

Ambassador USHIO signed two Exchange of Notes in the Kingdom of Eswatini for grant aid projects.

On 7 August 2024, in Ezulwini, Kingdom of Eswatini, Mr USHIO Shigeru, Ambassador to Eswatini, signed Exchange of Notes with the Ministry of Economic and Development Planning of Eswatini and World Food Programme (WFP) Eswatini Office for two grant assistance projects: the Project for the Improvement of Secondary Schools and the Food Assistance Programme (WFP collaboration). The Government of Japan has pledged to provide the Kingdom of Eswatini with school improvements and food aid as grant aid to support economic development in Africa. Details of the two projects are as follows

1. Project name: the Project for the Improvement of Secondary Schools. (Grant Aid)
Outline: construction of four secondary school buildings and provision of necessary ancillary facilities.
Implementing agency: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
Signatory: Mr E.T Gina, Minister of Economic Development Planning
Grant: 1.613 billion yen (180 million emalangeni)
2. Project name: the Food Assistance Programme (in collaboration with WFP)(Grant Aid)
Outline: Food aid for pre-school children in the form of 914 tons of Japanese rice, 51 tons of canned Japanese fish and 30 tons of pulses.
Implementing agency: World Food Programme (WFP)
Signatories: Mr Deepak Shah, WFP Representative in Eswatini
Grant: 200 million yen (about 22.1 million emalangeni).

The Project for the Improvement of Secondary Schools aims to improve school shortages and provide more children with quality educational opportunities. The Food Assistance Programme (in collaboration with WFP) will improve the health and nutritional status of children in the Kingdom of Eswatini who are affected by the constant droughts and heat waves that have reduced food production and increased food prices. We hope that the project will contribute to the eradication of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

The signing ceremony was hosted by the Ministry of Economic Development and Planning of Eswatini and was addressed by the Minister of Education and Training, Owen Numaro, the Minister of Economic Planning and Development, E.T. Gina, JICA South Africa Office Director OKADA Kaoru and WFP Eswatini Representative Deepak Shah, who were present.

