

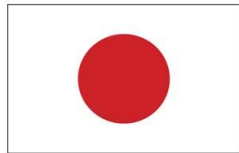
EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN THE PHILIPPINES

Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GGP)

Kusanone

Small projects. Deep roots. Lasting change.

Information for local government units and NGOs



From
the People of Japan



Meet Kusanoneko



In Japan, GGP is called **Kusanone Mushō** – “grassroots grant aid.” Kusanoneko is its friendly face.

-  **The seedling** – every GGP project starts small and is planted by the community itself.
-  **The leaf ears** – growth that continues long after the ribbon-cutting.
-  **The pink vest** – a helper who shows up where people live and work.

GGP at a glance

A grant from the People of Japan for small-scale projects that directly benefit communities at the grassroots.

1989

GGP launched in the Philippines

569

grassroots projects implemented

USD 35.7M

in grants to Filipino communities

Figures as of August 2026, Embassy of Japan in the Philippines.



Pupils, parents and local officials at a GGP turnover ceremony.



Who can apply?



Local government units

Provinces, cities and municipalities



NGOs

Registered and operational for at least 3 years



Public schools (K–12)

Elementary and secondary schools apply with the LGU as proponent



Medical institutions

Hospitals



Not eligible on your own?

Partner with an eligible LGU or NGO. Your organisation can still be the project beneficiary.



Where to send it

Mindanao (outside BARMM): Consulate-General of Japan in Davao.

All other areas, including BARMM: Embassy of Japan in Manila.



How much can you request?

UP TO

¥20M Php 7.92M

JPY 20,000,000 per project, or its Philippine peso equivalent



Grant contracts are signed with the Embassy in Manila.



Paid directly to the proponent

Funds are released to the LGU or NGO that signs the grant contract, once the procurement contract is in place.



Exclusive of VAT

Your counterpart covers all taxes, bank charges and foreign-exchange losses. Budget for these from the start.



One-year implementation

In principle, the project must be finished within one year of signing the grant contract.



Eight sectors we support



Education

Classrooms, school buildings, furniture



Health

Rural health units, birthing facilities, medical equipment



Water system

Level I and Level II only



Agriculture

Processing centres, pre- and post-harvest equipment



Social welfare

Crisis, therapy and community centres



Capacity building

Training centres and their equipment



Disaster management

Facilities and equipment for preparedness and response



Waste management

Facilities and equipment for solid waste



Hard components first

GGP prioritises

- ✓ **Facilities**
New stand-alone buildings are preferred over extensions of existing ones
- ✓ **Equipment**
Medical, agricultural, disaster-response and other equipment
- ✓ **Hard over soft**
Construction and equipment rank above seminars and trainings

GGP does not cover

- ✗ Taxes, customs duties, registration and license fees
- ✗ Salaries, utilities, rent, fuel and office equipment
- ✗ Maintenance and operating costs
- ✗ Food, medicine, clothing and other consumables
- ✗ Scholarships and research
- ✗ Land purchase
- ✗ Animal dispersal
- ✗ Social preparation and community consultations
- ✗ Working capital for income-generating projects



Safe and modern learning spaces



Construction of Classrooms for Maungib Elementary School

Pura, Tarlac · FY 2024 · Outdated, overcrowded rooms replaced with a permanent school building



Stories from the field



HEALTH

Birthing Facility, Rural Health Unit

Paracelis, Mountain Province · FY 2019



DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Emergency vehicles

Local Government Units, Luzon · FY 2017



SOCIAL WELFARE

Physical therapy centre for children with cerebral palsy

Parañaque City · FY 2016



Stories from the field



AGRICULTURE

Container wing van for small rice farmers

Labangan, Zamboanga del Sur · FY 2016



CAPACITY BUILDING

Training centre for the Mangyan

Mindoro · FY 2014 · NGO proponent



Recently signed

Garbage compactors

Municipality of Ubay, Bohol · PHP 14M

Tribal hall and seaweed farmhouse

NGO Proponent, Taytay, Palawan · PHP 4.32M

Grant contracts signed Mar 2026



How we evaluate proposals

1

Necessity, urgency & impact

Is the need real and pressing? How many people benefit, and how much?

2

Capability of the proponent

Can you manage procurement, implementation and reporting?

3

Project feasibility

Is the land secured, the design sound and the timeline realistic?

4

Sustainability

Who operates and maintains the facility after turnover – and with what budget?

5

Cost effectiveness

Are costs reasonable and supported by three quotations?

Following the templates and formats is also part of the evaluation.



From proposal to approval

STAGE 1

Initial assessment

The Embassy screens your concept paper and documents. Unsuccessful proposals receive a letter.



STAGE 2

Site appraisal

We visit shortlisted projects and may request more documents.



STAGE 3

Selection & approval

The Embassy pre-selects projects; Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs gives final approval.



8 months to 1 year

typical time from submission to approval



Open all year

no fixed call – submit when your proposal is ready



Email or courier only

no walk-in submissions; max 10 MB per email



After approval: your five-year journey



Accountability is part of the partnership. Japanese taxpayers fund every GGP project. Timely reports, a clean audit and a well-kept facility five years on are how we show them the grant made a difference – and how your LGU or NGO builds a record for future partnerships.



Your application kit

ALL PROPONENTS

- ✓ GGP Concept Paper (signed, PDF, official template)
- ✓ Proof of land ownership
- ✓ Current and future utilisation plan (Annex A)
- ✓ Photos of the current facility and proposed site
- ✓ Program of works and detailed estimates*
- ✓ Building design*
- ✓ Product catalogues and specifications**

- ✓ Three quotations for each proposed item
- ✓ Audited financial reports, last two years
- ✓ List of projects implemented, last three years
- ✓ Training / activity plan, three years (Annex B), if applicable

NGOS ALSO SUBMIT

- ✓ Registration papers
- ✓ Certificate of good standing

**Infrastructure projects **Equipment, furniture and fixtures · All documents in A4. Submitted documents are not returned.*



Kusanoneko's tips for a strong proposal



Start from the need, not the item

Show who is affected and how, with local data.

Secure the land first

No proof of ownership means no appraisal.

Budget your counterpart

VAT, bank charges and forex losses are yours.

Plan for year two onwards

Name who maintains the facility and the budget line.

Get three real quotations

Current, comparable and signed.

Use the latest templates

Download them fresh from the Embassy website.



Get in touch

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 ggp.dvo@dv.mofa.go.jp

 (082) 221-3100



Download the guidelines and concept paper template

ph.emb-japan.go.jp → ODA → Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects



Let's grow something together.

Bring us a need from your community – Kusanoneko will help you plant the seed.

Maraming salamat po! ありがとうございます



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