

## FY2016 Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects

### Hand-over Ceremony

#### 'The Project for the Improvement of the Softball Stadium and the Softball Equipment'

Embassy of Japan in Botswana

27<sup>th</sup> April 2018

The hand-over ceremony for “The Project for the Improvement of the Softball Stadium and the Softball Equipment” was held at the National Softball Stadium on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

This project was for the instalment of the irrigation system for the lawn at the National Softball Stadium next to the National Stadium in Gaborone and the procurement of the softball equipment. The project is related to the Japanese Government’s “Sport for Tomorrow” programme which aims to spread value of sport worldwide. The Government of Japan provided US\$65,331 to the Botswana Softball Association for the project. It is expected that the training environment for softball players in the country including those who belong to the National Team will be improved and it will contribute to the development of their skills through the project.

During the hand-over ceremony, the Ambassador of Japan to Botswana, H.E. Mr. Kozo Takeda stated that he hoped that the project would contribute to the development of skills of the softball players in Botswana and Botswana women’s softball team would participate in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The project was highly appreciated by the Chief Executive Officer of Botswana Sports Commission, Mr. Falcon Sedimo as well as other guests. The ceremonial opening pitch was done by the Ambassador and the demonstration of the irrigation system and the softball equipment was held at the ceremony. The ceremony was featured by the news on Botswana Television, Duma FM radio, Gabz FM radio, Daily News and Botswana Guardian.



(Photo) H.E. Mr. Takeda and other attendees at the ceremony



(Photo) The demonstration of the irrigation system



(Photo) Opening pitch by the H. E. Mr. Kakeda



(Photo) The demonstration of the softball equipment