

Handover Ceremonies for Japanese Grant Assistance Projects in the Education Sector in KwaZulu Natal (1)

ISIPINGO, KWAZULU NATAL, 23 May 2024 - Mr USHIO Shigeru, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of South Africa, attended a ceremony that was held to hand over a block of three classrooms for Isipingo Hills Primary School. The funding was provided by the Embassy of Japan through the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects programme (GGP). The ceremony was attended by representatives from the Department of Basic Education, directors from the Provincial Department of Infrastructure, School Governing Body of Isipingo Hills Primary School as well as community members of Isipingo.

Isipingo Hills is a school located in the south of Durban. The school has an enrollment of about 940 children. It was among the schools which were badly damaged due to the catastrophic floods that hit the province of KwaZulu Natal in April 2022. The Government of Japan decided to support the school with construction of a block of three classrooms. Borrowing from the words of Nelson Mandela, Ambassador Ushio emphasized the importance of education as a powerful tool that can change the world.

Reducing economic and social disparities is one of the priority areas of the Government of Japan's development cooperation policy for South Africa. To date, the Embassy of Japan has implemented 600 projects throughout South Africa. By supporting the infrastructure of these schools, the Embassy of Japan hopes to create a positive learning environment and contribute to improving the quality of education and the healthy development of the children in the long term.

