



**From
the People of Japan**

Japan extends support through the Project “Strengthening the resilience of drought-affected Households and Small-scale Farmers in Ngamiland District to improve their food security”

Shakawe, 30th April 2024 - The Government of Japan, the UNDP Office in Botswana and the Government of the Republic of Botswana celebrated the Launch of a new project named “Strengthening the resilience of drought-affected Households and Small-scale Farmers in Ngamiland District to improve their food security”. In attendance was the Honourable Kenny Kapinga, Member of Parliament for Okavango, Dr. Balazs Horvath, UNDP Botswana Resident Representative and the Ambassador of Japan to Botswana, H.E. Mr. OHMORI Setsuo. The new project is implemented by UNDP Botswana, in partnership with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Lands and Water Affairs.

The Government of Japan granted the amount of 408,352 US Dollars of Emergency Grant Aid to support the project and this will be used over a 12 month period to provide much-needed assistance to the youth, females and families facing the severe impacts of drought. At the start of the project, grain and other foods will be distributed to 2,000 households as emergency aid. The project will be used to provide inclusive livelihood support for the people in the Ngamiland District who are in urgent need of assistance, to boost their socio-economic recovery. It also aims to strengthen climate adaptation and to enhance water management within households, in order to survive droughts and constrained access to water.

Speaking during the launch ceremony, Ambassador OHMORI expressed his hope that this emergency assistance will help build resilience to climate change by providing support to families, especially for females, and youth, who have been affected by natural disasters and need immediate humanitarian assistance. Ambassador OHMORI also mentioned that it is important to mitigate the effects of the recent severe droughts and floods, as well as to consider how to respond to future effects of climate change.

The UNDP Botswana Resident Representative, Dr. Horvath, emphasized that “the UNDP Country Office works toward a Botswana that is green, just and prosperous. This means a Botswana where women, youth and marginalized groups all have the choice and capacity to solve the development challenges they face, and craft their own paths towards a brighter future”.

"Human security" has been an underlying concept in Japan's development cooperation philosophy. The idea is to emphasize the importance of addressing each person's pressing needs such as food, medicine, basic education, clean air and safety, to secure people's freedom from fear, freedom from want, and freedom to live in dignity. Under this philosophy of human security, Japan has been working on various cooperation projects in Botswana. This UNDP programme is the latest one of such a kind to encompass Japan's policy related to human security.



**Ambassador OHMORI
delivering his remarks**



**Mr. Horvath, UNDP Botswana Resident
Representative, delivering his remarks**



Emergency Foods Support



Emergency Foods Support



Participants from Community



Site Visit at Mohembo East