

**Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project  
Handing Over Ceremony for  
The Project for Improvement of Garbage Truck for Orange Walk Town**

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, a new garbage truck donated through the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects was officially handed over to Orange Walk Town Council in Orange Walk, Belize. In February 2019, Government of Japan and Orange Walk Town Council signed the Grant Contract and USD 84,250 was granted to the council.

At the Handing Over Ceremony in Orange Walk Town, Mr. Hiroyuki Kubota, Ambassador of the Embassy of Japan in Belize expressed his pleasure to hand over the new garbage truck to the said Council. He said the government of Japan wished to contribute to improve the sanitation and safety of the citizens in Orange Walk Town with this investment, and it would extend further to cope with challenges of plastic waste in the Caribbean Sea. He emphasized that both countries would continue to cooperate in global challenges such as waste management and environmental protection and build closer bilateral relationship.

Orange Walk Town had been faced with the serious problem of collection of waste of 16 tons a day discharged by household with aged and often malfunctioned equipment. As a result, waste were left uncollected for weeks and it has caused concern about safety and health among people of the town.

In order to solve the situation, Orange Walk Town Council purchased a compactor garbage truck through the funds donated by the Government of Japan.

Mr. Kevin Bernard, Mayor of the Orange Walk Town Council expressed his pleasure to receive a new garbage truck in the face of mounting challenges of waste management while the business and industry grows in the Orange Walk community. He also expressed his sincere appreciation for the People and the Government of Japan, and promised that they will properly maintain the truck to use it for a long time.



Ambassador Kubota gave his address.



Mayor Bernard expressed his appreciation for The People and The Government of Japan.



Hon. John Briceno, Leader of the Opposition gave his address.



Unveiling the truck with ribbon cutting



A section of the audience from Orange Walk Town in attendance at the ceremony



Donated garbage truck