

**Embassy of Japan  
Tonga**

**PRESS RELEASE**

*GGP/2024/03  
March 8, 2024*

**Japan's GGP Handover of the Upgraded Water Supply for Houma Village**

H.E Mr. INAGAKI Hisao, Ambassador Designate of Japan to Tonga handed over the upgraded water supply system for the village of Houma, funded through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass Roots Human Security Project (GGP) on Friday, 8 March 2024.

The handover ceremony was attended by Miss Agnes Fakaola 'i Fanga Vaea and other guests including Representative, Ministry of Finance, Contractor, and Members of the Houma Water Committee.

His Excellency, Mr. INAGAKI was happy to be in Houma to celebrate the completion of their upgraded water supply. "I greatly appreciate the efforts and dedication of the people of Houma to complete this project. I believe that access to clean water is essential for good hygiene and a health life. I hope the community can make good use of the new system to improve their quality of life."

"The Japanese government provided the financial foundation to implement this project, but from now on the maintenance is up to the people of Houma. For all projects, good care and maintenance is essential for future generations," added Ambassador INAGAKI. He thanked all stakeholders for their constant support and the effective implementation of current and future GGP projects for Tonga.

The Houma water committee sought for Japan's GGP prioritizing a reliable and sustainable water supply. Japan's GGP assistance enabled the installation of two new electric water pumps and the replacement of 1.8km main water pipes.

On behalf of the Houma village, Miss Agnes Vaea thanked the people and Government of Japan for upgrading the water supply system for her village.

END

Attached: Factsheet & Photos

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1) Project Title	The Project for Improvement of Water Supply System of Houma Village
Recipient	Houma Village Water Committee
Grant Amount	USD \$85,681
Project Outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 2x Electric Water Pumps</li><li>- Main Water Pipes (1.8km)</li></ul>	

Photos:



H.E. Mr. INAGAKI Hisao with Miss Agnes Fakaola 'i Fanga Vaea handed over Upgraded Water Supply for Houma Village on Friday, 8 March 2024.

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The people of Houma with their upgraded water supply funded through Japan's GGP assistance.



Handover ceremony at Houma.