

**FY2018 Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects (“GGP”)**  
**Handing Over Ceremony**

**‘The Project for the Constriction of Guidance & Counselling Block**  
**at Baratani Junior Secondary School in South East District ’**

Embassy of Japan in Botswana  
24 November 2020

On the 19th November 2020, H.E. Mr. TAKEDA Kozo, Ambassador of Japan to Botswana, attended the handing over ceremony of a Guidance and Counselling Block to Baratani Junior Secondary School, which was constructed under Japan’s Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects. Hon. Fidelis Molao, Minister of Basic Education and other distinguished guests were present for the event that took place at the school.

A Grant Contract was signed between the Embassy of Japan and Baratani Junior Secondary School, located in Otse, on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018 where the school received an amount of US\$46,884 for the project. With this new Guidance and Counselling Block, approximately 330 students and 55 staff members will be able to receive counselling as well as first-aid. The facility will help the school to address issues such as high dropout rates, bullying, poor performance and others.

During the ceremony, Ambassador TAKEDA expressed his profound respect for the strong commitment and effort made by the Government of Botswana to ensure access to education for all. He emphasized that in order for students to fully enjoy their school life, and be equipped with the skills and confidence to achieve their dreams, their well-beings need to be taken care of. He also hoped that the facility will contribute to the reduction of various social and health problems that students are facing, but also to assist to improve student’s academic results.

Hon. Fidelis Molao, Minister of Basic Education assured Ambassador Takeda that the facility that was handed over will be used well and looked after. Touched upon the Ambassador’s completion of the tenure and his departure from Botswana, the Minister expressed his gratitude and stated that Ambassador leaves behind a legacy of an improved quality of life for Batswana through the many projects that the Embassy of Japan undertook in the country.



(Photo) Ambassador Takeda cutting the tape at the ceremony



(Photo) Ambassador and Hon Molao in front of the Guidance & Counselling Block