

HANDOVER CEREMONIES OF NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND FURNITURE TO UDEIKO HAUFIKU JUNIOR PRIMARY SCHOOL IN OMUPINDI VILLAGE, EENHANA, OHANGWENA REGION; AND TO IILYATEKO COMBINED SCHOOL IN OSHIHIINDONGO, UUKWALUUDHI, OMUSATI REGION

On the 9th and 10th March 2016, two handover ceremonies took place in the northern part of Namibia. H.E. Mr Hideyuki Sakamoto, Ambassador of Japan to Namibia, handed over new school buildings and furniture funded by the Embassy of Japan through the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security (GGP) Programme to the Udeiko Haufiku Junior Primary School in Ohangwena Region and to Iilyateko Combined School in Omusati Region respectively. The total amount of these assistance amounts to 2 million NAD.

On Wednesday 9, a ceremony was hosted by Udeiko Haufiku Junior Primary School whereby Ambassador Sakamoto handed over a school building which consists of four classrooms and one storeroom together with school furniture to Hon. Usko Nghaamwa, Governor of the Ohangwena Region as a representative of the people in the Region and the Government of Namibia. The ceremony was attended by high level officials, learners, teachers and community member. The grant assistance amounting to NAD 1,027,758.55 (US\$87,839) was utilised in order to respond to the growing needs of educational opportunities for the children of different age groups in the area who could not be accommodated due to the lack of school capacity.



Welcoming learners of the Udeiko Haufiku Primary School



H.E. Mr Hideyuki Sakamoto, Ambassador of Japan to Namibia and Hon. Usko Nghaamwa, Governor of Ohangwena Region, ribbon cutting for opening of a new school building



The new school building and school furniture granted to Udeiko Haufiku Junior Primary School by the Embassy of Japan



On Thursday 10, Lilyateko Combined School hosted a handover ceremony. Ambassador Sakamoto handed over a school building consisting of three classrooms and one storeroom together with school furniture to Mr. L Shapange, Director of Education, Omusati Region, as a representative of the people in the Region and the Government of Namibia. The grant assistance amounting to NAD861,892.20 (U\$73,666) was utilised to replace temporary classrooms made of either corrugated iron sheet or canvas sheet with the facility of permanent structure so that learners can have an appropriate educational environment.



H.E. Mr Hideyuki Sakamoto, Ambassador of Japan to Namibia, Ms. Hamukwaya Principal of Lilyateko Combined School (From the left) in the classroom supported by the Embassy of Japan..



H.E. Mr Hideyuki Sakamoto, Ambassador of Japan to Namibia, shaking hands with Mr L Shapange, Director of Education in Omusati Region in front of the welcoming learners of Lilyateko Combined School



The new school building and school furniture granted to Lilyateko Combined School by the Embassy of Japan



The Government of Japan decided to support both schools in response to the call by the Government of Namibia, which claims increasing shortage of classrooms country wide, 1,224 rooms in 2012 and 3,225 this year. The Government of Japan believes that provision of classrooms and appropriate educational environment is the one of the most urgent priority for the future of Namibia. The support of the Japanese Embassy to Namibia through GGP programme goes way back to the year 1997. To date, the Embassy of Japan has supported 28 schools in the country.

Education and economic empowerment are some of the priority areas for the Government of Japan in its extension of GGP assistance to Namibia. The GPP is intended to assist NGOs and local authorities in addressing various development needs in a prompt and comprehensive manner. Since 1997, the Embassy of Japan, through GGP scheme, has supported 47 projects in Namibia, responding to various local needs in areas such as education, health, agriculture, skill development, among others, prioritising human security for vulnerable and marginalised people within the society, with approximate total amount of 270 million Japanese Yen, equivalent to 38 million Namibian Dollar.