

HANDOVER CEREMONIES FOR A JAPANESE GRANT ASSISTANCE PROJECTS IN THE KWAZULU NATAL

On the 29th and 30th of October 2013, Zubane Primary School in Ndwedwe, South Coast Hospice in Port Shepstone and Zimisele Health Club in Umlazi, and from Monday the 24th to Thursday the 27th February 2014, five handover ceremonies were held in KwaZulu Natal. These comprised of three schools and two non-governmental organisations. The Embassy of Japan through the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects Programme or GGP. The ceremonies were attended by Mr Omura Shigeki, Second Secretary of the Embassy of Japan.



Zubane Primary School Zubane Primary School was established in 1997 in Ndwedwe, currently accommodating around 200 learners from Grade R to Grade 4. In order to mitigate the congestion, the Government of Japan decided to support this school through grant assistance amounting to R375 200.00 for the construction of three additional classrooms. The school had been experiencing overcrowding, which was hindering the quality of education.

This has allowed over 200 students from Grade R and 4 to be educated in a better environment, giving them greater access to education in a rural part of the country. Furthermore, these classrooms will provide much needed space for extra-curricular activities.



South Coast Hospice South Coast Hospice is an organisation based in Port Shepstone. It serves the community of the Ugu region by providing specialized palliative care for patients with severe progressive diseases, as well as their families. The service is focused mainly on patients with life-threatening diseases such as HIV/AIDS, Cancer and Motor Neuron diseases, the majority of whom cannot travel to healthcare facilities. In order to mitigate these problems, the Government of Japan decided to support South Coast Hospice through grant assistance

amounting to R352 700.00 for the purchase of a Nissan Hard Body Double cab vehicle. The vehicle is used to transport the Hospice Rural Home Care Unit to patients in need in the surrounding areas, as well as transporting patients to the hospice itself.

Zimisele Health Club Zimisele Health Club is located in Umlazi. Zimisele Health Club is an organisation run predominantly by retired nurses. The aim of the project is to provide community outreach programs, in the form of home based care. The Government of Japan decided to support Zimisele Health Club through grant assistance amounting to R360 300.00 for the purchase of a Toyota Hillux Double Cab vehicle, furniture, as well as other smaller kitchen equipment.

Mr Omura emphasised the importance of education and health in his respective speeches.

“Education and health are some of the most challenging areas for society to implement and has significant socio-economic impact. In particular, primary education and health are considered some of the most significant areas in which the Government of Japan is especially keen to assist in, with the view of contributing towards poverty eradication.” He renewed Japan’s commitment to educational and health support in the Province.



Imfanelo Senior Primary School, Imfanelo on Monday 24 February 2014



Imfanelo Senior Primary School is located in Ekuvukeni. Imfanelo has students ranging from Grade 5 to Grade 7, with the total number of students being just under 400. There is a high unemployment rate in the area, therefore the parents of the students have little to no income, and are heavily dependent on social grant aid. The Government of Japan decided to support this school through grant assistance amounting to R599,497.50 for the construction of a school library.

Fahlaza Primary School, Fahlaza on Tuesday 25 February 2014



Fahlaza Primary School is located near Nquthu. The school was established in 1962. Fahlaza has students ranging from Grade 1 to Grade 7, with the total number of students being just under 300. The school has no access to a proper library in the surrounding area, and the state of the classrooms was in deep disrepair. The Government of Japan decided to support this school through grant assistance amounting to R566,605.82 for the construction of a school library, renovations of classrooms and a toilet block.

Bhekuzulu Self Sufficiency Project, Bhekuzulu on Tuesday 25 February 2014



Bhekuzulu Self Sufficiency Project is located in Bhekuzulu. Bhekuzulu was established in 2001, in order to provide a fully integrated community centre for Orphans and Vulnerable Children, particularly those of whom who are infected or affected by HIV within the uThukela District Municipality. The aim of the project is to provide a dining hall, in order to facilitate a feeding scheme aimed directly at the children in need. The feeding scheme provides two meals a day before and after school, is also provides food parcels for those who are located further away from the community centre.

The Government of Japan decided to support Bhekuzulu Self Sufficiency Project through grant assistance amounting to R506,091.68.

Siyabhabha Trust, Eshowe on Wednesday 26 February 2014



The Siyabhabha Trust was established in 2004. The mission of the trust is based in economic empowerment of marginalized citizens. The Siyabhabha trust has numerous projects located locally and internationally. This project in particular was for the construction of a training centre in Eshowe, in order to scale up the development and economic activities for rural crafters and small entrepreneurs from the uMlalazi local municipality.

The Government of Japan decided to support the Siyabhabha Trust through grant assistance amounting to R1, 018,224.50.

John Wesley Kosi Bay Private School, Kosi Bay on Thursday 27 February 2014

The John Wesley Kosi Bay Private School is located in Kosi Bay. The school was established in 2000. Jonh Wesley Kosi Bay Private School has students ranging from Grade R to Grade 12, with the total number of students being just under 700. There is a high unemployment rate in the area. The school was experiencing overcrowding in their classroom, due to the isolated location of the school.



The Government of Japan decided to support this school through grant assistance amounting to R508,433.34 for the construction of classrooms.

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The Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme is intended to assist NGOs and local authorities in addressing development needs in areas such as education, health, water supply and environment.

The GGP scheme was first introduced in 1989, and prioritizes human security for vulnerable and marginalised people within society. Since 1990, 562 GGP projects have been implemented in South Africa. In the Japanese Fiscal Year 2012 (April 2011–March 2012), the Embassy of Japan extended GGP assistance to 11 projects, amounting to approximately R8,500,000.00.