

GGP SIGNING CEREMONY AT THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN SOUTH AFRICA

On the 23rd of October 2013, a signing ceremony was held between the Embassy of Japan in South Africa and the University of Limpopo Trust. The ceremony was held for the signing



of a contract for funding, which will be given to the University of Limpopo Trust through the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. The ceremony took place at the Embassy of Japan in Pretoria, and was attended by Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Republic of South Africa, Yutaka Yoshizawa and the Chairperson of the University of Limpopo Trust, Mr Grant Dunnington.

In order to help provide basic health services to rural, poverty-stricken communities, the University of Limpopo Trust will receive \$106 619 as part of Japan's Official Development Assistance to South Africa. This funding will be used to purchase two mobile clinics and will deliver health services to six rural areas in Gauteng and North West Province. The University of Limpopo Trust has been struggling to reach isolated communities and to transport the necessary medical equipment to provide adequate treatment to these people. These new vehicles will greatly assist the organisation in delivering quality health care and to increase the number of patients they can help.

At the ceremony, the Grant Contract was signed by Ambassador Yoshizawa and Mr Dunnington. After the signing, Ambassador Yoshizawa spoke of the importance of such efforts in South Africa's development and he wished great success for the



project. Mr Dunnington in return spoke of his gratitude to the Embassy of Japan, as well as to the people of Japan. He guaranteed that the funding would be used correctly and said it will greatly contribute to the upliftment of rural communities.

The Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme is intended to assist NGOs, schools and local authorities in addressing development needs in areas such as education, health, water supply and the 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 2012–March 2013), the Embassy of Japan extended GGP assistance to 11 projects, amounting to approximately R 8,489,000.