

**GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR
GRASSROOTS HUMAN SECURITY
PROJECTS (GGP) GUIDELINES**

UGANDA



JAPAN

Embassy of Japan in the Republic of Uganda

Updated on 21 April, 2026

Basic Facts and Procedures of GGP

1. What is GGP?

In 1989, the Government of Japan introduced the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) in view of the fact that the development needs in low and middle income countries were increasingly diversifying. The aim of GGP is to provide financial assistance to non-profit, development-oriented organisations to implement community development projects which directly benefit those at the grassroots level. As of 2026, GGP has been implemented in 141 countries and regions all over the world. Since the first GGP project in Uganda was signed in 1992, 296 projects have been implemented as of April 2026.

2. Areas of Projects

Any project geared towards the development at the grassroots level is considered for support under GGP. It is preferable, however, that the proposed projects align with one of the focus areas below. In addition, projects that support vulnerable populations, such as women, children, and persons with disabilities, are given high priority in the selection process.

- Primary/Secondary Education
- Vocational Training
- Primary Health Care and Reproductive Health
- Water and Sanitation
- Agricultural Development
- Reconstruction for Disaster areas

3. Types of Projects

The GGP scheme finances the following types of projects.

- a) Construction of structures/facilities (e.g. construction of a school building, construction of a water harvesting tank, etc.)
- b) Provision of equipment and materials (e.g. medical equipment for a health centre, etc.)

Soft components such as technical and educational training/workshops that complement the above a) and/or b) activities may also be considered in part, while focusing on facility construction and equipment procurement. (e.g. technical training for the use of provided equipment/materials, educational programmes in aim to maximize the impact of intervention by increased community awareness with respect to the physical component, etc.)

However, **projects which only consist of soft component activities cannot be funded by GGP.**

* Refer to “5. Items NOT Considered for GGP Support” for the full list of projects/items which cannot be funded by GGP.

4. Eligible Recipients -----

Any non-profit organisation that meets the following criteria is eligible to apply for GGP: 1) a minimum of two (2) years of experience in implementing development projects at the grassroots level, 2) existence of one or more full-time paid staff and 3) valid legal status.

* Refer to “8. Screening Criteria” for further explanation as well as other conditions that should be considered when applying.

<Examples of Eligible and non-Eligible Recipients>

Eligible Recipients	NOT Eligible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International, National, or Local NGOs - CBOs - Medical organisations (e.g., health centres) - Educational organisations (e.g., Government-aided primary/secondary schools) - Cooperatives - Local authorities/governments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individuals - Private companies (including private schools) - Higher educational organisations (including research institutions and universities) - Organisations directly related to the central government

* International organisations can be supported only in the case where the organisation is the only implementing body of a project to address the theme/topic of concern in a given area.

* Applicants with similar interests/characteristics but with less capacity can be represented by a higher organisation (e.g. local government, International/National/Local NGOs, etc.).

* Applications cannot be submitted under the joint names of more than one organisation. If two or more organisations are collaborating to implement a project, one of them should be the applicant organisation for the project.

5. Items NOT Considered for GGP Support -----

The following items cannot be funded under GGP, primarily due to difficulties in tracking them or because they are outside the funding scope of GGP. GGP does not cover any taxes, administrative expenses, operational costs, or utility charges (including initial start-up costs) incurred by the organisation.

- Recurrent and administrative expenses of the organisation (e.g. staff salaries, office consumables, rent and utilities, bank charges, etc.)
- Set-up cost of administrative offices (e.g. computers, furniture, etc.)
- Operational and maintenance costs of facilities and equipment
- Capacity building for the organisation (e.g. training staff in different skills, course participation within or outside the country, etc.)

- Meals, accommodation and participants' allowances for training/ workshops
- Conferences and seminars
- Scholarship and tuition fees
- Land and properties
- Research and/or project conceptualisation
- Consumables (e.g. food, clothes, stationeries, etc.)
- Small-scale equipment that has a potential of personal usage (e.g., sewing machines, agricultural tools, etc.)
- Electronic devices (e.g. computers, phones, network devices, etc.), motorcycles, and books
- Any items that are to benefit specific individuals or organisational members only and not the whole community
- **Any form of tax, whether VAT, withholding tax, Customs duty, Development tax, etc.**

* All projects require external audits to be carried out. The fee for hiring an external auditor can be covered by GGP as long as it is exclusively for the project. Please obtain estimates for external audit costs and include them in “The GGP/KUSANONE Budget” part of “ (9) Estimated Cost of the Project” in the concept paper.

6. Application and Approval Process -----

Applicants are requested to fully understand the regulations and requirements of the GGP scheme.

Concept papers are accepted throughout the year. However, selections are made twice a year, with deadlines on **15th February and 15th June respectively**. The selection process by the Embassy of Japan in Uganda begins after each application deadline and takes at least six months before grant approval is finalized.

Official notification of results will be given after the selection. All applicants will receive official results via email, and we kindly request your patience until you receive official communication from the Embassy of Japan in Uganda.

The applicant is requested to:

1. Ensure that all required information is accurately completed in the Concept Paper. The Concept Paper Format is available for download under “3. Links” in https://www.ug.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/ggp_en.html (failure to provide all necessary information will result in automatic disqualification).
2. Ensure that all required documents are attached upon submission.
3. Fill out the Application Form that can be accessed through https://www.ug.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/ggp_en.html.
4. Submit a Concept Paper to the Embassy of Japan in Uganda by email (ggp@kp.mofa.go.jp), postal service, or in person by leaving them with the security team at the embassy gate during office hours. If submitted by postal service or in-person, the concept paper must be typed, printed, signed and submitted as a hard copy.

Applicants should submit the concept paper to:

GGP section, Embassy of Japan
Plot. 8, Kyadondo Rd. Nakasero
P. O. Box 23553, Kampala, Uganda
Tel: 0312-261564/5/6
Email: ggp@kp.mofa.go.jp

<Notes>

- * Please ensure to indicate a valid e-mail address through which you can be contacted.
- * It is recommended that the concept paper should not exceed five (5) pages.
- * Organisations can reapply for GGP by submitting another concept paper.

7. Required supporting documents to the Concept Paper -----

- Engineering / architectural drawing approved by the Local Government Engineer
- Description of the budget (e.g. bill of quantity) from the Local Government Engineer
- Photos that describe the current state of the issue of concern
- Organisation profile
- The Organisation's registration certificate
- The Organisation's annual report for the past two (2) years
- The Organisation's financial report for the past two (2) years
- The Organisation's bank statement for the past three (3) months
- Site map of the proposed construction site (not location map of the project site)
- Recommendation letter from relevant governmental ministries/institutions

8. Screening Criteria -----

- 1) Legal Status:
The applicant organisation must be registered with the relevant authority, such as the NGO board, governing body, or other relevant authorities (e.g., EMIS, MOH, local government), and have been operating for at least 2 years.
- 2) Experience, Performance, and Capacity:
The applicant organisation must demonstrate that it has the capacity and experience to implement the proposed project and that it has competent and experienced staff members.
- 3) Project Scope and Feasibility:

Proposed projects should be feasible and preferably align with one of the GGP's focus areas and meet the conditions outlined in the guidelines. The applicant organisation is also recommended to conduct relevant preliminary activities (e.g. baseline surveys, feasibility studies, situational analyses, etc.).

4) Relevance:

Proposed projects should address urgent and essential needs, and its objectives should align with the priorities and needs of Uganda, the target community, and the beneficiaries.

5) Sustainability:

Proposed projects should demonstrate a clear implementation strategy that is feasible and sustainable both operationally and financially, during and after project implementation (e.g. maintenance and effective utilization plans for the facilities and items to be provided, programs for vocational school, etc.). The benefits of the granted items should remain sustainable in the long term.

6) Impact:

Proposed projects should aim to have a significant impact in addressing the challenges faced by the beneficiaries. It is recommended that the need and urgency of the project should be demonstrated with specific figures, comparing it to other situations.

7) Contributions from the Applicant:

Applicant organisations are expected to actively contribute to the project to enhance the impact of the granted items, as items granted under the GGP project will be owned by the applicant organisation. Accordingly, applicant organisations are strongly encouraged to present plans to contribute to the project in the form of funds, labor, materials, or other possible forms. (e.g. soft components such as technical and educational training/workshops, additional equipment, etc.).

Below are the some of the common reasons for an application to be rejected.

- The organisational capacity is too weak (e.g. limited staff/ experience/ financial status)
- The project consists only of soft components such as seminars, training, or capacity-building
- The Concept Paper is incomplete (e.g. required information is missing/ handwritten/ not using GGP format)
- The Applicant is ineligible (e.g. private schools/ institutions/ no past experience)

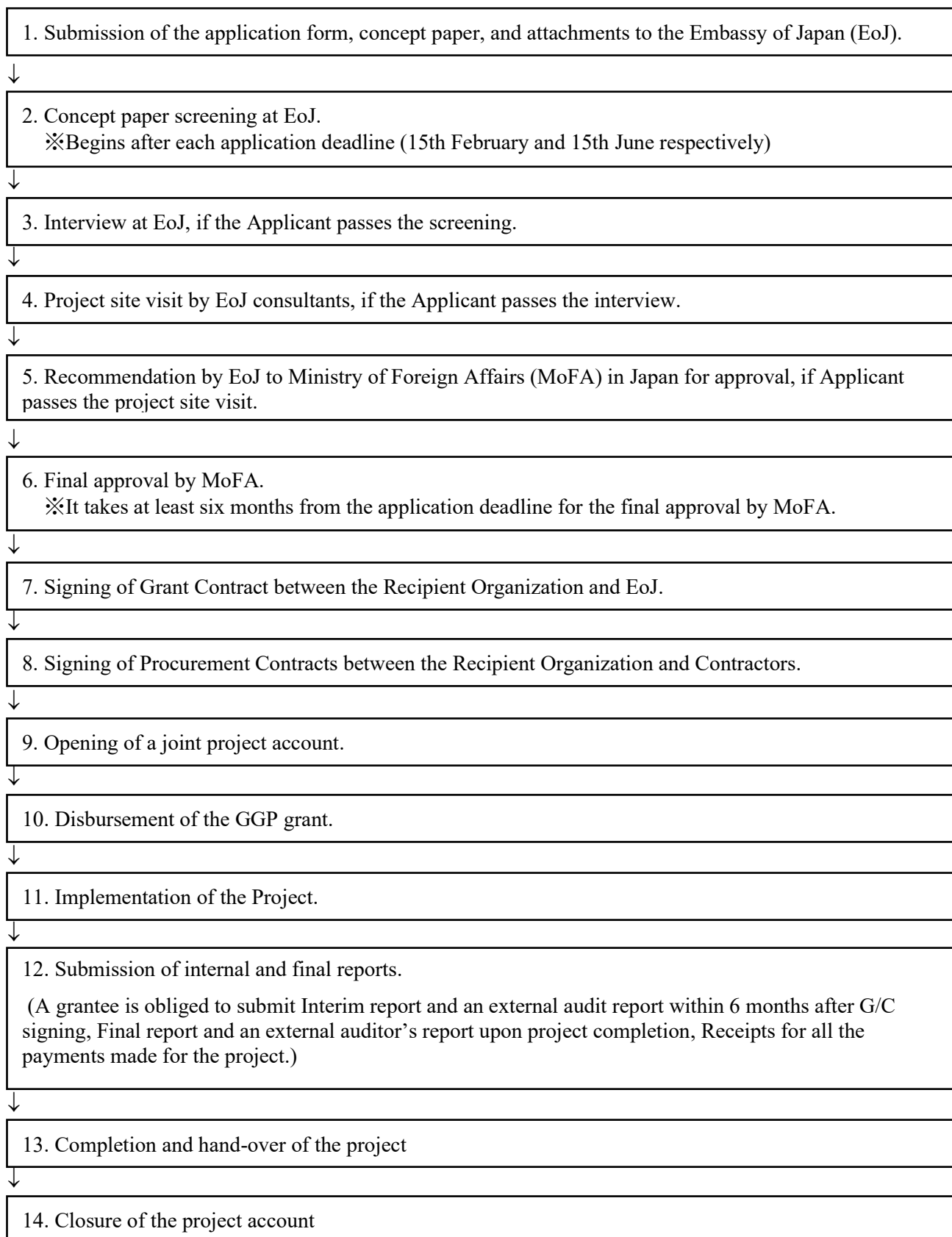
9. Available Funds -----

After all application and approval processes are completed, the recipient organization of the GGP funds will be officially determined. GGP funds will be provided to the recipient organization after the grant contract is signed.

The amount of GGP grant, which bases itself on one-time, single-year financing, generally does not exceed approximately USD100,000. If any additional cost is incurred during the implementation process due to variation in exchange rates and/or unexpected conditions, it must be covered by the recipient organization. The Government of Japan does not provide any additional funds.

The Embassy of Japan reserves the right to claim a refund of the grant if it is used for any purpose other than execution of the intended project or if the grantee fails to complete the project within the timeframe set in the contract.

10. Flow Chart of GGP Process





15. Follow-up site visits by EoJ after two years

Notice:

There are fictitious announcements that are being circulated through e-mail messages concerning our grant assistance projects. The purpose of such fraudulent activity is to deceive the applicants and convince them to send a “registration/field trip/site visit/assessment/other fee” prior to “approving the project”. Since logos, emblems, forms, names and addresses are publicly available and can be easily copied or reproduced, applicants are strongly advised to take particular care in e-mails and telephone communication asking for any kind of fees. **The Embassy of Japan does not charge any money during the assessment and selection processes.** If you believe that you became a victim of such fraud, you may wish to report it to local law enforcement authorities for appropriate action.

11. Contact-----

For any inquiries, please contact us by phone at 0312 261564/5/6 or via e-mail at ggp@kp.mofa.go.jp.