

# ***Embassy of Japan***

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## ***Press Release***

### ***Japan handed over School Buses to Woja Elementary School and North Delap Elementary School***

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**Date: September 19, 2023**  
**Majuro, Marshall Islands**

On Tuesday, September 19, 2023, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, H.E. TANAKA Kazunari officially handed over in a short ceremony for “The Project for Procurement of School Bus for Woja Public Elementary School in Majuro Atoll” and “The Project for Procurement of School Bus for North Delap Elementary School in Majuro Atoll”. The grant amounting up to US\$87,375 for the procurement of a school bus was funded each through the Japan’s Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

The handover ceremony was attended by Honorable Wilber Heine, Minister of Sports, Education and Training, Mr. Kanchi Hosia, Commissioner of Public School System, Ms. Hannah Lafita, Associate Commissioner for Primary Schools, Mr. Cassiano Jetnil, Associate Commissioner for Property and Maintenance, Mr. Allen Isaac, Principle of Woja Elementary School, Ms. Theresea Rubon, Principle of North Delap Elementary School, and teachers and students from each school.

Woja Elementary School and North Delap Elementary School have been facing difficulties in providing proper transportation for students residing in distant areas in Majuro. With this project, students will secure a safe and proper transportation between school and their homes, which surely contribute to improving educational environment for these students.

At the ceremony, Ambassador TANAKA expressed appreciation for the efforts Public School System, the Principals and all the school staff, who dedicated their time to this project, and said “Japan has been continuously supporting the education sector in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The “Education and Training” is placed as one of the strategic areas under “Social and Culture” pillar in the National Strategic Plan 2020-2030” of the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The Government of Japan has also placed “the strengthening of education” as one of its priorities in its Development Cooperation Policy for the RMI, and that is why this project was successfully materialized”.

Honorable Wilber Heine stated his sincere appreciation for another token of friendship from the people and Government of Japan. He further stated that these schools will utilize fully and keep the buses maintained well to last long. One 5th grader of North Delap Elementary and another 8th grader of Woja Elementary School stated their gratitude in welcoming and Kommol remarks respectively..

The Government of Japan launched GGP for the Republic of the Marshall Islands in 1996. The purpose of the projects is to respond to various development needs and directly benefit people at a grassroots level. With this GGP, the Embassy has granted 160 GGPs in the RMI to date.

**For more information, please contact:**

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