucks)

Photo;



Handing over of the waste collection vehicles funded by Japan's GGP by H.E. Mr. MUNENAGA Kensaku, Ambassador of Japan to Tonga to Lord Lasike and Waste Authority Limited on Wednesday, 8 September 2021 at Matatoa.

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H.E. Mr. MUNENAGA Kensaku and Lord Lasike with Hon. Viliami Hingano Governor of Ha'apai, Hon. Veivosa Taka Ha'apai People's Representative, Mr. Malakai Lomu Sika and TAKASHIMA Hiroaki, Resident Representative of JICA.



Three new waste collection vehicles funded by Japan GGP.

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The guests at the handover ceremony for WAL's new waste collection vehicles.



Staff of WAL's with H.E. Mr. MUNENAGA Kensaku and their new waste collection vehicles.