

# Embassy of Japan

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## Press Release

## *MIHS New School Dormitory Groundbreaking Ceremony in Majuro*

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Date: September 19, 2019  
Majuro, Marshall Islands

On Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the groundbreaking ceremony for the “The Project for Construction of School Dormitory at Marshall Island High School in Majuro Atoll” was held on the campus grounds, with the grant up to US\$303,652 funded through Japan’s Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects, GGP on 27 February, 2019.

The Charge d’ affaires ad interim of the Embassy of Japan, Ms. Hitomi Obata congratulated the commencement of the project at the ceremony. The ceremony was attended by Honorable Minister of Education, Sports and Training Mr. Wilbur Heine, Honorable Minister of Works, Infrastructure and Utilities Mr. Anthony Muller and Mrs. Muller, Honorable Minister of Culture and Internal Affairs Ms. Amenta Matthew, Councilman of Rita Mr. Arlington Tibon, Commissioner for Public School System Mr. Kanchi Hosia, Alab Mrs. Asako Balos, President for Uliga United Church of Christ Reverend Palukne Johnny, Principal of Marshall Islands High School Mrs. Barbara Mori Ned, students, as well as staff from the Public School System, Marshall Islands High School and Embassy of Japan staff.

During the ceremony, Mr. Arlington Tibon, Councilman of Rita, gave the welcoming remarks on behalf of the Mayor of Majuro Hon. Ladie Jack and the people Majuro. Councilman Tibon further stated that he was glad to see that such developments are taking place in Majuro and especially the schools.

Hon. Minister Heine, in his kamolol remarks applauded Japan’s GGP assistance which brings hope and aspiration to the students of MIHS. Hon. Heine also extended his gratitude on behalf of the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the MIHS for Japan’s continuous support investing in the education of the students of the RMI.

Following these remarks, Ms. Obata expressed, “we support MIHS’s efforts to provide a proper dormitory facility, more importantly when considering recent dengue fever outbreak, with safe, comfortable and nurturing environment, especially for students from outer islands; for them, accommodation here in Majuro is indispensable.” She also stated, “on behalf of the government and the people of Japan, we truly wish that the granted facility will benefit the school for long, and thus I am sure that it will help the students’ academic performance keep forever the top level in the country.”

The Government of Japan launched GGP in 1996 in the RMI, for the purpose of responding to development needs engaged in grassroots activities with schools, hospitals as well as local governments and NGOs. This project marks the 63<sup>rd</sup> in Majuro Atoll and the 3<sup>rd</sup> through the GGP for MIHS, which was formulated in 2018 during the celebration for 30 years anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and the RMI.

**For more information, please contact:**

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Naomi Ukai, Grassroots Grant Project Coordinator

Photos:



Remarks by Honorable Minister of Education, Sports and Training Mr. Wilbur Heine



Remarks by Charge d' affaires ad interim of the Embassy of Japan, Ms. Hitomi Obata



Shoveling Ceremony with distinguished guests in MIHS