



**From
the People of Japan**

Japan extends support for the Construction of a Guidance and Counselling Block at Oodima JSS in Kgatleng District

Gaborone, 30th March 2023 - The Government of Japan and Oodima Junior Secondary School celebrated the successful handover of a guidance and counselling block at Oodima JSS, in the Kgatleng District, through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP). The block was constructed following a grant contract signing agreement between the two organizations in March 2021, when Oodima JSS received an amount of **USD 54,330** from the Government of Japan through its Embassy in Botswana.

In delivering the School Head's remarks, Mr. Monty Teo said that, "the gesture by the Government of Japan will assist the school in forming the behaviour of students at Oodima JSS as they will have a conducive facility to provide counselling to students". Mr. Teo assured that the facility will be well maintained and utilized for the purpose it was intended for.

The Ambassador of Japan to Botswana, His Excellency OHMORI Setsuo in his keynote speech, mentioned that, "the completion of the guidance and counselling block is the start of a new education system which will assist in providing a conducive counselling environment for the students". In conclusion, Ambassador OHMORI said that all relevant stakeholders need to work together to ensure the building is well utilized.

In delivering his acceptance remarks, the Assistant Minister of Education and Skills Development, Honourable Aubrey Lesaso emphasized that, "the Government of Japan through their grassroots projects has actively participated in human development capital". He further said that, "the assistance by the Embassy aligns with Botswana's vision 2036 pillars and infrastructural development aims."

Assistant Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Honourable Mabuse Pule, extended his gratitude to the Government of Japan. He highlighted that the guidance and counselling block will

offer support to students and assist in addressing issues of mental health.

Through the GGP scheme, Japan has supported 65 projects in Botswana that address human security issues. This is in line with the Botswana Government's aspiration, envisaged in Vision 2036, particularly under the pillar of Human and Social Development, to achieve a moral, tolerant and inclusive society that provides opportunity for all.

*GGP is a grant scheme which supports projects addressing social challenges and/or aiming at community development at grass-roots level and supports people-centred development projects which have a direct and immediate impact on the well-being of disadvantaged communities. In Botswana, from 1997 to date, 65 GGP projects in total have been approved, some of which are currently on-going. These projects include rural developments such as the construction of pre-schools, classrooms for students with disabilities and vocational training institutions.



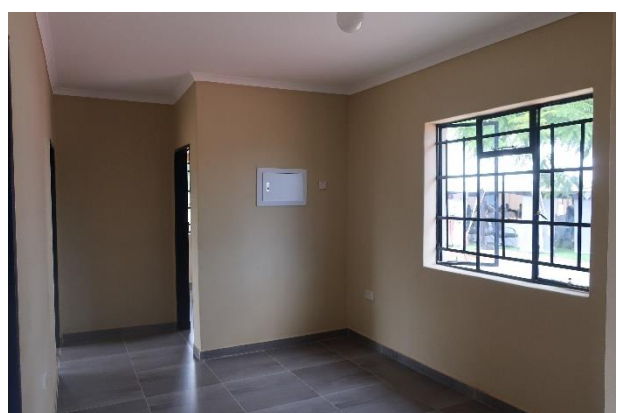
**Ambassador of Japan to Botswana,
Mr. OHMORI Setsuo**



Official Ribbon Cutting



**The newly constructed a guidance and
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