

Embassy of Japan
Tonga

PRESS RELEASE

GGP/2016/04
March 30, 2016

**Japan GGP official commissioning of the Multipurpose Training Centre for
Tonga Red Cross Society, in Ha'apai**

On the 30th of March 2016, the Government of Japan and Tonga Red Cross Society celebrated and handover a new constructed Multipurpose Training Center in Ha'apai, funded through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects, GGP.

His Excellency Mr. Yukio Numata, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Kingdom of Tonga attended the handover ceremony in Ha'apai along with Hon. Mo'ale Finau Governor of Ha'apai, Mr. Sione Taumoefolau, Secretary General of Tonga Red Cross Society and Mrs. Natalia Latu, Deputy CEO for Ministry of Finance and National Planning.

His Excellency Mr. Numata in his keynote address congratulated the completion of the Project and emphasized the significant of Tonga Red Cross Society's humanitarian efforts in immediate responding to disasters. "I am confident that the center is a key area for building up resilient communities in order to enhance people's human security by bringing the community together under one roof to collaborate their thoughts on how to move their lives forward," said the Ambassador. The Ambassador also noted that the storage room and the toilet block constructed within the new multipurpose center, was funded from the Japanese Red Cross Society demonstrating the synergy effect of the Japanese Government and the private sector.

Hon. Moale Finau in his vote of thanks expressed gratitude from the people of Ha'apai over the assistance from the people and the Government of Japan.

Tonga Red Cross Society sought for Japan's assistance in 2014 prioritizing efficient and early response to incidences and disasters, and to rebuild Tonga Red Cross Office in Ha'apai destroyed by Cyclone Ian, in January 2014.

Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects was introduced in 1989. This assistance epitomizes Japan's commitment to support efforts by the People and the Government of Tonga to ensure Human Security and also hope to 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

Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GGP)

Project Fact Sheet

Project Name	The Project for Upgrading of Multipurpose Training Center of Tonga Red Cross Society in Ha'apai
Recipient	Tonga Red Cross Society
Grant Amount	USD\$102,600.00 (TOP\$200,664.97)
Project Outline	Project Outline <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 1x New Multipurpose Training Building- 1x Water Tank (10,000 litter)- Freight- Labour

Photos:



Hon. Mo'ale Finau, Mr. Sione Taumoeolau, HE Mr. Yukio Numata, Mrs. Natalia Latu and Mr. Viliami Sisifa at the handover ceremony of the new Multipurpose Training Center for Tonga Red Cross Society in Ha'apai on Wednesday, 30 March 2016.



Touring of the new constructed Multipurpose Training Center.



New Multipurpose Training Center for Tonga Red Cross Society in Ha'apai, funded under Japan's GGP.



Handover ceremony for the new Multipurpose Training Center of Tonga Red Cross Society, in Ha'apai.



Handover ceremony for the new Multipurpose Training Center of Tonga Red Cross Society in Ha'apai



A wooden plaque for the new multipurpose training centre for Tonga Red Cross in Ha'apai.