

**The Embassy Hosted the ‘Friends of Japan’ Dinner Reception**

Embassy of Japan in Botswana  
31<sup>st</sup> August 2023

24<sup>th</sup> August 2023, Gaborone - His Excellency Mr. OHMORI Setsuo, Ambassador of Japan to Botswana, hosted the Friends of Japan (FoJ) at a dinner reception at his official residence. The purpose of the event is to bring together Batswana who have studied, worked or lived in Japan to allow them the opportunity to network, as well as to congratulate and bid farewell to new Japanese Government (MEXT) Teacher Training and Research scholarship recipients. This FoJ reception was the second gathering held by the Embassy of Japan this year.

The new JICA Long Term training recipients were also celebrated as the scholarship awardees for 2023. Representatives from the Ministry of Education and Skill Development of Botswana, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and JICA Botswana also graced the event.

Ten young Batswana are due to leave for their various Universities in September 2023. Recipients of the 2023 scholarship expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to study in Japan, and vowed to utilize it to the fullest extent possible, with the intention to return and add value to Botswana and its economy, upon completion of their studies in Japan.

During the ceremony, Ambassador OHMORI introduced the universities where international students will study and the characteristics of each region, and stated that the Japanese Government supports the Botswana Government through various human resource development programs.

For his part, Mr. Kgopotso Ramoroka, the Deputy Permanent Secretary-Education Support in the Ministry of Education and Skills Development, hailed the Government of Japan for its contribution to Botswana’s education sector, through technical support and skills training, which it continues to extend to Batswana. He encouraged the scholarship recipients to utilize this as an opportunity to bring expertise from Japan, and also to share their skills and sell their culture to the international community, while in Japan.



Welcome Speech from Ambassador OHMORI



Ambassador OHMORI and participants of the reception