

**Brief Remarks by H.E. Mr. Yoshitaka HANADA, Ambassador of
Japan, at the Signing Ceremony of 2 GGP projects**

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H. E. Mr. Rui Hanjan, Advisor, Ministry of Education

Mr. Sidalio Leite, General Director of Primary and Pre-Secondary schools,
Ministry of Education

Mr. Joao Vitor, Director of Education, Dili District

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to be here today to speak at the signing ceremony of the Grant Contracts with 2 national NGOs under Japan's Grant Assistant for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GGP). The Government of Japan has already provided 16 projects for education sector under GGP scheme. We will start additional 2 school building construction projects which we will sign today. Adding these 2 projects marks our 18th project.

These 2 projects are expected to improve educational environment for the elementary and junior high school students.

The Government of Japan is focusing on education especially basic education for children. We agree with the Ministry of Education that it is necessary to expand the capacity of school in order to enroll a larger number of students. In addition, I consider that the economic cooperation for the education sector is significant for Timor-Leste to sustain the next decades, and because this supports capacity development for the next generation of Timor-Leste. I hope these new 2 school building construction projects will provide the proper learning environment for the students. I am very expected to think that the children learning in the new 2 school buildings will lead Timor-Leste as a strong and prosperous country.

To conclude, let me express my gratitude for all attendees to celebrate this signing ceremony. I hope our close cooperation and friendship will further be strengthened.

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