

**Signing Ceremony for the Grant Contract for the
Project for the Upgrading the Rarotonga Resource Recovery Centre
Under
Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP)
At Rarotonga, The Cook Islands**

On 25 February 2019, the Grant Contract for the Project for the Upgrading the Rarotonga Resource Recovery Centre was signed under Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) by Mr Katsuhide Ariyoshi, Minister/Deputy Head of Mission, the Embassy of Japan to the Cook Islands and Ms Diane Charlie-Puna, Secretary of Infrastructure Cook Islands.

The Project will see the Government of Japan provide grant assistance of NZ\$ 178,391 and involves sealing the drop-off yard/working area with concrete and providing drainage and a septic catchment along with installing an industrial sized glass crusher to reduce landfill waste, allowing for a safer and more efficient working environment. Ms. Jamie Short, Director of Water, Waste and Sanitation (WATSAN), Infrastructure Cook Islands, and about 30 other officials and guests also attended the Ceremony. Secretary Charlie-Puna expressed her sincere gratitude to the Japanese Government and people for funding to improve the operation of the existing Resource Recovery Centre to enable more efficient processing of recyclable materials, thereby reducing the amount of recyclable items disposed at landfill, which has been a serious problem in the Cook Islands.



Signing Ceremony: MinisterAriyoshi(left), Secretary Chalie-Puna (right)



Minister Ariyoshi delivered Congratulatory remarks; Exchanged signed Grant Contracts;