

HANDOVER CEREMONY OF FIVE CLASSROOMS AT NARA PRIMARY SCHOOL IN WALVIS BAY

On Tuesday, 10 June 2014, Nara Primary School in Tataleni, Kuisebmond, Walvis Bay, Namibia, hosted a handover ceremony of five classrooms and two store rooms that were built, funded by the Embassy of Japan through the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. The ceremony was attended by Mr Shinichi Asazuma, Minister of the Embassy of Japan and Mr Tomohide Yamada, First Secretary, Mr. Benson Uakumbua, Vice-Mayor of Walvis Bay, Ms. Elina Manga, Vice-Director of Education, members of the School Governing Body, the Department of Education and the local community.



The Government of Japan decided to support this school through grant assistance amounting to approximately NAD 1,228,000 (US\$121,339), in order to enable the construction of five classrooms, two store rooms and the purchasing of some classroom furniture. As more people come to Walvis Bay seeking work, the school's number of students has increased over the past few years and the school currently has a total of approximately 1000 students. The GGP's assistance to Nara Primary School will contribute tremendously towards achieving the goal of access to education by more learners.



Education and economic empowerment are some of the priority areas for the Government of Japan in its extension of GGP assistance to Namibia. The GGP is intended to assist NGOs and local authorities in addressing development needs in a prompt and comprehensive manner in areas such as education, health, water supply, climate change and in a variety of other local needs. The GGP scheme was first introduced in 1989, and prioritizes human security for vulnerable and marginalised people within society. Since 1997, the Embassy of Japan has supported local authorities and NGOs in Namibia with over 38 projects. In the Japanese Fiscal Year 2013 (April 2013 - March 2014) the Embassy of Japan extended GGP assistance to 3 projects amounting to approximately NAD 3.2 million.