

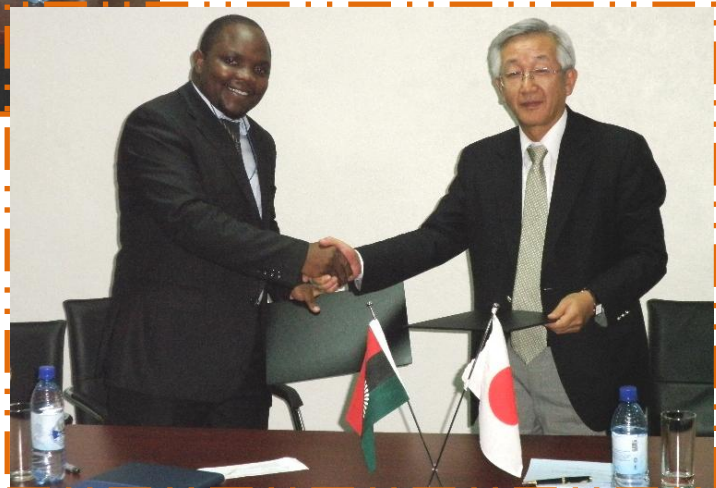
Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects

Grant Signing Ceremony

Embassy of Japan and Mzimba District Hospital

Mangochi

24th February, 2012



Pictures: Top: Ambassador Samukawa & Dr. Chilinda signing the grant contract;
Bottom: Ambassador Samukawa & Dr. Chilinda exchanging the signed contracts.

The Government of Japan provided a grant amounting to \$29, 935 (about MK5 million) to Mzimba District Hospital for the rehabilitation of infrastructures at Mkoma Health Centre under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects. Mkoma Health Centre is located to the very south of Mzimba, at a distance of 127 kilometres from the district. The facility serves a total population of 14,518 people in the catchment area and others from the neighboring districts of Nkhotakota and Kasungu. The main challenge at the health centre is to maintain permanent staff at the facility due to housing problems and also the congestion in the waiting room in the maternity ward.

Through this project, the delivery room in the maternity wing will be extended, the four (4) staff houses will be renovated and two toilets will be constructed at the health centre. This will ease the problem of congestion in the maternity ward and also the accommodation for members of staff. It is expected that once the project is completed, the quality health services will improve as there will be permanent staff at the facility.