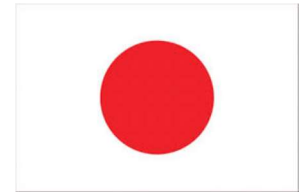


Press Release

Embassy of Japan in the Cook Islands

March 3rd, 2023



**Signing Ceremony of the Grant Contract for
THE PROJECT FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE PUAIKURA FIRE STATION
under
JAPAN'S GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR GRASS-ROOTS HUMAN SECURITY
PROJECTS (GGP)**

On 3 March 2023, the Grant Contract for the Project for Improvement of the Puaikura Fire Station under Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project (GGP) was signed by Deputy Head of Mission, Mr Tatsushi Nishioka of the Embassy of Japan in the Cook Islands, and by Mr. Jason Moorfield, Chief Fire Officer of Puaikura Volunteer Fire Brigade Association Incorporated at the Puaikura Fire Station in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

Under this scheme, Japan will provide NZ\$222,830 to the Puaikura Volunteer Fire Brigade Association Incorporated for the extension of the fire station, and the provision of rescue and training equipment, and an emergency vehicle. The extension of the fire station will provide indoor parking space for fire engines, which are currently parked in a remote semi-outdoor area, enabling a quicker response to emergencies. In addition, the provision of an emergency vehicle, and rescue and training equipment will improve response capabilities in the event of disasters and contribute to the early safety of Rarotonga's 13,007 residents and visitors.





(End)

For Further Information:
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