

**FY 2016 Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects
Grant Contract Signing Ceremony**

‘The Project for Improvement of the Softball Stadium and the Softball Equipment’

13th March 2017

Embassy of Japan in Botswana

On 3 March 2017, the Embassy of Japan in Botswana has extended a grant of \$65,331 dollars under the Japan’s Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects, to Botswana Softball Association for the implementation of “The Project for Improvement of the Softball Stadium and the Softball Equipment”. The Ambassador of Japan to Botswana, H.E. Mr. Masahiro Onishi and the president from the recipient organization, Mr. Tirelo Mukokomani signed the grant contract at the ceremony. The grant will be used to improve the softball stadium and procure new softball equipment. Ambassador Mr. Onishi stated that ‘this grant is a part of the ‘Sport for Tomorrow’ initiative which aims to spread value of sport and the movement to Tokyo Olympic Games in 2020. I look forward to supporting and cheering on the Botswana women’s national team during the Tokyo Olympics’.

This was the 4th project for the Government of Japan to extend its support in Botswana through this grant scheme. (Past projects are: (1) Karate training hall, (2) Judo tatami and uniforms and (3) Judo training hall).



Ambassador Mr. Onishi and guests from Botswana Softball Association (BSA), Botswana National Sports Commission (BNSC), Botswana National Olympic Committee (BNOC), the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport, and Culture Development, the Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation as well as JICA Volunteer softball coach