

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

‘The Project for the Constriction of Guidance & Counselling Block
at Motswasele Junior Secondary School in Kweneng District’

Embassy of Japan in Botswana
23rd September 2021

On the 23rd September 2021, H.E. Mr. HOSHIYAMA Takashi, Ambassador of Japan to Botswana, attended the handing over ceremony of a Guidance and Counselling Block to Motswasele Junior Secondary School in Molepolole, which was constructed under Japan’s Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects. Hon. Nnaniki W. Makwinja, Assistant 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 Motswasele Junior Secondary School, located in Gaborone, on 10th October 2018 where the school received an amount of US\$46,250 for the project. With this new Guidance and Counselling Block, approximately 740 students and 70 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 HOSHIYAMA stated that the handover was more special as this was the 55th project in Botswana that had obtained approval for Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects, and this year also marks the 55th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Botswana. He made reference to some challenges that the school faces and 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-being needs to be taken care of. He expressed hope that the facility will contribute to the reduction of various social and health problems that students are facing, and also assist to improve the students’ academic results. He also expressed his deepest condolences regarding the recent passing of Ms. Segametsi Matlho, former School Head of Motswasele Junior Secondary School, who had been passionate about the project.

Hon. Nnaniki W. Makwinja, Assistant Minister of Basic Education, and MP for Lentsweletau-Mmopane Constituency, expressed her appreciation to Ambassador HOSHIYAMA that the facility will help provide much needed support to those who need guidance and counselling in an appropriate environment. Further, she stated that the facility will contribute to support students as well as other community members faced with psychosocial problems, especially during the difficult situation of the Covid-19 pandemic. Hon. Makwinja also assured that the facility would be well maintained so that subsequent generations will benefit from it as well.



(Photo) Ambassador Hoshiyama cutting tape at the ceremony



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