

# ***Embassy of Japan***

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## ***Press Release***

### ***Japan Grants Equipment for Maritime Transportation for Namu Atoll Local Government***

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**Date: March 21, 2024  
Majuro, Marshall Islands**

Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, H.E. TANAKA Kazunari and Hon. Kemilang Kabua, Mayor of Namu Atoll Local Government, signed the Grant Contract for 'The Project for the Improvement of Maritime Transportation in Namu Atoll' (amounting up to US\$161,500) at the Embassy of Japan in Majuro on Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

It was funded through the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project (GGP) by the Government of Japan. The ceremony was witnessed by Hon. Tony Aiseia, and Hon. Bruce Loek, Senators from Namu Atoll and Ailinglaplap Atoll respectively, and other representatives from Namu Atoll Local Government.

Sea transportation is a lifeline for the residents in Namu Atoll. It is needed for commodity supply, copra and amimono delivery, and for people to go to school, work and church. Under such circumstances, this project is to secure a means of transportation connecting Namu Atoll not only with its atolls and islands each other but also other neighboring atolls.

At the ceremony, Ambassador TANAKA introduced the project and stated, "I hope that the boat to be provided will be used effectively and maintained appropriately for the years to come so that this project will be improving the quality of life for the residents. Since the introduction of GGP project in the Republic of the Marshall Islands in 1996, the Government of Japan has been a close partner with the Government and people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands." He added that, "Japan will continue to work together for the well-being of the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands using different types of development cooperation schemes including GGP."

Mayor Kabua expressed his sincere gratitude to the people and Government of Japan for generous assistance to the residents in Namu Atoll. He also stated that this project will provide an opportunity for people in the community to live a fulfilling life, and Namu Atoll Local Government will implement the project diligently to maximize the impact.

The Government of Japan launched GGP in 1996, for the purpose of responding to various development needs engaged in grassroots activities with schools and hospitals as well as local governments and NGOs in the RMI. With these GGPs as of March 2024, the Embassy has granted 163 projects in the RMI.

**For more information, please contact:**

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