

## *Japanese Grant Improves Cancer Screening for the Vulnerable in South Africa*

SANDTON, GAUTENG, 30 October 2024 – PinkDrive NPC, a non-profit organisation specializing in gender cancer screening, hosted a new mammography truck launch event. At the launch, Mr USHIO Shigeru, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of South Africa, was privileged to hand over a 3D mammography machine for PinkDrive. The funding to procure the machine was provided by the Embassy of Japan through the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. The ceremony was attended by representatives of donors and of the Gauteng Department of Health.

PinkDrive was founded in 2009 to prevent cancer by promoting early detection and awareness. The Embassy of Japan supported PinkDrive with funding for the procurement of a 3D mammography machine produced by FUJIFILM which is installed in the new truck. The new mammography truck aims to reach beneficiaries residing in rural and underserved areas in South Africa to detect breast cancer through improved screening, diagnosis and referrals.

Reducing economic and social disabilities is one of the priority areas of the Government of Japan's development cooperation policy for South Africa. In his remarks at the ceremony, Ambassador Ushio said, "I am hopeful that the new truck with the mammography machine to be launched today will support hundreds and thousands of people in need and will remain as a beacon of friendship between the people of Japan and the people of South Africa."

