



Ministry of Education and Training



PRESS RELEASE

Four classrooms and offices handed over to the Ministry of Education and Training by the Japanese Ambassador

Port Vila, Vanuatu - 22 June 2022: On Wednesday 22 June 2022, the Minister of Education Training, Honourable Samson Samsen, received from the Ambassador of Japan in Vanuatu, His Excellency Chiba Hirohisa, four classrooms and two offices in two buildings in Luganville Est School, Sanma.

The project started in 2019 and is part of the Japanese Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project (GGP). The Ambassador of Japan in Vanuatu handed over the two new school buildings with equipment worth approximately twenty-seven million vatus. The project includes four classrooms, two offices and two 6,000 litre rain water tanks.

The Minister of Education Training, Honourable Samson Samsen, said “Vanuatu is exposed to various natural disasters so it is essential for our schools to build strong and resilient buildings. It will guarantee education continuity in times of disasters and offer a safe and secure learning environment to our children.”

“There is strong evidence that high-quality infrastructure facilitates better instruction, improves student outcomes, and reduces dropout rates, among other benefits. I would like to acknowledge the Government and the people of Japan for their continuous support to education in Vanuatu.”

The Ambassador of Japan in Vanuatu, His Excellency Chiba Hirohisa, said “Japan believes that education or human resources development has the vital importance for countries, including Vanuatu, in their nations building.”

“It is also important for us to realize that rebuilding school facilities should be conducive not only to better learning environment but also to promotion of resilience against natural disasters. This project is a fantastic symbol of the bond of friendship between the people of Vanuatu and the people of Japan.”

Luganville Est School Principal, Mr Vensley Warele, said “Today we are delighted to witness the handing over of the four classrooms and the two administration offices. On the behalf of Luganville Est School, the students and their parents, I would like to express our gratitude to the Government of Vanuatu and the Government of Japan for their partnership.”

The GGP programme started in 1996 in Vanuatu. More than 130 projects have been implemented under this programme representing approximately 11 million US dollars. Around 60% of this funding has been allocated to education in Vanuatu.

About the Ministry of Education and Training:

The Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) is the largest service deliverer and employer in Vanuatu. On behalf of the Government of Vanuatu (GoV), it is responsible for delivering the education aspects of the Millennium Development Goals and international agreements such as Education for All and respect for the rights of children. This includes the Government of Vanuatu's commitment to achieving universal primary completion (UPC), improving literacy, and to developing skills for the productive sectors (rural and urban). The MoET has three strategic goals:

- **Access:** To increase equitable access to education for all people at all levels of education in Vanuatu
- **Quality:** To improve the quality of education in Vanuatu
- **Management:** To improve and strengthen the management of the education system in Vanuatu.

The MoET faces the challenges of responding to a fast-growing population, growing demands and expectations from parents and students and communities and from the formal economy as well as managing the impacts of natural disasters (tropical cyclones, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes...) and pandemic like COVID-19.

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Vanuatu Ministry of Education and Training

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