

**24 January 2022**

**Exchange of Notes between Japan and Lesotho for the Project for Small Hydropower Improvement**

On the 24th of January 2022, H.E. MARUYAMA Norio, Ambassador of Japan, and H.E. Nehemia Sekhonyana BERENG, High Commissioner to the Republic of South Africa of the Kingdom of Lesotho, concluded the Exchange of Notes for the Small Hydropower Improvement Project.

The Government of Japan committed to contribute a grant aid of about one billion four hundred and fifteen million Japanese Yen (JPY 1,415,000,000 ≐ LSL 190,000,000) towards the implementation of the project.

Through this project, Japan will construct a new hydropower plant facility with the capacity of generating 1 megawatt electricity and remote monitoring system. Japan will also provide the necessary equipment and training for the operation and maintenance of the new facility.

At the 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 7) held in Yokohama in 2019, Japan committed to contribute to expand access to affordable renewable energy to accelerate economic transformation in Africa. This project in Lesotho is one of the concrete achievements of what Japan committed to at TICAD7.

“I am pleased that Japan is contributing to one of the highest priority projects of the Government of Lesotho. This donation will help Lesotho to acquire a stable and sustainable source for domestic electricity supply by using the country’s abundant clean energy resources” said H.E. MARUYAMA Norio, Ambassador of Japan to the Kingdom of Lesotho. “Together we can work towards achieving Lesotho’s development goals, and strengthening our bilateral relations through mutual cooperation.”

**Signing Date:** 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**Project Name:** The Project for Small Hydropower Improvement

**Project Site:** Katse Dam

**Grant Amount:** JPY 1,415,000,000 (equivalent to about LSL 190,000,000)

\* There will be no physical signing ceremony due to COVID-19 restrictions.

\* Next TICAD, TICAD 8, is scheduled to be held this year in Tunisia.

For further information, please contact the Embassy of Japan’s public relations representative, Ms. Innocent Mohamme, at [innocentmohamme@gmail.com](mailto:innocentmohamme@gmail.com)  
We thank you for your continued support.

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